



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Vol. 26 No 7, April 28, 2017
www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Published every
Thursday Fortnight

Phone and Fax 761-7016
A/H 761-8206
for Advertising and Editorial
ISSN 2324-2337, ISSN 2324-2345

Inside



We need nice homes.
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Save the Rahotu Hall.
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ANZAC DAY.
commemorated. See
pages 9, 12, 13



Okato Young Farmer
takes the title page 17.



Dusk. A good crowd attended the open air concert/jam at Pihama Lavender.

Pihama concert jam goes off a treat

Blessed with perfect weather The Pihama Concert/jam held on Sunday April 23 at Pihama Lavender was a resounding success.

After perusing the popular monthly market which closes at 2pm people with rugs to sit on settled themselves down on the grassy amphitheatre in the former Pihama Dairy factory's picturesque grounds

to enjoy a full programme of music. The event timed to start at 2pm music went on into the night.

Featuring was a wide range of music and musicians which included original music and also covers in genres from rock to country, reggae, jazz and some dreamy instrumentals.

Comments Anne

Montgomery from Colour Conversions in Opunake, there are several key elements to producing a successful concert. The most important is choosing talented musicians whom an audience would appreciate listening to. At the 'Pihama Music Jam' last Sunday April 23rd, we had 17 different artists performing on the programme, every one of them with their own unique style. It was no mean feat to co-ordinate this event, which required many hours of planning and organising.

The production of the show is another vital aspect, which includes the physical and technical sides, often misunderstood and under-appreciated. It's not as easy as saying "We'd like band

ABC to come and play." The process of bringing it all together is far from simple, but at this event it was made so much easier with musicians pitching in wherever they were needed. I watched in awe as they erected a large tarpaulin over the stage area, attaching it from the building to the trees with ropes and decorating it with colourful bunting. This gave the artists much needed protection from the sun during the day, and moisture at night, whilst creating an impactful visual display for the audience.

Setting up for the concert was wild and hectic. I found it quite stressful at times with all the elements going

on simultaneously, and only a short time to complete stage set-up eg. connecting cables, installing speakers, the list goes on and on. It's always a relief when it all comes together like a jigsaw.

There were some testing and challenging moments along the way, which required a calm cool approach, and the need to stay focused on the task at hand. Some musicians tried to gate-crash the concert, turning up unexpectedly, and requesting they perform on the show, even though they weren't scheduled on the programme.

Continued page 3

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Letters to the Editor

Journalistic licence
A published article in the Daily News recently (8/4/2017) is, in my opinion, a disgraceful example of journalistic licence. Full of fake and misleading information. Mr V Coxhead has a product that has nothing to do with bleach. It is a product that in reality Oxy-nates and does not chlorinate. Oxy-nation is a proven

health procedure which should be introduced in the treatment of cancer because cancer cells are anaerobic and cannot survive in an Oxygen enriched environment. To misleadingly compare this with unrelated products and hiding behind questionable "experts opinion" is highly irresponsible. The first paragraph of Mr Thomas Manch's article is even more disturbing because it could induce people desperate for a cure for their cancer to perhaps experiment with ingesting bleach with potentially disastrous results. Mr Manch would have to accept responsibility for this should that happen. To call this procedure "snake oil" is the epitome of ignorance in my opinion. Mr Manch should engage himself into some journalistic investigation and find out about cancer, the cause, progression and cures. There are several natural and inexpensive cures for this horrible disease which the cancer society will never allow to be made available to the public and use any and often questionable tactics to achieve this.

Mr V Coxhead is to be commended for the action he has taken and making his product available to the public as I am sure he will save many lives and alleviate much suffering in many people.

Thank you for publishing this letter.

A.P. Groot
15 Alfred Rd
New Plymouth 4371
7522199

In favour of school merger

When I read Hawera Intermediate School's classrooms and hall were all gutted by fire on October 13, 2015 I felt extremely sick and sad, not only for the children, but also for their headmaster. My thoughts turned back to the Waitara High School, which I attended many years ago, when their science class was burned down.

We all know the school starting age is five, starting with the primers, and by the time the child is 11 or 12, he or she should be ready to move on to Intermediate classes., then move to another level for high school. For Hawera it would be an extremely simple transition for any child.

It now seems that both Hawera's Intermediate and High School's boards of trustees agree on the merger. I also favour this move, while at the same time I am fully aware the final decision will come from our Minister

Send your your views to:
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of Education. On the question of bullying. It will go on, regardless of age group or gender, as I am quite aware of having been bullied myself until I took matters into my own hands, and it stopped immediately, regardless of what my teacher said. Education is extremely essential for today's children while all parents should help and encourage them in whatever they do in and out of school, like my parents did.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

Remembering our ANZACs

Every year without fail, we commemorate and remember those men and women who put their lives on the line and died to save us from the most ruthless leader the world has ever known, in Adolf Hitler who we all know slaughtered many millions of Jews. His real plans were to rule the world, in which he never succeeded.

When I think of those who died, I still shudder for fear if Hitler ever succeeded in his plans.

I really don't think our younger generation comprehends the real danger

that Adolf Hitler posed to the world at that time, and yet today we are seeing how technology has enhanced warfare to the point where soldiers are not required sio much as they were before.

So let's all hope and pray that a nuclear war doesn't become a reality between America and North Korea. If it ever comes to that, it will affect our country some way or another.

Our biggest threat today is the terrorist who comes into the country under a false identity, pr the country has these people who believe in the Islamic terror which poses a problem to every country in the world, even New Zealand.

I can see soon, that under the United Nations security law, there will be an international global law eciding that anyone male or female found guilty of any terrorist campaign against their country will be tried for treason and then either shot or given a lethal injection.

Enough bloodshed has already been spilt around the world during the period of the Hitler regime, and it's still happening today, which annoys me so much.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

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following places:

The Challenge Spotswood petrol station at Spotswood, New Plymouth

The Health Shop on the

ground floor at Centre City, New Plymouth

Westside Grille, Tukapa Street, Westown, New Plymouth

And in Hawera outside First National on the corner of Victoria and High Streets, Hawera.

Editor



Members of Opunake's four churches carry the cross to commemorate Good Friday.

Carrying the cross

The dire forecasts for a stormy Good Friday came to nothing, and it was all fine weather for the Opunake churches' Walk of Witness.

On Good Friday (April 7) Christians around the world commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus Christ, and Opunake was no exception. Beginning with a breakfast at St Pauls Church, a wooden cross was carried to the cenotaph where the Walk of Witness proper began. After a few words from Pastor Murray McEwan, members of the four churches in Opunake took turns at carrying the cross through town. En route they stopped at The Wave Church, Our Lady Star of the Sea and St Pauls. At each

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Registered office: 23 Napier Street, Opunake
PO Box 74, Opunake

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website: www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor: Bernice M°Kellar - Rolland M°Kellar
Journalists/Sales: Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith
Tina Chapman
Thursday, fortnightly

Delivery: Registered as a newspaper.

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

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Pihama concert jam a real treat

Continued from page 1

I'm pleased to say, our collective dedication and hard work paid off. On behalf of myself, Colour Conversions Limited and Liz Sinclair from Pihama Lavender, we'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who donated their time, musical skills, technical abilities, and the positive effort made to pave the way for future concerts.

If you share our passion for music, join us at the next Opunake Music Workshop 7:30pm on Tuesday May 2nd for our usual fortnightly meeting at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake. Please bring along your gold coin donation to go toward the use of power etc.



Rick Riccitelli (at left) performing Nights in White Satin with from left Gary Semenoff, Anne Montgomery and Mary Hobby. Behind is Gary Semenoff. It was sensitively and beautifully done.

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Carrying the cross

Continued from page 3

stop there were scripture readings and reflections relevant to the Easter season.

The Walk finished at St Barnabas with the combined church service.

Having joined together

to commemorate Jesus' crucifixion on Friday, the churches held their own services on Sunday to celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT



Cr Bonita Bigham.

Tena koutou katoa. I'm starting this column with a warning.

If you or someone you know is considering buying an undeveloped section, especially in rural or coastal areas, contact the Council to find out what you can and can't do on that land.

If you already own the section, have done for a while

Do your homework first

but are only now looking to develop, contact the Council to find out what you can and can't do on the land.

If you are thinking about or planning to subdivide, or already have approval for an undeveloped subdivision, or have a developed subdivision with some sections yet to sell, contact the Council to see if anything has changed about what can be done on that land so you can give your buyers and/or real estate agents the correct information.

Ultimately, if you are seriously considering buying any property in South Taranaki, with buildings on it or not, ring the Council to check everything out, from past building consents to potential future re-zoning and everything in between.

To cut a long story short. If you have any plans for any land, check with the Council.

Apart from a small number of very specific parts that are under appeal, our new District Plan went live late last year with some major changes to previous rules around what can and can't be done, so unless you do your homework you could find yourself significantly out of pocket, emotionally drained and having wasted a heap of time and energy.

A Land Information Memo-

randum (LIM) only costs \$185 and should be the best investment you make in your due diligence period. Then if you don't understand what parts of it mean, call the Council and ask for staff who can help you.

Unfortunately, at Council we have already seen recent examples of owners and buyers and some professionals not doing thorough due diligence or giving up-to-date advice and making assumptions about what can and can't be done. Then somehow it becomes Council's and/or iwi's fault when they are advised otherwise. Really?

With my own personal knowledge of the District Plan, having been part of the two-year planning, submission-hearing and decision-making processes, even I recently got a LIM done. Some may say it's a waste of money, but I think paying hundreds of thousands of dollars for your "dream" property without knowing what you can do with it is the real waste.

Without doing your homework the fairytale can soon become a nightmare. There's no "she'll be right mate" in this story and living happily ever after just may not be achievable.

To finish on a lighter and

brighter note, the Egmont Plains Community Board still has some funds available in this financial year (before 1 July) for community projects and groups in our ward.

We also have the additional bonus of administering the Waimate Plains Development Levy for projects on Council owned properties within the old Waimate West County Council area. Contact Maryse Ropiha at Council to talk about your project, eligibility and application deadlines.

Our small towns are also full of privately-owned heritage buildings which may be earthquake prone. These buildings give our communities character, history and in some cases are iconic.

The Ministry of Culture and Heritage understands this is a nation-wide issue and now has a fund called Heritage EQUIP which owners can potentially access to get advice and help to strengthen their buildings. Check out the website at www.mch.govt.nz to learn more, the next application round closes on May 15.

Stay safe, warm and dry this winter season - or conversely enjoy the sunshine. With these weather patterns, who knows what to expect? Mouri ora.

Cr Bonita Bigham.



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Kaponga WI visit Somerset Village

Both the March and April meetings were held in different venues, and were well attended by members.

Val Eliason hosted a social day at Somerset Retirement Village, where she showed members her lovely apartment. Lunch

was enjoyed at the cafe, after which a short meeting was held in a quiet area of a lounge. The President, Dorothy Hughes reminded members of the Federation AGM in April, and the competitions were discussed.

The Midhirst Tavern was chosen by hostess Jo Ellis

for the April meeting. A report was made on the recent Federation AGM, where Dorothy was placed third in each of the following competitions: the Christmas wine bottle cover, the jewellery and beaded

Continued page 5

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Rahotu ponders future of its hall



A question mark hangs over the future of the Rahotu Hall.

had a working bee would turn up.”

He speaks fondly of the hall.

“The hall has a lot of history. The supper room at the back of the hall was originally an army barracks out at Opunake which they carted out here.

“The acoustics are fantastic. It’s probably the best hall around the coast

for that. If somebody made a speech it was always very easy to hear.”

Egmont Plains Community Board deputy chairman Andy Whitehead and Oaonui resident Andy Whitehead said Oaonui had not long ago had to face up to similar issues with their hall.

“At Oaonui we were where you guys are at now. We needed to get a new roof

and new windows. You are talking about hundreds of thousands of dollars to make this work, but from an Oaonui point of view it was worth it. Some of you younger guys need to step up. It does take a bit of energy. The money is there. Getting it is the tricky bit.”

There was talk of local builders offering assistance. Among the options discussed at the meeting was putting the memorabilia away and rebranding the hall as an indoor sports complex.

An interim committee was elected with Murray Horo as chairman, Caleb Burkitt as secretary and Kent Helms as treasurer.

Brian Vincent said a new roof had been put on the hall in 1956, and one of the first things the new committee would have to do would be to get a price for putting another one on.

It was decided to discuss things further at another public meeting on May 10.



Andy Whitehead (standing) makes a point.

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Anthony Mullins, Willie Gibson and Trevor Vercoe have been on the Rahotu Hall Committee since the 1970s. On April 19, they called it a day and handed over the reins to an interim committee.

“This hall used to be chocker from front to back when we had dairy suppliers’ meetings,” says Anthony who was hall chairman for 25 years.

Back then the hall was regularly used for cabarets, wedding receptions, birthday celebrations and other functions. The hall was also home to a strong indoor bowls club, and it was only three years ago that they stopped playing here.

Egmont Plains Community Board member Brian Vincent said he could recall a time when movies would be shown here on Monday nights. The movies have long since gone, and now people are less likely to book halls for weddings or birthdays, and more likely to go to the hotel or rugby clubrooms. A dwindling usage has led to less income and hence less money to pay for things like a new roof.

About 30 people turned up at the meeting called to determine the fate of the local hall.

“The only reason we have got these numbers here tonight is because we are talking about the hall’s fate,” said one man at the meeting.

Long serving hall committee convenor Trevor Vercoe said they had been here before when he first got on the committee back in the 1970s.

“The hall wasn’t being supported, so we had a meeting similar to this and it pulled up again, but we had 14 or 15 people at the meeting who whenever we

Kaponga WI visit Somerset Village

Continued from page 5

picture, and the soft toy made from two sox.

Some wool has been donated to the Institute for Plunket knitting, and Fiona, Sharyn and Gillian have attended meetings in Kaponga in regard to concern over the Library, the supper room at the Memorial Hall, and the Freedom Campers.

After lunch, chosen from the menu, hostess Jo Ellis had organised a quiz, and a clever word game for members, which they all enjoyed very much.

