



Inside

Coastal Singers future looks promising

With the shift to north Taranaki of Coastal Singers choir mistress Noeleen Moir, the Coastal Singers have been forced, understandably, to consider their future. Noeleen has been a stalwart of Coastal Singers for about 30 years and her outstanding contribution is a major reason why the Coastal Singers have been so successful for such a long time. (The choir was originally founded in the early 1990s by the late Gabrielle Barr).

Recently, the Coastal Singers had a social function, held at Noeleen and Lance's new home just north of New Plymouth. The function was enjoyable as always. But the question of the future of the choir was raised. Some choir members felt that it would be very hard to replace Noeleen, such is her calibre, and perhaps the choir should disband, "while on a high note," as one person put it. The discussion was informal because the purpose of the get-together was social.

However, a more formal



A special meeting to discuss the future of the Coastal Singers.

meeting was organised by Jean Roach, which was held on Thursday August 18. This well-attended meeting was held in the choir's usual practice venue the Star of the Sea Catholic church hall in Opunake. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the future of the choir in a more formal manner. The meeting was co-chaired by Noeleen Moir and Jean Roach.

An interesting proposal was put, underpinned by an offer by a prominent musician. The man (Peter Copeland), who is extensively involved in another Taranaki choir, offered to fulfil the role of conductor if a pianist can be found to support him.

There was a strong consensus (backed by a vote) to follow up this offer, with Jean to write a letter. Apart from

acceptance of the kind offer, the letter indicated the need for more formal consultation to clarify various details including what day (and time) would suit Peter, as well as the length of the engagement. The choir also wanted to ascertain the kind of music that would be concentrated on.

It was accepted that there the proposal would be a 'trial', although the feeling

of the meeting was that the future of Coastal Singers had a good chance of continuing their iconic place in Coastal and Taranaki music.

A special Committee was set up to liaise with Peter and deal with associated matters. The committee consists of Jean Roach, Melanie Brown, Barbara Waite, Elva Symons and Ian Sargent. The Committee will meet in the near future, probably at Jean's home.

Coastal Singers are keen for more people to join up, with a special welcome to younger people as some older members may 'retire' in the near future. Also, the choir is keen for a pianist to volunteer their services. Can you contact Jean (Phone 06 761 8654) if you can help in either capacity.

The last word goes to Noeleen Moir, "Thank you for your support over 30 years. I've really enjoyed it and I hope you continue."



Great art collection at the Percy Thomson Art Gallery, Stratford. See page 19.



Youth leadership involves Opunake students. Turn to page 5.



Pohutukawa tree is felled. Page 3.



A rollicking navy show. See page 23.

Ditching the family bach for a motor home. Beware!

The new trend of opting out of high priced coastal properties and turning to the motorhome and campervan as a new holiday preference has prompted a consumer warning.

The Plumbers, Gasfit-

ters and Drainlayers Board (PGDB) reports that the increasing popularity of motorhomes and campervan travel, has seen an upsurge in complaints regarding faults and unanticipated pitfalls from consumers.

Two issues proving problematic and effectively ending the road for these unsuspecting holiday makers have been defective unauthorised gasfitting work, and the absence of a Certificate of Compliance.

Restricted gasfitting work conducted by anyone who does not hold a current licence from the PGDB is illegal activity. This offence carries a maximum fine of \$50,000 – and can result in invalidation of your insurance policy.

"The Board is currently experiencing an increase in reports where the complainant had simply assumed their motorhome was compliant and gasfitting work had been carried out legally," says Martin Sawyers, Chief Executive for the Board.

"What consumers need to know is, as of 2013 a certifying gasfitter must provide a signed gasfitting certificate where restricted work has been carried out in this scenario. Consumers should stay safe and ask for a copy of this at the time of purchase – it is peace of mind that

the gasfitting work has been conducted in an authorised capacity," said Martin.

Consumers should always ensure gasfitting certificates are kept in a safe place – as they may be needed for insurance purposes or if a motorhome is resold.

If a gas certificate cannot be located consumers should contact a certifying gasfitter

who can issue a certificate of verification for the safety of the existing installation.

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Letters to the Editor

Condolences

It was with a great deal of sadness that I have just discovered that my dearest friend Gail Burdon (nee Williams) who was born in Opunake, passed away in 2009.

I knew Gail from my time working in Mt. Cook National Park, when I lived in New Zealand from 1974 -76.

I would dearly like to contact her family to offer my condolences, in particular her sister Lynne, or anyone else who knew her. My Contact Details are as below.

Michael Bell
138 Burley Grove
Downend
Bristol BS165QG
England.

My e-mail address – michael.bell@southglos.gov.uk

Thank you very much
Michael Bell.

EDITORIAL: The Olympic Games

We should all be delighted by the success of the NZ team at the Rio Olympics – winning the most medals ever. Perhaps the outstanding Olympian is Lisa Carrington with her two medals – a gold and a bronze.

The most gratifying one for me was probably the unexpected medal for Eliza McCartney and seeing her unbounded sheer joy at winning the bronze medal in the pole vault. As she is only nineteen her sporting future looks very positive indeed.

A couple of things puzzle me. Firstly, why isn't

the main form of Rugby Union represented, rather than the Sevens? I'd much prefer to see the All Blacks competing with perhaps Beauden Barrett scoring the gold medal winning try in the final. Having said that, it was pleasing to see Fiji win their first gold medal and their ecstatic welcome home. Also, the women's Sevens should be proud of their excellent achievement in winning a silver medal.

Also, why does volleyball get two events when other sports miss out on being even included. Do we really

need both beach volleyball and ordinary volleyball? Surely it's basically the same game.

Anyway, well done to all the Olympians, as well as their coaches and support people – all have contributed to the success of the NZ team.

I loved these Olympics but at least I'll get a bit more sleep now – not staying up until the early hours to watch the likes of Mahe Drysdale and Lisa Carrington win gold.

Rolland McKellar

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BBC: EPC Part 1

It was just a small town shop selling paint and wallpaper back in 1976. It also sold Christian books.

This time when I called, the shop keeper was reading his Bible. As a Presbyterian elder I thought I could help and so I asked if he understood what he was reading. His answer changed my world.

"Yes," he said. "I am reading Exodus and looking at how that story is an exact picture of a Christian's life."

He pointed out that the people were in slavery to the world's system. Pharaoh ruled as King of Egypt, just as industrial and commercial kings rule our lives today. Often demanding more production with fewer resources; rather like making mud bricks with no straw.

Then a prophet came with a message.

"Accept the death of a perfect lamb as your price for freedom," Bill, the

shopkeeper said. "Then show acceptance by marking the doorpost and lintel of your house with the lamb's blood!"

The blood marked doorposts were the token displayed. If we accept the death of the Lamb of God as our sacrifice and put our faith on display then we are in the same position as those early Israelites.

Death came to the Egyptians so they let Moses and God's people go.

All this happened at what the Israelites called Passover. The angel of death passed over all houses that had the lamb's blood displayed. This is a time we now know as Easter. Jesus the Lamb of God was crucified at Passover time so Easter and Passover are linked.

The Israelites did not stay in Egypt, they walked out, heading for their Promised Land. But things did not stay easy.

Three days out from slavery they arrived at the Red sea. To one side was a marshy area on the other was a fortress. In front of them there was the Red Sea. Now behind them Pharaoh and his army were ready to take them back into slavery. The only thing stopping them was God's pillar of fire standing between His people and the Egyptian army.

This is the state many people get into. They have accepted the lamb of God as paying for their sin, they have acted on their faith, but now that faith is being tested.

(Part 2 next Issue)
Richard Oliver Pastor
Eltham Message Church
www.messagechurch.com

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Workers outside of St. Barnabas Church removing the pohutukawa tree.

Who will rid me of this turbulent tree?

A troublesome tree has been cut down to size. As reported in the Opunake and Coastal News on July 29, a Pohutukawa next to St Barnabas Anglican Church in Opunake has been causing problems for

the church, damaging the Tasman Street footpath and a neighbouring driveway, forcing a diversion of the church's water line, and posing a risk of falling branches to passers-by, including anybody using a

seat directly under the tree.

On August 18, contractors turned up to take the tree down.

The Rev Hugh Caulton of St Barnabas Church said the tree would be reduced to mulch and firewood, and the

stump would be treated to prevent regrowth.

He said pohutukawa wood has other uses as well as firewood.

"It's good for wood turning too," he said.

In memory of Mavis Joyce West

Readers like us will miss Mavis's regular articles in this newspaper about Te Kiri Women's Institute. Sadly Mavis passed away on August 3. Mavis was Te Kiri's reporter from the 1980s right up to this year, doing an excellent job of promoting both Women's Institute and our area. Mavis's writing and storytelling made you smile and sometimes laugh out loud. Mavis loved writing so much that she also wrote to founding member and past President Mrs Dossie Coupe for many years. Dossie was our lone member in a New Plymouth rest home. For at least ten years Mavis also wrote regularly to a current member's sister in a Hamilton rest home.

Mavis was our Institute's longest continuous member having joined Te Kiri Country Women's Institute in September 1955. Mavis had true dedication to Women's Institute being probably the most regular attendee at our meetings – she won a national certificate in 2002 for her Long and Loyal Service. In 1975 she was awarded a Good Service Badge, with her 50 year badge in 2005, and her 60 year badge was awarded to Mavis in Te Kiri Hall last year.

Mavis's hands were always busy knitting for her nieces or nephews and their families, plus for charities



Mavis West

our WI supported. When knitting for family Mavis would tell us the name of the new baby or child it was for and all about that family. If that recipient had red hair then it was always an extra special child in Mavis's eyes. She did so love red hair.

Mavis would always try fun and interesting things with her knitting – soft toys or Christmas brooches to wear and take home. Mavis made them all for family,

friends, Institute members, and in later times the 'Meals on Wheels' deliverers. Many of us still have them as they were always so clever.

Mavis was also wonderful at floral arrangements with buttonholes or sprays being a real specialty. Mavis would make them for all sorts of special occasions both for TeKiri and at provincial meetings.

Mavis was a cup half full lady who always saw the bright side of everything. She

appreciated every little thing that was done for her and always said so. Mavis set an example with her big heart, her generosity, her sense of fun, her stories of the past, and always remembering to thank people. As a tribute to Mavis Te Kiri WI members each wore a buttonhole Mavis had made, at her funeral.

Mavis will surely be missed by us all.

Te Kiri WI

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Mayor challenges Taranaki to make New Zealander of the Year a local

Taranaki residents are being challenged to nominate a local to be the 2017 New Zealander of the Year.

Mayor Andrew Judd has laid down the challenge, saying that he meets people every day who are doing remarkable things in the community.

“These are everyday people whose selflessness and acts of kindness make Taranaki and indeed New Zealand great places to live,” says the Mayor.

“While they’d be the first to say they’re not special, we

know otherwise.

“It’s time we showed New Zealand just how proud we are of these kind and inspirational people by nominating them for New Zealander of the Year.”

The annual New Zealander of the Year Awards are now in their eighth year. The awards recognise a diverse range of Kiwis from all fields of endeavour including science, business, the arts, cultural or community involvement, sport, education and health. They are open to New Zealanders of all ages whose impact has inspired the communities they serve

and the country as a whole.

Nominations for the award, and supporting categories, opened last month and close on 30 September. Any member of the public can nominate an individual or community organisation in the awards programme.

