



## Inside



Clan Cameron gather at Hawera. Pg 7.



Merchant Navy recognised by new War Memorial at Cape Egmont. Pg 9.



John Wyatt is the winner of the 2021 Taranaki Dairy Farmer of the Year. All the winners on Pages 18 & 19.



The stunning Christopher Aubrey '1896' exhibition opens at Puke Ariki, NP. Pg 28.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

# Farewell Ash

As 13 of his loyal staff stood in uniform on the forecourt of the garage Heydon Priest a huge number of people gathered to farewell the Oakura businessman Ashley Heydon known simply as 'Ash' who sadly passed away on April 4.

Officiating was the priest, the Very Reverend Michael Bent reflecting Heydon's strong faith.

It was fitting that the final farewell of the man that people remembered so fondly be held at the place with which Ashley Heydon was so associated and which bore his name, the Oakura Garage he's owned for 70 years.

As well as the garage, retail outlet and workshop, Ash some years back

relocated two iconic buildings, a former church from Warea which continues today as a successful gift shop The Crafty Fox, and an old railway carriage complete with station which he renovated siting both beside the thriving garage in the main street of Oakura.

He'd also once owned both a successful logging contracting arm to Heydon Priest and a general carrier business.

Born in Kaponga, Ashley attended school in Kaponga, then Okato completing his education at New Plymouth Boys High School.

It was at Charlie Maxwell's garage at Okato that Ash took up an apprenticeship under Ray Rook and Merv Putt.



Ash has had a kiwi named after him.

Ten brown kiwi were recently released into the Kaitake Range. The Kaitake Range Trust were asked to name two of them, one they have named Ash after Ashley Heydon. The second was named Spencer Guthrie, one of the Trust's six founding members.

Dad's ambition was "to work till he died," said his youngest daughter Irene adding that his staff became



Ashley Heydon is fondly farewelled.

Recalls Ray, "I'd just come out of the air force and when I asked who was the new boy, was told he was the new apprentice." Ash moved into a small shed alongside the garage which is still there where he did little but sleep. Merv who also roomed there "drove Ash mad by listening to cricket, recalled Ray.

Around this time Ash built his own car.

Despite his love of cars he was never a good driver remembered Ray who, along with other amusing anecdotes about Ash, humorously recalled when Ash first noticed Nona "one of the most loveliest girls in the coast" who lived across the road.

Ash passed his Advanced Trade Certificate in 1951. The following year he and Nona were married.

Several years later Ash approached Jim Priest and asked him if he would like to sell his workshop and adjoining post agency at Oakura. Jim's son joined the business which became Heydon Priest.

Ash went on to expand the business and, beginning with buying a single truck and with a major contract with the McAlpine Brothers who had a mill at Oakura, went on to become one of the larger logging contractors in the region. In 1968 he also took over Coastal Transport and three years later Hogan Bros further expanding his business as a general carrier.

Dad's ambition was "to work till he died," said his youngest daughter Irene adding that his staff became

his working family.

Ash was a worker who clearly expected the same work ethic in others.

His grandson Heydon who was named after Ash - it was always Ash, never Pop, never grandad - remembers as a teenager over three summers working for Ash. "I recall doing 14 days in a row and mentioning to Ash that maybe I was due a day off - that was a mistake, I was sharply told when I'd done 60 days straight to come back and talk to him then."

Ash's son in law Chris Young concurred and amusingly recalled the day in 1994 when Ash gave him a compliment. It took 17 years.

In 2007 Heydon moved in with his grandfather for "2-3 weeks". It was 2015 when he left and he fondly recalled the time getting to know Ash.

His tough hard working exterior however masked a person who was kind, empathetic and unfailingly generous.

"Ash was tough, impossible to beat at an arm wrestle, hard working, visionary, a doer and if you scratched hard enough and spent enough time, beneath a very very tough surface was endless kindness, generosity and empathy which was evidenced by his willingness to support many people in society who were doing it tough or living rough," said Heydon.

Lydia Rae, speaking on behalf of another daughter Catherine who could not be there because she was stuck in England due to the Covid crisis, relayed he was a "tough dad" whose generosity was "second to none".

Ray summed up his lifelong friend as generous

- he was always sponsoring something - and "the least materialistic person I know, someone who started from scratch. "He was my friend - I don't know why, he was a good bloke."

Ash's wife Nona passed away in 1988. His three children survive him along with 6 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren. His final request that he be remembered by doing a random act of kindness perhaps best epitomises the man that was Ash.

At the conclusion of the service and also at Ash's request, his favourite prayer that was read out.

*When the fever of life is over and our work is done... may He give us a safe lodging and a holy rest and peace at the last.*

Mary Higgins Clark



Ash leaning out the window of the Carriage at Oakura. Te Wera station which he also relocated in the background

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## Letters to the Editor

Maori woman and I'm sad to say after spending time with her family I have found things have not changes much since Auckland.

I can't help wondering is it your rage blinding you into blaming all people of white colour, or is it simply political to blame all Europeans.

Also do you know your history? Has Maori apologised for their crimes in the Chathams.

Talk to Tongan elders, they

### Maori Wards

I again wish to write of my opinions on Maori Wards. I did not attend the hui with the Taranaki Regional Council as I had

will tell you the Moriori were Tongan, here before Maori until Maori came and enslaved their people.

A warm loving culture you say, I don't think so!

All cultures have done good and bad.

We need to truly be one people now and stop the blame game for your own gain.

*Bruce Kaupokonui*

the incorrect date of the said hui. I intended to present my views to that group, but I got the date wrong. My fault, maybe the tyranny of age. On Mr Fuller's letter I wish to write comments on. Mr Fuller seems versed on the Maori and the English

meaning such as mana/status or which I appreciate, but a wee historical fact he seems not aware of was on Maori arriving in NZ; they did not draw up a Treaty with the first known inhabitants in this country they being the Moriori of which, if I am correct, the last full-blooded Moriori died in the Chathams in the late 1930s.

I believe it was to the Chathams Moriori went to escape Maori. Maybe my ancestors got involved more recently. More recent relatives of mine include the Rev Tahupoliki Haddon and, still around, Buck Shelford. Both are fairly well known.

I mention this to inform folk of my association in Maoridom. I also wish to mention the recent census and I chose Auckland because it being our largest city population-wise the race numbers may surprise folk as did me; Maori being 11.5% of the population,

Pacific Islanders 13% and Asians constituting more than 25%. This being so, Maori and Pacific Islanders combined do not number more than Asians so why don't Asians have an Asian Ward or Wards in Auckland, which also means people of European ethnicity make up the balance of just over 50% - being twice that of Asians. This I put forward as food for thought.

I agree some English changed to Maori. One change leaves me wondering this being Waka Koiahi for transport and all that transport means Waka Koiahi does not seem to be a term used by Maori before settles arrived in the 1840s and 1850.

*Gordon (Mac) Sole  
 Hawera*

### ADELPHOS

Forgiveness, the eleven letter 'F' word, was the topic of my last article. We looked at what forgiveness is and isn't. To recap, forgiveness is a conscious, deliberate decision to release feelings of resentment or vengeance toward a person (or group) who has harmed you; it is given regardless of whether they actually deserve your forgiveness. It does not mean we condone or excuse the wrong that has been done to us; nor does it mean that we need to forget it. The focus is on letting go of the feelings (sometimes extremely strong) related to the experience that happened. There are two main types of forgiveness: when we forgive another person, or group and when we forgive ourselves. But how do we do it? How do we forgive others and ourselves?

To begin the process of forgiveness, first think about

### The F word Part 2: The Road to freedom

the emotions you are holding onto toward that person, group or yourself. There may be anger. Anger often has other emotions hiding behind it. It may become dominating (a bit like a bully), hiding emotions like hurt, resentment, jealousy, guilt, shame, pride, indignation, revenge and grief. Perhaps get a piece of paper and write the emotions down; sometimes that can begin the sense of feeling free. Next think about why I'm holding on to these emotions. What is stopping me from letting them go? Maybe write that down too. Then decide whether you want to forgive or hold onto them. Bear in mind that refusing to forgive is like drinking poison in the hope that it will kill your enemy.

The next step in the eleven letter 'F' word is acceptance. Accept what has happened; the clock can't be turned

back, but, you hold the power in how you choose to go forward. At this point it can be helpful to acknowledge that, as human beings, we all make mistakes: we are not perfect; sometimes that understanding helps us to make sense of what has happened, especially for self-forgiveness (technically not eleven letters). Try to separate the action from the person. It can also be helpful at this point to have compassion for the other person, people or self (there is good stuff on YouTube on self-compassion). Are there any life lessons that can be learnt from the painful event, or events that led to the situation of needing to forgive? If you can find these lessons, they may positively help you in your future. Some people feel they need to make amends as part of forgiveness. If so, think it through beforehand.

Sometimes writing an unsent letter to yourself or another person can be helpful even if that person has died.

I have found that there isn't much that is instant about the eleven letter 'F' word. It takes time, emotional energy, courage and a will to see it through. It is worth it though, because it frees us. It is a gift we can give to ourselves. Martin Luther King Jr. writes, "Forgiveness frees the offender from the burden of guilt. It cancels a debt." Lastly, always remember that God, who forgives us freely, can also give us His Holy Spirit to help us to forgive: we just need to ask. And Jesus gives us many examples that we can learn from. Feel free to look them up or talk to someone who knows about them.

*Manaakitanga,  
 Adelphos*

### Opunake street names

**Halse Place**  
 Is named. after William Halse, the elder of two brothers who came to New Zealand on the Amelia Thompson in 1841. William

succeeded Mr Bell as New Zealand agent for the New Zealand Company in New Plymouth and was also Commissioner of Crown Lands from 1851 - 1863 . He

was then a solicitor and was deputy superintendent of the Taranaki Province.

He was also solicitor to the Opunake Flax Company

from 1869-1871 who had the first flax mill on the Coast, where the Opunake Dairy Company is now situated.

### Blame Game

unleash your resentment on all white people of European descent when it was the English Royal Family, the same family whose descendants are lavished by Maori with such ceremony and gifts, that caused your grief!

It doesn't matter to most Maori if your genes are Russian, Swiss, Scottish etc you're white and you're to blame for what the English did. This is the essence of racism used by Maori.

The English also committed many crimes against Scotland, Wales, Ireland etc.

I was raised in South Auckland and got to know Maori ways well. Being a skinny white boy I felt the fists of Maori since a child and called many racist names. I am now with an open minded intelligent

This letter is in response to Joe Trinder's Letter to the Editor in your March 25 edition.

Joe suggests in the way he describe European behaviour as perceived by Joe that Europeans are stuck in time and racist, and that we need to get to know Maori better. This is from a guy who refers to all white Europeans as Pakeha, a negative term meaning house flea, and any honest Maori will tell you this. We are Europeans, not Pakeha. Respect our name as we respect yours.

It is completely contradictory to complain about negative words used against you, whilst employing your own.

Europeans are very diverse in culture and location and to

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## Getting Married?



### Who to choose to help make your day truly special?

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## Maori Wards

I'm afraid I have offended Mary Moore of Manaia for having the temerity to advocate democracy in our country. (Yes. It's my country too). The establishment of Maori Wards where the general population has no part in the election of the candidates is not democracy. Where only the elite, or those of a certain ethnicity/religion/whatever can cast votes for 'their' candidate is not democracy.

Democracy is government of the people, for the people, and by the people.

All of the people. Not just some elite group.

'Where the government fears the people you have democracy. Where the people fear the government

you have tyranny.' (John Basil Barnhill.) And I would be afraid of anyone who was not elected by the general population, was not answerable to the general population, and had absolute power to promote their own (biased) agenda.

It has been said: 'Power corrupts; and absolute power corrupts absolutely.' And I believe that to be true. You have only got to look at some of the American politicians to confirm it.

Or what's going on in Myanmar. Their 'government's army is not defending their population - it's killing them. I don't think that's very democratic.

Mary Moore seems to think that I'm objecting to Maori Wards because they're Maori. Wrong. I'm objecting to anyone who is not elected

by democratic process. To quote her: 'Maori and other minority groups have a right to the same advantages and privileges that you have and they lack.' Wrong again. When I bought my farm I got a mortgage from Rural Bank at 5%. A friend on the next road bought his farm around the same time. He got his mortgage through Maori Affairs - at 3%.

Who had the 'advantages and privileges'?

With this recent kerfuffle on the tele regarding a prominent politician being diagnosed with cervical cancer I turned to the missus and asked when was the last time she had a smear taken, after all it's free isn't it? Her answer surprised me "No. It's free only if you're Maori."

It seems she was a member

of a group where all got it free, but suddenly the rules changed, and as she's not Maori she would have to pay.

Who has the 'advantages and privileges'?

I'm not complaining about it; just stating facts. I'm not anti-Maori Wards per se, I'm anti any group that wants to undermine our system of governance and demanding 'advantages and privileges'.

And Maori Wards could very well be the thin edge of the wedge, a precedent. Who next will be demanding their own wards? Chinese? Jews? Roman Catholics? Pakistanis? Irish? Destiny Church?

I don't want my country to finish up like Myanmar.

J.D.Norton  
Opunake.

## Elected the democratic way

Elected the democratic way Gordon (Mac) Sole stated he absolutely disagrees with special seats for Maori or any other race on any local or New Zealand government, while the Maori Party should be set aside, but believes in historical justice which I certainly agree with 100%.

I also agree with J.D.Norton of Opunake who stated if Maori want to have more say in local government, do it the democratic way by having the guts to stand up to be elected, not having to weasel their way into power, which is totally despicable.

I certainly agree with you both, so now what people in our province must begin

to realise is that we have a multicultural world with multicultural marriages and gender relationships, yet we are all one people, humans not aliens.

Our biggest problem is that our councils are being swayed by just a small group of people, Maoris included, who are trying to weasel their way into power., and do not speak on behalf of all Maoris in New Zealand, only themselves. Also, every politician is elected by the people democratically, not by any other way.

Tom Stephens  
New Plymouth.

## Reflections on Ash

We would like to pass on our condolences to Ash's extended family. And to all those who remember him fondly and with a tear in their eye.

Ash owned Heydon Priest for many years.

I last saw him just two weeks ago. After an operation in November last year he spent his time recuperating in the garage at the back of the shop on a comfortable seat with a pile of car magazines beside him still centre action in the beloved garage he built up into a thriving business which included a workshop, petrol station and a retail outlet.

He advertised in the Opunake & Coastal News over the years.

I remember some years ago when marketing I was told to go over to his house across the road. I recall knocking on the door and in response to a loud yes, announced myself. I'm in the bath came the irritated reply (gruff). It's a story I would tell staff when I felt they needed spurring on when marketing and the lengths I'd gone to. (There was an Oakura couple who I sold an ad to while they were in bed but that's another story.)

Ash told me once that after the passing of his beloved Nona he got rid of the television. I didn't want to be someone sitting at home alone watching television he said.

Indeed many nights he'd be in the garage which closed at 10pm most nights.

He was a man who marched to the beat of his own drum. An original thinker.

As well as running the successful garage and workshop and retail shop, some years ago he relocated two iconic buildings for which Oakura became known.

These were a disused church (from Warea) siting it alongside the garage. The Crafty Fox became a highly successful gift shop still run (leased) by a local couple.