Competition Results: Anzac biscuits, Jo Ellis 1st. Ear rings: Joy Eliason 1st, Carolyn Nicholas 2nd, Gillian Frandsen 3rd. Knitted Anzac Poppy: Carolyn 1st, Margaret Arbuckle 2nd, Gillian & Jo E 3rd =.

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Hi Everyone
Hope that all are enjoying or have enjoyed the school holidays and have managed to spend time with your children over the break.

The weather has been fairly decent over the school break which makes a change from

the previous rubbish we had been getting. It is pleasing to note that even though we experienced very poor conditions which made driving difficult we had very minimal incidents on the roads that could be attributed to the weather, so well done on driving to the conditions.

I did attend one accident recently on the notorious Tata-ramaika corners where a van toppled over the bank after losing control. A timely reminder for all those employers out there, please make sure your vehicles are in good road worthy condition if your employees are driving them around. While it is the vehicle users' responsibility to ensure they are driving in

road worthy vehicles, you as an employer could fall foul of labour laws if it is found that your employees are using vehicles that are not safe to get to their jobs.

On the subject of traffic, we live in a rural community which means we often share our roads with slower vehicles like tractors and trucks. Often they will pull over to allow us to pass them and often do it in areas of low visibility. Be aware that if you cross the centre line to pass a vehicle that has pulled over for you the onus is on you as the passer to make sure the road is clear. Don't feel obliged to pass or pressured into passing. If you don't think it is safe

then don't make the pass. One stretch of road that this is common is the rise on the Tata-ramaika corners just before Weld Road. Often trucks will try to pull over to allow cars to pass and cars are crossing the double yellow lines to pass. I have been made aware of numerous near misses in this situation where cars are crossing the double yellows and having near accidents with cars coming the other way. I personally would never pass a vehicle here as there is just not enough visibility to pass a vehicle safely.

In regards to rural crime over the last two months, there has been an increase in vehicle crime around the Pungarehu and Warea areas.

Cars have been broken into and two were stolen and both recovered short distances away. Please be vigilant with your vehicles, both cars that were stolen had their keys left in the ignition. This makes our job as police very difficult if we are making it easy for thieves to steal our things. A vehicle was also broken into down at the end of Puniho Road where electronic items were stolen from it while it was parked. This vehicle was also left unlocked. When the surf is good then be aware that if you park your vehicles while going for a surf then secure them as best you can, and if you are unable to do so then don't leave valuables in them. Thieves know when the

surf is good and when there will be a lot of cars down by the surf breaks, so make sure we lock our vehicles up. Locals won't think twice with extra traffic on the road so it's up to you to be cautious and secure your vehicles. If you see a vehicle cruising around the breaks that doesn't look quite right then let the police know.

That's all for now, enjoy the good weather. It has been great weather for footie, and with club season in full swing, it has allowed for some good games to be played, so go out and support your local club.

Rhys

OPUNAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE

The call came through on Easter Saturday that a vehicle had crashed on the Wiremu Road between the Ihaia and Kaweora Roads. We chased the local police car to the site and were relieved to find the driver of the crashed vehicle

sitting in a passer-by's car relatively unscathed. The car had ran too wide on a corner and ended up sliding down a drain, jumping a fence before coming to rest in a paddock, without knocking a batten off the fence. Any stunt driver

would have been envious of the leap.

Our next two calls were to "fires" which were actually the flare at STOS at Oaonui going into an emergency mode and burning off gas as quickly as possible. This

action made the flare look extremely menacing as the misty rain and low cloud level gave the impression the entire town was on fire. I was not surprised when someone phoned in thinking a shop was on fire in

Tasman Street, and another person who thought there was a tree on fire along Gisborne Terrace. We scooted around the town but we didn't find any signs of fire so we headed back to base. Both calls were from people who

genuinely thought something was wrong and cared enough to phone the fire service. The extremely unusual glow in the sky, coupled with a few rounds of lightning, made for a very impressive sight.

The Loose Ladde

Southern lights spark alarm

Fizz king passes away

David Knapman recently unearthed a fizzy drink bottle down at Opunake Beach that brought back memories. The bottle was one of the fizzy drink factory, once operated by Thomas Waite in Gisborne Terrace, Opunake. Sadly, Thomas Vernor Waite passed away this month, aged 92. He was the only son of Thomas Theodore and Ulla Waite of Stratford, Hawera and Opunake.

Thomas Waite, who lived at 132 Tasman Street,

Opunake bought the fizzy drink factory from Boyd McCrone in the 1950s and the factory was situated at 34 Gisborne Terrace, where the Opunake Bowling Club is currently sited. In a different part of the same site Thomas also had a coal merchant business and the coal was taken from the railway across the road shovelled into sacks for delivery to the homes of Opunake residents.

When Thomas bought the fizzy drink enterprise he changed the name to

'Tropic' and the drinks were called Tropic Lemon, Tropic Orange and so on. The fizzy drinks were similar to Foxton Fizzy, according to David and were "A big success."

Employees who worked for either of the businesses, or both, included Trevor Ratahi, Les Baylis and Peter Sayer.

Thomas also had a pavilion down at Opunake Beach for some years, which served as the beach shop at the time. There were no sand dunes



Thomas Waite at the Opunake fizzy drink factory.

back then and the pavilion opened out onto the beach, says David. There was tea room with tables were under the veranda.

Thomas was lately living in Mount Maunganui. He was married to Teresa and later Toni. He is survived by his six married children, 15 grandchildren and

18 great grandchildren. He is remembered as a hard-working, honest and forthright man who lived for his family, business, friends, as well as golf and snooker.

RIGHT:
The bottle has 'OPUNAKE TV WAITE LTD' embossed on it.



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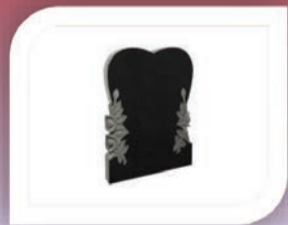
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Three top awards for Stony River Hotel

Proprietors Heimo and Renate Staudinger are delighted at being the recipients of three top hospitality awards (*one of them placing them first in the whole of Taranaki*) - for the second year in a row. "We worked hard for that," commented Heimo. He continued, "We were really really happy and it actually gives us the feeling that the hard work we do is recognised by our customers."

The awards include, firstly, a Guest Review Award from Booking.com. This is the major booking platform on the internet. Their many happy guests gave an astonishing 9.4 (out of 10). This was an increase from the excellent 9.3 obtained last year. Secondly, they received a Certificate of Excellence from tripadvisor for the consistent achievement of high ratings from travellers. Out of 51 hospitality businesses in Taranaki their 106 'excellent recommendations' from



Heimo and Staudinger pictured with their three recent awards indicating that their Stony River boutique Hotel provided outstanding hospitality in all its aspects, including food, accommodation and attentive service.

customers placed them first in the whole of Taranaki. Thirdly, they received an Award of Excellence for the high standard of the preparation of beef and lamb (Beef

& Lamb Excellence Awards). What makes this couple so acclaimed at what they do? "Customers feel the *European touch*," suggests Renate. Anyone who has sampled their hospitality knows how friendly and attentive Heimo and Renate are, as their welcoming staff. "People are looking for the old style hotels - with modern touches," offers Heimo. He adds, "We try to provide the personal touch - including in-

forming guests of what there is to see and do in the coastal area. Ta Whiti Museum is one local attraction they strongly recommend. Renate says their good name is reflected in many bookings for accommodation. "We are fully booked for the garden festivals," she explains. Heimo and Renate conclude, "We would like to thank our customers for taking time to post their positive reviews on the internet."

We need caring homes please

We've been spending most of our time at this Carthew Street house in Okato. I'm the grey one, about half grown and male. I'm pretty tame now and like a nice pat. My little black companion is probably female and is younger than me. We get on well and the owners think we may have strayed from the same house as we like to purr and rub up against each other. We like it here but there is a problem. There are already two big cats here and they



Mr Popinn (front) and Little Blackie.

growl and hiss at us - they don't make us very welcome. (Although the owners do). We are hoping that someone can phone 06 752 4377 and give us a kind home because we'd make great pets.

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On this month in history Allison Roe wins Boston Marathon

On April 20, 1981 Allison Roe won the Boston Marathon in 2 hours 26 minutes and 46 seconds, a record. She was the first New Zealander to win the race. Only

Norway's Grete Waitz had run a faster marathon.

Later in the year she also won the New York Marathon. It was briefly hailed as

a world best until the officials discovered the distance had been incorrectly measured and was too short by 148 metres. (It needs to be 42.195 km).

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Historic pay deal is just part of the story re aged care workers



Chester Borrows MP

The announcement that aged care sector workers will receive a pay increase of between four and seven dollars an hour is an historic breakthrough on a number of fronts and will force a look at other parts of our communities where people quietly and loyally go about essential work, but receive quite low wages.

Memories of my first year as an MP are still vivid. One 2005 visitor to my office told me she had worked in rest homes for more than 30 years but was still receiving just \$11.66 an hour before tax an hour. At the time that was just 35 cents above the minimum wage.

This is round-the-clock hard work, both physically

and mentally demanding on every day of the year.

So I am pleased to see all this come together. That term 'doing God's work' is a worthy one but perhaps doesn't cut it when you think how little an hourly rate of \$16 will purchase at the supermarket checkout. As a society, we all wax on about how important good aged care is, yet we have underpaid a big group of workers for generations. This move addresses pay inequity for mainly a female workforce who do such wonderful work and who will now get a degree of recognition for their skills and experience.

I hope that, in all of this, the other advancements for carers have not been forgotten either. Since this Government has been in office we have been able to settle the issue of payments of carers who, by necessity, have to stay on-site overnight as part of the care that they offer. We were also able to implement travel time allowances for in-home carers.

I feel particularly close to the aged care professionals and I offer my

congratulations to Kristine Bartlett from Lower Hutt, who five years ago, had the courage of her convictions to speak up on behalf of fellow workers and say, essentially 'we're professional carers and we're being under paid, probably because most of us are female.' Aside from the birth of her children, Kristine describes this week's \$2billion pay deal to be her greatest accomplishment in life.

My family are close to the sector because both my mother and my mother-in-law are in need of care. My Mum suffers from dementia and sadly, no longer knows any of us and needs constant care. If there is to be any consolation for families who have to watch the steady decline of once energetic and inspirational parents, it's the way their dedicated, typically upbeat care-givers quietly help our loved ones with their daily and often, hourly challenges.

So around 55,000 workers will receive just over 20% extra in their take home pay and hopefully this will address the industry's high staff turnover rate. But I

definitely think there is another chapter to this story and one which I hope can be completed this year.

Teacher aides and school support workers are another sector I regularly connect with. As well as being low paid, they are a vulnerable group. They work with some quite difficult children and their employment is subject to the vagaries of rising and falling school rolls and sudden transient parent moves. It's usually a casual arrangement with holiday pay built-in, so if a constant pay is opted for, the rate will often fall below the minimum wage.

Most of these people offer added value to school communities: they often do more than their required hours just to 'see the job done,' be it after school care, covering library books, attending meetings or helping to fund raise.

The announcement for the aged care sector should open up the thinking about pay equity for these essential contributors to our school communities too.

*Chester Borrows
MP for Whanganui*

Jonathan Young welcomes pay rise for low-paid health care workers



Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

Jonathan Young, MP for New Plymouth says local families will benefit from a \$2 billion pay equity settlement for some of the health sector's lowest paid workers.

The wage boost over five years follows the TerraNova

pay equity claim brought by E tū (previously the Service and Food Workers Union) on behalf of care worker Kristine Bartlett.

"This historic settlement will deliver pay increases of between 15 and 50 per cent to 55,000 workers in aged and disability residential care, and home and community support services," says Jonathan Young.

"It will help to ensure we have a higher paid, more skilled and engaged workforce caring for around 110,000 of New Zealand's most vulnerable.

"Around 20,000 of this predominately female workforce are currently on the minimum wage of \$15.75

an hour. The settlement means that on July 1 they will move to at least \$19 an hour, a 21 per cent pay rise.

"For a fulltime worker, this means they will be taking home around an extra \$100 a week, which is over \$5000 a year.

"This pay increase will also help to reduce the high turnover of our care and support workers across aged and disability residential care, and home and community support services."

The \$2 billion settlement over five years will be funded through an increase of \$1.85 billion to the health budget and \$192 million to ACC.

On this month in history

Apirina Ngata graduates

On April 25 1894 Apirina Ngata became the first Maori to graduate from university with a Bachelor of Arts. Three years later he graduated Bachelor of Laws and was, therefore, the first Maori to hold double degrees. When he was admitted to the Bar as a fully fledged lawyer, he was first too. He was a fellow student in Christchurch with scientist Ernest Rutherford and they were friends.

Apirina Ngata entered Parliament in 1905 and was MP for eastern Maori until 1943. He was Minister of Maori Affairs from 1928 until 1943. He died in 1950.

Sir Archibald McIndoe dies

On April 12, 1960 the famous plastic surgeon Sir Archibald McIndoe died in London, aged 59. He operated on about 600 men who were badly disfigured by injuries inflicted during World War 11. The men collectively were called the Guinea Pig Club. He operated during the war years at the Queen Victoria Plastic and Jaw Injury Centre at East Grinstead.



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Okato commemorates ANZAC Day

ANZAC Day commemorations in Okato on April 25 started with a march down Carthew Street, with the procession setting off at 9.50am to reach the Cenotaph, where wreath-laying took place as well as brief speeches. As well as RSA personnel, the Okato Volunteer Fire Brigade firefighters took part, resplendent in their uniforms. The Parade Marshall was Corporal Ricky Ingram. The Last Post was played by bugler Bruce Gray beside the Cenotaph.

Hempton Hall had been well-prepared by the Okato Lions and it was good that

they had set out plenty of seating as the building was packed for the memorial service at 10.15am. To one side of the stage were four flags: RNZAirForce Ensign, Merchant Navy Ensign, RNZ Navy Ensign and NZ Flag.

