



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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The New Zealand film that's breaking box office records. Enjoy it at a boutique night at Everybody's Theatre. Page 24.



Comedy at its very best. Still on at Hawera Rep. Page 24.

A tough year ahead

Businesses in towns like Opunake which are dependent on dairying face a tough 12 months ahead, says Deputy Prime Minister Bill English.

"A few years ago in Hawke's Bay, they were pretty concerned about the local economy, while over here, things were really pumping. Now it's turned around," he said.

Nevertheless, he sees grounds for optimism longer term.

"Dairyfarmers have to keep spending. Dairy prices are around the bottom of the market at the moment. It's just a matter of how long they stay there," he said. "The farmers and the banks need to stick together, as there will be some family farms over extended and under real pressure."

Mr English, who is also minister of finance was in Opunake on April 8, and spoke to an audience of about 60 people at the Sandfords Event Centre. He had driven from Feilding earlier that day and was staying in Taranaki for the weekend. The Opunake meeting was hosted by New Plymouth MP Jonathan Young and Whanganui MP Chester Borrows.



Deputy Prime Minister Bill English (centre) with New Plymouth MP Jonathan Young (left), and Whanganui MP Chester Borrows.

"We are going through a bit of a rough patch at the moment," Mr Borrows said. "The thing about farming is that it's an optimists' game." Mr English said last year

dairy exports dropped by \$4 billion, while other exports were up by \$5 billion.

"We would have had a fantastic year if dairying was doing good."

Previous good times enjoyed by dairying had produced the platform enabling other export industries to prosper, he said.

A glut in worldwide pro-

duction has meant the New Zealand dairy industry having to compete against new players in selling to overseas markets.

Continued page 3

Batman gets a home title challenge

The long awaited rematch is on again, and it's going to happen in Opunake.

When Opunake farmer James (Batman) Langton lost his New Zealand National Boxing Federation (NZNBF) cruiserweight title to Mon-

ty Betham at SkyCity in Auckland back in November, there was meant to be a rematch in Hawera. This didn't happen.

Now Langton will get to challenge Betham in Opunake on June 30, at the Coastal Rumble to be held at the Sandfords Event Centre.

As well as the NZNBF title, the vacant IBO Asia Pacific title will also be up for grabs.

"It's good to get it sorted," Langton said. "The papers have been signed, so there's no turning back. I have to give Monty the credit for being prepared to come here and honour the original contract. It will definitely be a better contest for sure, and a lot more aggressive."

There appears to be little love lost.

"It's fair to say we don't like each other," Langton

said. "When it was in Auckland, it wasn't home sweet home with all the comforts, but now he's got to come here, so the tide has turned a bit."

Langton said he believed he "overtrained" last time, and admits to "a couple of niggling injuries."

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James (Batman) Langton and Monty Betham will face off for a rematch in Opunake.

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EDITORIAL: Health Boards and the fluoridation of water supplies

It seems that the Minister of Health Dr Coleman intends to introduce legislation putting the question of whether to fluoridate domestic water supplies in the hands of the Health Boards around the nation. This seems like promoting the views of the pro-fluoridation supporters by the back door.

However, if this legislation is passed, which seems a foregone conclusion, some measures need to be put in place, and more information is needed, preferably research of a non-biased nature.

Firstly, we need to carry out what the health authorities did in the United States; set up a committee of professionals, who are balanced in the number of those holding a pro and

against viewpoint. This committee would need to examine the plethora of research studies, with emphasis on the overseas ones, as little has been conducted in NZ. Then a balanced and informed conclusion hopefully can be reached. *And what happened after the US committee examined a huge amount of research?* The conclusion reached was that fluoridation should cease until more research clarified the questions as to the benefits (or otherwise) of the fluoridation of water, as well as more information on the possible negative side effects.

I'll make a few points:
 * As we already have virtually all brands of toothpaste fluoridated,

why do we need it in our water, especially when the substance acts *topically* to harden the protective enamel. The word 'over-kill' comes to mind.

* Should not public sentiment be considered when opinion polls suggest a definite division of viewpoints. Some polls are in favour, but others (eg in Okato) are decidedly against.

* Is mass medication really what we need, when the research as to benefits is by no means clear?

* There is no standard amount being consumed. The person working outside on a hot day drinking a lot of liquid will get considerably more fluoride than someone living more sedately. Keep in mind that Fluoride is a

poison above a certain level.

* Some vulnerable groups, such as those with arthritis, should not be exposed to more fluoride as it worsens their condition, according to some research.

* The fluoridation of water leads to unsightly mottling of many young people's teeth.

* Isn't the key to good dental health primarily to do with education? Money would be well spent to highlight (eg. on television, newspapers and magazines) the dangers of too much sugar in our diet and the need to have healthy alternatives, as well as plenty of exercise.

Rolland McKellar

The views above are not necessarily those of others at the Opunake & Coastal News!

DHBs to take on fluoride role

The Government has announced plans to move responsibility for water fluoridation from local councils to District Health Boards. The decision comes after numerous local councils have grappled with decisions over water fluoridation, balancing expert advice and lobbying from anti-fluoridation campaigners.

In the wake of the most recent fluoridation decision - in which Whakatane

Council voted in favour of removing fluoride - both local and central government politicians called for change in the way such decisions are made. "Moving the decision-making process from local councils to DHBs is recognition that water fluoridation is a health-related issue," says Associate Health Minister Peter Dunne. "Deciding which water supplies should be fluoridated

aligns closely to DHBs' current responsibilities and expertise. It makes sense for DHBs to make fluoridation decisions for their communities based on local health priorities and by assessing health-related evidence." Canterbury DHB board member Jo Kane says the decision was a "hospital pass" for DHBs who would now be lumped with managing the controversial issue. Once

again the Government has abdicated its responsibility by throwing it on health boards who will still have the same political problems of working through this," she said.

A Bill is expected to be introduced to Parliament later this year. Members of the public and organisations will have an opportunity to make submissions to the Health Select Committee as it considers the Bill.

BBC:

What do the four beasts of Revelation 4 verse 7 represent?

The seven church ages (Revelation chapters 2 and 3) are the church through history; that is from about 53AD up to today. The horses and beasts also describe, in picture form, what is going on.

The devil has continually tried to capture and control the true church of God. He is illustrated as the

Beasts

rider of the four horses of the apocalypse. There is the white horse, the red horse, black horse and pale horse. The Black horse, for example, indicates darkness. God's Word, the Bible, was kept dark in a language few could understand; Latin.

A horse represents power, especially a kingly power. Satan wants to be king of the world.

God fights back through His Holy Spirit. One beast

is effective against one of the horses. For example the white horse looks like Christ's horse but isn't. The Devil wants to look like Christ. The first beast God sends out is a Lion. So the real church is strong, brave while the false church is trying to look good.

The second beast is a calf, a beast of sacrifice. It is a time of persecution, but the real church overcomes. The third beast is a man, and it is

man's intellect that destroys the work of the black horse. The Bible was only available in Latin, but by having Bibles printed in local languages, the power of the black horse is defeated. The Word of God is available to all. This was, of course, the reformation, the time of Luther and Wesley.

But now there is a pale horse. The pale horse is a mixture of the white, red and black horses.

God has another creature to combat this horse. It is an eagle. An eagle flies higher than any other bird, it also has the best eyes of any bird. God has sent a prophet, and all the eagles can feed on the revelation of the Word that the prophet has brought. They can see the truth in spite of the mixture the Devil is offering.

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A tough year ahead

Continued from page 1

"I don't think there's much doubt that the competition is coming hard," Mr English said. "We'll get to see if we are as good as we think we are, and if we are low enough down on the production cost curves. Are our dairy companies really good enough to compete the others away? I think the answer is yes they are.

There is a base confidence in the dairy industry which will move us along. The test is, do we really believe there is a long term demand for our product? I believe there is."

He said that the New Zealand dairy industry is investigating new market options, and that despite "one or two setbacks," they are doing a good job in persuading overseas consumers that New

Zealand produces a low cost quality product.

He cited New Zealand migrants returning from Australia as evidence of a growing confidence in the New Zealand economy, compared to that of its Trans Tasman neighbour.

"Kiwi truck drivers understand the economy better than many Australian economists," he said.

"The other day I met my

first ever Aussie migrant. He had upped sticks last year, come to Christchurch, and said it was fantastic."

With an election due next year, Mr English spoke about his government's prospects of re-election.

"One of the opportunities to win in 2017 would be an economic growth if 2-3 per cent, giving 2-3% wage increases, with the dairy industry picking up next year in line with that."

Man dead following crash

RIGHT:

A 36 year-old man is dead following a crash on Wiremu Road some time between 10am on Wednesday April 6, and 6.50am the following morning.

Father of four Sioli Malili was the sole occupant of the car found in the Taungatara Stream by a passing motorist that Thursday morning.

It appears the southbound car left the road, hit the left side of the bridge's crash barrier and went into the stream.

The road was closed for a time, and the Police Serious Crash Unit has been investigating. See also page 6.



The scene of a road death.

Another call out

RIGHT:

In a second accident the driver of a car that collided with a utility at the corner of Mid Kahui Road and Surf Highway 45 at Rahotu was taken by ambulance to Taranaki Base Hospital. The accident happened on Monday April 11 at around 4:15pm.

The female driver, the lone occupant of the car, though shocked, was discharged from hospital without serious injury. See page 6.



Batman gets a home title challenge

Continued from page 1

Nevertheless, he says he would be approaching this fight in a fresher state than he did for the last one.

"Monty's always in good shape, even when he's not fighting. I've been getting into training early, with sparring and speedwork, and the basic fitness is there."

He has taken on a new coach, Colin Smith from Eltham, meaning he will be able to train locally three or four times a week.

"This fight will be a lot closer," he said.

Langton had won the NZNBF title at last year's Coastal Rumble by defeating reigning champion Monty Filimaea by a technical knockout in front of a home crowd in Opunake. He hopes the home crowd factor will again work in his favour.

As well as the Langton-Betham rematch, this year's Coastal Rumble promises other exciting matchups.

The main undercard will feature Sam Rapira against an opponent to be confirmed. Sam is currently sitting just outside the world top 100 after a unanimous points decision win over Togasilimai Letoa. Making his pro-debut will be Simon Julian, an Opunake boxer who is making the transition

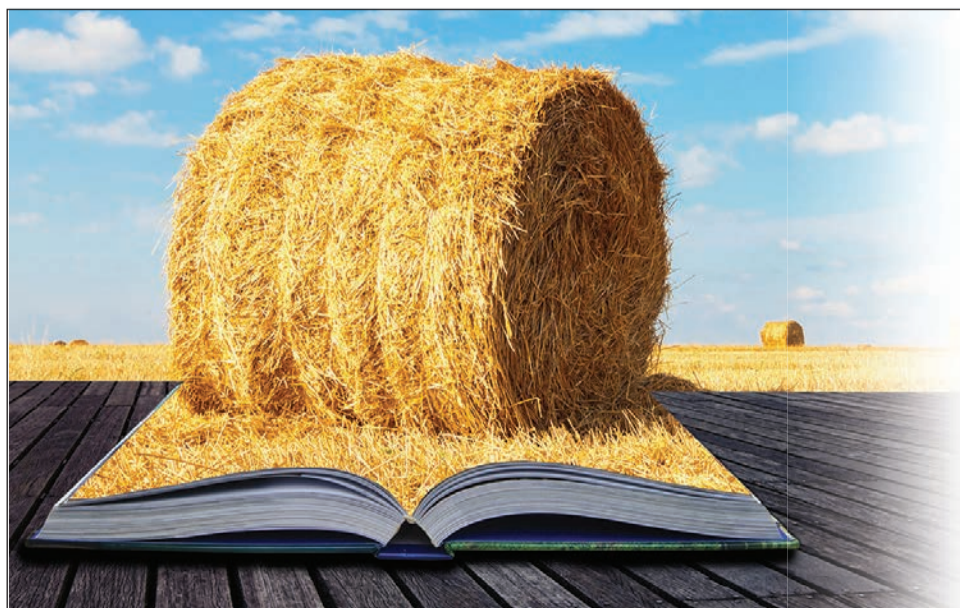
from amateur boxing.