In addition to the Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year, awards will also be presented to New Zealanders who have performed with distinction in five additional award categories, Young New Zealander of the Year, Senior New Zealander of the Year, New Zealand Community of the Year, New Zealand

Innovator of the Year, and New Zealand Local Hero of the Year.

The 2017 Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year will be announced at the New Zealander of the Year Awards Gala in Auckland in February next year.

Previous winners of the New Zealander of the Year Award are: Richie McCaw (2016), Sir Stephen Tindall (2015), Dr Lance O’Sullivan (2014), Dame Anne Salmond (2013), Sir Richard Taylor (2012), Sir Paul Callaghan (2011) and Sir Ray Avery (2010).



Mayor Andrew Judd

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No election for Kaitake Community Board

Kaitake Community Board’s members have been confirmed after one candidate’s nomination was declined by the Electoral Officer.

That leaves just four candidates for the four seats on the board, meaning no

election will be required.

New Plymouth District Council Chief Executive Barbara McKerrow says the Electoral Officer declined the candidacy of Keith Plummer after an anomaly appeared regarding his citizenship.

“The Department of Internal

Affairs hasn’t yet confirmed his citizenship as Keith arrived in New Zealand as a child with his parents in 1969, and DIA’s records may not all be digitised that far back,” says Mrs McKerrow.

“Keith’s working on sorting that out but the rules state that a person must be confirmed as

a New Zealand citizen by the time nominations close, so he’s run out of time to stand in this election.”

Mr Plummer has been a Kaitake Community Board member for the last five terms, and is the deputy board chairman.

On this month in history Reinhard Messner climbs Everest solo.

On August 20, 1980 Reinhard Messner made the first solo ascent of Mount Everest. He was also the first person to climb Everest without using bottled oxygen; some say this was the first real ascent of Everest, as using bottled oxygen was a kind of cheating.

However, Sir Edmund Hillary, Lord Hunt and Tenzing Norgay would not have agreed. John Hunt lead the first successful ascent in 1953 – using oxygen tanks.

WI donates to rest home



Te Kiri Women’s Institute President Sue Muggeridge presenting the Opunake Cottage Resthome with \$500 for the Home to purchase a lapel microphone system so their Residents can more easily hear all that is being said. The donation was received by Anne Woods on behalf of the Rest Home.

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Taranaki teens empowered to speak up and be leaders

Creating jobs, dealing with binge drinking culture, and improving education – teens attending a leadership forum in New Plymouth had bold ideas for change. But many feel their views and voices are not being heard by those in power.

About 40 Year 12 and Year 13 students from seven Taranaki schools attended the Youth Leadership Symposium organised by Massey University's College of Humanities and Social Sciences to speak up on issues they care about and to share solutions to problems facing their generation now and in the future.

The event, modelled on a similar one held last year, was designed to bring youth together for the chance to tackle some of the major issues affecting young people living in the regions resulting from major demographic changes, such as the growth of the ageing population and lack of jobs and job training.

It was hosted by leading demographer and sociologist Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley and politics lecturer Professor Richard Shaw. They began the three-hour event by inviting participants to define what they consider are the key challenges facing young people in Taranaki, and ended by encouraging them to speak their truth to adults and to get involved in decision-making.

One of the main issues discussed by the students, who were organised into mixed groups from schools, was alcohol abuse and the peer pressure fuelling it. The lack of opportunity for teens from single sex schools to meet



Opunake High School participants (from left) Danielle Hasler and Atalaya Fakavamoeanga (front) with Professor Richard Shaw, Ben Morgan, Tara Clement and Distinguished Professor Paul Spoonley, in New Plymouth.

often led to young people turning to alcohol to feel relaxed and confident when they do socialise, said New Plymouth Boys' High School participant Corrigan Millar.

"But this isn't healthy for us," he said. "It's extremely dangerous...it results in bad social experiences, like drink-driving or rape – one of the worst ones."

His team suggested stricter rules and consequences for people in school sports teams who drank, as well as lobbying government to raise the price of alcohol. Better role models, especially among sports stars, would also help to make a difference in promoting a message about moderation in drinking alcohol.

Other issues canvassed were the future of work, the need for updated education models and communication between generations.

A team talked about

adopting computer gaming and other digital technologies as teaching tools. They argued for a more tailored "pick 'n' mix" curriculum based on shorter, more varied modules, so that senior students did not have to take subjects or units not relevant to their interests or goals.

In responding to the discussion points, Professor Spoonley noted that in terms of work, young people often faced the difficulty of convincing employers to give them "a go." Many treated youth employees as a cost and not an investment. As a researcher, he has observed that many employers do not look ahead to employment needs of the future, or to consider job creation as a community issue.

He told participants; "You all have provided very articulate arguments about a problem and about what

you might do. The thing that is emphasised for me is that your voice is missing from a lot of decisions being made in this country and in this province."

Being heard and expressing their views in public forums – not just with family, friends and at school – was critical, he said.

"What is obviously frustrating is that they [the students] lack a voice, especially in terms of the media, or politics, or society generally. If they are to be leaders of tomorrow, then New Zealand and Taranaki are in good hands."

He also told the participants, "you are the future leaders and you need to be encouraged to think about what this country should look like, and begin to have a say on that."

Facilitator Professor Shaw urged students to communicate with each other

after the event and to "do something about the issues that matter to you," whether face-to-face or on Facebook, and not to be put off by older people who ignore or dismiss their views.

Students from New

Plymouth Boys' High School, New Plymouth Girls' High School, Waitara High School, Sacred Heart Girls' College, Inglewood High School, Opunake High School, and St Mary's Diocesan School in Stratford attended the forum.

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Taranaki showing interest in civil defence

The last community emergency planning meeting for Opunake has been held, and things are "effective to go," says Taranaki emergency management officer Ben Ingram.

"We are now better equipped to deal with a civil defence emergency than we were 18 months ago," he said.

Last year, in March and April, meetings had been held to discuss setting up a civil defence plan for Opunake. Shortly after that, on June 20, heavy rains had flooded

Waitotara and parts of inland Taranaki. Less than two months later, on August 6, it was Opunake's turn as heavy rains inundated the town, nearly cutting it off from the rest of the country for a time.

A year later, Opunake's Emergency Management Group aims to prepare people in the town and surrounding rural area for any future civil emergency, whether it be flooding, volcanic eruption, weather event or anything else.

Ben says there will be ongo-

ing training for civil defence volunteers and it is hoped a civil defence exercise can be arranged "every 12 months or so."

He says the Taranaki Emergency Management Office want to hold similar meetings and set up similar groups in other rural towns throughout Taranaki. In recent months, an initial meeting has been held in Manaia, and there are plans to set up a group in Whangamomona, a town affected by the June 2015 floods.

Ben says he is pleased with the interest shown to date.

"The local people have been really proactive. Half the battle is getting people with the interest and motivation to do it. The demand has been more than the resources we can throw at it."

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COASTAL COPS OKATO

Hi Everyone
Hope all is well around the coast and those toiling away at calving are having an easy time of it.

Over the school holidays I became aware of a person pretending to be of school age befriending a few of our younger school students through Facebook. It would appear that he used a cover story that he was moving to Okato to start the new term and began communicating with several students. These conversations turned into a

sexual nature and we were notified by one of the parents, on further investigating this persons fake profile he had hundreds of "friends" around the country mostly young girls. The CIB in New Plymouth have started an investigation into this predator.

One thing that astounds me is the number of "friends" people tend to have on Facebook, many number the thousands. I am sure that the average person does not have a thousand friends!



Constable Rhys Connell

The rule that I have told my kids around Facebook and have given to many others is if you see your Facebook friend in the street would you go over and say hello to them? If the answer is no then you shouldn't have them on Facebook as a friend. I urge parents to take the time to sit down with their children and audit their friends lists and ask them questions about some of their "friends", if you don't think they can

answer questions about each friend then maybe they should delete them. It is all too easy to set up fake profiles on Facebook and use it for malicious purposes and believe me people do it a lot for many dodgy reasons.

An issue that has reared its head is cars parking the wrong way on the street around the Okato Village. I'm talking about cars that face into the traffic rather than away, it is an offence to park your car facing into the traffic and can occur a \$40 fine. The reason I bring this up is there was a case recently where an elderly driver came around a corner and saw a car facing towards her and believed it was coming towards her on the wrong side of the road and swerved into the path of an oncoming car causing an accident. This is one of

the reasons that the law is there, and I have received a complaint in regards to cars parking illegally as the person who came to see me had experienced a situation similar to what I have just outlined.

Please be considerate with your parking and where you park also. I know that a lot of people have been blocking access ways for the nearby businesses around the town as they scramble to get their morning coffee. Just remember that these guys have work to do and businesses to run - so please be considerate.

In regards to rural crime, fuel seems to be the things that are getting stolen the most around rural Taranaki, mainly petrol. Consider relocating your petrol tanks somewhere that is a little harder to access

for opportunists. I know for some this can be a little problematic when you have to consider the fuel tanker as well, but continue to lock them if you have them and even consider doing away with bulk storage all together if you keep getting targeted. I know a few other farmers have gone away from bulk tanks and just rely on the odd petrol container to get by nowadays. Consider point to point alarms or cameras if you think that getting rid of your bulk tanks is not an option. Feel free to contact me at Okato if you want some advice around your farm security; I'm always open to visiting the farm to see what may work for you.

That's all for now - have a great week and keep safe

Rhys

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Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade news

You may have read that from the 1st July of this year, all residential rental properties must have working smoke alarms. The reason for this is that most fatal house fires (over 100 deaths in the past five years) are in properties that don't have working smoke alarms. The Fire Service pushed the Government for change so that lives would be saved and fire fighters didn't have the stress of turning up to find "burnt bodies" in the remains of the fire. So it is now mandatory that rentals must have working smoke alarms.

The "death by fire" problem should be a very easy fix because for a few dollars the landlord can install working alarms and lives will be saved. However, the emphasis must be on "working." Under

the new law, the property owner must fit the alarm, but it is up to the tenant to maintain them. That means if the batteries run flat, the tenant must replace them. If the children take the batteries out of the alarm and use them for some other purpose, you legally must replace them. If you don't, and there is a fire and someone is seriously burnt or worse and a death occurs, your head will roll.

It is also an unlawful act if a person blocks an exit way leaving no means of fire escape. That means, if you stack removal boxes or furniture up against a door way, and there is a fire and people can't escape, a fine with a maximum of \$3000 will be imposed. There would however be manslaughter charges if a death should occur and that would be

devastating.

So if you live in rental accommodation and you don't have smoke alarms, get in touch with the landlord. They legally have to install them and you legally have to maintain them. Don't let the children tutu with the alarms as it could be very costly.

On the smoke alarm issue I will run over a few points for you to keep in mind. Firstly, a smoke alarm is required in each sleeping space or within three metres of each bedroom door. A self-contained caravan or sleep out must have a least one alarm. At the beginning of each new tenancy, the landlord must check to make sure the alarm is working. When alarms are replaced, the new ones must be the "photoelectric" variety. These ones pick up smouldering issues before

things burst into flames. In fact they pick up smoke 15 - 90 minutes quicker than the earlier alarm which was the ionization smoke alarm. The ionization alarms are good in "fast flame" fires but are very slow to pick up a smouldering smoke.

We had to wait a while for the 40th call for the year but it did arrive. At 3:30 on Saturday morning we had to respond to a ute that had lost its way on Ihaia Road. It had decided to take a short cut through a few paddocks but unfortunately someone had put fences in the way. The driver was checked by the St. Johns crew who were dressed in a green uniform and the next in line to have a chat was wearing a blue uniform.