Officiating was Graham Chard (J88921, Warrant Officer rtd) President of the Okato Returned Service Association sub-branch. Also present was Graham's wife Karen Chard (T90890 AVRFLR, Flight Sergeant rtd), the Very Rev Peter Beck (Anglican Dean of Taranaki), Rev Barry Houia (Ratana Church) and Commander Graeme Emmerson RNZN.

In addition were several students from Coastal Taranaki School (Madison Mitchel, Kyle Manson and Gracie Hooker) and a choir which included Mike Gordon, Venna Fowell, Sheldon Ngatai and Suzanne Lord. Musical accompaniment (keyboard) was provided by Sarah Foreman.

After an introduction from Graham Chard, there were a number of speeches and readings. Graham outlined how the poppy evolved as a symbol of ANZAC Day. It all started with a pledge ("Not to break the faith of those who died") of a young woman called Moina Belle

Michael made back in 1918 (She was moved by the poem 'In Flanders Fields'). She vowed to wear a red Poppy of Flanders Fields as a sign of remembrance. A Coastal Taranaki School student (Gracie Hooker) read Moina's poem 'We Shall Keep the Faith'.

Commander Emmerson spoke of the appalling loss of life in the various conflicts. During World War 1, in 1917 alone there were 24,000 casualties amongst NZ soldiers. He also spoke of the role NZ servicemen and servicewomen have currently in keeping the peace in trouble spots around the world, often under the auspices of the United Nations. He mentioned Syrian and Iraq.

Karen Chard mentioned a love letter written by a young soldier Clyde Putt, who was based overseas, to his London-based girlfriend Vera saying he had leave soon and he couldn't wait to see her. The couple eventually married (1919) and two of their children Merv and John Putt were in the audience and were asked to stand so they could be acknowledged.

Rev Houia held up two CDs of the stories of soldiers from the 28th Maori Battalion,



Commander Emmerson addressing those present. Seated at right is Graham Chard, President of the Okato RSA sub branch.

some of them humorous. He concluded on a positive note, "All of my uncles came back and I thank the Lord for that."

One of the readings by a CTS student (Madison Mitchell) was 'In Flanders Fields', which was written by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae and discarded. Luckily another soldier picked it up, and it was sent to Punch magazine who published the iconic poem in 1915. Sadly, the author died in 1915.

Kyle Manson of CTS came forward to read the Okato District Roll of Honour - the names of those local soldiers

who died in the two World Wars.

Both the NZ and Australian National Anthems were sung - after which a collection was taken. The proceeds are to go to the Okato Community Trust so they can continue their good work for the local community.

After a karakia by Rev Houia a nice morning tea was enjoyed, which was prepared by Okato Lions.

Graham, Karen and their support team, including the Okato Lions and speakers must be commended for a superbly well-organised event.



The memorial service in Hempton Hall.

"Blaming Maori for crime is racist bull..."

"Saying Maori are to blame for ending up in prisons is like saying chickens are to blame for ending up as our Christmas Dinner," said MANA Leader about the Sensible Sentencing Trusts statement that Maori criminal offending is a Maori problem.

"Mr Garth McVicar is adding a twist of racism

to get a headline out of the crime statistics," said Mr Harawira "but the facts say otherwise, and here's one of those little Maori/Pakeha stories to prove it"

"A Maori and a Pakeha are walking down the street, having just committed a crime together. Which one is more likely to get stopped? The Maori. Which one is more likely to be taken in

for questioning? The Maori. Which one is more likely to be searched? The Maori. Which one is more likely to be arrested? The Maori. Which one is more likely to be charged with anything? The Maori. Which one is more likely to end up in court? The Maori. Which one is more likely to get convicted of anything? The Maori. Which one is more likely to go to jail? The Maori. Which one is more likely to get the longer jail term? The Maori."

"Those are the facts Mr McVicar. Don't let them get in the way of your good story, but those are the facts."

"Yes, Maori are involved in too much crime, but the facts also tell us that Maori are involved in too

much poverty, too much homelessness, too much drug abuse, too much suicide and too much unemployment," said Harawira. "If Mr McVicar wants Maori to be like everybody else, then I suggest he do something to help eliminate the poverty that keeps Maori sitting squarely in the crime zone, do something to help eliminate the institutional racism that sees Maori unfairly targeted by the police and the justice system, and do something to help bring Maori up to zero, so we stand a fighting chance of survival."

"That's what MANA is focusing on," said Harawira "trying to eliminate poverty, reduce the harm caused to Maori communities by drugs like meth, and fight the racism that fuels the inequality in our world."



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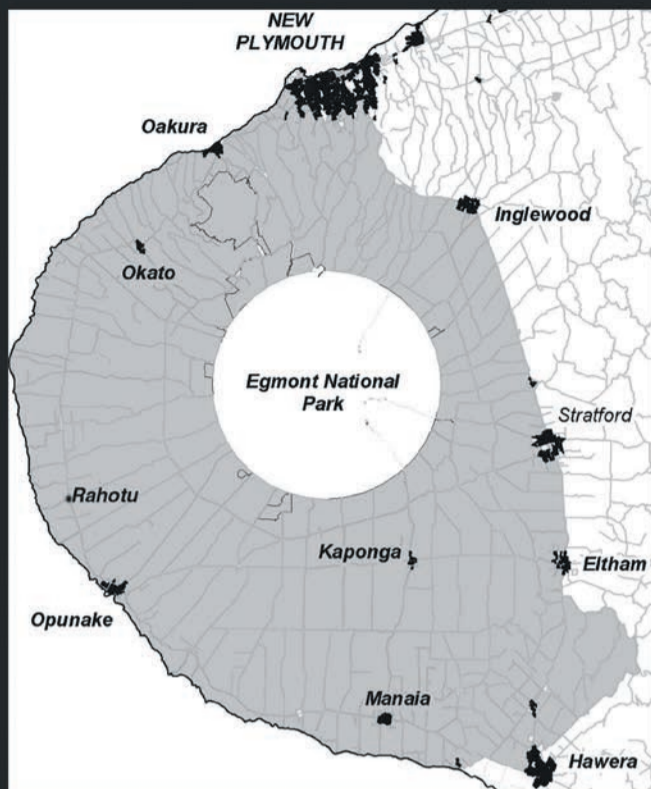
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Helping those with alcohol abuse problems

A new version of the popular US-designed smartphone app 'Step Away' can now be developed and tested to help adults in New Zealand self-manage their hazardous drinking.

University of Auckland Honorary Associate Professor Natalie Walker has received a feasibility grant from the Health Research Council of New Zealand (HRC) to determine if six months' access to a New Zealand Step Away app can reduce the frequency of alcohol abuse in a group of adult hazardous drinkers in Auckland.

The Step Away app is the product of a four-year development effort, funded by the US National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAA). The app leads users through coping strategies, monitors how often they drink, identifies 'triggers', and gives weekly feedback reports tracking their progress in kicking bad habits. The New Zealand researchers are collaborating with the US team to develop something that works here.

Dr Walker says to date, Step Away is the only publicly available and evidence-based alcohol-related mobile app grounded in sound psychological theory. However, in its current form the app is unsuitable for New Zealand users as it incorporates North American drinking norms and safe drinking guidelines, numerous 'Americanisms', and links to US-based care services.

There are beneficial and cost-effective treatments for people who are drinking at hazardous levels, but few drinkers actually receive help. Mobile phone-based alcohol interventions have the potential to reach a larger number of individuals with alcohol problems and can support self-management of alcohol consumption," says Dr Walker.

"As yet there hasn't been a definitive clinical trial of the effectiveness of the Step Away app. With the support of this HRC grant, we can now create a New Zealand version of this app and determine how feasible it is to test using a robust clinical trial design." Professor Patrick Dulin, Professor of Psychology at the University of Alaska Anchorage in the US, is a co-investigator on the study. Professor Dulin was the lead developer on the original Step Away app and is currently developing a specific Step Away app version for US veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts.

HRC Chief Executive Professor Kath McPherson says she welcomes steps to support people throughout this difficult change in behaviours, saying there's a huge cost to New Zealand society from alcohol abuse. "Twenty per cent of deaths among 15 to 34-year-olds can be attributed to alcohol, mostly from road injuries, while the cost of alcohol-related harm in New Zealand is about \$5.3 billion a year or \$14.5 million a day, let alone the human costs to the people affected and their families," says Professor McPherson. "This study is a smart and cost-effective way to leverage off the considerable research efforts of the NIAA in the US and adapt a New Zealand-specific app that can be fast-tracked to fill a treatment gap here, providing a widely distributed, first point of contact for individuals with an alcohol problem," she says.

The HRC today announced a combined total of \$2 million worth of feasibility grants, up from \$1.05 million in 2016.

See below for the full list of 2017 HRC Feasibility Study recipients or to read lay summaries of the research projects, go to www.hrc.govt.nz/funding-opportunities/recipients and filter for 'Researcher Initiated Proposals,' 'Feasibility Studies' and '2017'

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Starting the saving habit

Staples Rodway held a competition at the 2016 Christmas at the Bowl event in which the winning child was awarded \$1,000 cash to put in a KiwiSaver. The winner was 11 year-old Seth Goble who lives on lower Timaru Road.

Staples Rodway Director, Daimon Stewart, was pleased to hand over the \$1,000 KiwiSaver prize to Seth. He now has the Lifestages KiwiSaver account that is fee free for life.

Daimon said: "The beauty of this way of prize giving is that the money goes towards something much bigger. Most kids at that age struggle to think of the bigger picture stuff and it's important as adults that we help them to save as it will set them up



Daimon Stewart and Seth Goble.

for the future. Whether it's a first home, or a retirement fund, these events will come round before you know it and that's when people say "if only I'd saved up sooner"."

Luckily for Seth, he is already a smart saver and often does chores on his parent's farm to earn pocket money. His aim is to save for a tractor so perhaps he's got a few more years to go.

The Staples Rodway Start Small Think Big campaign has been launched to educate kids on the importance of smart saving for a better future. This includes school visits, video campaigns and competitions throughout 2017.

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'Clematis' a lifestyle property that has everything

Just ten minutes by car from Opunake is a superb lifestyle property that would be hard to beat. The ten and a half acre lifestyle property has been lovingly developed by the current owners over the last 30 years who are soon to shift to New Plymouth. The property is situated at Rapid 585 Wiremu Road - occupying the corner of Wiremu Road and Kaweora Road with a profusion of trees and shrubs on the border making 'Clematis' very private.

The house was built for the current owners by Kuriger Builders of Opunake to their specifications. It's exterior is of attractive - and strong - Summerstone blocks. It has low maintenance aluminium joinery and Decrabond roof tiles.



Exterior of the property.

There are two spacious lounges and the house is extensively carpeted throughout. Everything is in first class order, with attractive wallpaper a feature.

The well-ordered kitchen adjoins the main lounge. It is well-maintained with

vinyl flooring, stainless steel sink and vinyl bench area. The storage capacity is impressive.

There are two double bedrooms upstairs and downstairs is a large self-contained flat with ensuite. All bedrooms have inbuilt wardrobes and bay windows.

In the central part of the house is a useful office.

The home has been very well cared for and has lots of natural light from many large windows. Much of the electric lighting is by stylish inset Downlights. A feature of the whole house is the copious storage room, including an immense hot water cupboard. The view to the east is of Mount Taranaki and lush native bush.

Diesel heating ensures the home is always warm

with extensive insulation ensuring that heat loss is minimal. There are also two heat pumps at opposite ends of the house. Central heating (electricity) is also in place, which the couple say is not really needed, such is the cosiness of the home.

The safety-conscious owners have ensured that smoke alarms are installed throughout. Also, there is a burglar alarm system which notifies the five closest neighbours that something is amiss. The couple assure me, however, that it has never been activated in their three decades of occupancy.

The internal garage has automatic (remote controlled) doors and it houses three cars, if necessary.

The bathroom is

attractively appointed and there is a separate shower facility.

As you step outside there is a handy cupboard for muddy gumboots and wet coats. The back veranda is termed "the barbecue area" for obvious reasons.

Outside is magical - it is hard to believe this land was virtually bare when the couple first arrived. There are extensive and tidy gardens, both flower and vegetable, as well as a number of fruit trees, such as lemon, fijoa and blueberries, to say nothing of established trees (native and exotic). Their begonia shed is a sight to behold. There are many garden features, such as the goldfish pond and mini waterfall, which can be turned off if needed. Nearby are a set of swings to delight youngsters and the young at heart.

A peaceful stream meanders through the property with a number of bridges crossing it. A number of pleasant bush walks allows one to admire the cabbage trees, pungas, puriri, kowhai and other natives. The house was so named because of the several prolific clematis vines on the property.

There are several large

sheds - the most impressive one houses several vintage cars and includes an impressive, orderly workshop. It even has a mezzanine floor!

There is a good-sized glasshouse and even a strawberry patch with netting to deter hungry birds. However, they do not begrudge the kereru and tuis their puriri tree berries and juvenile kowhai flowers.

This is the most appealing lifestyle property I have seen in Taranaki and viewers should not delay as I doubt it will be on the market very long, such is its quality and definite value for money. Here, you have the best of both worlds, peaceful countryside, yet it is central to urban centres, such as New Plymouth (35 minutes), Stratford (20 minutes) and Hawera (35 minutes).



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Manaia remembers ANZAC Day

Jim Washer served in Italy from 1943-5. The 96 year-old former Otakeho farmer was a driver in 31 Battery of the 7th Anti Tank Regiment and was at Monte Cassino.

“We had to fight all the way up through Italy,” Mr Washer says. “It was all because of General Mark Clark from America who wanted the glory of capturing Rome, instead of cutting the Germans off.”

On ANZAC Day Mr Washer laid the wreath for the Manaia RSA at the Manaia dawn service, where a crowd of around 500

people turned up.

Jim Ngere read out a message from his daughter Petty Officer Sarah Ngere who had spoken at last year’s Manaia service. She is currently serving in a five month deployment on the HMNZS Te Kaha.