Event Promoter, Kelly Langton, says this is the third annual Coastal Rumble event.

"It's always held during winter while the cows are dried off, and gives the locals an opportunity to kick their heels up before the tough spring months," she

said.

James Langton is the ambassador for the Little Fighter Trust, a Taranaki organisation that supports families with a child suffering from a life threatening illness, and the Coastal Rumble will raise funds for this charity.



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COUNCILLORS COMMENT

Rationale for collection changes

In last edition's column, Marie Liddington had some questions from the Eltham Business Association about changes to the Council's rubbish and recycling kerbside collection service. I thought I'd follow up with the Council's operations engineer, Herbert Denton to get a bit more detail and explain the reasons behind the changes. According to Herbert in late 2006 the Council entered into a solid waste contract focussed on providing a residential/domestic waste collection service. Due to the lack of services available from private waste contractors in some outlying towns across the District, the Council decided to provide the service to those commercial properties which previously had access to the Council kerbside collection service. The decision was also made to exclude Hawera CBD businesses from being able to use



Craig Dingle

this service as they had access to private waste management contractors. This created the anomaly where some businesses in the district received the kerbside collection service from Council, while most other businesses did not, and had to make alternative arrangements. Herbert says today however, there are a number of private waste management businesses that offer waste and recycling services right across the district. By continuing to pro-

vide the kerbside collection service to some commercial properties but not others, the Council was not only being inconsistent in the way they operated, but were unintentionally competing with local private waste management businesses. Rather than disadvantage these businesses, Herbert says Council wants to encourage and keep local waste businesses in operation in the District. The new Kerbside Collection changes should fix these issues by establishing consistency and equality amongst all non-residential property owners across the District. If anyone has further questions, give Herbert a call on 0800 111 323. Incidentally the Opunake and District Business Association is approaching the various waste management providers to see what they can offer our members.

On a completely different matter, the Council released

its 2016/17 Annual Plan last Monday. This is essentially the council's budget for the year.

The good news is that Council has reduced its projected average rate increase from 2.91% to 1.89%. A couple of key projects for Opunake and Coastal include \$2.7 million for a new Inaha water treatment plant, \$270,000 budgeted for Opunake Beach projects, and \$258,000 for Opunake stormwater work. Speaking of Opunake Beach, there is a consultation open day being run by the Council on Saturday April 30 from 11-2:30pm at the Surf Life-saving Club, to look at draft plans for future developments at the Beach. This will be a great opportunity to consider draft plans, share your ideas, and ask questions. Look forward to seeing you there.

Craig Dingle
Chairman Egmont Plains
Community Board.

Have your say on the Annual Plan

One of our key planning documents for New Plymouth District's community is the Annual Plan.

In this document, we lay out what activities the Council plans to do in the 2016/17 year and how we're going to pay for them.

Essentially, it's year two of the Long-Term Plan 2015-2025 (LTP), and because there are no significant or material differences between the LTP and the draft Annual Plan, legislation says that public consultation isn't necessary.

However, we're still opening up the draft Annual Plan for public submissions because we have three items that we particularly want to get your comments on:

Commissioning a detailed assessment of options to

redevelop the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre (cost: \$100,000). Providing an additional \$100,000 to develop new business and events in the Council's four main venues: TSB Bowl of Brooklands, TSB Showplace, TSB Stadium and Yarrow Stadium.

Introducing year-round free parking on Saturdays in New Plymouth's CBD (cost: about \$525,000).

The draft plan also includes \$37 million of capital projects across a range of Council activities, including wastewater treatment, roading, water supply, LED streetlighting, digital customer services and stormwater drainage.

If the plan were approved as-is, the average residential rate would increase by about \$1 per week (or 3.6%



Mayor Andrew Judd

– down from 4.6% projected for 2016/17 in the LTP).

Are you happy with these suggestions? Do you have any comments to make?

We have three ways for you to have your say:

Visit the interactive website MyRates.npdc.nz, use the sliders to switch any of the three proposals on or off, and

see how they will affect your rates, then click 'Submit my feedback to NPDC'. Your selections will be considered by councillors in the decision making process.

Complete our online submission form at newplymouthnz.com/AnnualPlan.

Fill in the hard-copy submission form inserted in the 20 April issue of the *North Taranaki Midweek* or pick one up from a Council office, and return it to NPDC.

We also have the annual plan consultation document online if you'd like to read through it.

Submissions close on May 13. Please let us know what you think of the draft Annual Plan!

Mayor Andrew Judd
New Plymouth District

Challenge to young inventors to develop technology

James Dyson challenges young inventors to develop tomorrow's technology today. The James Dyson Award is now calling for ideas in product design and engineering for the 2016 competition. First run in New Zealand in 2001, the competition is now global in its search for new and better ways to solve problems. In recent years the competition has discovered and supported inventors with ideas such as an inflatable baby incubator for developing countries, and a gelatin

food label which indicates food freshness.

With a prize fund of almost NZD \$200,000, the world's brightest young engineers are challenged to design something that solves a problem. Students and recent graduates have until July 19 to enter. Entrants from 22 countries will compete for a prize of NZD\$60,000, and a further NZD\$10,000 for their university.

Last year's international winner was Voltera V-One, a rapid prototyping system

developed by a team of four engineering students from the University of Waterloo, Canada. Printed circuit boards are in almost all electronics, but developing prototypes of them can be prohibitively time-consuming and expensive for young inventors and hobbyists. Voltera V-One is a desktop device, which prints circuit boards within minutes, enabling a wider audience to create electronic devices. The team shipped its first batch of printers in November 2015, and is hoping to ship out its

second batch soon.

"Young people have the power to change the world through engineering. Each year the James Dyson Award sees truly remarkable solutions to real-life problems all approached from different angles. No problem is too big, and the simplest solutions are the best. Use the award as a stepping stone to take your invention towards commercialisation," says James Dyson, the inventor of the world's first bagless vacuum. Auckland designer Jason

Khoo, was last year named the New Zealand winner for his design of a treehouse platform for kids to build architectural wonders in their backyard. The pre-built foundation for a tree house could be easily mounted, and eliminates the need for a bespoke permanent attachment when building tree houses, allowing the Tree Mount to be relocated.

Jason received over NZ\$4,000 from the James Dyson Foundation to invest in the development of the

concept, and his design was put forward for international judging against entries from participating countries.

The New Zealand leg of the competition is supported by Dyson, The Designers Institute and the Intellectual Property Office of NZ who will provide the 2016 national winner with an official fee prize package tailored to his/her immediate intellectual property needs. The national winner will be announced in September, and the International winner on October 27.

Rubbish collections for businesses to be a thing of the past

From July 1, the South Taranaki District Council will no longer collect kerbside rubbish for town businesses in the district. The Eltham Business Association is not happy with these changes, according to the Community Comment in the April 8 issue of the Opunake and Community News.

South Taranaki District Council operations manager Herbert Denton says back in 2006 the council had entered into a contract to provide a residential domestic waste collection service. With a lack of private waste collectors operating in outlying towns at the time, this service was later extended to include commercial businesses in these places. This service was never available to commercial businesses in the Hawera CBD. As there are now private contractors operating across the district, there is no longer any need for the council to compete against them by providing



As of July 1, if you are a business, the South Taranaki District Council will no longer be picking these up from the kerbside.

another collection service. These were businesses the council wanted to see carry on operating in the district.

What do Opunake businesses think about it? "It's adding one more expense to rural towns," Murray

Gray of Four Square 45 said. "It's a service we pay for, so why is it being dropped? We try to recycle everything

we can, but they don't take it away. They have already cut the recycling service in half by not accepting loose plastics, and charges at the local dump stations have gone up significantly."

Similar views were expressed by Jarrah Edge and Beth Hunt at the Sugar Juice Cafe.

"We're a bit disappointed in the council pulling the pin when we've finally got a good rubbish system going," Beth said.

Jarrah and Beth have already spoken to a couple of rubbish collection companies. They say they have always had a commitment to recycling, and would want to go with a company that shares that commitment.

"We've been doing our own recycling for 14 years, then we changed everything because the council were going to be doing it for everybody, now we have to go back again," Jarrah said. "To get all set up cost a lot of money.

Are they going to pay us back for all the bins?"

Opunake Business Association chairperson Alison Hayward said they were hoping to get one company to cover the whole town, in order to keep costs down, and already had a visit from one company.

Mr Denton said the council wanted to encourage and keep local waste businesses operating in the district.

"The new kerbside collection policy rectifies these issues by establishing consistency and equality amongst all commercial property owners across the district. We also believe that the local waste management providers will be able to provide businesses with cost effective and more flexible services tailored to their individual needs.

We will continue to provide free recycling disposal at all our transfer stations across the district."

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On this month in history Duke Ellington born

On April 29, 1899 Edward Ellington was born. He is better known as the famous jazz musician Duke Ellington.

The jazz composer and band leader was born in Washington DC.

As a child he learnt to play

the piano and played in local orchestras.

As a young man he made his first record in 1923. He

moved to New York city and created the big band jazz phenomenon.

He became well known for

his radio broadcasts as Duke Ellington and his 'Jungle Band live from the Cotton Club. He toured widely in the

US and overseas.

He wrote more than 1,000 compositions including 'Bye bye Birdie'.

Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade news and hints

There are big changes coming for Opunake businesses and non-profit groups with regard to the pick-up of our rubbish bins. From July 1, only residential properties will have their bins emptied by STDC contractors, and businesses and non-profit groups will have to find their own way to dispose of their waste. This will probably mean they will have to contract an outside firm to do the job and could mean the bins may not be emptied on a weekly basis. This being the case, there could be a build-up of waste at the back of business premises until the contractor picks it up. So, extra precautions have to be put in place to stop anyone from deliberately lighting the cardboard or other combustible material.

Annually, the cost of deliberately lit fires in New Zealand is about \$100 million. This is the cost of the loss of property, the related injuries and the loss to business trading. If you can take a few simple precautions, it may safeguard your assets.

Firstly, locate bins away from your building. If it is a wheelie bin, the recommended distance away from a wooden structure is three metres, and two metres for a non-wooden building. Medium sized skip bins on the other hand require a distance of six metres from a wooden building, and three from a non-wooden structure.

The best practice is to store any combustible waste material in metal containers with self-closing lids. If you do have to store excess material, place it in small sized bundles and keep it well away from any building.

Try to limit public access to your buildings and yard, so as to stop the opportunist seeking to start a fire. This may require installing a perimeter fence or a tidy up of an existing one. If at all possible, lock bin lids when not in use. If finances permit, security lighting and possibly surveillance equipment are very good tools to help stem any unwanted visitors at night.