He also moved a disused railway carriage complete

with station (formerly Te Wera station) and restored them siting them also alongside the garage. For many years a succession of successful restaurants were run from the business known locally as The Carriage.

His ideas did not always find favour with everyone but he ultimately proved right taking his original vision through to fruition - the two distinctive buildings came to characterise the seaside town.

One of his more recent ideas was to restore an old ice cream cart popular years ago. Not that long ago he kitted out the Carriage as an American Diner. There was talk of a couple taking it over.

I never quite knew his age - I still don't. His age never seemed relevant.

He never let the advancing years define him.

With all his plans and ideas he clearly never contemplated retirement. He was far too busy.

A major interest of course was cars and he drove a lovingly restored 1938 Classic Dodge.

Over the years his garage became so much more than a garage with photos of local people who'd tragically passed - often surfers. His little dog Mitsu who he loved very much and lost several years ago. A photo of his beloved Nona had pride of place on a wall along with the car he first owned.

When he became the proud great grandfather of triplets (whose father bore his name) their photos were proudly displayed also.

It was fitting that Ash was farewelled on April 8 at Heydon Priest, the garage that was so much an extension of him.

We join with many others including family, friends and the business community in mourning the passing of an innovator. He was and an inspiration.

Editor

April 6 2021 on learning of his passing



ABOVE: *Cat Among the Pigeons* is the correct caption for this intriguing painting by Lorna Davies, which was created in 2001. Take a very careful look at it.

The Village Gallery, 166 High Street in Eltham is open Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm.

Their website is [www.elthamvillagegallery.org.nz](http://www.elthamvillagegallery.org.nz) for more information and membership details.

## Apology for incorrect caption

LEFT: In our last issue (April 8) on page 26 we reviewed the Village Gallery's exhibition Celebrating 20 Years of Eltham Art.

Unfortunately, we provided the wrong caption for this outstanding painting.

We apologise to Lorna and The Village Gallery for our mistake.

We look forward to your contributions for our next issue which will be published on Thursday May 6.

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

# Consulting on the Long Term Plan

The main discussion occurring at council at present is around our Long-Term Plan (LTP) consultation document. This is our work plan for the next 10 years and it sets out the capital work programme, annual operating expenses and service levels for this



CR CHRIS YOUNG.

period. By using this information we are able to advise our expected rating levels. With an average

rate increase of 3.99% over the next ten years, we believe our proposed Long-Term Plan strikes the right balance between progress, affordability and providing the services and facilities our communities expect. But we want to know what you think.

There are three main items we would like the community to give us feedback on:

1. Our plans for the Town Centre upgrades in Eltham, Ōpunakē, Manaia, Pātea and Waverley
2. Further development of the South

Taranaki Business Park

3. Our Strategy for Environmental Sustainability.

Along with this we are asking for any comments on other possible projects, things we are doing well or things that need improving.

For more information regarding the proposed Long-Term Plan please go to our website

[www.southtaranaki.com/longtermplan](http://www.southtaranaki.com/longtermplan) or ring the Council on 0800 111 323 or you can look at the plan at any one of our seven LibraryPlus centres. We

welcome feedback and information and the more we receive, the easier it is for us to set the future direction of the South Taranaki District.

As you read this most of the LTP public meetings will have already taken place; however, you have until 5 pm on 7 May to be able to make submissions. You will then be invited to speak to your submission on the 17 and 18 May if you would like – this is your chance to have your say.

Many thanks.

Councillor Chris Young

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# Roads reaching crisis point

Taranaki's roads are reaching a crisis point and while the politicians in Wellington overseeing the transport sector are supportive, the bureaucrats tasked with actually building and maintaining our state highway network are largely absent.

In the past three years a number of significant Taranaki State Highway projects have been funded by Government, but it is worth noting the investments on safety improvements between Bell Block and Waitara and the sealing and safety improvements of the last gravel section of SH43 were signed off against Waka Kotahi's advice.

The bureaucrats who run our state highway network out of Wellington and Hamilton simply don't believe Taranaki's roads are deteriorating. They don't recognise that the proportion of trucks on Taranaki roads is higher than just about anywhere in New Zealand and they have recently started blaming our soil type for the appalling degradation of our highways.

The challenge for the people of Taranaki and the Beehive is to manage the inertia in Waka Kotahi to



MAYOR NEIL HOLDOM.

get them on task and focused on jobs our Government has asked them to do.

As I write this piece we have no power at home because of a crash on SH3 just north of Bell Block.

I only hope no one is seriously injured but each time I hear of another crash I reflect on the fact that when the safety upgrades between Bell Block and Waitara were announced more than two years ago we were advised all works would be finished next summer. In reality it will require a big push to get them started by summer.

Waka Kotahi staff didn't think these safety improvements were warranted. They have dragged the chain for decades and despite the project being green lit two and a half years ago, they still don't have detailed designs, they haven't purchased any land and when we raise the issue of

'why the delays' they refuse to answer, but have started talking about some sort of 'cheaper options' that could be started next summer.

We do not want a cheaper option for the people who travel between Bell Block and Waitara. We want a 50 year solution, with large roundabouts, safe intersections, an investment in our northern entrance that allows drivers to make the occasional mistake without killing themselves or others.

New Plymouth district is growing by around 1000 people a year. Waitara is growing. Bell Block is growing. The volume of vehicles on our roads is growing. All this growth means the revenue Waka Kotahi receives from Taranaki in fuel tax and road user charges is also growing, but based on my experiences of driving around our region and feedback from others, the condition of our state highways is at an all-time low.

When I asked Waka Kotahi about their quality statistics for Taranaki I was advised that the surface condition of Taranaki roads was improving according to their data. This despite reports of extensive vehicle damage due to the massive potholes that emerged between Stratford and Inglewood during the summer.

Not only is Waka Kotahi dragging the chain on

previously announced projects, they are also incredibly difficult to work with when it comes to minor changes to the state highway network. The people of Inglewood simply want a pedestrian crossing to help the hundreds of school kids get safely across SH3 near Miro Street each day. The last time I raised this with NZTA they fudged the reply but would provide no design, no timeframe and no indication they consider the matter urgent.

It is an extremely busy time in Council as we work to engage with the public and prepared to refine and finalise our draft ten year plan over the next three months.

Once that plan is completed I suspect I will be joined by our other Taranaki Mayors as we beat a path to Waka Kotahi's head office and then the Beehive to look for solutions to the deterioration of our state highway network and remind them that while we are not Auckland or Wellington, Taranaki's people are equally deserving of safe, high quality roading networks and it is time for the bureaucrats to put their reservations aside, to get on and get the work started, to do it once, do it right and to pull finger and do it now.

Neil Holdom

Mayor

New Plymouth District Council

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# Long Term Plan consultation comes to Opunake

The Most Liveable District is the theme of the South Taranaki District Council's proposed 2021-2031 Long Term Plan. A series of public meetings are being held around the district to promote it.

On April 12 it was Opunake's turn as about 40 people were at the Sandfords Event Centre to quiz mayor Phil Nixon and chief executive Waid Crockett who were fronting up to present the plan, take questions and urge anybody with any concerns or issues to make a submission.

The South Taranaki District Council has allotted \$10 million for the town centre upgrades in Eltham, Patea, Waverley, Opunake and Manaia. South Taranaki District Council chief

executive Waid Crockett said the money would come from reducing the fluctuation reserve in the Long Term Investment Fund from \$30 million to \$20 million. The reserve is an amount of money kept back to enable the Council to cope with unforeseen situations. This would mean the \$10 million wouldn't have to be paid for by putting up rates, although there would be a loss to the Council through not being able to get the interest on that money.

In answers to questions from the floor, Mr Crockett said the money wouldn't be used on consultants, or as a means of paying business owners to do upkeeps on their shop fronts.

"If it's suggested that we are spending money on

people doing up the fronts of their buildings, that's not what this money is for," he said.

Another question was what would happen if once a course of action had been decided on for the upgrade, there was an influx of new people who objected to the course of action taken.

Mr Nixon said they would have to work with whoever was in the community at the time. In Manaia, they had consulted on the future of the War Memorial Hall and the Sports Complex. At one meeting there had been a 50:50 split between having one complex or two. After that there was a consultation and it appeared the community seemed reasonably happy with having one facility.

"Then there was an upswell and it seemed the community were not happy with what we decided, so we had to go back to the drawing board," he said.

Bob Clark said that with the increased prominence given to the Opunake Loop Trail something needed to be done about cleaning up the Opunake Lake.

"In the last three years its health and visual perception has been poor. I would suggest someone in the Council has adopted a policy of masterly inactivity.

"It needs cleaning now, and it would be ideal to do it now. Give us the \$34,000 and we will get it done."

Mr Crockett said he wouldn't suggest the Council had been inactive, but with the lake having

several owners, it had been difficult to get agreement on what should be done.

Graham Payne said Park Place which is near the lake needs a speed limit lower than 50kph, as it has ended up being a cycleway and walking track as well as a road.

Ian Armstrong said the Council had been happy to promote the success of the Opunake Loop Trail, but last year when asked for money, the Council had said it was

a private project so it didn't qualify for funding.

Mr Crockett said the Council had previously contributed money, but last year because of Covid, funding was not available.

"That last year was a one-off, where Council had to make a really tough call," he said.

The Long Term Plan is available for comment until May 7.

## Okaiawa clubs and groups have their say

The Okaiawa Rugby Club has a proud history. They were twice Taranaki club champions in the 1930s and have produced a number of All Blacks including Jimmy O'Sullivan, a member of the 1905 Originals, the first team to be called All Blacks. At Queen's Birthday Weekend they will celebrate their 125th jubilee. They were just one of the clubs making presentations at the Okaiawa Community Groups meeting held a couple of weeks ago at the Okaiawa Hall. The meeting was organised by the Taranaki Coastal Community Board as an opportunity for local community groups to let others know what they are doing. It follows on from the success of a similar meeting held in Opunake last year. About 25 people were at the Okaiawa meeting.

As well as the Okaiawa Rugby Club, there are other groups who have, or are about to reach major milestones. The Okaiawa Tennis Club celebrated their centenary in 2012. With 20 members they use tennis courts in Manaia, as well as the local ones. This year their top team finished third in Taranaki.

Four years away from reaching their centenary, the Okaiawa Fire Brigade was represented by Alistair Mason.

"We are the guys in the white building with red on it, and when the fire siren goes that's when you hear from us," Alistair said.

Brigade membership is



Megan Peters addresses the Okaiawa Community Meeting.

now 18, the highest it has ever been.

"When I joined 20 years ago there were only nine of us, eight dairy farmers and a butcher," said Alistair. Back then callouts coinciding with milking times were a problem, but today the brigade has a bigger occupational mix, so this is less of an issue.

As well as rugby and tennis clubs and a fire brigade, Okaiawa has its own Christmas Parade which is held every two years.

"It's not about how big it is. It's about our community," Megan Peters said.

"We don't care if it's only four floats," said one man from the audience.

Megan Peters spoke about the Okaiawa Hall Society. The hall is about 130 years old, and previous uses have included showing movies, as well as card evenings, and being used for scrum practice by the rugby club. The Hall Society has been in charge for the last 50 years. Megan paid tribute to Phyllis

Malcolm who has been their treasurer for the last 42 years.

Phyllis was at the meeting speaking on behalf of the Women's Institute. The Okaiawa Institute had been formed in 1933, and had once been very strong, but farm amalgamations and rural depopulation meant a drop in numbers, so the Okaiawa Institute was amalgamated with Manaia in 2011. This year the New Zealand Federation of Women's Institutes are celebrating their centenary which will include an unveiling of a statue in Napier of the Institute's national founder, Jerome Spencer.

Andrew Boot was at the meeting representing Green Fern Industries which has acquired the Normanby Dam site to grow medicinal cannabis. Hemp growing could be a viable option for local farmers wanting to diversify, he said.

"Worldwide there has

been an under appreciation of the plant as it has a bad reputation, but there has been a lot of research into its positive aspects."

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon spoke about the Long Term Plan.

"I think we've struck a good balance between nice to haves and infrastructure being upgraded further," he said. He encouraged people to make submissions about any issues they were concerned about.

"If one person wants a sewage system for Okaiawa we're less likely to take notice, but we will take more notice if there are a lot of submissions," he said.

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# Potentially dangerous fuel spill on Ihaia Road

Just before 12.30 on Tuesday April 19 Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade received a call out. A 2021 Ford Mondeo car had suffered a sudden fuel leak because the fuel pump had malfunctioned. The car was travelling west from Stratford and was about 2km from Opunake when the car suddenly stopped. There was strong smell of petrol. The first fire engine arrived

on the scene at 12.35. The fuel spill covered an area of Ihaia Road about two metres by almost a metre and the firefighters dealt with the hazardous liquid by covering it with gravel. A second fire engine arrived at 12.20 and the firefighters finally left at 12.55. The car was owned and driven by a couple who have recently relocated

from Whangarei to Stratford where they have recently purchased a house. The couple were displeased for at least two reasons. Firstly, their car was fitted with a new fuel pump just before they left Whangarei at a cost of \$1400. Secondly, and more importantly, the risky situation they had been placed in. "It was quite a potentially dangerous situation. What if I didn't know and had lit a fag," said the lady.

The couple had a lengthy wait until a tow truck arrived from Stratford to tow their car back to a Stratford garage so another fuel pump can be fitted. Hopefully, they will be recompensed for the Whangarei fuel pump, which was presumably defective. "Somebody should be held accountable," commented the man.



Opunake volunteer firefighters deal with Ihaia Road fuel spill.

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# A busy time at Cottage Rest Home

A big thank you to the following groups from The Cottage Rest Home, residents, staff, management and Trust.

Thank you to the four tractors and drivers that moved 40 years of rubbish and vegetation from the Opunake Cottage Rest Home back boundary fence line on the Saturday morning of Taranaki Anniversary weekend. Many thanks to Paul O'Rorke and his men for donating their time, machinery and expertise to tidy up this area. Thank you to Phil Brown

working on the boundary fence line to start off the job of getting it cleaned up.

Another thank you to the Triumph Riders Taranaki for their dice run on Saturday January 23. They returned to the rest home and presented manager Sandra Deegan with a donation for a purchase of a new concentrator for our COPD residents.

And lastly thank you to Sheryl, Trish and Liz for creating a user friendly garden for the residents of the Cottage Rest Home.

*Opunake Cottage Rest Home.*



Triumph riders and manager Sandra Deegan.



Paul O'Rorke and his men clearing the boundary line.



Phil Brown working on the boundary line.

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# Farm theme to clan gathering

Farming commentator Dr Jacqueline Rowarth CNZM can claim a number of connections to Clan Cameron. Her mother is a Gibson, which is a sept of the clan, and Jacqueline was a student at Massey University with Nick Cameron who for the last seven years has been the commissioner (or president) of Clan Cameron New Zealand. Nick was studying for a M.Agr.Sc and now lives in Kimberley north of Darfield in Canterbury where he is part owner of Cropmark Seeds.

Jacqueline also says she believes in supporting good people doing good things, which is why she was happy to help out organisers Neville and Shona Wallace of Hawera, and agree to be MC and one of the keynote speakers at the Clan Cameron Iar on April 10. The meeting attracted Camerons from all over the country. Among these was Auckland branch president Ron Cameron who identifies with the Ngati Kuia iwi from the top of the South Island, as well as Clan Cameron. He took up the bagpipes and got involved with Clan Cameron after his grandfather died. Another interest is wood carving which he took up 16 years ago. "It's good for stress relief. It's just the ticket to get you back to earth," he says.