Little Flick

Hoax email reaches Opunake

A rogue email purporting to be from New Zealand Post which has been going around the country has found its way

to Opunake.

An Opunake resident who didn't want to be named said she had received the email saying a parcel was waiting for her to be picked up and inviting her to click on to a link. The message said New Zealand Post had tried to deliver it to her but she wasn't home at the time. She was told she had to make contact within 15 days or she would

be charged for storage.

New Zealand Post has issued a warning about the email, which they say contains ransomware which can corrupt customers' files on to the host device. They say anyone receiving the email should delete, and not click on to any links in the message. The email does not come from a recognised NZ Post address and comes with a number of variations, including "a

delivery man wasn't able to bring the parcel," "the courier did not redeem the parcel," and "you have to update your shipping address."

Peter Fletcher from New Zealand Post said the email first appeared on 10 August. "This email is a concern to us and we want our customers to be aware of it," he said.

The New Zealand Post's security team is investigating.

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From Bay of Plenty to Opunake for new Dove owners

Ian and Susan Phillips are the new faces at Dove Takeaways, having taken over last month.

They wish the previous owner well for the future. "Susan and I would like to thank Linda for giving us this opportunity, and our family would like to wish her all the very best for the next chapter in her life," Ian said.

The Phillips family are originally from Mamaku, an old sawmilling village on the outskirts of Rotorua, and have been living on the Taranaki coast for the last five years, most of that time in Oaonui. They shifted into Opunake in May, as they were preparing to take over the shop.

Although Susan did work in the hospitality trade for a time after leaving school, it will be a completely new venture for Ian, who for 20 years worked as a biosecurity officer for the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

"In that role, I was able to meet and interact with a variety of landowners and community groups," he said.



The new team at Dove Takeaways. From left Sean, Susan, Ian, Julia. Absent Olivia.

"Susan and I are very much looking forward to getting to know our customers and becoming involved in this truly amazing community. When I first saw Opunake before we moved down here, I thought it was fantastic. We don't have many towns like this in the Bay of Plenty. We

love Opunake and consider ourselves truly blessed to be living here."

Ian and Susan say it will be very much a family run business, with Samantha, Julia, Sean and Olivia helping out in running the shop.

Julia is Year 12 at Opunake High School, and Sean is

Year 10. Olivia is Year 7 and attends Rahotu Primary School.

They say the main focus will be on fish and chips, although they will be introducing roast meals on Friday and Saturday nights which will be advertised.

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Dance Factory pleased with students' success

Opunake and Stratford dancers from The Dance Factory sat their NZAMD Tap, Jazz and Ballet Exams last Wednesday.

Owner and Choreographer, Hayley Duggan, is thrilled with her dancers efforts and results.

"Our Grade 1 American Jazz students from Opunake

have only been dancing two years and passed with Honours (85-89 per cent) and High Honours (90-95 per cent). Students as young as only seven years old also received Very Highly Commended and Honours."

Nineteen groups of dancers went into the exam room and Hayley is very proud of each and every dancer.

Hayley trained in New Plymouth in her early dancing days before studying fulltime performing arts in Melbourne. The Dance Factory teaches from three year olds upwards, offering tap, jazz ballet and hip hop from 6yrs. They will be putting on another Christmas Showcase at the end of the year.

Alongside Hayley's dancing

skills, she runs a small craft shop in her dance studio. Offering lovely handmade bags, headbands, upcycled furniture, chalk paint and runs workshops for children and adults. Hayley and fellow crafter, Diane Brooke, will be running their second annual Crafty Christmas Night Market on December 8.

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Back row from left: Eden Lark, Alika Hunn
Front row from left: Jaylah Drought, Isabella Neil, Katie Duggan
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General Practitioner's fees

If it feels like going to the doctor is getting more and more expensive, you're not dreaming – it is. General Practitioner's fees are rising. The bad news is that for older Kiwis they have increased by nearly 30 per cent. The cost of stepping into a doctor's waiting room has risen on average from around \$30 to \$40 in the past eight years.

If that's not bad enough, the number of practices that were subsidised to provide low cost access has been capped now for seven years. These so-called Very Low Cost Access practises (VLCA for short) charge on average just \$14 a visit for those over 65. There is now a disastrous situation where 434,040 Kiwis who are classified as high needs are missing out on this low cost care.

Of course the irony is that some patients who belong to low cost practices are not classed as high needs



Andrew Little MP, Leader of the Opposition

patients.

So the question is how did we end up with this dog's breakfast of rising doctors' fees? The blame can be squarely laid at the feet of the Health Minister, Jonathan Coleman, who has simply failed to pick up the gauntlet on GP's fees. Last year Treasury said more money could be allocated to the VLCA scheme so more high needs people would qualify under the Budget. However

the Minister failed to make a Budget bid for increased funding. He told doctors that any changes might form part of a future budget under a different health minister. "I would like to get it sorted out. I genuinely would. There is no new money," he told them.

Despite, Treasury's suggestion that further funding could be allocated, it wasn't, and this has upset GPs.

Doctors like Whangarei GP Andrew Miller say something must be done to help high needs patients in his practice who are not subsidised and don't pay a lower fee. He's called on the Government to resolve what had become an "unsustainable and grossly inequitable capitation model".

Sadly Jonathan Coleman's attempt to fob this criticism off has meant more pressure on older Kiwis as GPs signal fees could rise even further.

The cracks are showing

in other areas with 45,000 mainly older Kiwis being sent back to their GPs without getting to see the specialists they were referred to. In Waitemata alone 1500 more people were refused than last year, while in the Waikato the number of refusals jumped by 500.

The health system has been left to limp along after \$1.7 billion has been cut from the Budget over the last six years. The Government has persistently refused to fund the impact of population, inflation and wage increases. This means that 12 out of our 20 district health boards are getting less funding.

However primary health care must remain the main priority for the Government – and a first step to the reform of GP's fees.

Andrew Little

Building our teaching workforce for Kiwi kids

We all remember our favourite teacher, and I think most people can think of a story about a moment that teacher had an impact on their lives.

Teachers are a vital part of not only education, but in helping to shape someone's outlook in life. I remember choosing teaching as my first profession and loved my time teaching in South Taranaki, and hopefully I had a positive impact on young people's lives. It was a real blast when I was visiting the Hutt Valley Gun Club recently, as part of the Law and Order Committee's inquiry into firearms in New Zealand, and met one of my past students there. He seemed to have survived and done well over the years.

I'm a big fan of teachers. National wants to support Kiwi teachers, as we recognise the important role they

play in our children's lives.

Right now we have enough teachers overall, but they are not necessarily in the areas or subjects we need them in. So we're investing more than \$9 million over four years to help address teacher supply pressures.

Part of this investment will be an extra 100 Teach NZ Scholarships worth \$1.8 million per year for science, technology, and maths subjects to lift the number of graduates in these areas by the end of 2017. We know these scholarships have a proven record of quickly boosting numbers of teachers in particular teaching areas.

Another solution is expanding both national and international recruitment options. We are going to increase our investment in these recruitment campaigns



Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

from \$220,000 to about \$1 million, and we're launching a new recruitment campaign focused on bringing Kiwi teachers back home.

To support our recruitment of science, technology and maths teachers we're going to invest in promoting teaching

as a career to tertiary science, technology and maths students. This will begin now, so that people finishing their qualifications this year can consider it as one of their options.

Working with the education sector, we are focused on ensuring we have the teachers our students need and the support to keep both engaged. Ensuring every child gets a good education is one of the most important things we can do to help our young people be engaged, love learning, succeed in choosing a career that will raise their living standards, and enable them to be positive members of our communities.

Jonathan Young

Adrian Rurawhe MP for Te Tai Hauāuru

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Soup and songs for Kaponga WI

Kaponga WI members gathered at the NP home of Mollie Nicholas, hostess for the August meeting, with Nan Stokes helping. Visitors to the meeting were Joan Hills, Dene Lines and Rosalie Gib-

son.

Entertainers Samantha and Campbell (of Words with Birds fame) sang and acted songs from two Musicals, also I Hate Men, and A Trip to the Library. These talented

young women were very well received by the members.

The Roll Call. A teacher I remember was answered by everyone with most having good memories of past teachers, and only one who said she had not enjoyed school days.

joying meeting up with the visitors again.

Joy handed round samples of the materials used for the costumes for Sister Act. Joy had been involved in the huge task of cutting out all the costumes.

Competition Results:

Unusual Necklace: Rayleen McDonald 1st, Joy Eliason 2nd, Diane West 3rd.

Ginger Gems: Nan Stokes 1st, Margaret Broomhall 2nd.

Amusing Greeting Card: Diane 1st, Joy 2nd, Dorothy 3rd

Plans for items for display on Armistice Day were discussed, and an Indoor Bowling team of Margaret Broomhall, Gillian Frandsen and Dorothy Hughes was organised.

Mollie & Nan served lunch after which social time was enjoyed with members en-

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TRC councillor unashamedly pro-farming

In 2013, Mike Davey and Roger Maxwell were returned unopposed for the Northern Ward of the Taranaki Regional Council. This time round, Roger Maxwell is stepping down and there are eight candidates standing for the two regional council seats.

Mike Davey who has represented the ward for the past three terms is again seeking re-election.

"I've been on the council for nine years and I've thoroughly enjoyed it," he said. The Taranaki Regional Council has had one of the lowest levels of rate increases in the country, and has seen no need to go down the same road as the neighbouring Horizons Regional Council, with its



Mike Davey

consents to farm, he said.

The Ravensdown regional manager who lives in Inglewood describes himself as someone who unashamedly supports the farming sector.

"I'm passionate about farming and the contribution it has made to the New Zealand

economy," he said. "When farmers have hard times, all Taranaki suffers."

He says he is proud of the way the Taranaki Regional Council has been leading the way with riparian planting, with 450,000 plants placed every year.

Sixty nine per cent of Taranaki streams are now protected with riparian hedges and 89 per cent of streams are fenced. It is something which other councils have only started doing.

"The voluntary effort which Taranaki farmers have put into riparian planting should be commended," he said.

The future of Port Taranaki is another thing he is interested in.

"Port Taranaki is wholly owned by the Council. A

number of years ago, there was a bit of white noise about relinquishing this asset. I'm totally against it. It's the only West Coast port in New Zealand, and a good export port for the farming sector. It's also important for bringing in animal nutrients like palm kernel. If we didn't have that, it would have to be freighted in from somewhere else."

Mike says he was pleased to see the government announce the multi-million dollar State Highway 3 bypass, something for which the Taranaki Regional Council has been lobbying for a number of years.

"It will circumvent Mount Messenger and shorten the trip if you are going to Waikato or Auckland."

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On this month in history

Elvis dies

On August 14, 1977 Elvis Presley dies at his Graceland home in Memphis, Tennessee. He was aged just 42, a similar age his beloved mother Gladys died at. His first major hit was Heartbreak Hotel, released in 1956. This was a

song which a big impact on many singers including John Lennon and Cliff Richard.

He also made over 30 films for which his fee was a million dollars. Unfortunately, he became dependent on pills – uppers and downers - and his

weigh became an issue. His impact as regards record sales dwindled markedly after his peak period (late 1950s to early 1960s). Today Graceland is a major tourist attraction and Elvis impersonators are in great demand.