“Every nation we have visited so far knows kia ora and knows about the All Blacks,” her message read. “War is never the answer. We need to accept each other and love each other despite our differences.”

South Taranaki District deputy mayor Phil Nixon said he had memories of

coming to Manaia ANZAC services as a child. His father had been a World War II veteran and POW, and a grandfather had been awarded the Military Medal in the First World War.

South Taranaki District Councillor Bonita Bigham said the horrors of war should not be forgotten.

“Let us not glorify any death in any war. Let us not forget that war still rages in many parts of the world. Let us not be complacent in our wonderful Manaia and think that a third world war could never happen. Those who have seen war who stand among us would not wish it on their children or their grandchildren.”

Archdeacon, the Venerable Trevor Harrison spoke of his grandfather Corporal Howard Michael Smith, who 100 years ago was serving in the trenches in France.

“Like most of his contemporaries, nothing was ever shared of his experiences with his family,” he said.

It was only recently that Mr Harrison was able to find out about the war record of his grandfather who was wounded at the Second Battle of the



Around 500 people were at the Manaia ANZAC Day ceremony.



World War II veteran Jim Washer(seated) with back row (from left) Elgene Washer, Rhonda Cato, Sashia Cato and Mark Washer.

Somme.

He said that out of every five New Zealanders who served in World War 1, one would have been killed, and two wounded. Out of the other two, “the ones usually not mentioned,” many were permanently scarred by their

experiences.

The Ode was read in Te Reo by Dennis McLean, and in English by Manaia RSA president John Graham. Opunake High School students Shaan Wineera and Raniera Tuuta assisted with the lowering of the flag.

The ceremony finished with items from Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Nga Ruahinerangi and Te Ropu Kaumatua o Nga Ruahinerangi, and an acknowledgement of the fallen in both sides of conflicts nearer home.

A sign of renewal among carnage

The poppy has long been a symbol of death, renewal and life. Its seeds can remain dormant in the earth for years, but will blossom when the soil is churned up, as it was on the fields of Flanders a century ago.

Since 1921 the poppy has been a central part of ANZAC Day commemorations as New Zealanders remember those who paid the supreme sacrifice for their country.

This year over-sized poppies lined the centre of Opunake in the leadup to ANZAC Day alongside crosses representing the fallen.

The 42 poppies were made from old 33 records heated in an oven with a painted CD in the centre.

They had taken about a week to put together and were completed a week before ANZAC Day,



Poppies and crosses added a sense of colour and poignancy in the leadup to ANZAC Day.

Egmont Plains Community Board deputy chairman Andy Whitehead said.

At the board’s April 19 meeting, he presented two of these to the Opunake Returned and Services Association.

Opunake RSA president Shane Butler said he was pleased to get them.

“I’m blown away by it.

It’s going to be good for the next week or so to have red in the town.”

Andy said after ANZAC Day the poppies would be kept in storage for next year’s ANZAC Day, and it was hoped more would be available by then to use in commemorations in other parts of the Egmont Plains Ward.

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Big turnout at Dawn Parade in Opunake

Around 300 people turned out for the Dawn Parade commemorating ANZAC Day in Opunake.

Piped by the Stratford Pipe Band followed by returned servicemen a sombre procession began at the Opunake Town hall to walk to the cenotaph overlooking Opunake Beach where the official ceremony took place.

After the bugle poignantly sounded The Last Post the president of the Opunake District RSA Shane Butler addressed those gathered of the significance and relevance of ANZAC Day. Rev Geoff Williams also spoke and then Anne Smith who mentioned the less talked about contribution and sacrifice of the women who stayed at home "who lived in constant fear of the news that their loved husband, father, son, brother, boyfriend wasn't going to be coming home to them". She lost a great uncle William Holmes at Chunuk Bair "buried forever on the battlefield of war". Anne ended her

address by quoting from the Bible John 15:12 & 13: Jesus says, My command is this: Love each as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friend.

The procession, again lead by ... then returned to the Opunake Town Hall for a cup of tea and further speeches took place.

Shane Butler thanked all those for turning out adding "Every year it seems to get bigger".

He made special mention of the Opunake High School students who come every year.

Councillor Roach then spoke and began by reading out a letter from the Prime Minister the Rt Hon Bill English.

"It is now over a century since the ANZAC troops arrived at Gallipoli on the morning of April 25 1915. Though time moves on, we will never forget the campaign that took the lives of nearly 2,800 brave New Zealanders who had travelled far from home to serve their



Dawn at the Opunake Cenotaph.

country." The letter went on to acknowledge "all who fought on both sides of the campaign" at Gallipoli. "Through the broad lens of time we can see that our foes were men just like ours, resisting as anyone would the invasion of their homeland, and incurring losses nearly double those of all the Allies combined."

Clem Coxhead also read out a letter from the Governor-General of New Zealand the Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy who referred to the fact that over a quarter of New Zealand's population today was born overseas, some of whom have had first-hand experience of war and conflict. "My hope is that Anzac Day can be a time for all New Zealanders to come together, regardless of their age or background, to reflect on the impact of conflict between peoples," she said adding a "fervent

hope for peace between nations."

Certificates of Appreciation were then awarded to various community groups including the Opunake District RSA

Women's Section, the Egmont Plains Community Board and Opunake High School students.

Opunake High School Deputy Head Girl Aleisha

Cram and Head Boy Brody Hitchcock then spoke, Brody referring to themselves as the second generation of those who never experienced war. He mentioned his great grandad Watson who served in Italy who came back. "I never met him but I was told he was scarred for life".

The get together ended with an appeal from the president for more people to join the RSA. "Every year we lose members. We need more members," said Shane.

The RSA has an associate membership for anyone over 18. "We need more members to make sure this organisation continues long after we've gone," reiterated Bill Hayward. Geoff Williams added that the poppy fund "is expanding every year" and added that RSA members qualify for discounts at some shops.



Bev Henderson who accepted a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the Opunake District RSA with the president of the Opunake District RSA Shane Butler.

RIGHT:

Gary Hunn at the Dawn Parade in Opunake. He was wearing medals awarded to his great grandfather, who fought in the New Zealand wars, his grandfather who was in the First World War, his father who died in the Second World War and his step father who also fought in the Second World War.

Gary explained that his father was a marine who met his mother when they were stationed in Paekakariki Wellington. His grandfather who had served in France in the First World War knew how lonely it was for troops overseas and would invite them home for a meal.

Sadly Gary's father died before Gary was born when they landed on the island of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands and tried to take the island off the Japanese.

Last year Gary and his wife Nora went to Independence Kansas where his father was born and met a cousin who took him to visit the graves of his ancestors.

Also at the Dawn Parade was Bev Henderson from Opunake wearing medals awarded to her grandfather William Francis Bey who was killed in France on August 25 1918 at the age of 32.



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Surviving the tough stuff from personal experience

Suicide is usually something that affects other people, not us. Until it affects us. We know that suicide can affect anyone and everyone. One suicide will effect more than 10 people at least. With suicide numbers as high as

579 a year (2016) that's a lot of people suffering a loss that didn't need to happen. Illness, war or old age didn't take their life – they took their own life. That's stunning. It doesn't make sense – to any of us. Some people are such

amazing actors that no-one knows things were that bad. Until. Then it's too late.

Everyone has the opportunity to contribute to the draft of the new NZ Suicide Prevention Strategy (details in this paper). Worldwide, suicide is a huge problem, and if there was an easy answer someone would have found it by now. People, like myself, who have survived a suicide attempt, and those working to help others, are all coming from a different knowledge base, and your contribution can help make the strategy as good, and useful, as it can be.

Often we make every effort to educate people in what to do and what to say if they are faced with an at-risk person. Be aware of risk, ask the question, 'have you thought about suicide?' Listen, listen, listen. Help or get help. If they have a plan and the means to carry it out call the Police or your local hospital crisis intervention department. Suicide Prevention Helpline 0508 0828 865.

If you are the at-risk person

what then? People often wonder why, when we live in God's -zone, people take their own lives? If I go back to my own experience of a suicide attempt in my 20s, I think it was about the turmoil on the inside, caused by what was going on for me personally, that drove me to consider suicide as the only way out. Commonsense asserted itself at the last minute. Why was I giving up my life to hurt some dickhead who had hurt me? Rational thinking had returned.

Isolation is a huge factor. Keeping the real truth to myself because of the shame and embarrassment and utter hopelessness of being a victim of domestic violence who had been taken to the point of feeling like a worthless piece of shit. Who wants to tell anyone that that is what you have become? The Oscar went to myself, and all the others who pretend nothing's wrong or at least not wrong enough that there seems to be only one way out. Looking back later, I could see how I got to the point of attempt-

ing to take my own life and what stopped me. We need to share stories of hope – proof that things can get better even if it seems there is no way to stop the pain at the time. Telling someone and getting help is the hardest step we need to take. Until we do that nothing is likely to change for the better. This is really hard but it gets us moving in the right direction. Finding hope, making change, choosing life. I think everyone needs some help at least once in their life. If you suck it up and reach out, then you can get help to get your life sorted. Sir John Kirwan used to wear a hoody and park blocks away. There were quite a few solutions once I started in problem solving mode. The obvious solution was to get out, and this I did slowly and carefully and somewhat reluctantly (due to a huge sense of failure). It's been a long slow crawl up the ladder. Creating a better life is really challenging. It's about finding little things that make you feel good (not the addictive stuff) and adding in

more and more. Drugs and alcohol will just cause more problems. It's about hobbies, sport, nature, making friends and doing good deeds for others. Survival skills. Don't put yourself down, ever. Don't listen to negative stuff from others. Try to move out of that negative cycle into the positive cycle by either doing, or thinking something positive, your feelings will soon follow you into the positive cycle. Not easy. Takes guts. Life can get better, if you wait. Sometimes you need to do stuff to make it better.

Suicide and domestic violence changed my life. I am now a counsellor and New Zealand Representative to the International Association for Suicide Prevention. When we have a reason to die, we need to focus on finding a reason to live. Lots of reasons to live. That person did not destroy me. I passed that person on the ladder to happiness. Choose life, make that life better.

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Third time's a charm for national winner

If at first you don't succeed, try, try and try again is Roger Gore's motto, after Fastway Couriers Taranaki, finally scooped the big one, having been awarded the Regional Franchise of the Year Award.

Following two years finishing runner-up in Fastway Couriers Annual Excellence Awards, held in Rotorua earlier this month, the relatively small operation came out on top.

Fending off stiff competition from the other 16 regional franchisees, Fastway Couriers Taranaki was rewarded for its all-round company performance.

"It's a great accolade to get and a big boost for the business," said Mr Gore. "It makes all the hard work worthwhile."

Scott Jenyns, the CEO of Fastway Couriers New Zealand said: "The Taranaki team are passionate professionals. Their operations are dedicated to operational excellence and customer service."

Among the criteria considered for the company's major award are profit improvement, compliance, sales growth, and several operational KPIs.

Roger said he believed the presentation of his eight couriers had helped, with their modern fleet of vans and the training undertaken to ensure a personalised service and



Roger Gore (left) receives his award.

"not just dump and run."

Winning Fastway Couriers' major national award for the year came on top of picking up the Business Development Award.

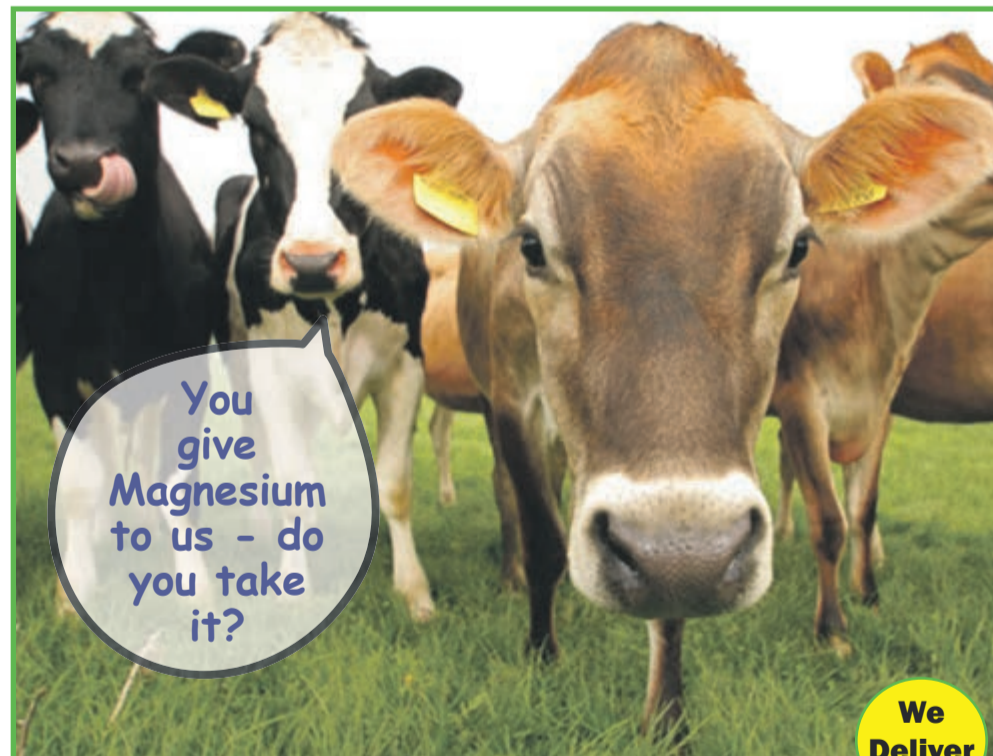
"This award recognises new customer growth, sales growth and performance results," said Mr Jenyns.

Fastway Couriers Taranaki's sales improved by 45 per cent over the previous year thanks to the addition of two new major accounts, plus the

development of a lot of new smaller clients.

Roger has managed the business for four years, following a career in sales management in the food industry and previously working in the heavy transport industry for 15 years.

With an office staff of three, Fastway Couriers Taranaki's region extends to Awakino in the north and Hawera to the south.



