

OPUNAKE & COASTAL

Vol. 25 No 23, December 2, 2016 www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

> **Published every Thursday Fortnight**

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

Inside



The Minister of Small **Business** comes **Opunake** page



careful who you employ. Okato Cops p6.



Did a long lost shipwreck re-emerge on Opunake Beach?



Opunake's talented literary family page 9.



A Christmas Cracker from the Opunake Players p32.

A Himalayan adventure

Craig Martins and his son Harrison (10) often trek together and they list a summit of Mt Taranaki among their achievements. In September they extended their horizons by taking on a trip to the Himalayas aiming to raise funds to help rebuild schools damaged or destroyed in the Nepal earthquakes. The Opunake and Coastal News reported on their plans in our August 12 issue. Now Craig Martins reports on how they

To all the kind, generous people in our community who donated to the Himalayan Trust, I feel obliged to give you some feedback on our trip.

We arrived in Kathmandu on 23rd September and after 24 hours we secured flights to Luckla for the following day. At 2800m above sea level this airstrip is considered one of the most dangerous places to land in the world. Harrison loved it but I was taking some deep breaths. We landed safely and over lunch chatted to the helicopter rescue coordinator for Everest National Park. We talked about our fundraising efforts and his very interesting job, then on leaving the cafe the elderly lady owner presented Harrison and I with long white silk scarves which she placed around our necks. She had overheard our conversation and wanted to welcome and thank us. Very humbling. We hiked for an hour from Lukla to Cherikaka School where we were welcomed by the Principal, Bariman, and again



Craig and Harrison with a flag for Rahotu School.

white scarves were placed around our necks. Bariman gave us the grand tour around the school and campus. We got to see some serious re building - engineers, welders and builders were all on site, and there was a very solid construction process going on. Harrison also got to spend time with a Nepali class where he joined the local children seated on wooden benches learning to read English.

At the Sherpa capital, Namche Bazaar (3300m) we both started to feel the altitude - tired and headachy. We spent two days here to acclimatise and visited two more schools. Khumjung School was awesome. Sir Edmund Hillary imported materials and constructed the first classroom here back in 1961. We met the Principal who explained how the Himalayan Trust has done so much to help with the rebuild and construction of earthquake resistant school rooms. Close to the town of Khumjung is a deserted airstrip. Sadly this is where the plane crashed which killed Hillary's first wife and daughter. Namche town is perched on the side of a very huge cliff, very friendly and colourful people.

We hiked on from small village to small village gaining altitude along the way. We were quite pleased with ourselves when we reached 4000m, the highest we had ever been. An old

goat track led us up to a up to a peak overlooking Tenboche where my altitude meter read 4105m. Two days later we arrived in Dinboche and did an acclimatisation climb to 5060m which is twice the height of Mt Taranaki. It was tough but we knew we could go higher. After another two days of hiking we reached Gorak Shep, the highest village on the hike and possibly the highest village in the world at 5180m. We stayed the night then rose at 4am for a two hour hike up to Kala Patter, a pyramid shaped peak that has a perfect view of Everest. This is as high as we can go at 5550m above sea level. Luckily we get some amazing views of the

huge mountains, especially Everest. There are quite a few people with us who we've been hiking for some days and we all feel a great sense of satisfaction. We take in the incredible views for a couple of hours then, suffering from an extremely nasty headache, we head back down to the village for cups of tea and sleep. There are lots of memorials around Gorak Shep to the many people who have lost their lives climbing Mt Everest. We are looking for one in particular, Andy Harris who was part of Rob Hall's expedition in 1996 which ended tragically. Andy's father Ron read about our trip in the Daily News and asked me to visit his memorial.

The following day we hiked to Everest base Camp, feeling spaced out and dreamy from the altitude. The rugged track to EBC has stunning views of the ice fall which is a valley full of ice towers, blocks, tongues, beautiful and deadly. The icefall is always moving, getting pushed out from the base of the Everest pyramid. We head down to the ice fall to a glacier stream to fill our drink bottles, knowing that the rocks and gravel we are walking on are on ice. Unfortunately a loose boulder, the size of my backpack, gets dislodged and rolls down the bank over Harrison's ankle. Not good. His ankle is very bruised and swollen. An Israeli military

Continued page 16

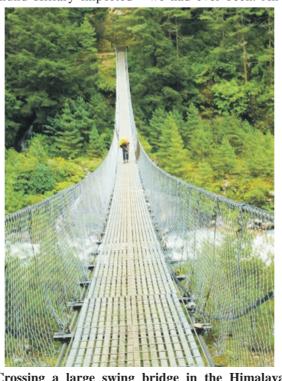
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Crossing a large swing bridge in the Himalayas.



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Friday, December 2, 2016

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website:

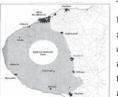
Editor

Journalists/Sales

Advertising/Production:

Delivery:

Registered as a newspaper.



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

Thursday, fortnightly

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Bernice McKellar -

Rolland McKellar

Bryan Kirk

Vanessa Smith

Tina Chapman



Letters to the Editor

A Letter of Thanks

Firstly, many many thanks to the District nurses who cared for me over the last few months - you got me on my feet again.

Secondly, many thanks to Rebecca Neil who worked so hard to help get our garden ready for the Fringe Garden Festival Tour. Your help was invaluable.

Also, thanks to Robin and Rose for persuading us to enter the Festival. We got hundreds of people from all over New Zealand who enjoyed our garden and marvelled at the views.

A special and belated thanks to Phil Brown for appreciating that because a newspaper story is 'sensational.' it doesn't always follow that it's 'correct. No pohutukawa were ever removed as reported. Very pleased to know that action is now being taken to remove years of neglected undergrowth so that the Pohutukawa in selected areas can be highlighted and flourish as they should. A sea view can be much appreciated, as has been enjoyed by many longstanding residents who have in certain areas insured 'their sea view' is protected and maintained in spite of the 'wind.'

Merry Christmas to All. Christina Knadle Opunake

Stomp on National

Moore's letter to the editor (November 4) about Jonathon Young's bragging over National's responsible economic resulting in a surplus, and then going on to say it's like Robin Hood in reverse robbing the poor to give tax breaks to our wealthy New Zealanders, well, she is extremely correct.

Republican Party are both tarred with the same colour which is red, which is a sign of danger, as both political parties policies are nearly the same. Even Donald Trump has stated he was also going to give every wealthy American a tax deduction, which also tells me that both National and the Republicans have their own political agendas to suit themselves, not anyone else.

next year we have our own general election. Now our country cannot afford to have any more blunders, broken political promises and so many New Zealanders out of work if National goes back into power. Every New Zealander must now look for a political party who actually cares about New Zealanders, so if I was you, start talking to people about having a change in parliament, as at this stage our country is

When reading Mrs Mary management

National and the American Mrs Moore, remember

Send your your views to: **Letters to the Editor** 23 Napier Street, Opunake. Fax: (06) 761 7016

email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

Tip Top Trumpet as President

After the American Presidential Election results I like many people around the world am absolutely stunned to what actually took place which, is somewhat still unbelievable.

Already Donald Trump has not only began to blow his Trumpet but has now picked his cabinet, so now he's got to follow and abide by the Republican Party's protocol, like if having a plan he must discuss it with his cabinet, then to the House of representatives, then to the Senate. If his plan is passed he can then put his plan into action, but if it's not he cannot do anything. Knowing Trumps unpredictability, he could go ahead. Now if this happens, the Supreme Court steps in and will say no again. He over rules, Trump could find himself in big trouble, then he could be impeached or sacked, then Mike Pence would become President.

Yes I was like Bernice McKellar, hoping to see Hillary Clinton becoming the first lady president of the United States of America, but somehow somewhere 60 million stupid Americans listened to an outsider Donald Trump saying he'll make America good again.

To me I believe his position as President won't last very long at all as already half of the Republican Party has now regretted having Donald Trump for their country's President which will haunt them for the rest of their political lives.

Tom Stephens, New Plymouth

Sad News

Jenny and Tina have to advise all customers and friends that we will be closing our Print Shop as from December 25th 2016. It's the old story 'if you don't use it, you lose it'. We do realise that money makes the world go around but in our case, there's not enough of it! Understandably, we just aren't keeping busy enough for long enough anymore. Shame it's come to this after 30 odd years. On this note we would strongly like to encourage people to support their small local businesses as nobody wants to see another empty store on our lovely main street. Anyway. if all money owed could please be paid by Christmas and all work picked up. We are going to miss you all so much and we thank you for your custom throughout the years, you've kept us going. From the 9th of January

Continued page 3

Richard Oliver

It is with immense sadness we acknowledge the passing of Pastor Richard Oliver.

Richard wrote a column on spiritual matters in the Opunake & Coastal News for many years, the BBC which we ran on page 2. The last of his columns appeared in the second last issue November 4.

We extend our sincere condolences to the Oliver family for their loss.



Richard (left) in Mosambique on a trip he went on with his wife Margaret in 2013.

Apologies if your emails were returned undelivered.

We recently had a bit of an issue with our emails which meant we were unable to receive them and the sender was notified they were undeliverable

The situation has now been

resolved so there should be no further problems. Our apologies anyone was affected. re-send Please them. thanks. Editor

On this month in history

Rosa Parks keeps her seat

On December 1, 1955 Rosa Parks, an African-American woman refused to give up her seat on a bus to a white man (As she was required to by a racist law of the time). This led to the arrest of the 42-year-old in Montgomery, Alabama. Her arrest was followed protests boycotts in the segregated southern states of the United States. Many African-American refused to use the bus system instead walking many kilometres.



Continued from page 2

through to the 13th, we will be open to sell off equipment pertaining to printing and laminating.

Thank you

Jenny Cavaney The Print Shoppe, Opunake

A lifeguard's perspective

What's the saying? "One picture is the same as a thousand words"?

In response to Ron Brewer article in your last edition, please find attached some photos from our lifeguards perspective.

Two photos taken from



Friday, December 2, 2016



Taken at ground level.





Taken from the patrol tower.

Reverend retires again

The Rev Arthur Barnfather was farewelled last Sunday, with a special buffet dinner, after his final sermon at St Pauls Co-operating parish in Opunake.

Rev Barnfather has given monthly sermons at St Pauls church for the last seven vears.

The minister who was ordained in 1982 and lives in Stratford with his wife Robyn, gave his usual interesting and entertaining sermon peppered with the usual, often humorous, anecdotes of his own experience in ministry over the years.

He urged church goers to invite other people along to church and says in one parish he did a little survey and found 87% had first come to the church because they were invited. He then went on to tell us of his own initiation as a 19 year old farm worker when he was invited to the local church. "I had nothing better to do so I went along and duly fell asleep," he confessed to laughter.

Arthur eventually went on to become an ordained minister after a career as a

He drew analogies with the business world and the Ten Commandments and spoke of a fellow grocer who had been in business for some time. Initially this person didn't start out with rules but with time developed a long set of them which he said was "due to staff".

God too has a set of regulations "because we all start doing our own thing" said Arthur.

Afterwards parishioner Cobus Blom paid tribute to the work Arthur has done in the parish and acknowledged it was sad to have to say goodbye "to a wonderful

pastor and his wife". "He came, he touched, then was gone like a summer breeze," he said quoting from the Cliff Richard song 'The Day I Met Marie' written by the Shadows. He has never let us down," Cobus added and referred to Arthur as hardworking, a



Reverend Arthur Barnfather (centre) and wife Robyn (left) being farewelled by Macey

straight shooter and someone who never deviated from the word of God. As well as always having time to listen to people, he was "great fun to have around."

Long-time parishioner Jack Van der Sar, said Arthur "gave us examples of so many happenings during his ministry which a young minister would not have been able to give". Robyn assisted in the wrapping up of Christmas cakes for the elderly.

Macey Luttrell then presented the couple with

some flowers and touchingly spoke of how Arthur had "made a real impact in my life". Another long-time parishioner Kathryn Stanley also spoke, thanking Arthur for all the visiting he had done round the parish.

Arthur who will be retiring - though he came to Stratford to retire from Kaikoura some years ago - and Robyn will no doubt be busy with their 13 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

He admits though "I love preaching" and no doubt will be doing a bit of that too.

Arthur said he likes to refer in his sermons to his own life experience - which he described as "a way of connecting" - as was humour . "God loves humour".

And his parting words, "All my life as a Christian, God has never failed me or let me down." He referred to the Book of Psalms in the Bible which mentions a hundred times the love of God. Despite what people say "God never fails".

We wish Arthur and Robyn the very best for the future.

ground level, outside of our First Aid room, as you can see no water visible at all.

Two photos taken from the upstairs patrol room, no visible high tide mark any more, and the corner at the bottom of the goat track completely hidden.

No disrespect to Ron, we

acknowledge the fantastic work you have put in over the years, however, there is another side to the story (as always) which needs to be taken into account.

Mike Roach, President Opunake Surf Lifesaving

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COMMUNITY COMMENT

Things don't work unless we do

Friday, December 2, 2016

two monkey's working the cogs on a machine, and the caption was, 'Things don't work unless we do!'

4 N EWS

This is so true. It doesn't seem long since the local body elections when we heard great promises made and great requests given.

Why do we have Community Boards some people asked? How can you be effective? How can you make a difference? All good questions and reasonable ones at that.

I could reply, "We work to be a communication link between the community and the Council. We lobby Council on local issues and



Maree Liddington

needs to see these things through and make them happen."

And this is one aspect I wish to work on in the next three years – better communication the Community Board.

