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# Roigard trial scheduled to last extra week

The High Court trial of David Roigard for murder and theft is expected to last an extra week, to a total of five. Judge Paul Heath is presiding. This week is the third – the trial started on Monday November 16 in New Plymouth. One reason for the extension is the large number of witnesses to be heard, a number exceeding 100, including Aaron's partner Julie Thoms. David Noel Roigard (51) is accused of murdering his son Aaron Roigard (27) to hide the possibility that he allegedly stole money (\$60,000) from his son, which was intended to be invested so Aaron could buy a farm.

The alleged murder occurred on June 2, 2014, the Crown contests, but no body has been found to date. Mr Roigard was arrested on October 17, 2014. He pleaded "not guilty" to the murder charge, as well as the 'theft in a special relationship' charges at a hearing on November 8, 2014 at the New Plymouth High Court.

The Crown is represented by Cherie Clarke, assisted by Justin Marinovich, while the defence team is lead by Paul Keegan assisted by Jo Woodcock.

One of the Crown's witnesses is expected to testify that Mr Roigard told him that he killed Aaron by whacking him over the head with a log splitter.

A possible alternative scenario is that Aaron may have committed suicide upon learning about the theft of the money intended to buy a farm on Palmer Road. One witness Andy Wright has testified

that his friend Aaron had expressed suicidal thoughts in his presence.

The police carried out an extensive search of the area where Aaron was last seen, with the investigation code-named Operation Boxer. Aaron was last seen on foot in Waiteika Road, after an argument between the two, according to his father. Lead by Detective Sergeant Blair Burnett a large team of police searched farmland, vehicles, houses and effluent ponds - which were drained. A helicopter and Cadaver dogs were also used.

The jury has now been reduced to eleven people, with a female juror being discharged on Friday 27 November, due to personal circumstances which would have prevented her from being present for the entire trial.

David Roigard's wife Pamela and daughter Aimee have both testified that they



The location where Aaron Roigard was allegedly last seen before he disappeared.

noticed nothing unusual about his state of mind or behaviour at the time he al-

legedly committed the most serious crime. Pamela Roigard was unaware that money

had been invested so Aaron could eventually buy a farm.



During the investigation, the entire area was thoroughly searched.



Aaron Roigard.

## Serious crash near Tataraimaka

A 42 year old woman was taken to Taranaki Base Hospital in critical condition following a crash near Omata on Tuesday morning.

It appeared the northbound grey Nissan Sentrashe was driving lost control and went sideways into a tree near the intersection of Hurford Road and State Highway 45. The force of the crash pushed the passenger's side of the car through to the driver's seat on the other side.

Fire crews, ambulances and police attended. The Serious Crash Unit have been notified.

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## Skatepark is not a good neighbour

As owners to the property next to the Manaia Skateboard Park we have read how wonderful STDC has been in providing the facility, but feel it is time to say something so there is a balance to what is being reported. Both Phil Woodmass and Craig Dingle's comments recently in the paper are rather cheap, considering they are not the ones at the receiving end of the negative impact the Skateboard Park is delivering, or live beside it. In regards to no vandalism, did I image the graffiti being removed from the Skateboard Park? Can Phil Woodmass please explain how the following is a negative perception, as it seems very real to us. We have had stones and rocks thrown at our dogs, our house and our cars, youth seem to think it is their right to trespass at will on our property. We are currently

emailing Animal Control in the hope that if one of our dogs does bite someone trespassing we won't be faced with having to put one of our pets down. We have lost all privacy due to the height of the ramps and the new language we are learning would make the hardened swearer cringe. Do I need to mention how STDC assured us that users would walk to the public toilets, but it seems that our property has other uses as well? We raised a concern around the lack of a liquor ban and the danger to users using the footpath as a skateboard area as well, and are yet to get any response. We have had been disturbed repeatedly at night, and have had a number of near accidents were we have almost run over children exiting our driveways. Sadly, it is not "if" but "when" a family will be in tears, and we have to live with the guilt of STDC lack



## Letters to the Editor

Send your your views to:  
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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.