Members of Clan Cameron at their Hawera meeting.

Dinner was preceded in true Burnsian style with the piping in of the haggis by Nick Cameron, who is a piper with the Canterbury Caledonian Society, as well as being New Zealand commissioner. Neville Wallace said the clan, based at Fort William is an ancient one, and that the clan chieftan Lochiel sent his best wishes. Neville addressed the haggis, and said the Selkirk Grace, which is attributed to Robert Burns. After dinner, Mike Coils of Mike's Museum in Eltham spoke about Taranaki's farming past. Eltham has always been known as a town of firsts. In 1885 Chew Chong exported butter to Britain which marks the birth of the New Zealand dairy industry as

we know it today. He also developed the pound of butter and the concept of co-operative dairy factories. As well as this, he enabled farmers to supplement their income by selling him the locally grown fungus Jew's Ear. Known as Taranaki Wool, he exported this to China where it was used as an aphrodisiac. Eltham had the country's first tar sealed street, the first rotary milking shed, and the first reinforced concrete building outside of Europe. Eltham was also a pioneer in the development of rennet and blue vein cheese. After hearing about farming's past, it was time to hear about farming's future. Jacqueline Rowarth began by saying the Scots had played a big part in

developing New Zealand agriculture. British-born she had been in New Zealand since 1976. She has taught at Lincoln, Massey and Waikato Universities. Her students at Lincoln included Richie McCaw, "an A student who was a pleasure to teach." Jacqueline admits to being a vegetarian "for historical reasons," but says she supports the agricultural industry. "We are the most efficient producers of animal protein in the world," she says. "We do the essential amino acids and they come from animal protein." These amino acids are not found in plants, she says. "It's very difficult to bring children up as vegetarians, it's impossible to bring them up as vegans, because the essential amino acids aren't there. If you have identical twins and one of them is vegan, they are going to need more calories, and that means more land." Dairying needs to continue to play a big part in the New Zealand economy, she says. "If we drop our top herds by 20 per cent, we lose half our income per hectare. Dairying takes up only 1.7 million hectares, or seven per cent of New Zealand's land, but it provides 35 per cent of our

export economy." Jacqueline says there is a place for using every part of the animal. This includes a greater use of wool, rather than the less environmentally friendly synthetic fibres. She would like to see the agriculture message get out into the school system. This could be done in any subject, she says. Even a lesson in history history could incorporate the lessons to be learned from the Irish Potato Famine, she says.



Jacqueline Rowarth with Neville and Shona Wallace.

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# Welcoming back family and tourists

Safely opening the trans-Tasman bubble has been an exciting next step in our COVID response. Many of us will be looking forward to welcoming family and friends we haven't seen for a long time – or, in some cases, meeting new grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins for the very first time. This is the next chapter of our COVID response, and it's only possible because



**GLENN BENNETT**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

of our massive team effort over the past year. We've all played a role in getting to this point, where we can safely open up travel across the ditch. So, once again, I want to say a huge thank you to everyone here in Taranaki for doing your bit. It hasn't been easy, but now, thanks to all that hard work, we're able to safely welcome back our loved ones from Australia. Of course, opening the trans-Tasman bubble will offer more benefits than long-awaited hugs from family. It will also provide a boost to our tourism and hospitality businesses who have been doing it tough over the past year. Here in Taranaki, We've heard from many businesses who have been hit hard by

the loss of international tourists. We're proud of our hospitality and manaakitanga, and tourism plays a huge role in our local economy. Over the past year, we've appreciated the support from Kiwi tourists, but I know that the bubble opening will be welcome news for all Taranaki's small businesses and tourism operators, from our world-famous Maunga, coastal walkway and surf beaches to the cafes and shops who show overseas visitors the best of what our region has to offer. Opening the bubble is just the start of the next phase of our recovery, and visitors from Australia won't take us back to pre-COVID levels of tourism spending. However, it will help us continue our

strong economic recovery, and return us to something a little closer to 'normal' life. With trans-Tasman travel now on the table, our Government is planning the next steps in opening up our economy. We're already looking at how we can carefully open up further, in particular how we can reunite with our neighbours in the Pacific. We'll only take the next steps when we are certain it is safe to do so, and when we are assured we have the processes in place to manage all the risks. It will take time, but I'm hopeful that in the not too distant future, we'll be able to safely welcome the world to Aotearoa once again. In the meantime, I'd encourage everyone to

take a moment to enjoy the rewards the trans-Tasman bubble will bring, whether that's reuniting with family and friends, or welcoming extra visitors to our local businesses. We've led the world's COVID response, and now, I'm sure we can continue leading the world in our economic recovery too.

*Glen Bennett | MP for New Plymouth*

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## Housing policy changes What are the facts?

With the dust now settling a bit on the new policy measures aimed at investors, the evidence suggests that the effects on the market may not be as significant as initially thought – to us, a spike in investor sales or sharply rising rents don't seem particularly likely. Indeed, as always, higher mortgage rates might be the key concern for property, especially now that the loss of interest deductibility will be felt more keenly if/when rates do rise. On top of that, loans (for all owner types) are larger than ever before and from such a low base, even a small rise in mortgage rates is proportionately large – especially for the many borrowers who have only ever seen rates fall. It's been two weeks since the Government's announcement to extend the Brightline Test and to taper/remove mortgage interest deductibility for investors. Amidst all of the expert commentary, news headlines, and social media debate, here's our evidence-based perspective.

First, we suspect that the impact for current owners of rental properties may actually be pretty limited in the short term and that relatively few will push ahead with sales. For a start, we've calculated that for the 21,000 or so investor purchases with a mortgage in the past 12 months (average price paid of \$820,000 and assumed 30% deposit), the extra cost is 'only' about \$700 this tax year. On top of that, the figures will be less for those who have owned for longer or have lower debt anyway.

To be fair, tax bills will rise as the interest deductibility change phases in and of course these are cash costs that need to be paid – as opposed to the offsetting benefit of capital gains 'on paper'. But even so, those capital gains have been substantial, at an average of \$98,000 so far for those recent buyers (let alone what might continue to accrue in the coming months), far outweighing any extra tax. For further context, the first chart shows the dollar rise in average property values over various periods – e.g. in the past two years alone, almost \$159,000 (23%).

Indeed, this highlights another incentive for current owners not to sell (if they can avoid it), because that could trigger a significant

Brightline liability. At a 33% tax rate, the \$98,000 gain for those recent buyers is more than \$32,000 tax, far costlier than the loss of interest deductibility. In addition, the low returns from other assets (e.g. term deposits) raise the question of what would sellers do with their released equity anyway?

In turn, the lack of a big sell-off by existing landlords suggests no major change in the stock of rented properties, which undermines the arguments that rents will spike as a direct result of this policy change. It's also worth noting here that historical rental growth across existing tenancies has been pretty steady at around 3% per year for a fair while now, and even when rents on new tenancies have risen more quickly, peak growth hasn't gone much above 5% (see the second chart). For context, the Infometrics measure of average household income has risen by an average of about 4% over the past 10-15 years – or in other words, rental growth tends to track incomes pretty closely. In the same vein, there's no clear evidence here that previous changes to the regulations (e.g. Healthy Homes) or cost of ownership (e.g. removal of depreciation, ring-fencing of tax losses) have directly caused rents to rise in

aggregate. However, there are likely to be greater effects on the mix of investor purchases from now on. Indeed, the incentive to buy existing properties has been reduced, and there are now stronger reasons to look at new-builds (which are exempt from the LVR limits, Brightline extension and the interest deductibility changes). However, this might have the perverse effect of 'crowding out' first home buyers, a group who have a higher market share for new-builds than all properties (see third chart). Finally, as the fourth chart shows, there are already clear signs that the reinstated LVR limits have dampened investors' buying activity, an effect which could well be amplified by the Government's policy changes. So we suspect that the chances of further regulation in the form of caps on interest-only (I-O) lending have significantly reduced, not least because equity is now king from a borrower's perspective, so there may not be as much demand for I-O loans anyway.

*Kelvin Davidson*  
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# Cape Egmont memorial recognises Merchant Navy

What better a place to commemorate the Merchant Navy than at Cape Egmont looking out to the Tasman Sea?

For many years the contribution made by the seafarers of the Merchant Navy through two world wars had been sidelined. Unlike their counterparts in the army, air force and navy, they did not wear uniforms, but were just as likely to be putting their lives in danger. As they were not part of the armed services, they could not claim the protections afforded by the Geneva Convention if captured. It is only in recent times that they have been recognised as the fourth service.

Now the Merchant Navy Association logo is included on the centrepiece of the new War Memorial outside the Cape Egmont Boat Club, alongside a list of the conflicts New Zealanders have been involved in through the years.

The Memorial has been put together by Callum Mahy of Stone Creations who has completed similar memorials in other parts of Taranaki.

“We get lots of visitors here and they can look at this,” says Cape Egmont Boat Club patron Ken Donald QSM. “Anyone from the Merchant Navy can put their hand on that and say that’s us.”

On Saturday members of the Taranaki sub-branch of the New Zealand Merchant Navy Association presented a merchant navy flag to the Cape Egmont Boat Club. This will be flying along with the club’s other flags at their ANZAC Day service at 1pm on Sunday.

With the Warea and Pungarehu schools having closed, the Cape Egmont Boat Club has become something of a hub for these



Members of the Merchant Navy Association and Cape Egmont Boat Club with the Merchant Navy Flag.

two communities.

On either side of the war memorial’s central plaque are plaques commemorating those who had served and those who had fallen in the two world wars from the Warea and Pungarehu communities

“There are over a hundred names on there,” said Ken Donald.

He has been with the Cape Egmont Boat Club since it started.

“We started off with six boats. Now we have more than 60,” he says. Its first clubhouse was a tin garage carried to the coast from the Warea School.

Ken recalls hearing about the deeds of the merchant navy from a neighbour, Fred Crafar who had served in the merchant navy in World War II and later been honoured by the Russian government.

New Plymouth MP Glenn

Bennett who was at the flag presentation ceremony said it has only been in the last year that he realised the extent of the contribution made by the merchant navy in two world wars.

Others who spoke included the Merchant Navy Association’s New Plymouth sub branch chairman Merv Martin MNZM who has long campaigned for the Merchant Navy receiving official recognition, the

sub-branch’s patron Lieutenant Commander Janet Wrightson-Lean and its secretary Denise Wood QSM.

Lieutenant Commander Wrightson-Lean said the Merchant Navy or Mercantile Marine had always played a big part in the country’s history.

“As an island nation, halfway around the world from our trading partners, New Zealand has been

overwhelmingly dependent on sea transport for our prosperity.”

The Merchant Navy or

Mercantile Marine had never been military, or a single coherent body, she said.

Denise Wood said the title Merchant Navy had been granted by George V. Seven thousand New Zealanders had served in the Merchant Navy through both world wars. Today they continue to provide mercy ships as and when needed.

With 2021 having been declared the Year of the Military Woman, she also spoke about the role women played in the New Zealand war effort.

“New Zealand women were the key force in keeping our war effort afloat during the height of World War I. Without these women, our economy would have crashed, and our soldiers would have been left without food or supplies.

“Nursing staff were killed or injured, but they also provided loving care to patients on our front lines.”



The Cape Egmont War Memorial.

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# Southern Aurora flight

It's not every day you board a 10-hour non-stop return flight, but that's what I did in March when I joined a flight in search of the southern lights.

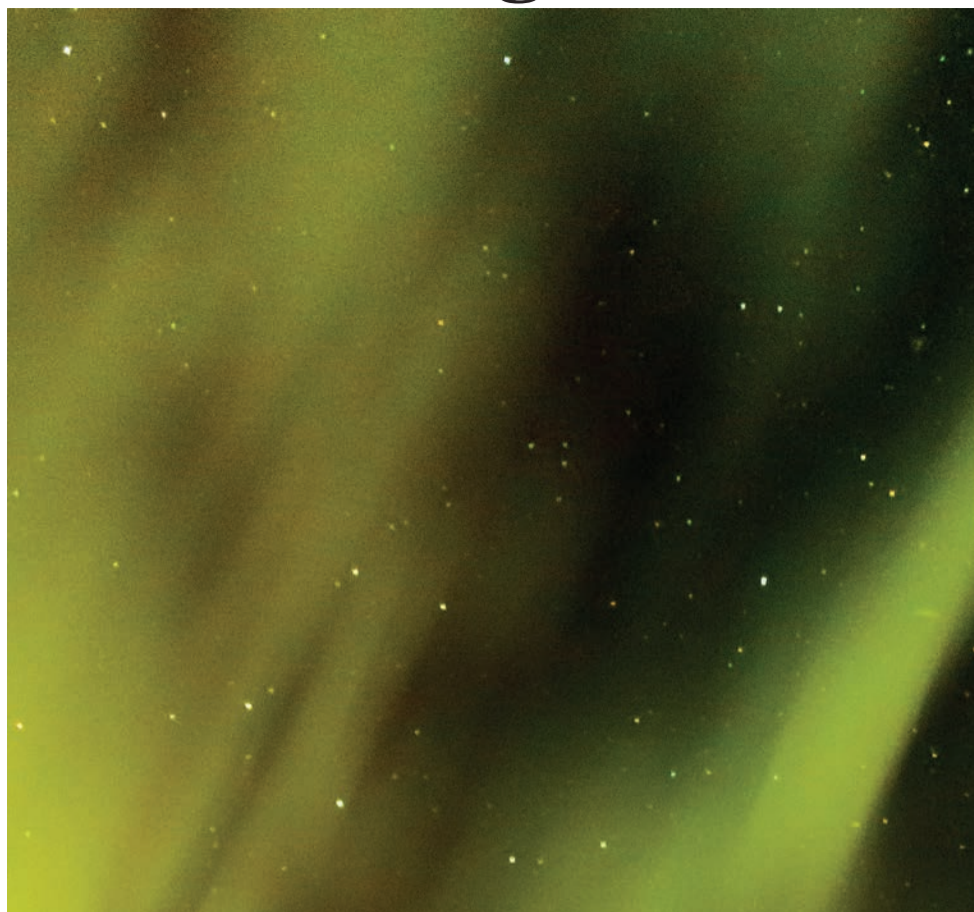
We began with a preflight mix and mingle at the International Antarctica Centre just along the road from Christchurch airport. I was bemused by the child size Nasa flight jackets for sale in its gift shop and curious as to why there were kiwi accented women walking around in blue NASA jumpsuits. Soon all was revealed. The USA's National Aeronautics and Space Administration agency has long had a presence at Antarctica. Not only do they make use of its clear skies, but they have even been known to test vehicles there which will eventually land on Mars! During our 2 hours visit we met some huskies and their handler and endured the -18degree C wind chill machine. Brrr!

It was here that we got our preflight talk from the head astronomer leading us on our aurora hunting flight.

Off to Christchurch airport where the International Arrivals board read -blank (roll on post lockdown life). In the departure lounge we had our preflight get together and a speech from an envious Christchurch mayor. (She wasn't on the flight). I did however meet another passenger, who has since been named New Zealander of the year. (I think you will recognize her in the photo).