All our work is in vain if we act on issues or projects that have no concern or relevance to the local community. Last year the Board held a public meeting in Eltham, 'Fly your Ideas'. We invited people to come along and put forward suggestions for projects and improvements in the town. This was very successful and helped us identify what you, the community want. One suggestion of an International Airport didn't get the tick, but hey, sometimes the most way out ideas have some merit. Many of the other suggestions have been done or are in the pipeline.

Early in the New Year, we aim to hold a similar meeting at Kaponga. We will invite locals to come along and share their ideas for the town. Once again there is no point the Board planning great projects and improvements if that is not what the locals want. So, Kaponga people, watch this space. Get thinking about ideas for your town; we are

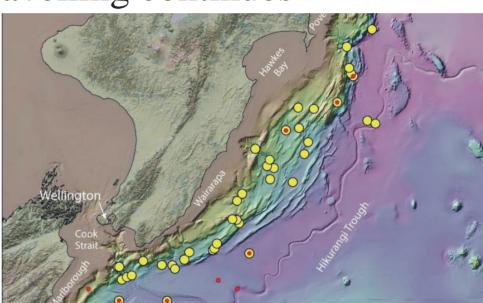
OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

As this is my last comment of the year, best wishes for Christmas and the New Year from Eltham Community Board.

Maree Liddington Eltham Community Board

uake unravelling continues

Tangaroa was diverted to the Kaikoura coast after the 7.8 earthquake. Surveys of the seabed have confirmed the Needles Fault ruptured 34km offshore. Scientists on board the vessel have collected 61 sediment cores - each measuring about 5.5 metres - from the continental margin between Poverty Bay and Kaikoura. (pictured).



The continental margin between Poverty Bay and Kaikoura

It's hoped the cores will provide evidence of submarine landslides. Niwa marine geologist Dr Philip Barnes said the cores revealed a huge turbidity current offshore from Marlborough and Wairarapa - extending at least 300km from Kaikoura. But the locations of underwater landslides that caused the turbidity have not been identified.

'We'll See You Right"

Meanwhile back on land, geologists have been looking at evidence of new faulting in Marlborough. University of Canterbury researchers found "spectacular" fault displacements, including an area north of Waiau which had 2.2m horizontal displacement and 1.5m vertical. GPS stations detected a slowslip earthquake underway in the Hawke's Bay and Gisborne regions. Silent or slow-slip earthquakes are undetectable by both humans and GeoNet's seismographs, but the GPS stations detected movement of up to 2-3cm - similar to that seen in previous East Coast slowslip events. A magnitude 5.5 earthquake that struck the area fit with previous earthquake "clusters" during

interesting by-product of the earthquake - bubbles in the sea off Kaikoura. University of Canterbury's Dr Matthew Hughes said the bubbles were likely due to a mix of carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulphide released through cracks in the seafloor caused by the magnitude 7.8 earthquake. An aftershock that damaged homes in North Canterbury was within the aftershock forecast, GNS Science's Natalie Balfour told media. But since then, things have been particularly quiet. GeoNet's Sara McBride wrote that the number of aftershocks was within the forecast range, but on the low side and cautioned people still to be prepared. "Just because we are in the lower end of the forecast, it doesn't mean Kayak guides spotted an that this will stay that way.

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The day the minister came to Everybodys

Broadband, cellphone coverage and the state of rural roads were among the subjects that the minister of Small Business and Statistics Craig Foss was grilled on when he spoke at Everybodys Theatre on November 23.

South Taranaki District deputy mayor Phil Nixon, former deputy mayor Ian Armstrong and South Taranaki District councillor Bryan Roach took Mr Foss to task for the progress being made on connectivity issues for Coastal Taranaki.

Afterwards Mr Foss said he wasn't fazed about the grilling he received and thought the meeting had gone well.

"It's great to see the hunger for broadband, as it shows everyone can see what it can do," he said. "They are not whingeing. They want things to happen.'

The Opunake meeting, organised by the Opunake and District Business association was the last of several he spoke to on his visit to Taranaki.

"This is the best place so far. It's certainly the most theatrical," he said. Mr Foss even asked what picture was showing that night.

While larger companies grabbed all the headlines the country's small businesses were the untold heroes of the economy, he said.

These are the 99 per cent employing fewer than 50 people, and the 97 per cent employing fewer than 20 people.

Mr Foss said governments are not good at running businesses.

"In government we try to get out of your way, to help you fulfil your potential."

He said the government was trying to make it easier for businesses to operate through measures like changes to provisional tax and the allocation of a 13 digit number meaning businesses would not have to waste time dealing with a large number of separate governments and agencies.

"It will be one door. One portal to deal with government," he said.

There is also the business. govt.nz website which has some valuable aids to help

* Split Mac



From left. Clem Coxhead, Alison Hayward, Jonathan Young MP, Minister of Small Business Craig Foss, Liz Sinclair.

businesses.

Mr Foss said business models are being smashed and turned on their heads.

"Nowadays your customers and competitors can be anywhere in the world. You need to be able to tap dance as fast as you can. This is more important than ever before, because your competitors already are."

While this produced challenges, businesses in places like Opunake still have things to offer which bigger operators don't.

"We like nature. We like personal contact. It's the gidday Craig when you walk into a shop. Amazon and Co can never do that."

At question time the tempo of the meeting changed with Mr Foss being challenged on connectivity issues. Deputy Mayor Phil Nixon said while the government had done a lot to put fibre into urban homes, there are still farmers in rural areas lacking a decent internet service, and more needed to be done to fix up mobile black spots. The government had asked the South Taranaki District Council to put in registrations of interest for rural broadband, as well as a digital enablement plan, and the Council had done a lot of work along these lines, but they had heard nothing further from central government, Mr Nixon said.

His predecessor as deputy mayor Ian Armstrong said there are still places, like parts of his Te Kiri farm where cellphone coverage is

"Once you're away from the house there are parts of the farm that have no reception. At the cowshed it's really poor. If somebody has an accident in one of these areas, there's a real problem."

South Taranaki District councillor Bryan Roach said the broadband available to farmers was too slow.

"We need fibre down all the rural roads and we need high speed," he said.

New Plymouth MP Jonathan Young said he and other Taranaki MPs had been meeting with communications minister Amy Adams and work was being done.

"No one's sitting on their hands on this issue," he said. "We know that regional New Zealand is wanting to catch up with what's happening in the larger towns.'

Mr Foss said in other parts of the country local people had been able to develop their own solutions. He acknowledged that in some places broadband wasn't becoming available as quickly as people would have liked.

"It's part of being a mountainous country. It's hard to have one hundred per cent coverage, but we are getting there."

Another issue brought up at the meeting was the state of local roads. Cr Roach said this had been a long standing concern of his.

'The Coast road has deteriorated and is not up to the standards it used to be. There would be half a dozen bridges I would describe as dangerous, but it seems there needs to be a fatality for anything to happen."

Others at the meeting cited examples of problem areas like the Waiteika Road-Surf Highway intersection and a bridge near Rahotu.

Mr Foss said that while New Zealand's road toll was comparable to other countries it was still too high. While at one time the emphasis was on fixing up stretches of road where fatalities had already occurred, today the emphasis is more on assessing risk.

After the meeting Mr Armstrong said he was pleased Mr Foss had come to see for himself what local people are saying.

"It's good to see those guys get out and find out what the issues are. We now wait with baited breath to see what's going to happen."





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OKATO COPPERS Watch who you employ

Hope all are safe and gearing up for the festive season hopefully the weather will start to improve.

Good to be involved in the Xmas Parade again in Okato last weekend, some amazing efforts going in to decorate the floats and a lot of smiles on children's faces. Good work by the Lions Club and the other organisers for making it a safe and well run

In regards to rural crime the same messages need to be spread in regards to securing our property and to make things hard for our crims - we seem to average about 15-20burglaries in Rural Taranaki a month, so one every two days or so. This needs to reduce and we are working hard to identify offenders and hold them accountable.



Constable Rhys Connell

Please continue to report crime at every opportunity. I am aware that FMG Insurance and Federated Farmers have conducted surveys around reporting crime and up to 50 per cent of crime is unreported with the main reason given as they don't want to bother the police with trivial matters. We like to be bothered as we can get is really happening in the area, and then can throw the right amount of resources at the problems. Please let us know if you see something going on in your area that we should know about. We can treat all cases confidentially if need be.

One issue around crime on farms has been the exemployee factor. Several crimes lately have had the finger pointed at the disgruntled worker which in some cases is a fair point. If you are in the habit of locking things up like the implement shed, or hiding the bike key or house key then consider that when you dismiss your worker he may know your habits and where you hide the key. If this happens to you consider changing locks or your hiding

Continue to be vigilant around who you employ. Do your homework and ask for references when you are looking to employ. Don't feel that you have to employ someone just because they are the only applicant for the job. Ask that referee if they would have the guy or girl back on their farm again. Unfortunately there are exemployers out there who will tell you that some guy is really awesome when they aren't, and you end up with their rubbish.

That's all for now. Please continue to be safe on our roads and feel free to call into the Okato Station if there are matters you wish to discuss.

Rhys Connell Okato.

Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade joins forces with St John Ambulance

On Monday December 5, we are joining forces with the St John's Ambulance and fitness walking group for the annual Food Bank Christmas collection. So if you hear a siren outside your house, grab a non - perishable food item, come out and drop it in the box. There are people in the community who are really hurting financially, so if you can share a little kindness, your food donation will help make someone else's Christmas special. Remember, children from less fortunate families love special treats too.

Our normal Monday (November 15) night practice turned into an epic evening with something like 15 calls coming in due to the severe gale force winds. We were so inundated with requests for help, the Rahotu brigade was sent in to help out. An added bonus for them was on their return to Rahotu, they came across a power pole cross member on fire near the Namu Road corner. Nothing they could really do other

a great deal we can or are allowed to do. We can't climb on a roof in blustery conditions to patch up the flapping iron or secure a television aerial. We can however, board up a blown - in ranch slider door, and help clear debris or cones off fallen trees on the road. We were called to all of these scenarios on Monday night but unfortunately, could only help out in a few of them.

The brigade wish to thank Bill and the happy team at Opunake Fish and Chips and More, for the delicious hot food they supplied in the later part of "Super Moon Monday." There isn't much that beats coming in wet and wind - blown from attending numerous call-outs, and being greeted with warm kai in the oven. Thanks Bill, our crew certainly appreciates your thoughtfulness.

We got a 2:00 am start on Thursday November 17 when a cow shed power box on the Eltham Road decided to warm up in the cool weather. However, by the time we arrived, it had calmed down and only the smell of smoke could be detected. Our officer in charge had a quick chat with the farm owner who said the power supplier had been

advised, and as there was nothing else we could do, we were "all aboard" and headed back home to bed. After all, Gordy needs all the beauty sleep he can get.

We all thought the worst when a call came in on Thursday evening that a car and a motor cycle had collided on the corner of Arawhata Road and Surf Highway 45. On arrival, we found a motor cyclist, along with his bike, lying on their sides in the paddock. This was the result of the motor cyclist side- swiping a very new Audi SUV, which was towing a horse float, as it turned up the Arawhata Road. Luckily, both man and machines only suffered moderate injuries, so all will be back on the road again in the near future. It would have been a great spectacle to have witnessed, as the fence was not damaged and both bike and patient ended up in the paddock. It would have been a jump Evil Knievel would have been proud of.

On Saturday November 19, fourteen of our members, along with three ex-members and three good sorts, arrived at ex- member "Sharpie's"

house for a little repair and maintenance. John is having a few health issues so we decided to pay him a visit (unannounced) and attack some of the tasks that he has been unable to do. Luckily, the weather didn't bother us too much so we could do the business, and Shorty could cook the b.b.q. without getting the onions soggy. The brigade would like to thank Phil Brophy from Heartland Construction for his guidance, sponsorship and assistance. They say that the fire service worldwide is like one big family, and when help is required everyone chips in. That was certainly the case on Saturday. Thanks team.

The crew attended our 65th call out for the year when we were dispatched to another motor cycle incident on Surf Highway 45, between the Watino and Puketapu Roads on Tuesday November 22. The sole motor cyclist was heading to Oaonui but unfortunately failed to take the corner at the end of the Pihama straight, and ended up going to the Hawera Hospital instead with a possible broken ankle along with a few other mild injuries.



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Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade joins forces with St John Ambulance

Continued from page 6.

It was great to see an interested person coming along on Monday night for a look at what we do. We found him a pair of overalls and he joined us at the old dairy factory for our "working from open water" practice. This involved

setting the portable pump up under the bridge and pumping up to a make shift dam (using ladders and a tarpaulin), and then pumping out of that to the "fire". This not only gives us practice with the equipment, but it also blows the cobwebs out of the gear, so that it is always ready should

the need arise.

If anyone else is keen to see what we do with the idea of possibly joining, pop along and have a word with Fire Chief Rodney Woods. It is good to have two new recruits going along together as they can give each other support, discuss various aspects of the

course and maybe even practice together on anything that is causing difficultly.

So if you have been thinking about it, now is a very good time to front up.

was the wreck of a ship and

referred to the curvature of

some of the remains which

they considered supported

Winefried, who is keen on

fishing, says she has been

visiting the beach ralmost daily for about thirty years,

but has never seen signs of

Another tourist attraction

Editor

for Opunake perhaps if we

LEFT: Winefride and Ray

Corrigan pont to where

they saw remains of the

shipwreck before it disap-

the shipwreck before.

could excavate it!

their view.

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Opunake Beach shipwreck appears then vanishes

ber-laden schooner The Falcon ran aground at Opunake Beach. The wooden ship was completely wrecked, but luckily no lives were lost. A subsequent Court of Inquiry determined that the captain J T Cicely was in no way to blame for the shipwreck.