On this month in history

Ernest Rutherford born

On August 30, 1871 Ernest Rutherford (later Lord Rutherford of Nelson) was born near Nelson. He was the fourth of 12 children. He made his name as a physicist overseas in McGill University (Canada) and Cambridge (Cavendish Laboratory) in England. He won NZ's first

Nobel prize, but in Chemistry for his investigation of radioactivity – not Physics.

His family lived in Taranaki for a while and had flax mills at Opunake, Warea and Pungarehu (where their farm was – Lower Parahaka Road).

Rutherford also did important work at Canterbury

University. He died aged 66 and is buried at Westminster Abbey. He is generally considered to be the most famous New Zealander ever.

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Rearing a future

The Rahotu Home and School Are currently seeking out farmers in the school and wider community that would be prepared to rear a bull calf to 100kg, with the proceeds from the sale of these animals going to benefit the schools' students. The school has Coastal Farm Source livestock agent Sheldon Keech, a parent at the school, right in behind them with the fundraiser. He will be taking the animals to sale. He has also offered to collect any four day old calves that farmers would like to send to sale for the benefit of the students through the Rahotu Home and School Association. If you think that this is a way you would like to support

our community you can contact the secretary Shelly Bollond on 0276536829 or 06 7638490. Alternatively you could give Sheldon a call on 0272227920 and let him know that that you would like one of your four day old calves to be earmarked for Rahotu School. Shelly also has tags available for bobby calves, another way that the Rahotu School children can benefit.

Please see Farmsource advertisement on page 16 for Sheldons contact details

From left Alex Bengston, Alana Wood, Ben Helms, Lydia Helms and Blake Bengston.



Upsurge in whooping cough cases in Taranaki

The Taranaki District Health Board have confirmed that two children aged less than six months old have developed whooping cough and a total of 37 people have been notified with the disease in Taranaki, so far this year. Most cases are in older people and the average age being 27 years old. Dr Jonathan Jarman said, "Whooping Cough is a frightening disease, particularly for babies and young children who might go blue or stop breathing during coughing attacks and many need to be hospitalised." "Whooping Cough can be life-threatening as

complications are highest in this very young age group. Also, children who are unimmunised are at especially high risk of infection," he added. Whooping cough (or pertussis) is a highly contagious illness that is caused by a bacterium (Bordetella pertussis). It is spread by an infected person through droplets produced during coughing or sneezing, which is why it is important to keep babies away from people with coughs and to avoid coughing on babies. Symptoms start with a runny nose and dry cough. The coughing gets worse over the next few weeks

developing into attacks of coughing. The 'whoop' sound occurs as children draw a breath after a long coughing attack, although in some cases, there is no whooping sound. They may also vomit and stop breathing. The symptoms tend to be worse at night. The old name of the disease is the cough of 100 days. Dr Jarman explained, "For older people, the disease can be very annoying, because coughing bouts can last for weeks." Dr Jarman said people should talk to their family doctor or nurse to make sure that their children are up-to-date with their immunisations, especially

if there is a baby in their family or whanau. "For infants, it takes three immunisations for whooping cough at six weeks, three months and five months to obtain immunity so it is very important to start the immunisations on time. In saying this, it's also never too late to catch up on missed immunisations," added Dr Jarman. Whooping cough boosters at 4 and 11 years old help to keep older children protected and stop the disease being passed on to young children and babies. Vaccination against whooping cough is also recommended in pregnancy. Getting immunised between 28 and 38 weeks of pregnancy means that immunity can be passed to the baby when they are born. This immunity protects them until they get their first vaccinations at six weeks of age. The Whooping Cough vaccination is free for children and pregnant women. The protection provided by childhood vaccination gradually reduces over time, leaving adolescents and adults potentially at risk of catching the disease. Adults can also receive the vaccine but it is not government funded unless they are pregnant women.

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Shaving locks in a good cause



Carter McKenzie before



Carter McKenzie after.

On August 22, eight-year old Carter McKenzie from St Patrick's School in Kaponga had his long hair shaved off as a fundraiser for cancer.

Carter grew his hair for almost two years to fit the strict criteria set for contributing to his chosen cause – 'Shave for a Cure'.

Carter's hair needed to be a specific length and have no colours or other chemical treatments in order to meet those criteria.

Carter's hair will now be sent to Christchurch to be made into a wig for anyone who has experienced hair

loss as a result of cancer or its treatment. So far Carter has raised \$699.00 and donations are still coming in.

'Shave for a Cure' is the Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ's signature fundraising event where over the past 12 years thousands of Kiwis have registered, fundraised and organised their Shaves and cut their locks for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer NZ.

We at St Patrick's School, alongside Carter's parents, are very proud of the commitment Carter made to supporting others in need.

Sue Harrison

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Cathedral looks to next stage

Significant funding has enabled Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary to appoint a local architect as its Cathedral Remediation and Design

Manager. Jenny Goddard, a New Plymouth architect with an interest in heritage buildings, took up the new position on August 1.

The historic church building on Vivian St was temporarily closed on January 31 after a detailed seismic assessment (DSA) determined it was earthquake prone. The adjacent offices and Hatherly Hall are still open, and the church continues with the Tuesday Community Café, church services and regular organ recitals.

Jenny Goddard said she was excited about the job and the pivotal role it would play in getting the remediation project underway for such an important building. "It's a beautiful building, it sits in a beautiful landscape and it's been the subject of many changes over the years – this is the start of another chapter in the life of the building." An architect of over 30 years, she has a personal

connection to the church having been married there, had children baptised there and worshipped there. "A lot of my architectural work has been with community buildings such as health practices. I enjoy working in projects like this because there's a great deal of satisfaction in seeing people involved and achieving an outcome that enhances a community." The position will see her working alongside many different groups likely to be involved, ranging from engineers and quantity surveyors to parishioners, church bodies, local council and Heritage NZ.

Cathedral Dean, the Very Rev Peter Beck, said he was delighted with Jenny's appointment. "She has huge experience, is part of our worshipping community, and has been donkey deep in the care of the cathedral over many years." This was a positive chance to reinvigorate the building in many ways. "It's an extraordinarily opportunity to look at what this cathedral can be for the community, the province, the diocese and the nation. It's not just a beautiful building, but

one where the life of the city will flow in and out, where the city comes to celebrate and grieve, and the place where people of all faiths and none

can feel safe, and gather for celebrations." Ms Goddard will work alongside the Dean as well as a cathedral advisory committee.

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Newcomers take on sitting councillors for TRC council seats

A council veteran and a first time candidate will be lining up against three sitting councillors including the council chairman in this year's election for the South Taranaki Ward of the Taranaki Regional Council. On August 12, the Opunake and Coastal News reported that the sitting three councillors from the South Taranaki Ward, council chairman David MacLeod and councillors Neil Walker and Michael Joyce are seeking re-election. When nominations closed on August 12, they had been joined by Robert Shaw and Karen Pratt.



Robert Shaw

Robert Shaw, who has been a columnist in this paper comes with 18 years experience on different councils having been previously been a Porirua City and a Greater Wellington Regional councillor. "I didn't ever think I would go back to councils, but there's a need in Taranaki for newer ideas, so I decided to offer myself," he said. "I'm not concerned about any single issue, but would bring to the table any skills and insights I can offer. It is important that councils have a unity in their action, but it is also important that they are progressive and help their communities develop."

He has recently been appointed a member of the Taranaki Whanganui Conservation Board. "I've enjoyed finding out about our local issues, and the board is an important link between the community and government agencies, particularly DOC."

As an Opunake resident, he was affected by last year's August 6 floods. "I was pleased the regional council and South Taranaki District Council responded

to our needs regarding the floods,' he said. "It is now important we keep on their case. Significant sums of money have to be spent to protect all of Opunake township from flooding. We want to be sure the councils' budgets provide for this."

Like Robert Shaw, first time candidate Karen Pratt from Hawera is standing for both the Taranaki Regional Council and the Taranaki District Health Board. The mother and former chartered accountant says she has always had an interest in the local community and when the future of the Hawera Hospital came up for discussion in 2011, she joined the Hawera Hospital Advocacy Group

Two years later she put in a submission to the EPA when Trans Tasman Resources put in an application to the EPA to permit iron sand mining off the coast of Patea. "The government has a growth agenda when it comes to looking at minerals in our seabeds, and I am interested in economic and environmental guardianship," she said. "I come from an auditing background, so I'm interested in systems supported with good data, as with that comes transparency. Many of these developments can be long term, so the impacts can be very long term."

Her community involvement has included writing biographies for Hospice Taranaki and being a project volunteer for the South Taranaki Reef Life project. She says she has a particular interest in the 2016-17 regional council plan. "There is a lot of



Karen Pratt

community knowledge around the schools, and hoping the youth can realise what a productive coastline we have, from Patea to Hawera to Opunake."

Pests stopped in post

New survey results show the Ministry for Primary Industries is preventing pests and diseases from arriving in New Zealand through the post.

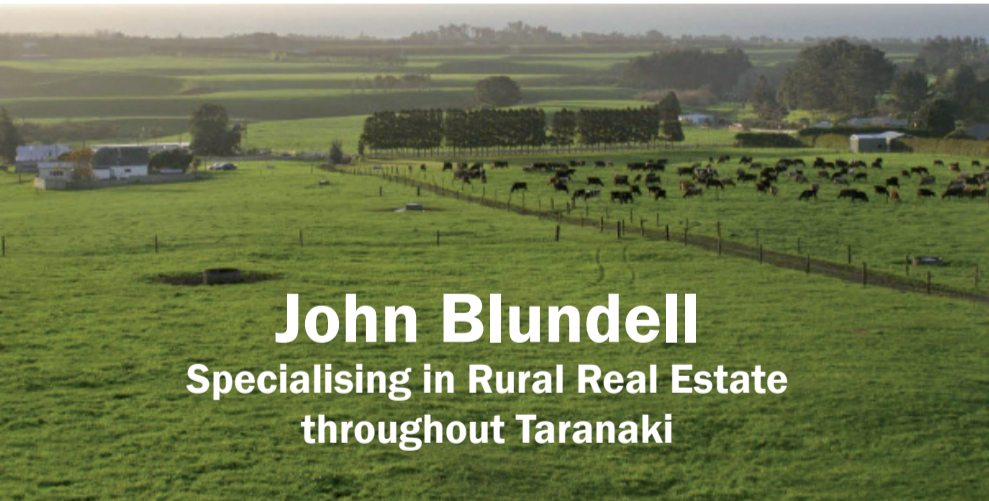
MPI's mail compliance monitoring survey for 2015/16 showed 99.93 percent of arriving international letters, parcels and other mail items were clear of biosecurity risk. "The result is similar to last year's survey, showing MPI's controls continue to

work well for New Zealand," says Chris Denny, MPI Team Manager, Freight and Mail. The survey involved mail inspections that took place after the items had passed through biosecurity controls such as detector dog and x-ray screening at the International Mail Centre in Auckland.

MPI inspected 4367 mail items for the survey. More than 1.6 million items were processed at the mail centre during the survey period

between 16 and 29 May. Only five non-compliant risk goods were detected during the survey. They included undeclared seeds, a partly dried leaf with fungal growth and meat in homemade cans.

"We strive for 100 percent compliance, so there is still room for improvement. That is the reason we are constantly refining our processes to find better ways of managing biosecurity threats," says Mr Denny



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Council wannabes look to attract refugee Aucklanders

Two candidates for South Taranaki District Council's Egmont Plains Ward are seeing the Auckland housing situation as a way of attracting Aucklanders to settle on the coast.