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Passover Seder meal celebrated in Eltham

RIGHT:
Over 80 people from differing backgrounds and churches in the Central region participated in the Passover Seder ceremonial Meal in Eltham in April and in doing so joined with others throughout the world.

Passover is the traditional Jewish festival in celebration of the Jews' freedom from slavery and flight from Egypt.

The first night of Passover begins with a ceremonial dinner, called a Seder, where the story of the exodus is told during the evening, which

consists of storytelling, a Seder meal, and concluding prayers and songs. Leader of the Seder, Rev. Phil Woodmass took participants step by step through the meal.

Traditional Matzah bread from Israel was especially sourced for the evening. Matzah (flat unleavened bread) is eaten during Passover and it is a tradition of the holiday. Passover is one of the most widely observed Jewish holidays.

*Karen Christian
Regional Administrator
Central Taranaki Anglican*



Views being sought on suicide prevention

Health Minister Jonathan Coleman has today released the draft suicide prevention strategy for consultation.

"Suicidal behaviour affects a significant number of people every year, and has substantial impacts on the individual as well as on their families, friends, and wider community," says Dr Coleman.

"Our suicide rate is too high with approximately 500 deaths a year. I'm particularly worried about the rates for youth, and specifically Maori and Pacific young people.

"Although improvements have been made these rates are still too high and there is always more we can do.

"The release of the draft

suicide prevention strategy for consultation provides an opportunity for individuals and organisations to give feedback on the priority actions that will help guide suicide prevention activities. "The draft strategy acknowledges the need for input and engagement from right across society. Health services, particularly mental health services, and Government agencies cannot do this work alone.

"It also builds on the previous strategy with a proposed stronger focus on opportunities across Government to better manage integrated responses and share information."

The Ministry of Health

has held 23 workshops around the country with families, providers, clinicians, academics, and other government agencies which have helped inform development of the draft strategy.

Some of the themes to emerge from preparatory work on how to prevent suicide included:

- the need for a broad cross-society and cross-government approach;
- further work to reduce the stigma around suicide and mental illness;
- encouraging safe conversations about suicide;
- further increasing

the access to support and professional help,

- and increasing on-going support for parents and families.

"This work is being supported by the extra \$300 million the Government has invested into mental health and addiction services. Taking the total health spend in this area to over \$1.4 billion for this financial year," says Dr Coleman.

Consultation on the draft suicide prevention strategy runs from today until 12 June 2017. The document is available on the Ministry of Health website, www.health.govt.nz, [here](#).

- [Jonathan Coleman](#)
- [Health](#)

Tailoring a message to meet your needs

I first became registered as a remedial massage therapist in Australia in 2001. I worked for two seasons at the Geelong Cats AFL Club before moving into private practice. The last 12 years were spent working at Geelong's biggest naturopathic clinic. I was fortunate to work with fantastic naturopaths for many years. I learnt many other considerations for muscle and joint pain, beyond simple muscle tightness.

Running and cycling generated a real interest in how the body works. I wanted to learn about the physiological benefits of training and why we improved, so I could train more effectively. I started to learn the muscles and joints, and as I became more interested, decided to study massage as a career.

My approach is to find the true cause of your pain, alleviate symptoms, treat dysfunction, explain what is happening and give advice on ways to balance your body and minimise problems in the future. I use a combination of massage, stretching and passive joint movement. The technique is a combination of methods including traditional remedial massage, re-



Stephen Clark, massage therapist.

laxation massage, trigger point therapy, postural integration, Bowen therapy and Japanese Yumeiho therapy. By using a range of methods I can assess

and treat muscle fascia and scar tissue, nerve and joint related problems in all areas of the body including the back; neck; leg; arm; knee;

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Liars, damned liars, and experts

The three types of lies
 "There are three kinds of lies", Mark Twain wrote in 1905, "Lies, damned lies, and statistics". Originally attributed by Twain to the British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, the derivation of the quote predates Disraeli to Leonard Huxley in 1885 with his exclamation, "liars, damned liars and experts." It seems that a healthy scepticism of consultants goes a long way back.



Pat Poletti

But why do five consultants deliver six different opinions? When someone claims to be "unbiased" are they really? How are farmers expected to sort through competing claims? The answer to all these questions is - it depends. Why does "it depend"?

Why isn't there a simple universal truth?

Animal science is extraordinarily complicated. It is fiendishly hard to run a trial that standardises all inputs and also takes into consideration individual animal responses. If you run a trial you will get a response. But if you run the exact same trial say 100 times you may well get 100 different answers. If you graph those results against the frequency of any result what you get is a "bell curve"

i.e. some results will occur more frequently than others. Crucially, any one trial result in isolation may sit at either end of the spectrum and as such we have to be cautious in our interpretation.

Any trial undertaken, provided it is done well, is like a piece of a jigsaw puzzle. Sometimes it supports your position, sometimes it contradicts it. So it is incumbent on the expert to try to make sense of the whole picture even

though there are a number of jigsaw pieces missing or pieces that just don't seem to want to fit. However, the human mind has difficulty with this preferring instead to not see the wood for the trees.

(Put bell curve graph in here)

The diagram below shows a typical Bell Curve. Each section represents the probability of a result falling within a section of the curve. Less common results plotting at either end of the curve will not be representative of the "norm".

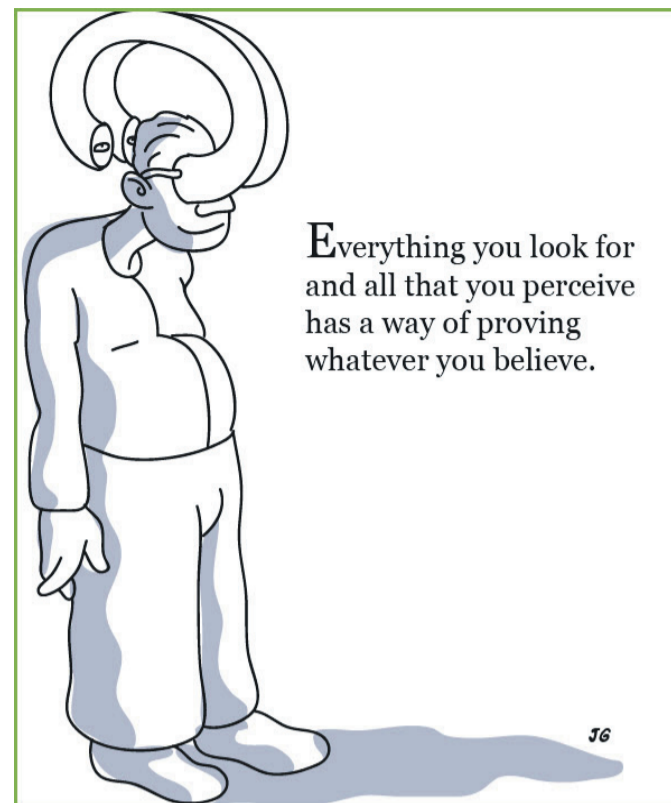
The "Einstellung Effect"
 The "Einstellung Effect", or more commonly "confirmation bias," is the resolute determination to stick to one solution and ignore simpler or more effective alternatives. This tendency was documented as far back as 1620 by Francis Bacon when he wrote, "The human understanding when

it has once adopted an opinion ... draws all things else to support and agree with it. And though there be a greater number and weight of instances found on the other side, yet these it either neglects or despises".

At its most cynical pharmaceutical companies are guilty of confirmation bias when they promote trial data that supports their product but conveniently ignore or even suppress trial data that doesn't. But confirmation bias is a facet of normal brain function and can confound even the most diligent researcher.

Choose Your Philosophy

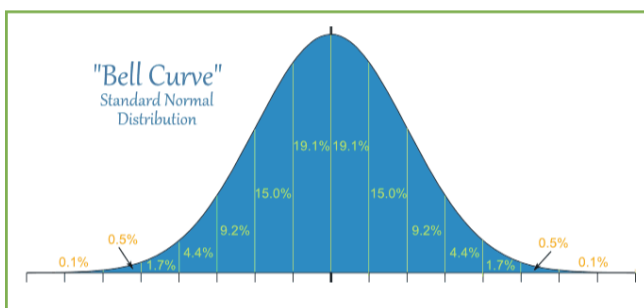
We are all biased - farmers, consultants, researchers, veterinarians. The trick is to draw your information from the "expert" that is philosophically in line with your own general approach. For example, if you are biological /



organically inclined then there is not much point in consulting a hard-out urea, super and Roundup man. And secondly, are you achieving your farming goals? If not, change your consultant

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Lawn mows path to national final

Okato farmer James Lawn will represent Taranaki-Manawatu at the Young Farmer national final to be held in the Manawatu on July 6-8.

James took the title at the regional final held at Hawera during the weekend. With Otago-Southland, Aorangi, Tasman, Northern, Waikato-Bay of Plenty and East Coast regions already having selected their winners, James was the last finalist decided.

He was one of four contestants from Taranaki along with four from Manawatu who were vying for the regional title.

Second place went to Nigel Will, who was hoping to emulate brothers Michael and Chris who had made

the Grand Final in 2005 and 2009-10 respectively.

“One milks cows, the other shears sheep, so I’ve been getting different advice,” he said.

James’ fellow Taranaki contestant Nick Brown from Toko who is also chairman of the Central Taranaki Young Farmers Club finished third, bettering last year’s fifth place position.

Of the other Taranaki contestants, Okato contract milker and former builder Blair Briscoe finished sixth. Former Taranaki dairy trainee of the year Michael McCombs who won the Taranaki Open competition and now manages a 300-cow dairy farm in Kimbolton finished seventh.

Competition began on

Friday with the Agri-business exam. On Saturday it was open to the public to come and see as contestants took to the Agri Skills and Agri Sports challenges.

Host Te Radar was clearly enjoying himself, happily agreeing to requests to have his photo taken with passers-by.

“I come here fairly regularly. I’ve been up the tower and my favourite museum (Tawhiti) is up the road,” he said.

Te Radar who can also claim a rural Waikato background said he learned something new this weekend about that local institution, the Taranaki Gate.

“I didn’t know that the Taranaki Gate wasn’t a universal New Zealand term. I have just come across someone from Southland who didn’t know what a Taranaki Gate was. There’s not much that staggers me, but that does.”

Erecting a Taranaki Gate was part of the Agri Sports Challenge, along with such varied endeavours as sewing a button on to a shirt, servicing a piece of milking equipment and lassoing a wooden gumboot which finalists had used chainsaws to carve earlier in the day.

First to finish carving his gumboot was James.

“You are trying to make the best of what you have got in front of you,” he said. “It’s always time versus quality. The last time the finals were here in Hawera four or five year ago, you had to carve a cheese. I’ve never done a

gumboot before.”

The Young farmers were not the only ones vying for places in national finals. Places were also at stake to represent Taranaki-Manawatu at the national final in Feilding.

Co-ordinator David Highsted said there was a growing interest in both competitions every year.

“It’s not just about sheep, beef and dairy. We’ve got beehives, fencing, gates, plants, seeds and crops,” he said.

Teams from Feilding High School dominated the Teen Ag competition taking all five spots in the Face Off for two places at the national final in Feilding.

“The Teen Ag competition has been going for six years and we’ve never had one

High School take all five placings. You guys will have two teams winning a trip to virtually nowhere,” he said as teams of two competed to put together a maimai, with duck shooting season a week away.

In the Agri Kid competition, three teams from Hawera Intermediate School were among seven competing for three places. In the end, they lost to two teams from South Makirikiri School near Marton and a team from Hiwinui School near Palmerston North.

A Young Farmers final would not be complete without the final competition event, the quiz. Te Radar took the role of quizmaster, a role once taken at the national level by Bob Parker before he became

mayor of Christchurch. Contestants vied with each other on their knowledge of things farming, current and general. Some virtuoso quizzing from Nigel Will got him the Agri Knowledge prize to go with taking out the Agri Business prize.

Nick Brown picked up the Agri-Sports and the Agri-Growth challenges, while James Lawn won the Agri-Skills challenge. To go with his title, James also picked up a trophy, presented to him by Peter Fitz Herbert, who for the last two years has been Taranaki-Manawatu Young Farmer of the Year. This is the first time the trophy for the Taranaki-Manawatu winner has been presented, so James’ name will be the first to be on it.



Te Radar (left) chats to Tim Lawn after the gumboot carving.

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New series delves into the mud

Radio New Zealand is diving into the muddy waters in a series called 'Water Fools?', teasing apart how farming affects our waterways and how the views of the public, farmers and the government often differ.

The unmonitored 'spray and pray' style farming in the Rangitikei was the focus of the first in the series, where intensive farming strips back the hillsides leaving the soil vulnerable to flood.

"That deep chocolate that we get with local rainfall

is topsoil", local Brian Megaw told Radio NZ, who is concerned that the spraying and higher stock levels are polluting the river with soil and remnants of the chemical spray.

Historical pollution, irrigation and farming intensification in means Te Waihora has one of the worst possible rankings for water quality. With a new irrigation scheme in place which will increase dairying in the area, the locals are worried about further pollution. However, the Chief Executive Derek Crombie, says that for

farmers to receive water from the scheme, they have to reduce their nutrient runoffs. If they don't comply, they'll be cut off.

Irrigation in the embattled MacKenzie Basin also got a visit from the series, as the latest decision from the decade-long case in the Environment Court found that converting the land for agricultural purposes was unsustainable and inappropriate.

The Judge, Jon Jackson, sided mostly with ecology experts, saying that the "accumulative actions of

farmers throughout the Basin have... brought the Mackenzie Basin to a point where its landscape values have been modified".

The Minister for the Environment Dr Nick Smith defended National's freshwater legacy and his national plan for cleaner freshwater. Dr Smith said his strategy is the first national plan tackling water quality in New Zealand, and is "practical, science based and affordable".

He also welcomed feedback on the details of the plan.

Report says water quality is everybody's responsibility

Professor Sir Peter Gluckman's water quality report confirms there are no easy, quick fixes to New Zealand's water quality challenges and that when it comes to sources of water degradation, all sectors are culpable.