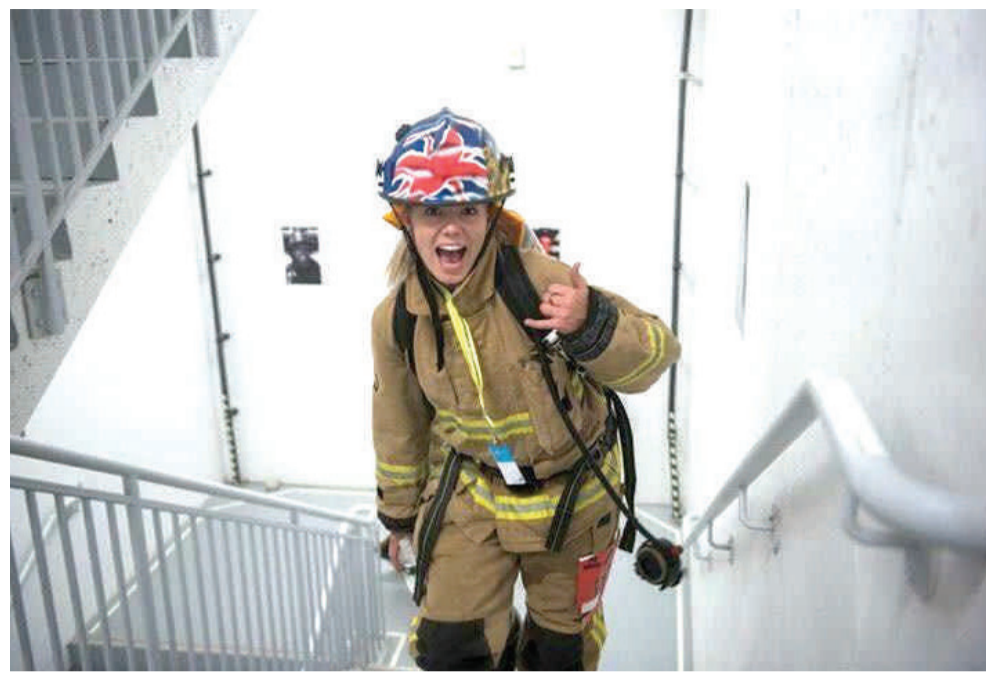
To help minimise the risk, try to arrange a weekly

pickup of your waste with the contractor, and if possible, have an empty bin over the weekend. If there is rubbish about, and Joe Public has access to your property, we may have to get out of bed early one morning to visit your building.

Sadly the Wiremu Road claimed a young man's life as he was on his way to work on Thursday 7th. His Holden ute failed to make a slight turn on his approach to a bridge and the vehicle ended up in the creek below. As there were no signs of braking, I would guess he fell asleep, and unfortunately, had the accident. I would like to thank the two gentlemen in the "Sarnie" car for caring enough to turn around when they had seen debris on the road. They initially only stopped to toss the debris off, but on investigation, found the vehicle and alerted the authorities.

The members of the Opunake Fire Brigade extend their heartfelt sympathy to the gentlemen's family and friends at this extremely sad time. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The crew were again dispatched on Thursday 7th to help the St. Johns with a lift on Ponderosa Place. A gentleman had "popped" his hip when getting out of a small car, so help was required to get him into the ambulance with the minimum of pain.



Jana-Liese Hannah nearly at the 30th floor on 4 World Trade Centre, New York.

The wheels were rolling again on Monday 11th when we were called to a two car accident at Rahotu. The Rahotu Fire Brigade are stationed about 100 metres from the incident and so were on the scene extremely quickly. They soon had things under control and did not require our services, so we were turned around by Fire Control. It is standard practice for Fire Control to send two appliances when there is a two vehicle accident on a main road. If people are trapped in their vehicles, they can be extracted a lot quicker if two crews get involved. It is hoped that people can be extricated from a wrecked vehicle, and in

hospital inside the "golden hour". Therefore the Fire Service send brigades out just in case extra personal are required with the extraction. If not, you get turned around and sent home.

I am pleased to report that two of our members, Jozien and Jana, have made it safely back from their American tower climbing trip. They were part of a 19 person New Zealand team that attended the International Fire Fighters Challenges in Seattle and New York City. First up was the Seattle 1131 stair climb, wearing not only a full fire-fighting uniform, but also carrying a breathing apparatus set on their backs. A week later,

it was the 1632 stair climb at the Freedom Tower in New York. This climb was by special invitation only. Those who climbed did so in honour of the 343 fire fighters who perished on 9/11, and others who have died while on duty. They still haven't gotten the climbing bug out of their system because they are off to the Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand Sky Tower climb on May 28. This is a fund raising event so if anyone has a desire to make a donation, please get in touch with Jana or Jozien at the Opunake Fire Station on Monday nights or via the secretary, Beau on 761 7242. Good luck girls from your fire brigade family. *Tired Legs*

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"I am looking for a bit of assistance in regards to a stolen car that was recovered on Newall Road on Monday 11 April. The car, a purple Ford Mondeo, was earlier stolen from Pungarehu on the 31 March so it has been used over that 11 day period.

The car was located on Newall Road about 1 kilometre from the intersection

with Wiremu Road by the one lane bridge. Talking to a few of the neighbours on the road the vehicle appeared to have been dumped on the night of the 10 April or the morning of the 11 April. It is highly likely that the car had broken down and was towed there, or had broken down and the occupants walked from where the car was left or were picked up by friends. Anyone that saw this vehicle being driven between 31 March and 10 April are being asked to contact police. If you saw anything suspicious on Newall Road on the 10 or 11 April especially during



Constable Rhys Connell

the night then please contact police as well. By the looks of the vehicle it's likely that the thieves had been using it to have a good old joy ride in it so it may well be that you have seen it hooning around the roads prior to it being located.

I have noticed an increasing amount of graffiti at the Okato Skate Park. I have been contacting the council to remove it as soon as I see it, but it seems that it just re appears again. Can we all remind our kids that use the park to report either to you as parents (who can then tell me) or directly to me if they see some pop up again. Also if they have any idea who is responsible then to let me know as I have an old toothbrush and some Jif that are looking for a bit of work! Have fun these holidays

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Custodians looking to pass the baton on

As custodians of the Manaia walkway, Lorna le Fleming, and Gordon and Anne Chisnall have put in a lot of work over the years. Their dedication has been recognised with Citizens awards from the South Taranaki District Council. Now they are looking to retire and hand the reins over to others.

The walkway includes varieties of native bush as well as the historic Manaia Redoubt, believed to be one of only two still left preserved in the country.

"We have 40 different species of native trees growing here, so one sort doesn't dominate," Gordon said.

There is a preference for plants which grow well in Taranaki conditions so local nurseries are used.

"What grows well in warmer climates like Northland may not grow so well here," Gordon said.

Lorna says one spinoff from their work has been a proliferation of native birdlife.

"Golfers have seen the kereru or native pigeon quite often. If they don't hear them singing, they hear the whirr of their wings. It's a seasonal thing. The tuis come in late winter-early spring, then disappear again."

Lorna said the involvement she and her husband Gordon had with the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society was one of the things which spurred her interest in the Walkway.

"Gordon and I had done a lot of walking around New Zealand, and I thought we were going to get older and not be able to do what we enjoyed doing."

Disappointed with what she saw of the gorse and blackberry on the Manaia Walkway, she decided she wanted to do something, so she and Bev Rothe got to work cleaning up and planting native trees. What these two have done is commemorated with signs



At the Manaia Redoubt. From left Margaret Putt, Gordon Chisnall, Lorna le Fleming, Anne Chisnall.

indicating Bev Rothe's Peace and Lorna's Legacy on different parts of the Walkway.

When the Manaia Indoor Bowling Club closed, money from the club went towards the Walkway, and it was about then that Gordon and Anne Chisnall became involved. Along with Michael Self, some of his students,

Department of Corrections workers and others, they forged a path between tree stumps, and hebes were planted to separate the pines and natives.

The Walkway can be accessed from the Manaia Golf Club. Lorna said anybody wanting to take their dogs with them along the Walkway is more than

welcome, so long as they stick to the signs and avoid the Golf Club fairways.

Not far from the clubhouse is one of the Walkway's more recent additions, a grove of three pine trees planted by the Manaia RSA to commemorate the centenary of the World War 1 Battle of Lone Pine. Looking after the Golf Club end of the

Walkway is Margaret Putt. "When the rhodos are out, this is glorious," she says.

Further on are the Meuli Steps, named after Lieutenant Lorenzo Meuli who was killed in the First World War. These lead up to the Manaia Redoubt, which was put up by the Armed Constabulary in 1882. A concrete replica stands where the original wooden tower once stood, but the blockhouses have been kept in their original state, with timber milled especially to keep the original gauge.

The walkway then makes its way past contributions made at different times by individuals, organisations and businesses. There's the Yarrow Dell, named for local businessman, the late Noel Yarrow, and a seat by the Waiokura Stream which was made by Keith Smith.

Further along is a bridge made from old power poles. When safety issues were raised about the sides of the bridge, the Manaia Lions

Club stepped in and provided the railing.

Three totaras commemorate Kaipokonui farmer and longstanding Waimate West County councillor Jack Landers, who died in 2008.

Other groups to have donated trees include South Taranaki Rural Women and the Manaia Womens Institute.

The Walkway makes its way back to the Golf Club, but not before going back through a garden area which for the last two years has been maintained by Gail Thorley.

"It's a credit to Gail, what she's done," Lorna said. "This was once a real wilderness."

Lorna, Gordon and Anne say they will still keep an interest in what's going on at the Walkway. Lorna says she still has some unfulfilled ambitions.

"I had a vision of putting in Chatham Island Lilies, but I'm afraid that's long gone. If anybody else wants to do it, they can."

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Admiring the work of Gail Thorley. From left Gordon Chisnall, Anne Chisnall, Lorna le Fleming.

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Remembering and honouring the sacrifices of our veterans

'At every cost,' they said, 'it must be done.' They told us in the early afternoon. We sit and wait the coming of the sun' 'The Attack at Dawn' by Leon Gellert.

It is hard for those of us who have never borne witness to war to understand the depth of emotion and courage our soldiers endured. But if there is one thing we can do, it is to take the time to honour all that they gave and to ensure we take the teachings that history gives us.

This Anzac Day is a chance for us to reflect on the effects of a war which touched the lives of every New Zealand family, and honour our veterans' contribution to the peace, freedom, and security our country enjoys today.

A century ago this month the Government of the day announced a half-day holi-



Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

day, to be known as Anzac Day, would be established on the 25th of April. As it is today, this was a way for our communities to come together and remember those who lost their lives and the scale of the impact war had on our population of just over one million.

As time has passed, Anzac Day has come to symbolise not only a recognition of those who lost their lives

at Gallipoli, but of all our servicemen and women who have served in various conflicts and peacekeeping efforts over the years.

This is the second of four years of commemorations marking the Great War. In September we will turn our attention to marking the centenary of the horrific Battle of the Somme, where 6000 of our soldiers were wounded and 2000 were killed. The contribution that New Zealand made in France during the First World War in 1916 will be commemorated overseas across three services.

Remembrance services will once again be held across the country, with the national service being held at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park in Wellington. I encourage you all to attend a service or take some time during

this day to reflect and thank those who went before us to provide the freedom we enjoy. What is so encouraging is seeing the many young people and children that are attending these services. To learn about this history, and give the time to respect and honour is a great attribute they will carry with them into adulthood.

As we reflect on our country's experience of war and military conflict, we honour the more than 18,000 New Zealanders who died, and the more than 100,000 who served their country during the Great War. We owe a debt of gratitude to those who have served our country to protect the ideals we hold dear. Let us not forget.

Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

Making Te Reo a transactional language

Last week the Parliament passed the Te Pire mō Te Reo Māori, Māori Language Bill. What impressed me the most about the third reading of the Bill was that every person and every party that spoke to the Bill, used as much Te Reo as they were able to, from a simple greeting, through to entire contributions delivered in Te Reo. It is right that the Parliament lead by example, so I congratulate everyone that made the effort.

For the language to be sustainable, it is important that Te Reo Māori is not only an official language of New Zealand, but becomes a transactional language in everyday life in our communities.

Census data shows that between 2001 and 2013, the proportion of Māori adults who reported they could hold an everyday conversation in

the Māori language decreased from 28% to 24%.

This is despite the Government's Māori Language Strategy which was initially developed in 1998 to ensure that Māori language programmes and services were being directed towards agreed outcomes and target populations.

Clearly it is time for a new approach. The new Act replaces the existing Māori Language Act (1987), and contains significant changes in relation to the functions of Māori language entities, including the establishment of a new statutory entity, Te Mātāwai, which is tasked with developing a Māori led, Māori Language Strategy (separate from the Crown's Māori Language Strategy, which is also provided for within the bill).