Kelly Knadle is a former Auckland who has seen the light and already made the shift to Opunake, while Clem Coxhead is a familiar figure around Opunake. He was a candidate for the Egmont Plains Ward in 2013, and his father Doug Coxhead was a long serving Egmont County councillor.

There are four nominations for three councillors in the Egmont Plains ward. Sitting councillor and deputy mayor Ian Armstrong is retiring, while councillors Bonita Bigham and Bryan Roach are seeking re-election.

Clem says some of the issues which concerned his father when he was on the council, like the state of the town's water supply are just as relevant today.

"I've been doing a bit of

study on water treatment in other countries which operate modern systems that are not only cheaper, but don't use poisons like chlorine to filter their water. I would like to pursue that issue for Opunake and the rest of South Taranaki."

He said his father had also been concerned with the state of the streams running through the town.

"Way back then, there were discussions about people putting rubbish into creeks, as well as the poor culvert system would create flooding systems in the town."

Clem says he would like to see Opunake return to a time he can remember when the town had 2000 people and 84 retail outlets.

"I would like to see us do more to exploit the housing situation in Auckland by encouraging families there to sell up, giving them enough money to buy a property in any town in South Taranaki, and still have enough to set up a business."



Clem Coxhead

He said there are places throughout South Taranaki like the former mill site on Ihaia Road where new businesses could be encouraged to set up shop.

Clem says he wants to ensure that the views of people in the northern part of the ward are heard, and that the council makes its views known when ever any issues

has lived in New Zealand since 1977. For the last three years, Opunake has been home. Before then he lived at Hatfield's Beach in Auckland.

"It was a beautiful area, but too busy," he said. "The three things which attracted me to Opunake were the coastline, the mountain and Opunake itself. We were lucky to find a house on the banks of the lake. It's the closest town to Mount Taranaki, or Mount Egmont as I remember it being called when I first climbed it, and it's also the closest town to the sea. For somebody coming from California and Hawaii it's amazingly different. Such a unique and amazing place."

He would like to see more being done to encourage others to make the shift.

"It would be a marvellous opportunity for people to relocate, particularly younger families. I notice that Tauranga has been growing, but I think people need to be drawn to the West Coast."

While acknowledging what's already been done with the murals, the rockwork and the Coastal Walkway, he believes more can still be done to beautify the town.

"If we can get enough people on the band wagon we can do this," he said.

He says he wants to see Opunake prosper.

"I have years of experience in real estate and all sorts of avenues that I would like to bring this beautiful town," he said.

"I would be a diligent councillor who would work for the people to bring the issues they bring to me to the table, which don't seem to do the fast track from what I've noticed."

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Workshop aims to create haven in pastoral landscape

A Gardening on the Ring Plain workshop to be held at Hollards Gardens near Kaponga, on August 28 will be presented by Taranaki Regional Gardens Manager Greg Rine for people who live on rural and lifestyle properties around Mt Taranaki.

"We'll cover off some clear plant choices in terms of how to establish good shelter and good bones in your garden," says Mr Rine.

"It's critical that plant selection is carefully considered because there are many situations around the mountain where you can see windblown plants – and sure

they might have some sort of beauty in an artistic sense, but they're not growing in their optimal conditions.

"The workshop is about learning some tricks about connecting with the landscape, which adds a lot of value to the garden. It's also about creating a haven from what can be a pretty open pastoral landscape," he says.

Gardening on the Ring Plain will be held from 2pm to 4pm at Hollard Gardens, 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga.



On this Month in History Louis Armstrong born

On August 4, 1901 Louis 'Satchmo' Armstrong was born in New Orleans, Louisiana. After his father took off it was up to his mother to raise the boy. His mother was just 15. Food was scarce and Louis looked for food in rubbish bins. He learned to play the trumpet in a schools for truants and he became brilliant at it

helped by his perfect pitch and rhythm.

When famous he refused to play in his hometown until clubs were integrated in 1964.

Some of his memorable songs include 'Aint Misbehaving', 'Hello Dolly' and 'What A Wonderful World'.

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Filling a void in the market

Right back to and including his days in engineering classes at Opunake High School, Troy Whitehead has always wanted to be self-employed.

"I have always had an interest in coming up with a solution to a problem, then putting a design into practice, and working it through to the final product," he said.

Troy says he had enjoyed his high school engineering classes with Phil Hooper, but on leaving school, didn't feel he was quite ready to make the step into self-employment. Three years study at Massey University followed, graduating with a Bachelor of Agricultural Commerce, majoring in International Agri-business and minoring in rural valuation.

After Massey it was back home to Oaonui and starting up his own business Kinatai Engineering, a name which reflects where he currently lives, straddling the Lower Kina and Tai Roads.

He said he had noticed a gap in the market which he wanted to fill, with nobody based between Opunake and Warea doing his kind of work.

He does light to heavy engineering work with an emphasis on farming, but he is prepared to turn his hand to other things. He repairs and rebuilds farm equipment, cowsheds, and has even done a piggery.

He also manufactures a wide range of equipment up to and including seven tonne tip trailers. Among his more interesting projects have been making pizza ovens out of old concrete troughs and PZ mowers.

"I made a pizza oven for Mum and Dad, and sold another two. It's sort of one of a kind. I haven't seen anything like it yet," he said.

Most of his customers have been local farmers,



Troy Whitehead and Kinatai Engineering



Example of Troy's workmanship. Before and After.



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but he has sold a trailer to somebody in Raglan, which survived a 20km drive along a rough gravel road to reach its destination.

He believes his time at Massey has been time well spent, as his studies have included papers in marketing, finance and entrepreneurship which has

been valuable in helping him get his business going.

"I think it was the right decision to go to University rather than start right out of high school," he said.

At the moment, he is the only person working in his business, though he says he is looking forward to being in a position to employ

somebody else as well.

He says he has had people ask him why he would want to start a business at a time of low dairy payouts, but counters by saying that in times like these, farmers are going to be more interested in repairing their current equipment rather than buying anything new.

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Rural Women New Zealand urges Westpac to reconsider branch closures

Westpac have announced the proposed closure of 19 Branches throughout New Zealand. A large number of these are based in rural centres. Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) is concerned about these proposed bank closures and the effect on the rural communities they serve.

Westpac has stated that the reasons for closing branches is the increased use of online services. RWNZ's concern is that this may be correct nationally, but what are the statistics in rural areas? For many in these rural areas online banking is not an option due to poor or non-existent internet services or cellphone coverage, the speed does not allow

efficient use of internet services.

For elderly people or those not computer savvy, this too creates a problem on how to do day-to-day banking. They prefer to do their business face to face, as sometimes it is part of their social contact.

Businesses in the affected communities will also have the right to be concerned; for example, how do they deposit their cash takings? They certainly do not want to be carrying large quantities of cash, even in this day of mainly Eftpos payments, they still need to have access to secure bank services and facilities.

The distance that will need to be travelled to the next nearest bank branch will be difficult for those

who do not have transport, or for businesses having to have staff out of action if they have to travel to that next branch. If there are no other bank services in town, this could mean businesses moving away or closing. In many cases the nearest branch could be 45 minutes or longer travelling distance one way.

Rural communities already struggle with other forms of centralisation and having core services shift to larger towns. Once people start travelling out of their rural area to do business, such as banking, they tend to do more of their business out of town, and so the cycle continues.

RWNZ acknowledges that banking has changed

markedly over the past number of years and that perhaps rural towns do not offer a high level of commercial opportunities for banks. However, rural residents are often long-standing clients who have remained loyal through the years, and are now being penalised. A large number still prefer face-to-face services.

RWNZ urges Westpac to listen to the concerns of rural residents and consider the needs of those living in isolated, rural areas. Perhaps Westpac could look at other options rather than closure? Even if it is opening less hours or days a week, downsizing to a smaller premises or an agency?

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Feds welcomes National Biodiversity Forum

Federated Farmers welcomes the new national biodiversity forum announced by Minister Nick Smith at the Environmental Defence Society conference.

Federated Farmers spokesperson for biodiversity Chris Allen says we now have the opportunity to come to a common understanding of the pressures and priorities

for biodiversity, on land and in water.

"From here we chart a way forward. Part of this will be agreeing on a national policy statement.

"Alongside that, we have the opportunity to look at how we can upscale 'action on the ground' partnerships.

"The vision and thinking around the recent predator free New Zealand

announcement is an excellent start for tackling the key issues for native biodiversity on land and water," says Mr Allen.

The Cape to City project in Hawke's Bay is an example - tackling predator control and restoring plants and wildlife across 26,000 hectares of land between Hastings, Cape Kidnappers and south to Waimarama.

"The key to its success is a coordinated effort at scale with affordable technology that transforms how pest management takes place on farmland.

"We're all for action, getting as many 'troops on the ground' to tackle the introduced pests and predators head on," says Mr Allen.

RWNZ express strong support for proposed Fire and Emergency New Zealand Bill

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) has made a submission to the Government Administration Select Committee supporting the Fire and Emergency New Zealand Bill.

This Bill represents an important step towards modernisation of the fire services, ensuring it remains a fit for purpose service going forward and one that is appropriately funded, RWNZ National Council Vice President Fiona Gower says.

"Rural fire brigades are doing an exceptional job in the community, but they are struggling to cope with increasing demands and face significant funding gaps in recruiting and training paid

and unpaid workers to the service. The reality today, is that rural fire services are called upon to perform a variety of services in the community, well beyond their traditional roles of putting out fires.

"In rural areas, the local fire brigade is often first on the scene to respond to traffic accidents and medical emergencies. They provide vital assistance in search and rescue efforts and in responding to severe weather events and natural disasters."

In their submission RWNZ, say two areas of the proposed bill warrant further consideration by the committee.

Fiona Gower says, "We think that the role of the

fire service in responding to adverse weather events and natural disasters should properly be recognised as a 'core function' under the bill. This is a core role of the service in rural parts of New Zealand where events like the 2015 North Canterbury droughts and flooding are becoming an increasing and more frequent reality. It is important that the role that that fire services take in responding to such events is appropriately recognized and funded."

The submission also asks the committee to consider whether a general taxation model of funding, would be a fairer approach to the current model, which is based on insurance levies.

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Taranaki has patchy first win



Lalakai Foketi was unable to stop Berny Hall's first half try. Photo: Chris Callinan. Courtesy of Sunlive BOP.