The report, New Zealand's fresh waters: Values, state, trends and human impacts says the challenge is to balance the effects of economic development and recreational pursuits on water quality, and the desire of all New Zealanders to

look after our waterways.

Eighty percent of New Zealand's waterways have stable or improving water quality, says Federated Farmers environment spokesperson and national board member Chris Allen.

"Where there are problems all sectors of society, including farmers, are culpable and all sectors of society need to be part of the solutions."

Prof. Gluckman's report says fresh water is under pressure from agriculture, hydro power, urban

development (pollution from urban stormwater and industrial sources), the presence of introduced species (including didymo and giardia, carp and trout) and climate change.

The findings reinforce Federated Farmers' long-held view that while our farmers are part of the problem, we are by no means the whole problem, Chris says. "The farming sector has made significant improvements in recent years to the way we manage our land. I am convinced

we can continue to produce food and agricultural exports while reducing our environmental footprint.

"All sectors, including urban communities with sewage and stormwater challenges, need to be given time to implement changes that are sensible, practical and affordable," Chris says.

"Without a focused approach on the 20 per cent of areas where we have issues from industry, urban and rural pressures, we will not achieve meaningful improvements," Chris says.

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Finding somewhere new to remember Otakeho's fallen

Otakeho farmer Richard Walker says a trip to Gallipoli inspired him to want to do something about the Otakeho war memorial plaques.

"My wife and I were over there two years ago on our way back from a trip to Europe. It was quite moving to be honest," he said. He particularly remembers being at the site where the first Anzacs saw action in 1915.

"Standing there where everyone came ashore, thinking about what they had to face and where they had to go was mind boggling. You could feel the hairs on your arms stand up. We were on a bus trip, and we had Australians and New Zealanders there, and a few were moved to tears."

The plaques dedicated to the memories of Otakeho residents killed in the first and second world wars are on the walls at the Otakeho School which closed back in 2002.

"Now the school is getting direlect and nobody seems to know what's happening there, and whether the walls maybe bowled over one day," says Richard.

"We have had a few meetings and discussed it, and it's pulled a few heartstrings in Otakeho."



Otakeho residents want their war memorial plaques shifted from the Otakeho school.

Among the 10 names listed on the plaques are Sergeant Outram Young, a talented rugby player who represented the North Island and died of wounds on the Western Front in 1916. William Kelland Le Fleming died at Cannock Chase Military Hospital on November 9, 1918, two days

before the Armistice, Roy Hastie was killed at Sidi Rezegh on November 23, 1941 and Pilot Officer John Lawrie was killed after he kept his stricken Lancaster bomber in the air long enough for his crew to bail to safety.

The Otakeho community group's favoured option was

to place the plaques on a stone wall similar to the war memorial at the Okaiawa Cemetery. The wall would be specially built with donated rock and placed near the Otakeho Hall.

On April 19 Richard Walker and Michael Joyce were at the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting on behalf of the Otakeho Community Group to ask for funds to relocate the memorial plaques and the flag pole from the Otakeho School to the Otakeho Hall.

In recent years ANZAC ceremonies have been held outside the school gates, but having to compete with the noise of passing traffic including tankers along the Surf Highway this was not always ideal, Richard said.

On the other hand, the hall is used and maintained, Michael said having ceremonies outside the hall instead of at the school made it more conducive for people to stay behind for a cup of coffee, instead of leaving immediately after

the service. "One of the challenges facing rural areas is keeping younger people, but in Otakeho we have lot of younger people taking an interest, and I'm confident the local spirit in Otakeho will be there for a long time to come."

Deputy community board chairman Andy Whitehead noted the sacrifice made by rural communities during two world wars.

"Each one of these communities lost a lot of people because people were ordered to head off and make those sacrifices."

Community Board member Brian Vincent said he had recently had Pungarehu residents ask him about relocating their memorial plaques from the Pungarehu School, which like Otakeho School, had also been closed for some time.

In their application, the Otakeho Community Group had given quotes of \$1000 for repairing the flagpole and \$9775 for shifting the plaques and flagpole.

Cr Bonita Bigham asked if it would be possible for the applicants to come up with a quote other than that listed in their application, and moved that a decision on funding should be deferred.

Although there was some discussion on allotting funds for repairing and shifting the flag pole, the board voted to defer deciding on funding pending more information on the likely cost of the project.

On this month in history Nordmeyer becomes Labour leader

On April 1, 1963 Arnold Nordmeyer became leader of the NZ Labour Party after Walter Nash, who was PM from 1957 to 1960.

Nash preferred two others to succeed him, Gerry Skinner and Fred Hackett, but both had died. Normeyer contested the

1963 General Election when National retained power with 45 seats to Labour's 35. In 1965 Norman Kirk replaced Nordmeyer.

flag pole from the Otakeho School to the Otakeho Hall.

The next issue of the Oponake & Coastal News is on May 12 2017

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Outstanding Colts halfback Matty Hooper has a crack up the middle. The colts played some outstanding rugby to defeat Inglewood 31-12

Under 21s down Inglewood

The Under 21 team played at Tikorangi on Good Friday against Clifton in wet conditions. The boys made too many errors in the first half and took nearly 20 minutes into the second half to start playing some good rugby, before eventually going down to Clifton 22 -

10. Player of the Day James Cathie had a blinder making strong tackles and stealing a lot of ball.

Aiden Beer had a strong game at fullback penetrating the line at ease. The Rothwell brothers carried the ball quite strongly as well. The

next game was at Rahotu in beautiful playing conditions against Inglewood . The first half was a tightly fought contest , opening up in the second half, with Coastal winning 31 - 12 . Player of the Day Daniel Mullin made several barnstorming runs, being well backed up by

Jake Corrigan and Trent Brophy, also Scott Turner playing in the forwards due to a shortage of forwards because of injuries.

Mattie Hooper was a stand out in the backs. The next game is against Tukapa at Saunders Park.

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Coastal Division 1 Undefeated

Good Friday saw Coastal Division 1 play Clifton at Tikorangi. The game started in sunshine, but a few heavy downpours during the game made handling difficult. The forward pack controlled the game well with excellent performances from Richard Beckett and Blake Barrett. David White had a great

game at hooker and was deservedly awarded player of the day. Tries were scored by Richard Beckett and Paddy Beer and both were converted by Jamie Fevre, who directed an inexperienced backline with confidence. Final score was 14 - 5 to Coastal.

Round 4 was against

Inglewood at Rahotu. Coastal proved too strong and skilful for the opposition, scoring 50 unanswered points in the first half. With a huge lead they continued their dominance and won the game 70-12. The whole team was outstanding with tries to Luke Doyle, Daniel Downs, Richard Beckett, Joel

Chard, Andrew Buhler(2), Trent van der Poel, Ryan Anderson, Paddy Beer(3) and Ricky Wilson. Player of the day was Jamie Fevre. Coastal Division 1 are now placed top of the table with four wins from four. This Saturday we play Tukapa at Sanders Park and hope to continue our winning streak.



Trent Van der Poel is caught with the ball for the Division 1 team. The team is performing well and put Inglewood to the sword 70-10.

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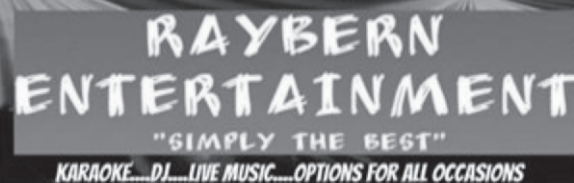


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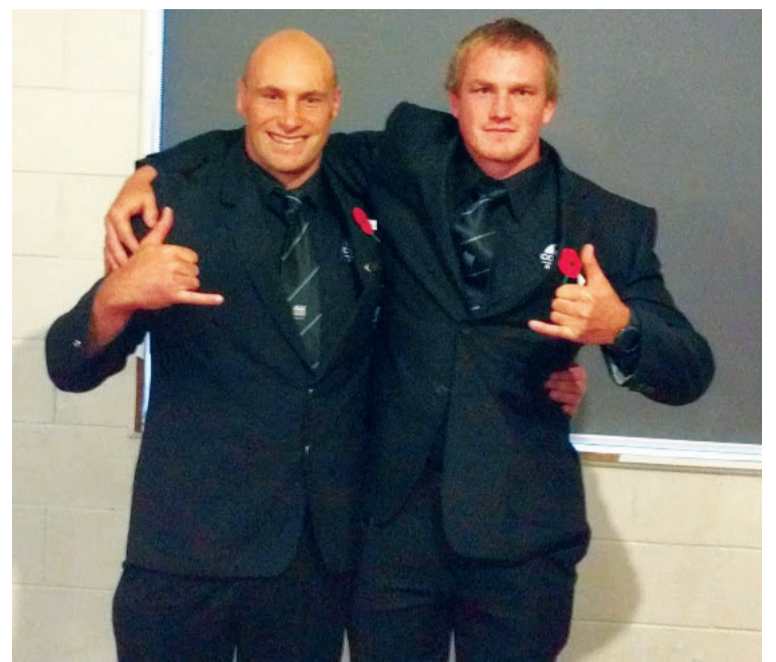
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 **COASTAL RUGBY**

RIGHT:

Kelvin Weir (left) notched up 100 games on Saturday, while **Dylan Juffermans** made 50. A fantastic achievement from both.



Gareth Goodin scores in the corner. Despite his efforts the mighty Div 2 went down to Bell Block 19-18. The first loss in 32 games.



Liam Parker finds some space to make some ground. In a tight battle the Prems went down 23-22.

Opunake Bowling Club



The annual mixed April Fools' Tournament was played in wonderful weather with lots of fun and laughter. The winners were Paritū: Berys norgate, Barbara Harvey and Val Keightley.

In the final of the Championship Singles, Bev Robinson beat Diane Stewart.

The Championship of Champions Women's Fours was held at the Opunake greens, and there were very good comments on how the greens played. The Opunake ladies were beaten by Kristin Stampa's Hawera Park team in the semi final.

The Club Triples were played on April 12 and were won by Bev Robinson and

Kay Fleming. The runners-up were Eileen Rothwell, Heather Radford and Val Langton.

On April 19, the Club Fours were won by Bev Robinson, Joan Barrett and Val Langton.

The Club Pairs were won by Bev Robinson and Pa Barrett.

The Ladies Championship Pairs were won by Bev Robinson and Diane Stewart.

The Men's Championship Fours winners were Warren Vendt(skip), Peter Clement, Edward Eves and Bob Commene (lead). The Men's Championship Pairs were won by Paddy Deegan(skip) and Dan Ratahi.

The April Fools Tournament winners.

Coastal Cobras 78 Western Suburbs Tigers 4

On a beautiful Saturday afternoon the Coastal Cobras hosted a new look Western Suburbs Tigers outfit at the Okato Domain in a Coast to Coast Premier Rugby League clash.

The Coastal side comprised most of last season's team (2016 Runners-up) with a few new additions and were favourites to win.

The experienced and well trained Cobras took a while to click into gear however, but once they

did they were too slick for a rather disjointed Tigers side running in seven first half tries, two to new centre Stacey Hill, to lead 36-0 at the break.

The second half was more of the same with Coastal completely overwhelming the visitors who, at times, tried very hard to stem the tide, but were simply no match for the impressive Coastal side. The Cobras ran in eight second half

tries with evergreen fullback Darren Parata a star scoring a hat trick of tries. The Tigers did manage to score a consolation try through fullback Zae Samuels, but it was all one way traffic as Coastal ran out convincing winners thrashing the Tigers 78-4.

For the Coastal Cobras, Parata continued his excellent form from 2016 while big centre Rawiri Naniseni was always a handful - also scoring three times. New

half Whai Hohaia looked a real talent and his sharp goal kicking was an added bonus. In the forwards Ross McLachlan made several strong charges while ex-Tiger Mark Baylis had a constructive game at hooker and loose forward Liam Kupe worked tirelessly.

For the hapless Tigers second rower Darryl Takarei was a stand out with several strong carries while former Dragon loose forward Egypt Tangitutu tried hard.

Scorers:
Coastal Cobras 78
Darren Parata 3, Rawiri

Naniseni 3, Stacey Hill 2, Trent Deegan, Tyler Pattison-Cook, Mark Baylis, Jonathan Tahau, Tui Karena and Herne Minhinnick tries; Whai Hohaia 7, Tui Karena 2, Kiwi Karena and Mark Davis goals.

Western Suburbs Tigers 4
Zae Samuels try

Life saving pause

Surf Life Saving New Zealand is praising its volunteer lifeguards for a job well done as another season draws to an end with no drownings between the flags.

Easter traditionally marks the end of the Surf Life Saving patrol season, which began at Labour Weekend and saw 80 beach locations patrolled nationwide.

Patrols will still be running on many beaches in the Northern Region and parts of the Bay of Plenty and Coromandel until Easter Monday while the central North Island beaches and South Island are no longer being patrolled.

Surf Life Saving New Zealand national lifesaving manager Allan Mundy says the unsettled weather throughout Summer meant lifeguards had to operate in some challenging conditions at times.

some cold water temperatures this Summer, around five degrees cooler than last year, which also kept many people out of the water and out of danger," he says.

While beach visitor numbers were down compared to last summer, lifeguards still undertook a number of high profile rescues from swimmers caught in rips and stranded kayakers to assisting other emergency services with large scale search and rescue operations like the Kaipara Harbour tragedy and Edgecumbe flood.

Mr Mundy says with the beaches no longer being patrolled after Easter, people really need to stop and think carefully before they enter the water.

"We are asking people to take responsibility for their own safety and those around them. Learn to spot rips, assess the conditions and always swim with a friend.

environment that can change very quickly. If you're not confident in your ability and don't know how to safely get yourself out of danger, then quite simply you should stay out," he says.

While the red and yellow flags will be put away until Labour Weekend, volunteer lifeguards' work is far from done.

Mr Mundy says many will continue to be part of callout and search and rescue squads over the winter months as well as countless hours of training, upskilling and keeping their surf clubs running.

"Being a Surf Lifeguard is a big commitment and we're incredibly grateful to our thousands of volunteers around the country that have helped to keep beach-goers safe for another year," he says.

