



## Inside

# Lizzie Bell disaster commemorated

The sinking of the Lizzie Bell in 1901, in which 12 seamen lost their lives, was commemorated before a large crowd of people at Pihama Cemetery on Wednesday July 24, 118 years to the day after the disaster.

A large crowd of people attended including the mayor of South Taranaki District Council Ross Dunlop, the deputy mayor Phil Nixon, Councillor Clem Coxhead and representatives from the Merchant Navy.

The mayor of South Taranaki Ross Dunlop, who arrived for the 11am ceremony proudly bearing the long lost ship's bell, gave an interesting account of the disaster in which 12 men of the crew of 18 lost their lives recalling how as a boy when they were driving round the mountain his father would talk about it.

"Bound for Newcastle, Australia the vessel struck a reef at 11pm near Oeo. Two of the crew fell overboard and the men were soon given the order to abandon ship," said the mayor.

It was later speculated that had they stayed on the boat they might have been OK.

More disaster however was to follow. The life boat the men were on capsized twice and six more crew drowned. After righting the life boat, some of the surviving members of the crew made it to shore and clambered up the cliffs seeking help.

"They knocked on the door of Captain Goode," who lived close by. When the rescuers arrived they discovered a further two men on the boat had died.

There was subsequently an official enquiry which found



The survivors of the crew of the Lizzie Bell wrecked off Oeo, Taranaki, July 24 1901. Sitting from left M Tickell (apprentice), C Barron (mate), John Rees (captain), John Harding (A.B). Standing at left John Glenn (A.B) and W Arbuckle (apprentice).

Photo: A Collis, New Plymouth

the captain was remiss and that the vessel was in fact sailing in the wrong direction. An enquiry found that the captain was held responsible for the navigational error and suspended for 12 months. "It was a very sad story," comment Mayor Dunlop.

At the time a lot of ships had run aground – there were 12 shipwrecks in 1900 and 12 in 1901.

Later remnants of the Lizzie Bell were collected with the headmaster at the then Hawera High School purchasing items including the ship's bell.

The location of the ship's bell however remained a mystery for many years.

A bit of fossicking around recently by none other than the mayor and the bell was found in the cupboard at Hawera School (Now Hawera Primary School).

The mayor gave a couple of celebratory rings of the ship's bell to mark his extraordinary find before commenting on the way the cemetery was diligently cared for thanking the large crowd of people from the district and others who had attended.

Denise Wood, Secretary of the New Plymouth Sub Committee of the New Zealand Merchant Navy Association, then spoke beginning by quoting from the hymn traditionally associated with seafarers Those in Peril on the Sea.

Chairman of the Merchant

Navy Association who first welcome everyone to the ceremony, Hamuora Kinera in fine voice then lead in singing How Great Thou Art, first in English, then in TeReo.

Chairman of the Top Merchant Navy of New Zealand Merv Martin then spoke of the "bravery of those who sailed in the sailing ships of yesteryear."

From the 1840s they sailed across the world. In the absence of roads steamships were responsible for more than forty percent of the total tonnage of exports.

Wreath laying followed as Denise Wood recited the names of the 12 merchant seamen who perished.

The Last Post was then played, followed by a minute's silence then the raising of the flag.

Mark Stevenson, Chairperson of the Pihama Cemetery Board who also spoke "noted that the "Lizzie Bell is a big part of the cemetery."

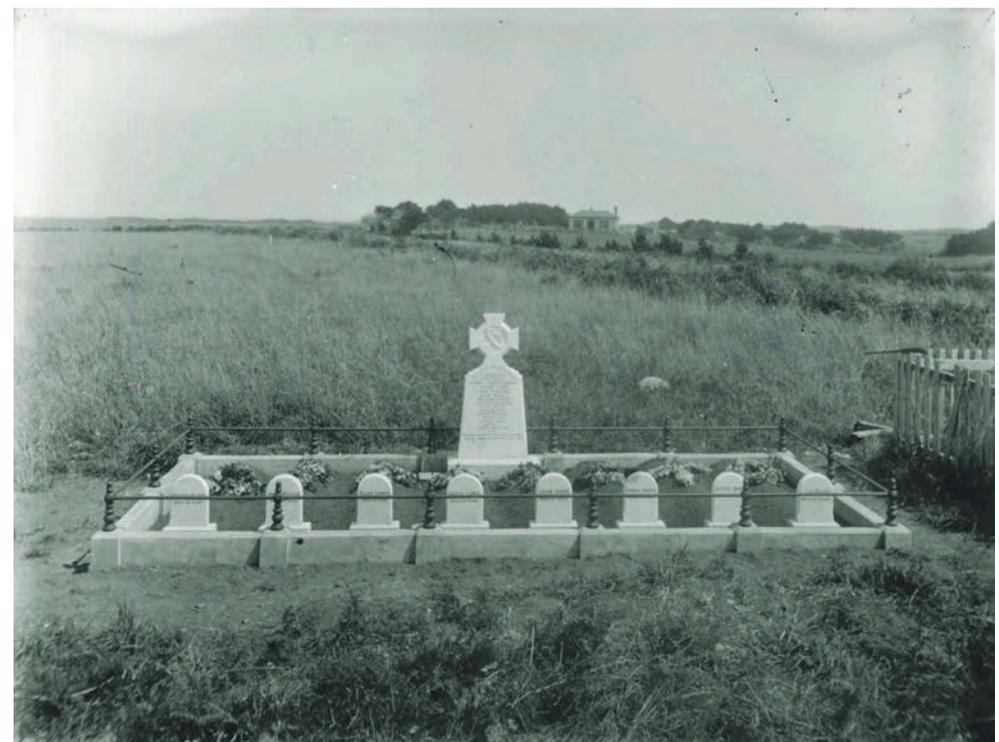
"My late father spent his life looking for the bell," he reflected. "A lot of us did," he added.

He then added to the amusement of all said of the mayor "He'd be tackled if he tried to take it away."

Mark's father Ian Stevenson used to write a regular column on local shipwrecks in the early days of the Opunake & Coastal News.

Mark added, again humorously, that the bell would briefly be placed on his late father's grave at Pihama "to show him they'd finally found the bell."

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The memorial in early days.



Opunake Walkway extended. Page 5



Rural thefts on the rise and farewell to our Okato cop. Page 6



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Coastal Rugby prizegiving. Page 18

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## Letters to the Editor

### Give Way signs at Intersections in NZ

The Triangle approach to a Give Way intersection is the

wrong way around. Have you ever noticed when you travel up to a 'Give Way' intersection that there is a triangle facing towards you. Now imagine if you are new to the country, and are travelling for the first time in New Zealand on the left hand

side of the road. You are approaching an intersection and turning right for the first time. You see a large triangle pointing that way on the right hand lane. Your mind instinctively tells you that this is the way you should go. Another thought crosses your mind quickly as you see a car approaching you on the same side, and the other rule 'keep left' kicks in. Then you correct your first mistake. The question has to be asked, how many tourists are having accidents at intersections that have 'Give Way' signs? How has this occurred in the first place? Let us look at the history of 'Give Way.' Firstly, the Germans used a sign during the War meaning "Halt." Then the Americans designed the sign and called it "Yield." in a triangle. We have adopted the

American system of road signage and forgotten that they drive on the other side of the road. Therefore resulting in the triangle facing the wrong way. How can we fix this without turning the triangle around the other way, and creating chaos on the New Zealand intersection.

May I suggest we paint another triangle, creating a 'Star of David.'

I believe this will have some greater impact on warning of an intersection. At least it will be a start.

Thank you for your interest in this subject matter, and next time you drive up to a "Give Way" intersection, take note of the triangle, and question yourself, which direction and which lane you would drive into if you were from overseas.

*John R Smith.  
New Plymouth*

### Spare a thought

Spare a thought for those not as well off as yourself was a dictum drummed into me as a youth and I hold it to this day.

I was shocked to see on TV about two weeks ago to see landowners being forced off their properties in the rural settlement of Matata in the Bay of Plenty by their district Council.

Not because they had done anything wrong. Not because they hadn't paid their rates or mortgage. Not because they had been a pain to their neighbours. But because the council thought it was a good idea to save money.

Now another tenet that I hold to is that a man's home is his castle. That by buying and paying for a house nobody can evict you without paying proper compensation, without exploring reasonable alternatives.

Now the only justification provided on TV was that it was cheaper than flood protection for the northern

end of the small town. A cursory inspection reveals that the average price for a three bedroom house is between \$450-\$350,000 which means the council must be thinking of paying around \$4-5 million dollars for purchasing and selling for removal say ten houses.

This all stems from a terrible flood a few years ago where a huge flow of water, mud and trees cascaded from the hills which form a background to the settlement. What complicates things is that the hills in question are a reserve presumably owned and administered by the said same council.

Does this mean that our council can evict landowners from their own properties if they think it is cheaper or more convenient? When were the property rights of landowners scrapped? After Christchurch?

Something to think about.

*John Hubbard  
Opunake*

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For editorial, email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor: Bernice McKellar

Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith

Production/IT: Shane Butler

Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly

Registered as a newspaper.

Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand



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.

### ADELPHOS

Death is a normal part of life. Just as we are born we will all die. The way we grieve depends on our personality, age and stage, faith and life experience. It is also influenced by previous griefs and how close other griefs are to the present one. Whatever the case, it takes time and there's no set timetable. But there are some ways to help support yourself, when working through bereavement. Avoid using alcohol, drugs, sex and gambling in order to cope with the pain. They may numb the pain for a short time, but don't teach us how to cope with grief. Stay connected with others, but realise that not everyone knows how to support you. At times you may need to be by yourself. Patience is key: with ourselves and others (easier said than done).

Maintaining healthy sleep, diet and exercise/activity is vital. Ask yourself, "Am I getting enough sleep?" Going to bed at a regular time and turning the lights down low thirty minutes before bedtime can help increase melatonin levels. If you are short on sleep, try going to bed earlier. Keep an eye on your calorie intake and the nutrition levels in what you are eating. Some form of exercise or activity is important, but remember it is not just going to the gym, pool, jogging or walking: doing jobs inside the house or around the yard also count.

It is important to be aware of low energy and mood levels during a time of bereavement: grief uses up physical

and emotional energy. If you are continuously tired ask yourself, "What do I need?" For example if you're sitting around and thinking of your loved one for hours, that's not necessarily helpful. Get up and do something. Our bodies are meant to be kept moving. Reconnect with nature, do something active or take up a new hobby or activity. Write about what is on your mind, use adult colouring activities, crosswords, dance, singing or listening to music that makes you feel better (music can work both ways). Phone a friend, family member or counselling service (Lifeline).

Faith can be challenged in times of grief. If you're able to pray it may be helpful.

Other helpful practices are meditation, mindfulness and doing acts of kindness for others (and yourself). Distraction strategies such as arts and crafts, gardening, cards, woodwork and board or internet games can also be helpful. You might even think of forming a bereavement group in your neighborhood. It's been said that a burden shared is a burden halved.

For those supporting others who are grieving it can be difficult knowing how to do it. Be patient with the person and realise they are going through a big change in their life. It is vital to non-judgmentally listen to them if and when they want to talk. Try not to tell them you know how they feel. Grief can af-

fect relationships: sometimes drawing people closer and sometimes pushing them apart.

Sometimes it's necessary to seek medical or counselling support. If you're concerned about an afterlife you might speak with a minister or priest or do your own research. Get back into the usual routines of life and take one step and day at a time. If you go backwards it doesn't matter. It's part of the grief process. Life's rose garden is not without its thorns and prickles. Hopefully these strategies will help you on the road of bereavement.

*Adelphos, M.A. Counselling, University of Auckland, NZAC*

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# Lizzie Bell disaster commemorated

Continued from page 1

Mark said they hadn't ever been able to find any descendants of those who perished in the Lizzie Bell. Perhaps our readers may be able to help.

The descendants of Captain Good however still reside in the area.

He drew attention to the dray used to carry the bodies which had been brought up to the cemetery for the day..

Peter Trolove from Piha added some interesting facts he's gleaned from the Opunake Times which reported on the tragedy.

Mr Lang's brother was the only representative of any of the deceased who attended the funeral, reported the Opunake Times. At 2pm, the first mourners arrived; by 2:20 500 people had arrived. On the day they collected 103 pounds which was divided in half between the survivors to be outfit-

ted. The other half went towards marking the graves. Reverend Geoff Williams from Opunake closed the memorial service.

Merv Martin, a member of the Merchant Navy of New Zealand later said that September 3 marked International Merchant Navy Day.

The date was chosen as on September 3, 1939, two hours after World War 2 was declared when the British merchant passenger liner SS Athenia was torpedoed off the coast of Ireland with the loss of 117 lives.