The Falcon (Number 46,581) was built at Coromandel in May 1864. It's length was 62.2 feet, with a beam 16.5 feet and it had a depth of 5.8 feet.

The remains of this ship appeared on the south end of the beach about 50 metres north of the cliffside rock field and 150 metres out from the seawall.

Two locals Ray and Winefride Corrigan spotted the 146-year-old remains on November 6 of this month. They described six pieces of protruding wooden structure, which had been rendered black by weathering. The remains were only visible at low tide and have disappeared as mysteriously as they appeared, presumably covered over by sand. The couple were convinced it

On December 13, 1642

Captain Abel Janszoon Tas-

man (from Holland) first sighted New Zealand. He

was sailing under the aus-

pices of the Dutch East India

Company. As far as we know

he was the first European to

sight this country, although reputedly he did not land after

a bloody clash with the Indig-



RIGHT: Jenny McKenzie-Russell this photograph of the shipwreck remains seen several days earlier. We thank Jenny for her permission to include this

picture. If the shipwreck reappears we'd be grateful if we can be told so we can

Murderers Bay) at the top of

It is hard to believe, but

the South Island.

Abel Tasman reputedly never actually landed on shore. It was Captain Cook in 1769 who had that honour and also drew the first map of New Zealand, which was reasonably accurate, despite making Banks Peninsula an island and Stewart Island a





On this month in history Abel

Tasman sights New Zealand





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Pike River six years later

Six years on from the Pike River disaster the memory of that day still burns strong and the families still wait for the Government to make good on its promises. They are still waiting for justice.

Mining communities are special. The work creates a tight bond- your life depends on the person next to you. That spirit of solidarity flows through the whole community. When I was head of the EPMU, the miners were always some of our staunchest members. They stand beside each other no matter what. When tragedy struck it hit everyone hard.

This month I returned to the Pike River Mine Portal with some family members of the Pike 29 to pay my respects.

The grief of the families,



Andrew Little MP

friends and workmates and the way the whole community rallied around them is still vivid. In that Kiwi way, we all did what we could no matter how little it may have been. We all understood we needed to help those left behind, get the bodies out, and find out what went wrong so that it would never happen

John Key has stood in front of those families and said "we're committed to getting the boys out, and nothing's going to change that. So, when people try and tell you we're not, they're playing with your emotions." That was during an election campaign, though. The families are still waiting.

Now, Mr Key denies ever making that promise. Now, the Government wants to seal the mine forever. Just this week Mr Key sent Nick Smith to threaten the Pike families with arrest if they try to stop Solid Energy entombing their loved ones.

The Government claims it's not safe to enter the drift and try to get any bodies in there out. That's not true. Experts, both local and international, say the mine is now stable. We can get those men out and secure evidence regarding the cause of the explosion. It can

The National Government just wants to wash its hands of the whole thing and move on. They don't seem to care no-one has ever faced court for those 29 deaths, or that the families have never got the bodies back to bury.

That's not the way Kiwis do things. We do right by people. We ensure that when there is wrongdoing, there is justice. We keep our promises.

I'm standing with the Pike families in opposing the mine being sealed. It's time a proper effort is made to bring their men home. They,ve waited long enough.

Andrew Little

Whanganui MP to stand down at the next election

MP for Whanganui, Chester Borrows has announced his intention to step down at the 2017 General Election.

"We had always thought that four terms would be an ideal tenure, and after talking to my wife and children, I think that the next election will be the right time to move aside and allow fresh ideas to come in", Mr Borrows said.

After contesting the Whanganui seat in 1999 and 2002, Chester Borrows broke Labour's 12-year reign on Whanganui and took over



Chester Borrows MP

from Labour MP Jill Pettis at the 2005 Election. He won with a 2400-odd majority.

"Some of the highlights of my Parliamentary career were in Opposition as Police spokesperson - working on Youth Justice Reforms with my colleague Anne Tolley, and working on National's 2008 Election manifesto which included compulsory taking of DNA samples along with fingerprints and photos at the time of police arrest, which has, and will continue to prevent a huge amount of victimisation"

After two years as Minister

for Courts, Chester was appointed Deputy Speaker in 2014.

"I am particularly proud of the youth justice reforms we worked on, which has seen falling numbers of young people appearing before the Courts, and recidivist offending dropping."

"In the meantime, it's business as usual. I will be working just as hard as ever both in Parliament and in the electorate," Mr Borrows

Treating your pet this Christmas will make all the difference

lovers nationwide the chance to treat their pets, and at the

Animates is giving pet same time help a charity in need.

The company's annual



Last year's donations were donated to the SPCA and the Mobility Dogs Assistance Trust.



Hawera Office 11 Victoria Street Ph: 06 278 4059 chester.hawera@parliament.govt.nz

National www.national.org.nz



Giving Tree campaign, which supports the SPCA and the Mobility Assistance Dogs Trust, is now underway running until Christmas Eve. Dog and cat owners can purchase a pet-safe advent calendar with cat and doggy treats for the 24 days leading up to Christmas priced at \$12.95, with 100 per cent of the profits also going to the charities. Alternatively, customers can choose to make a donation of \$3, \$5 or \$10 to their preferred charity, select a Christmas bauble to personalise and place it on the Christmas tree in-store.

Animates spokesperson, Jacqui Baigent says the funds raised from the advent calendars and donations make a real difference.

"Traditionally parents give advent calendars to their children, but why not treat vour pets as well.

"Christmas is about giving and sharing and it's important not to forget that this extends to animals as well. The Animates Giving Tree was started in response to the Mobility Assistance Dogs Trust and the SPCA's ongoing need for financial support and our desire to support charities that are close to the hearts of our staff and our customers. Last year our generous customers helped raise \$74,340 which was just fantastic," says

Mobility Dogs are trained to provide functional assistance with everyday tasks for New Zealanders living with long-term physical disabilities including Muscular Dystrophy; Stroke; Parkinson's; Spinal Cord injuries and Cerebral Palsy.

Jody Wilson, General Manager of Mobility Dogs says Mobility Dogs provide invaluable support for New Zealanders living with longterm physical disabilities.

"We're grateful for the support from Animates and the Giving Tree initiative which will help us continue to partner Mobility Dogs with Kiwis in need."

Last year's donations were donated to the SPCA and the Mobility Dogs Assistance Trust. Since 2010, over 13,500 SPCA pets have been adopted to Animates customers to help with SPCA with their mission to find a forever home for those pets.



Paul Andersen-Gardiner with a sample of his writing..

Literary talent - family affair

Opunake's talented Andersen-Gardiner family has an astonishing record in literary competitions with three members of the family excelling not once, but multiple times. At least one member of the family has been a finalist in each of the last four years of the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards.

Paul was placed twice amongst the finalists this year in the Open Section (Short story or drama script) of the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary contest - a competition that his daughter Sophie has won no less than three times. "I didn't know I had two (finalist positions). I was thrilled - it makes the effort worthwhile," said Paul. Last year Paul's son William was Highly Commended in the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary competition with his short story 'Guards'. In 2013 he was placed second, in the same event, with his short story 'Falling behind the fleet'.

Last year William also fared well in the Opunake Sesquicentennial Literary Competition, winning the School Prose section with his poignant 'Meeting Uncle Brian', a short story which moved some listeners to tears.

Secondary Schools Short Story section with her entry 'The Dancer'. She followed this up in 2012 by winning the same section with 'Libby' a story based on her younger sister. In 2013 Sophie won the Secondary School Poetry section with 'But maybe I liked it when it hurt'. She also took second place with 'Call'.

This year Paul had his second drama script reach the finals (In 2013 he was placed third in the competition with his entry 'The Ballad of Scruff and Rat'). The play was entitled 'In Twenty Four hours I File Any Death Return (1,3,2,3,4) of which the judge wrote, "This was a fun read. Clever and satisfying." His short story 'Uncle Hen and Rig was Highly Commended as was the play script. "I didn't think it would get anywhere - it was a bit out there," Paul commented of his short story. He added, "I was quite surprised it got anywhere." Of the short story the judge wrote "Surprising, well-written and convincing.'

This year the short story judge was Tania Roxborogh, the poetry judge Paula Green and Ryan Evans (Editor of the Taranaki Daily News) judged the new category Research Article - A profile piece.

What's the secret of the



Sophie and William Andersen-Gardiner.

success? Paul says, "Both Claire and I are big readers." He adds that both Sophie and William are also. With a smile he concludes. "It's in the blood to be sure."

Surprisingly for a successful writer of fiction Paul admits, "I'm (mostly) a nonfiction reader."

He has some sage advice for would be short story writers, perhaps with the 2017 competition in mind. "You have to make time for it, then edit it and rewrite it repeatedly." And one pitfall to avoid? "Don't ask a friend to read the story - they will tell you it's good even if it's

Paul's final summary of the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Awards is, "It's a fantastic competition - I hope it goes on forever.'





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Robyn McDonald of Tara's

Tara's open in Manaia

McDonald is bringing over 30 years' retail experience to Tara's, her new business venture in Manaia.

Located in the former Manaia Medical Centre building, Tara's Vintage and New Clothing opened for business in October.

As well as new and preloved clothing, Tara's sell top quality artificial flowers, jewellery, scarves, handbags, ornaments and house décor items.

Also, visitors can peruse of Robyn's examples artwork.

"I have a passion for art and photography," she says. "I've been experimenting with textures and do acrylics and mixed media artwork."

She comes from a family with a long involvement in the clothing retail sector. Her mother was a seamstress and milliner. She has a sister who has had clothing designer shops in Sydney and Auckland.

Robyn says she has always loved the surf culture, and has 20 years experience running surf shops in Tauranga and Mount Maunganui.

While living in Australia, Robyn worked for Billabong Surfwear Company. She also helped run a history of surfing museum for a year.

It is perhaps appropriate

then that she has set up business on Taranaki's own Surf Highway.

"I liked the region. I had survived four years in Auckland, but I wanted to get out."

Robyn said that although she could be classed as an "oldie," she does have stock that teenagers could be interested in. She had just had one teenager come into her shop, telling her how much she loved it.

"I've enjoyed meeting the locals and finding out more about this beautiful region," Robyn said.

We welcome your contributions Please send to editorial@opunakecoastal news.co.nz

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The best insurance deals with a personal touch

Heydon Young from Oakura has just started his own insurance broking business, Insure Taranaki Ltd

Insure Taranaki Ltd. Heydon is named after his grandfather Ashley Heydon who owns Heydon Priest garage at Oakura, Heydon is the fourth generation of his family to be in business on the coast. His great great grandfather was *James Fox who ran the general store at Okato. The building still exists today in the main street of Okato where the initials JS Fox are still visible.

Heydon is a rural and commercial insurance broker and has worked in the insurance industry since 2008. Prior to setting up on his own a month ago he worked for the

largest broker in the world. A broker is a client's advocate who works for the customer and advises on risk transfer solutions, explains Heydon. "You identify risks, find out the best way to take that risk from a business and transfer it to an insurance company the amount of risk transferred affects the premium." He continues, "a commercial office building for example generally attracts a lower rate than a cowshed, he illustrates. "You've got less fire risk, no mechanical parts, no cows and no elements coming

in to destroy the building."

Though Heydon specialises in agri and commercial insurance, this will often, in the case say of farmers, include domestic covers also.

Livestock electrocutions are one of the frequent rural insurance claims, says Heydon, in response

rural insurance claims, says Heydon, in response to a question as to the majority insurance claims in farming. "A cow gets caught in an electric fence."

Milk contamination is another. If penicillin gets into the vat accidently when a cow is medicated this would be covered by a milk contamination extension. If the contaminated milk however additionally gets into the tanker it will also contaminate milk from other farms. This becomes third Party property damage covered by a public liability policy. In Taranaki, storm damage by big winds is also another common claim.

Heydon's decision to go into insurance was a conscious career choice which he made early. And he's well qualified. He has a Bachelor of Commerce from Otago University. He also holds a Diploma of Insurance Broking and a Senior Associateship from the Australia/New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance.



Heydon Young and partner Lauren Luttrell

"It's been a long process," admits Heydon who though he is self employed, is also a member of a major Australasian buying group which offers technical expertise and negotiating power with wide access to insurance companies, products and prices. It also affords protection and support for the client. "Clients premiums aren't paid to me directly but to a trust account externally audited and managed by the buying group," says Heydon. Educated at boarding school in Cambridge, where he received a partial sports scholarship to attend St Peters. "Then I fell in love with surfing," says the tanned Heydon who returned to Oakura for the lifestyle which is how he met partner Lauren Luttrell who grew up on a dairy farm. Lauren who was employed on the family farm at Pihama where Heydon has also helped out, has worked

in marketing and is involved on this side of the business.

"I love the unique relationship with farmers," says Heydon who says they generally become long term. "They're down to earth. It's their livelihood, the land. They've put their necks on the line to go into business. It's a privilege to arrange good protection for such people." He adds further "I believe I can provide clients with the personal touch that you just can't

get from a large corporate."
Heydon has premises at
34 Egmont Street, New
Plymouth but is often out
seeing clients on their
own turf which he prefers.

*James son Donald -Heydon's great grandfather - continued the family business which he ran with his sons Alan and Jim Fox (Heydon's great uncles) who eventually sold the business in the 1960s when they decided to go dairy farming.

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unding enables digestive device progress

debilitating diagnosing digestive disorders will progress into the final development phase, due to further research funding.