Then it was time to put on our Air NZ facemasks and board the Boeing Dreamliner jet heading south towards Antarctica. About 2 1/2 hours into our flight we started to see the Aurora Australis.

For me the interaction between the sun's solar winds and our atmosphere appeared first as glowing white froth with silvery glints from the stars. To the human eye the lights



Aurora Australis as seen from an aeroplane.

Steven Cooper photography.

appear as patterns of white on the black of the night sky. The colours, green, indigo etc. are only picked up by the camera lens. The patterns change. From the plane window I could see a formation of glowing white shaped like one of those massive Hawaiian pipeline waves. I'd take a photo and the middle of the wave was an indigo line going from the bottom right-hand corner to the top left-hand corner around which the green wave curled. At one point the clouds in the bottom of my view reminded me of the ice of a glacier with the aurora, which was reaching up to the left and right of my view and across the top as towering mountains of eerie snow.

Another time the vertical plumes of the aurora reminded me of the background seen in Edward Munch's famous painting The Scream. I could still see the aurora's eerie vertical shafts when about an hour and a half out of Christchurch the cabin lights were turned back on and breakfast started to be serviced. (Once the internal lights were back on, Aurora



Diane Robinson and Siouxsie Wiles.

viewing was impossible). I was asked if I slept on the 7pm-5am flight. The answer of course is not at all. The air of excitement when we first boarded, followed by the stunned and intense attention we paid to the light show outside the plane, meant no one would want to sleep.

It was one of those once in a life time experiences.

I followed it up with a couple of nights at Tekapo including a visit to the Mt John observatory. We visited on a clear night and saw various constellations with our naked eye- the Southern Cross, Orion, Taurus etc. We also got to gaze into some

very powerful telescopes including one which showed us the craters on the moon surface. (One tip if you visit Tekapo, we discovered a number of the businesses including the road to the Mt John summit are not open every day; so be prepared). That said we had a unit looking straight out at the lake and a wonderful night sky.

It won't be too long I guess before international travel returns, but in the meantime, we have some great sights here. Make the most of them!

Diane Robinson

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# Kaponga WI asks what is a life coach?

Members of the Kaponga WI met for their April meeting at the home of Diane West, and along with her helpers Carolyn Nicholas and Margaret Arbuckle hosted a very enjoyable day. As our president was unavailable, VP Dene Lines stepped up and did a wonderful job of keeping us in line. A moment's silence was held for our respected WI member Patricia Malone who recently passed away. RIP Patricia. Asked for their favourite song or piece of music, members showed how the love of music is still alive and well. The thought for the month was "life is like riding a bicycle-to keep your balance you must keep moving."



**Life coach Steve Robinson.**

Luncheon in Kapuni on official opening at the Patea Museum on June 2, and we

intend to have a visit there to view the WI displays with several items from Kaponga WI. Members were encouraged to get knitting bed socks for distribution to rest homes in the Federation area. Donations were made to Relay for Life and the South Pacific Fund.

With our 90<sup>th</sup> birthday coming up, plans are under way for a celebration.

A beautiful lunch was served and there was lots of catching up among members.

Our speaker, Steve Robinson, who joined us for lunch, has a varied list of talents. After school, Steve did an apprenticeship in panel beating, and later 12 years in the army. He had a passion to help others and became a qualified life

coach. A life coach is a wellness professional, but not in the health field. He helps people make progress in their lives to attain greater fulfilment in their relationships and careers and helps to create strategies to target their skills and gifts. Often these folk have not had good role models in their lives. Steve is involved in youth completing a 17 week course in the bush. Steve finds it very satisfying to see these young (and not

so young) people get into fulltime work. Another talent of Steve's is his singing, and he shared that with us, singing three beautiful songs.

Competition results. A vase less than eight inches tall. 1. Carolyn Nicholas. 2. Sharyn Hurley. 3. Rayleen McDonald. Shoulder Spray made from foliage. 1. Diane West. 2. Carolyn Nicholas. 3. Margaret Broomhall and Dene Lines.

*Carolyn Nicholas.*

Several members will be attending the Centennial



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### Feijoa flowers

Feijoas prefer well drained soil rich in organic matter. They shouldn't be allowed to dry out in summer as this will hamper fruiting.

Feijoas are heavy feeders. Feed them with a General Garden fertiliser or Citrus fertiliser in late winter.

The most versatile variety is Feijoa Unique which is self-fertile (you only need one tree). It's an excellent cropper with medium, oval, smooth skinned fruit with good flavour and a very good

pollinator for other varieties.

### Feijoa unique

Non self-fertile varieties need other varieties planted

near them. Plant three or more for heavy crops. Feijoas are pollinated mainly by birds.

Varieties that will need a pollinator include

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**Mammoth** - as the name suggests a large Feijoa,

**Opal Star** - , smooth fruit with dark skin and a strong flavour in June

**Triumph**, - large oval-shaped fruit that is firm-skinned and has an excellent flavour in May

**Wiki Tu Dwarf** plant (2.5m) that has huge fruit that keep well.

**Bambina** - Dwarf, small leaved and small fruiting plant is amazing. heavy crop of tasty small fruit grows 1.5m high and is great for pots.



**Feijoas.**

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# South Taranaki Funeral Services

What was once Cleggs Funeral Services at 268 High Street, Hawera is now South Taranaki Funeral Services under new owner Glenn Rogers. Glenn had been working for the respected firm for the last six years before he assumed ownership in late March of this year.

There is a historical link that goes back to 1926 when Dave McCormick owned the firm as D. McCormick and Co. The premises were originally located where Masse is now in Princes Street. In the late 1970s the firm became Cleggs Funerals and Monuments, headed by Mike Cleggs, and situated in the present location. More recently Invocare NZ have owned the firm.

Glenn, who is highly qualified, has worked in



**Glenn Rogers, Principal of South Taranaki Funeral Services, in his newly upgraded reception area.**

the profession for over 20 years. The family business, as it is now, is thoroughly supported by Glenn's

partner, who also works for a local business.

Definite reasons as to why Glenn decided to buy the business, underpin his decision. "I felt the business had more to offer

culinary/social interest remains important to Glenn: "I enjoy fine dining and having friends around."

It was the passing of Glenn's beloved grandmother which inspired

six years ago, a move which he is delighted he made. "South Taranaki has been really good. I've made great friends, purchased my first house and met my really wonderful partner."

Glenn offers a comprehensive range of services, to suit every need and request, at competitive prices. There are two chapel options with the largest one seating an impressive 200 mourners. There is a tastefully appointed viewing and family room. He can arrange for the repatriation of bodies both within New Zealand and overseas. Eco-friendly funerals are a specialty. A FDANZ (Funeral Directors Association of NZ Inc.) Pre-Plan and Funeral Trust options are available. An excellent kit is provided, free of charge, which covers most conceivable aspects of

Holden Club. He is more than happy to come and talk to any community group. (eg church, Rotary, Lions).

Although the premises are inviting, spacious and comfortable, with many interesting paintings on display, including some by Glenn's talented great grandfather Herbert E Rogers, he has quite extensive plans to further improve facilities.

Anyone who has met Glenn is aware of his kindly, yet efficient manner - coupled with his sincere wish to be of service at such a sad time. He is also committed to personalised service. "I strive to be a perfectionist where I can," he admits. You can contact South Taranaki Funeral Services by phoning 06 278 8088, or email [glenn.rogers@stfs.co.nz](mailto:glenn.rogers@stfs.co.nz)



**The huge chapel seats at least 200 mourners.**

in private ownership. It was my opportunity to serve the community and families in a more personal way."

Why the name change? "We wanted a name that reflected the importance of community support and that we saw our business catering for people who live in other locations than just Hawera."

Glenn pays tribute to his fellow co-workers Susan Clegg, who has now retired and Geoff Berg "who has left to pursue other adventures."

Glenn was born and bred in Rotorua and the funeral profession was not his first choice of job - he qualified as a chef. However, a

change in vocation after several years working as a chef. He undertook all the funeral arrangements, such as catering, floral tributes, the funeral service itself and he realised he had a flair for this. He decided that being a funeral director was what he wanted to do. "I knocked on the doors of many funeral firms, until one offered to take me on."

Glenn has never looked back and has no regrets. "I love what I do. I love nothing more than being there for families in need." He adds, "It's also a really creative job, which I like."

Glenn shifted to Taranaki



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a funeral.

Glenn is closely connected to the community through his membership of the Normanby and District Lions (he is the immediate past president) He is also a member of the Taranaki

Although the office is open 8.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday, the firm can be contacted on a 24 hour basis.

The website [www.southtaranakifunerals.co.nz](http://www.southtaranakifunerals.co.nz) is well worth consulting.



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# OBITUARY: Simon Collins

## 25 February 1973 - 20 March 2021

Simon was born in Dunedin, first son of Elizabeth and Roger. The family, including brother Daniel, spent many early years living overseas. His father recently recalled carrying him in a backpack to art galleries and museums in Europe when he was a toddler. Simon's first language was French. Perhaps it was this early bilingual exposure that contributed to Simon's way with words.

Following a variety of early vocations, including painter and bar manager, Simon made his way to Penguin Place in Dunedin in 2000. It was here that his passion for conservation really took hold. Simon was a jack of all trades from tour bus driver to attending birds in the hospital. It was also here that Simon met his wife Trisha.

In 2008 Simon was looking for a change, and although uncertain about upheaving Trisha and son Tai from Dunedin, a decision was made to apply for a position at Rotokare Scenic Reserve in Taranaki. Trustees still remember their initial astonishment upon meeting Simon, as they were forced to confront their views on his unorthodox hairstyle. However, the Trustees very quickly saw Simon's passion for conservation and wildlife and the rat tail was forgotten.

Simon, Trisha and Tai moved to Taranaki and into the Rawhitiroa community. Simon was chairman of the Rawhitiroa School BOT for a time and the family forged strong relationships throughout the community. Simon put in the hard mahi at Rotokare Scenic Reserve, laying strong foundations for what was to come.

Simon absolutely believed in the power of community, collaboration and collective vision. In a recent interview, Simon stated that "Rotokare Sanctuary is an example of the Taranaki community's determination to succeed and eagerness to work together. And the financial



Simon Collins preparing Zoe (Western Brown Kiwi) for release at the first Kiwi release from Rotokare Scenic Reserve to Totara Block, June 2020.

support of the community, and more than 40 significant partners or fundraising streams, has been crucial".

As Rotokare Sanctuary Manager, Simon had opportunity to progress Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust's vision through his unique style of leadership. He was a strong advocate with an indefatigable drive and commitment to conservation. The Rotokare whanau was very important to Simon. He cared deeply about all the family of staff and volunteers, and was sensitive to everyone's moods and state of mind. There was always time for a laugh and a beer after the hard work on any project was done. Simon was a natural leader, fluent speechmaker, passionate conservationist whose eyes lit up when talking about Rotokare's part to play in regional and national conservation goals. He rarely took no for an answer. If you didn't agree with him it simply meant that he hadn't finished convincing you.

Matt Maitland, co-chair of Sanctuaries of NZ recently reminded us, that although Simon had no formal academic qualifications in the area of conservation, he could hold his own in any company and was respected throughout the conservation and sanctuaries communities of New Zealand. Matt also

acknowledged Simon as a leader of conservation in New Zealand, and because of New Zealand's international conservation record, Simon was also a leader in conservation internationally.

Simon had an indefatigable drive and commitment to conservation and played a huge part in making Rotokare the incredible place it is. In Simon's words – "Today, nine species have been translocated back into the sanctuary, three of which were extinct in Taranaki. The return, repopulation and then supply of native species is a multi-decade programme. Ultimately, the vision is to have the sanctuary "spewing" out wildlife naturally to the surrounding environment."

"This is the best possible example of what the Towards Predator-Free Taranaki vision is – and we are actually past that point within the sanctuary."

In 2019 the Trust won the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce not-for-profit business award. And in 2020 the Trust won the New Zealand Department of Conservation Community Kahiwi Award. Simon recognised the value of awards, as an appreciation of the hard work of the entire Rotokare whanau and as a useful advocacy tool for conservation in Taranaki in general. In his words the

Trust's job was to "kick-ass."

Simon passed suddenly, as a result of a heart attack, while out cycling on Saturday March 20. His input, insight and cheeky personality will be deeply missed by the people, communities and organisations who were fortunate to know and work with him.

A service to celebrate Simon's life was held at the Mary Alice Chapel in Stratford on March 27. It was not surprising that the chapel was packed, because Simon's life touched so many people. Friends, conservationists and former colleagues travelled from the length of the country, including Penguin Place, Dunedin and Whangarei to pay their respects and acknowledge his life's work. A guard of honour by Rotokare whanau and haka by Taranaki rangatahi also acknowledged Simon's passing and his great achievements. In lieu of flowers family requested that donations be made to Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust.

Both before and after the service, moving karakia, led by Tane Houston (Ngati Tupaia), at Rotokare helped with the passing of Simon's spirit. In a very uncommon occurrence, and an acknowledgement of the

esteem that Ngati Tupaia held for Simon, his wairua was instilled as kaitiake at Rotokare.

Simon's legacy will live on. Always the advocate, Simon's consistent

commitment brought so much life back to this region. His spirit remains strong at Rotokare.

Tricia Jamieson.

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# Calls for Dog Walk to be repeated



and chatter. Questions like "Can we have this every month?" were heralded to the organisers. Perhaps each year, just wait and see. Donations from registration and sausage sizzle for local Youth were presented to the Martial Arts Club. Extra donations received are to go to Puppy Training for the Blind Institute.

*Rosemarie Knapman-Smith*

## Opunake Lakeside Lions dog walk event. from Sandfords Event Centre.

Barking, jumping, eyeing, pulling, sniffing. These are descriptions of all that was going on at the initial Opunake Lakeside Lions dog walk event. It certainly

took a while for all to settle down, or was that because the sausage sizzle was playing a part?

Three dogs in particular were used to shows and their behaviour was amazing. Just a tail twitch every now and then to let passers-by know they were ready for something to happen.

Judging took place for the cutest ( it was really his huge rabbit like ears), the fluffiest, and what could be more fluffy than a samoyed; next the largest, to which an Alsatian was a natural winner.

Off trotted the walkers pulled along by their dogs who were their own or borrowed for the walk. A few human-

only walkers gathered along the trail as well.

The Opunake Loop Trail was a natural course, then back to the Event Centre to partake of more sausages



Largest participant.



Cutest Dog on the walk.



Fluffiest title went to the Samoyed beauty.

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# End of an era after 15 years

After 15 years of servicing farming clients in Coastal Taranaki, local spraying contractors Merv and Glenda Krutz are hanging up their spraying gear.

While they have enjoyed their time helping farmers to get the best out of their crops and pastures, it has come time to retire and let someone else take the reins of their successful spraying business.

They are looking for someone who has a passion for good old fashioned



Merv Krutz.

customer service to buy their business and keep the service going.

Merv is happy to pass on his technical knowledge to anyone buying the business. By staying on in the business for a while after the business has sold, Merv says he can help train a new owner.

"I am really happy to teach someone the ropes and give them all the recipes for crop and pasture spraying".

Glenda has been the one who has looked after the

bookwork in the office while Merv has been the one spraying. "The business would be perfect for a husband and wife team", explains Glenda.