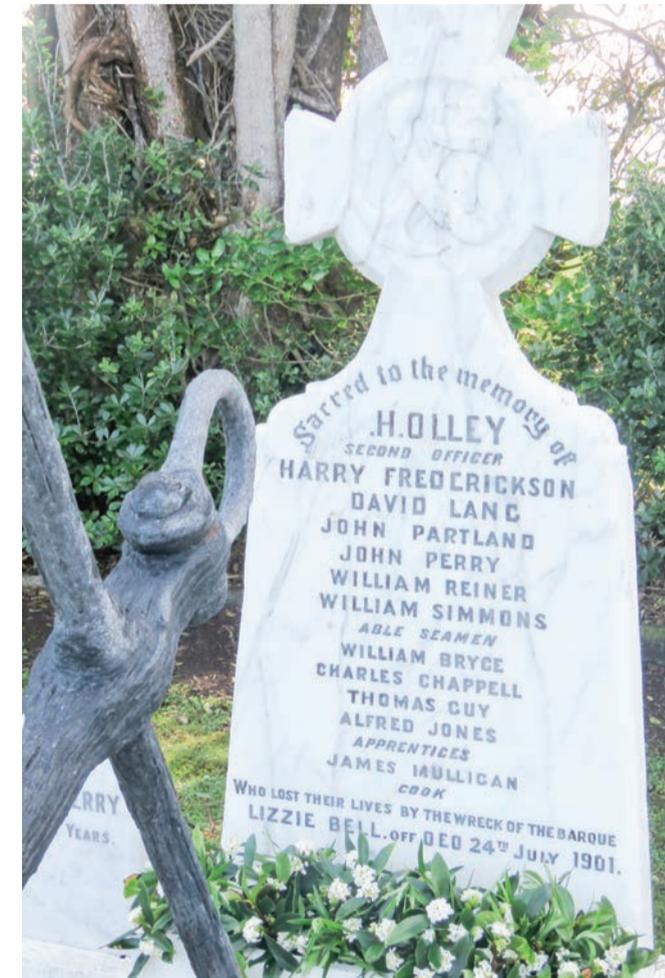
They tried to bring it forward as a war crime, said Merv.

He added that clearly the Germans were waiting in readiness for the declaration of war.

While merchant sea vessels were not armed, towards the end of the war they were which of course made them a target.



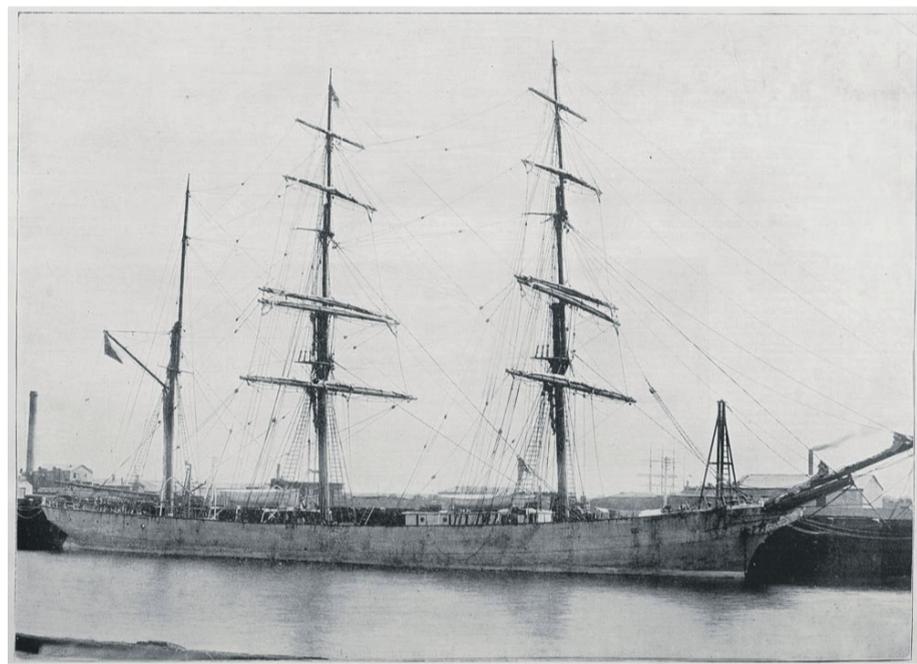
Mark Stevenson, Chairperson of the Piha Cemetery Board, addresses those gathered, alongside representatives of the New Zealand Merchant Navy. From left: Merv Martin, Denise Wood and Hamuora Kinera.



LEFT:

The names of those who perished.

Continued page 4



The ill-fated barque the Lizzie Bell.



The grave of those who died in the Lizzie Bell with the ship's anchor and bell.

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**PHL**

Continued from page 3

# Excerpt from the Report on a Shipping Casualty to the 'Lizzie Bell'

To the Honourable the Minister having charge of the Marine Department of New Zealand.

After 8 p.m. the second mate went aloft to the foretop gallant yard on three occasions in case land might be seen, and during this time the breeze held good both in force and direction. At 10.40 pm. the second mate carne down from aloft, when J. Glen, A.B., who was on the look-out, informed him that what he (Glen) considered the loom of the land was visible on starboard beam. 'there is no evidence to show that further notice was taken of this by either captain or second mate. I think the look-out man blameable in not giving more distinct warning, knowing that the ship was running into danger. By the evidence of W. J. Arbuckle, apprentice, Simmons, A.B., came aft about 11.15 p.m. and reported land on the starboard beam, and a

few minutes after the captain, who had been below at 11 p.m. pricking off the position on the chart, called "All hands on deck," and simultaneously the vessel struck the rocks with her starboard side. The lifeboat, a new one received at Glasgow, was at once got out, and after taking the crew in, she was veered to leeward of the ship with a 120 fathom line made fast to the main mast. In about half an hour the mainmast fell over the side, followed shortly after by the foremast, while a little later the vessel broke her back. To avoid entanglement with the floating wreckage, the line was slipped and the lifeboat pulled to windward of the wreck about half a mile, when she capsized, and all hands were thrown into the water. The boat was righted, but it was found some of the crew were missing, and the oars were all adrift, but Simmons swam

out and recovered two of the oars. Sometime after it was decided to make for a headland for shelter, but in keeping away the boat was again overturned, and on being righted only six men reappeared: eventually they were thrown on the beach, and when daylight broke they searched for assistance, which they ultimately received from Captain Goode and other inhabitants in the neighbourhood. Owing to the suddenness of the catastrophe, and the lamentable loss of life, nothing whatever in the shape of log book, chart, or other papers to refer to were saved, nor were any of those who had been at the wheel, and whose evidence as to the courses steered or what transpired before and at the time of the wreck, left alive.

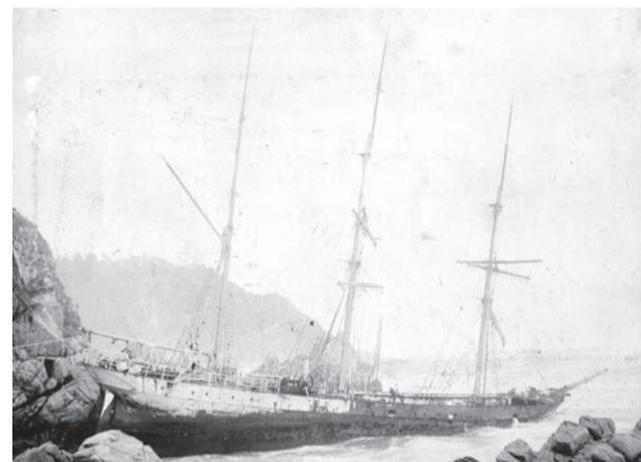
Above is an excerpt from the report into the Lizzie Bell tragedy on August 5 1901. The captain was found to be negligent in the navigation of the ship. The report also found that "had the lifeboat been properly fitted with lifelines around the gunwale, the probability is that some lives might have been saved, also the Court is of opinion that had the oars been fitted with lanyards some lives might have been saved."



The entrance to the Pihama Cemetery. Ian Baker from Opunake stands behind the wall he made in which is embedded a plaque describing the story of the Lizzie Bell. Ian also made the town walls at the entrance to Opunake. This, however, was the first wall he built says Ian.

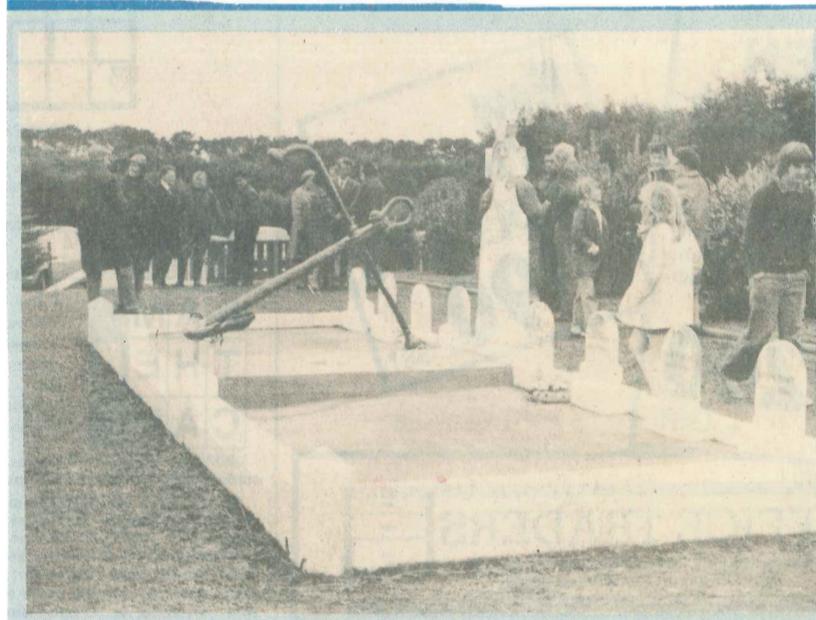
## A curiosity

The newspaper article reproduced below claims to have interviewed a survivor of the Lizzie Bell.



A photo of the Lizzie Bell aground.

Charles Milton, who purports to have been a survivor of the Lizzie Bell, does not appear among those said to have survived.



## Taranaki shipwreck

# Last survivor tells of tragedy

The only living survivor of an English barque shipwrecked off the Taranaki coast in 1901 has just celebrated his 106th birthday. Charles Milton was a 19-year-old sea cadet when the Lizzie Bell, carrying a cargo of coal from Wellington to Newcastle, hit rocks off the coastal settlement of Oeo. Only six of a crew of 18 survived. Today, living quietly in an old people's home in Southampton, Mr Milton said that his recollections of the tragic night were a little unclear. "I wasn't aware of much except

trying to save my life," he said. The man on the lookout was an Irishman called Flanagan who always kept a bottle of Irish whiskey in his pocket to keep the cold out. "Every half hour he was supposed to yell out, 'All's well, bright lights.'" Just before the Lizzie Bell hit rocks he didn't make one of his calls," he said. Two of the crew were thrown overboard in the collision and were found dead jammed among the rocks. The rest of the crew scrambled into the only lifeboat, which overturned twice before reaching shore; drowning six more crew members. After landing, four more crew

members died from the cold before rescuers arrived. An inquiry in New Plymouth found that the Lizzie Bell was wrecked through negligent navigation, and the master had his certificate suspended for 12 months. The Lizzie Bell was the first and last ship that Mr Milton sailed with. On his return to England he became a gas engineer in his home town of Torquay. Mr Milton was married in 1919 to a nurse, and she died in 1982 at the age of 97 when he was 99. Asked for the secret of his longevity he said: "I walk a lot, read a lot and pray a lot. The Almighty will call me when he thinks fit." NZPA

LEFT: The anchor of the Lizzie Bell marks the graves of eight crew members at Pihama Cemetery.

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The dray belonging to the Pettigrew family that carried the bodies of the seamen from the beach to the Oeo Hotel.

# Loop extension to the walkway

For those living in Opunake, most will be aware of the walkway extension that the Opunake Lions Club has been working on over the last few months. What the finished product is going to be called is still a point of discussion. Work on this project started a little later than expected, however, thanks to all those who have contributed progress has been much faster than I expected.



Opunake Lions Club members working on the extension to the Opunake Walkway.

Prior to work commencing NZ Transport Agency and STDC were approached to get permission to pass under both the Waiaua and Otahi Bridges. At the site meeting NZTA indicated that not only were they happy with what was suggested they would also be able to contribute financially to the work. This was not expected nor asked for, however, was a welcome surprise. Initially efforts concentrated on the Waiaua end of the extension. The path under the bridge was excavated then students from the Opunake High School together with the Lions Club completed the retaining walls.

Ron and Nevis Brewer of Opunake donated \$1,000 for the purchase of plants, which were planted in early June around the Waiaua mainly by Opunake High School students. While the area had been spot sprayed about a month prior to planting, with the mass of kikuyu roots, this was some of the hardest planting I have ever done. It has been a huge effort by those involved.

Following approval from Taranaki Iwi and the Te Namu Iti Trust a blessing was held on May 24 prior to work starting under the Otahi Bridge. The cultural significance of the Otahi Stream and the Te Namu area and its importance to Mana Whenua is recognised by the Lions Club and the Club wished to acknowledge that and participate in a blessing. The history of this area is huge and some of it is able to be readily accessed by a google search. It is well worth reading. The work

that has been done here has only been made possible by the approval of the Hickey family and Jimmy Dodunski, the land-owners.

The opening of the passage to the old dam, originally constructed for a flax mill in the late 1800s then used by the Opunake Dairy factory was, I think, a surprise to many. The district is lucky to have this structure still in place.

A number of years ago, in an effort to allow fish passage up the Otahi, the Regional Council ordered the dam's destruction. Leo Hickey was strongly opposed and volunteered to put in a fish pass. This was approved by the TRC who then allowed the dam to remain. The ownership of the dam was then invested in Leo's name. Work has also been carried out to allow walking and cycling under the Otahi bridge and the path has been extended, again on land owned by the Hickey family, upstream of the bridge and fencing carried out. Eventually this will connect to the end of Whitcombe Road. Downstream of the bridge work will be carried out following the stream to the public garden and then link into the current walkway.

The Lions Club has been extremely fortunate to have had metal for the track surface donated from Shane Kells of Taranaki Trucking and David and Ann Gibson. The donation of this has saved the club thousands of dollars. The efforts of club members and others outside

the club has also helped considerably in shifting the metal either directly on the track or to the end of Whitcombe Road where it is stock piled for the summer when it will be spread. These people will be recognised at a later date when the track is opened.