of planning and foresight. Phil Woodmass is correct that there are some ongoing issues, but we both know these are not minor issues, and have the potential to impact on the future viability of the Skateboard Park. The Skateboard Park is a permitted activity for commercial zoning, but it also has to comply with all requirements of that zoning. STDC is the governing body for consents, the developer and the owner. What happens if STDC has got it all wrong? You cannot apply for consent retrospectively. Phil Woodmass and Craig Dingle, we encourage you to

turn your cheap comments into action to demonstrate you are both genuine in your support of the Skateboard Park. Come and discuss how one of you can own our property, and in doing so secure the future of the facility. As a home owner and ratepayer, we have a legal right to have the quality of life we had prior to the Skateboard Park being introduced, therefore, we are not prepared to bend over for anyone.

Very Irate Neighbour.

M a n a i a .

## Wood Group Training first sponsor of Coastal Care facility

Wood Group Training has this month committed to sponsoring the new Coastal Care facility, contributing \$2,000 per annum for a five year term. Wood Group Training is the first major sponsor of the facility which was established earlier this year.

Wood Group Training provides training and consultancy services which focus on keeping people safe. With their head office situated in New Plymouth, they have facilitated learning for more than 120,000 students nationwide.

"Wood Group Training has been operating in Taranaki for over 27 years and is proud to be part of this community. Our organisation is built

on strong core values, one of which being social responsibility. We like to give back to the communities in which we operate and for this reason we are proud to sign on as the first sponsor of Coastal Care. We intend to continue to work with Coastal Care to ensure that that our local community has access to quality health and community services." Said Wood Group Training General Manager, Kerry Martyn.

Aretha Lemon, Facility Manager at Coastal Care added they were really pleased to have Wood Group Training supporting them and said "we look forward to working with them to ensure Coastal Care is keeping people safe and healthy in the Opunake district.



Aretha Lemon, Coastal Care, and Dominica Wilkinson, Wood Group Training, holding the sponsorship donation.

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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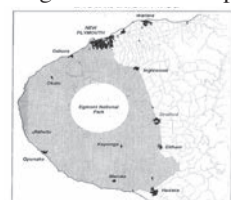
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# Senior Firefighter Brian Hill clocks up 25 years

There was a special ceremony held at the Okato Rugby Clubrooms. Senior Firefighter Brian Hill was presented with his Gold Star for 25 years as a volunteer fire-fighter (Region 3). The event was held on Saturday 28 November and a huge crowd turned up for the special occasion, as well as a number of senior officials from the Fire Service, such as Assistant Area Manager Rob Karaitiana, UFBA Director Matt Cleaver, Taranaki Provincial's Warren Goodall, Taranaki Provincial Gold Star representative Walt Crawshaw and John Nicholls North Taranaki VSO. Brian is only the sixth Okato fire-fighter to receive this distinction. He was also presented with other important awards. Ray Rook and Bruce Barron have also received this honour.



Senior Fire-fighter Bryan Hill receives his Gold Badge for 25 years service from Matt Cleaver, UFBA Director.

The important contribution of Brian's wife Linda was also acknowledged with a special certificate and a floral bouquet (from Petal & Prickle Florist), as she has always been most supportive of Brian in his fire fighting role over the 25 years. Trish O'Sullivan provided the lovely floral decorations for the event. Okato Chief Fire Officer Jared McBride gave the introductory speech. "Twenty five years is a hell of a stint," he commented. He also mentioned the Apologies of some people such as Area Commander Pat Fitzell and Fire Region Commander Brendon Nally, as well as some friends of Brian's. He concluded, "Brian we are very proud of you." Matt Cleaver, UFBA Director spoke next. He

referred to Brian's, truly remarkable achievement." He concluded, "You now join a select few." Matt presented Brian with his Gold Star to loud applause. Brian gave an interesting and often humorous speech in response. He mentioned several incidents ranging from very sad such as a triple fatality, to an irate lady involved in a crash north of Okato whom he was trying to help. She, failing

to see this, was abusive and threatened to "sue him" until Brian came up with a sharp reply that calmed her down. His comment to her, as revealed to his supporters, led to a gale of laughter. He mentioned that he was in the fire police at first "the poor cousin of fire-fighters," he conceded. He said he felt a bit sorry for Linda and family over the years because, "It didn't matter what

you were doing you just dropped everything and ran" when there was a call out. A lovely supper concluded the occasion and the Okato Lions did a great job manning the bar. There was a Guest Book for people to sign and this quote from one sum up what most people felt, "Hearty congratulations and our appreciation for your part in keeping our community safe."