Adrian Rurawhe MP

We, in the Labour Party were happy to support the third reading of this Bill. Our members on the Māori Affairs Select Committee, successfully argued for changes that have made this legislation much better, however the onus is on the Government to ensure that these new strategies are a success.

It is my opinion that once developed, the Crown Strategy, must enable and support

the Māori strategy. It is critically important that the Government support and fund the strategies to arrest the decline in the number of people that speak Te Reo Māori. It is important that those strategies lead to a critical mass of at least 30% of people speaking Te Reo Māori for it to be sustainable.

Finally, we can all support the revitalisation of the Māori language, by simply taking the time to learn a few phrases and to use them. Since the arrival of Te Wānanga o Raukawa, in the town of Otaki in the Horowhenua, it is not unusual to hear Te Reo Māori being spoken on the street, by people going about their business. This example could be replicated throughout the country.

Adrian Rurawhe MP for Te Tai Hauāuru

Labour Party MPs come calling

Labour Party MPs have been visiting South Taranaki and Whanganui. Phil Twyford, who heads the Labour Health and Wellbeing caucus, paid a visit to Whanganui accompanied by Carmel Sepuloni and Poto Williams on Tuesday April 19. On the same day Annette King, Trevor Mallard and Ruth Dy-

son visited South Taranaki, then joined their colleagues on Wednesday in Whanganui where five MPs met with Mayor, Annette Main.

The Labour MP visits included: community forum groups looking at housing, health and social issues in Whanganui and Hawera; visits to Hawera and Whanganui

hospitals, to the rest home and dementia unit in Stratford, Age Concern, Whanganui, and the food bank in Hawera.

"Labour Party MPs take an active interest in the health and well-being of the regions. These are core issues for our community and it's fantastic to see them in Whanganui,"

said Bob Dempsey, Vice-Chairman of the Whanganui branch of the Labour Party. "This is the third caucus committee to visit Whanganui in the first four months of this year, which shows Labour's commitment to the regions and that they are prepared to listen to local people about their concerns and priorities,"

On this month in history - first democratic elections in South Africa

On April 27, 1994 the first democratic election was held in South Africa, whereby people of all races could

vote. It also marked the end of apartheid, the political and social policy of segregation and discrimination. Preced-

ing the election was the re-writing of the Constitution.

Nelson Mandela became the first democratically elect-

ed president. Earlier he had spent years in prison, much of it on the notorious Robben Island.

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It's an honour to help Fiji says Taranaki local

Corporal Aeron Mellish, who is helping deliver aid supplies to distressed communities in Fiji describes the scenes of devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Winston as "heart-breaking," but considers it an honour to help the Fijians.

"Although seeing people's entire livelihood destroyed by the cyclone was hard for me, meeting many of these people and seeing how they remain positive in such a terrible situation has been a very humbling experience."

"My most memorable experience so far is flying into a village where the houses and a school had been badly damaged. The adults all came over to shake our hands and thank us. We gave the children some stickers. Their smiles and laughter made me realise how much our help and presence means to them. It was a great feeling," the



Helicopter Loadmaster Corporal Aeron Mellish of the Royal New Zealand Air Force's 3 Squadron interacts with children at Viwa Island, which is part of a group of islands that make up Fiji's western border.

21-year-old said.

Corporal Mellish's role as a Helicopter Loadmaster for the Royal New Zealand

Air Force's (RNZAF) 3 Squadron, sees her ensuring aircraft loads are packed correctly to maintain balance, as well as operating the

door guns, rescue hoists and underslung loads of the NH90.

Corporal Mellish and her family immigrated to New

Zealand's Taranaki region from the east of Scotland six years ago. Encouraged by the service of a long line of relatives who served in the military, she enlisted in the RNZAF in January 2012.

"Hearing stories of what family members have achieved and experienced helped me decide to join. I always wanted to make a difference in the world and help those less fortunate than myself.

"The military had always appealed to me in that sense and my passion for aviation and travel pushed me to apply for the Air Force," she said.

"My dream of working alongside people from all walks of life has started to be fulfilled in my short time since joining the Air Force. It's a real honour to be given this chance to support the aid operation in Fiji and I hope to be able to do more of these operations in years to come."

Since arriving in Suva on March 3, the helicopters have been delivering essential aid supplies, water purification equipment, sacks of seeds and plant cuttings to cyclone-ravaged communities. They have also transported New Zealand medical volunteers as well as Fiji government staff to remote communities.

Delivering the Opunake news a century ago



Back in the early 1900s, most towns in the country had their own newspaper.

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A reader sent in this photo of the Opunake Times printing office some time in the early 1900s.

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On this month in history Civil war ends in USA

On April 7, 1865 the US Civil War ended after the loss of half a million people. Abraham Lincoln was the President at the time and one burning issue was his desire

to end slavery in the southern states. The film 'Gone With the Wind', based on the book of the same name, illustrated some of the brutality carried

out by the victorious federal soldiers. The film starred Vivien Leigh, Clark Gable, Olivia De Havilland and Leslie Howard.

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Home values continue to rise in many parts of New Zealand

South Taranaki is one of the few parts of the country to show a drop in home values over the first quarter of this year. Other areas were parts of Auckland, Otorohanga, Wairoa, the West Coast districts of Buller

and Westland, Ashburton and the Christchurch Hills suburbs.

The latest monthly QV House Price Index shows that nationwide residential property values for March

have increased 11.4 per cent over the past year. Values rose slightly by 0.2 per cent over the past three months and are now 35 per cent above the previous market peak of late 2007. When adjusted for inflation the nationwide annual increase drops slightly to 11.3 per cent and values are now 15.4 per cent above the 2007 peak. The average value nationwide is now \$559,492.

The average current value of a residential property in South Taranaki is \$186,154. Prices increased 1 per cent in the last 12 months, but dropped 1.1 per cent in the last three months.

The average current value of a home in Stratford

District is \$213,917. Prices increased 11.4 per cent in the last 12 months, with a 2.1 per cent in the last three months.

In New Plymouth, the average current value is \$379,926. Prices rose 6.4 per cent in the last 12 months, and 2 per cent in the last three.

The Auckland market has increased 16.9 per cent year on year, but has decreased by 0.2 per cent over the past three months. Values there are now 70.4 per cent higher than the previous peak of 2007. When adjusted for inflation, values are 16.8 per cent over the past year and are 45.5 per cent above the 2007 peak. The average

value in the Auckland region is now \$931,061.

QV National Spokesperson Andrea Rush said, "Home values have risen in most parts of New Zealand in the first quarter of 2016 with the exception of the Auckland region where values have been on a slight downward trend over the past three months."

"The latest CoreLogic buyer classification data shows 44 per cent of sales in Auckland were to multiple property owners, 21 per cent were to first home buyers and 24 per cent were to those moving from one home to another."

"Around the rest of the country multiple property

owners accounted for 37 per cent of sales; while 20 per cent of sales were to first home buyers and 26 per cent were to movers."

CoreLogic statistics also show listings levels remain low in many parts of the country with the exception of Taranaki and Canterbury."

Many provincial centres are experiencing the fastest rate of home value growth since before the previous peak of 2007 including Whangarei, Napier and Rotorua,

Regional areas within commuting distance to Auckland, Tauranga and Hamilton are also continuing to show significant value rises.

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Increase in bar crossing incidents

An extremely busy few weeks has been a stark reminder to the boating public to take boating safety seriously after three separate major rescues took place on Bar Crossings in the North Island and saw Coastguard volunteers respond to 89 incidents over Easter Weekend in the Northern Region alone.

The notorious Manukau Bar saw three people thrown into water, left clinging to debris with one survivor spotted by chance by a passing boatie, and raising the alarm for another two people who were later rescued by Coastguard. The Tairua Bar in Coromandel also saw

three men thrown from their vessel, and a third Bar Rescue took place on the Pukehina Bar where an inflatable boat was overturned throwing its four occupants overboard.

"These incidents are happening too frequently and the message isn't getting through. All of these boaties were extremely fortunate, but that is not always the case. Lifejackets should always be worn when crossing a bar because of the heightened risk, and ideally boaties should log a Bar Crossing Report with Coastguard," said Patrick Holmes, CEO, Coastguard New Zealand.

This is a free safety service

provided by Coastguard that encourages boaties to contact Coastguard via VHF Radio or *500 on mobile to advise they are about to cross a Bar. If they do not make contact with Coastguard by an agreed time to report they have completed the Bar Crossing safely, and Coastguard cannot make contact again with that vessel, then appropriate search and rescue measures will be initiated. This can cut the response time down significantly and ultimately be the difference between a life and death situation.

"In all of these cases, if they had lodged a Bar Crossing Report, we would have known they'd had an incident much sooner, and we would have reached them much quicker," said Holmes.

We have seen three boating fatalities so far this year (1 Jan 2016 - 31 Mar 2016) compared to five for the same period last year. However for these three incidents alone, 10 people were thrown out of their boats - any of these could

have resulted in yet another unnecessary boating fatality.

There are eight recommended actions the skipper of a vessel should take before crossing any bar - these actions could prevent incidents like these from happening. It's important to remember that the skipper is responsible for the safety of everyone board.

Coastguard's advice on how to cross a bar safely

Seek local advice on the bar and local VHF channels.

Check the weather, tide and bar conditions via Coastguard Radio, Nowcasting, or Metservice.

Ensure your boat has adequate stability to cross variable seas.

Check your boat and make sure hatches and equipment are adequately secured.

Make sure that everybody is wearing a lifejacket and is alert.

Ensure that you are carrying at least two forms of waterproof communication.

Make a Bar Crossing Report with Coastguard radio.

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Our next issue is due out
MAY 6



Children, staff and grandparents recently celebrated 20 years for the Opunake Kindergarten.

Kindergarten celebrates 20 years young

The Opunake Kindergarten is 20 years old. On April 14 they opened the doors to let the grandparents see how they are looking after their grandchildren.

"If I had my children again, they would be coming here, bearing in mind the oldest of them is 60," Kui Niki said. The great grandmother of 18 has two of them currently attending the kindergarten, and another who had moved up to primary school this year.

"It's wonderful. You couldn't get any better. All the facilities are up to date and safe. It's ideal for the children, and an asset for the town."

She recalls when children at the kindergarten had been making "Easter cookies for Kui," and one of them had gone home and excitedly told her parents they had been making Easter cookies for the Queen.

Staff and children dressed up in fancy dress for the

occasion. It was a chance for grandparents to get a look at one of the kindergarten's newer additions, a mural donated by Trish Kelly. Then there is the garden, where children can have a go at growing strawberries, silverbeet and carrots. It's even possible to buy worm juice from the kindergarten's very own worm farm. There's the mud area and two sandpits, one for those of a quieter temperament, the other for those more into trucks, tractors and digging.

The pet area has rabbits, guinea pigs, chickens, and Reggie the turtle, whose age is believed to be about 20, something like the age of the kindergarten itself. That night 200 people turned up for a celebration dinner.

The kindergarten began as an initiative of the St Josephs School Board of Trustees, and started with a roll of 20 and two teachers. Today the kindergarten has a 45 children on any one day

and eight teachers.

The first supervisor was Diane Chapman.

"We decided we really wanted it to happen for the four year olds in Opunake, so we set it up in one of the spare classrooms at the school," she said.

Other members of the original committee were St Josephs School principal Judy Maindonald(now Gopperth), Noeleen Moir, Mary Lawn, and Barbara Kuriger who acted as licensee and contact person with the Ministry of Education.

Barbara Kuriger, who is now MP for Taranaki-King Country was unable to make it to the celebrations, but sent a message of congratulations. Two of her grandchildren, Max and Zac cut the cake at the anniversary dinner.

Diane said many others had contributed to the kindergarten's success over the years, including her

own husband, with tasks like putting in sandpits and equipment. Others have included Nora and Gary Hunn, and Andrew and Suzy Pentelow. Suzy has taught

at the kindergarten for 10 years, the last year and a half as head teacher.