Coach Colin Cooper and captain Mitchell Crosswell were prepared to be forgiving for Taranaki's performance after their narrow 30-22 first-up win against Bay of Plenty in their opening national provincial championship rugby match in Tauranga. Having dominated most of the match and looking primed to pick up a four-try bonus point, Taranaki let Bay of Plenty well and truly into the game to the point that they only trailed by five with as many minutes to play until Marty McKenzie landed his third crucial penalty to seal the win. Cooper acknowledged he might have erred by making so many changes in rapid time in the second half because it was noticeable that there was a drop-off when

the replacements came on. Taranaki's scrum, which had been the backbone of their performance, suddenly struggled, the intensity dropped off and they made repeated costly errors. Still, Cooper was just grateful they opened their season with a win, something they had not achieved since they beat the same opposition in 2012. "We let them back in the game in the last 20 minutes and we had to defend quite well," he said. "I thought in the first half we played well and we created opportunities. There were a lot of mistakes throughout the game but we're pleased to get that win first up and there is still plenty to work on." Cooper was forgiving for the majority of the mistakes, mainly because there were plenty of key positions that are being worked on given the players lack of time together. "A few of them are playing their first game so you have to take that into

account. We will get better." He was pleased with the scrum in the first half as it put Bay of Plenty under pressure from the get-go. "We probably thought we were better than what we were and maybe I'm to blame for making so many changes. We weren't good enough but they did play well, they came back well." Overall Taranaki's discipline was also not up to the standard they need. While there were some frustrating penalties at the breakdown under the new law variations, Taranaki were repeatedly penalised for being offside, although their line-speed appeared to catch out the assistant referees at times who appeared to assume they were up too quick illegally. Crosswell shook his head when approached after the game when asked to assess their overall performance. "It's an improvement on the last couple of years in that we won but that was it," he said. "A win is a

win at the end of the day and we'll take that but we made it hard for ourselves. "If we could wipe out the last 20 minutes I think we would take that and we'd be reasonably happy with the first 60 minutes but it was touch and go in the end." The rookie captain was at a loss to explain the drop-off in performance in the second half but hinted that Bay of Plenty changed their tactics at the breakdown and Taranaki simply did not combat it well enough. "In the first half they left all the rucks and in the second they came out and attacked everything. I think we were just too slow to adapt to it but credit to them, they put a lot of pressure on there." Taranaki 30 (Johnny Fa'auli, Berny Hall, Te Toiroa Tahuriorangi tries; Marty McKenzie 3 cons, 3 pens) Bay of Plenty 22 (Lalakai Foketi, Joe Tupe, Te Rangi Fraser tries; Kelly Haimona 2 cons, Luke Campbell pen). HT: 14-0



Berny Hall scores intercept Try against BOP Photo: Chris Callinan. Courtesy of Sunlive BOP

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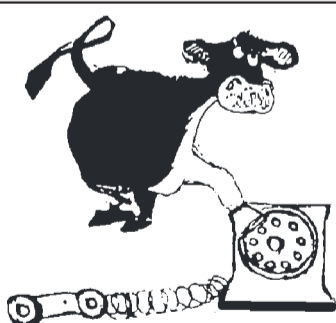
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Ryan has a heap of Coastal Rugby championships on his mantelpiece nearly as many as Arran Gopperth.

Okato Under 7's are Taranaki North Champions



Jubilant junior Rugby players celebrate a great win.

At the North Taranaki Under 7's tournament held at Bell Block on July 23, the Okato Under 7's had defeated all comers to take out the title. On the way they had defeated Spotswood 6-2, then Inglewood 6-3, before a tight victory over NPOB

Gold 4-3, a tough win over NPOB black 6-4 before beating Bell Block in the final. The team this season was Harlen Goodin, Leighton Goodin, Louis Edwards-Carter, Lauchie

Hewson-Baldwin, Lucas Ripia, Grady O'Sullivan, Taihua Mathieson-Julian, Tewaikaukau Mathieson-Julian, Connor Horscroft, Dustin Horscroft, Sam Noakes, Luka Fergus, Sid

Harvey, and Ella Southorn. Coaches: Liam O'Sullivan, Barry Harvey. Manager: Simon Ripia. Physio: Catherine Hewson, Mind Coach: Claire Mathieson.

On this day in history Jesse Owens shines at Olympics

On August 4, 1936 Jesse Owens (1913-1980) won the long jump at the 1936 Berlin Olympics, just one of his four gold medals. The others were the sprint double 100m, 200m, as well as the 4 by 100m relay.

Dictator Adolf Hitler watching must have been dismayed to see an Afro-American triumph over white athletes. He left the stadium early presumably to avoid having to congratulate Jesse Owens.



Upcoming championships putting pressure on shooters

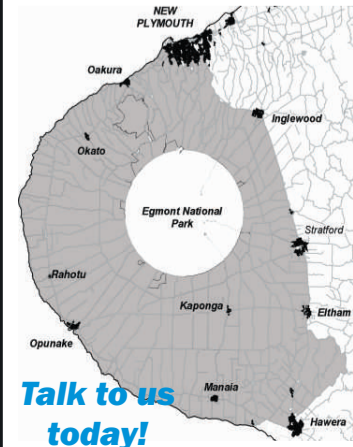
Target shooting at the Hawera Hub on August 10 saw some of the seniors away but some tidy cards were shot. Christina Starr was close up to her best. In the seniors scores were down on previous weeks, and with the club championships coming up,

shooters will have to be on target. Postal cards are due soon. Shooters will have to be right on their game. Scores were: Dylan Farr 89.2, 74.1, Llewellyn Farr 84.0, 87.2, Alex Munro 87.1, 91.3, Dwayne Rangī 77.0, 87.2, Clayton Robinson 94gr, 76.1, 83.1, Christina Starr

95.2, 93.2, 92.2, Tenneile Conchie Crump 93.3, 87.1, Kris Chandra 87.2, 84.2, Ngatai Keonte 98gr, 99 gr, Hayden Andreoli 96.2, 98.6, 96.5, Jason Cameron 98.5, Sam Gooding 98.6, Mathew Peters 89.1, 88.2.

Frank Eustace

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COASTAL GIB STOPPERS. Phone Glenn 027 524 5745

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Warea

For all your farmbike needs

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027 282 9338**
Anytime

P.D. FLEMING LOGGING LTD

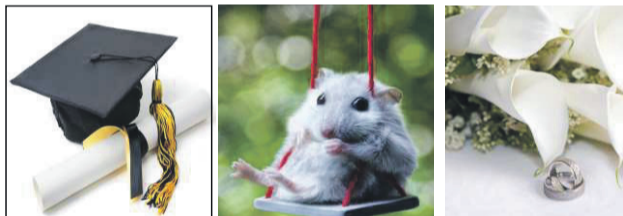
Forestry rigged & certified 33 ton loader, National Certificates in Forest Operations, Health & Safety approved. Free assessment on what your trees are worth \$\$\$

Ph: Paul

027 630 9922 or email: paulflems@gmail.com

GRADUATED? RECENTLY MARRIED? OR JUST PLAIN TOO CUTE NOT TO SHARE?

Opunake and Coastal News would love to share your photos with our readers!



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

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

Other areas

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

ALL WELCOME

THE WAVE

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

ST. BARNABAS

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

FOR SALE

WHITEBAIT NETS New nets and re-netting at Collins Sports Centre.

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

PROTECT your immune system and help fight off bugs. Viral ex 60 caps \$29.90 savings \$15.50 at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 067587553

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SYSTEM Well covers all immune areas, ie respiratory, digestive, skin, etc, buy 90 caps receive free 45 caps, \$49.90 Hardys the health shop in Centre City 067587553

WANTED TO BUY

SCRAP METAL - for all scrap metal Taranaki-wide, give us a call. Molten Metals (06) 751 5367 www.moltenmetals.co.nz

OLD BOTTLES and crocks wanted. Cash buyer. Ph 06 765 7071 p/txt 027 355 9378

FOUND

FOUND small sterling silver ring outside St Pauls Church. Ph: 027 325 8796

PUBLIC NOTICES

PRAYER TO THE VIRGIN MARY (Never known to fail)

O most beautiful flower of Mt Carmel, fruit of the vine, splendorous of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God. Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me here in you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity. There are none who can withstand your power. O show me here you are my Mother. O Mary conceived without sin pray for us who have recourse to thee (3 times). Holy Mary I place this cause in your hands (3 times). Thank you for your mercy towards me and mine. AMEN
This prayer must be said for three days and after that the request will be granted and the prayer must be published.



Opunake Business Association
Meeting 1st Monday of each month at 5.30pm.
Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Performing Arts Grants

Your invitation to share the dream

The Dame Malvina Major Foundation is proud to provide funding opportunities to talented young Taranaki Performing Artists.

Applications are now being invited for the second annual funding round, closing at 5pm on Thursday 30th September 2016.

Grants are available in three categories to support the cost of education, training, and development in the performing arts in New Zealand or overseas.

Secondary: For Taranaki Secondary School Students aged 12-18 years.

Elite/Tertiary: For performers from Taranaki pursuing a career in the performing arts through tertiary qualifications.

Group: For groups whose student members are based in Taranaki and are providing training and/or development opportunities in performing arts.

Also starting from March 2017 we will be taking applications for **Primary School Groups** to apply for funding.

For an application pack and further information, please contact Rebekah Lock on 06 757 3155 or email dmmf@staplestaranaki.co.nz



Dame Malvina Major
Foundation

www.dmmfoundation.org.nz

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Call us today to advertise
06 761 7016
Next issue out
September 9

2ND ANNUAL COASTAL HIGH BW YEARLING JERSEY BULL SALE

ON ACCOUNT OF THE BURMEISTER PARTNERSHIP

MONDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 2016, 12.30PM START

Julian Road Warea – behind old Warea Dairy Factory

Auction comprising of:

- 3 x 2yr old recorded Jersey bull. BW's up to 176
- 1 x 2yr old unrecorded Jersey bull
- 40 x recorded Jersey yearling bulls. BW's up to 189
- 2 x unrecorded Jersey yearling bulls



- Bulls are well grown with great temperaments
- Free grazing available until 10th November 2016
 - Pre-auction inspections are welcomed
 - TB, BVD and EBL tested negative
 - Lepto vaccinated
 - Free credit until 20th January 2017
 - NZFLL Bull Plan available
 - Light Luncheon provided

Contact:

Agent: Bryan Goodin 027 531 8511
Tim Hurley 027 445 1167

Owners: Murray Burmeister 027 721 1282
Ben Burmeister 027 426 9589
Deb Burmeister 027 566 6009



PUBLIC NOTICES

Rahotu Bowling Club Inc
 Main Road, Rahotu
OPENING DAY
2016/17 SEASON
 Sunday 11 September
 9.30am
 All members & intending members welcome.
Peter Charteris - President

OPUNAKE COASTAL SINGERS
 We need a pianist urgently in Opunake. We have a conductor so need an accompanist.
 Please contact **JEAN ROACH** for details asap 067618654



Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016
 Next issue out September 9

OPUNAKE TOUCH ASSOCIATION A.G.M.
Monday 19 September 2015
 5.30pm at Soul Kitchen, Sandfords Event Centre
 Please contact Philly 021 267 7993 for more information. New committee members are most welcome!