University of Auckland researcher, Dr Tim Angeli was awarded the AMRF Edith C. Coan Post-doctoral Research Fellowship by Auckland Medical Research Foundation.

funding The new will enable Dr Angeli, from the University's Auckland Bioengineering Institute, to investigate the development and validation of an endoscopic device that maps the stomach's electrical wave patterns. "Diagnosis of digestive

frustration for causing patients and clinicians," says Dr Angeli. "At present the technique for detecting electrical abnormalities in the stomach, called 'dysrhythmias', surgery.' requires

of Instead invasive surgery, the new device uses endoscopic (down the throat) gastric electrical mapping as a minimallyinvasive technique that may take as little as 15 minutes with the patient mildly sedated, he says.

"The new device for diagnosing these gastric dysrhythmias has a customdesigned electrode array that is applied to the inside of the stomach to map the electrical activation patterns allowing us to detect the abnormal dysrhythmias associated with digestive disorders."

The new project aims to develop a safe and effective approach for the endoscopic delivery and will verify the accuracy of the endoscopic recordings. electrical

Once this is done, the next stage for the minimally-invasive gastric mapping will be to test it in patients undergoing endoscopy. The project has the potential to deliver a novel diagnostic approach for debilitating digestive disorders such as that suffered by Auckland student, Shontelle Scott. Shontelle had just finished school and was enjoying a family holiday to the

intending to study media and criminology at Otago University in Dunedin.

It was on the plane to Dunedin that she threw up the first time for no apparent reason. Since then, Shontelle's life has been turned upside down and inside out with daily, severe abdominal pain, vomiting, bloating, and nausea.

Her family went on an odyssey hospitals, of doctors, medications to try to find the cause of her sickness, and a way to cure it. Shontelle was misdiagnosed on multiple occasions, and all of the treatments prescribed to her were ultimately ineffective.

After months of appointments, consultations,

and prescriptions, it seemed as though nobody would be able to help with a confirmed diagnosis, much less an effective treatment.

A gastric emptying test finally provided the family with a conclusive diagnosis: Shontelle suffers from gastroparesis, a condition in which the coordinated contractions of the stomach do not function properly and the stomach fails to empty. It was shortly after this, that Shontelle was visited by Associate Professor Greg O'Grady from the University of Auckland who was able to provide more information on the available treatment options as well as give an insight on what research is underway. The exact cause of this

and there is no cure at this stage, but a dedicated team at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute involving Dr Tim Angeli and led by Associate Professors Leo Cheng and Greg O'Grady, is working towards solutions for both the diagnosis and treatment of gastroparesis and other functional gastrointestinal disorders using cutting edge sensor, analytic, and computational technology.

The AMRF Edith C Coan Research Fellowship will allow Dr Tim Angeli to make vital progress toward developing a novel diagnostic device for these debilitating digestive disorders that patients like Shontelle suffer

Tertiary education proposals concern Rural Women

Women New Zealand (RWNZ) has provided a submission to the Productivity Commission expressing concern about the equity impacts of its proposed reforms to the Tertiary education system. In its draft report "New models of tertiary education' the Commission proposes a number of changes to the current funding and delivery of Tertiary education, including suggesting that the Government reintroduce

interest on student loans and

scrap University Entrance

requirements. "On the

whole, we are disappointed

that the Commission's

report approaches the issue

of Tertiary education from

a purely market based and

individualistic perspective.

public The important benefits of an inclusive and equitable tertiary education system appear to have been ignored " says National President, Fiona Gower.

RWNZ's submission voices particularly strong opposition to the proposal to reintroduce interest on student loans stating that this would make tertiary financially education unachievable for many New Zealanders, particularly those from lower socioeconomic groups.

"An interest bearing scheme is also unfair for women, who may face higher repayments because they continue to earn less than men" says Fiona Gower.

"Students from rural areas are also unfairly affected

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by this change. Many end up borrowing much more than those from urban areas, because they have to fund the costs of moving out of the family home to access Tertiary education".

In its submission RWNZ also voice concerns about the proposal for 'Individual Student Education Accounts', which Commission recommends, would be capped at the equivalent of three years study. It points out that this could exclude less well off students from studying in more highly skilled areas like law and medicine, which involve longer periods of study.



Lacey Taylor and Fletcher Lawrence discuss visiting the pigs after they finish in the ring with their calves at the Stratford A&P show.

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14 NEWS Friday, December 2, 2016 OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

New Plymouth Parade Winner





The Taranaki Fashion Art Awards float was judged best in the Christmas Parade at New Plymouth last Saturday.

a difference ristmas tree

have a tree which is unique and are very proud of. Allan constructed it from many two litre plastic milk containers and his wife Vicki decorated it. They hope people can call by and see it as it is situated in their garden in full view from the footpath and Whitcombe

Allan and Vicki Sandford Road. Allan points out that it is made of 175 recycled milk containers, glued together with 'no nails' glue. "I used six tubes," says Allan.

> It has a wooden backing platform to ensure enough strength to remain upright. It is also tied to a hedge.

At night it will look a tree may not last forever, as not too concerned, "I'll just treat as it has fairy lights, as well as other Christmas decorations. Allan he tried the same idea "a couple of years ago," but with lemonade bottles, but it "blew to pieces" This one, he explains, "Is very sturdy." Allan concedes that his

the plastic bottles eventually make another," he boldly disintegrate. However, He is states. Make sure you see

this amazing Christmas at 24 tree Whitcombe Road Opunake.







Okato Christmas Parade draws huge crowd

The weather was either threatening or raining all day, but briefly improved for the Okato Christmas Parade to take place (without a drenching), to the relief of the huge crowd who turned up in droves for the event on Sunday 27 November. Bagpipers (Raewynne Lawn Hamish Hislop) provided the musical accompaniment for the Christmas Parade with rousing tunes such as 'Scotland the Brave'. Chris Smith and Triska Morgan were the drummers.

One enthusiastic onlooker, who was most impressed with the Christmas Parade, was Chenae Lowry who commented, "It's really good this year – lots more variety." Did she have a favourite? "I love the Ice cream Santas," she replied. However, the official



The Christmas Parade sets off.



Winning float - St Patricks, Okato.

Okato (a Nativity scene), with Okato Vets runner up and Okato Playcentre third. This was a real community effort. Apart from the impressive floats painstakingly prepared by schools, local businesses and sport clubs (etc) also contributing were the Okato Lions controlling the traffic, the Okato Volunteer Fire Brigade and the Police. The

event was well organised by Okato Community Outreach with special mention to Joy Burmeister, Kat Moffitt and Suzette Taingahue. Joy commented, "It was an awesome community event with great fellowship." Keith Manu and his team did a great job preparing the hangi, which was most welcome as was the sausage sizzle.

Kauri Cottage is back! Yes, you heard it right.

The 96 year old cottage in the heart of Egmont village with a Kauri Tree at the front - now with new deck, new decor and new menu.

At kauri we offer an English style breakfast and wide variety of cabinet food available from 7 am to early birds as well.

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16 NEWS Friday, December 2, 2016 OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

A Himh an adv nture

Continued from Page 1

army doctor helps me to piggy back Harrison for two and a half hours back to Gorak Shep. It was hard enough breathing, let alone carrying Harrison on our backs. It appears that nothing is broken but Harrison cannot walk so our hiking is over. We need to get an x-ray, so

call the insurance company and arrange to be helivaced. The phone reception is terrible. I'm outside and it's snowing, dark and freezing. After a lot of shouting and repeating myself, it's all go. The helicopter arrives at 10am the next morning. Luckily the weather is fine. We're feeling emotional and full of adrenalin as we take

off. Flying over the tracks, valleys, rivers, forests, steep ridges and gorges we see 12 days of memories. We land in Lukla to refuel and then continue on to Kathmandu. We have just gone from 5500m to 1300m in 90 minutes. It was -2 degrees at EBC, now it's 28 degrees plus. We go to the international clinic

for x-rays and leave with confirmation that nothing is broken, but the ligaments and tendons are severely sprained so compressions bandages, crutches and rest are required. The second two weeks of our trip are spent convalescing in Pokhara which is close to the Annapurna mountain range. We hired a nice roadbike and met some cool people who quickly became friends. We spent a lot of time swimming and playing in big waterfalls.

Everest National Park was sensational - raw, huge and wild. The mountains were mind blowing, so big they didn't seem real. Some of the steep, scary vertical drops took my breath away, and so did the altitude. The incredible suspension bridges spanning hundreds of metres and some hundreds of metres high. The altitude gave us a real sense of how important oxygen really is

and how to adapt when there is not so much of it. The people were kind, friendly, very humble and easy to have fun with. The whole Nepal experience exceeded our expectations. Hopefully, with enough work and savings, we will return next year in April which coincides

with stable weather when climbers will be attempting Everest's summit. It was a blast, we loved it. On behalf of the Himalayan Trust and the schools we visited a sincere thank you for your generosity and donations. Namaste Craig and Harrison.

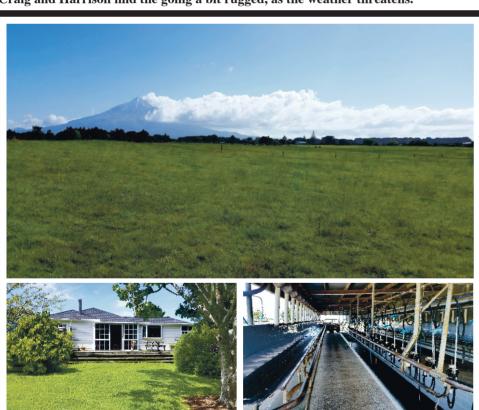
Craig Martins



Harrison takes a well deserved break outside a shelter.



Craig and Harrison find the going a bit rugged, as the weather threatens.



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Harrison and Craig enjoy the splendor and beauty of the alpine environment.



17







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The Power of Yet"

Our new Kindergarten Philosophy is HEART, and our Educators have been investigating what the R in Resilience might look like in our teaching practice.

To get a better understanding of what Resilience looks like to us as Educators, we explored Dr Carol Dweck's research about "The Power of YET".

Here is some of the exciting information that will help us as Educators and Parents to develop a Growth Mindset in our tamariki.

Dr Carol. S. Dweck tells us when a child has a Fixed Mindset regarding their skills and abilities they run away from challenges, they even go as far as to cheat, and compare themselves with children who do worse than they do.

If they have a Growth Mindset they see difficulties as a challenge to overcome to learn from. Their brain fires up, and they engage.

Carol Dweck encourages us to praise wisely, not praising intelligence or talent. She has proved that this has failed, she encourages us not to do that anymore, but praise the process that kids engage in: their efforts, their strategies, their focus, their perseverance, their improvement. This praise creates kids who are hardy and resilient.

For example: "You did that really well, you must have tried really hard".

If we challenge ourselves with a Growth Mindset, we can indulge in the POWER OF YET. We can teach children that every time they push out of their comfort zone to learn something new and difficult, the neurons in their brain can form new, stronger connections, and overtime they can get smarter. Anytime you hear a voice saying,

"I can't do it" Add YET: "I can't do itYET"

Just adding the words "yet" or "not yet" we're finding, give children greater confidence and give them the path into the future that creates greater persistence and we can change a child's mindset.



Olivia (4) and Ngaia (4) are developing a growth mindset "I can do it", as they persevere at threading the beads on to the elastic with Diane.

Te Whariki Well-being:

This term our Curriculum focus has been on Well-being.

At Kindy tamariki experience an environment where they get to know how to keep themselves healthy, manage themselves and express their feelings and needs, and learn about how to keep themselves safe from harm.

So, what does that look like in our teaching practice?

- Educators talk with the tamariki about healthy foods and how they fuel their bodies.
- We provide physical activities to keep them fit and healthy.
- The tamariki are encouraged to wash their hands before meal times also after the toilet.
- We teach our tamariki about different feelings, for example: "you look sad" or "you look happy" so that tamariki know how to express their feelings when they are sad or happy.
- Building our relationship with the whānau and the child is very important to us at kindy, as this develops a trusting relationship with the child to express their emotional and physical needs.
- Tamariki are encouraged to put a hat on when they are outside, and the kindy provides sunscreen to protect the tamariki from the harmful sun rays.
- Tamariki take part in the "Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme" which helps tamariki to know about their own bodies, builds self-esteem and life-long skills.
- · Activities and opportunities are provided for all the tamarikit to be independent and to make their own choices, this is where they learn about self-help and self-care skills.



Liberty (4), Azaria (4) and Bella (3) role play what they know about keeping heathy and going to the doctors.

Enviroschool Focus



Shirley is working with tamariki as they add warm water to the shredded paper that they watched the shredding machine work it's magic on.



Lexi (3), Shirley, Sienna (4) and Sakty (4) feeling the difference between a freshly made soggy fire brick and a dry one that is ready for the fire. Sienna said, "The wet one is heaviest." and Sakty replied, "Because the water dried up!".

This term as our Enviroschool Focus we are learning how to make fire bricks. We use the paintings that don't have names and any scrap paper and turn them into something useful = Fire bricks to keep us warm! We are modelling sustainability as we re-use resources that could otherwise end up in the landfill.

It is quite a process making the fire bricks and takes persistence and concentration. We mostly make these bricks during the warmer terms one and four so that they dry out quicker.

Teachers support children to do the entire process, right from shredding the paper in the shredding machine to placing the wet fire brick in a warm space to dry. We want tamariki to see the entire process so they can be active participants in the process and make sense of it and the reasons we do it.

Opunake RSA looks to boost club numbers

turned and Services Association would like to recruit you to continue the legacy of remembrance to all who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for this country, and for all those who have served in the military. You do not need to have served in the Armed Forces to become part of the RSA - what you do need is the passion and will, to ensure current and future generations of New Zealanders can pay tribute to those who have sacrificed for our country - while also paying respect to those who have served in recent conflicts, and who continue to serve today.