If the business doesn't sell soon, Merv and Glenda are contemplating just 'shutting up shop.'

"It really is time for us to retire", explains Merv. "We don't want to leave farmers in the lurch, but we need to take a step back from being so busy".

Both Merv and Glenda agree that the business would be ideal for a farming couple who may be tired of milking everyday but are looking for a business that keeps them in the farming industry.

Glenda says that if there is anyone interested in buying the business, to contact their business broker from McDonald Real Estate, Russell Atkinson.

# HIP practice for Coastal Care



Health Improvement Practitioner Annie Baigent-Ritchie.

Health Improvement Practitioners or HIPs are the latest addition to the services available at CoastalCare in Opunake.

HIPs are a new initiative to Taranaki which kicked off in August 2020 and is being rolled out around Taranaki. HIPs are health

professionals based at medical centres, and can be accessed by anybody, so long as the person using that service is enrolled with the GP clinic where the HIPs are based. There's no need for a referral, appointments are 30 minutes, and the service is free.

Primary health organisation

Pinnacle has the contract for the service and is part of the wider umbrella project Te Manawanui. This project began in 2017 in New Zealand and there are HIPs in medical centres all around the country.

"It's funded as a mental health and addiction service, but it's a generalist service which is broader than mental health," says practitioner Annie Baigent-Ritchie. "It's for anybody who wants help around stress or who wants to make changes in the way they live."

Grace Monk is available for appointments on Mondays and Annie is available on Fridays. Grace's background is as a social worker, Annie's is as an occupational therapist.

Previously anybody wanting the kind of services they provide would have had to have gone to a counsellor or book an appointment through the hospital, but now it can be done through their local GP clinic.

"Most people have a pretty

decent relationship with their doctors, so they feel more at ease than if they had to go to the hospital," says Annie. "The GP clinic is local. It's where people go."

Although appointments can be pre-booked through CoastalCare, at least half the available appointment time is always left free, so people can walk in and turn up on the day.

"The whole idea is to be brief and operate like doctors," says Annie.

"We're available to see lots of people again and again if we need to. Some people can be dealt with in a single session, while others can keep coming back."

"I ask questions and get a sense of what's happening in that person's life generally, then we talk about the problems which are most concerning for them, and make a plan to help address that problem and to live life congruent with their values."

Annie says somebody with

an anxiety problem might feel they want to retreat into themselves and do less and less. She says she would work with that person to help them develop strategies to help them get back to doing what they want to do.

As the HIP service expands there are plans for their services to be supplemented by Kaitautoko or health coaches. Like HIPs they will be a free service, and will be able to visit people in their own homes if need be.

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

Coastal Taranaki School Students have had an action-packed term in the sporting space. It has been particularly pleasing to see fantastic results in both Individual and Team Sporting Codes. We would like to congratulate all of our students on their participation and encourage all of our tamariki to continue with their efforts as we move into a very busy Term 2.

#### Motocross

Our Motocross team is on fire!

First place at the King of Schools North Island MX series at the Rotorua Primary/Intermediate Schools Challenge in Rotorua, despite the very wet, muddy and challenging day the team pulled through for the win! Our team has placed 2nd and 3rd overall at the previous Primary/Intermediate events.

#### Triathlon

Year 13 students Sarsha Dakin-Spearshott & Nalani Renau braved rough conditions to compete in the Taranaki Secondary School Triathlon held at Ngamotu Beach. The course consisted of a 300m swim, 10km bike & 3km run to finish. Congratulations to all of our students who competed in the 'Weetbix TRYathlon' series too.

#### Touch

Touch Football continues to grow in our sporting space and now holds the highest participation rates of any code across our kura. Congratulations to all seven teams who entered in the Oakura competition and a special mention to our Intermediate Grade Team for finishing runners up in their competition. A big THANK YOU to Joe Lawn, Deb Burmeister, Liam O'Sullivan, Rebecca Ripia, Taysha Ryder and Matua Ben for their Manaakitanga and coaching our teams.

#### Mountain Biking

Individual Sports in our Secondary School space are of huge importance to us here at CTS. We are proud to report Year 9 Student Thomas Moffitt navigated a tricky course at Lake Mangamahoe to finish 5th in his Taranaki Secondary Schools Mountain Biking competition.

#### Highway 45 Athletics

Year 6 student Tayla Sole can comfortably lay claim to being the fastest Girl on the Coast as she stormed home to claim 1st place in the both the 100m and 200m sprint finals at 'Highway 45' Athletics. A huge thank you to Oakura and Omata for their attendance and our wonderful years 10 & 12 students who volunteered their time to

### TERM 1 SNAPSHOT



Clockwise from top: CTS MX team; Amélie Staunstrup-Moore; Nalani Renau; CTS Surf team; Thomas Moffitt; CTS Intermediate Touch Rugby team.

help run the respective stations. Other highlights included our 4 x 100 relay team's first place as well as Shiloh Baylis' High Jumping skills.

#### Sailing

Congratulations to Albie and Amélie Staunstrup Moore for their recent Sailing success at the Taranaki School Championships.

Albie - Primary School Championship: Optimist 1st  
Amélie - Intermediate School Championship: Optimist 3rd

#### Surfing

Our Surfing team has had some great success this year with placings at the Year 7-8 Intermediate Surfing Competition at Fitzroy Beach.

Year 8 Girls Final - 3rd Francie O'Sullivan  
Year 7 Boys Final - 3rd Knight Baylis, 4th Grady O'Sullivan  
Year 8 Girls - Shiloh Baylis 4th  
Year 7 Boys - Kiwa Lamb, Luccas Ripia 4th  
Coach Simon Ripia & Tom Debreceny

Currently the CTS Surf team is surfing one day a week after school if conditions are suitable. Our goal is to get local kids involved in surfing, surfing their local breaks and for our kids to enter surfing competitions and enjoy what's on our doorstep here on the coast. We have four new recruits to the team just this week, and hopefully in the later part of the year we will see more kids get involved! we will still run a session through the cooler months for the keen kids!

#### North Island Area Schools Sports Camp

Our Head Student Taysha Ryder is currently away in Te Awamutu competing in the North Island Area Schools Camp. Students are able to trial for a variety of teams across five sporting codes. If successful, Taysha will have the opportunity to travel to Dunedin to represent the North Island at New Zealand Nationals. What a fantastic opportunity for our keen secondary school students to partake on the national stage.

#### Rippa Rugby

A mini series of Rippa Rugby has commenced at the Rahotu Domain as a part of coastal clusters. This has been set up by Kelvin, the local Rugby Development Officer. Coastal has entered two teams and have seen some fantastic results across the Years 5&6 and Intermediate Grade - Ka mau te Wehi!

### Looking Ahead - Term 2

Y5 & Y6 Inter-school competitions commence - ongoing - Rugby, Netball (2 teams), Football • Inter-school finals days (Y5-6) • Rippa Rugby competitions (Y5-Y6 and Y7-Y8) • Saturday Netball Year 3 upwards (6 Teams) • Saturday Football Years 1-8 • Coastal Schools Rugby (Y9-Y13) • NZ area schools - Dunedin (SS) - July 19-22 • Coastal Saturday Rugby (All ages) • TSSSA 3 x 3 Basketball (SS) • Barrett Cup Rugby • TSSSA Netball (SS) • TSSSA Badminton (SS) • Jump Jam commences (full-school)



# How to reduce dietary risk when feeding brassicas

## The risks of brassicas

Consistent among the alarming lab results we receive from testing stock feeds are the high sulphur levels in brassica crops, notably kale and swedes. Mixed pasture levels are generally between 0.3 and 0.4%. Some limitation in animal appetite and feed palatability is expected at this content and there is a significant contribution to copper antagonism. But, for the most part, the impact onstock performance isn't immediately obvious.

However, above 0.4% animal health issues are noticeable and as levels head toward 0.5% and beyond, animal health problems accrue. These include reduced growth rates in young stock and the disturbing neurological condition polioencephalomalacia (polio) also referred to as thiamine (Vitamin B1) deficiency. We have documented lambs deaths with polio on plantain crops with sulphur content of 0.5% and over.

Therefore, when the lab results from brassica crops roll in with sulphur content routinely well over 0.6% and up to and over 1% it's a wonder the stock actually



PAT POLETTI

eat it. But eat the stuff they do and lots of it. So is there something about brassicas that somehow negate the effect of such high sulphur contents? Or, are negative impacts more subclinical and don't necessarily manifest in the 60 odd days that brassicas are routinely fed? The illness and deaths of cows in the winter of 2014 from glucosinolate toxicity, and a general feeling of discomfort by farmers at the health status of their stock while on brassicas would suggest something is up.

### Toxicity

There are in fact three ways to poison animals with brassicas. Glucosinolates as mentioned, S-methyl cysteine sulphoxide (SMCO) and of course nitrate which many farmers are familiar with. Glucosinolates and SMCO are, or are derived



Kale crop in South Taranaki. Managing sulphur levels is extremely important for animal performance, not only on brassica crops but in any ruminant feed.

from, sulphur containing amino acids. Increased levels reduce animal intakes, with liver disease, thyroid dysfunction (glucosinolates) and anaemia (SMCO) the clinical manifestation.

In the glucosinolate poisoning cases the increased level of glucosinolates was attributed to a mild winter and as such a greater ratio of leaf to bulb in swedes. This may well have been the case. But given the propensity for brassica crops to concentrate high sulphur levels is there another opportunity to control the concentration of glucosinolates and SMCO through the control of

fertiliser nutrient use? As it turns out the answer is yes.

### Controlling sulphur levels in brassicas

Concentration of glucosinolates and SMCO can be manipulated by control of soil sulphur and nitrogen. The interplay between sulphur and nitrogen soil status is complex and not entirely straight forward. But in a nutshell, higher soil levels of sulphur lead to greater levels of glucosinolates and SMCO.

A 2010 trial [1] by Plant

and Food Research found that kale did not respond to fertiliser sulphur on a low anion storage capacity soil when the soil sulphate sulphur was 5 (this is not high). Similarly, RJ Hills laboratory data indicates that a herbage sulphur less than 0.3% is diagnostic for sulphur deficiency in brassicas i.e. this crop doesn't need much sulphur.

In the Plant and Food research trial at no time did Glucosinolates or SMCO reach critical levels on the low sulphur site compared to

a site with a sulphate sulphur of 19 where SMCO exceeded the critical level particularly with high nitrogen inputs.

To cut a long story short, control of sulphur is of utmost importance for animal performance not only on brassica crops but in any ruminant feed.

[1] Fletcher et al. Proceedings of the NZ Grasslands Association 2010

Written by Pat Poletti, 2015

## Feds see MIQ opportunity

Federated Farmers say they hope the Government will take the opportunity of newly available space in MIQ quarantine to bring much-needed workers for the primary industries into New Zealand.

COVID-19 Response Minister Chris Hipkins estimates that the Australian quarantine-free travel bubble will free up 1000 to 1300 beds in MIQ a fortnight.

"MIQ spacing has been continually quoted as a barrier for getting the workers we need. With more beds becoming available it should now allow those with agricultural skills to enter the country," Federated Farmers Immigration Spokesperson Chris Lewis says.

"With continued low unemployment and the majority of available workers remaining in the urban centres, all of the

primary industries are crying out for labour."

Farm Source, a leading job website for the dairy industry, currently lists over 1100 vacancies on farm, far higher than the usual number for this time of year, Lewis said.

"All of the primary industries have been working hard to attract and upskill Kiwis to work on farms, but unfortunately these initiatives don't address the immediate labour problem. We need people in our fields, orchards and cow sheds now."

Federated Farmers have asked the Government to allow 500 skilled dairy staff into New Zealand for the new milking season. A survey was undertaken in March to gain a better understanding of the staffing issues on dairy farms. The survey had 1150 responses

in just one week.

Survey results showed that 49% of dairy farmer respondents were currently short-staffed; 46% had vacancies unfilled for more than three months; and nearly a quarter had been unable to fill a gap on their team for more than six months.

Federated Farmers acknowledges the Government has already made some limited border exceptions for agricultural machinery operators, veterinarians, sheep shearers, animal pregnancy scanners and some skilled dairy staff to date.

"However, these limited exceptions aren't going to go very far with the number of workers needed across the primary industries in the coming months," Chris Lewis said.

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# Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards

## Taranaki Share Farmer of the Year

An open Day held on April 15 at the farm in Auroa Road where John Wyatt, the 2021 Taranaki Share Farmer of the Year contract milks attracted around 100 people keen to learn the farming practices that so impressed the judges.

The winners of the 2021 Taranaki Dairy Manager and the 2021 Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year categories were also at the Open Day.

It was the third honour for John who won the 2009 Hawkes Bay/Wairarapa Dairy Trainee of the Year category and was named the 2015 Manawatu Farm Manager of the Year.

John has been contract milking for Mike Hammond for the past four years with wife Kristina who is a qualified vet.



John and Kristine Wyatt on the farm.

Dannevirke on a sheep and beef farm. His introduction

to dairy farming was as an assistant. He then went on to manage a dairy farm in Pahiatua for three years before moving on to a farm just out of Palmerston North where he met Kristina. The couple moved to Taranaki four years ago.

Kristina was brought up on a 10 acre block with "every type of animal except a horse and a dog". She says she always wanted to work with animals and went on graduate with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science at Massey University. She currently works 4 days a week at the Taranaki Veterinary Centre..

The judges were impressed with John and Kristina's "strong knowledge" in health, safety and biosecurity and remarked on the double fencing of the boundary. Their equally strong understanding and in-depth analysis of how to maximise pasture productivity and its importance, and their commercial literacy and

financial planning which enabled them to grow their equity was also a factor in winning the coveted award.

John said the 106 hectare farm was originally two farms and they currently milk 315 cows in a 44 bale rotary.

He added there was only one soil type - Egmont Brown - on the rectangular shaped farm and said they'd been told that "it's the best land for farming cows." The farm had been in the Hammond family for a long time. They said that for the first couple of seasons they didn't change anything. Then they found they were running out of feed in the summer. They suggested planting turnips to the owner who agreed with their suggestion.

"We've done that this year and it's worked really well," said John.

They also put in a Green Water recycling system which had considerably reduced their water use and, as they were on a water scheme and paid for their water, saved them in the region of \$15,000 a year.

Next those gathered at the Open Day went for a walk around the farm. They raise 75-80 calves and "every single calf including bobbies get 2L of gold colostrum and are there for 10 days," says Kristina. They get two litres of milk morning and night."

Over the previous few seasons they've averaged 360-380 kg milk fat per cow. This year however, at 400 kilos per cow on average, they're improving. For

January and February they were 50% up on last season which they put down to their pasture management.

John identifies the development of technology in agriculture as "exciting" and adds "It's already starting to have a big influence on what is possible on-farm."

The couple have a 16 month son Caleb. Kristina worked with John full time on the farm for the 2020/2021 calving season while on maternity leave.

Their goals include buying the cows on the farm and going 50:50.

Further down the track in about 5 years they would like to buy some land. "We would like to own where we live," the couple say. And "never stop learning" says Kristina who comments "there's always new stuff coming out." Kristina is on a committee that looks at sustainable farming which has its focus on farming in the future. She hopes to one day do a Masters in Veterinary Science.

Other interests include cake decorating and she also plays hockey.