## Christmas issue and Holiday Guide

We have just one issue of the Opunake & Coastal News left for 2015. This will be published on December 18, still time to attract Christmas shoppers and also get in your Christmas messages

and advise people of your opening hours over the Christmas break and when you will resume trading. It would be appreciated if you could get your adverts in to us as soon as possible as it

gets pretty hectic and is usually a bumper issue. We will also as usual be publishing our popular Holiday Guide of things to do round the mountain which will include a dining and accommodation section.

Call us for our special deals with the Holiday Guide where people invited to supplement their advert with complimentary editorial and photos. The deadline for copy is Friday December 11.

## The cat came back

Several issues ago a photo was published in the Opunake & Coastal News of a cat having a kip on a tin roof. We had an excited Opunake reader phone up to say he recognised the cat and it had disappeared recently when they moved house. In fact the photo was taken in Wellington by someone at the Opunake & Coastal News and was unlikely to be the missing cat. We

phoned up the person and sadly conveyed this to them. The man who'd lost the cat came into the office recently and said delightedly they'd found their cat. Apparently it had returned to their old address. They're still trying to coax their cat to move house along with everyone else. Meanwhile the cat is being fed by a kind former neighbour.

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COMMUNITY COMMENT

Best wishes from the Community Board

Summer is finally here! Longest day on December 22. A good time to start stacking firewood in the shed for next winter. That way it's not such a mission near winter, and your firewood will be nice and dry.

Good to see the Manaia Skate Park being well used out of school hours. The rear fence will be the next addi-



Craig Dingle

tion once the final amount of money is raised.

Enviro waste have settled in well to waste collection, despite some shocking weather. The council is reviewing what direction to take on the waste collection from non-residential sections (commercial etc). They are just trying to figure out the best way to be fair and consistent across

all towns in South Taranaki.

Next Egmont Plain Community board meeting will be held on January 27th 2016. You are welcome to come and speak in open forum. Have a safe Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Craig Dingle  
Chairman E.P.C.B

No change to district's electoral wards

The existing three electoral wards and four community boards for New Plymouth District look set to remain for another six years.

Recently, the Council heard from submitters to the representation review and debated the options, including whether to increase the number of wards to eight or to remove them and instead have an at-large system (where every registered voter would be able to vote for the 14 Councillors).

Mayor Andrew Judd says Councillors believed there was not an overwhelming call for change in the community.

"Each electoral option has its merits and its difficulties, and we had a worthwhile debate before the current system was approved," he says.

The only change from the current representation structure is for the Kaitake Community Board. Currently, each community

board has appointed to it a Councillor from their ward: a North Ward Councillor for the Clifton and Waitara community boards and a South-West Ward Councillor for the Inglewood and Kaitake Community Boards.

However, the Council approved an amendment to enable the Councillor appointee for Kaitake Community Board to come from either the South-West or City wards.

Councils are required to

review the district's electoral representation at least every six years. This year's review received 84 submissions from the public.

Submitters to the Council's initial proposal can lodge an appeal by 11 December. Those appeals must relate to their original submission, and they will be considered by the Local Government Commissioner.

A home-grown secret to multi-purpose cleaning

Do multi-purpose cleaners really do the job well?

Consumer NZ put 16 cleaners to the test and found only one to recommend. Surprisingly it found a home-made mixture of baking soda and white vinegar cleaned better than most manufactured cleaners. The home-made option ranked third, beating out 13 other cleaners in the test.