While honouring the past is an important part of who the RSA are, we're also focused firmly on the present. Support is at the heart of what we do. We support past and present service personnel and their dependents in a variety of ways. As a member of the RSA you can assist us in organizing events and commemorations, help us as a volunteer in our annual Poppy Appeal, and in many other ways.

The Poppy Day street collection is held each year on the Friday before Anzac Day. RSA volunteers exchange distinctive red poppies for a donation to the Poppy Appeal. In Opunake, we like to also canvas the town and go door-to-door, for which we need more volunteers.

The annual Poppy Appeal is the primary source of funds for the RSA's extensive provision of support services to war veterans and the ex-service community. You don't have to be a member of an RSA to benefit from the Poppy Appeal assistance. Donations are used to support veterans as well

RSA



as ex-servicemen and women, and their dependents living in the community where the funds are raised. The poppy reminds us of sacrifices made – both past and present. Poppies were the first flowers that grew in the battlefields of Flanders in Belgium during World War One and are a symbol of remembrance and hope.

Membership of the RSA brings a range of benefits, easy access to welfare and pensions advice, encouragement, advocacy, and a

network of people who can understand your experience because they have been there themselves. You will have access to many membersonly promotions from financial institutions and other companies. You will be issued with your own RSA Club Card which entitles you to some great discounts at Auto Super Shoppes, Beaurepaires, Blackwoods Protector, Carters, Dulux, Hertz, Ideal Electrical, Mainly Books, Mico Plumbing, Noel Leemings, OfficeMax,

Placemakers, Repco, Thrifty NZ, and Vehicle Testing NZ and other companies.

When you join the Opunake District RSA you can become part of the Opunake Fire Brigade Social Club and can enjoy comradeship and cheer at the Fire Brigade/RSA Clubrooms. The bar is open every Thursday night. As a member of the Opunake District Returned and Services Association you will also belong to other Affiliated RSAs and Chartered Clubs. You will have a "home away from home" at any RSA throughout New Zealand and can always be sure of a warm welcome. Our members are also welcome at affiliated service clubs in Australia, the UK, Canada and many more countries as a result of the RSA's affiliation to the Royal Commonwealth Ex-Services League. At many RSAs you can grab a coffee, relax with friends at the bar, or enjoy a wholesome meal at a competitive price.

There are four types of membership options:

Returned Servicemen and women who have served in

any war or in a peacekeeping or peacemaking deployment as defined by RNZRSA.

Service members are either retired or serving members of the Armed Forces who do not qualify for 'Returned' membership. They include those who have served under CMT, the Territorial Forces, Cadet Force Officers and sworn members of the New Zealand Police.

Associate membership is open to the members of the community eighteen years of age and over, who have not served in the armed forces or police, identify with and support the aims and ideals of the RNZRSA

Annual fees are \$25.00

The Opunake Women's Section is also looking for new members. There are more than 150 RSA Women's Sections throughout the country, with nearly 16,000 members.

They offer a range of welfare and support services to ex-service personnel and families, as well as the wider community. Membership is open to near relatives of Returned and Service personnel, specifically

wives and partners, widows, mothers, sisters, daughters and granddaughters.

Women who have themselves served overseas or in any other service capacity are also entitled to join Women's Sections, just as they are eligible to for Returned or Service membership of the RSA.

Application forms are available from Rev. Geoff Williams (06 761 8510), Shane Butler (021 1439336), Brian Vincent (06 761 8353), Bill Hayward (06 761 8478) or Gary Hunn (06 761 8864). For Women's Section enquiries please contact Betty Mackenzie (06 761 8864).

At the RSA, we believe in a nation joined by a heartfelt connection to the Anzac spirit of courage, commitment, comradeship and compassion; The Anzac spirit has always stood for 'All That Is Decent, Courageous And Just'. Please join us, and help us ensure this spirit lives on.

Shane Butler, Acting President

Upholding a tradition

Roly Blake (left) of Bell Block, New Plymouth and Mark Winger, Grand Master of Freemasons New Zealand were among a thousand Freemasons and their partners who attended the organisation's triennial gathering in Wellington on November 18-19.

Retired with occasional work as manager at Taranaki Stationery, Mr Blake is a keen fisherman and competition snooker player. He was elected a District Grand Master with responsibility for Taranaki's 130 Freemasons from New Plymouth, Inglewood, Hawera, Opunake, Patea and Manaia.

Mr Winger of Sandringham, Auckland was installed as the organisation's 79th Grand Master, the most senior office in the 7,000 strong



organisation.

The men took time out during the Grand Installation conference to discuss charitable projects and opportunities to increase membership.



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NEWS 19 **OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS** Friday, December 2, 2016

Opunake RSA members honoured



Ian Smith.

The Opunake RSA recently honoured two of their long serving members

certificates of appreciation. Mo Murray has served on the Executive since 1990 and

was made a life member in 1998. He was Vice President 1995-7 and President 1998-9. He was in charge of flags

1991-2006, and holds a 25 years long service award.

Ian Smith has been on the Executive since 1991, and is

an Honorary life member.. He was Vice President 2003 and 2010, and President in 2004-5. He was in charge

Back row: From left. Garry Hunn, Shane Butler, Geoff Williams, Bill Hayward,

of poppies 1995-2014. He holds a 25 years long service award.



Joint Council approach to **Community Directory**

A new way for community groups to connect with residents is being launched by Taranaki's three district councils.

Groups.org.nz is combined community directory that covers the entire Taranaki region, and community groups are encouraged to add their organisations to the directory.

"It made sense for the three district councils to work together to make things easier for community groups," says New Plymouth District Council Group Manager Strategy Liam Hodgetts.

"This new service makes it easier for people to find community organisations throughout the region, and gives groups more control over their listings.

"It's especially useful for groups who provide services in more than one district they have only one place to go to keep their listing updated rather than keeping track of two or three separate community directories on the councils' websites."

People can either go directly to groups.org.nz or click on links at stratford. govt.nz or newplymouthnz. South Taranaki com. District Council is currently contacting community groups in their area and will go live before the end of the year on southtaranaki.com.

Community groups can set up their own login accounts that will enable them to update their own listings, load photos and logos and link to their websites, social media pages and YouTube accounts.

Our next issue is due out December 16.

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Brian Vincent. Front: Mo Murray.

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Milk price brings welcome boost to economy

DairyNZ has welcomed the increased forecast milk price as a boost to dairy farmers as well as the regional and national economies.

The increase of 75 cents brings Fonterra's 2016/17

forecast farmgate milk price to \$6/kg milksolids (MS) – a lift of \$1.75/kg MS since the start of the season, which brings a boost for average dairy farmer revenue of \$260,000 or \$3 billion

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The increase of 75 cents brings Fonterra's 2016/17 forecast farmgate milk price to \$6/kg milksolids (MS) – a lift of \$1.75/kg MS since the start of the season.

nationally.

The increase equates to a \$1.3 billion lift in the value of this season's milk production.

DairyNZ chief executive Tim Mackle says it is great news for farmers and nice to see the dairy industry could provide a boost at a time when the recent earthquake might impact tourism in the short-term.

"It's good if both industries are doing well together and we have more than one to help New Zealand keep up its strong growth rate. For New Zealand's economy, where the Government has a strategy of diversification, it is pleasing to see dairying improving again to complement other agri industries," says Tim.

"It will take time before farmers regain the positions they had before the downturn. We know they are not getting ahead of themselves and they are keeping a lid on costs.

"There is also a renewed focus on pasture as the key source of nutritious and costeffective feed."

Dairy farmers will need to continue to manage costs tightly and seek to achieve lower cost of production. Harvesting as much pasture as possible will help keep the cost of production down and should be a key focus area for dairy farmers.

"The gains achieved over the past three seasons in reducing the cost of production need to be 'locked in' as milk prices improve."

Improve."

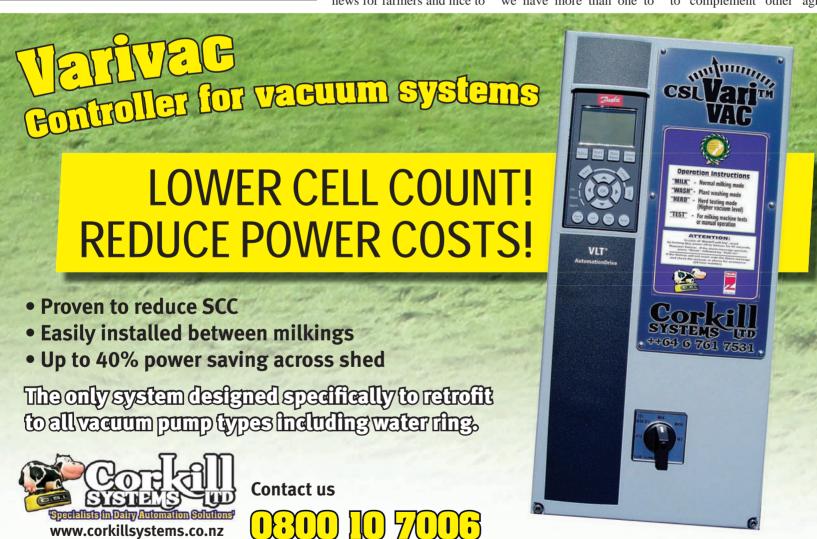
The milk price increase is positive for all New Zealand dairy farmers, but particularly for North Island farmers who have endured a difficult wet spring, resulting in reduced milk production. It is also a boost for North Canterbury and Kaikoura farmers who are doing it tough right now.

"The \$6 milk price brings farmers to above breakeven levels. However, many farmers have increased debt and deferred maintenance expenditure over the last season or two," says Tim.

The \$5.05/kg MS breakeven milk price will be revised up, reflecting some additional farm working expenditure as well as tax payments. The increase in advance payments begins on December 20, lifting 50 cents/kg MS to \$4.10/kg

Any further increases in milk price this season will go toward repaying Fonterra loans for the majority of farmers who have them.

Farmers are encouraged to update their cashflow budget and communicate changes with their bank and accountant about potential tax implications, and to know their financial position and make informed decisions on where and how to allocate the extra money, as well as not losing efficiencies gained over the last couple of seasons.



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New Plymouth Branch 28 Hudson Road, Bell Block, New Plymouth Ph: 06 755 9150 Fax: 06 755 1611

MPI intercepts largescale home kill operation

The Ministry for Primary Industries has intercepted a large-scale illegal home kill operation in the greater Auckland region.

MPI Northern region investigations Manager Simon Anderson says officers compliance executed search warrants at rural and urban addresses in the west and south of the city.

seized "Officers refrigerated container, a truck, unregulated meat, and a large amount of food processing equipment.

"This was a large-scale, sophisticated operation involving more than 100 customers.

"A number of people are now being spoken to as a result of our investigation."

Anderson says members of the public are urged to source their meat from regulated outlets like butcheries, supermarkets, and other meat sellers.

"This is particularly the case in the lead up to Christmas where illegal kill operations home are, traditionally, more prevalent.

"Meat being sold directly from a farm to the public is a strong indicator of unlicensed activity.

"If whole beasts are being sold then the carcass must be stamped by an abattoir. Processed meat sold in trays in shops should be labelled.

"Any suspicious unlicensed meat sellers should be reported. If we receive information about these kinds of operations we will shut them down and prosecute the people making money from selling potentially substandard product.

"There's a very serious public health component to our interest in ensuring people comply with the law. We have a duty to protect the public from the threat of various food borne illnesses associated with illegal home kill. "Most people have no problem complying but a few do flout the law.

"The fines are substantial for those convicted and offenders serious custodial sentences. Individuals involved in illegal activity face a prison term of up to five years and a fine of up to 100,000 - it'sjust not worth it."

The public can report any suspicious activity to MPI's Food safety helpline: 0800 00 83 33.

Dairy negotiations

Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) welcomes the announcement that New Zealand and China are commencing negotiations towards a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) upgrade.

The New Zealand China FTA has supported the of development dairy trade and dairy related investment between New Zealand and China over the last eight years. DCANZ say they are pleased that both governments have committed to exploring how this framework can be further enhanced.

"DCANZ's priority is for more comprehensive coverage of trade during the period of transition to full tariff elimination for dairy products in 2024, in recognition of strong Chinese import demand,' said DCANZ Chairman Malcolm Bailey.

Overall the New Zealand China FTA is a high quality agreement, which features a complete elimination of all import tariffs on all dairy products in 2024.

However, current transition arrangements mean less than a quarter of the dairy products that China is importing from New Zealand are receiving tariff reductions.

DCANZ said the rapid of Chinese expansion consumer demand for dairy products was not anticipated when the agreement was originally negotiated.

"Extending the coverage of tariff preferences will reduce tariff related costs for Chinese consumers. It will also ensure that New Zealand exporters do not end up at a tariff disadvantage to Australian exporters as we transition towards tariff elimination," said Mr Bailey.

The Australia China FTA does not feature the same quantitative limits on tariff preferences.

Imported dairy products play an important role in complementing local production to meet Chinese consumers demand for dairy nutrition.

"Despite the expansion in both domestic production and imports over the last decade, Chinese [per capita] dairy consumption remains low. New Zealand exported NZ\$2.77 billion of dairy products to China in 2015.

Dairy companies GIA partners welcome welcome FTA upgrade NZ's new biosecurity strategy

The partners Government Industry (GIA) Agreement Biosecurity Readiness and Response welcome release of Government's Biosecurity 2025 Direction Statement saying strategy is a major step in the right direction.