Brief discussions have also been held with St Joseph's School, Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Tamarongo, and Opunake Primary School as to whether they wish to be involved. All have expressed considerable interest and pupils from St Joseph's have already carried out some planting above the Otahi Bridge.

Moving forward, very little work will be carried out on the extension over the next few months as many of the people involved are dairy farmers with their herds approaching calving. Once we get through the spring period and soil conditions become drier, we will be back in to it again and hope to have the trail ready for walking and riding prior to the Club's Mountain to Sea bike ride in March. One of the areas we will be forming a path through is the old railway reserve, now called Hurst Park. There has recently been an increased level of community interest in this area calling for it to be improved. The Lions Club fully support this and are reluctant to carry out any formation until a community approved plan is adopted.

As can be seen this project is far bigger than just the Opunake Lions Club. It has become a real community project with not only club members being involved but a host of others as well. This seems typical of Opunake

with so many of the community being prepared to get involved and "make things happen".

The South Taranaki District Council has agreed to paying \$16,527.80 to assist with the development work and a further \$10,000 in the 2019-20 financial year for existing track maintenance. The Community Board may also call a public meeting shortly to discuss with interested parties further development of this trail and other initiatives groups are bringing forward. If this meeting occurs, one outcome I would like to see is the formation of a group who are prepared to become involved with track maintenance, both physical work and budget preparation for submission to council. While the Lions Club will be doing a lot more work on the trail to be fully successful this needs to be a community run and owned asset.

Ian Armstrong

Our next issue is due out August 15. Phone us on 06 761 7016 if you want to be in it.

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# OKATO COPPERS

Hi Everyone  
 Rural Crime is continuing to spike around Taranaki, farm bikes, chainsaws and fuel are the hot items that are continuously being targeted. This hasn't changed and has been typical for the last few years.



CONSTABLE RHYSS CONNELL

Rural Crime has been on the increase over the last 2-3 years. In 2017 Taranaki had 150 thefts and burglaries for the year, 2018 saw the number increase to just over 200 and as it stands we are on track for around 220 this year.

What can I do to help curb crime on farms I hear you ask? The first would be to lock your gear away and take bike keys out of your bikes. In regards to fuel theft this is a little trickier. Many farmers have been good at putting locks on their tanks, but they are getting cut off. Think about what makes your farm more vulnerable to others.

A lot of fuel thefts from tanks happen at locations where the farm house is accessed from a different part of the farm to the cowshed or the implement shed. This makes thieves harder to detect. Consider a point to point alarm on your gateway which can alert you to when someone drives up your track. These types of security are becoming a lot more affordable and are usually the cost of a full tank of fuel.

As many of you will no doubt be aware, as my absence has been noted, that my time in Okato has come to an end. I began relieving in New Plymouth at the start of 2019 and that position has now

become permanent. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in Okato and will miss being a part of the community for the last 4 1/2 years. Constable Kelly Jenkins will continue to relieve in Okato as she has

been doing since the start of the year until the position is filled permanently. Okato is a fantastic little community and I am sure it will attract a very good police officer who I am sure will do a great job.

That's it from me. Signing out.

Rhys Connell

# OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

On Monday night the Opunake Brigade held its monthly meeting. At this meeting a number of members were recognised for their service. They were Sam Hemi, who was presented with a 14 year Long Service Conduct Medal, Nigel Fraser a two year silver bar for 13 years' service and Beau LeProu who was presented with a Life Honorary Membership Medal from the Brigade. The Opunake brigade congratulates all the recipients, and thanks them and their families for their service to the brigade and to the Opunake Community. Families play a big part in providing understanding and support to the brigade members so they can, when the siren sounds, go and help those in need. Thank you families once again.

In my last article I discussed how closing doors can provide significant protection to the remainder of your property should a fire occur. Well, blow me down, a few days after I wrote the article the Opunake brigade along with the Rahotu and Okato brigades attended a property fire on Kina Road. The fire had started in a bedroom. The occupant of the house closed the bedroom door and called the brigade. Upon arrival the brigade was able to extinguish the fire in the bedroom with next to no damage to the rest of the house. The occupant is to be applauded for their actions in closing the door and calling the brigade even though they had a monitored alarm. Well Done! Other incidents the Opunake brigade have attended include powerlines down

across a private drive way on Watino Road; no action was required by the brigade.

In the afternoon of Thursday 18th they responded to reports of powerlines arching in a disused cowshed on Waiteake Rd. The power was isolated by the brigade to prevent any further damage. On Wednesday 24th the Opunake and Kaponga brigades responded to a Motor Vehicle accident on Kiri Road. This turned out to be a single vehicle accident where the driver had lost control of the car and rolled a number of times, ending up on its roof in a paddock. The driver and sole occupant escaped with no significant injuries. One very lucky person.

Over the past few weeks there has been a number of house fires across Taranaki. In a couple of these the

cause has been put down as overloaded multi boxes. Here is a little bit of advice in respect to the use of multi boxes. Before use give them a shake to make sure nothing is loose inside. Ensure that anything you plug into them plugs in correctly and is not loose. Never use a multi box to plug in dryers or heaters. Never cover a multibox. Multi boxes can be used for phone charges bedside lights electric blankets, anything with a light current draw. If you are in doubt about the condition of your multi box have it checked by a registered electrician. Thanks to Jared from Sinclair Electrical for his help and advice on this subject. Take care out there.

VSO John Nicholls

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# Massive illegal haul of oysters and flounders shocks fishery officers

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is disappointed by the scale of an illegal haul of flounder and oysters in Northland.

Northland fishery officers have caught a 66-year-old Russell man with 97 flounder and 677 shucked oysters which were packed in punnets.

MPI spokesman Steve Rudsdale says officers were seriously concerned at the scale of the offending.

"The haul was commercial in scale. The man had more than three times the daily limit of both flounder and oysters.

"On top of that, the man was fishing with a net that was 178 metres long. The



An illegal haul of oysters.

maximum legal length for a flounder net is 60 metres. The way the oysters were packed in punnets and the length of the net indicate the

illegal catch was destined for the commercial market.

"We'd like to remind people that they should always be motivated by

collecting for 'a feed rather than greed'.

"Also, that it's an offence to buy seafood from an unlicensed source. Buying fish this way is also a food safety risk particularly in respect of the oysters, given that commercial oyster farms in the Bay of Islands were closed recently due to high rainfall."

The man will face charges under the Fisheries Act.

His boat, fishing nets and a vehicle have been seized.

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# Community tree planting planned

One hundred years after the beginnings of Soldiers Park, Eltham, it is about to be restored. The Restore Eltham group has taken on the task to clear seedling gums, gorse and broom, and replant with natives. So far over 150 hours of volunteer time has been put in to prepare the land for replanting. Over the summer volunteers planted 200 donated flaxes in the wetland area. More recently, South Taranaki District Council has gifted 250 trees to the project. A grant from Restore Taranaki has enabled the purchase of a further 1200 trees. Spot spraying has been done and the area is now ready to be planted.



Dianne Anderson and Becky Dodunski.

A Community Tree Plant is planned for August 3, and all residents of Eltham are invited to come and plant a tree (or 2), commencing at 10am. Participants are asked to bring a spade and gloves. Families are especially welcome, but children should be accompanied by an adult. It is hoped to have a free BBQ afterwards at the Eltham Swimming Pool. Further planting will

involve Eltham School children, and it is hoped in the future that this area will become an outdoor classroom. Trapping and monitoring of pests is planned and surveys of returning wildlife will be undertaken.

The land that is now Soldiers Park was acquired by the Eltham Borough Council in 1919. The gully was planted in eucalypts in the 1920s,

the stream diverted and a playing field created. Later, Eltham Swimming Baths were built on the edge of this field. In 1984 beginnings were made on the creating a walkway, and later in 1999, the Keep Eltham Beautiful group, working with community volunteers continued planting trees.

However in 2015, it was decided that the original trees were getting too large

and dangerous, and over the next year the area was cleared. It has taken time for the area to stabilise and the debris rot away. It is now ready for redevelopment and re-planting.

One hundred years on, here is the opportunity to return this Eltham Park to a loved and enjoyed green space in Eltham.

We welcome your contributions  
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## Fish and Games endorses overhaul of RMA

Fish & Game New Zealand endorses Environment Minister David Parker's announcement that he is consulting on a comprehensive review of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

"Fish & Game welcomes any discussion on environmental laws that will help better protect what we hold dear," Fish & Game New Zealand Chief Executive Martin Taylor says.

"The public wants our rivers and streams to be clean and safe for swimming, fishing and gathering food. It's our role to fight for the health of our waterways so our children's children can catch a fish in our rivers.

"The RMA was a significant step forward for resource management in New Zealand. However, it is underperforming in the management of critical environmental issues, such as freshwater.

"We agree it is time to discuss if the RMA should be split into two separate laws - a planning act and an environmental protection act.

"However, it is incredibly vital that the case law and legal precedents that have helped clarify the environmental protections in the RMA are not unnecessarily discarded.

There are also key parts of the RMA which we see as untouchable and will fight to preserve.

"Overall, New Zealand's resource management system is not broken, but it has allowed regional councils, who are responsible for its administration, to ignore their responsibilities.

"The recent Environment Aotearoa report confirmed this by revealing that regional councils have failed to fulfil their legal

obligations under the RMA to protect the environment for future generations.

"This has happened because some regional councils, like Horizons have promoted and protected agricultural interests over the environment for decades.

This needs to change. The review must stipulate how regional councils will be held to account for such decisions.

"We look forward to working with the

Government to finalise the terms of reference. Fish & Game New Zealand will work constructively and collaboratively with the Government as this review is carried out."

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News will be out on August 15. Call us to be in it.: 06 761 7016.

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# Meeting the Filipino community

Two weeks ago I enjoyed a memorable meeting with coastal members of the Filipino Community in the Oaonui Hall.

The warm and friendly mood inside was in stark contrast to a wintry blast that ruined the travel plans of New Zealand's first Filipino MP, National's Paulo Garcia. Taranaki-King Country MP Barbara Kuriger and I had been looking forward to greeting Paulo with a hearty Taranaki welcome, but we were delighted to immerse ourselves in some talented cultural entertainment and hospitality. It's always great to spend time with the different ethnic groups that have chosen to come here, and learn about their experiences and perspectives.

National has traditionally appreciated migrants for the benefits they bring to our economy and our culture. When I visited Tegel's Bell



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP**  
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

Block plant last month, I saw first-hand the value of migrant workers. Parts of the operation are very labour-intensive and although the company employs hundreds of workers from all over Taranaki, they have trouble attracting enough staff for some tasks. It's a similar story in many aged-care facilities, agriculture and manufacturing industries, even teaching.

If you can't get the staff it makes sense to look overseas for highly skilled, talented

and motivated people to bridge the gap. The last National-led government also prioritised attracting workers for other growing industries like horticulture and viticulture, IT, and construction.

Enquiries about Immigration

issues form a large chunk of the workload in my office and I am concerned at the unintended consequences being caused by the current government's policies of restriction. Because inward migration supports the economy and labour

market, because migrant workers fill labour and skill shortages, and because they bring abilities, capital and connections, they make New Zealand an even better place, creating jobs and providing opportunities for everyone.

I hope that we have

learned and will continue to appreciate that understanding the values of different cultures and working together helps to build a richer society.

*Jonathan Young MP*

## Changes in division of property

### Justice Minister has tabled a Law Commission Report of Property (Relationships) Act 1976

Justice Minister Andrew Little has recently tabled the Law Commission's final report on its review of the Property (Relationships) Act 1976.

The Property (Relationships) Act 1976 (PRA) sets out how relationship property should be divided when a relationship ends by separation or death.

The report makes 140 recommendations and concludes that, while many of the existing rules within the Act are satisfactory, the Act is no longer fit for purpose, and recommends a new Act be introduced covering relationships ending by separation. The Law Commission did not



**ANDREW LITTLE MP**

consider relationships ending on death, and recommended that these should be dealt with separately.

"The report's overall conclusion is that the PRA is out-of-date and no longer fit for purpose in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," Minister Little says. "I thank the Law Commission, and in particular Deputy President Helen McQueen,

for their hard work over the past three years, and to those who took the time to provide considered submissions through the consultation process.

"I have tabled this report in accordance with my statutory responsibilities and the Coalition Government will now give further consideration to the report's recommendations and the wider impact of its proposals."

The process began in May 2016, when the Law Commission began a comprehensive review of the PRA. Just over a year later, the Commission released its issues paper, *Dividing Relationship Property - Time for Change? Te mātatoha rawa tokorau - Kua eke te wā?* which explored whether or not the PRA is achieving a

just division of property when a relationship ends.

The Commission received over 300 submissions on the issues paper and hosted 16 public consultation meetings throughout the country. Drawing on these submissions, the Commission released a preferred approach paper late last year and sought feedback. One hundred submissions were received in response to the proposed law reforms, which were factored into the final report.

The full report is available on the Law Commission's website: <https://www.lawcom.govt.nz/our-projects/review-property-relationships-act-1976?id=1589>

## On this month in history David Lange resigns

On August 8, 1989 the Prime Minister David Lange resigned and his deputy Geoffrey Palmer took over. Mr Lange had been leader of a Labour Government since the landslide election day victory in 1984.

Mr Lange had been increasingly at odds with Roger Douglas, who had designed the reforms now known as Rogernomics.

Mr Lange had gone along with many of the reforms, including selling off many state assets, but wasn't keen on a flat rate of tax, which would have impacted on lower paid employees.