All products were tested on

greasy, dirty tiles. Top of the test was De-Solv-it Sticky Spot and Stain Remover, only available at major hardware stores, for an expensive \$31 for 750ml. Others more widely available such as Dettol Antibacterial Surface Cleanser, Mr Muscle Glass & Surface Multi Purpose, Simple Green Ready-to-Use All-purpose Cleaner, Nature Clean All Purpose Cleaner & Degreaser and Ajax Spray

n Wipe Multi-purpose were not even worth considering, Consumer NZ CEO Sue Chetwin said.

Some cleaners were described as specialist spot or stain removers, but people should see through the marketing claims. All of the products can be used as multi-purpose cleaners, Ms Chetwin said.

Consumer's own not-secret recipe of soda and

white vinegar cost \$4.78.

"We used about three teaspoons of white vinegar and one-quarter of a teaspoon of baking soda. We sprinkled the baking soda on to the surface then sprayed with the vinegar. Once the soda foamed, the surface was scrubbed and rinsed off with water," she said.

On this month in history:

Kiri Te Kanawa's debut

On December 1, 1971 Kiri Te Kanawa, aged 27 (born 1944 in Gisborne), made her debut at Covent Garden, London as the Countess in 'The Marriage of Figaro'. She performed the same role in a summer opera festival in New Mexico.

She sang at the wedding of

Prince Charles and Princess Diana, as the Prince was a big fan of the opera singer.

She was made a dame for her services to music in 1982. She recently sang in New Plymouth.

Early in her career she was tutored (1959-1965) by Sister (Later Dame) Mary Leo, who also trained Dame Malvina Major. She won the NZ Mobil Song Quest and the Melbourne Aria competition in 1965.



Kiri te Kanawa

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# The trials of shopping with a disability

Coastalcare won the overall prize at the Taranaki Disabilities Association held in Opunake recently.

There were three categories with the awards being presented by Keryn Roderick, Project Co-ordinator at the Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre.

In the Small Business Category, Pastimes were the winners and Collins Sports Centre, a finalist. Of Pastimes the judges said the members of the staff were very aware, very friendly. The entrance was clear. There were lots of good things about the shop."

In the Access Awareness Award, a shop "whose staff have a great understanding of disabled access", Dreamtime were the winners and Library Plus were second. In the Big Business Category Coastal Care were the winners and RD1 were runners up.

Lance Girling-Butcher and Philip Wells who each suffer from disabilities both spoke at the awards evening.

Lance who lost his eyesight 8 years ago after getting a fungus infection following a cornea transplant, spoke about his own disabilities.

"I'm blind and I'm deaf," he said. "We have established about 30% of the population of Taranaki have a disability. That's a big chunk of the population. "If people can't get into your shop, you're losing a lot of business," he said.

He also commented on the friendly, cheerful service in Opunake. "The main reason is because you're all very nice people."

Philip Wells from Okato



At the Disability Awards presentation evening from left Brian Erikson - General Manager of the Taranaki Disability Centre, Philip Wells, Aretha Lemon the Manager of CoastalCare and overall winner alongside Keryn Roderick and Lance Girling-Butcher.

who Lance introduced as "a leading figure in the disability world despite his obvious handicaps," and is on the committee of the Taranaki Disabilities Association also spoke.

Philip said the original aim of the organisation was to try and make New Plymouth a friendly place for people with disabilities. He lives in Okato and his parents have a dairy farm.

"As a wheelchair shopper, there's lots of places I can't get into," he said.

He mentioned the Four Square at Okato. "A couple of years ago friends of mine

bought the shop." No doubt through their friendship with Philip they were especially aware of people with disabilities and immediately put in a ramp which made access to the shop so much easier.

Deputy Mayor of South Taranaki District Council Ian Armstrong who also spoke described his own experience of the challenges the disables experience with a sister in law with multiple sclerosis and also of great friends, one of whom got polio at a very young age and who

The awards evening ended with further illuminating comments from Lance and

advice.

Such as keeping things in the same place, having doors a different colour to the wall.

"If I go into a shop with my wife, they don't talk to me, they assume I'm dense. That I can't think. A lot of people are scared to talk to disabled people. The nicest thing you can do if you're disabled is ask 'Can I help you'."