Primary Industries minister Nathan Guy launched the Biosecurity 2025 Direction Statement at a biosecurity forum in Auckland.

GIA Secretariat Manager Steve Rich says Biosecurity 2025 is about future-proofing New Zealand's biosecurity system for the years to come.

"The primary industry sector is a significant part of New Zealand's economy, making up around half of all New Zealand's exports. GIA The partnership currently has 13 primary industry sector groups, along with the Government, in its membership, and will continue to grow as more sector groups join," says Mr Rich.

"GIA's industry partners strongly support the Minister for taking the initiative to refresh New Zealand's biosecurity strategy. They have welcomed the opportunity to take part in the process to develop the B2025 Direction Statement, and are committed to participate in its implementation."

"As formal partners with Government in delivering biosecurity readiness and response in New Zealand, the GIA partners look forward to actively supporting and playing a leading role in the delivery of the new direction for biosecurity in New Zealand," added Mr Rich.

Biosecurity 2025 will build on Protect New Zealand (the 2003 biosecurity strategy) which has guided biosecurity system over the past 13 years. The Direction Statement is made up of five strategic directions, each designed to play a part in meeting the significant challenges facing New Zealand's biosecurity system in the years ahead.

GIA operates partnership between industry and government to manage pests and diseases that could badly damage New Zealand's primary industries, economy, and environment

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rms and Conditions apply. Winners will be drawn at the official opening on Thursday 15th December 2016. If winners are not present, it wil be redrawn. The combined prize pool of the three draws is valued at more than \$10,000. The products displayed may differ from actual prizes

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Nutritech forage support is offered free to the Taranaki farmer to ensure that they get the best possible result from their harvest and the Forage produced is of the highest quality. Nutritech brings together the latest trial work from their global network. This information can assist farmers in making good decisions to optimise their return and produce quality forage.

What is the catch?

There is no catch. There is nothing for you to sign up for or commit to. Nutritech work with Taranaki rural contractors to offer advice and services that benefit the rural farmer.







For more information, contact your local rural contractor:

Stacey Weir 027 369 3708







158 Mirikau Road, Warea, New Plymouth District

Located at the end of Mirikau Road, 5 minutes South of Okato, is this lovely approx. 65 hectare (160 acre) dairy farm, plus possible additional approx. 28 hectare (70 acres) private lease.

Currently milking 255 cows through a 24 bale rotary cowshed, this property has been producing around 100,000kg milksolids.

Being mainly flat in contour with a very good race system, reliable water supply and very good support building, this property is worth inspecting.

Rarely do farms of this size and this location come available for purchase and with the added bonus of some additional private lease land that fits in perfectly with the day farm operation.

Be quick with this one and capitalise on the opportunity!



Peter McDonald M 027 443 4506



Blair Burnett M 021 190 7728

Tender Closes

4:00pm, Thursday 15 December 2016 at McDonald Real Estate Ltd, 1128 South Road, Oakura (unless sold prior)

Open Day Wednesday 7 December 1:00pm-1:30pm



AUROA DAIRY/GRAZING/RUNOFF TENDER |



39 - 49 Auroa Road, Otakeho, South Taranaki

We are privileged to be able to offer for sale this superb 52.7809ha (130.4216 acres) dairy farm/ grazing/runoff block located on the Auroa Road, Otakeho. Having been faithfully farmed by the same family for just over 100 years this sale represents a rare opportunity to purchase a quality property in a sought-after location.

Being mainly flat in contour and centrally raced this farm is in a number of titles and with 3 road frontages allows for various purchasing options. Ideal as a dairy farm, heifer grazing block and/or making supplements or growing maize. With water supplied via the Waimate West Water Scheme, two homes and herringbone cowshed, this property ticks all the boxes.

Take advantage of this opportunity and secure your next investment.

The neighbouring 60 ha dairy farm is also available for purchase, so combining the two is an option.



Rodney Perrett M 027 241 3979



Blair Burnett M 021 190 7728



Corner Wilson & High Street, Hawera (unless sold prior)

Open Day Thursday 1 December 1:00pm-1:30pm



Rodney Perrett M 027 241 3979





McDonald Real Estate Executive Director Peter McDonald shows a visitor a baby Kunekune pig at the Stratford AMP show.

Waimate Plains Christmas results

The Waimate Plains Indoor Bowls Association recently played their Christmas Tournament

with the winners being the New Plymouth team of Alister Wilson, Len Spick,

Elizabeth Morrow Lindsay Bridgeman. The runners up were a composite of Michelle Watt, Arthur Podjurski, Jamie Pretty and Bari Oliver. Lucky players were Sam Landers,

Dietschen,

Patrick Adams and Gordon Hamley.

President Gordon Hamley thanked everyone for their support and wished everyone a happy festive season.

Taranaki Indoor Bowling Centre hold AGM

The Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre held their Annual General Meeting on Sunday November and officers elected were. Patron. Jim Nickel. President. Bill

Schrader. Vice President Don Semple. Secretary. Jenny Hamley. Tournament Secretary Gordon Hamley. Treasurer. Sue Bourne. Auditor. Malcolm

McDonald. Publicity Officer Ray Finlay. Senior Selector Gordon Hamley. Junior Selector Michelle Watt.

YOU WILL BE IMPRESSED! **TENDER**



95 Auroa Road, Otakeho, South Taranaki

Located on the popular Auroa Road in the sought-after Otakeho district is this superb 60.5486 hectares (149.6155 acres) dairy farm.

This extremely well set-up dairy farm features an excellent 18 A/S herringbone cowshed, various farm buildings and a tidy 3 bedroom home.

This farm is currently milking 150 cows with production being around 65000 - 70000kg milksolids.

Being square in shape and with a very good central race, walking time to the cowshed is at a minimum.

This flat dairy farm is ideal for the first farm purchaser and is a pleasure to manage.

The neighbouring 52 ha dairy farm is also available for purchase, so combining the two is an option.

Tender Closes 4:00pm, Thursday 15 December 2016

at McDonald Real Estate Ltd, Corner Wilson & High Street, Hawera (unless sold prior)

Open Day Thursday 1 December 1:00pm-1:30pm



Old4new lifejacket upgrade launches nationwide

Coastguard is excited to announce the launch of the Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade for 2016, a popular and highly successful boating safety initiative which for the first time this year is going nationwide.

24 hours a day and 365 days a year, Coastguard is there for boaties and our communities as the charity saving lives at sea. As part of our mission – saving lives at sea through search and rescue, communication and education – the 'Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade' campaign is again launching in time for summer.

The 'Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade' van laden with lifejackets, will be visiting over 35 major boat ramps and locations throughout the country on weekends and key days throughout the busy summer holiday period.

The Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade is simple and effective: bring your old or damaged lifejacket to the Old4New team at one of the many pre-advertised locations, and receive a discount on a quality, modern and fit-for-purpose lifejacket. Boaties and members of the public are encouraged to visit the van and trade in their old lifejackets, where they can also get advice about boating and water safety from the friendly team on site at each location.

The Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade forms a key part of Coastguard's advocacy for safe and enjoyable boating over the 2016/17 summer boating season. Only 70 per cent of boaties say they wear a lifejacket at all times on the water. This rate is highest for kayakers and canoeists (83 per cent), and falls to just over 60 per cent for people in power boats

For a limited time trade in your old lifejacket for a latest generation Hutchwilco lifejacket at a fantastic discounted price!

For details visit www.coastguard.nz

and 55 per cent for people in sail boats. And given that the majority of boating fatalities could have been prevented had the person been wearing a lifejacket, the Old4New campaign aims to help save lives and change attitudes.

IT NEVER RUINED A DAY ON THE WATER

"While the increasing use of lifejackets has resulted in lives being saved, the failure to wear lifejackets in small craft that are prone to capsize, especially those under 6m in length, remains the primary reason why lives are lost in boating accidents.

The Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade campaign makes it really easy for boaties to ensure they have the correct number and type of lifejackets on board" said Patrick Holmes, CEO, Coastguard New Zealand.

The Skipper must ensure that their vessel carries the appropriate number and size of lifejackets for each person on board and on craft less than 6 metres, Coastguard recommends lifejackets should **be** worn at all times

campaign, originally based on a concept run in Australia by Transport New South Wales and launched for the first time in New Zealand in 2014, has seen over 4,000 lifejackets traded. It aims to raise awareness of the importance of lifejackets while also taking practical steps to address the issue. At the end of the campaign, Coastguard will distribute good condition traded-in lifejackets (that still meet NZ Standards) to communities in need.

The initiative kicks off

on Saturday 3 December at 8.00am at the Half Moon Bay Boat Ramp in Auckland and continues to visit popular waterside destinations until early February 2017.

Although the closest areas to be visited will be Wanganui and Manawatu, Tasman Marine in New Plymouth and Hawera will be offering the Old4New lifejacket campaign in their stores from Monday January 2 to Sunday January 8 2017, so people in the Taranaki area will still have a chance to swap their lifejackets.



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS! Central Audiology will close for the holidays on Friday 23 December at 12 noon, and reopen 4 January 2017. Come in before the break to stock up on batteries and accessories. Book a hearing assessment before the break so you can make the most of your holidays with family and friends.

Take care of your hearing, **call Central Audiology Taranaki to book an assessment** and experience the difference we can make! **Phone o800 751 000**.



58 Fulford St, New Plymouth, Phone o8oo 751 ooo Clinics also at Hawera and Stratford www.centralaudiology.co.nz

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CJT call for independent investigation on the risks of extreme weather and earthquakes on oil and gas

Climate Justice Taranaki independent an investigation is critical to determine the cause and extent of damage on the OMV Maari oil platform and associated infrastructure, and to assess the risks of aging oil and gas installations failing. Wild weather and heightened earthquake risk have prompted OMV to evacuate its staff off the Maari oil platform where a crack was discovered during a scheduled underwater check.

The company reported that the damage was caused by "fatigue" and "combined action of wind and wave" and was unable to reject the possibility of damage from the 7.8 earthquake that hit the country last week. "Over the last decade, drilling for oil and gas has intensified drastically, with more and more wells being drilled, many side-tracked from old wells, some kilometres long, most have been fracked, water-flooded or injected with waste. With greater intensity comes greater risks, especially as such infrastructure ages and climate disruption escalates.

Alarmingly, industry figures show that over half of all wells fail in 20 years. The original OMV Maari wells are nearing 20 years old, those under the STOS Maui platform were drilled over

the Kapuni onshore of wells are 40 plus years old. In 1995, the McKee-13 well at Tikorangi blew contaminated Mangahewa Stream with oil and drilling mud. In 2009, the regional council was informed that two Cheal producing wells had been leaking underground for two years. Several offshore oil spills have occurred in recent years, including at least three from the Maari operations. Some might argue these are minor incidents, but the chance of a catastrophe happening is increasing. It is no time for complacency," warned Catherine Cheung of Climate Justice Taranaki.

30 years old while some



STOS Kapuni wellsite.

He was driving home Levis factory closed, he'd one evening, on a twolane country road. Work, in this small mid-western community, was almost as slow as his beat-up Pontiac. But he never quit Ever since the

Swathing

Baling

Tractor and

Trailer Carting

been unemployed, and with winter raging on, the chill had finally hit home. It was a lonely road. Not very many people had a reason to be on it, unless they were leaving. Most of his friends

had already left. They had

families to feed and dreams to fulfil. But he stayed on. After all, this was where he buried his mother and father. He was born here and knew the country. He could go down this road

blind, and tell you what was on either side, and with his headlights not working, that came in handy. It was starting to get dark and light snow flurries were coming down. He'd better get a move on. You know, he almost didn't see the old lady, stranded on the side of the road. But even in the dim light of day, he could see she needed help. So he pulled up in front of her Mercedes and got out. His Pontiac was still sputtering when he approached her. Even with the smile on his face, she was worried. No one had stopped to help for the last hour or so. Was he going to hurt her? He didn't look safe, he looked poor and hungry. He could see that she was frightened, standing

Deep Ripping

Engineering

Hedge Mulching

Welding

knew how she felt. It was that chill that only fear can put in you. He said, "I'm here to help you ma'am. Why don't you wait in the

car where it's warm. By the way, my name is Joe.' Well, all she had was a flat tire, but for an old lady, that was bad enough. Joe crawled under the car looking for a place to put the jack, skinning his knuckles a time or two. Soon he was able to change the tire. But he had to get dirty and his hands hurt. As he was tightening up the lug nuts, she rolled down her window and began to talk to him. She told him that she was from St. Louis and was only just passing through. She couldn't thank him enough for coming to her aid. Joe just smiled as he closed her trunk. She asked him how much she owed him. Any amount would have been alright with her. She had already imagined all the awful things that could have happened had he not stopped. Joe never thought twice about the money. This was not a job to him. This was helping someone in need, and God knows there were plenty who had given him a hand in the past. He had lived his whole life that way, and it never occurred to him to act any other way. He told her that if she really wanted to pay him back, the next time she saw someone who needed help, she could give that person the assistance that they needed, and Joe added "... and think of me". He waited until she started her car and drove off. It had been a cold and depressing day, but he felt good as he headed for home, disappearing into the twilight. A few miles down the road the lady saw a small cafe. She went in to grab a bite to eat, and take the chill off before she made the last leg of her trip home. It was a dingy looking restaurant.