John is on the Board of Trustees at St Joseph's Catholic School in Hawera and commented that without their extended family around, who live in Hamilton and Dannevirke, the couple like to be involved in the community. John plays squash in Eltham and does a bit of kayaking at Opunake Beach.

Both enjoy mountain biking.

Continued page 19.

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# Winners Open Day



Sydney Porter speaking at the Open Day.

Continued from page 18.

## Sydney Porter: 2021 Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year

Sydney Porter who won the 2021 Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year and made the finals last year said she had gained just so much knowledge from entering the competition.

The judges were impressed with her “excellent, all-round farming knowledge,” her great interest in dairy cows, and her drive and enthusiasm generally for farming.

Sydney who has worked as Farm Assistant on Phil and Tanya Nixon’s 110 ha, 320 cow farm in Okaiawa for the last two and a half

years said 167 of their cows calved and that she was rearing 64 calves, her “children” she said fondly. Asked what she enjoyed most about her job her unequivocal reply was “My cows.”

Sydney who until the age of 11 grew up on a dairy farm at Manutahi says long term she wanted to keep studying through Primary ITO where she is nearing the end of her second year. So far she’s studied animal health in the first year and in the second year pasture management. Next comes level 4 which is a general course.

“I would like to own my own herd,” one day she said though wasn’t sure about owning a farm.

## Diego Salinas: 2021 Taranaki Dairy Manager of the Year

Diego Raul Gomez Salinas who won the Taranaki Dairy Manager of the Year is Farm Manager for the Michael D Burr Trust 142 hectare property at Stratford.

Originally from Argentina, prior to coming to New Zealand he was a professor and researcher at an Argentine university. He graduated with a L6 Agribusiness Diploma.

Diego says he wanted to come to New Zealand because it had “the best dairy industry in the world.”

His first job in the dairy industry in New Zealand was milking 200 cows. He

then moved on to a 450 Friesian cow farm in the Bay of Plenty (Te Puke) for two years before returning to Argentina for four years for family reasons.

On his return he graduated to a 500 jersey herd farm in Toko and was there for two years.

Currently he is managing a farm with 400 crossbred cows. Challenges he’d faced in his present job included dealing with mastitis. Though “last year was way better,” they were still working on it, he said.

Diego paid tribute to his boss who he described as “a really great guy.” He added “He listens and I listen too” and commented “Listening is the best training on the farm.”

As a person with an analytical brain, Diego uses technology in farm decisions throughout the season on areas including pasture management, mating performance and young stock management. It was in these areas in particular that he impressed the judges.

Short term goals are to apply for New Zealand residency and, as it’s been



Diego Raul Gomez Salinas..

4 years since he’s seen his extended family, return to Argentina for a visit.

Eventually Diego who has a degree in business would like to do a MBA –a Masters in Business Administration - which he says would complete his education. His long term goal is to be a share milker.

“When you do the thing you love you always enjoy it,” he comments. He enjoys spending time with his wife

and children.

His advice to those considering entering the competition is to “do it. It’s not about winning. You always learn something from it.”

It is the third time he has entered the Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards and quipped at the end to much amusement, they chose him as the winner this year as they were sick of seeing his face.

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Diego flanked by last year’s winner Brandon Darlow (left) and Craig Sole from Federated Farmers.



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# Slurry Tankers: How to avoid vacuum pump overheating

While an overheated slurry tanker vacuum pump could be useful if you feel like a cooked breakfast on the run, it's not a good sign for your pump and can lead to some major expenses.

## What happens if a vacuum pump overheats?

As the metal heats up, it expands, and the vanes seize in the body of the pump (the rotor seizes in the bore). If you're lucky this will be repairable with just a few vanes breaking, however the more likely outcome is a broken block which usually comes under the 'not worth repairing' category.



MICHAEL PRESTIDGE

## Why do slurry tanker vacuum pumps overheat?

Generally overheating is caused by overworking the pump. If your vacuum pump isn't working as it should, you're having to run it for

longer, or at higher speeds, making the pump overheat and potentially seize.

## Best practices to avoid overheating

- Give your slurry a good stir before using the vacuum pump to suck it up. Aim for a consistent slurry mix that's not too thick.

- Use a large suction pipe (preferably 8") to minimise restrictions.

- Check the vacuum is working on the gauge.

- o If it is working, don't be tempted to rev the tractor up because it won't achieve anything other than premature wear.

- o If the vacuum isn't working, check for leaks. If there's no leaks it's time to get the pump serviced.

- Replace your safety valves regularly. This will reduce the likelihood of leaks.

- Always use the recommended oil at the correct rate for your slurry tanker's vacuum pump. The oil needs to be the right consistency and the right amount to be able to run through the pump



An overheated slurry tanker vacuum pump can lead to some major expenses.

and provide adequate lubrication.

- Don't run your pump longer than needed/recommended. All vacuum pumps will have a duty cycle, and this can vary widely between brands and models.

**Recommendations Tip:** When spreading constantly

over close paddocks, keep an eye on the pump's temperature. Spreading over paddocks closer to your effluent storage means the vacuum pump will be getting less rest/cooling time between sucking up and pumping out.

In addition to the best practices listed above, if you're on the lookout for a new slurry tanker, or replacing your slurry tanker vacuum pump we also recommend:

- Look for vacuum pumps with air induction cooling and long-life vanes. Air induction cooling has been the best practice standard for slurry tanker vacuum

pumps since the end of 2018. This new technology greatly extends the duty cycle of the pump allowing it to run continuously at 80% vacuum. These are a must have for slurry tankers 10,000L and larger.

- Ensure your pump has a ICP System (Integrated Crash Protection). An ICP system allows the rotor to spin freely, meaning that in the unlikely event your rotor did seize, it would simply move out of alignment so no damage would occur to the housing.

*Michael Prestidge  
Nevada Effluent  
Management Specialist*

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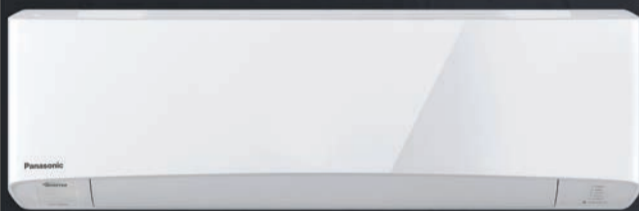
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## On this month in history

### New Zealand soldiers land at Anzac Cove, on Turkey's Peninsula.

On April 25, 1915 the first of more than 3000 New Zealand soldiers landed at what was later named Anzac Cove on Turkey's Gallipoli Peninsula.

They formed part of the Australian and NZ Army Corps, which had been formed in Cairo. Allied soldiers of other nations also landed including the Australians who landed first at dawn. The idea was

to capture Istanbul (then Constantinople) and force Turkey out of the war.

However, the Gallipoli campaign ended in failure in December 2015 and January 2016 when the last of the Allied soldiers were evacuated.

Of the 7.500 casualties of NZ soldiers there were 2721 deaths



# Whanganui farmer named Dairy Woman of the Year

Whanganui sharemilker Belinda Price has been announced as the 2021 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year.

The other finalists were Ashburton dairy farmer Rebecca Miller and contract milker and farm consultant Chevon Horsford from Whangarei.

Dairy Women's Network Trustee Sophie Stanley, who headed up the judging panel, said that all three finalists highlighted the wide range of diversity in leadership within dairy and the shifting focus of the industry to a people-focused approach.

"The three finalists were all impressive with a different approach to how they lead and create positive impact for our people, communities, industry and the agriculture sector as a whole," said Stanley.

"Belinda demonstrates a passion for people, building up the industry from grass roots through her roles in coaching and mentorship. She has a strong foundation of values and she displays humility, passion and high energy, which creates a unique approach to leadership."

After entering the industry



**2021 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year recipient Belinda Price says receiving the award is an honour and recognition of her work to date. Supplied**

12 years ago through a sharemilking contract, Price and her husband now own a dairy farm in Taranaki and sharemilk 650 cows in Nukumarū, where she is

responsible for the day-to-day running, calf-rearing, human resources and administration for their two businesses.

Active in upskilling herself, Price completed the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme and shares her knowledge and experience across many mentorship roles within the industry including PrimaryITO, DairyNZ's Dairy Connect Programme and Rural Support.

Her influence on the industry is widespread with additional roles with Environment Leaders Taranaki and the Step Change Pilot Programme with DairyNZ to make changes to their farm operations for better environmental outcomes.

Being named the Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year was recognition for her contributions to the industry so far, Price said.

"Winning the 2021 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year is a huge honour. Its acknowledgement that what I have done to date has been really helpful and beneficial, and allows me to upskill and continue that journey to help others achieve their goals in the industry that has given

me so much and that I love." "It was my pleasure to present Belinda Price with the 2021 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year award. It's great seeing her give so much to our industry. The passion, energy and co-operation she clearly displays across her multiple roles is paving the way for the next generation of farmers to succeed," said

Fonterra Chief Executive Miles Hurrell.

As the 2021 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year, Price receives a scholarship of up to \$20,000 to undertake a development programme, professional and business coaching, a learning experience, or a combination of all three.

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# Hawera man wins against country's best

The country's top 10 available croquet players were recently at the Hawera Park Croquet Club for the Yvonne Yeates Golf Croquet Invitational. Of these players, three, Peter Filbee, Joel Steele and Te Kiri King play for either of the two Hawera clubs, Hawera Park or Hawera. Joel Steele and Te Kiri at 18 years-old were among the three youngest players taking part. At the end of the weekend, Te Kiri emerged as the event's overall winner.



**Te Kiri King in action.**

Players at the tournament ranged in age from 18 to 80, and the 50 members of the Hawera Park Club range in age from 16 to 91.

As well as being one of the youngest members, 18 year-old Te Kiri King, is also the Hawera Park Club's

lowest handicapped player on -1. He has been playing competitively for 5-6 years, but has been interested in the game since the age of 10 or 11 when he accompanied his great grandmother Maureen King to the Hawera Park Club.

"We were playing it in the backyard one Christmas day and I quite enjoyed it," says Te Kiri. "My great grandmother said she played at the croquet club in town, and I said can I come along? I fell in love with it then."

Often partnering with Isobel Tong he enjoyed some success at his chosen sport. He is currently a member of the New Zealand Under-21 team, having made his way

up from the youth level.

"Croquet has taken me all over New Zealand," says Te Kiri. "I had started playing rugby like any normal teen, but croquet took me places rugby wasn't, so I gave up rugby and took up croquet."

As well as croquet, he also enjoys golf and pool.

"Anything that involves accuracy and hitting a ball," he says.

He was in the Hawera High School team at the New Zealand Secondary Schools championships four times, the last time finishing second in the final.

Three years ago he was invited to take part in the Gordon Smith Golf Croquet Invitational but wasn't able to take part. The next year he entered as a 16 year-old.

"I ended up smashing the title out," he says of the event held at the Howick Golf Club in Auckland.

The Hawera Park Club is no stranger to hosting the bigger events. They have hosted the Yvonne Yeates event before, and in December last year hosted the North Island Association

Tournament. Following on from the success of this event they were invited to host the NZ Open to be held in December this year.

"When you travel the country you realise these lawns are fantastic," says Mechaela Steele, whose son Joel was playing at the Yvonne Yeates event.

Gary says when the NZ Open was played in Christchurch last year, there were only 16 players taking part.

As the Open has traditionally attracted a lot of Trans-Tasman interest, he says that with the Australian Bubble in place the numbers should increase, possibly up to 60, so that the Stratford, and possibly the Inglewood grounds might have to be used as well as the ones in Hawera.

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## Bayleys Taranaki expand Taranaki Rugby partnership

Bayleys Taranaki have expanded their relationship with Taranaki rugby.

The property experts who go by the tagline "Altogether Better" will continue their naming rights partnership with the Bayleys Academy and the Bayleys Secondary School competitions. Bayleys will also have their brand appear on the back left of the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls playing shorts for the first time. Based on Courtenay Street, New Plymouth, Bayleys Taranaki is part of the Success Realty franchise area encompassing Taranaki, Waikato and Bay of Plenty regions, with 22 offices and over 560 staff across the group.

The brand was established in Taranaki in 1973 and now has over 30 staff across Taranaki including residential and lifestyle property specialists, rural experts, commercial agents and an exceptional property management team. The purpose of the Bayleys Academy is to develop talented school leavers on and off the field. Bayleys Secondary School rugby kicks off in May with high school teams from around the mountain contesting multiple grades. "We are proud to not only continue but to grow our partnership with Taranaki Rugby and are excited to be involved in supporting some of these younger

players coming through the system," said Bayleys General Manager Dean File. Taranaki Rugby Commercial Manager Jimmy Fastier said an association with Bayleys was a very good fit. "Bayleys are recognised across New Zealand for being the largest full service real estate company and like us they strive to be the best. Dean and the team are well known for their support of the community here in Taranaki. It is great to have Bayleys involved in our game from secondary school rugby all the way through to the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls."

## Sandfords Manaia Golf Club results

April 10. Saturday Men's Tournament. 1. Cody Clark. 2. John Oliver. 3. Greg Marsh. 4. Greg Elliott.

April 18. Junior. 1. Kobi Symes Simpson. Jax Symes Simpson.

Short holes. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Anise Borrie.

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## Premiers continue on their winning way

Our second game of the season was against Clifton at Tikorangi on April 10.

Conditions were rough and wet and with a strong wind blowing straight down the ground it was always going to be a tough task.

Coastal Farm Source Premiers chose to take first use of the wind and after 10 minutes we again found ourselves 10-0 down due to a couple of pushed passes in the tough conditions.

Coastal again got into their work after being behind on the scoreboard. Coastal scored their first try by hooker Chris Simons after a huge touch finder by Jackson Sinclair, and then a good lineout drive clawing their way back to a halftime score of 7-10.

We turned into the wind with a bigger Clifton pack up against it. At the 50 minute point, replacement winger Harry Symes made a huge break outflanking the defence with blistering pace to toe ahead and with Jacob Gopperth to crash over next to the uprights in the expansive moment in the game.

Then Clifton hit straight back with a converted try with 15 to go to take a crucial lead 17-14.

Then in the 70th minute Coastal managed to score 15 metres to the left of the posts to hard working



Liam Parker crashes the ball up against Stratford/Eltham Photos Spinna Photography

captain Jeremy Newell who led from the front to make the final score 19-17 to the Coast.

In the last 10 minutes Coastal worked hard as a team and shut the game down to head off the hosts for a win that could have gone either way.

The forwards all worked hard and once again the whole 22 should be pleased with their effort.

It's pleasing to see the

boys playing as a team and enjoying their rugby.

Chris Gawler was awarded a well-deserved POD and Chris Simons two points,

and the trifecta for the front row Liam Hurley taking the MVP one point with all the other boys not far behind.



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**Premiers continue on their winning way**

On April 17, Coastal were at Victoria Park Stratford to take on Stratford/Eltham in our third game of the round against a very strong home side with a big uncompromising forward pack.

Weather conditions were wet again in the morning, but by the time the kickoff rolled around, the sun was trying to make an appearance.

Like normal, we started

very slow and Stratford/Eltham got away to better start, and mid-way into the half scored a well worked try to make the score 0-7.

Turning into the breeze the boys needed to dig deep and start finishing a few enterprising moves we had put together.