The kindergarten was based at St Josephs for 12 years, and then shifted to

Opunake Primary School for three terms before moving into its current purpose-built home. Come November and they will have been there for seven years.

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The significance of ANZAC Day

Pupils from St Josephs Primary School in Opunake had an interesting history lesson at the Opunake Library when Rob Groat from the Patea Museum spoke about the significance of ANZAC Day.

The museum educator had brought along some fascinating artefacts to show the students, which included an old steel helmet worn during the war, as well as some shell casings and bullets.

After a talk in which Rob described where the troops first went and were initially stationed – in Egypt,

he touched on the Gallipoli campaign, “a really hard battle”. He then showed some slides of scenes of the war. The students then split into groups, looked at paintings of war scenes, and were asked to describe the feelings the images evoked.

The talk certainly brought to life all those events of years ago which are so much part of New Zealand’s heritage. 2016 marks a hundred years since the first ANZAC Day was celebrated in 1916.

Continued page 13.



Rob Groat and Opunake St Josephs school pupils.



RIGHT:

War memorabilia included a beer bottle used in a special brew in honour of Hawera VC winner John Grant, one of two Hawera servicemen to receive the Victoria Cross in World War I. The other was Harry Laurent. They both have streets in Hawera named after them.

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The significance of ANZAC Day

Continued from page 12

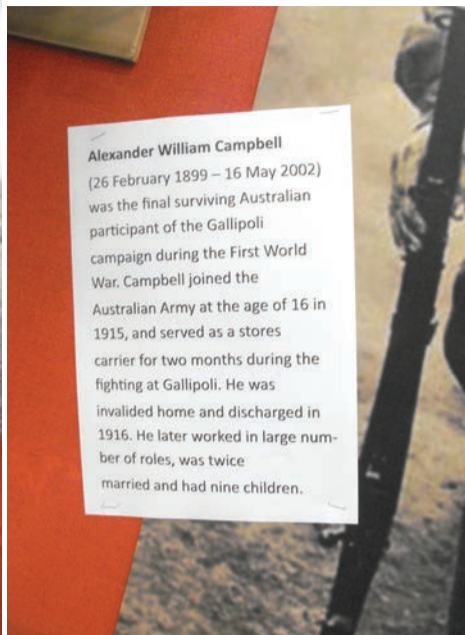
Off the net



Wooded to war. Stak Hickey with a reproduction of a poster used in recruiting volunteers for World War I.



A personal story among the exhibits which personalise war.



The British Penny

European Union Directive No. 456179

In order to bring about further integration with the single European currency, the Euro, all citizens of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland must be made aware that the phrase

“Spending a Penny” is not to be used after 31 December 2014

From this date onwards, the correct term will be: “Euro-nating”.

It is hoped that this will be a great relief to everyone.

One year on its been great

On April 22 the owners of Coastal Meat Processors will celebrate one year in business. “It’s been great,” says Mike Barker who bought the business with his wife Theresa a year ago and clearly has no regrets. “The support from the locals has been fantastic,” says Mike. The couple who were originally from Christchurch also say they are loving Okato with their two children happily enrolled in the local playcentre. The business is very

much a partnership. Theresa “does the intelligent stuff” quips Mike adding “I do all the other stuff” meaning running the butcher shop. Mike said people “are loving the vacuum packed beef,” which increases

the shelf life of the meat. “You’ve removed the air so it lasts longer.” He continues “We realise that processing is an expense, this is why we promise you will always receive your own animal back, fully aged (7-10 days). Then at your request we will vac-

uum pack all the beef to ensure flavour is sealed in and to minimise freezer burn.” They’ve also attracted quite a following with their small goods such as sausages and salamis and other delicatessen items which have proved popular.

And as another arm to the business, they’ve been smoking plenty of marlin and sharks caught locally. The enthusiastic couple are an asset to the Okato business community. Congratulations on your first successful year in business.

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One year on!

“Really happy with the success of the business” Mike and the Team



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“Mike has excellent service, well presented vacuum packed meat.

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Paddy Mullin, Kahui Road.

“Mike and the team at Coastal Meats are a dedicated team and it shows when you open your freezer. Individually wrapped custom cut steaks, juicy tasty sausages. Also our duck breasts from hunting Mike made into salami were the best we have ever tasted. Cheers guys, well done on a great year on the Coast and keep up the good work”. Rusty Campbell, Pihama



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Tiny insects show Taranaki's freshwater

Taranaki's latest freshwater quality monitoring shows ecological health for the region's waterways is continuing to improve, recording some of the best results ever in the past 19 years, according to the Taranaki Regional Council.

Ecological water health is largely determined by macroinvertebrate monitoring, the number of tiny insects and species found in streams. Taranaki's 2014-15 results of macroinvertebrate (MCI) monitoring show some Taranaki sites have the best ever results since records began in 1995. These latest results were released in March 2016.

MCI is a nationally recognised measure of water health, used by many regions, which TRC scientists helped develop in the 1980s. MCI assigns a score to each species (from 1 -10), based on its tolerance or sensitivity to organic pollution, then calculates the average score of all species present at a site to rate the water quality.

Currently more than half of monitoring sites (29 out of 57) are in the two positive categories for water health - 22 have a positive and very significant MCI trend, up from 15 just three years ago, and a further seven sites have a significant positive trend.

There are no ecological monitoring sites in Taranaki showing significant negative trends.

There are also more than four times as many sites showing strong, significant improvement compared to seven years ago.

Taranaki streams and rivers showing the strongest evidence of MCI statistical and ecological improvement in water quality are: Kaupokonui Stream upstream of the Fonterra Kapuni factory, Mangaehu River at Raupuha Road, Punehu Stream at SH45, Kapoiaia Stream at Wiremu Road, Mangawhero Stream upstream of Waingongoro River confluence, Kaupokonui Stream upstream of STDC Kaponga WWTP, Kapoiaia Stream at Wataroa Road, and Mangati Stream at Bell Block.



Nesameletus is called a swimming mayfly and is found in high quality waters.

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More dairy farmers putting hand up to help

As the low milk price continues to bite, record numbers of dairy farmers are putting their hand up to support others as part of DairyNZ's Dairy Connect service.

More than 420 dairy farmers have volunteered to act as short-term mentors for the support service which facilitates the sharing of information between farmers.

DairyNZ Dairy Connect

manager Janine Broekhuizen says the numbers of farmers volunteering their time for the service has doubled in the past year, from 225 to 420.

"The Dairy Connect service, which was initiated in 2012, has significantly grown. We've got farmers who are willing to provide support and advice on a range of subjects from animal management, staff, pasture and feed through to environment, business, adverse events and personal wellbeing.

"Despite going through tough times themselves, these farmers really want to support others by sharing their experience. Many support farmers have agreed to be part of this because they have received valuable advice in the past."

The last three months has seen a record number of farmers using the service for advice or assurance.

"We've facilitated almost 60 connections over the last three months, this is a 50 per cent increase over the

same period last year," says Janine. "Now, more than ever, the dairy industry is showing its biggest strength, and that is the willingness to share information."

Janine encourages farmers to use the service.

"If it is your first time experiencing an issue, the amount of information out there can be quite overwhelming. A few phone calls to someone with experience can provide a lot of confidence - I really encourage those who need some advice to use Dairy Connect."

In mid-Canterbury, 50:50 sharemilkers Siobhan and Christopher O'Malley didn't hesitate when asked to take part in Dairy Connect as support farmers.

"A lot of people have given us plenty of good advice along the way, which has made all the difference, and this was an opportunity for us to give back," says Siobhan.

The O'Malleys are relatively new to dairy farming. Siobhan was a

teacher and Christopher an adventure tour guide before he started in the dairy industry in 2009/10. This is their first year as 50:50 sharemilkers, having progressed from lower order.

"One of the things we absolutely love about dairying is how people are so willing to share information, which is awesome. In tougher times it is also really comforting to share ideas around how to make the most of what little money you have."

The O'Malleys have already provided information to aspiring sharemilkers who were looking for information around setting up budgets. Both parties found it a positive experience.

"I thought it was great, you are being contacted by someone who is motivated. They were really clear about what they wanted so it was really easy to give them answers or steer them in the right direction," says Siobhan.

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Bookkeeping just got easier for small businesses

As a business in Taranaki supplying services to the agri-industry, it is crucial for Ag Traction to be flexible and adaptive to the needs of their clients. Having cost effective systems in place to ensure stock is well managed, and that the best price is given to their clients at all times is essential to help them stay consistent and adaptable in what is a very competitive industry.

As a small business with a staff of seven dealing with a large number of clients, Ag Traction's Managing Director, Trent Hall, was struggling to keep up with lengthy administration tasks and found he was spending more time working on the

financials of the business, rather than in the business itself. Knowing that accurate financial billing and good cash flow management would be crucial in the current market, he sought advice from Staples Rodway Director and Business Advisor, Philip Macey, and decided it was time to take on a bookkeeper.

Trent said: "Staples Rodway organised for a skilled bookkeeper and accountant, Therese Fleming to take the pressure off, and because of the experience she has, and her range of accounting skills, it was easy to integrate her into our workplace, and we are constantly learning from

her. Accounting technology is constantly changing, so having a bookkeeper that follows the processes and screening of a large organisation means that we don't have to worry about the time and cost involved in upskilling our staff."

Following on from this successful arrangement, Staples Rodway has formed SR Books – a dedicated team of contracted bookkeepers and accountants to work directly with clients. All of the Staples Rodway bookkeepers are trained by Staples Rodway, and skilled at handling commercial transactions across a range of industries. They are specifically chosen based on

the needs of the client and the accounting software they use.

Trent continued: "Since using the service our internal financial statements are accurate, we're getting on top of our accounts, and we're saving money. The service has given me peace of mind that if cash flow is tight, I can access immediate reports and liaise with Philip to help me make important business decisions."

If you'd like to learn more about SR Books or would like a free, no obligation quote, contact Philip Macey on 06 757 3155 or email srbooks@staplestaranaki.co.nz.

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“ Since using the SR Books service our internal financial statements are accurate, we're getting on top of our accounts and we're saving money!

- Trent Hall
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Organic sector growing strongly: latest research

The New Zealand organic sector has grown by more than 11% per annum since 2012, according to the 2016 New Zealand Organic Market Report.

The growth is being driven by consumer demand both domestically and overseas, and follows a worldwide trend that is showing no signs of slowing, says

Brendan Hoare, Chief Executive of Organics Aotearoa New Zealand (OANZ), the peak sector body that commissioned the report. "Certified organic is a sustained global shift in consumer behavior, and New Zealand stands to benefit immensely from increased engagement," he says.

"Organic fresh fruit, wine, dairy, processing and domestic retail sectors are thriving in this country, and each is backed by a solid export sector that is diversifying into new markets, particularly Asia," says Hoare.

The news is not all good, however, with organic fresh vegetable and red meat

production languishing.

The report was prepared by researchers from The AgriBusiness Group and Colmar Brunton NZ. Key findings include:

The domestic market for certified organic products is estimated at \$217 million. Organic grocery sales through supermarkets have increased by 127% since

2012.

Organic product exports have increased by over 11% since 2012. Fresh fruit and vegetables account for more than 45% of total exports. The value of organic pastoral exports has grown 45% since 2009. Land area under organic horticulture has grown 128% since 2012, from 11.188 hectares to

25,476 hectares. Domestic organic milk sales are increasing rapidly. The average size of organic pastoral farms has decreased from 346 ha in 2012 to 192 ha in 2015.

The land area under organic livestock production has declined by 55% since 2012.



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Hawera target shooters open their season

A good turnout of shooters were seen for the official first night of competition for the Hawera target shooters on April 6.

New shooter Christian Starr had a personal best 88.1. On the grouping cards Keonte Ngatai also had a PB with 100group. In the seniors, father and son Bruce and Jason Cameron after three cards were separated by three inners, with Bruce the top score. Of the visitor shooters Paul Tidswell was the best with 199.12. Scoring was generally high for the start of the season.