Mr Lange was at odds with others in the Cabinet who wholeheartedly supported most Rogernomic reforms and there were challenges to his leadership from

Roger Douglas and Richard Prebble.



**The Rt Hon David Lange,**  
former Prime Minister of  
New Zealand.

In addition, Mr Lange was developing a problem with the consumption of too much alcohol, according to one of his Cabinet Dr Michael Bassett, who wrote a book about his time as an MP entitled 'Working with David.'

In his own book Mr Lange described many of his Cabinet colleagues thus: "What a terrible group of people they were."

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# Navy pioneer takes the helm at RNZRSA Board

She was the first woman to serve at sea in the Royal New Zealand Navy. Breaking new ground a few years later, she returned from maternity leave to become the New Zealand Defence Force's first part-time working parent. And, when she was appointed Commander of the Devonport naval support base, HMNZS Philomel, it was another female first.



**Captain Corina Bruce.**

Now, more than 35 years after beginning her military career, Captain Corina Bruce, career servicewoman, leadership specialist, software engineer, executive and entrepreneur has just been elected Chair of the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association Board – again, as the first woman to hold the role.

Ms Bruce, who joined the RNZRSA board in 2015, says her appointment as Chair is an immense honour, but one that comes with significant responsibility, as the organisation adapts to a future that is very different to its past.

"I see one of our key priorities is to broaden the understanding of what the RSA movement is about at its heart.

"It wasn't until I was a commanding officer that I, myself, gained true insight into the exceptional work our RSAs do, often behind the scenes, helping our personnel transition back to civilian life, especially when they're feeling challenged.

"It's powerful and unique support that can't be offered by other agencies – it's comrade helping comrade from a place of true knowing and understanding, and without judgment. It is literally life-changing."

Work was already underway, as part of a modernisation strategy, to adapt the RNZRSA's model to ensure it is financially

sustainable and structured to meet the changing needs of serving and returned military, Ms Bruce says.

"The veteran of today and the future is very different to those of the past, so we need to adapt and change, as needed, to do the best we can for our service people.

"My sense is that many of those questioning the relevance of today's RSAs aren't aware of the nature and scale of the core work that's going on behind the scenes, and what an incredible difference its making.

"So, when I'm asked whether the RSA movement has a future, my response is pretty simple: while we still have servicepeople and veterans needing support, the RSA is not only relevant, it's essential."

Ms Bruce enlisted in 1983 on completing her computer science degree, and served in several engineering roles, including as Director of Naval Information Systems, before joining the United Nations mission to Kosovo as a peacekeeper. On her return to New Zealand, she was appointed Commander of Personnel and Training (Technical), before going on to command of HMNZS Philomel.

A graduate of the New Zealand's Institute of Strategic Leadership, she is a national evaluator for

the New Zealand Business Excellence Foundation. In 2014, she was a finalist in the Women of Influence Awards' board and management category, in recognition of her work championing diversity and inclusion, including the mutual employer-employee benefits of flexible working arrangements for women in the military.

RNZRSA National President BJ Clark says Ms Bruce's strong mix of people skills, military knowledge and in-depth experience in transformational leadership, strategy and culture is a boon for the organisation.

"We're very fortunate to have someone of Corina's calibre lead the board into the future, particularly at such a pivotal time," Mr Clark says.

"She brings a strong, diverse skillset and experience, coal-face understanding of the military and our people, as well as commercial acumen. Corina is also widely respected both throughout the military and right across the RSA movement."

Ms Bruce recently served as the New Zealand Defence Force's Commander of the Joint Operational Health Group, and has just completed a secondment to NZDF's Diversity and Inclusion Directorate. She is now in the process of transitioning from the regular forces to the Royal New Zealand Naval Volunteer Reserve.

While she has been one of the defence force's lead advisors on making the workplace more inclusive of women, Ms Bruce says it is imperative that the importance of inclusion and diversity not be narrowed to a gender issue.

"Recent history has provided a well-overdue societal reckoning when it comes to how we treat one

another. There have been lessons for all of us to learn, and I like to think most of us live and view life through a broader, more tolerant lens nowadays.

"Absolutely, addressing the gender issue is important, but, officially there are 11 'frames', including religion, sexual orientation, culture – and I add a 12th on top of those: the specific mental health and wellbeing needs of those who have served, which can be quite different to those of the wider community.

"Our veterans and service people of the future are only going to become more and more diverse – a direct reflection of the community they're serving. As an organisation, the RNZRSA's future depends on being in step with that, and we'll be all the richer for it."

The RNZRSA is the umbrella organisation for more than 180 clubs throughout the country, which are home to some 100,000 members.

As well as her military and governance roles, Ms Bruce, together with husband Tony, has a passion for building businesses, with interests traversing coffee, snow and water sports gear and property ventures.

Ms Bruce replaces retiring inaugural board Chair Phillip Meyer. Mr Meyer was instrumental in delivering

a nationwide governance programme and a principles-based constitution, reforming a complex network of legacy trusts, as well as spearheading a five-year modernisation strategy.

"It has been a pleasure to work with such a capable, diverse and dedicated governance team. This is a group of people who give of their time and expertise for no reward, other than the immense satisfaction that

comes from honouring and supporting our serving and returned service people, and their families," Mr Meyer says.

"I leave the Chair's role in strong, astute hands. Throughout her lengthy and distinguished career, Corina has proven herself courageous, a person of great integrity, an innovator and an outstanding leader of people and projects."



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# Mac Sole: Episode 10

Realising China was safe, they probably knew of my peaceful attitude towards my fellow man stemming from my Christian upbringing, so we were waved on to enjoy all we were to perceive.

My next contact with Chinese military was when I was entering an event or a place of interest and at the entity in something like a guard box, but of a fair size occupied by a soldier of

some rank and two guards. The officer had on his cap which I asked if we could swap his officer's cap for my black cap with silver fern insignia. His answer to this request, although not word perfect, was for me to go away in broken and then he spoke in Chinese which by the look on his face was inviting me not to dinner. Me being somewhat quick witted moved on hurriedly,



A statue of a Buddha.

retaining my cap, inspired by two grumpy looking soldiers holding impressive looking rifles. Something similar occurred further on in my travels in Cambodia, which I will mention later. In China I did visit a number of places on interest, but not anything that I was super impressed by. But great times were had by me in my next Asian country, that country being Thailand of which I'm pleased I decided to visit starting on April 5, 1990, which seems a long time ago now.

On Thailand I may give more details than what I have on other countries.

I had a flight into Bangkok, then a taxi into the city to the Rose Hotel, which is close to the Pat Pong area. Also close

was the Aussie Club, which was mainly a bar.

On April 6 luck deserted me as I lost my wallet with 4500 Baht. One Baht is worth about 5 Aussie cents, but the worst part was the loss of my credit cards. Luckily, I had some cash in my luggage, but not very much, so I contacted the NZ Embassy, which was very helpful in offering emergency cash.

The embassy contacted the ANZ bank in Australia who, in turn, asked me to contact the Siam Commercial bank, who replaced my cards. This was a great relief but for three days I could not do much more than window shop.

On April 10 I went to the NZ Embassy to thank Judy, the lady who handled my problem and seemed to be the boss and an extra nice person. She shook my hand after which I handed her a large bunch of roses I'd bought for her.

I celebrated my change of fortune by shouting myself a meal and drinks in a good restaurant where I'd never seen prawns so big. Prawns are usually small and you have many on your plate. My meal consisted of only four huge ones. I was told that they are Asian or Thai prawns and they tasted great.

I had a visit to a snake farm to see a show of Thai men handling deadly cobras while wearing only light clothes. I was told a few handlers had died of poisoning; an occupation which is not for

me.

While in Bangkok I was measured for a silk/cotton three piece suit. When made it really looked great and felt great also. I also had a grey silk suite made for Maire. Once made it fitted her and looked nice. It cost 5,600 Baht – about \$280 Aussie.

On April 16 I was on a 7.30 bus heading for northern Thailand to visit one of Thailand's major temples. This one was a Ayuthua. The people on the bus went into the temple which has a huge Buddha at 20 metres plus high, but I walked around the outside and I came across a group of Thai men and women painting the walls and base. I stopped and spoke to them and, as best as I could, told them of my painting skills. After a bit more rubbish talk they invited me to do some painting, which I did to the groups delight. They jumped around and laughed their heads off. I had made more Thai friends.

Mac Sole

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Shoe Clinic has become the first business to achieve Consumer NZ's "Consumer Trusted" accreditation for five years running. The footwear retailer, which is New Zealand-owned, has 18 stores nationwide and sells online. This business was a consistently high achiever, Consumer NZ chief executive Sue Chetwin said. "Shoe Clinic has maintained a very high assessment rating since first becoming Consumer Trusted in 2015. Our accreditation is tough

to achieve, so it's clear this business is providing a high-quality experience for its customers. High standards of customer care are central to our programme," she said. In 2015, Consumer NZ developed its Trusted programme to recognise businesses that met the consumer watchdog's strict code of conduct. This code ensures accredited businesses provide exceptional customer service, and exceed the requirements of the Fair

Trading Act, Consumer Guarantees Act and other consumer-related laws.



Owner of Shoe Clinic Nick Bull.

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# Former farmers take up the spanner

Former dairy farmers take up the spanner. Former dairy farmers Jason and Kristy Strachan who for the last three years have also been running a part time mechanical engineering business from their dairy farm in Wiremu Road have now made it a full time business relocating to Tataraimaka.

Called JSME (Jason Strachan Mechanical Engineering), the business operates from 1759 South Road, Tataraimaka. Jason who is a qualified automotive mechanic says he's always had a mechanical bent - he built his own go kart aged 10 - decided after 25 years he enjoyed the mechanical work more than the dairy farming which he originally became involved in to help out his parents. He used to race cars which involved building his own car.

Their new business is a full time job with Jason doing the mechanical and engineering work and Kristy, the administrative side of the business. There are plans to take on another mechanic soon. The couple are clearly relishing the challenge. Jason says he's "absolutely" enjoying it. "We should have done it 20 years ago." It's different, with different challenges each day he says adding that he enjoys the "variety of the work". On leaving school Jason began an apprenticeship in automotive engineering starting work at the Egmont Dairy Company in Opunake. When the factory closed he completed his apprenticeship at Pungarehu Garage



Jason and Kristy Strachan.

and then went on to work for Murray Gordge Engineering in New Plymouth part time. Kristy who is doing all the administration work including ordering parts and property maintenance has some complementary skills which are proving handy in the new business. She worked as a horticulturist for 10 years and then became an award winning professional photographer for 15 years. For the last four years she's worked at Farmlands in Bell Block. The JSME workshop, on a hill with stupendous views, is very visible at the southern approach to Tataraimaka. It originally belonged to Dave Oxley as the Okato

Bus Lines shed. They reassembled it on the hill adding another building as an office. When Kevin Smith from the Okato Garage closed earlier this year they also bought quite a bit of his equipment. JSME offer a range of services including repairing tractors and farm bikes, cars, horse floats and trucks as well as engineering work. "Basically everything mechanical," says Jason. He mentions fabricating bull bars for a local business. JSME will be open from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday. There are plans to do warrants of fitness for cars. They're currently awaiting certification which they're expecting soon. They're

also going to make an outdoor service area for trucks and heavy machinery. They keep in stock batteries, bolts and nuts, hydraulic fittings and Castrol oil. Though they don't stock tyres they get them in overnight, says Jason. Their son is at WITT studying automotive engineering so may yet join



The entrance way to the newly established business.

the business sometime though he also has his own plans says Kristy. Their daughter is at Victoria University studying criminology and intends to become a detective with the police.

Jason said he'd like to thank people for their support so far and says he hopes it continues into the future. "If we can help people in anyway, let us know".