Our scrum was very good and we put a lot of pressure on when it mattered, but most forwards coming off were complaining that there

were too many making it a stop start game.

Mid-way through the second half we put a lot of phases together, and after many attempts our try burglar Jeremy Newell crashed over under the posts to get us on the board.

Logan Crowley box kicks were causing a lot of trouble for Stratford and after a couple of break outs we finally hit the lead after Chris Gawler made a huge

break up the middle and then linking with Ben Kalin. From the next ruck Rick McKenna dived in wide out to make his Uncle Nigel the proudest man in the park, to give us a 10-7 lead after Rick's kick hit the upright.

We got a late penalty to give us a 13-7 final score in a game that, once again, could have gone either way, but it's pleasing to win the tight ones.

It was a good team effort by everyone once again, but Jeremy Newell led the boys well with some brutal runs getting us good go forward, and with Liam Hurley leading the way on defence, making some big tackles we managed to make it three from three and a great start to the season.

Cheers to the boys from the 20s and Div 1 who reserve for us after playing 80 minutes. We are only as good as our whole 22.

Next week we play at Rahotu against the most fancied NPOB who most experts are picking as the benchmark, and they will be looking for a big performance after coming off a loss.

Come down and support all teams we appreciate seeing our supporters on the sideline every week.

Ride the wave!



Troy Stevenson looking to offload the ball against Stratford/Eltham.

Photos Spinna Photography

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## Three out of three for Coastal B

The FBT Coastal Development team didn't let the torrential rain stop them from taking home the win against Clifton with a final score of 30-12. It was a good game in trying conditions with tries scored by Daniel Doyle, Luke Berquist and Cody Rothwell with a double. Extra points go to Cody who also snatched player of the day. Well done boys.  
 Coastal Bs made it 3/3 with a 30-20 win against a well-drilled Stratford team. Greasy conditions didn't stop the lads running in five tries. A shout out to our player of the day Logan Stevenson for his outstanding game. The best way to know how the boys are going is to get down and support them yourself. Up the coast!

## A win and a loss for the Colts

In a howling wind and rainy conditions the Coastal Colts played a tough tight game, to win 19-0 against Clifton on April 10. Coastal came away with four penalties in the first half and a converted try in the second, with great defence holding out Clifton all through the game.

All 19 points were scored by Player of the Day Jeremy Gopperth.

Top tacklers in the game were Jacob Whakatutu in the forwards and Harley Love ridge - Seymour in the backs. Both teams played well in wet and windy conditions. Coach Kane Barrett praised the boys for their outstanding solid defence. The Colts are looking forward to hosting Clifton in the second round.

On April 17 the boys went round the mountain to take on Stratford. Coastal knew it was going to be a tough game and conditions were not a help. Stratford caught Coastal napping and started the game with a quick try. The first half was a bit messy due to the conditions making it hard for the boys to hold onto the ball. A

couple of penalties were awarded and kicked by both teams, making the half time score 11 - 9 to Stratford.

In the second half, the boys seemed to have a little more fire in their bellies with some great ball in hand running being made and some tough tackling. It wasn't long before our big man Tane

Jones managed to get the ball over the line. Stratford came back at us with two tries both unconverted, then player of the day Denzell Sofeni-Calder repaid them with a fantastic try in the corner. With 10 minutes to go and the score 21-21, the battle continued between both teams. With an

intercept by Stratford with five minutes to go, they took the win 28 - 21.

Coastal look forward to seeing them next round at home.

Points.  
 Tane Jones. 5.  
 Denzell Sofeni-Calder. 5.  
 Jeremy Gopperth 11



Tane Jones belts up the field for Corkill Systems Coastal Colts.

Photos Spinna Photography

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# Barbwire boxers show their stuff in Taupo

Just over a year ago I set up Barbwire Boxing and the club had its first fighters competing in Taupo. Isaac King and Bobby Katene have been consistent

athletes and have trained hard over the six months leading into the fight. Both were rewarded with outstanding performances. Bobby showed calmness and composure up against a more experienced

fighter. Even though it was an exhibition fight he showed a wise head on young shoulders (and in my opinion, won the fight - though being an exhibition there was no official winner). Isaac's fight was later in

the day. Isaac is a fantastic trainer and it showed later in the rounds where he was able to get the better of his more experienced opponent. Isaac listened to his corner's instructions and fought his way to a smart victory.

Months of working on the same combinations of punches paid off.

Many thanks to all the supporters and family members that came to the fight. Special thanks to Charlie Paraha and Rhys K.

With a fight coming up in Palmerston North next month, the future's arrived for Opunake boxing, and these two are going to lead the charge. They are great kids with a fantastic attitude towards training. The only advice I would like to give them is to stay on the path and just be wise with their decision making outside the gym, and don't be in too much of a hurry to get to the finish line as this is a journey to get to the top with many steps.

*James (Batman) Langton*

**Left: Bobby Katene, James Langton and Isaac King.**



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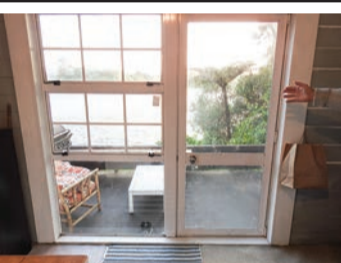


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## Would You Like the Kiwi Sculpture for Waverley?

The Waverley community has been offered a sculpture of the locally owned and trained 1983 Melbourne Cup racehorse winner Kiwi, with jockey Jimmy Cassidy.

South Taranaki District Council (STDC) community development manager Claire Symes says New Plymouth

artist Fridtjof Hanson has created the sculpture out of plasticine and is offering his creation for free.

"We are very grateful to Fridtjof for his creation, however the cost of bronzing the sculpture is \$155,000. There would also be additional installation and lighting costs," she says.

The South Taranaki District Council is currently consulting on its 2021-31 Long Term Plan and in the Plan some funding has been

budgeted for public art in Waverley as part of the town centre upgrade project for the next financial year. Having a public art project was previously identified as a key action during the development of the Waverley Town Masterplan in 2019.

"A committee has been formed to bring the sculpture to Waverley and they are working with our STDC Community Development team to find out whether the

community agrees that the Council's Long Term Plan funding should be used for the Kiwi sculpture and are also investigating other ways to help fund the project," says Claire.

"Please let us know what you think by completing the short online survey at: <https://form.jotform.com/210958983055062> or by filling in the questionnaire at the Waverley LibraryPlus, by 4pm 30 April 2021.

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1983 Melbourne Cup winner Kiwi and jockey Jimmy Cassidy. The sculpture is a work in progress with the bridle and reigns still to be attached and finishing work undertaken to the wax mould prior to it being bronzed.

## Taranaki Indoor Bowls

Taranaki competed in the quadrangular event held in Stratford against Wanganui, North Wellington and Horowhenua on April 17-18.

Taranaki had three players making their debut in the A team. These were Glenn Anderson, Bruce Chapman and Judith Muggeridge, who settled in playing well. Top scorer for Taranaki was Ray Finlay by two points ahead of Ella Smailes.

Points at the end of the two days were North Wellington on 171, Wanganui 103, Taranaki 101 and Horowhenua 58. Taranaki received two trophies in the head to head against the other centres, winning trophies against Horowhenua and Wanganui.

North Wellington had two players Trevor Rayner and Bill McGregor reaching a huge milestone of 250 games, each for their rep team. They were presented with badges then gave a small speech on the achievement. Congratulations to them both.

Teams were as follows. Karl Hughes, Ella Smailes, Bill Schrader and Ray Finlay; Rodney Morris, Win Finlay, Noelene Picard and Glenn Anderson; Sue Bourne, Chris Reed, Stephen Vince and Bruce Chapman; Rose Ratahi, Andrea Berry, Judith Muggeridge and K.Bird. Reserve: Trevor Bourne.

*Karl Hughes*



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# Okato Bowling Club Two Day Bowling tournament

The Okato Bowling Club Two Day event was held at the Okato and Oakura Bowling Clubs last weekend. A total of 30 teams (Fours) took part in the tournament.

The weather looked a bit threatening as the tournament started at 9am sharp at the Okato Bowling Club on Saturday April 17, but it gradually improved. Apart from a brief shower on Sunday at the Oakura Bowling Club the weather was kind to the bowlers.

Both days each team played four other teams over a timed period of between one to two hours. On offer was an attractive trophy, which was donated by Denzil and Jocelyn Hodson in 1992. The trophy is red, gold and silver with a miniature bowler on top.

There was also a raffle on offer with a spectacular array of items to be won including an electric frypan, vacuum cleaner, toolbox, wine and



Competitive action at the Two Day Tournament on Saturday April 17 at the Okato Bowls Club.

vouchers to attend various restaurants.

One of the competitors

was Tobyn Hori, who was a member of the New Plymouth team. He was

watching proceedings closely as his team was tied 5-5, at one stage, with the Oakura Fours team. He was impressed with the tournament, "It's great, really great. It's well organised." He's been playing competitively for nine years. When asked who was going to win the trophy he replied with a smile, "New Plymouth, of course." In this particular match Tobyn's team finally won 6-5.

Another keen player was Laurance Hori, Tobyn's brother. He was especially pleased with how the greens was playing. "It has good drawing weight," he commented.

One of the helpers for the tournament Mark Grogan (Okato Bowling Club) said he was pleased with the number of participating teams. He explained there was an upper limit of 32 teams at the invitation only tournament. "It was good to

see so many teams because last year we had to cancel because of Covid."

Overall, Mark said the whole tournament "went very very well." Mark praised the efforts of the main organisers Bruce Peacock (Okato Bowling Club President), Fiona Liddall (Okato Bowling Club Group Secretary/Treasurer) and Aad Schrader (Okato Bowling Club Greenkeeper/Patron) who have committed a great deal of time and effort to ensuring the tournament was a success.

Mark also said that the team representing Paritutu won the coveted trophy. The results are as follows with each team's Skip mentioned. The clubs names are in brackets:

At OKATO (Saturday/Sunday); First was Paritutu - Ian 'Spud' Andrews (skip) with team members Bevan White, Kevin Archer, and Tom Crehan.

Second Kelly Hill (New Plymouth), Third Daryl Read (Paritutu), Fourth Steve Muller (Oakuru), Fifth Hamish Kape (Okato).

At OAKURA (Sunday); First Trevor Symes (Hawera Park), Second Ron Ranford (Fitzroy), Third Mark Dudley (Hawera Park), Fourth Des Brophy (Fitzroy), Fifth Mo Duggan (New Plymouth).



Tobyn Hori (New Plymouth) prepares to bowl against the Oakura Fours team.

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# Christopher Aubrey...mystery man!

Puke Ariki's latest exhibition 1896: Christopher Aubrey's Taranaki opened on 16 April and is well worth a trip to New Plymouth to check it out.

Christopher Aubrey made his living painting some of our country's most iconic scenery. He travelled around New Zealand from the 1870s to 1905, staying in hotels and on back country stations, sometimes leaving sketches in return for hospitality. Very little is known about the man himself. His signed and dated paintings give the only clues on where he went before he disappeared from historical records without a trace.

Aubrey visited Taranaki in 1896. The delicate and detailed paintings he made on his visit provide a record of the developing region and an optimistic view of colonial life. But what was life really like here at that time?

Visit the exhibition to see nine scenes from the NPDC Puke Ariki Heritage Collection that Aubrey painted during his visit, on display together for the first time. Listen to stories from local newspapers that bring 1896 to life and examine a panorama of New Plymouth



from the same year.

Then, scan QR codes in the gallery to explore more. Discover the history of each location Aubrey painted through a collection of StoryMaps, interactive online displays that feature information, historic images, and before and after photographs of some of Taranaki's most loved spots, from Inglewood through to Waitara. Or take an interactive tour of the panorama highlighting the stories of many of New Plymouth's now lost

heritage buildings.

1896: Christopher Aubrey's Taranaki  
On show until 15 August

2021

Lane Gallery, Level 2 Puke Ariki Library

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Left and above: Christopher Aubrey exhibition space.

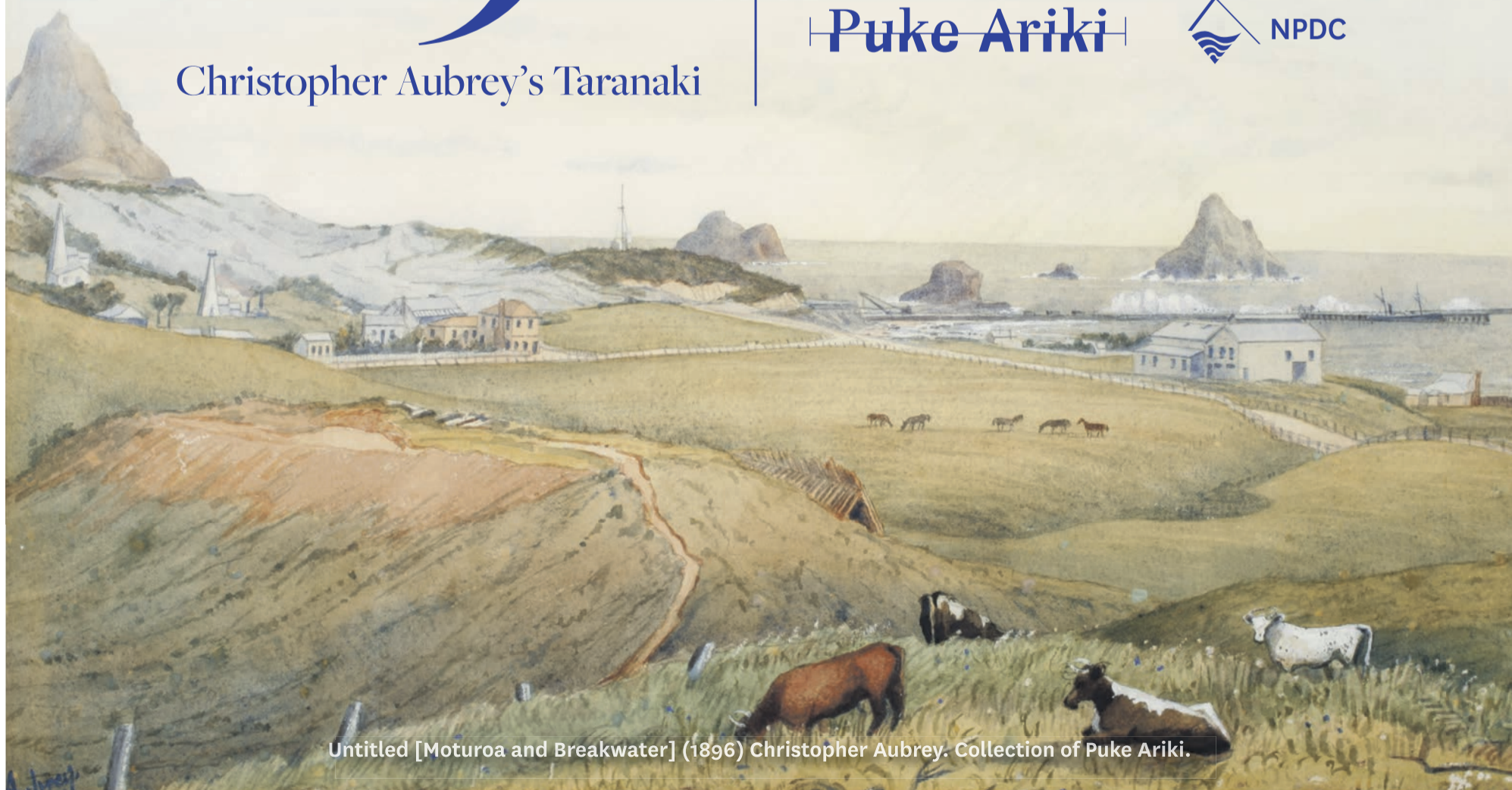
# 1896

## Christopher Aubrey's Taranaki

16 April - 15 August 2021

Lane Gallery, Level 2, Puke Ariki Library

Puke Ariki



Untitled [Moturoa and Breakwater] (1896) Christopher Aubrey. Collection of Puke Ariki.