Full patrol statistics for the 2016/17 season will be available in May.

"We also experienced The surf is an unpredictable

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Peter Snell at Opunake Primary School



This newspaper clipping from the Opunake and Coastal News about Opunake's favourite son Peter Snell was kindly brought in to the Opunake and Coastal News last week. Three time Olympic gold medallist Peter Snell was born in Opunake but these days spends most of his time in Texas. In 1964 he achieved the double of gold medals for the 800 metres and 1500 metres at the same Olympics. This year he returned to New Zealand to compete at the World Masters games, not in athletics, but in table tennis. At a special ceremony, he also presented his Olympic gold medals to Te Papa in Wellington.

Standard 3, 1948

Back Row; Geoffrey Vooght, Colin Sands, John Harvey, Andrew Simmons, George Bennet, Rodney White, Nick Hohaia, Phillip Hohaia, David Chambers, Peter Snell.
 Middle Row; Bruce Gibson, Bruce Dawkins, Nola Holland, Irene Harris, Coral Rowland, Fay Smith, Ann Fawcett, Barbara Kippenger, Margaret Young, Walter Bowman.
 Front Row; Rona Wong, Jennifer Coxhead, Jill Coltart, Tuku Hohaia, Janica Roach, Pandora Ratahi, Doris Baylis, Margaret Yeates, Julie Northcot, Nancy Jillet, Patty Smith,
 Sitting; Jimmy Symes, Errol Bowater, Ian Coombe.

Fall Dressage results.



Coastal Adult Riding Club Festival at Hawera

The Coastal Adults Riding Club Fall Dressage Festival was held at Hawera on April 17. Judges for the day were Dana Haszard from Lepperton, Kay Bloomfield from Eltham and Claire Norton, Normanby.. Results. Class 1. Introductory NZ Pony Club Riding Test B.

Nicky Howarth (Lotus Khalahaari)1, Dale Mosely (B) Hawera 2, Dianne Smith (Akama)Stratford 3 Lydia Williams (Charlie) Hawera 4.

Class 2. Training. NZ Pony Club Riding Test M. Lisa Hutton (Sundance) New Plymouth 1, Sandy Jordan (Bundera Lorelei) Stratford2,Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl) Tariki 3, Dianne Smith (Akama) 4.

Class 3 Training NZ Pony Club Riding Test Q. Lisa Hutton (Sundance) 1, Sandy Jordan (Bundera Lorelei) 2, Natasha Huitson (Silverstone) Midhirst 3, Kath Lambourn Millenium Lady) Hawera 4.

Class 4. Level 1. NZ Pony Club Riding Test T. Helen McCallum (Lenny) Hawera 1, Melanie Smith (Arum Park Coco) 2, Donna Bunyan (My Shadow) Stratford 3, Dale Mosely (Bugs) 4.

Class 5. Level 1. NZ Riding Club. 2C. Kirsten Gooch (Affair) Toko 1, Becky Corlett (True Donner) Midhirst 2, Melanie Smith (Arum Park Coco)3, Helen McCallum (Lenny) 4.

Class 6. Level 2. NZ Riding Club 4A. Kirsten Gooch (Affair) 1



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Opunake surf life savers hold their own



Shan Hickey sprints up the beach at Surf Club Nationals.

The Opunake Surf life Saving Club finished at the top end at the Surf Life Saving New Zealand IRB Nationals, finishing sixth overall out of 22 clubs. The honours did not stop there, with the crew of Courtney Keech and Jackie Lawn being the second top Women's crew in New Zealand. All crews did well, achieving personal bests, with most achieving finals, enabling Opunake to snare sixth place. Drivers and crews patiented

for each other when it came to the mass rescue events. Results: Assembly. Bronze medal Courtney Keech, Jackie Lawn and Caleb Lawn. Single Rescue. Silver medal Courtney Keech, Jackie Lawn and Caleb Lawn. Silver medal Jordan Hooper, Thomas Bell and Caleb Lawn. The open teams crew of Jordan Hooper, Thomas Bell, Nathan Hickey, Michael Corkill came in fourth overall, in a field of about 40 teams.

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Eltham Sporting Shooters

It was a quieter week at the Eltham shooting range, last week. Brian Hicks top scored again with 99.6 as well as a 96.4. This was followed by Paul Tidswell with scores of 98.3 and 196.9 (97.6, 99.3). Alan Drake 192.5 (96.2, 96.3); Clare Bramley 96.4, 191.7 (96.3, 95.4); Murray Chinery 94.3;

Stephan Hicks 92.1, 93.2; Don Litchfield 93.4, 93.2; Bob Bramley 92.0, 90.0, 95.4, 182.3 (91.2, 91.1). Group card shooters also did well Angie Harris 100, 100. And two new shooters to Eltham Braxton Wilson 100, 100, followed by 86.0 and 68.0 while Josh Walker 100, 100, 81.0 and 87.2.

Good Friday proved good for some with Paul Longstaff returning after a week off and scoring 92.1, 98.6, 98.3, Clare Bramley shooting consistently with 96.1, 97.4, 97.5, and Alan Drake recording 96.2 and 96.3. Bob Bramley improving with scores of 92.1, 93.0 and 94.1; Brian Hicks 93.3

and 95.3; Stephan Hicks 88.1, 90.0. Josh Walker and Braxton Wilson continued their improvements both recording two 100 group card scores while Josh then shot 92.1 and Braxton an 83.0. As always, newcomers are always welcome to come and try their hand, 7pm, Pinny Drive, Eltham.

Taranaki teams compete at quadrangular tournament

The following teams were selected to represent Taranaki Indoor Bowls at the NWWTH quadrangular tournament played at North Wellington on April 22-23. Trevor Bourne, Don Semple, Gordon Hamley and Rodney Morris. Arthur Podjursky, Jenny Hamley, Karl Hughes and Sue Bourne.

Ray Finlay, Kaye Bird, Trevor Cox and David Brunton. Noleen Picard, Winnie Finlay, Andrea Berry and Raewyn Fredrickson. Reserve Bill Schrader.

The tournament was hosted by North Wellington at their Titahi Bay Hall. Sixteen players represented each province and a round of fours,

pairs and singles were played against each association.

Individual provincial scores were, Wanganui 48 Taranaki 24, North Wellington 38.5 Taranaki 33.5, Horowhenua 25 Taranaki 47.

The hosts were under pressure from Wanganui but held on to win the aggregate trophy for the

weekend. Scores were North Wellington 135.5, Wanganui 131, Taranaki 104.5 and Horowhenua 61.

The Taranaki Open Fours are to be played at Stratford A&P Hall on Sunday May 7, and the Taranaki Open Pairs will be played at Kapuni Hall on Sunday May 14.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

"LIZZIE BELL" PIHAMA CEMETERY BOARD AGM MONDAY 15 MAY 2017, 12:30pm Meet at the Cemetery, AGM to follow at 90 Puketapu Road, Pihama New Committee Members welcome Diane Campbell, Secretary Ph. 027 444 6934

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PUBLIC NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICES



Opunake and Districts Foodbank AGM 16th May 2017 3.30pm CoastalCare Community Lounge All welcome, tea and coffee provided, volunteers always needed

PIHAMA CEMETERY BOARD TENDER

For Lease of 3.2ha grazing block. Puketapu Road, Pihama Term: 3years from 1 June 2017 Tenders Close: 10 May 2017 Reply to: Tenders, Pihama Cemetery Board P O Box 14, Opunake, 4645 Note: the highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

Other areas

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

THE WAVE

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

ST. BARNABAS

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

OPUNAKE AND DISTRICT BUSINESS ASSOCIATION AGM - 1ST MAY 2017



Are you a member of the Opunake and District Business Association? If Not/ Why Not?

Come along and meet the new business owners in town.

Business card draw. Prize will be \$150 of advertising at the Opunake and Coastal News.

Guest speaker and Networking Event Meal and Event \$25 per ticket by presale only.

Tickets for sale at Sinclair Electrical and Pastimes.

Venue - Sandfords Events Centre, Catering by Soul Kitchen. Time 5.30pm

He Pānui

2017 Trustee Election



Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust (the Trust) is the PSGE entity established to receive and manage the Treaty settlement assets of Taranaki Iwi. It replaces the former Taranaki Iwi Trust. The Trust is governed by seven trustees who are elected on a rotational basis.

The Trust requires an election for the vacancies of two existing trustees. For clarity, the vacancy created by the retirement of Tokatumoana Kevin Walden is an ordinary vacancy while the vacancy created by the retirement of Puna Wano-Bryant will be an extraordinary vacancy. The retiring trustees are eligible to stand for re-election if they choose and provided they still meet the eligibility criteria.

The Trust now invites nominations to fill these two positions. Nominations must be made on an official nomination form and close at 5pm on Thursday 25 May 2017. If more than one nomination is received for each vacancy, elections will be held by postal and internet voting with both voting periods closing at 5pm on Friday 21 July 2017.

Membership Registration

The Trust also takes this opportunity to invite all adults of Taranaki Iwi descent who have not already registered, to do so by completing a registration form. Registration forms and nomination papers can be sourced from the following:

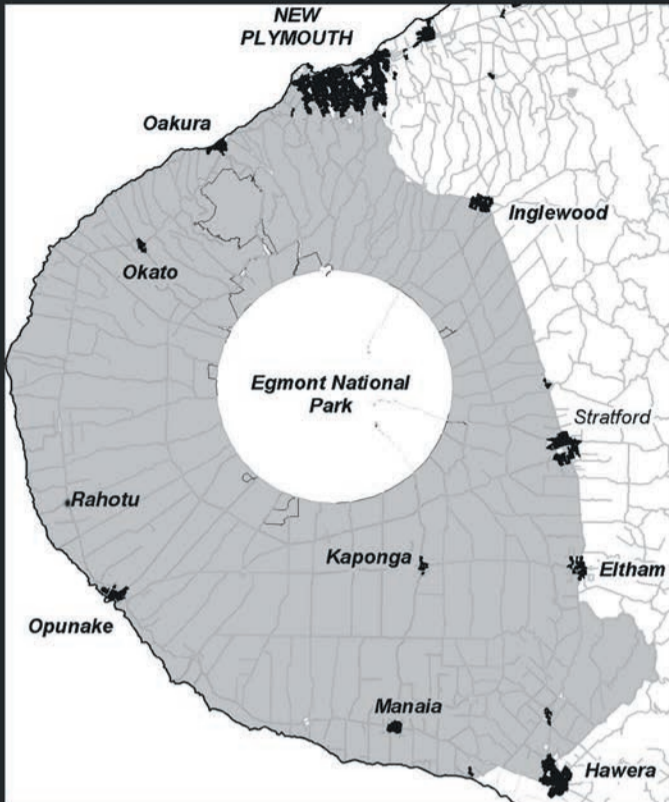
Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust office Cnr Bayly Road and Ocean View Parade New Plymouth Ph 06 751 4285 www.taranakiwi.org.nz

The Returning Officer electionz.com Ltd PO Box 3138, Christchurch Ph 0800 666 042 info@electionz.com



What's On Listings

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We are an independent newspaper based in Opunake, which is targeting both the towns and rural communities and we aim to have news coverage within all the areas of our distribution.

We want to be involved with your business call today and discuss your marketing options with the team.

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JONATHAN YOUNG

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young? For more information phone: 06 7591363 Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

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

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

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

TAI CHI BASICS

Thursdays 9am – 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

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COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

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TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

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

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

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ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham. PERCY THOMSON GALLERYConnections 2017, March 31 - April 30. GALLERY SHOP NOW OPEN.

TARANAKI EYE CENTRE & GLAUCOMA NZ

Free information presentation by Dr Kevin Taylor, Saturday 29 April, 10am - 11.30am at the Quality Hotel Plymouth International. Refer advert.

2017 TARANAKI ROSE OF TRALEE SELECTION

Taranaki Final: Sat 29th April, 2017

For more information contact: Louise Buhler 06)274 8494 027 330 8510 p.lm.

buhler@xtra.co.nz

Taranaki Irish Club

THE CUE THEATRE

Eugenia, 26th April - 6th May. Refer advert for full details.

SURF INN OPUNAKE

presents Sweet Az, Saturday 29th April, 9pm - 1am. Reggae, R & B, Rock and more!

Refer advert.

ROSE OF TRALEE

Saturday 29th April at the Plymouth Hotel.

BUTLER'S REEF

Three way at the Reef. 29th April from 8pm, refer advert.

OPUNAKE PLAYERS

Last Dance Auditions - Sunday 30th April at 1pm. Roles for all ages and all talents. Refer advert.

PIHAMA CEMETERY BOARD TENDER

for lease of 3.2 ha grazing block. Tenders close 10 May. Refer public notice for full details.

OPEN MIC TAKE 3

Saturday May 13, 3.30pm - 6.00pm at Everybody's Theatre. Refer Advert.

ORIMUPIKO MARAE AGM

13th May 2017 10.30am, Eltham Rd, Opunake

LIZZIE BELL - PIHAMA CEMETERY BOARD AGM

Monday 15 May, 12.30pm at the Cemetery, AGM to follow 90 Puketapu Road, Pi-hama. Refer advert for full details.

OPUNAKE AND DISTRICTS FOODBANK AGM

16th May, 3.30pm at CoastalCare Community Lounge. Volunteers always needed.

TARANAKI EXPLOSION BOXING FIGHT NIGHT

Friday 26 May at the TSB Showplace. Refer advert for full details.

HAWERA REPERTORY SOCIETY PRODUCTION

The Beauty and the Beast. 25 - 3 June 2017.

NEW PLYMOUTH GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL

Scotlands Hostel OPEN DAY & INTERVIEWS for 2018. Friday 26 May 2017, 9am - 3pm. Refer advert for full details.

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Cast members of Unoriginal Sin.

A race to the bedposts in upcoming comedy

Unoriginal Sin by David Tristram and directed by April Krijger is New Plymouth Repertory's next production. Bill and Jenny are divorcing. She tries to

catch him in a compromising position while he attempts to seduce the young, innocent Eve who has come to view Bill and Jenny's country cottage. Eve arrives with her

fiancé and Jenny proposes to Bill a 'first to the bedpost' competition to establish the divorce settlement. Jenny wins and Bill is humbled into reassessing his profligacy.