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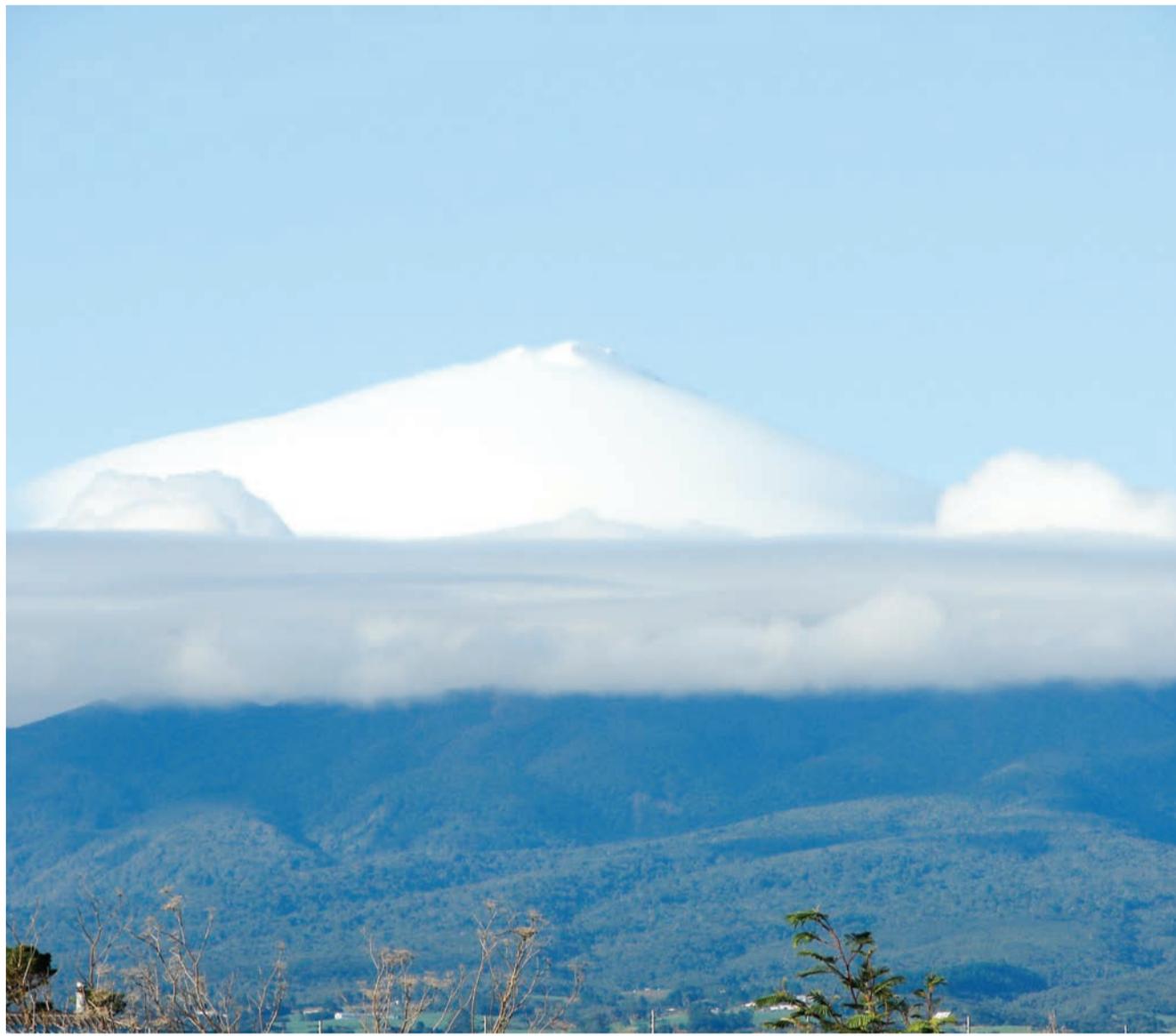
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Paddy has 42 years experience and has sold over 2,000 properties New Zealand wide. He leads the team as Branch Manager.

Mark is primarily associated with the Hawera branch over South Taranaki and Whanganui. The Nicholas family have farmed in Hawera since 1874 and he has extensive business and community involvements over the past 40 years throughout the regions.

Together, Paddy and Mark will specialise in rural and lifestyle property and will cater to residential clients as well.

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# Mangatoki Women's Institute

On June 4, three cars with nine members set off from Karen Joblin's Anderson Road and drove up to New Plymouth Airport for the start of our 3-day Mystery Trip. Three others joined us there making it up to 10 members and two friends to go on the trip. We were given our boarding passes just before boarding our aeroplane to Wellington, so we didn't really know where we were going and no time to check our Airpoints!

On landing in Wellington, we soon found out that this wasn't our destination and a little later were given more boarding passes, this time to Nelson. On arrival we collected our mini bus, driven by Olwyn. Bernice said a prayer for a safe trip before moving off to visit the Pic's Peanut Butter factory. We had lunch first and then given a guided tour. From here we drove out to Hope to visit The Gardens of The World, where the head gardener gave us the history of the garden and then a tour of the gardens, which was very interesting.

We then drove back into Nelson to visit Jens Hansen the Ringmaker. We were welcomed by the son of the original owner and he told of the firm's history and that they had made the rings for the film 'The Lord of The Rings'. A total of 42 rings were number made, the heaviest being 3kgs, which is shown on the film's trailer. After this, we drove to our hotel where we stayed for the two nights we were in Nelson. Later we had a very nice meal at Urban Eatery. It was a fine day.

The next day we awoke to rain and it continued all day. Fortunately, the day's programme was for indoor activities.

On the second day, breakfast was at Fords and then some of us looked at the Farmer's Market, but as it was raining this wasn't very good, so was a hurried visit.

In the morning we drove out to Appleby, where we visited the Höglund Art Glass glassblowing studio and gallery. There were many beautiful pieces, which were quite pricey, so I'm not sure if any purchases were made.

We then drove out to

Moutere where we visited a coffee and pets shop, a pottery shop and also a crafts and clothing shop. We then had our lunch at what is supposed to be the oldest pub in New Zealand. We had a very nice lunch there.

After lunch we visited the Eye Bright gift shop, where many purchases were made. They even opened up their 'Christmas' gift and decoration section for us to see, which was very nice.

From here we then visited the WOWO Exhibition at the Classic Bar Museum, which was very interesting with the combination of clothing and cars. We drove back into Nelson and visited the Anglican Cathedral of Christ's Church, which is known for its stained glass windows. The organist was rehearsing at the time. Three of us were left and Olwyn sang a verse of

'How Great Thou Art'. The acoustics were great. Dinner was enjoyed at a beautiful restaurant.

The third day started off very cold and the ice had to be cleaned of the van windscreen before moving off to have breakfast at a café. After having a lovely breakfast, we visited the adjacent art gallery named The Suter Art Gallery after the first bishop of Nelson. We spent some time here and then we drove out to the Founders' Park, almost a full working village. At the time of visiting, there was a book fare on and most of us spent time there, and also at the little church where Olwyn tried the acoustics out again.

On the way to the airport we called in at the Selao Garden Art Place. Most of us had something for lunch at the airport. We were given our boarding passes,

this time for Wellington. Arriving in Wellington we were picked up by a shuttle bus and taken into the city where we stopped outside of a restaurant on Taranaki Street, where we were to have our evening meal.

We were then taken to Te Papa where we all got out; some went shopping and the others visited Te papa where most were hoping to see Terracotta Warriors, but it had been dismantled two weeks earlier! We were to meet up again at a restaurant for an early dinner.

The shuttle came for us around 6pm as our flight to New Plymouth was at 7.15pm. We arrived in New Plymouth at 8.15pm where we collected our luggage and said our "good byes", got into our cars and headed back to Eltham and Mangatoki and for me to Riverlea and the rain!

Our thanks go to the organisers of the trip and our driver for a great and interesting trip once again, which everyone enjoyed.

Competition results:  
Number of items on

Sandra's Clothesline, 96  
1st: - Olwyn Duthie with 95

Booby: Cathy with 32  
The weight of the largest ring made for the film "The Lord of The Rings" - 3 Kgs, guessed by Lucy Moger

## Greenpeace tower climbers unfurl first banner

The two Greenpeace climbers scaled the outside of the tallest building in Wellington to unfurl the first of a series of banners.

Abigail Smith and Nick Hanafin climbed the Majestic Centre on July 23 to reach the headquarters of Austrian oil giant, OMV.

They deployed a pink banner reading, "It's a climate emergency."

The climb was intended to reach OMV's offices on the 20th floor, to deliver a message.

Greenpeace live streamed the climb on its website.

Following the departure

of oil majors Chevron and Equinor (formerly Statoil) this month, OMV is the last remaining international oil giant operating in New Zealand.

A self-propelled drill rig, which will be used by OMV to drill exploratory wells off the Taranaki Coast and in the Great South Basin, has just arrived in the country.

Greenpeace New Zealand climate campaigner, Amanda Larsson, says the arrival of the rig comes as governments and councils all over the world are declaring a climate emergency.

"We're living through a

climate emergency. If we don't halve global carbon emissions in just a decade, we'll be locked into extreme weather and heating that will threaten all life on Earth, including our own.

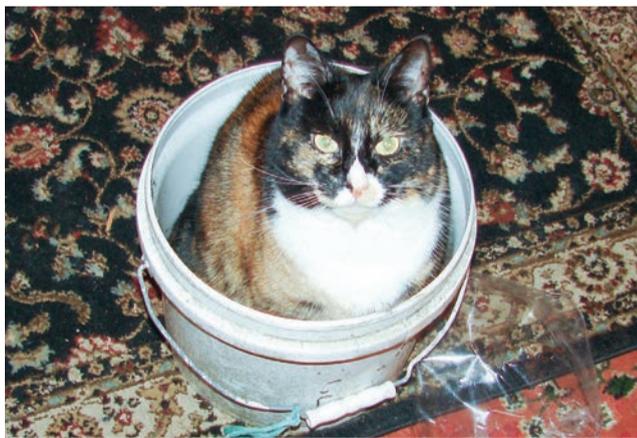
"Oil companies like OMV have known for 30 years that burning fossil fuels is driving climate change. Instead of acting, the industry has poured billions of dollars into climate change denial and lobbying while continuing to push ever deeper into remote ends of the Earth in search of new oil and gas."

OMV is on the list of just 100 companies that have caused more than 70% of the world's climate emissions, and is currently drilling in the Arctic.

Amanda Larsson says the oil giant can expect widespread resistance in New Zealand.

"Climate change is the issue of our time and we're watching a global movement grow in strength and size every day. People everywhere are taking action, including the millions of students around the world going on strike from school," she says.

## Fifi the Decorator



Fifi a SPCA rescue cat likes to help her family with a few jobs around the house.

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# The Sustainability Chronicles: Risk

Risk is a tricky thing. It's the unknown that makes it scary, it's the inability to guarantee a result that prevents decisions being made, despite the opportunity to benefit. Risk is an integral part of farming and just quietly, keeps the job interesting. The trouble is, risk is intimidating and can stop



NINA POLETTI

some farmers in their tracks, the potential costs can seem to outweigh the benefits and it all just seems too hard taking a chance. Sustainability within itself is a risk. While choosing a sustainable option may cost more today, don't lose hope! It's up to us to find the best way forward and there will be a big payoff in the long

run. The more we know; the more confident we are with our choices and our decisions will be less risky. We do have to take time to learn and research when it comes to making decisions about our animals and the sustainability of our operations.

In a 2010 Harvard Business Review, D. Lubin and D. Etsy state that most executives know that how they respond to the challenge of sustainability will significantly affect the competitiveness and even the survival of their organizations.

The Animal Centred Approach for example, is a novel process for developing a sustainable operation. Looking at the animal needs first and foremost, before grass and soil requirements is an idea that requires some research and knowledge of the process for it to be effective. In simplistic terms, by meeting animal requirements we take care of animal health and welfare, the plants and soils that feed them, and by extension, the environment they are farmed in. By including animal requirements in the equation, the nutrient cycle is completed, allowing for a systematic and sustainable approach to farming with the animals in the driving seat (E. House, 2019).

Think of a bungee jump, it's the first step that holds the most risk. It's a leap into thin air before pure adrenaline kicks in and knocks your socks off. We know it's a risk, plummeting towards the ground, but we also know that the bungee is strong enough to hold us, the assistants pushing us off the platform are skilled enough and the likelihood of failure is relatively small. With all this knowledge we can feel assured in taking the leap.

It can be pretty daunting, starting out as a farmer but we need to know that it is important to take risks, provided you have done enough learnings to be confident in your decisions. Sustainability is vital for the success our farming business. Doing nothing and "staying the same" will not get the results we are after.

Changing our outlooks, habits and even just the day-to-day running of a property all includes some level of risk. To change means that we must accept that we will not know exactly what is going to happen. A classic cliché used by gym trainers could sum this up - "train insane or stay the same".



Doing nothing and "staying the same" will not get the results we are after.

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# Federated Farmers has question mark over firearms register

Misgivings about the practicality and cost of a firearms register is likely to dominate feedback from rural areas on the second round of proposed Arms Act amendments, Federated Farmers says.

The proposals feature a range of tighter controls on firearms ownership and licensing and Federated Farmers rural security spokesperson Miles Anderson anticipates

support for many aspects of the changes.

“When firearms are used irresponsibly or illegally in New Zealand, it is often farmers who suffer the consequences through the theft of livestock, poaching of wild animals or the risks of dangerous behaviour. Hopefully some of these proposed changes will help to prevent that,” Anderson said.

But registration of firearms is contentious. Federated

Farmers has previously opposed the compulsory registration of all firearms, based on the complexity and cost of this process, questionable safety benefits and the likelihood of success.

“We haven’t had a firearms register in New Zealand for almost 40 years. The successful re-establishment of one now would require a considerable investment, both economically and socially.

“We are very interested in how the Police propose to practically manage common activities such as the loaning of firearms between two licensed individuals,” Anderson said.

As with any issue, Federated farmers will consult with its members on the whole range of amendments before submitting.

“We are pleased to see that this time there is a reasonable consultation period. This is a very important issue for

farmers and we need to get it right.”

Federated Farmers will also have things to say about some of the earlier amendments to the Arms Act. Since the initial changes in April, the current pest management criteria have been proven to not work for those farmers and land managers who still need semi-automatic centrefire rifles for pest management.

“Pest animals can be found in very high numbers

on some private land and the right tool is needed to control them humanely and effectively,” Anderson said. “Continued access to these firearms under strict controls is essential for both our primary industries and indigenous biodiversity.

We will use the second round of consultation to revisit this important issue with the select committee.”

# Syndicate purchase of royally bred sire



**Left: Beledene Sam’s Starlee VHC 9 winner of several championships recording 654kgs m/s.**

The recent purchase of the royally-bred sire ‘Beledene Loyal Sam’ was made by the syndicate Purebred Jersey Breeder’s Johnson’s p/s ‘Hasty-River’ Jersey Stud Mangatoki and Lynden Muggeridge and Amy Cameron of the ‘Silverstone’ Jersey Stud Mangatoki for an undisclosed figure.

Beledene Loyal Sam is the son of the record breaking Jersey cow Beledene Sam’s Starlee VHC 97 noted

show champion selling for \$38,000 at the Beledene Complete Dispersal 2018.