Outside were two old gas

pumps. The whole scene

was unfamiliar to her. The cash register was like the telephone of an out of work actor, it didn't ring much. Her waitress came over

and brought a clean towel to wipe her wet hair. She had a sweet smile, one that even being on her feet for the whole day couldn't erase. The lady noticed that the waitress was nearly eight months pregnant, but she never let the strain and aches change her attitude. The old lady wondered how someone who had so little could be so giving to a stranger. Then she remembered Joe. After the lady finished her meal, and the waitress went to get her change from a hundred dollar bill, the lady slipped right out the door. She was gone by the time the waitress came back. She wondered where the lady could be, then she noticed something written on a napkin. There were tears in her eyes, when she read what the lady wrote. It said, "You don't owe me a thing, I've been there too. Someone once helped me out, the way I'm helping you. If you really want to pay me back, here's what you do. Don't let the chain of love end with you."Well, there were tables to clear, sugar bowls to fill, and people to serve, but the waitress made it through another day. That night when she got home from work and climbed into bed, she was thinking about the money and what the lady had written. How could she have known how much she and her husband needed it? With the baby due next month, it was going to be hard. She knew how worried her husband was, and as he lay sleeping next to her, she gave him a soft kiss and whispered soft and low, "Everything's gonna be alright. I love you Joe."----Author unknown Thanks Lynette Blom,

St Pauls

Parish,

Co-operating

Opunake



Stacking of bales

Power harrowing

Compaction of pits

Success for Opunake artist

Opunake resident, Viv Davy has had a busy few months with her art practice.

The crowning achievement for Davy was winning Dean's award for Excellence in Research in acknowledgement of her Masters of Art and Design work. But equally as important to Davy has been how her work is reaching out to new audiences both in New Zealand and internationally.

Since completing her Masters last year Davy has had work juried into the World of Treads Festival in Ontario Canada.

The selection of the work was particularly exciting for Davy as it was the piece woven with Taranaki Daily

News editions, cabbage of her research and resulting tree leaves, straw, recycled packaging and electronic cabling, titled Days-A Liminal Site. This meant that a very real part of Taranaki has been exhibited on the global stage.

Currently Davy has work on display at The Cottleston Gallery in Tauranga that includes pieces based around the life of New Zealand pioneer women and their domestic work. It also includes a collection of Davy's miniature tapestries.

Davy acknowledges the profound impact that moving to South Taranaki has had on her art practice. The sense of community, heritage and continuity of culture has informed much art work.

This work has moved into these exciting new directions and is now being shared beyond the local gallery and studio audiences. Davy says "It is another wonderful opportunity to share the good life I have here in Opunake".

Days - A Liminal Site, shown here in Ontario.



Next steps on Mt Messenger upgrade

Consultation is about to start to advance designs for the Mt Messenger Awakino Tunnel bypass projects, along with other safety and resilience improvements for State Highway 3.

NZ Transport Agency Central Regional Director Raewyn Bleakley says these projects aim to improve safety, reliability and create a more resilient transport network for the 58 km stretch of State Highway 3 from Awakino

Gorge to Mount Messenger. "Lonely Planet has recently named Taranaki as the one of best regions in the world to visit, so having a safe and resilient route into the region from the north will help make it even more attractive to local and overseas visitors," Ms Bleakley says. State Highway 3 is the main

route between Taranaki

and Waikato and a vital link between the regions. The Awakino Tunnel and Mt Messenger bypass projects will be funded as part of the Government's Accelerated Regional Roading Package, while corridorimprovements

funded from the

National Land Transport 2015-18. Programme

"The route options we're starting consultation on offer different benefits including safer, easier and more reliable journeys. The proposals also consider environmental cultural factors.

The options are the result of rigorous investigations so far, but it's essential as part of this work to hear the voices of local communities and other road users to help shape and select the most suitable route options.

"We're encouraging local communities, businesses, freight organisations and others to make their views known by participating in drop-in sessions in New Plymouth, Urenui, Mokau and Te Kuiti.

Alternatively people will be able to provide making feedback by online submissions via our website," Ms Bleakley says.

"This investment in State Highway 3 will provide a better and more resilient route for goods and services from Taranaki manufacturers and exporters to the markets and ports of the upper North Island. It will support growth and help the region continue its economic growth.



WIN AN ESCAPE

to the Boutique Stony River Hotel including one nights accommodation, three-course dinner and a cooked breakfast for two!

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Manaia & Districts Lions Club

Main South Road, Manaia - Saturday

December 17 - 12pm-2pm

Start just past the town hall.

Interested contact 027 543 2298

Welcome to our celebration. A completed entry form must be in

by 11th December to guarantee your position in the parade

lineup. Contact Fish, Chips and More for further information.

All entries will be judged this year and prizes will be awarded

based on the following criteria

Best Effort - Most Creative

Christmas Eve

Saturday 24th December

7pm Start Tasman Street

Opunake

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Oliver, Richard Charles

Surrounded by his family at Te Rangimarie Hospice, New Plymouth on Thursday 24 November 2016. Aged 70 years. Adored husband of Margaret, much loved father and father-in-law of Simon, Katy and Peter, Vicky and Paul, Graham and Sarah, Jenny and George, Mark and Jess, Amy, Philip and Rachael, loved grandad to his 17 grandchildren. All messages to the Oliver family, C/- PO Box 218, Stratford 4352 or heavenaddress.com. In preference to flowers a donation to Hospice Taranaki would be appreciated and may be left at the service. In accordance with Richard's wishes a private cremation has been held. A memorial service was held at the All Saints Hall, King Edward Street, Eltham on Friday 2 December 2016, at 1.00pm.'

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

NEW CROSSMAN AIR **GUNS** air gun for sale 1200 fps from \$79.95 - \$560.

ARE YOU TIRED and run down, need coffee to get you going, low sex drive, not having fun anymore, dragging yourself through each day, maybe your adrenals need a boost, come into Hardys the health shop in Centre City for a free adrenal test. 83

MITOQ for joint health, mobility and healthy air ways. A very powerful antioxident. Now available at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 8 3 deliver.

NEEDA SPRING CLEAN, try the Good Health Detox, to clean your bowels and liver. Can be done in 7 days. At Hardys the health shop in Centre City 83

ARE YOUR NERVES frazzled with all the quake?Try relaxation spray at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 8 8 w e deliver.

deliver.

A.G.M. Meeting 1st Monday of Friday December 9th each month at 5.30PM 6.30pm at Sandfords Event

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake

OPUNAKE BUSINESS

ASSOCIATION



COASTAL TARANAKI SCHOOL

Certificate Prize-giving Thursday 8th December at 11.00 a.m.

Trophy Prize-giving Friday 9th December at 10.00 a.m.

Please ensure ALL students are in correct, clean uniform, including footwear.

School reports and magazineto be picked up from classrooms at the conclusion of the prize-giving

Buses will be departing from the school at 12.45 p.m.

NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

For all your Livestock requirements **Servicing the Coast**

Contact Tim Hurley - 027 445 1167 Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511

Opunake Foodbank Collection

Opunake Foodbank, Opunake Fire Brigade, St John's and Get Fit 45

Monday 5th December, 2016 5.30pm - 7ish

Please leave donations beside your letterbox to be collected or meet us at the Event Centre at 5.30pm and come along for a walk.

NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

Annual Rahotu Xmas

Hogget Fair

Rahotu Tavern Lawn Friday December 9th 2016

1pm Start

60 x Prime Hoggets 10 x Prime lambs Sponsored BBQ available Kindly sponsored by NZ Farmers, AFFCO, Corlett Trucking, Rahotu Tavern & Johnny Neil Builders

Raffle donated for Rahotu School Selling Lines from 1 – 10 Come down for a fun community afternoon

Contact Tim Hurley 027 4451167

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 TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights New Players welcome.

SURF INN

Every day free pool. Every Friday free sausage sizzle from 5. Every Sunday afternoon.

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, Bayley Road, Warea.

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Stratford Art Society, 11 November - 4 December.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY, ELTHAM

10 YEARS ON HIGH A Members Exhibition to celebrate our 10th year in Eltham' High Street. Open 21st November - 16th December.

ST. JOSEPHS SCHOOL OPUNAKE COUNTRY FAIR

Friday 2nd December, 5pm-8pm

BUTLERS REEF LIVE BAND

The Salty Hearts. Saturday December 3 from 9pm. No cover charge.

GARDEN SAFARI

3rd & 4th December 2016, 10am - 4pm, \$10 for 10 spectacular gardens plus the Manaia Walkway.

Food available from the Manaia Golf Club on the day.

OPUNAKE FOODBANK COLLECTION

Opunake Foodbank, Opunake Fire Brigade, St John's and Get Fit 45

Monday 5th December, 2016 5.30pm - 7ish

Please leave donations beside your letterbox to be collected or meet us at the Event Centre at 5.30pm and come along for a walk.

LADIES SHOPPING NIGHT ELTHAM

Wednesday 7th December, 5pm-9pm. Refer advert for details.

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Woollaston, The Wallace Arts Trust Collection. Friday 9 December to Sunday 29 January 2017.

OPUNAKE BASKETBALL ASSN

AGM Friday December 9th, 6.30pm at Sandfords Event Centre

COASTAL TARANAKI SCHOOL PRIZEGIVING

Friday December 9 at 10am.

OPUNAKE PLAYERS PRESENT

A Christmas Cracker - December 14 - 17 7.30pm and December 18 at 1.30pm. Refer advert for further details.

MANAIA & DISTRICTS LIONS CLUB CHRISTMAS PARADE

Main Rd, Manaia on Saturday December 17 starting at 12pm. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS – CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday 24th December 2016, 7pm start. Refer advert for further details.

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Kaponga ,

Manaia

News is distributed free to every home and 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

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

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Eltham

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28 WHAT'S ON Friday, December 2, 2016 OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Meet the new team at Indian Zaika

Garry Singh's lifelong passion for cooking and food has led him to Hawera.

The new owner of Indian Zaika on Princes Street was 17 when he arrived in New Zealand from India.

"I learned cooking from my parents, and I've had a passion for cooking and eating food since my childhood," he said.

He took over Indian Zaika two months ago. This is his first time owning a restaurant.

"This is the next step of my career," he said. "I had been looking for a place in different parts of the country, and this is what I was looking for, to fit into a small rural community. I came here, and I really liked it."

Previously he had been manager at Spice Junction in Whakatane. Before then he spent three years as a food and beverage supervisor at Novotel hotels in Auckland. He comes with a post graduate diploma in hotel management from MIT in

Manukau.

Helping out as assistant manager is his cousin Sukhi Singh who has just graduated in Hospitality management from NZMA.

His two chefs are Kishan Nagi who he worked alongside in Whakatane, and Mohan Lal who previously worked in Whitianga. Both have over 20 years experience cooking Indian food around the world. Kishan has cooked in five star hotels in India, and Mohan has worked in Indian cuisine in Germany.

"In our menu we have authentic Indian dishes from North India," Garry says. "All dishes are made from scratch in our kitchen, using fresh ingredients."

He says he is enjoying being in Hawera.

"My aim is to be a leading hospitality provider in South Taranaki. Our whole team is enjoying the hospitality in Hawera, and we have been getting good positive feedback."



Garry Singh (left) and Sukhi Singh at Indian Zaika.

Action stations for Pukeiti plant lovers

Visitors to Pukeiti can easily find more information on plants of interest thanks to an online 'plant hunter's station' giving access to the igarden's customised plant database.

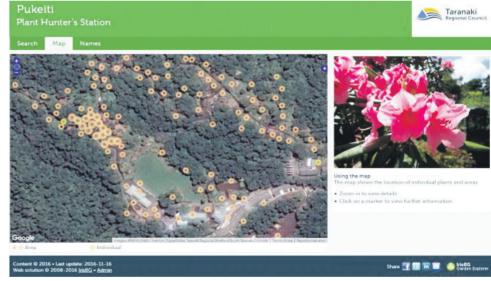
The Pukeiti Plant Hunter's Station has just gone online via www.trc.govt.nz/plant-hunters-station/. It has details on all the garden plants and many of the rainforest plants, and plots their locations on a Google map. There are photographs of many of the plants, and more are being added. All

will eventually be illustrated.

"Users can search for a particular plant, or pan around the map to see where plants are, and click on individual ones for more details," says Greg Rine, Regional Gardens Manager for the Taranaki Regional Council. "It's a fantastic way to spread the word about what Pukeiti has to offer."

Pukeiti's new Rainforest Centre, currently taking shape on the site of the old gatehouse and due to open next year will feature a public computer with

access to the Plant Hunter's Station. Visitors will be able to use it before their walk to check the location of a plant of particular interest, or after their walk to find out more about an interesting plant they have seen. The plant database is provided by IrisBG. Pukeiti is its first user in New Zealand but it will be expanded to include Hollard Gardens and Tupare, the other two heritage properties owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.



Pukeiti's Plant Data base.



Egmont A & P Supreme Champion Calf winner



Zo Rb inso a dher Ch f Ryf rm AuraS chb wn Supreme Chan pin Ch f a the Egn n t A&P shw a Hw era.C n g a ula in s Zo.



Arts in the Park is on December 3 at King Edward Park, Hawera. Something for everyone.

Arts, Crafts and fun for the whole family

One of the most anticipated events on the South Taranaki calendar is back again this year, just in time for Christmas.

Arts in the Park, the district's biggest arts and crafts market day, is coming back to King Edward Park on Saturday December 3 and it's the perfect place to pick up some unique Christmas

"This is always such a wellsupported event, the public love seeing what's on offer. It's great to be able to see the artworks being created and the variety of things available," says Jody Bloor, event co-ordinator. "It's truly a family day out with activities and entertainment for young and the young at heart.'

This year, REACT (the Rangiwahia Environmental Arts Centre Trust) will be entertaining the kids with a 'Blooming Gorgeous' art

project creating oversized flowers and plants. There's plenty to keep children entertained: face painting, pony rides, as well as a merry-go-round and bouncy castle.