# Show 'n Shine on the Hyway



Left: A photo from a previous year's Hyway 45 Cruisers Show 'n Shine event. Come along and bring your vehicle of interest this Mother's Day.

The Hyway 45 Cruisers Car Club are holding their annual Show 'N Shine on Mother's Day Sunday May 9 at the Rahotu Domain and Sportsground from 10am. There is no entry fee and we

don't give out prizes. The whole idea of the day is for anyone who would like to come along and bring their vehicle of interest and join in on the day. It can be a Vintage, Classic, Hot Rod,

Bike, Farm machinery, or even a project that you are working on. It also provides fundraising opportunities for Rahotu School and the Coastal Rugby Club who provide the food and

beverages for the day. Raybern Entertainment will provide some classic music to go along with the theme of the day.

*Jannean Vercoe.*

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## Movie Review *The Courier*

Directed by Dominic Cooke, *The Courier* is a based on true events drama which poses questions of what loyalty to one's country means.

Set at the time of the Cuban Missile Crisis, Benedict Cumberbatch plays British businessman Greville Wynne whose work frequently takes

him behind the Iron Curtain. His otherwise humdrum life is changed forever when he is asked to make contact with a man named Oleg Penkovsky (played by Georgian actor Merab Ninidze) who has secrets he wants to pass on information to the West about Russian nuclear missiles being sent to Cuba.



**The Courier is showing at Everybodys. Boutique Theatre May 2. 7pm. May 8. 7pm.**

Penkovsky, like Wynne is a family man. Unlike Wynne, he had been a hero in the last war, so is widely respected in his own country and in the corridors of power. Penkovsky's motives have nothing to do with betraying his country, but everything to do with protecting his family from a nuclear holocaust. An unlikely friendship develops between the two men, as each is brought into the life of the other.

From the start Wynne is assured that there is no danger in what he is being asked to do. As events unfold however, things turn out very differently.

All the performances, including those of Cumberbatch are top notch, but that of Ninidze, is a stand-out, capturing the inner turmoil and anguish of somebody who knows that death awaits him if caught. On the other hand he knows that he can do no other. His war record marks him out as a patriot, but he knows he has a loyalty beyond that, not as a Russian, but as a member of the human race.

*Bryan Kirk*

## HYWAY 45 CRUISERS SHOW 'N SHINE

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Wednesday-Friday 8.30am-3.00pm  
Saturday and Sunday 8.30am-3.30pm  
From 5pm Friday and Saturday

Bring your mum in for any meal on Mother's Day, Sunday May 9, and she will receive a free drink. Open especially for Mother's Day dinner, from 5pm. Bookings essential.

*Accommodation available:*  
*7 rooms including one disability friendly room on the ground floor.*

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**APRIL/MAY 2021**  
Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$8, Under 4 free

<p><b>DUNKIRK – ANZAC SPECIAL</b> War  1hr 45mins  PG Sun 25th Apr 1pm</p> <p><b>SIX MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT</b> Drama, War  1hr 42mins M: Violence Sun 25th Apr 7pm   Sat 1st May 7pm</p> <p><b>GIRLS CANT SURF</b> Documentary  1hr 48mins M: Language Fri 30th Apr 7pm</p> <p><b>FRENCH EXIT</b> Comedy, Drama  1hr 48mins M: Language Sat 24th Apr 7pm</p> <p><b>THE COURIER - BOUTIQUE</b> Drama, History 1hr 51mins M: Language, Violence Sun 2nd May 7pm   Sat 8th May 7pm</p>	<p><b>PETER RABBIT 2</b> Animated, Kids &amp; Family  1hr 30mins PG Fri 23rd Apr 1pm   Sat 15th May 1pm</p> <p><b>RAYA AND THE LAST DRAGON</b> Adventure, Animated  1hr 35mins  PG Sat 24th Apr 1pm</p> <p><b>TOM &amp; JERRY</b> Comedy, Animated  1hr 41mins  PG Fri 23rd Apr 7pm   Wed 28th Apr 1pm Sat 1st May 1pm</p> <p><b>TWO BY TWO OVERBOARD</b> Adventure, Comedy  1hr 25mins  PG Wed 21st Apr 1pm   Fri 30th Apr 1pm Sat 8th May 1pm</p> <p><b>Look for the Special Mothers Day Screening coming up on 9th May</b></p>
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**Lots to keep the family entertained over the holidays**

# COASTALCARE

Haumaru ki Tai - Health and Community Centre

## Our Services

**Molemap**  
Every 3rd Tuesday of the month  
**Taylor Dental Practice**  
Offering full dental services every Thursday

**Lisa Keen Audiology**  
Every Wednesday

**New Plymouth Physiotherapy**  
Every Tuesday and Thursday

**Taranaki Podiatry**  
Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

**Mihi's Place**  
Every 3rd Thursday of the month  
**Counselling Services**  
Various providers and specialties including, anger and violence, relationships, drugs, alcohol, quit smoking.

*For a full list of services and happenings here at CoastalCare find us on Facebook or visit us at [www.coastalcare.co.nz](http://www.coastalcare.co.nz)*  
CONTACT ARETHA LEMON Facility Manager on 06 761 8488

**DID YOU KNOW?**

CoastalCare offers for hire, quiet, private, well-appointed room's for meetings, training opportunities and social gatherings.

**Our permanent residents are:**  
Opunake Pharmacy, Opunake Medical Centre, St. Johns Ambulance, Plunket, Health Board Services, Coastal Printers.

# Five Ways You'll Enjoy "Spellbound"

## What's On Listings



Heatwave, ready to sing for you at Opunake Players. Bert Treffers, Stephanie MacKenzie, Sherrie Flanagan and Monica Willson.

Opunake Players' latest production "Spellbound" opens at the Lakeside Playhouse on Layard Street on April 22. Here are five ways we know you'll enjoy "Spellbound."

**1. Great Entertainment.** "Spellbound" opens with a bracket of songs from Opunake's hottest vocal group "Heatwave". Next is "Fate's Thread", a one act comedy drama. This ghostly tale will have you thinking and laughing at the same time. After a short interval our second one act play is

a comedy, "The Witches of Prestwick." You'll laugh at the predicament these ladies from the "Scottish Play" get themselves into.

**2. Local Talent.** All singers and actors live within the Opunake area. It's amazing what talent can be found if you look, and we've looked. You will see regular faces plus some who may be new to you. You may even see some people doing something you didn't know they could do.

**3. Backstage Support.** Talent isn't confined to

the stage. A show such as "Spellbound" needs talented backstage people and Opunake Players has them in abundance. Light and sound, directing, costuming, set designing and set building are some of the many jobs needed to get and keep a show going. It's a cliché but I won't name any at the risk of leaving someone out. Check your free program to see who they are. Thanks everyone!

**4. A Comfy Theatre.** Not only a warm auditorium with comfortable seats, our seating area is now creak free. Aply led by Diane Baldie, a group of people who know what power tools to use, got stuck into the tiered seating. Not sure what they did, (this writer doesn't know which end of a chisel to hit a nail with) but I know the result; a solid platform that's a pleasure to walk on. Thanks Diane and team!

**5. Cuppa, bikkies and a chin wag.** Opunake Players are famous for it. And it's

**ONGOING**

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

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

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

**TUESDAYS**

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

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

**WEDNESDAYS**

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

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

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

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

**THURSDAYS**

**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.

**FRIDAYS**

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

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

**WEEKENDS**

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

**APRIL 7 TO 25**

**'A Reason for Art':** At Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera.

**APRIL 13 TO MAY 7**

**'Going with the Flow':** At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

**APRIL 16 TO AUGUST 15**

**1896 - Christopher Aubrey's Taranaki Exhibition:** At Puke Ariki, New Plymouth.

**APRIL 22 TO MAY 1**

**'Spellbound' by Opunake Players:** At the Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake.

**APRIL 25**

**ANZAC Day Services:** See public notices for times and venues.

**APRIL 29 TO 30**

**Tie Dye and Print workshop:** At Opunake Boardriders Clubrooms. \$10 per person. Group 1: 10-13yrs, 10am-12pm. Group 2: 14yrs +, 1-3pm. All materials provided. Can bring a pre-washed plain T-shirt. Contact Megan Symons 027 500 7722 for info and registration. Numbers limited. Supported by STDC Creative Communities.

**MAY 3**

**Opunake & Districts Business Association AGM:** At Indian Tadka, 5.30pm.

**MAY 9**

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

**MAY 18**

**A Refresher Course for Older Drivers:** At St Barnabas Hall, Opunake. Contact Age Concern Taranaki, 0800 243 625 to enrol.

**MAY 29**

**Pungareere No1 reserve Meeting of owners:** Novatel Hotel, New Plymouth, 10am.

**JUNE 4 TO 6**

**Coastal Rugby 25 Year Celebrations:** Rahotu Domain.

**JUNE 22**

**Opunake Beach Carnival Committee AGM:** 7pm at Sandford Event Centre, Opunake.

free. (So far no Level 2 so it's all on.) Discuss how in awe you are of the show, ask what was done to remove the creaks and see if anyone spotted the Easter

Egg. Easter Egg? Movies sometimes have quirks hidden in them, for example Alfred Hitchcock always made a small cameo in his movies. There's an Easter egg on one of the sets. Clue: 70s music culture.

But don't let that distract you from a great nights entertainment. "Spellbound" at the Lakeside Playhouse, dates, April 22, 23, 24, 29 30 and May 1 at 7.30pm, matinee April 24 at 1pm.

Book at Sinclair Electrical. (Special thanks to Sinclairs for providing this service) Tickets are \$25 and going fast. (Sorry no eftpos, cash only.) If you can't make an evening performance the matinee has plenty of seats left at the time of writing, but only a few seats left for opening night. See our advertisement elsewhere and see you at the Lakeside Playhouse.

### CHURCH NOTICES

**Opunake Co-operating Parish**

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

**Okato/Oakura Co-operating Parish**

Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays each month  
Oakura - St James - 9am Bible Reading, Prayer and Reflection every Tuesday  
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays each month  
Okato - St Pauls - 10.30am Fellowship time 3rd Thursday of each month  
Okato - St Pauls - 6.30pm Silent Prayer and Reflection 3rd Thursday of each month

**Opunake Catholic Church**

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

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

**The Wave**

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

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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

**Okato Community Church**

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.  
Everyone welcome

Opunake Players, At the Lakeside Playhouse  
Present:  
**Spellbound**  
April 22-May 1, 2021  
**Tickets \$25**  
Tickets at Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration

Opening with Opunake's unique sound;  
**Heatwave**  
Followed by two one-act plays  
**Fates Thread**  
Directed by Michelle Julian  
**The Witches of Prestwick**  
Directed by Paul Andersen-Gardiner

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Advertise your event in the Opunake & Coastal News

Call our sales team on 06 761 7016

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**ANZAC EVENING SERVICE  
OTAKEHO**

Saturday 24 April  
6.00pm Evening service at the Otakeho Hall

**ANZAC DAWN PARADE  
MANAIA**

The Taranaki Coastal Community Board and Manaia and Districts RSA cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Manaia on Sunday 25 April 2021.

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

Refreshments will follow the service at the Manaia Bowling Club.

**ANZAC DAWN PARADE  
OPUNAKE**

The Taranaki Coastal Community Board and the Ōpunakē cordially invite the public to the ANZAC Dawn Parade to be held in Ōpunakē on Sunday 25 April 2021.

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

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

Refreshments will be served at the Ōpunakē Hall at the conclusion of the service.

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



**AGM  
Monday 3rd May, 5.30pm  
Indian Tadka**

Finger food provided, please buy your own drinks.  
Names attending to [sinclairlect@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sinclairlect@xtra.co.nz)  
by 29 April 2021.

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**The Opunake Beach Carnival  
Committee would like to thank...**

Opunake Lions and Lakeside Lions Clubs, Taranaki Coastal Community Board, Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club, Opunake Beach Holiday Park, The Blistered Fingers, Candace Toopi.

Nigel at Elite Farm Solutions for helping with the road closure, Tracey at Pickering Motors for donating the Shuttle Bus, and our volunteer drivers Mike Williams, John Williams, David Knapman, Ron Stanley & Murray Baylis. Our Pageant Judges Kay Fleming & Vanessa Smith, Harry & the Board Riders Club for the use of their gazebos. Murray McEwen & The Wave Church for their sound knowledge and equipment.

Destination Opunake and the Opunake Coastal News. Rusty & the crew at Campbell Contracting Ltd, Symes Outdoor & Sport and Pastimes for sponsoring the Big Dig.

**AND**

**Our sponsors of the Hourly Raffle, Pageant & Mr Muscles!** Richard Hall Hypnotherapist, Sugar Juice, Hudi Family Trust, G & R Norgate, Coastal Vets, Arty Tarts Cafe, Pointon Family, Retro 45, Opunake Service Station, Ihaia Motors, J Cavaney, Fish Chips & More, Treasure Cove, Opunake Beach Camp, New Life Nursery, Opunake Dairy, Green Dairy, Allied Opunake, Indian Tadka, Coastal Agri Services, Opunake Auto Repairs, Viv Scott - McDonald's Real Estate Agent, Corkill Systems, Turn Heads Hair Salon, Country Connections, Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration, Pastimes, Farmlands, Farm Source, Opunake Coastal Pharmacy, Opunake Pharmacy, Agrimec Auto, Pickering Motors, Taranaki Building Limited, Dreamtime, and the Fabulous Flowers by Robyn Chard

The day wouldn't have been possible without your contributions!  
If you would like to be involved in next year's Carnival, you're welcome to our AGM on the 22nd of June at 7pm, Sandfords Event Centre.

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Troy Stevenson 027 469 7636  
E: [troystevo@gmail.com](mailto:troystevo@gmail.com)

**PUNGAEREERE No 1  
RESERVE**

**Meeting of Owners**  
Saturday 29th May 2021  
Novotel Hotel  
Cnr Leach & Hobson  
Streets  
New Plymouth  
10am - Registrations

**Agenda:**  
Mihi/Karakia  
Apologies  
Previous Meeting  
Trustees Report  
Property Report  
Financial Report  
Urupa report  
Election of Trustees  
General Business  
Karakia Whakamutunga  
RSVP by 18 May 2021

**Contact:**  
TeUaura Nganeko  
email:  
[ngant1958@gmail.com](mailto:ngant1958@gmail.com) or  
cell 021 073 9157.

**SITUATIONS VACANT**

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and to help with feeding of calves. Starting July 1 in Okato area. Ph 027 417 5188.

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