Scores were : Llewellyn Farr 83.0,84.0, Dylan Farr 99gr,90.4, Sean Michael Bower 98gr,98gr, Christina Starr 73.0, 88.1,85.0, Jackson Jennings 92.3, 90.1, Alex Munro 79.0, 90.1, Clayton Robinson 86.1,

78.1, Rico Symes Patterson 92.0, 89.0, Mathew Peters 82.0, 90.3, 87.0, Keonte Ngatai 98gr,100gr, Joe De Costa 83.0, Sam Gooding 97.6, Frank Eustace 95.3, 195.8, 196.9, Bruce Cameron 100.6, 197.17, Jason Cameron 98.7, 199.13, Hayden Andreoli 97.5, 195.11 Garry Rowlands 98.7, 197.13, Paul Tidswell 99.5, 100.7.

A week later, Jason Cameron was continuing his hot form this season, with the only hundred for the night. Scores were of a high standard.

Jackson Jennings, for the first time in D Grade, continues to impress with a 95.2. Hot on his heels were Alex Munro and Dwayne Rangī, both with 93s. Scores were: Dylan Farr 86.0,90.0, Llewellyn Farr 89.0,85.1, Jackson Jennings

90.2,95.2, 88.1, Alex Munro 89.0,90.0, 88.1, Clayton Robinson 65.9, 78.0,84.1, Aidan Kelsen 96gr, 93.0, Dwayne Rangī 89.2, 79.1,93.2, Sean Michael 98gr,99gr, Mathew Peters 93.3,87.1,93.4, Hayden Andreoli 96.5, 98.4, 95.4, 95.4, 98.1, Bruce Cameron 99.7,99.6,99.6, Jason Cameron 99.4,100.8, 98.4, Sam Gooding 99.6,99.8, At the recent Colyton Open Champs several shooters did well. From Hawera Bruce Cameron in the Open improved two places to be 3rd. Jason Cameron did well with 295.17, and Garry Rowlands and Paul Tidswell had the same score of 293.12. In the A Grade Samuel Gooding from Hawera was 2nd with 294.13.

Frank Eustace



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Some good shooting for start of Eltham smallbore rifle season

A total of 20 shooters turned up for the opening shoot of the season for the Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club. Pre-season practice by many of the members meant that the scores were in general of a high standard. On the night, Adrian Clark top-scored with a very nice 100.8. He has been shooting consistently during the off-season and could be the one to watch in future matches.

Matt Sulzberger also shot above his usual average. Junior shooters also had good scores on the grouping cards, and it will be good to see them progress to the full cards as they improve.

Scores on the full cards, Paul Tidswell shot 96.4, 97.5, 99.8, 97.5; Paul Longstaff 96.9, 95.2, 96.3, 96.4; Murray Chinery 92.1; Matt Sulzberger 97.4; Garry Rowlands 95.3, 99.5, 98.5, 98.6, 98.8; Bob Bramley 92.2, 91.1, 93.4; Heather Symonds 92.3, 96.4, 91.2; Adam Swainson 86.1; Don Litchfield 94.2, 94.1; Frank Eustace 96.3, 99.6, 96.4, 96.3; Alan Drake 96.3; Brian Hicks 95.4, 96.2; Adrian Clark 97.3, 95.1, 95.6, 100.8, 96.4; Clare Bramley 95.4. On the grouping cards, the junior shooters did well; Cameron Symonds 100;

Adam Swainson 100; Ellie Swainson 96, 95; B. Paul 94, 99; Keira McLeish 98, Sharon Swainson 97.

A week later, a mighty double 100 from Garry Rowlands from the Eltham Smallbore club held off a strong challenge by Hawera visitors Jason and Bruce Cameron. Frank Eustace also managed a possible later in the week during a practice session. Bob Bramley, an up and coming shooter, shot his personal best with a creditable 99.3, almost a possible but not quite.

Other scores were: Bob Bramley 95.4, 92.2, 94.0, 99.3; Garry Rowlands 100.3, 97.5, 99.4, 100.9; Paul Longstaff 94.4, 96.1; Clare Bramley 94.1, 93.1, 92.1, 94.3, 94.6; Murray Chinery 96.3, 90.1, 93.1; Matt McLeash 83.1, Keira McLeash 86.0, 77.0; Don Litchfield 98.6, 90.1; Bruce Cameron 98.5, 100.7, 97.6; Jason Cameron 97.4, 98.3, 98.6; Brian Hicks 93.2, 92.2; Stephen Hicks 92.2, 93.1; Alan Drake 96.1; Paul Tidswell 98.4, 97.6, 96.5, 99.9, 97.4; Frank Eustace 07.5, 100.6.

On the grouping cards Olivia Towler scored 95,99; Matt McLeash 110; PaulB 98, 99;

Alan Drake

Taranaki Under 18 Girls' Sevens team finish in top four at Northern Regions

An exciting group of promising young talent has helped the Taranaki Under 18 Girls' Sevens team to a semi-final finish at the Northern Regions Under 18 Girls' Provincial Sevens Tournament.

The pilot tournament was held in Cambridge in fine conditions. Taranaki defeated King Country (38-7) and Waikato (41-7) in pool play before cruising past Thames Valley (49-0) in their quarter final. In their semi, Taranaki were beaten by Bay of Plenty (14-19). North Harbour took the honours defeating Bay of Plenty in the final.

Taranaki head coach Josh Hamilton and trainer Matt Hotter took a squad of 12 to Cambridge with players from New Plymouth Girls' High School, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Waitara High School and Opunake

High School all featuring. Taranaki players Kayla Henry (NPGHS) and Casio Austin (ex NPGHS) were named in a 25 woman New Zealand Under 18 Sevens squad to attend a national camp in Tauranga.

Other players to catch the eye over the course of the day included Tiana Davidson (SHGC), Kate Batchelor (NPGHS), Danika Northcott-Hill (NPGHS) and Atalya Fakavamoeanga (Opunake High School). Hamilton was proud of his team performances against much bigger opposition.

"The girls showed a lot of physicality on defence, and our natural flair took care of itself on attack. When we held our structure across the pitch we played quality Sevens, and playing in tournaments like this will only help us to hold our patterns while under pressure and fatigue."



Taranaki U18 Girls Sevens rep team. Back row (from left): Tiana Davison, Makayla Callaghan, Kayla Henry, Casio Te Ora Austin, Tara Blyde, Bronwyn Prestage, Garvada Hauraki. Middle Row: Georjia Te Huia-Warren, Kate Bachelor, Bailey Mullin, Danika Northcott-Weherua. Front Row: Atalya Fakavamoeanga

Taranaki hoping to improve teams of ten position

Up to 16 teams of 10 target shooters from all around the North Island will converge on Hutt Valley on May 14 for the teams of Ten.

Taranaki normally sits at about 6th place in the competition.

Results from the trial held at Inglewood on April 17. Dave Fake 397.25,

Bruce Cameron	396.24,
Doug Gibson	392.17,
Jason Cameron	391.25,
Garry Rowlands	389.20,
Kevin Bocock	388.14,
Frank Eustace	387.15,
Paul Tidswell	386.19, Sam Gooding 385.10, Trevor Jupp 383.18, Hayden Andreoli 383.13, Phobe Lye 381.14.

Taranaki third in indoor bowls tournament

The Annual Indoor Bowls Quadrangular event played at Stratford was convincingly won by the North Wellington team with 162.5 points. The runners up were Wanganui with 121 points, with the local Taranaki team third with 110.5 points, and Horowhenua fourth with 38

points. Within the competition Taranaki defeated Horowhenua 54 -18, but were beaten 40 -32 by Wanganui, and 48 -25 by North Wellington.

Top scorer for the Taranaki team was Noel Thompson who had seven wins from nine games.

Opunake Ladies Golf

February/March Results. 18 Holvers – Brennan Shield, K Pointon, Strokeplay – Silver C. Hill.

Bronze 1 D. Williams, Bronze 2 P Smith, Bronze 3 T. Hurly.

Coronation Medal. A.

Siciliano, Aotearoa Cup W. Vickers, Vets P. Smith.

Team Event. C. Hill, J. Cathie, D. Williams, A. Siciliano.

9 Holvers – Strokeplay J. O'Rorke, Bisque Par J. O'Rorke

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Blossom Eiffe at Opunake Music Workshop

An angel sings in Church

Blossom Eiffe, (16) from Rahotu, a student at Opunake High School, aptly lived up to her name, with a glowing smile, and the voice of an angel. Blossom is a floral name meaning, "a cluster of flowers," or "to thrive and flourish." She

certainly did that, as she sang a selection of covers and original songs penned by her at the Opunake Music Workshop on Tuesday April 12. She demonstrated maturity well beyond her years. Amazingly, she has only been singing and

playing acoustic guitar for about two years. The Music Workshops provide a platform for young talent like Blossom to develop her craft.

All artists willing to perform, and work toward future live concerts are

welcome to join us at the next meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday April 26 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake.

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I'm going to have fun this year

Last weekend six-year old Amelia again headed off to the Arthritis New

Zealand annual camp at the Totara Springs Camp near Matamata. She was joined by 32 other young children, newly diagnosed with different forms of arthritis and their siblings, parents and caregivers. 87 in all.

Amelia bounced in to camp last year on Friday afternoon, auburn curls bouncing and filled with excitement. On Saturday morning she was drawn and in pain and spent the rest of the weekend very miserable. "This is the reality for children with arthritis" says Sandra Kirby, CEO of Arthritis New Zealand.

Amelia from Lower Hutt has (JIA) and was first



Amelia Ferguson.

diagnosed when she was four. She has weekly methotrexate injections given to her by her parents.

Something they would never have contemplated ever having to do.

"Arthritis does occur in children – and can be treated. Like many conditions early diagnosis and treatment give better outcomes," says Sandra.

It is important that the children learn they are not the only ones with this condition and gain skills, meet new friends and some new ideas on living day to day. They will challenge each other on the multitude of activities available, then relax aching bodies in the warm pool.

Finding out you have arthritis doesn't need to hold you back, and they enjoyed activities like abseiling, flying fox, archery, raft building, kayaking and then the fun of the warm water hydroslide.

It is important that the parents and caregivers get to meet other adults caring for children with arthritis. For while the camp is primarily for the children, many of the adults will never have met anyone else who has a child with arthritis.



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Do you have a talent that can entertain?

Colour Conversions (Video, Audio and Graphic Productions) are holding regular performance driven evenings that will result in creating an entertainment platform for covers and original performances.

Join us for the beginning of a new opportunity - be part of future live shows.

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.

Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The Twelfth gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 26th April 2016
Catholic Church, 33 Whitcombe Road, Opunake.

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Alice is coming

Mark your calendar now – May 6, 7 and 8 for the Val Deakin Dance Theatre's magical and exciting production of Alice in Wonderland- a treat for all the family – and not to be missed.

Full of all the familiar and loved characters from the Lewis Carroll story – Alice is filled with fun and colour. A White Rabbit always being late and looking at his watch, a crazy Caterpillar, a cheeky Cheshire Cat, a grumpy Cook, a disgruntled Duchess, a bossy Queen of Hearts, and Alice in her blue pinafore dress, and comes in three different sizes. More than 30 characters bring the lovely story to life.

Magical choreography by Val Deakin captures the charm, wit and comedy of French composers.

A large and varied cast will present the story in a way that will appeal to audiences

of all ages, enjoying the colourful and fantastic costumes, the range of lyrical to folk dancing, the clever choreography and the witty music. Performers in the cast come from a wide range of countries including New Zealand, England, Zimbabwe, the USA, India, Germany and Fiji.

Performances will be at the Val Deakin Dance Centre, 306 St Aubyn Street, New Plymouth. Tickets are available from the door, or by phoning 752 7743 (after 9:30 am). \$15 for adults and \$10 for children (with group and family discounts available) The Dance Centre venue allows for all facial expressions to be seen and for the audience to feel part of the action – but tickets will be limited, so be in quick.