Performances will be held throughout the day on the entertainment stage. Don't miss 'Glorybox & Friends' well-known Celine Filbee.

"A wide variety of food will be scattered

throughout the says Jody. "Or, you could always pack a picnic for the family and enjoy the upbeat atmosphere of the day.'

The event will be held on Saturday December 3 in the Park, but if the weather is not suitable it will held indoors to TSB Hub.

What's On



THE SALTY HEARTS

from the Kapiti Coast Saturday December 3 from 9pm in the front bar - no cover charge

1133 Main South Rd, Oakura Phone 06 752 7765 - www.butlersreef.co.nz

10 YEARS ON HIGH

A Members Exhibition to celebrate our 10th year in Eltham' High Street.

Open 21st November - 16th December.

The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham Open Monday - Saturday 10am -3pm **



Early Childhood Education Centre

We are now taking Enrolments for 2017

Please ring Sarah on 06 752 4289 or Sarah 027 322 3318 2502 Surf Highway 45, RD37, Okato

We welcome your contributions Please send to editorial@opunakecoastal news.co.nz

Bush skills pushed at Pukeiti



Free Explorer Day at Pukeiti on Sunday December is teaching survival skills.

What should you do if you get lost in the bush? The whole family can pick up potentially life-saving tips at a free Explorer Day at Pukeiti on Sunday December 4.

Come to Pukeiti on Sunday and learn to make a bush shelter.

The theme is rainforest survival skills, with a focus on building shelters using material found in the forest. Children aged from about eight upwards, and their parents and caregivers, will benefit from the hands-on training session.

Activities run from 10.3am to 2pm. Participants should bring water, good walking shoes, a hat and sunblock. The Founders Kiosk will be open, or bring your own pienie lunch.

Pukeiti Explorer Days held every two months, providing garden/ bush based activities that entertain and inspire creativity among the whole family. They are part of a year-round programme of free public events at Pukeiti, Tupare and Hollard Gardens, the three heritage properties owned managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.

Christmas Treats available at Hardys

We also have diabetic trays available and can make to order just tell us what you would like Gift Trays available from \$20 to \$100



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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS 30 WHAT'S ON Friday, December 2, 2016

OPUNAKE PLAYERS

14th—17th DEC 7.30 pm 18th DEC 1.30 pm LAKESIDE CHRISTMAS PLAYHOUSE

Adults \$20 Student \$10

Book At Sinclair Electrical



✓ We setup & operate our own Sound Equipment. ✓ We setup & operate our LED Lasers & Stage Lights. We record Video using Multi-Camera HD.



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A Christmas Cracker

That's what Opunake Players are calling their light-hearted Christmas variety show, to be staged on December 14-18. The Playhouse is undergoing a transformation to a traditional winter Christmas theme, and a varied programme of entertainment is on offer to send you home humming and smiling.

A modern take on the Dickens classic is presented in "Little Scrooge," featuring a cast of young people. There will be carols and well known Christmas songs, along with several skits and guest appearances. All to be finished off with an abundant Christmas supper. The Sunday December 18 show is a 1.30pm matinee to cater for those who prefer a daytime outing.

Ticket prices are \$20 adults, and \$10 for primary school students and under. Tickets are on sale at Sinclair Electrical.



Part of the cast of 'A Christmas Cracker' which will run at the Opunake Players Playhouse, December 14-18.

Canadian guitarist who calls New Zealand home

French Canadian from Montreal, Serge Bernier didn't speak much English when he came to New Zealand, only French.

"I was thrown in the deep end," he said, "after meeting a Kiwi girl from Taranaki.' He ended up travelling half way across the world to her hometown. The romance faded, but instead he fell in love with the place and the



people, and decided to make this his permanent home, now

"40 years on, I'm still here and I call New Zealand my

Serge Bernier playing bass

residing in Stratford. home", Serge says proudly. The Club Hotel, Opunake Book in for your Christmas **Function** Smorgasbord or Family Dinner

up chords and rifts by ear from listening and watching other guitarists. "During the Canadian summer, I would put my guitar over my shoulder and go to the local park a lot, and just sit down and play.'

He discovered the Opunake

Music Workshop through

one of our regular members,

drummer Wayne Pike, and

popped along on November

22 to see what it was all

about. Serge said, "I was

pleasantly surprised, and

liked the atmosphere that

we've created for the group.'

the age of 14," said Serge,

who didn't receive any formal lessons, simply picking

"I started playing guitar at

A versatile musician, Serge said in the past he used to have his own recording studio, where he played and recorded

all his own instruments. "For the past 10 years I have been jamming with friends in Mangatoki, but the drummer left, so we don't go there anymore. The Opunake music group gives me a chance to meet and play with other musicians," he said.

He is passionate about his music and always keen to learn something new, and get those creative juices flowing.

"I will dig out some originals for the next music group."

I look forward to that.

Anyone who would like the opportunity to perform with talented musicians like Serge, or singers and dancers in the music group, please join us at 7:30pm on Tuesday December 6 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery





WWW.CHEAPSKATES.CO.NZ WWW.SEASONSSURFBOARDS.CO.NZ





SEASONS CHEAPSKATES

one stop for health

November 23 was Health and Disability Day, so 20 stalls representing groups, organisations and health providers set up shop at CoastalCare in Opunake.

"We worked in with Marama Simeon of the Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre Trust to organise today to inform the people of the Coastal area about some of the services available should they need them," CoastalCare manager Aretha Lemon said. This was the second time CoastalCare had run an event like this.

Some of the stallholders like

St John's, audiologist Lisa Keen and acupuncturist Nigel Cliffe are already familiar to the area, while others like the Brain Injury Support Group have started more recently and want to set up a presence on the Coast.

Nigel Cliffe who has been holding Tai Chi classes at CoastalCare on Thursday morning now practices acupuncture there on Thursday afternoons. It was also World Acupuncture Week. Tai Chi classes were going well with 10-15 people regularly attending.

"I like this idea of having a

one stop for health," he said.

The Opunake St John's Ambulance had their manikin there which could be made to cough, breathe or scream. It was also possible to close its airways, feel its pulse and simulate any number of medical conditions.

Kieran Lawn of St Johns said it was already attracting a lot of interest in Opunake, and was proving its worth.

"On Market day we took it out and people were interested in how realistic it is. You can change the rhythm of the heart and the blood pressure to create real life functions.'



Treating the manikin. From left Anne Davis, Adrienne Young, Kieran Lawn, Vlad Purgaric.

This was particularly useful in training situations as it enabled volunteers to identify things that could go wrong and learn from them in safe situations.

Also there was Progress to Health. Debbie Johnston said their group wanted to provide vocational support to anyone over the age of 18 with mental health issues.

"We navigate people to where they want to go. We want to help people be active in the community and be work ready, and we're looking to provide services to Opunake and the Coastal area.'

One of the newer groups there was the Brain Injury Support Group which had been set up in New Plymouth last month. Jeff Hickman who had returned to Taranaki said that while living in Kerikeri he had benefitted from belonging to a group like that and saw the need for something similar in Taranaki. So did Sheree Payne. The two had not known each other before, but both had gone to

Northland from Taranaki, and both had joined the Kerikeri group. Both had come back to Taranaki, got in touch with each other and decided something needed to be done here.

"We just want to help people in that situation," Jeff said. "We can have a cup of coffee, share our experiences, have a good laugh and feel good about ourselves.'

His daughter Sam Woods is the group's co-ordinator. There is also a support group for families.

Taranaki Down Syndrome Association liaison person Chris Rolston said hers was a "most pleasurable job" which included raising awareness, working with families, and helping people with Down Syndrome set up their own businesses. With her was Nicola McKay, who has her own business Nicola's Plants Plus. Nicola from Stratford grows plants which she sells at market days.



Audiologist Lisa Keen (left) chats to Marama Simeon.



CoastalCare Health and Community Centre

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

LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY

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

TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE

ACUPUNCTURE CLINIC

Offering full dental services every Thursday. every Thursday afternoon

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

TAI CHI - NIGEL CLIFFE

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

Tuesday's and Wednesday's 10am - 2pm, providing basic food parcels for those in need. **BUDGET ADVICE**

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

TARANAKI PODIATRY

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

TUI ORA

* Haumiri massage koha based - every third Friday * Alcohol and Drug Counselling - weekly one to one counselling

SIAS HOFFMAN

one to one counselling, specialising in anxiety, depression, and relationship therapy.

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once a month course - delivers industry training to those in the Dairy Industry **PRIMARY ITO - MILK QUALITY COURSES**

one day course looking at how to get the best quality milk production.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS - WEEKLY

supporting offenders addressing their offending & gain skills that will help them lead a crime free life Also permanently residing in the building are:

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KEEPING UP WITH THE JONES Comedy | M Violence, sexual references and offensive language. Wednesday 30 November THE LIGHT BETWEEN TWO OCEANS

Drama, Romance | 2hrs 13mins | PG-13 A lighthouse keeper and his wife living off the coast of Western Australia raise a baby they rescue from an adrift rowboat. Shot in New Zealand

(Otago) and Tasmania. Wednesday 30 November



I, DANIEL BLAKE Drama, Festival & Independent | 1hr 40mins | M Offensive language and adult themes. A 59-year-old carpenter in North-East England who falls ill and requires state assistance for disability. While he endeavours to over-come

Sunday 4 December 7pm **Boutique** Saturday 10 December 7pm

the red tape involved in getting this assistance, ne meets single mother Katie Wednesday 14 December 1pm



Saturday 3 December 7pm Saturday 10 December 1pm FANTASTIC BEASTS AND WHERE TO FIND THEM Adventure, Kids & Family, Fantasy, Blockbuster | PG-13 | 2hr 20min

Drama, Science Fiction | 1hr 56mins | PG-13

Denis Villeneuve casts Amy Adams as an

communicate with an apparently alien spacecraft that's entered Earth's

expert linguist enlisted by the US

government to investigate and

Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free

Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos

Author J. K. Rowling and director David Yates return to the Harry story, starring Oscar-winner Eddie Redmayne (The Theory of Everything) as writer Newt Scamander who discovers an underground community of witches and wizards in New York - 70 years before Harry reads his

Saturday 3 December 1pm Wednesday 7 December 7pm Friday 9 December 7pm Sunday 11 December 7pm

Friday 2 December 7pm



HACKSAW RIDGE True Story & Biography, War | R-15 | Depicts graphic & realistic war scenes staved.

Andrew Garfield (The Amazing Spider-Man) leads this World War II true story about

Desmond Doss - a conscientious objector who went to wa out refused to fire a bullet, choosing to enter the battlefield without a weapon. Directed by Mel Gibson.

Saturday 17 December 7pm Sunday 18 December 7pm

Wednesday 21 December 1pm



DR STRANGE Adventure, Fantasy, 3D, Blockbuster I 1 hr 55 mins | M Violence

Benedict Cumberbatch is Dr. Stephen Strange in this blockbuster Disney Marvel movie, a former surgeon who moves to a life of sorcery when his

career falls apart.

Wednesday 14 December 7pm Friday 16 December 7pm Saturday 17 December 1pm Monday 19 December 1pm

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30 The Light Between	2	3	4 *Boutique Night*
Two Oceans 1pm	Arrival 7pm	Fantastic Beasts &	I, Daniel Blake 7pm
Keeping up with Jones		where to find them 1pm	
7pm		Arrival 7pm	
7 Light Between Two	9	10 Arrival 1pm	11 Fantastic Beasts &
Oceans 1pm	Fantastic Beasts & where	I, Daniel Blake 7pm	where to find them 7pm
Fantastic Beasts & where	to find them 7pm		
to find them 7pm			
14	16	17	18
I, Daniel Blake 1pm	Dr Strange 7pm	Dr Strange 1pm	Hacksaw Ridge 7pm
Dr Strange 7pm		Hacksaw Ridge 7pm	

32 WHAT'S ON Friday, December 2, 2016 **OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**





Cakes, Craft, Wood, Books, Embellishments, Stamps, Clothes, Hair, Chemist, Iron Craft, something for everyone. Men are welcome. Child free shopping.

CHRISTMAS PARADE Friday 16th December 6.30pm



A Crafty Christmas Night Market will be held this year on December 8th at the Sandfords Event Centre.

hristmas is back

After last year's success, A Crafty Christmas Night Market is returning to Opunake Local crafter and organiser, Hayley Duggan from "Its A Girl Thing " was so thrilled with the community turnout last year that she already had big plans for the 2016 market. This year, 100 per cent of the \$5 door cover charge goes straight to the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club. They will be using the funds raised towards the much needed rescue gear for their team. The team are at the market to help assist the 35 stall holders to unload their product and help promote the Surf Club. They will have sunscreens and calendars for sale too. They will be giving away spot prizes from all the

vendors every 10-15 minutes throughout the two hour event, while shoppers listen to local acoustic vocals by singer Blossom Eiffe. All of the stalls are selling handmade and/or New Zealand made products. Items range from skincare, kids' clothes, beach bags, art work, cupcakes and everything in between. Soul Kitchen and bar will also be open. Hayley and her friend Diane from Inkie Fingerz are veterans at markets and really like their market to stand out from the crowd by adding a more personal touch.

A Crafty Christmas is at Sandfords Event Centre on Thursday December 8 from 7pm - 9pm.



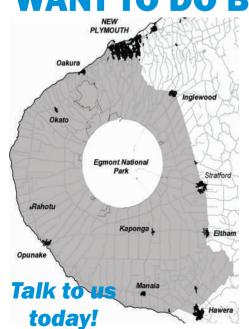
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People who put in public notices and display adverts in the What's On Section

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