Beledene Loyal Sam’s first five daughters (only yearlings) made a great impression at the 2018 Beledene Complete Dispersal. They were like peas in a pod, very uniform indeed.

One of his daughters Beledene Sam’s Marnie fetched \$13,500 which I believe maybe a record price for a yearling jersey heifer.

Beledene Loyal Sam’s breeding career will be watched with much interest from fellow breeders.

His potential should be

outstanding as he has a pedigree that’s impeccable and no doubt be the envy of most Jersey Breeders throughout NZ.

*Allan Jenkins*

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# Demand for independent AB technicians on the rise



Self employment for AB Technicians.

Being different is World Wide Sires' mantra, applied as much to its world leading dairy genetics as it is to supporting their AB technicians.

The company's New Zealand General Manager, Hank Lina, says their AB technicians are "contractors" invoiced directly by the farmer. "This effectively cuts out the middleman meaning that the farmer pays less, and the AB technician earns more than he or she would working for one of the larger players.

"It's a win win for the farmer and the AB technician."

The AB technicians come

with a proven track record of several years successful experience inseminating cows.

Lina said technicians provide all their own gear equipment from gloves to sheaths – World Wide Sires providing these items, if needed, at a reduced cost.

"Key motivators for a technician to go independent include the ability to increase their earnings and be in control of their runs and run programmes.

"The demand for independent AB technicians is increasing so we are very keen to talk to people who want to 'experience the World Wide Sires' difference," Hank Lina said.

## DairyNZ supports biosecurity review

DairyNZ endorses a renewed focus on improving biosecurity in New Zealand, following the announcement by Government today.

"As shown with the *Mycoplasma bovis* disease that entered our shores over two years ago, we are vulnerable to diseases, pests and weeds in New Zealand," said DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle.

"Protecting our farming sector, and therefore our economy, is vital for our country and we look forward to seeing the detail of the amendment bill to improve NAIT and proposed changes to the Biosecurity Act."

DairyNZ is broadly supportive of a review of biosecurity, having recently commissioned an independent expert *M. Bovis* report. The process provides an important opportunity to implement key lessons learned from the current *M. bovis* response – to leave the biosecurity system and support for affected farmers

in a stronger position for the future.

"It is also vital we can track animal movements in a way that is easy for our farmers, and effective if disease hits our shores. NAIT has been discussed extensively and we agree with the Government that some changes are needed."

However, DairyNZ is concerned about proposals for NAIT data to be owned by the Crown.

"The initial NAIT review did not include the Crown taking ownership of NAIT data, which is farmer data, and we feel that process would need to be carefully managed. Ownership of farmer data is something we want to be involved in, so farmers concerns are fully addressed.

"We look forward to working with government and our partners, and welcome the opportunity for farmers to have their say on the Biosecurity Act through the consultations."

"We're safe-guarding the future for our grandkids; because efficient cows are better for our environment."

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# Taxing farm emissions

The Government has released two reports from the Interim Climate Change Committee, along with details on how it plans to respond to the recommendations.

A core recommendation stresses the need to see on-farm emissions accounted for and priced by 2025 - which farming leaders agree needs to happen.

Under the ICCC proposal, farmers would be exempt from 95 per cent of on-farm emissions, but farming leaders still don't like the way the Committee wants to tax them, Newshub reported.

The Committee has recommended bringing agriculture into the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) and introducing a 5 per cent tax on emissions by 2020.

This would be a transitional step towards the introduction of farm-level pricing in 2025, Newsroom reported.

The revenue would then be funnelled back into a fund to allow farmers to manage



**Government discuss taxing farm emissions.**

their on-farm emissions by 2025.

Farming leaders have offered an alternative sector-led proposal, based on voluntary measures, which

would mean the sector paid nothing till 2020 but gradually moved into an emissions pricing system by 2025.

Motu policy fellow

Catherine Leining told Stuff there was an argument in favour of an immediate processor cost, which would "start sending an immediate price signal for land use and

consumer decisions".

Victoria University of Wellington's Professor Dave Frame told RNZ's Jesse Mulligan that the commission's approach was

a poor idea, as it suggested methane emissions were just as bad as CO2 emissions - despite the former having a shorter lifespan.

The ICCC has settled on this old style Kyoto approach to thinking about the ETS, and I don't think it's very convincing."

But Dairy NZ chief executive Tim Mackle said: "Bringing agriculture into the ETS at the processor level amounts to little more than a broad-based tax on farmers before we have the knowledge, support and tools to drive the practice change that will reduce emissions."

Although the Government is leaning towards the ICCC proposal, it is seeking public feedback on both the options, and plans to hold sessions around the country until August 13.

The SMC asked experts to comment on the reports and the Government's consultation document

## DairyNZ CEO: Make the methane target achievable

Recently, DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle appeared before Parliament's Environment Select Committee to send a clear message to politicians - an unachievable 47% methane reduction target would be setting farmers up to fail.

"The New Zealand dairy sector is committed to playing our part in the transition to a low-emissions economy, alongside the rest of the country," said Dr Mackle.

"We are acutely aware of the importance of looking after the environment and maintaining sustainable and competitive businesses too.

"We know there are costs for our farmers but there are also costs for global inaction. That's why we are seeking pragmatic and prudent policies that enable action and support our farmers to play their part on climate change.

"Farmers want to do what is right. They are ready to go on this journey, but they need a fair target that they can buy into. A

47% reduction target is simply setting farmers up to fail, if the tools are not available," said Dr Mackle.

"DairyNZ proposes that the 2050 methane reduction target be set at up to 24% and regularly reviewed against robust criteria. This position is supported by Fonterra and its Shareholders' Council, Miraka, Synlait and Tatua.

"This will be a real challenge for our sector, but we are up for it. While there are things we can do now on farm, much of the reduction in emissions will be reliant on technological advances in feed, breeding or other interventions.

"A lot is being asked of our farmers across a variety of issues such as water quality and biosecurity. If a methane target is set based on a global reduction scenario, rather than what is sensible at home, then they will simply disengage.

"This isn't an academic exercise. There will be real implications and real costs, for real people. At the end of the day, most farmers are small

business owners doing their best.

DairyNZ estimates that with an up to 50% cut in methane, dairy farmers' total profit could reduce by 33-42% across the 2030-2050 period.

"This is a substantial loss of income and is more than 10 times higher than the cost of \$2500 per farm estimated in the Government's analysis. The impact for rural communities and the wider economy could be huge."

Dr Mackle said we can't afford to lose sight of the fact that New Zealand is responsible for less than 0.2% of the total global emissions and dairy farmers are among the most

emissions efficient producers in the world.

"While there may well be some benefits to leading the world on climate policy, this could constrain our ability to lead the world in other areas - most notably the efficient production of high quality, low emissions milk.

"Our biggest contribution to global agricultural emissions reductions will be to show what is possible both on-farm and with new technologies, once they become available.

"This highlights the importance of continued investment in scientific research and development that will

help us reduce agricultural emissions.

"DairyNZ knows how important it is for us to move on climate change, but we also know the importance of moving at a pace that doesn't leave farmers, families and communities behind," Dr Mackle concluded.



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**Proud to sponsor Coastal Rugby**

**All Coastal Rugby teams make Taranaki finals**

The Coastal Rugby Prize giving ceremony on Friday July 26 at the Rahoitu Clubrooms was a celebration of the fact that all four teams made the finals, with three teams securing a win. The exception was the Farm Source Premiers who were beaten by Spotswood. For the Spotswood team it was their first premiership success.

The well-supported and well-organised event was ably fronted by Brent Davies, the president of Coastal Rugby as MC who introduced the event with the words, "Another great year." Expert assistance was provided by Peter 'Skippy' Burnnand and others. Brent also was proud of the fact that Coastal was named Top Rugby Club for the third year running.

The three championship winners were the FBT Division 1 (for their ninth title), the Goodin Ag Division 2 and the Corkill Systems Women's teams. This year Coastal did not field a Colts (Under 20) team.

There were a number of speakers and one of the most entertaining was the one by Aaron 'Fish' Fisher Coach (with Ricky Tito) of the Farm Source Premiers who made a number of points with humour to the fore. "It's special team all round. I'm proud of the team," he concluded.

Near the end of the evening, following an excellent meal provided by Anderson Pies and Caterers, Life Member Ray Barron said a few words. "The club is in the best shape I've ever seen



**Burnnand Trophy (Best Club Member): Kelvin Weir with Life Member Ray Barron.**

Ray continued, "It is the best club in Taranaki by far - I don't think anyone would argue with that."



**Most Promising Senior Beauden Fleming with Ray Barron.**



**Jimmy Quay, Simon Adams and Sheldon Keech Simon won Best Goodin Ag Division 2 Player.**



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## Coastal Rugby Prizegiving

The prize winners were as follows:

Goodin Ag Division 2 (Coach: Jimmy Quay; Manager: Mark Harrop):

RJ Bingham Trophy (Best Team Player): Justin Tito  
Norm & Sybil Anderson Trophy (Most Outstanding Player): Simon Adams.

BD & KM Wright Trophy (Top Try Scorer): Arepa Bishop.

Stirrer Award: Sheldon Keech

Steve Gordon Memorial Trophy (Best Supporter Div 2)

FBT Division 1 (Coaches: Kane Barrett, Craig Hammersley; Manager: Makere Hook):

TP O'Sullivan Trophy (Best Team Player): Daniel Rae / Cody Rothwell.

Tom Goodin Trophy (Most Outstanding Player): Jarod Davey / Richard Beckett.

Tommy Barrett Memorial Trophy (Top Try Scorer): Jarod Davey.

Ray Hayward Trophy (Most Improved Player): Mark Martin.

Farm Source Premiers (Coach: Aaron Fisher, Ricky Tito; Managers: Brian Olliver and Sandy Olliver):

Michelob Trophy (Best Team Player): Sam Lawn.

Eddie Carey Trophy (Most Outstanding Player): Troy Stevenson.

Peter & Maureen Nielson Trophy (Top Try Scorer):



Victorious Top Taranaki Coastal club teams Brooke Sim Womens team, Ray Barron, Ben Burmeister Goodin Ag Division 2 and Jarod Davey FBT Division 1.



Farm Source Premier Coach and Most Outstanding Player Troy Stevenson.



McCarty Memorial Trophy (Top Club Points Scorer): Alesha Williams.

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**Coastal Rugby Prizegiving**

Continued from page 19

Sam Lawn.

Women's Team  
(Coach: Kelvin Weir;  
Manager: Murray Weir):

BTW Company Cup  
(Most Valuable Player):  
Utu Antonio.

Butlers Reef Cup (Most  
Dedicated): Chena Lowry.

Weir Family Cup (players  
Player): Brook Sim.

Club Trophies

Pat Richardson Rangi  
Ngaia Trophy (Most  
Outstanding team): Div 1,  
Div 2, Women's team.

McCarty Memorial  
Trophy (Top Club Points  
Scorer): Alesha Williams.

Okato Tavern Trophy  
(Most Honest Player): Josh  
Lord.

Rahotu Junior Team  
Trophy (Most Promising  
Junior): Trent Brophy.

Simon Feaver Trophy  
(Most Promising Senior):  
Beauden Fleming.

Coastal Rugby  
Club (Outstanding  
Sportsmanship): Jeremy  
Newell.

C & N Riordan Trophy:  
Most Enthusiastic  
Supporter): Killer Goodwin.

Burnnand Trophy (Best  
Club Member): Kelvin  
Weir.

Brent & Debs Davies  
(Outstanding Team Off  
Field): Farm Source  
Premiers



Jimmy Quay with the Stirrer Award for Sheldon Keech.



Corkill Systems Womens Coach Kelvin Weir with MVP Utu Antonio and Skippy Burnnand.

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# Mourie appointed Patron of Taranaki Rugby

Former Taranaki and All Black flanker, coach and administrator Graham Mourie has been appointed as Patron of the Taranaki Rugby Football Union, a position previously held by the late Ian Eliason.

Graham Mourie, a life member of the TRFU, played 104 games for Taranaki and made 61 appearances for the All Blacks between 1975 and 1982, captaining both teams.

Taranaki Rugby Football Union chairman Lindsay Thomson said he was "delighted Graham had accepted the role given his iconic status within New Zealand and world rugby. He was Taranaki born and bred and had risen to the pinnacle of the sport, both on and off the field. Having been an All Black captain, and having served on the boards of NZ Rugby and World Rugby is



**Graham Mourie**

unprecedented," Thomson said.

Mourie was considered one of the great All Black captains, first leading the side on the 1976 tour of Argentina. He was then

selected to play against the 1977 British and Irish Lions team and later that year captained the All Blacks to France, replacing Tane Norton.

He captained the All

Blacks in 57 matches until 1982 which included the historic Grand Slam tour of Britain and Ireland in 1978.

After his playing career, Mourie coached Wellington from 1997-1999 before coaching the Hurricanes in 2000 and 2001.

Mourie played for Opunake High School and captained the 1st XV before moving to New Plymouth Boys High School.

Mourie was instrumental in the amalgamation of the Coastal Rugby Club in 1995 and was the first coach of that club in 1995. Considered as the ultimate consummate captain on and off the field, this role is fitting for Mourie and his character. Mourie was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire in 1981 for his services to rugby and elected a life member of the TRFU in 2018.

In accepting the position of Patron, Graham Mourie said

"It is an honour to follow in the footsteps of Peter Burke and Legs. Peter was a great Taranaki man, and coach of the ABs when I was playing, and Ian, who I always

treasured playing with, was someone who epitomized what being a Taranaki rugby person meant for the province and the game".