Performance dates and times are Friday May 6, 9.30 and 11am, Saturday May 7 and Sunday May 8, 1 and 3pm.



The three Alices.



Queen of Hearts.

The full cast is (two different casts):

- Alice: Jane Roseman
- Sophie Sheaf-Morrison or Molly Fletcher
- White Rabbit / Duchess: Rosanne Taylor
- Queen of Hearts / Sister: Donna Kelly
- Caterpillar / Lobster: Ling Fan
- Mouse: Beattie Riley or Karina Tamaiparea
- Cook / Mock Turtle: Megan Allardice
- Cheshire Cat: Davina Moffat or Caitlynn Richards
- Mad Hatter: Lynda West
- March Hare/King of Hearts: Mervyn Chivers
- Dormouse: Amiria Bailey or Michaela Tamaiparea
- Gardeners: Penny Dixon, Danielle Hamblyn-Morrison, Elena von Hunerbein
- Cards / Animals: Amiria Bailey, Anotia Cinembiri, Penny Dixon, Siobhan Dobbin, Molly Fletcher, Danielle Hamblyn-Morrison, Yathitha Murugaiyen, Madinina Nordin, Beattie Riley, Madelaine Riley, Sophie Sheaf-Morrison, Michaela Tamaiparea, Karina Tamaiparea, Alison Taylor, Elena von Hunerbein
- Guards: Johanna von Hunerbein, Alison Taylor
- Knave of Hearts: Craig Carter.

- or Inge Vink
- Madelaine Riley
- Penny Dixon
- Rosanne Taylor
- Donna Kelly
- Ling Fan
- Beattie Riley or Karina Tamaiparea
- Megan Allardice
- Davina Moffat or Caitlynn Richards
- Lynda West
- Mervyn Chivers
- Amiria Bailey or Michaela Tamaiparea
- Penny Dixon, Danielle Hamblyn-Morrison, Elena von Hunerbein

Do you know what your children do online?

Young people today are growing up connected. The Rahotu Home and School Association feel there is a lot we could explore to have a better understanding of online challenges facing our children today.

We have invited Lee Chisolm from Netsafe (Auckland) to visit our school and share an evening on May 9, informing us how we can keep our children as safe as possible, what we need to be talking with them about, boundaries in the home, their digital tattoo, and cyberbullying and harassment.

"The things I talk about relate to adults as well as young people and the feedback I get is that everyone learns something new," Lee Chisolm says.



An evening for all parents on the Coast.

It doesn't matter what school your children attend this event will be of value to all.

Our BOT will kindly be providing supper.

We are asking for a gold coin donation to help cover travel and accommodation costs of our speaker. (This does not apply to Rahotu School parents).

MONDAY 9 MAY
NETSAFE

Do you know what your children do online?

Young people today are growing up connected.

The Rahotu Home & School feel there is a lot we could explore to have a better understanding of online challenges facing our children today.

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"The things I talk about relate to adults as well as young people and the feedback I get is that everyone learns something new".
Lee Chisolm

Rahotu School HOME AND SCHOOL COMMITTEE
"Keeping the flames of learning alive"



7.30pm
Room 7

Rahotu School
Please RSVP by Fri 5 May
If you have any questions, please contact
Melanie Thompson on 027 3068048
melsta@hotmail.com

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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu
Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St, 9.30am every Sunday and the
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month.
Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays.
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays.

Opunake Catholic Church

SUNDAY 8.30 am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star Of The Sea).

Other areas

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs).
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

ALL WELCOME

THE WAVE

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett Street, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7 pm Wednesday
Youth Group 7pm Friday
Come along or contact Pastor Murray
027 688 7378

ST. BARNABAS

Anglican Church 141 Tasman St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.00am
Communion 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday
Prayer & Praise 2nd Sunday
Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

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PUBLIC NOTICES

RAHOTU COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CLUB INC. AGM

Sunday May 1 2016
at 7.30pm
to be held in the clubrooms.
All welcome
Jo Morgan - Secretary

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HAIR ANALYSIS, shows vitamin, mineral and amino deficiencies, if any bacterial or viral infections, food intolerances, etc results back within the hour. \$90 at Hardys the health shop in Centre City. 7587553

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Run with Jersey Bulls from 28.07.
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Opunake Beach Masterplan

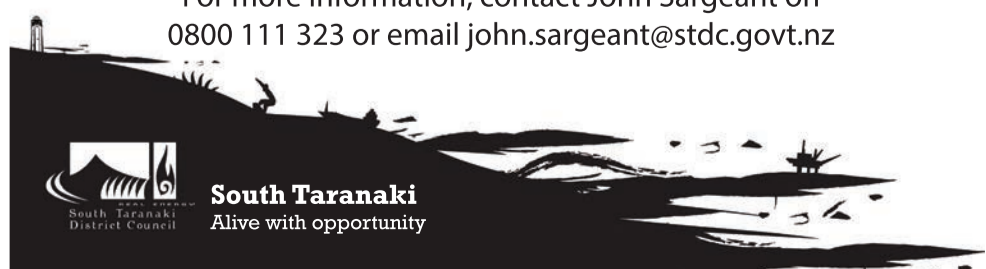
Saturday 30 April
11am - 2.30pm

Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club

Come along and **tell us what you think** about the draft plans for the future development of Opunake Beach.

Plan designers and Council staff will be there to answer any questions.

For more information, contact John Sargeant on 0800 111 323 or email john.sargeant@stdc.govt.nz



PUBLIC NOTICES

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5.30PM

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



ANZAC DAWN PARADE MANAIA

The Egmont Plains Community Board and the Manaia & District RSA cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Manaia on Monday 25 April 2016.

The Parade will assemble at the Gibson Hall (Tauhuri Street) at 6.15am to march off at 6.30am then proceed to the Band Rotunda for the service - Medals to be worn.

Refreshments will follow the service at the Gibson Hall.

ANZAC DAWN PARADE OPUNAKE

The Egmont Plains Community Board and the Opunake RSA cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Opunake on Monday 25 April 2016.

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

Refreshments will follow the service at the Town Hall.

Further services will be held at the Cenotaphs at Te Kiri (10.30am) and Pihama (5.45pm).

Call us today to advertise

06 761 7016

Next issue out May 6



What's On Listings



JONATHAN YOUNG

MP for New Plymouth Need to speak with your local MP? Monthly clinics being held in Opunake, 3rd Monday of each month. 10am-12pm at the Opunake Business Centre. Please email or phone to book a time.

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

First Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

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COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

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TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

COASTAL SINGERS

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ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY

100 Days, 12 April - 6 May. Refer advert for details.

THE CLUB HOTEL GALA NIGHT

Friday 22 April from 6pm.

OPUNAKE BOAT AND UNDERWATER CLUB \$100 SNAPPER FISHING COMPETITION

23rd April - 8th May inclusive

BUTLERS REEF

Cover band 'Slam', Saturday April 23 from 9pm.

Open Musicians afternoon every second Sunday.

FARMERS AND GROWERS MARKET

Pihama Lavender on Sunday 24th April

CALLING ALL ENTERTAINERS

Tuesday, April 26 at 7.30pm. Refer advert for full details.

ST. JOHNS FIRST AID COURSE

One day course, Tuesday 26th April starting at 8am at the Sandfords Event Centre.

OPUNAKE BEACH MASTERPLAN

Saturday 30 April, 11am - 2.30pm at the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club. Refer advert for full details.

HUNT FOR THE WILDERPEOPLE BOUTIQUE NIGHT

Showing at Everybodys Theatre at 7pm on Sunday 1 May. Refer article for full information

RAHOTU COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CLUB INC.

AGM, Sunday May 1 2016 at 7.30pm to be held in the clubrooms. All welcome

NEW PLYMOUTH REPERTORY SOCIETY presents

How the Other Half Loves. May 2 - May 14 at 7.30pm.

Refer advert for further details.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Find out what the changes to Health and Safety legislation mean for you. May 4 at 10am at Coastal Care, 26 Napier Street, Opunake.

VAL DEAKIN DANCE THEATRE TRUST presents

Alice in Wonderland. May 6 - May 8. Refer to advert for full details.

NETSAFE

Keeping watch with what your children do online. Monday May 9, Rahotu School, Room 7 at 7.30pm

TARANAKI BRIDE OF THE YEAR 2016

Saturday May 28, accepting entries now. Refer advert for details.

\$1000 Snapper Fishing Competition

Hosted by

OPUNAKE BOAT AND UNDERWATER CLUB

23rd April - 8th May inclusive

Early bird tickets \$50 per angler

Pre-registration closes Friday 22nd April at 8pm at Clubrooms, Middleton Bay with spot draws on the night. Early bird tickets also available from Collins Sport, Opunake, prior to the 22nd.

Late entry tickets \$60 per angler

Available from Collins Sports and OB&UC Committee members throughout the competition. All boats to launch and retrieve from Middleton Bay only. Individual Skippers discretion on weather conditions and fishing days. All anglers on all boats must have valid tickets prior to fishing.

Weigh-ins strictly 3pm-5pm daily at the Boat Clubrooms and 1pm-3pm on the final day.

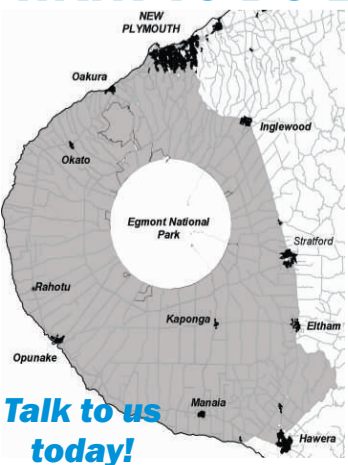
\$1000 cash for the largest snapper plus prizes for next nine places.

Also prizes for heaviest Kahawai, Blue Cod, Trevally and Gurnard and random spot prizes.

Prize giving from 6pm on Sunday 8th May

Complimentary Spit Roast meal for ticket holders.

WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA?



Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home & 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 Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga & Eltham.

We want to be involved with your business.

Call today and discuss your marketing options with us.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Promote your business or event in our area, call us on:

Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - 23 Napier Street, Opunake
or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz



Offending no one

I don't think anyone could take offence at the sentiments expressed on this Wicked Campers vehicle spotted in Opunake recently. Don't we all!

New research shows kiwi mums confused about children's dietary iron needs

New research shows a disparity between how much dietary iron Kiwi mums believe their children need and what they are actually getting.

In a recent survey conducted by Nielsen, 61 per cent of Kiwi mums believe their children get enough iron in their diet, with only 16 per cent disagreeing.

However, research shows that, in New Zealand, 80 per cent of toddlers do not receive the recommended daily intake of iron, 14 per cent of children under the age of 2 are iron deficient and over one third of teenage girls don't achieve their daily iron requirements.

Dr Pamela Von Hurst from

Massey University School of Food and Nutrition says children and adolescents have an increased risk of iron deficiency.

"Childhood is a crucial time for optimal development and iron deficiency at this life stage can have long term effects," says Dr Von Hurst.

Encouragingly when surveyed, most could identify various side effects of iron deficiency, however, only 8 per cent could correctly identify all signs of iron deficiency in a child.

If a child is low in iron or iron deficient, they may show signs such as tiredness, appearing pale, irritable or grumpy, or struggle to gain weight.

The early stages of life are incredibly important in terms of the correct nutrient intake, with iron being crucial for brain development in babies and toddlers; at seven months a baby needs more iron than her Dad.

Women also need to have a heightened awareness around iron intake during pregnancy, requiring greater amounts of iron each day, because of increased blood volume and the nutritional requirements of the growing baby.

Mothers and women are also a group most at risk of iron deficiency with one in 14 women in New Zealand low in iron. The Neilson survey showed 20 per cent of women do not think they get enough iron in their diets.

For women particularly, the symptoms of low iron are similar to those which are often attributed to a busy lifestyle meaning women are not necessarily aware they are at risk.