FIRST RATES INSTALMENT
 Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the first instalment of rates for 2016/2017 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 31 August 2016**.
 CR Stevenson
 Chief Executive

NEIL LUSK
Independent Livestock
 in conjunction with FARMSOURCE
16th ANNUAL JERSEY YLG BULL FAIR
on account CLEM & UNA SHOTTER to be held on farm
Friday 9th September at 599 Hurford Road, New Plymouth 12 noon
 Comprising
47 Grade Jersey Bulls
9 Identified and Transferrable Jersey Bulls x Charteris
 All bulls have been lepto and B.V.D. innoculated. Blood tested T.B. clear. (4.8.16)
 Deferred payment til 20-10-16.
 Light luncheon provided.
Bulls are top quality as produced in previous years by the Shotter Family. If you are wanting well grown top condition bulls, this is the sale to attend.
 Further enquires to
NEIL LUSK
 06 751 0994 - 027 443 3171
COLIN DENT
 06 754 6838 - 027 646 8908
 or contact your Farmsource Agent

What's On Listings

- JONATHAN YOUNG**
 Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?
 For more information phone: 06 7591363
 Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz
- OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**
 Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.
- OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB**
 First Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome
- SCHNITZEL NIGHT**
 Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato
- COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY**
 Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
- CLUB HOTEL HOLDEM POKER LESSONS**
 Friday Nights at the Club Hotel
- SURF INN**
 Every day free pool. Every Friday free sausage sizzle from 5. Every Sunday afternoon. Pool comp
- COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS**
 Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.
- TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA**
 Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.
- EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB**
 Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club
- CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM**
 Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.
- TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE**
 Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.
- COASTAL SINGERS**
 7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654
- ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS**
 8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

- THE VILLAGE GALLERY**
 Youth Style - an exhibition of Wearable Art and Mixed Media work by E Town Youth, 29 August - 23 September
- ST MARY'S DIOCESAN SCHOOL STRATFORD**
 Information Evening, Thursday 1st September, 7pm at the Sugar Juice Cafe, Opunake. Refer advert for further information.
- THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF THE ROYAL NZ NAVY**
 Thursday 8 September, 7pm, TSB Theatre, TSB Showplace. Refer advert for full details.
- NEIL LUSK INDEPENDENT LIVESTOCK in conjunction with FARMSOURCE**
 15th Annual Jersey Ylg Bull Fair
 Friday 9 September at 599 Hurford Road, New Plymouth. Refer advert for full details.
- RAHOTU BOWLING CLUB OPENING DAY**
 Sunday 11 September – 9.30am. All members and intending members welcome.
- 2ND ANNUAL COASTAL HIGH BW YEARLING JERSEY BULL SALE**
 on account of The Burmeister Partnership. Monday 12 September at 12.30pm at Julian Road, Warea. Refer advert.
- TARANAKI EXPLOSION**
 The Terror vs The Butcher, Friday 16 September at the TSB Stadium. Refer advert for full details.
- OPUNAKE TOUCH ASSOCIATION AGM**
 Monday 19 September 2015, 5.30pm at Soul Kitchen, Sandfords Event Centre Contact Philly 021 267 7993 for more information. New committee members are most welcome!
- OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE**
 Special meeting, Sandford Event Centre, Tuesday September 20, 7pm. Everyone welcome. Contact Diane Forsyth 761 7231.
- SOUTH TARANAKI SPCA CALENDAR COMP**
 The calendar competition is open until Tuesday 20th September. Refer advert and article for full details.
- TARANAKI NATIONAL ART AWARDS**
 29 October - 5 November. Entries due 16th September. Refer advert.

Cancer Society welcomes spring with Daffodil Day

Friday 26 August is the Cancer Society's annual flagship Daffodil Day.
 Now in its 26th year, Daffodil Day raises awareness of cancer and be there for all people affected by any type of cancer. The majority of funds raised in Taranaki will stay in the region. "With the public's support and generosity we're able to continue to provide helpful, quality care for cancer patients as well as their carers and whanau," says Meg Rodel, manager of the Cancer Society's Taranaki Centre. "There's a lot of inequity in New Zealand for cancer patients which we are trying to address. One of our priorities is to advocate for fairness for all patients."



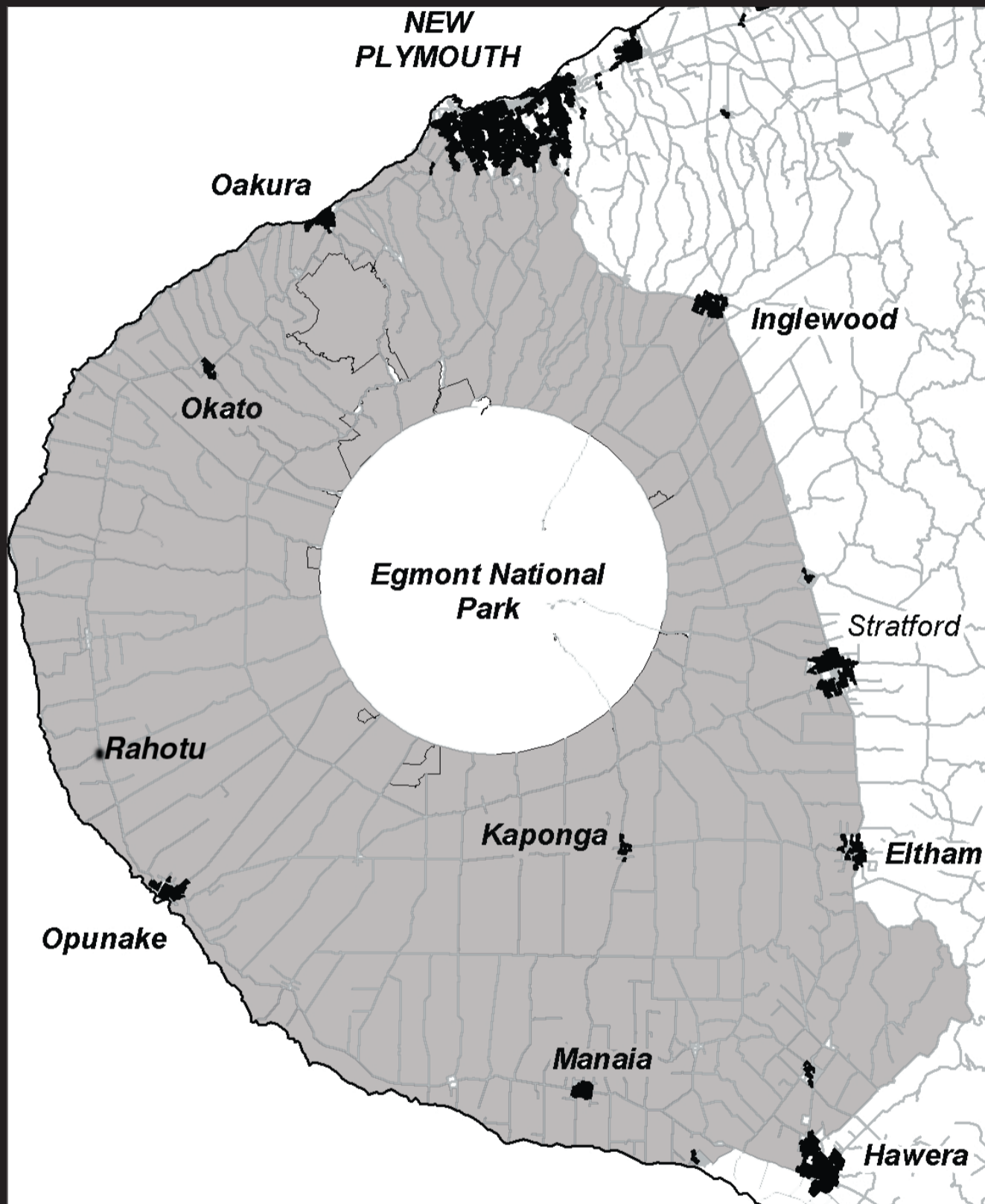
Please support the Cancer Society this Daffodil Day.
 Some of the Taranaki Centre's free support services include home visits, counselling, resources and information booklets, massage, Reiki therapy,

transport and creative classes.
 To reduce the risk and incidences of cancer, the Cancer Society also promotes healthier lifestyles through physical activity, avoiding or limiting alcohol, healthy eating, being sun smart and smoke free.
 The Taranaki Centre has been donated a cricket bat signed by the Black Caps squad. The bat was used in the New Zealand vs Australia one day international game, won by the BlackCaps in February and will be auctioned on TradeMe from 22 – 31 August.
 Donations can be made directly to a street collector, at any ANZ branch or by testing HOPE to 469 to instantly donate \$3.

Promote your events in the
OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS
 Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - Call in at 23 Napier Street, Opunake or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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

WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA? TALK TO US



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.

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

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

COVERING
THE COAST

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS

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BNZ Collection at Percy Thomson Art Gallery a 'must see'

"This is an amazing demonstration of art," enthused, Cr Richard Handley one of the speakers at the official opening of 'Arrival: Treasures from the BNZ Collection' on Friday August 12 at the Percy Thomson Art Gallery. The BNZ Art Collection (selection) consisted of 36 exhibits from the 'creme de la creme' of NZ art. The main organiser was Steivan Juvalta of Private banking, New Plymouth. The exhibition runs until September 11 and, frankly, no art lover should miss out on this one. The collection was first established in 1982 (and added to since then) by Peter McLeavey to represent all that is worthwhile in NZ art, past and present.

There was work by such icons as Colin McCahon, Tosswill Woolaston, Ralph Hotere, Michael Smithers, Don Binney, Tony Fomison, Dick Frizzell, Leo Bensemen, Peter McIntyre, Ans Westra, Robin White, and John McLean - who was



Michael Smither's 'Sarah Cleaning Knives and Forks' with Sarah (in adulthood) standing beside the painting.

a very interesting keynote speaker. Charles Blomfield was also represented with

his oil and canvas painting of the Pink Terraces, which were destroyed in the 1886

volcanic eruption. His painting was completed in 1888. Also on display was his painting of 'The White Terraces'.

"Amazing - he was one of the last to see them, although he did the painting from memory," commented Terry Parkes. Someone else suggested that a photograph may have been used.

One interesting painting was by Michael Smither's 'Sarah Cleaning Knives and Forks' (oil on hardboard), with bright vivid colours depicting a pleasant domestic scene. Equally interesting was the fact that Sarah was present and kindly posed with her childhood self in the painting.

Another painting which drew positive comment was Trevor Moffit's 'Stanley Graham' (oil painting), although not everyone was aware of its forensic significance. The subject was the perpetrator of one of NZ's worst massacres, when he shot and killed civilians and policemen on the West Coast of the South

Island (Near Hokitika).

The work of Ans Westra was on display, two silver bromide photographs. The subject was entitled 'The Auckland Community Centre' showing a social setting involving dancing - perhaps The Twist.

As Bill Davies of the

Village Art Gallery "It's a really stunning exhibition," so make sure you don't miss out. Remember, September 11 is your last chance, but you really need to visit the Percy Art Gallery more than once for this outstanding exhibition.

Entries due 16th September
10am-4pm 29 October - 5 November 2016

Taranaki National Art Awards

Sandfords Event Centre, SH45, Opunake, Taranaki
Over 200 artworks and floral displays - \$2 entry
www.taranakiartawards.co.nz

YOUTH STYLE

an exhibition of Wearable Art and Mixed Media work created by E Town Youth

29 August - 23 September
The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM



Exhibition by youth from E Town Youth.

Youth Style – Art Creations feature at the Village Gallery this month.

This is an exhibition by youth from E Town Youth, and the attached photo shows an example of the work the young people have created.

Coming within the realms of Wearable Art and Mixed Media, the display is sure to be colourful and quirky.

The exhibition runs from 2 August till 3 September. The Village Gallery is on High Street, Eltham and is open daily 10am 3pm Monday to Saturday.

Maree Liddington

New awards for youth to work

The South Taranaki Youth to Work Awards has lovely new awards made by award winning Waverley artists, Lisa and Jimi Walsh.

The Youth to Work Awards are a Mayors Taskforce For Jobs project and are a celebration of young people and the employers and educators supporting them to achieve success.

South Taranaki District Council awards coordinator, Marcia Haigh, says the Awards, which are in their fourth year, needed an additional category with the Young Achievers section being split into two more comparable age groups.

"This meant an additional award had to be made and Lisa and Jimi Walsh from the Waverley Glass Studio offered to create new awards

for all four categories at a much discounted rate. As the Youth to Work Awards are now established it made sense to have something that would last into the foreseeable future," she says.

The closing date for nominations is Sunday September 4 and the celebration event will be held at the TSB Hub on Wednesday November 2.