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## Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

### National Indoor Championships at Eltham

The Eltham Smallbore range is hosting the National Indoor Championships on Friday August 2. Due to this event we will be closed to non-affiliated shooters, that night - sorry for the

inconvenience. We will be open to all on Monday.

### Monday 15 July

Garry Rowlands took top honours tonight with 99.7, followed by a double 99.3/97.4, while Paul Tidswell shot very consistently scoring 97.4, 97.5/97.1; Clare

Bramley 98.3, 98.6/97.6; Alex Sadovnikova 94.3, 98.3/97.2; Craig McGill 90.1, 93.1, 97.3; Alan Drake 96.2, 93.1; Bob Bramley 95.3, 95.4/95.3; Brian Hicks 94.4, 92.1; Murray Chinery 92.0; Richard Armond 90.1, 87.2.

Junior shooter Henry Armond also shot well scoring 96.5, 96.2, fellow junior Boston Taylor scored 93.0, 89.2.

### Friday 19 July

While it was a smaller gathering, there was fierce competition as four shooters all scored 99s. Coming out on top was Alex Sadovnikova with 99.8 as well as a 93.2; second equal was Garry Rowland 99.7 and Paul Tidswell 99.7, 97.6, 97.4; and Paul Longstaff 93.1, 99.5, 96.1; Alan Drake 97.3, 96.4; Craig McGill 95.2, 96.4, 96.2; Stephen Hicks 91.1, 94.3; Bjorn Fowler 93.2, 93.4, 92.1; Brian Hicks 93.3, 90.1; Murray Chinery 87.1, 90.1.

## Coastal Rugby Prizegiving



FBT Division 1 Most Outstanding Players were Richard Beckett and Jarod Davey with Coach Kane Barrett.

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

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato  
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Men's Group 7pm Wednesday  
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**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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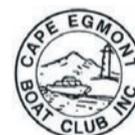
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**PUBLIC NOTICES**



Notice of 2019  
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**AGM**

Sunday 4th August - 7.00 pm  
At Club Rooms, Bayly Road

**AGENDA:**

- Apologies
- Annual Reports
- Election of Officers
- Life Member Nomination
- General Business

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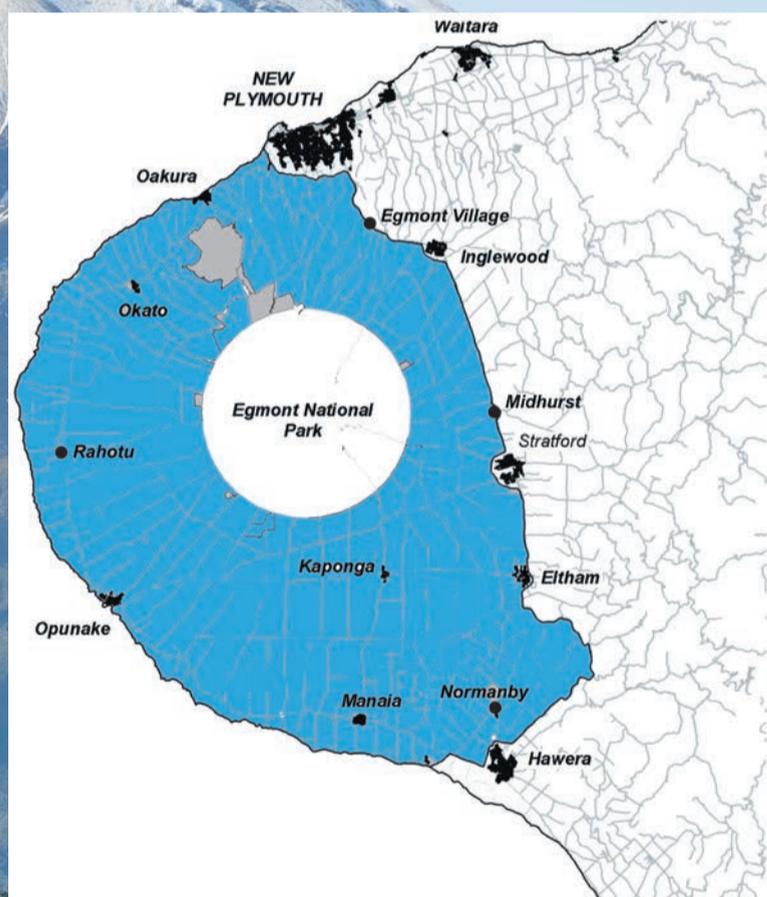
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## What's On Listings



### ONGOING

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

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

### SUNDAYS

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

### MONDAYS

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

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

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

### TUESDAYS

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

### WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

### THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

### FRIDAYS

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

### WEEKENDS

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

### APRIL 6 TO OCTOBER 6

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

### JULY 29 TO AUGUST 23

**Colours from Hawera Exhibition:** At the Village Gallery, Eltham. Open every day except Sundays. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 3

**Community Tree Plant (Restore Eltham Project):** At Soldiers Park, Eltham, 10am. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 4

**Cape Egmont Boat Club AGM:** At the Clubrooms, Bayley Rd, 7pm. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 5

**Taranaki Plunket presents the Winter Festival 2019 Mini Disco:** At Coastal Care, Opunake from 10.30am-12pm. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 10 TO MID NOVEMBER

**New exhibitions opening at the Govett Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre:** Fiona Clark; Yuichiro Tamura; Waking Up Slowly; Open Window. At 42 Queen St, NP. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 13

**Opunake Beach Carnival Committee AGM:** At Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake. 7pm. Refer advert.

### AUGUST 18

**Pihama Lavender Market Day:** From 10am-2pm. At the Old Pihama Dairy Factory, Main Rd, Pihama Refer advert.

### AUGUST 22

**Opunake Simplifying Life:** Coastal Health Day. Opunake Main St, TSB Bank/Library courtyard. From 10am to 3pm. Refer advert in previous issue of OCN.

### SEPTEMBER 14

**Fabricana, a Taranaki Hospice fundraiser:** Open to all crafters to sell surplus craft supplies. No finished items. Stall charges donated to Hospice. September 14th 2019. Highlands Intermediate Hall. Enquiries to M Richardson 06 758 5101 email [lfr@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lfr@xtra.co.nz)

### OCTOBER 25 TO 29

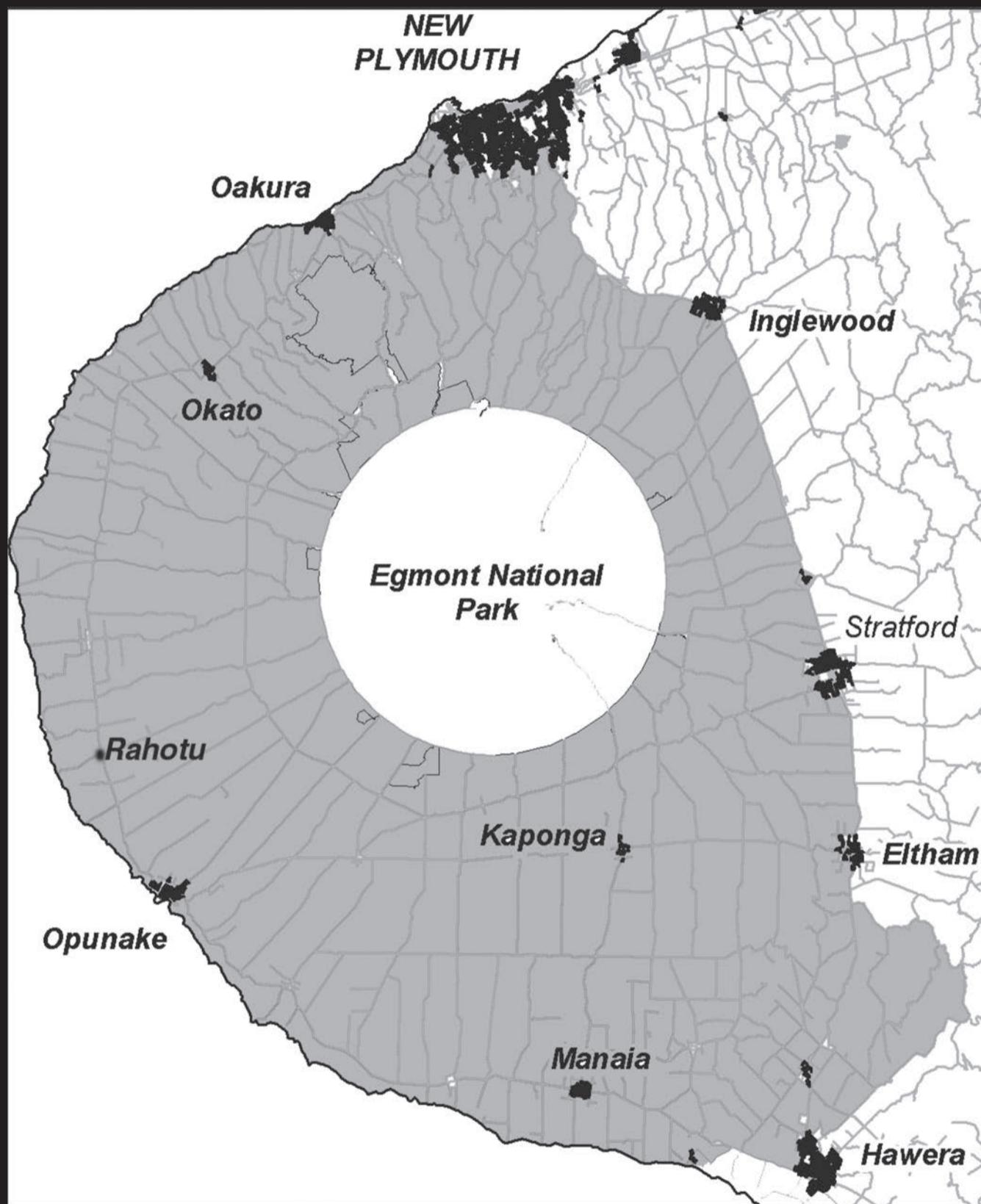
**Coastal Pacific/Trans Alpine 5 Day Package with Travelsmart Stratford:** Email or phone for more details. Refer advert.



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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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# ‘Strong’ link to Taranaki in Clark’s Govett-Brewster exhibition

Taranaki artist Fiona Clark’s new exhibition at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery opens this month and includes local figures from the artist’s past including renowned Opunake bodybuilder Quentin Smith.

The title of Clark’s exhibition, *Raw Material*, hints at untreated or unedited material, and makes reference to the exhibition’s focus on a careful selection of elements from her own extensive archive.

As part of her exhibition Clark has been researching and tracking down people who are connected to her photographs. This included appealing to the Opunake community for related materials on the 1958 Mr New Zealand, Quentin Smith that she could show in her exhibition.

Clark’s exhibition includes photographs from her bodybuilding series, first exhibited at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in 1981, of the local legend and bodybuilder.

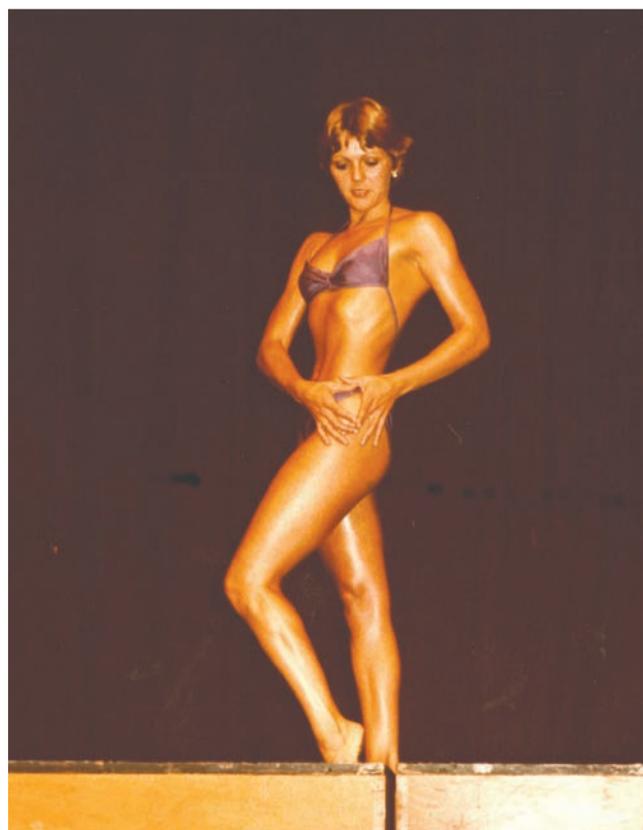
Growing up in Opunake, Smith was a naturally gifted swimmer and surfer, whose interest in physical strength and fitness led him to pursue weightlifting and body building in his teens. Smith quickly became a regular fixture at local fairs and carnivals, such as the Opunake Carnival Colossal, where his feats of strength were captured in issues of New Plymouth Photo News.



Mr. New Zealand Quentin Smith, 1960. Photo by Royale of London, private collection

Fiona would like to know who the woman at the centre is wearing the Miss Opunake sash. She would also like to know who took the photo. If anyone can help they can contact Fiona on 06 754 6627.

Quentin Smith who was Mr New Zealand in 1959. He is pictured posing with Miss Opunake winners from 1960 at Opunake Beach, the photo taken around New Year. The girl on the left is Colleen Duckett from Kapnga and at right is Margaret Cowling from Manaia.