Iron deficiency is recognised by the World Health Organisation as the most common and widespread nutritional disorder in the world.

A New Zealand initiated

campaign, World Iron Awareness Week, has commenced to raise awareness of the prevalence, symptoms of iron deficiency, and what can be done to increase iron levels.

Massey University will be facilitating a series of events throughout World Iron Awareness Week for health professionals and the public across three campuses; Auckland, Palmerston North and Wellington

At 7 months, a baby needs more iron than her dad. Iron is crucial for brain development in babies and toddlers.

In developing countries every second pregnant woman and about 40 per cent of preschool children are estimated to be anaemic. The major health consequences include poor pregnancy outcome, impaired physical and cognitive development, increased risk of morbidity in children, and reduced work productivity in adults. Anaemia contributes to 20 per cent of all maternal deaths.

There are two types of iron in food: haem iron (found in meat and fish) and non-



Steak wraps are a healthy source of iron.

haem iron (found mainly in plants). The body absorbs the haem iron in meat much more efficiently than the non-haem iron in plant foods. For example half a cup of cooked silverbeet contains 1.0 mg of iron, but the body can only use about 5 per cent of this. In comparison, 120g of cooked lean beef contains more than

4.0 mg of iron, and the body absorbs around 25 per cent of it. You would need to eat over 1kg of cooked silverbeet to get the same amount of iron provided by just 120g of lean meat. This equates to a small serving of spaghetti bolognese or a couple of small lamb leg steaks.

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What's On 

'SLAM'
Cover Band
SATURDAY APRIL 23
No cover charge - from 9pm
The second Sunday of every month
'Open Musicians afternoon' from 2pm till 6pm

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VAL DEAKIN DANCE THEATRE TRUST presents

ALICE IN WONDERLAND

FRIDAY, MAY 6 9.30 & 11AM
SATURDAY, MAY 7 1 & 3 PM
SUNDAY, MAY 8 1 & 3 PM

DANCE CENTRE
306 St. Aubyn St, New Plymouth (opposite Mitre 10)

TICKETS
Adults \$15 Children \$10
Family and Group Discounts
Door Sales or Phone 06 752 7743



Budget service looks to meet growing need

Julie Gaudin of the New Zealand Federation of Family Budgeting Services is at Coastal Care in Opunake every second Wednesday.

The service is free, and they take a non-judgmental approach towards their clients, she said.

"We see everybody from beneficiaries to families who are struggling, as well as farm workers with the hassles they have going on at the moment.

"We are getting quite a few elderly people, and single people who are struggling as they don't get the extras that families get.

"Some people may just want help for a short time because the power is about to be cut off, and some people

need more intense assistance. For some it can be as long as six months or a year. It all depends on the client."

As co-ordinator of the Hawera office, her area covers from Waverley to Midhirst.

"We are trying to get outposts set up in other areas as well," she said.

As well as visits like the regular ones to Opunake, the service also carries out home visits, and is involved in community education.

Julie had been sharemilking when she began working for the Budgeting Service. When she finished her training, a vacancy came up for a co-ordinator, and things moved on from there.

It is a service which she



Julie Gaudin.

says is increasingly needed. "I've been doing this job nine years. When I started, I just worked every Tuesday. Now I'm fulltime and I have two staff and nine volunteers."

Volunteers need to do 20

hours of "quite intensive" training, a pre-test, police check, and two lots of training every year after that.

The Family Budget Service is looking at carrying out training sessions in Stratford in May.



Curated by Michaela Stoneman

100 DAYS
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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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Coastal Care Community Questionnaire update

As all our responses to our March survey were from urban Opunake we would like to give those in the rural area another opportunity to have their say about the current and future services provided by CoastalCare and go into a second draw to win a lovely \$100 gift draw. The questionnaire was delivered in the last Opunake and Coastal News

As we will be using this information for our future service planning, we would really like to hear from all of our community, so please take five minutes to complete and freepost back. It's as easy as folding the address at the bottom of the second

page to the front, and putting in your letterbox.

Congratulations to our first winner Mrs Carol Stimpson whose named questionnaire was randomly drawn by our Chairperson at the March 21 meeting. Carol said, "the gift vouchers would help a lot"

Many people have already shared some good ideas and commented on the number and variety of health and social services CoastalCare provide. We will provide comprehensive feedback on the overall questionnaire once the second draw has been completed.

Questionnaires need to be in by April 26 and will be drawn on April 29.



Coastal Care, Opunake.

An Introduction to the Health and Safety at Work Act

The new Health and Safety at Work Act came into force on April 4. This article by WorkSafe New Zealand is designed to give businesses and workers an overview of the new law.

New Zealand workplaces are not as safe as they should be.

Every year about 50 people die in a workplace incident. Hundreds more die an early death as a result of work-related ill-health. Our

workplace health and safety record is three times worse than the UK.

We need to lift our game – and with the new Health and Safety at Work Act now in place there has never been a better time for businesses to review their health and safety practices.

So what do you need to know about the new law? Well, first up let's dispel a couple of myths.

The new law does not suddenly mean that a whole

bunch of new risks have to be managed – health at safety risks at work have always had to be managed.

The Health and Safety at Work Act does not require you to eliminate all risks in the workplace at any cost. That's not realistic, and not what WorkSafe expects. And it doesn't have to mean a whole lot more paperwork. Health and safety is about identifying and managing risks – not a folder full of documents gathering dust.

The law is designed to encourage communication and co-operation. Everyone from directors down to the casual labourer has a role to play in keeping our workers and others safe and healthy. But obviously a casual labourer doesn't have the same ability to influence how a job is undertaken, so they have different levels of responsibility. And where there's more than one business working at site, businesses need to talk

to each other and agree on sensible health and safety measures based on the level of risk, and who is best placed to manage that risk.

What the law expects is that a business do what is 'reasonably practicable' to eliminate or manage health and safety risks (that's much the same as the law that it replaced required for the last 25 years). So if, for example, workers are working with dangerous chemicals, you need to make sure they're

trained, there's proper ventilation, and they have appropriate personal protective equipment. Or if they are working at height, think about how to prevent falls by using scaffolds, edge protection, nets or the like.

It's about taking sensible precautions today to keep people safe. That's not just the law, it's good business and the right thing to do.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Find out what the changes to Health and Safety legislation mean for you.

4th May 10am

Coastal Care
26 Napier St Opunake

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 How to be Single Comedy, Romance 109min M Offensive Language & sexual ref Helping Alice navigate her way through an unfamiliar city is Robin a fun-loving, wild co-worker who enjoys partying and one-night stands. Friday 22 April 7pm Wednesday 27 April 7pm	 Last Paradise Adventure, Historical PG Family-friendly, Life-changing inspiration 1104 mins Trailer www.lastparadisefilm.com Saturday 23 April 7pm
 Kung Fu Panda 3 PG 95min Animation, Action, Adventure Po must face two hugely epic, but different threats: one supernatural and the other a little close to home. Saturday 23 April 1pm Wednesday 27 April 1pm Saturday 7 May 1pm	 Batman V Superman: Dawn of Justice Action, Adventure, Science Fiction, Blockbuster 151min M Violence Sunday 24 7pm Friday 29 7pm
 Divergent: Allegiant Adventure, Science Fiction 121mins M Violence The third entry in the series Saturday 30th 1pm Sunday 8 May 7pm Wednesday 11 May 7pm	 Zootopia PG 1hr48 Animation, Action, Adventure A rookie bunny cop and a cynical con artist fox must work together to uncover a conspiracy. Wednesday 4 May 1pm Saturday 14 May 1pm
 My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 PG13 94min Comedy Romance A Portokalos family secret brings the beloved characters back together for an even bigger and greekier wedding. Wednesday 4 May 7pm Friday 13 May 7pm	 Hunt for the Wilderpeople PG13 93min Comedy BOUTIQUE \$25 Sunday 1 May 7pm Wine/beer & tasty treats Tickets available from Sinclair Electrical or email everybodystheatre@gmail.com

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	22 How to be Single 7pm	23 Kung Fu Panda 3 1pm The Last Paradise 7pm	24 Batman V Superman 7pm
27 Kung Fu Panda 1pm How to be Single 7pm	29 Batman V Superman 7pm	30 Divergent: Allegiant 1pm 10 Cloverfield Lane 7pm	1 May *BOUTIQUE* 7pm The Hunt for the Wilderpeople
4 May Zootopia 1pm My Big Fat Greek Wedding	6 May Mahana 7pm	7 May Kung Fu Panda 3 1pm Hunt for the Wilderpeople 7pm	8 May Divergent: Allegiant 7pm



How the Other Half Loves

MAY 2ND - MAY 14TH
7.30PM Tickets available at  (a surcharge may apply)
Directed By Fleur Coombe



From left, Jane Lawrence, Richard Kennedy-Moffat, Carole Hosie, Clive Cullen, Graham Fraser, Hollie Weir, Ainslie Alexander and Mike Brotherson.

Hawera Rep's Duets – simply superb entertainment

A full house greeted 'Duets' on Saturday April 16 at Hawera Repertory's newly refurbished Repertory House in Collins Street, Hawera. This comedy play was written by Peter Quilter with Samantha Turner as director.

What followed for the fortunate audience was one of the best productions one could wish to experience. Although termed 'Act One, Two Three and Four' it was really four individual one act plays featuring two quirky individuals in a variety of interesting situations. These involved a blind date for two unusual middle aged people, a two-some with different sexual preferences, who have fallen

in love it seems, a holiday on the continent to sort final divorce plans and a bride to be with pre-wedding nerves soothed (or is it exacerbated!) by her blunt brother.

The appeal of this production is multi-layered: not only was it very funny with many amusing double entendres, but it was also poignant and thought-provoking. The acting was excellent, with Richard Kennedy-Moffat's complex blind date blundering simply outstanding. The way he delivered his lines reminded me of the brilliant comic actor Richard Briar of television's 'The Good Life' and 'Ever Decreasing Circles' (etc).

The show opens with 'Blind Date' where Jonathan (played by Richard Kennedy-Moffat) and Wendy (played by Jane Lawrence) chance a blind date, which is captivating to watch as they comically overcome various levels of unawareness underpinned by previous disappointments and horrific encounters. Terrific dialogue by these more than capable actors was captivating.

Secretarial Skills features Barrie (played by Graham Fraser) and Janet (played by Hollie Weir), who are boss and employee, but are closer than many married couples. But have they, in reality fallen in love despite Barrie's gay preference? Another feast of brilliantly funny acting with more than a touch of pathos.

Shelly (played Carole Hosie) and Bobby (played by Clive Cullen) have travelled to Spain for the holiday-from-hell to finalise their divorce. The actors keep up a vibrant

non-stop clash with accompanying cutting dialogue, but the act concludes with a surprising ending. Excellent acting ensures this act is enthralling and humorous.

Finally, Mike Brotherson playing as the insensitive Toby gets a mixed reception as he endeavours to calm the pre-wedding nerves of his sister Angela, played by Ainslie Alexander, in this rollickingly funny duet. Lots of clever dialogue by these players had the audience in stitches.

This magical production ends on Saturday April 23 and it is one of the best productions I have ever been lucky enough to watch. Well done to all (on both sides of the stage) who helped to make this play so memorably funny. There are still seats available from Hawera's i-site for Saturday nights (23 April) finale – so don't miss out.

Rolland McKellar

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Your Hosts: Heimo & Renate Staudinger



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TSB SHOWPLACE 7:30PM
Tickets available at Ticketmaster online and TSB Showplace



Hunt for the Wilderpeople Boutique

Showing at Everybodys Theatre at 7pm on Sunday 1 May is the movie everybody is talking about. Boutique \$25 ticket includes wine/beer and tasty treats.

Bookings and Pre-paid essential. Tickets available from Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration or email everybodystheatre@gmail.com

A national manhunt is ordered for a rebellious kid and his foster uncle who go missing in the wild New Zealand bush.

PG-13 | 1h 33min | Comedy.