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We welcome your contributions
Please send to editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
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Hadlow bringing rollicking naval plays

Kiwi entertainment icon and former Navy man Mark Hadlow is touring the country with two plays that have an entertaining take on the story of the Royal New Zealand Navy.

The New Plymouth show is on 8-9 September at TSB Showplace.

The first, The Complete History of the Royal New Zealand Navy (abridged), is a light-hearted look at

the Navy, while the second, Commander Claire and Pirates of Provence, is a children's pantomime.

Mark, who appeared in The Hobbit movies and recently toured his one-man show, MAMIL (Middle Aged Men in Lycra) around the country, is a Lieutenant Commander in the Naval Reserves, so was the perfect fit to direct both plays.

"When I came up with the idea of a couple of productions to tell the story of the Navy and its family, I wanted to make sure that both shows appealed to the widest possible audience we could," he says.

"Not just informative but fun - entertainment that touched all generations. So a pantomime for the littlest and a family show hit every age group."

The Complete History runs from Captain Cook to the present day in about an hour and a quarter. On the way William Edward Sanders' encounter with a German U-boat is delivered entirely in jack-speak - navy slang - with a translation thrown in. A WWII portion features the Battle of the River Plate, with a hilarious comparison of gun sizes before the German raider is brought down to size.

In the pantomime, Mark's daughter Olivia enjoys her theatrical debut as Commander Claire, who prompts plenty of boos, cries of dismay and cheers as she prevails against wicked French pirate Captain Langlois (Zak Enayat) and his insane rooster Napoleon - with the help of the audience, of course.

Mark says the pantomime is a fabulous introduction for young Kiwis to the delight of live theatre, as well as the RNZN, while the Complete History is funny, informative,



Commander Claire (Olivia Hadlow) commanding HMNZS Te Kaha with her mascot Pelorus Jack.

poignant and moving.

"It is truly a celebration of 75 years of many Kiwi men and women who have spent their lives serving their country, some making the ultimate sacrifice.

"Being involved with the Navy since leaving school I know how important it is to tell the story of the proud history of the Royal New Zealand Navy.

"The challenge was to engage the New Zealand public in realising how important the Navy is and coming to see a couple of shows that not only entertain but offer a huge appreciation of the vital role it plays in the security and protection of our nation."

Both plays were written by Gregory Cooper, who is no stranger to condensed

histories - he co-wrote and performed in The Complete History of New Zealand (abridged), The Complete History of Christchurch, NZ Rocks (The Complete History of New Zealand Music) and The Complete History of World Rugby. He also wrote MAMIL (Middle Aged Men in Lycra).

The plays are sponsored by Siemens. Chief executive Paul Ravlich said his company shared a long history with the RNZN, starting in the 1980s with the two original ANZAC frigates and continuing today with the delivery of benchmark technological upgrades to the ships.

"Now, as the Navy celebrates its 75th birthday, we are pleased to support the Navy Players Theatre Tour. I commend RNZN's efforts to bring the heritage of the Navy closer to the hearts of people."

All proceeds from the plays will go to local charities.

About the Royal New Zealand Navy 75th Anniversary - Operation NEPTUNE

This year marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of the RNZN. This

occasion will be celebrated with a programme of commemorative events and activities, collectively named Operation NEPTUNE. This is to honour the greatest single loss ever sustained by our Navy. HMS NEPTUNE was being prepared for transfer to the RNZN when she sank after hitting an enemy mine in the Mediterranean on 19 December 1941, with the loss of all but one man, including 150 New Zealanders.

On 1 October 1941, His Majesty King George VI approved the designation Royal New Zealand Navy for the Regular element of the New Zealand Naval Forces, with Reserve and Volunteer Reserve elements appropriately titled.

Visit the [Operation NEPTUNE 75th anniversary webpage](#) and follow the [Royal New Zealand Navy's Facebook page](#) for regular updates on how, when and where people can get involved.

There is a free double pass available for the show. To be in the draw to win, facebook or email us a message on why you should win to ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Promote your events in the

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos

FREE OF CHARGE, to help promote the event.

St Mary's Diocesan School Stratford

An integrated Anglican Year 9 – Year 13 Boarding and Day School in the heart of Taranaki
RAISING AMAZING GIRLS

INFORMATION EVENING

THURSDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER - 7PM - at the SUGAR JUICE CAFE OPUNAKE



Come along and find out why we believe St Mary's Diocesan will be the school of choice for your daughter's education

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Email: office@stmarysstratford.school.nz - www.stmarysstratford.school.nz



POOL TUESDAYS POKER WED-THURS

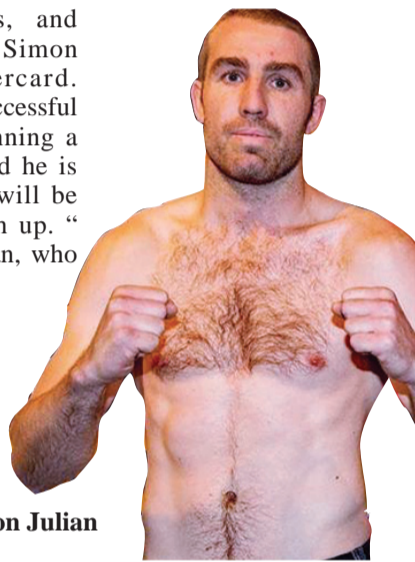
at the Club Hotel - Opunake 761 8213

Opunake boxer to be part of Taranaki Explosion

Coastal's professional boxer's Simon Julian is back in the ring on September 16 in a showdown with Auckland boxer Sam Uoka. Julian, who kicked off his professional career with a second round TKO win back in April, will fight the more experienced Uoka who has a two win and one loss record. The Taranaki Explosion Fight Night at New Plymouth's TSB stadium will feature the highest ranked fight ever held in Taranaki, as Sam "the Terror" Rapira takes on the New Zealand number 1 Light Heavyweight Robbie "The Butcher" Berridge. The match-up is a straight shoot-out for the No1 ranking in New Zealand as well as a top 100 World ranking, as Berridge is ranked ahead of Rapira in the international rankings and is by far the most experienced fighter that he has faced. Rapira said the fight will by far be his biggest test as a professional. "Berridge is a dangerous fighter and would be pound for pound New Zealand's biggest puncher, scoring 21 KOs from 27 victories. "I want to test myself against

the best, and he is number 1 in New Zealand and ranked 71 in the world, so while I respect what he has achieved as a fighter, I know on my night, I can beat this man." "I am not afraid to put myself out there, and take a risk like this. A number of boxers have ducked Berridge, but I believe in myself, and am not afraid to test myself at this level, Rapira said bringing this level of fight to Taranaki was a real coup for boxing and the region's growing reputation in hosting successful events. "It will be an exciting night of boxing with a full card of eight bouts - three professional fights and five corporate matchups, and it is great to have Simon on the main undercard. "Simon has had a successful amateur career, winning a Golden Gloves, and he is training well so it will be a really good match up. "Opunake based Julian, who represented both Taranaki and New Zealand at Surf Livesaving said he is excited to have the opportunity to test himself against a

more experienced opponent. "Our training has been really intense and it is always good to be able to test your skills in the ring, especially in front of your home crowd so I'm looking forward to a big night" Tickets for the event were on sale now from Ticketek or at the TSB Showplace and were priced to ensure a big crowd with tickets starting from \$30 for adults and \$15 for students. "It will be our biggest show to date and people will enjoy a great night out with explosive match-ups, where intense competition meets great entertainment" Rapira added.



Simon Julian

With y_ur help, we c_n fill the g_ps

People rarely think about their blood type – but what if that ‘type’ was to go missing in everyday life?

85% of the population has A and O blood types, which means these groups are most in demand. Even if someone doesn't know their blood type, there is a very good chance they can help. Simply by registering on our website (nzblood.co.nz/Missingtype) a first time donor is taking the first step to finding out their blood type and how best they can help."

and register to become a blood donor."

Currently less than 4% of eligible New Zealander's donate blood. There is no alternative for patients in need of blood or blood products. Put simply, blood donors save lives. NZBS currently has a database of 110,000 amazing blood donors who last year saved the lives of about 42,000 kiwis. But every year around 28,000 people leave the donor registry.

As part of the campaign NZBS has partnered with some of New Zealand's leading businesses, charities and celebrities who are all removing their A's and O's from names, brands and logos nationwide in support of Missing Type .

"The idea was based on the understanding that people rarely think about their blood type, but if that 'type' was to go missing in everyday life, people would start to pay closer attention".

"We have been overwhelmed by the response we have had from some of New Zealand's leading businesses and organisations. Their support and commitment to this campaign is helping us spread the message across New Zealand. New and young donors are the key to safeguarding New Zealand's future blood supply and we want this campaign to encourage more people to find out if they are eligible

- New Zealand Blood Service is looking for 10,000 people to register to become first-time donors
- A and O blood types are always the most in demand
- Today marks the launch of Missing Type the world's largest blood donor recruitment campaign
- Leading New Zealand businesses, charities and celebrities are removing A and O from names, brands and logos nationwide in support of Missing Type #MissingType #NZBlood

To mark today's launch of the International Missing Type campaign, New Zealand Blood Service (NZBS) has announced it wants 10,000 New Zealander's to register to become first-time blood donors. The Service is seeking Kiwis between 16 and 65 years-old, to step up and register to become blood donors.

NZBS National Manager Marketing and Communications, Asuka Burge, says "It is an ambitious goal but we are seeking 10,000 first time blood donors to join our life saving team. In New Zealand,

Vic - where have you been hiding?

Tucked away on an isolated Dairy farm in Kaponga, Vic Almao is still following his musical passion, despite limited spare time when away from farm duties. Vic confided, "My mum played the piano, but she's the only musical one in my family". The organisers of the 'Baldrick's Big Day Out' in Stratford, recognised his talent. Back by popular demand, his band has been booked for the past two events at this biennial

medieval market day, held at the end of February. Named after the character from the Blackadder television show, the event hosts medieval re-enactment groups, jousting and sword fighting, crossbow firing and various competitions, and of course lead singer Vic and his band were featured as the main act. Relatively new to the music scene, this father of one girl and four boys, joined his first cover band only four years ago.

"I love rock and blues music, and entertaining people", says Vic. Smiling from ear to ear at the Opunake Music Workshop on August 16, his enjoyment was evident. This modest happy-go-lucky guy performed comfortably on the stage, receiving positive feedback. The timbre in his voice and the clear execution of some challenging high notes, exceeds many other vocalists in this genre of music. He should be out there singing more regularly so people can hear him.

Hurray for the Opunake & Coastal News! After reading about the music group in the local paper, Vic rocked up with three of his musical mates, Bruce and Ben from Manaia and a drummer/friend Wayne from Kaponga whom he plays with regularly. He says "I jam with my mates on a Sunday afternoon, and I've written a few original songs, which I'll sing next time". That will certainly be worth waiting for.

Anyone who would like to jam with Vic and other talented musicians and singers in the music group, please join us at 7:30PM on Tuesday August 30 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake. The good thing about this music group is that, if you play a wrong chord or forget your words, no-one here is judgemental, as the focus is on developing existing talent.

Anne Montgomery

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Opunake Music Workshop
7:30pm Tuesday, 30th August 2016
Catholic Church, 33 Whitcombe Road, Opunake.
Bring your own instruments, basic amplification provided.

Wedding or function, planning a party?
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