This riotous comedy is by the author of the famous Inspector Drake farces.

Playing dates 1-13 May 2017 – bookings at Ticketek

Paris here we come What a whirlwind.

The lovely knitted copper sculptures by Frances Rookes have just dropped by another 10%. On the Virtual Tart site They're very nice things, watch them go. Just two weeks until we leave for Paris. Did a count. This is astounding. We'll be carrying, are you ready for this? 603 artworks in our luggage. Plus a few which are still being painted.

It's going to be a massive job hanging it all. Galerie 59Rivoli is a big two-level gallery, but wow. There's a great deal of list-making, so we can get our works back through Customs without looking as though we've been on a massive art-buying spree. And so we'll have a coherent catalogue, just on five tightly-packed A4-sized pages.

Sometimes (quite often) I doubt our sanity. But then I remember the kindness and generous support we're getting from around the world and I think that this sure beats whatever can be called normal. Thank you. All of you. You are appreciated. cheers

Dale Copeland

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People who put in public notices and display adverts in the **What's On Section** for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos **FREE OF CHARGE, to help promote the event.**

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Seasons Cheapskates have passion for snowboarding

The team at Seasons Cheapskates are looking forward to the colder weather and its promise of white snow covering our mountain tops. There is already a slight chill in the air and reason to be confident we are looking at an all time winter season. For over 25 years Seasons Cheapskates have been riding and selling snowboarding gear. Over 25 years ago Seasons Cheapskates brought Snowboarding into the mix with the already existing passion for skate and surf. Since then they have never looked back. They have a love for the snow which they are more than happy to share with the community.

Seasons Cheapskates ran the legendary Surf and Snow competitions in conjunction with Oakura Boardriders for many years. Always keen to support the Stratford Mountain Club events such as the Scholastic competitions, as well the people who are wanting to go up and have some fun, they provide hire gear as well as waxing and tuning your equipment. The team want to encourage visitors and locals to use our beautiful mountain that we are lucky enough to have in our back yard. Locally owned and operated, Seasons Cheapskates is focused on complementing the local snow scene with a suited range of boards, clothing, accessories, advice, waxing and repairs. They are snowboarding enthusiasts who have chosen to make snowboarding their business, and enhance and contribute to the snowboard culture here in Taranaki. They have



Photo Ben D'ath

the opportunity to support and sponsor local riders, who in return contribute to product selection for the store. They are staffed with snowboarders with the knowledge and passion to give you expert advice.

Seasons Cheapskates are your one and only local

snow store who are holding down the scene for Taranaki this season. If you are a beginner, weekend warrior or a seasoned veteran, they have gear and advice for you. Without customers a shop cannot exist, Seasons Cheapskates care about every customer and

appreciate customers taking the time to check out the shop and see what they have going on. Taranaki is lucky to have a local snow store and a local mountain they can call their own. So get involved and make winter 2017 the best season yet.

HAWERA REPERTORY SOCIETY'S Production of



Music by **Alan Menken** Lyrics by **Howard Ashman & Tim Rice** Book by **Linda Woolverton**

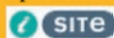
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A Street Cat Named Bob

If you're not a cat lover, you will be after seeing this enchanting heartwarming tale.

Based on a true story and the best selling book by James Bowen, it begins with a young busker, an addict with no real incentive to clean up his life. That is until a ginger tom cat enters his midst.

Estranged from his father and his second wife, James' attempts to get off the heroin with the assistance of a kind though irritating social worker seem doomed.

Things change however when a marmalade stray called Bob arrives and decides that the sparse digs inhabited by James is to also be his home. With this new responsibility James begins to change, kicks the drugs and gets his life back on track. Bob joins James busking act and the



Bob the street cat and James Bowen.

delightful duo become local celebrities.

Eventually James and his father become reconciled as life improves.

It's about hitting rock bottom, when no one seems to care whether you live or die and having not a lot of incentive to wrench yourself up from the mire you've sunk into until responsibility enters your life.

Great acting by Luke Treadaway who plays the part of James. As for the adorable Bob who plays

himself, he delivers a stellar performance.

A truly lovely and inspirational movie – I defy anyone to not come away feeling inspired and just a little closer to humanity.

A Street Cat Named Bob won Best British Film at the UK National Film Awards on March 20 2017.

It's coming to Everybodys Theatre in Opunake in early May.

Bernice McKellar



A Street Cat Named Bon is oming to Everybodys Theatre in Opunake in early May.

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Phone 06 752 7765 - www.butlersreef.co.nz

Promote your events in the

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Now Open!

HEADLANDS
Restaurant and Cafe - Ph: 761 8358

Live Entertainment Coming Soon
\$15 Takeaway Curries

OPEN TUESDAY - SUNDAY
Closed Mondays
HOURS: 10am - 2.30pm lunch
4.30 pm til late, dinner and takeaways



CoastalCare Health and Community Centre

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

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY

Every 2nd Wednesday hearing evaluation, hearing aid assessment, ACC hearing evaluation and complimentary hearing checks.

TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE

Offering full dental services every Thursday.

ACUPUNCTURE CLINIC

every Thursday afternoon

SURFSIDE MIDWIFERY - JO LOCKTON

supporting you from conception until baby is 6wks old - home visits & clinics as needed

TAI CHI - NIGEL CLIFFE

every Thursday, 9am-10am, low impact exercise all welcome, gold coin donation.

FOODBANK

Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm, providing basic food parcels for those in need.

BUDGET ADVICE

advice and assistance with budgets and finances, every second Wednesday.

TARANAKI PODIATRY

every 3rd Tuesday - specialised foot care for all ages in clinics

HAUMIRI MASSAGE

Every 1st Thursday

COUNSELLING

Various providers and various specialties including, relationships, drugs, alcohol, quit smoking, change support, family violence and anger management

DAIRY NZ

once a month course - delivers industry training to those in the Dairy Industry

PLUNKET MUMS COFFEE GROUP

Every 2nd Thursday 10am-11am. All mums welcome.

COASTAL PRINTERS

Wednesday and Friday 9am - 5pm, on other days orders can be made at reception.

Also permanently residing in the building are:

OPUNAKE PHARMACY

OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE

ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE - PLUNKET

HEALTH BOARD SERVICES.



CONTACT: ARETHA, MANAGER, on 761 8488

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE – HIRE
For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre
Check out our website at www.everybodystheatre.co.nz
APRIL / MAY 2017

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos
LOVING Drama, True Story & Biography, Romance, Historical 2hrs 3mins PG: Coarse language Based on a true story, this love story sees a white man and a black woman deeply in love in 1967 Virginia. Sunday 30 April 7pm	SMURFS: THE LOST VILLAGE Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family, Fantasy, Blockbuster 1hr 30mins G Smurfs adventure sees the little blue fellows on the search for the Forbidden Forest. Wednesday 26 April 1pm Saturday 29 April 1pm
THE MUSIC OF STRANGERS **ARTHOUSE** Documentary, Music G 1 hr 36mins Cellist Yo-Yo Ma and other international artists of The Silk Road Project discuss their philosophies on music and culture. Wednesday 26 April 7pm Wednesday 5 May 1pm	BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Fantasy, Musical, Romance, 2hrs 9mins PG Violence Beauty and the Beast is the fantastic journey of Belle, a bright, beautiful and independent young woman who is taken prisoner by a beast in his castle. Sunday 7 May 7pm Saturday 13 May 1pm Wed 10 May 1pm Saturday 13 May 7pm
A STREET CAT NAMED BOB Drama, True Story & Biography 1hr 43 mins PG Coarse language & drug references James Bowen - a busker and recovering drug addict who had his life transformed by none other than a stray ginger cat. The cat, Bob, is played in the movie by Bowen's real-life cat, Bob. Friday 5 May 7pm Wed 10 May 7pm Saturday 6 May 7pm Friday 12 May 7pm	LEGO BATMAN MOVIE Action, Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family 1 hr 44 mins PG violence Batman wants to save the city from The Joker's hostile takeover, he may have to drop the lone vigilante thing, try to work with others and maybe, just maybe, learn to lighten up. Saturday 6 May 1pm Saturday 20 May 1pm
Fate of the Furious - Action, Crime, Thriller M 2hrs 16mins Friday 28 April, Wednesday 3 May & Sunday 14 May at 7pm	
WEDNESDAY 26 APRIL Smurfs:The Lost Village 1pm The Music of Strangers 1pm	FRIDAY 28 APRIL Fate of the Furious 7pm
SATURDAY 29 APRIL Smurfs:The Lost Village 1pm	SUNDAY 30 APRIL Loving 7pm
3 The Music of Strangers 1pm Fate of the Furious 7pm	5 A Street Cat named Bob 7pm
6 Lego Batman Movie 1pm A Street Cat named Bob 7pm	7**Boutique Night** Beauty & the Beast 7pm
10 Beauty & the Beast 1pm A Street Cat named Bob 7pm	12 A Street Cat named Bob 7pm
13 Beauty & the Beast 1pm Beauty & the Beast 7pm	14 Fate of the Furious 7pm

Rapira to end career with an explosion

Coastal's Simon Julian will feature as the main undercard at the upcoming Fowler Homes Taranaki Explosion Fight Night.

The bout, to be held at the TSB Stadium in New Plymouth on Friday May 26 is a big step up for the local Opunake boxer as he takes on Tautu Brilliant of Tahiti, French Polynesia.

Brilliant has a record of five wins and two losses, to Simon Julian's two wins and one loss.

Julian is currently ranked fifth in New Zealand, and plans to fight his way up the ranks to a New Zealand title. He has won both his fights in Taranaki by knockout.

Julian said the fight will by far be his biggest test as a professional, and is confident his training at the Hydras Boxing Academy in Eltham will get him in excellent shape for the fight.

"Brilliant is a dangerous fighter and I want to test myself against the best, and I am not afraid to put myself out there, and take a risk like this. I would to fight for a New Zealand professional boxing title, and winning this bout will be a step towards that goal"

Opunake-based Julian,



Sam Rapira and Simon Julian featuring at Boxing Fight Night.

who represented both Taranaki and New Zealand at Surf Lifesaving said he is excited to have the opportunity to test himself against a more experienced opponent. "Our training has been really intense and it is always good to be able to test your skills in the ring, especially in front of your home crowd so I'm looking forward to a big night."

In the main event Sam Rapira will fight in his final professional boxing match against undefeated light heavyweight boxer Tipene Maniapoto

"It will be an exciting night of boxing with a full card of eight bouts - three professional fights and five corporate matchups and it is great to have Simon on the main undercard.

"I started my career here in Taranaki, and there's no place that I'd rather finish it. I'm fighting undefeated Tipene Maniapoto from Hawkes Bay who is an up and coming light heavyweight.

"Boxing is a young man's game but I'm very proud of what I have done in my career, both professionally and as an amateur. Boxing has had such a positive

impact on my life. I'm so grateful I found it, or it found me.

Rapira's manager Ashley Smith said they were counting on strong local support for Sam.

"Sam is a tremendous athlete and has worked tirelessly to get boxing established in Taranaki and his career has been real credit to him, his family and

Box Office Boxing. "This will be the last chance for people to support him in the ring and it will be a big show. We are really proud of what we put on and as this is Sam's final round, we really want to reward people with a great night of boxing"

Tickets for the event were on sale now from Ticketek or at the TSB Showplace and were priced to ensure a big crowd with tickets starting from \$30 for adults and \$15 for students.

"It will be our biggest show to date and people will enjoy a great night out with explosive match-ups, where intense competition meets great entertainment" Smith added.

Contact: Sam Rapira 021 1531399. Ashley Smith 0274 30046

Tickets: Premium \$45, Adult GA \$30.00, Student \$15, Family \$75

TSB Showplace 0800 842538 9am-5pm Mon - Fri and Sat 10am-1pm

www.premier.ticketek.co.nz/shows/show.aspx?sh=EXPLOSION17

For Ticketing Queries: ph 06 7590021. Ringside tables: Ashley 0274 300 461 / Jess 021 100 8102



TARANAKI EXPLOSION

RAPIRA'S FINAL ROUND!

BOXING FIGHT NIGHT



SAM 'THE TERROR' RAPIRA (Taranaki) **VS** **TIPENE MANIAPOTO** (Hawkes Bay)

SUPPORT COASTAL'S SIMON JULIAN



'Slick' SIMON JULIAN (Opunake) **VS** **TAUTU BRILLANT** (Tahiti, French Polynesia)

MASTERS MATCH



KERRY 'K-Dog' SIMEON **VS** **SAM 'The Man In Black' BENNETT**



'The Terminator' TARN REID (Taranaki) **VS** **WENDY TALBOT** (Rotorua)

RUMBLE ON THE RUNWAY MODEL VS MODEL



ZARA 'The Magpie' ANSELL **VS** **SHAYNA 'Bob'n'Weaver' MASTERS-DREAYER**

SOUTH VS NORTH TARANAKI



BRENDAN 'The Brawler' BUNTING **VS** **MICHAEL 'The Mantis' BRAGGINS**

FRI 26 MAY
TSB Stadium

TICKETS FROM TSB SHOWPLACE
OR ph 0800 TICKETEK
or www.ticketek.co.nz
(BOOKING FEES APPLY)

TICKETS: Premium: \$45 Adults: \$30 Student: \$15 Family: \$75

HOSPITALITY TABLES AVAILABLE:
Phone: Ashley 0274 300 461 or Jess 021 100 8102

ELEMENTS OF HIP-HOP



CAMERON 'Odjobs' SHENNAN (Graffiti Artist) **VS** **TODD 'Louie Knux' WILLIAMS** (Rapper)

BATTLE OF THE BEAUTIES



ALEX SIMKIN **VS** **CHANEL SMITH**



ANDREW 'The Vanilla Gorilla' CASTLES **VS** **JULIAN BRACEGIRDLE**

THE HEAVY HITTERS