Fiona Clark *Pan Pacific Womens’ Body Building Championship posing, Auckland 1981 1981.*  
Cropped image. Courtesy the artist and Michael Lett

## New exhibitions at the Gallery

We change out the exhibitions three times a year. The new suite of exhibitions opens on Saturday 10 August through until mid-November.

The new exhibitions are:

- Fiona Clark: Raw Material*
- Yuichiro Tamura: Milky Mountain / 裏返りの山*
- Waking Up Slowly: Elizabeth Thomson and Len Lye*
- Open Window – Ana Iti: beyond the ash cloud*

Still showing are:

- Len Lye: Art That Moves*
- Mikala Dwyer: Earthcraft*
- WharehokaSmith: Kūreitanga II IV*

42 Queen Street  
New Plymouth  
Aotearoa New Zealand

Open seven days: 10 am – 5 pm  
New Plymouth District residents and Friends of the Gallery  
– Free (w/proof of address)  
All under 16s – Free | 65+ years – \$10 | Visitors – \$15



Govett-Brewster Art Gallery

Len Lye Centre

govettbrewster.com

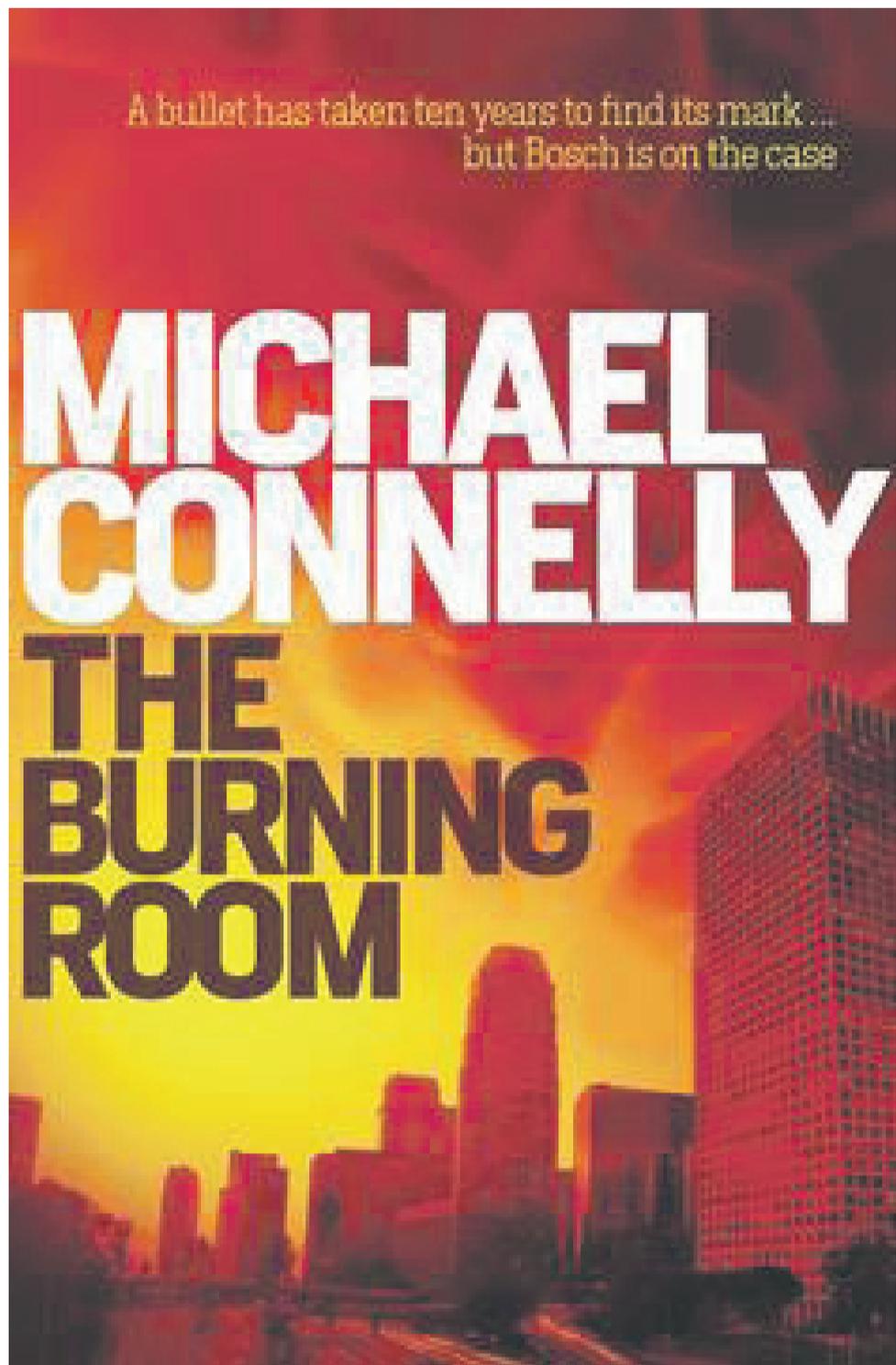
# Opunake Library Book Review

Book 20 in the Detective Harry Bosch series and as usual Mr Connelly and Harry do not disappoint! (I did in fact tweet the author that if Harry needed a wife, I'd be perfect). The story launches right into the fray starting with an autopsy on the body of a Mariachi player who was shot 10 years ago but only

died recently due to blood poisoning from a bullet lodged in his spine at the time of the shooting that was never able to be removed. The ME declares that this is now a working homicide and Harry is assigned. Harry is still working cold/unsolved cases and now has a new partner, Lucia Soto known as Lucky Lucy after her part in a gang

shootout. Lucy is new to the game with a back story Harry ends up involved in. I enjoy the fact that all through the novels Harry has grown older and this adds a certain depth to *The Burning Room*. Harry is thinking about his time left on the force and a possible upcoming retirement. His daughter features a lot in this novel and has joined the Police Explorer Programme and thinking about following in her father's footsteps. Along with dating this causes Harry his fair share of parental angst and it's a little light relief in the plot. While there are some advances in technology Harry can use, he relies on good old school investigation techniques to start uncovering old secrets and hidden agendas. Even better, alongside this old homicide case is the twist that it runs into the political agenda and involves a very rich man with connections to powerful people, plus Harry twigs to the fact that an older case involving a fire set in an apartment building involving the deaths of both adults and children has a lot to do with his new partner who turns out to be one of the surviving children and that may have been a distraction to cover a robbery. He gets stretched a little thin trying to investigate two cases, teach and protect his new partner, stop the media from finding out what is going on while fancying a local reporter and not let his superiors and the DA cotton on to what he's doing before he has everything tied up neatly. If he doesn't get this right, his career is over before his year is up on his DROP (Deferred Retirement Option Plan) contract.

Michael Connelly write a good honest and believable crime story. There is nothing fake in the plot which apparently includes real events from Los Angeles history meshed into the story and the characters are edgy, sharp and human to a fault. Sometimes when a series is a long one like this, characters can go stale or plots can become repetitive. This never happens to Harry Bosch and *The Burning*



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Room is fast paced, never boring and worth a read or a listen.

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You can also visit <https://www.southtaranaki.com/Live/LibraryPlus>  
**Maria Brewerton RLIANZA Branch Librarian Opunake & Manaia LibraryPlus** South Taranaki District Council

## On this month in history Comedian Billy T James dies

On August 7, 1991 Billy T James, probably New Zealand's best loved comedian, died aged just 43. He had suffered heart disease for some years culminating in a heart transplant in 1988. He was also an accomplished musician and was a member of the Maori Volcanics Showband in the 1970s.

As well as television and stage appearances he also acted in films such as *Came A Hot Friday* in 1985 and won an award for his role. The film was based on Hawera writer Ronald Hugh Morrieson's novel of the same name. Billy was voted Entertainer of the decade in 1985.

PIHAMA  
 Lavender  
**MARKET DAY**  
 SUNDAY AUGUST 18TH 10am - 2pm

**Coastal Pacific / Trans Alpine 5 day Package**  
 25th to 29th October 2019  
 Price from \$1399.00 pp twin share  
 Register your Interest by 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
 Friday - Bus Stratford to Wellington. Ferry to Picton.  
 Accommodation - Picton  
 Saturday - Morning of leisure in Picton. Travel aboard the Coastal Pacific from Picton, down the east coast of the south island through Kaikoura to Christchurch. Accommodation Christchurch.  
 Sunday - Travel aboard the Trans Alpine, Christchurch to Greymouth. Afternoon of leisure & evening accommodation in Greymouth.  
 Monday - Morning of leisure in Greymouth. Return journey to Christchurch aboard the Trans Alpine. Accommodation Christchurch.  
 Tuesday - Day of leisure in Christchurch. Evening flight Christchurch to New Plymouth direct.  
 Terms & Conditions apply - Brochure available.  
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**AUDITIONS**  
 Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019  
 Commencing at 2.00 pm  
**TET CUE THEATRE**  
 ANNOUNCES NEXT PRODUCTION  
**We Must Kill Toni**  
 By Ian Stuart Black  
 Directed by  
 Mary Boekman  
 A Comedy With Menace!  
 30 Oct -  
 9 Nov 2019  
 A Community Theatre presentation by Special Arrangement with Samuel French and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd

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**COLOURS FROM HAWERA**  
 AN EXHIBITION BY MEMBERS OF THE HAWERA ART CLUB  
 29 JULY - 23 AUGUST 2019  
 THE VILLAGE GALLERY | 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM  
 OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM



FROM THE ACADEMY AWARD-WINNING DIRECTOR OF SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE AND THE WRITER OF LOVE ACTUALLY

Yesterday, everyone knew  
The Beatles.

Today, only Jack  
remembers their songs.

He's about to become  
a very big deal.

**YESTERDAY**



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PRESENTS  
**WINTER FESTIVAL**  
2019



Join us for a

**Mini Disco**  
and some Morning Tea!

**WHERE** CoastalCare  
26 Napier St, Opunake

**WHEN** 5th August 2019

**TIME** 10.30am - 12.00pm

For more information, please head to the EVENTS  
tab on the Taranaki Plunket Facebook Page!

ALL WELCOME!

Rose Haskell – Community Services Coordinator, TARANAKI PLUNKET  
027 275 8563 | rose.haskell@plunket.org.nz

**EVERYBODY'S THEATRE**

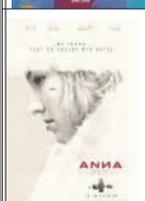
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AUGUST 2019

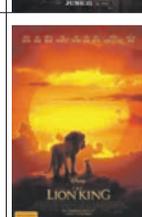
Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale No Eft-Pos Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8.

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

 <p><b>MEN IN BLACK: INTERNATIONAL</b> Action, Comedy, Sci Fi,   1 hr 55 mins   M: Sci Fi, Violence A Men in Black spin-off that sees them kicking alien butt all around the world. Continuing in their roles as protectors of the Earth they must tackle their biggest, most global threat to date: a mole within their organisation. Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 7pm   Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Sun 11<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm</p>	 <p><b>WILD ROSE</b> Drama, Music   1hr 41 mins   M: Sex scenes &amp; offensive language. Rose-Lynn Harlan has dreamt of becoming a country music star for as long as anyone can remember. But Glasgow isn't exactly Nashville, and, as a convicted criminal and single mother, Rose-Lynn is more country song than country starlet Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm   Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm</p>
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 <p><b>YESTERDAY</b> Comedy, Music   1hr 52 mins   M: Language, Sex &amp; drug references No-one in the world can remember The Beatles except a struggling musician, who uses this bizarre situation to his advantage in this comedic tale. Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm Fri 16<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm   Sun 18<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm</p>	 <p><b>LOST AND FOUND</b> Comedy, Drama   1hr 36min   M: Language, sex references 'Lost &amp; Found' is 7 interconnecting stories set in and around a lost &amp; found office of an Irish train station. Inspired by true stories. Fri 9<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm   Sun 14<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Aug 1pm</p>
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 <p><b>ANNA</b> Action, Thriller   1hr 58mins R16: Violence, Sex Scenes Beneath Anna Poliatova's striking beauty lies a secret that will unleash her indelible strength and skill to become one of the world's most feared government assassins. Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> August 7pm</p>	 <p><b>TOY STORY 4</b> Animation Comedy   1hr 29mins   G When a new toy called "Forky" joins Woody and the gang, a road trip alongside old and new friends reveals how big the world can be for a toy. Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug 1pm   Sat 31<sup>st</sup> Aug</p>
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 <p><b>SPIDER-MAN: FAR FROM HOME</b> Action, Blockbuster   2hr 9min   M: Violence The first Marvel film after mega-blockbuster Avengers: Endgame sees Peter Parker's school trip interrupted when Nick Fury pays a visit. He needs Spider-Man's help to battle a new enemy: the Elementals. Sat 17<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug 7pm   Sun 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm</p>	 <p><b>THE LION KING</b> Animated, Kids &amp; Family   1hr 58min   PG Simba idolizes his father, King Mufasa, and takes to heart his own royal destiny on the plains of Africa. But not everyone in the kingdom celebrates the new cub's arrival. Scar, Mufasa's brother has plans of his own. Sat 10<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm   Sat 24<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm</p>
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Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	2 Men in Black: International 7pm	3 Toy Story 4 1pm Anna 7pm	4 ** BOUTIQUE** Wild Rose 7pm
7 Yesterday 1pm Men in Black: International 7pm	9 Lost and Found 7pm	10 The Lion King 1pm Wild Rose 7pm	11 Men in Black: International 7pm
14 Wild Rose 1pm Lost and Found 7pm	16 Yesterday 7pm	17 Secret Life of Pets 1pm Spider Man: Far from Home 7pm	18 Yesterday 7pm

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