The awards evening was organised by the Taranaki Disability Association. Similar awards evenings are being held though out other main centres in Taranaki.

# Rescue on Mt Taranaki

A 22 year-old Australian man was rescued off Mount Taranaki on Tuesday after a planned summit of the mountain went wrong. He had begun a solo attempt on Monday, but had decided to turn back when he got near the Lizard. He con-

tacted police by cellphone at 4pm. Two crews from police search and rescue and the Taranaki Alpine Cliff Rescue team went up on foot after low visibility made it impossible to send in a helicopter.

The man was found 1650 metres up the mountain

at around 9.50pm after a search affected by rugged terrain, thick cloud, rain and darkness. It took four and a half hours to get him off the mountain using a rope harness. He was then taken to Taranaki Base Hospital for treatment for hypothermia

and leg injuries.

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## COASTAL COPS

## Okato

Christmas is upon our doorstep which always brings the "silly season" with it. This is usually a very busy time for Police, Fire and Ambulance as we all deal with people over indulging. By all means have a good time but watch out for each other, if your mate is being a bit of a pork chop after a few beers, pull him or her into line. I have had a concern passed onto me in regards to vehicles pulling out of their driveways. With school coming to a close and plenty of our children playing on the streets, take care when reversing out of your driveways. Make sure you reduce your speed to less than a walking speed as you cross over the footpath. I would recommend that you stop before you cross the footpath,



Constable Rhys Connell

have another look and ease out slowly. Sounding your horn quickly can also be a good idea to alert footpath users that you are backing out. One other thing I will bring up quickly is the use of Facebook to sell goods to others usually via various buy and sell pages. This is an area that the buyer must take extra care. Several months ago I re-

ceived numerous complaints in regards to a seller who used several fake profiles to sell goods to others. The seller was demanding payment into a bank account before shipping the goods and was then not sending what he was purporting to sell. It is unlikely that he even had the goods he was selling. He managed to steal over \$10000 in a short space of time and fled to Australia before anyone was aware. It really is buyer beware in these situations. Do your homework and beware of depositing money into a bank account. My advice is to do these transactions in person with a friend or family member present. Enjoy the build up to holiday season and hopefully our weather starts to warm up!

Rhys

## Holdin' Heaven

This 1955 FJ Holden is for sale at Superior Cars in New Plymouth.

It's in tidy condition says Peter Wilson, the Manager of Superior Cars.

**1955 FJ HOLDEN**  
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# Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade News

Unfortunately, house fires do happen. In fact, "you are more at risk of a fire in your home than you are from an intruder calling by." So what should you do at the first signs of a fire? If there are others in the house, shout "fire, fire, fire."

If the fire is well underway and there is a lot of smoke, get down on your hands and knees and crawl out of the house. Heat and smoke rise, so breathing and visibility will be better at floor level. If you can, close doors behind you as you go, as this helps prevent the fire and smoke from spreading. Always keep your keys in your deadlocks when you are at home. People have died in fires because the doors have been deadlocked, the keys were kept elsewhere and they weren't able to escape.

Call 111 immediately once you are out. The operator will ask you "What service do you require?" This means do you want the ambulance, police or fire brigade? Once you say fire brigade, you will then be transferred to the operator at the fire control desk in Wellington. As they are taking your details, the closest brigade to your property will be dispatched. They continue to ask for more information in an attempt to gain a better picture and possibly send other appliances or personnel, and to pinpoint the location with Rapid Numbers, land marks, nearest intersections and water supplies. If possible have someone on the road, waving frantically, flashing a torch at night to give the appliance driver a clear indication as to the spot (that's if it isn't obvious with flames leaping metres into

the air).

As hard as it would be, keep well away from the house and never re-enter it. Temperatures in a house fire reach 1,100 degrees and our bodies shut down at 70 degrees, so it is vital you do not try to re-enter. The fire would have certainly intensified after you initially escaped, so it would be suicidal to attempt to back track. While waiting for the brigade to arrive, and if you live in a rural situation, think about water sources handy to your property. Our appliances carry less than 2000 litres, and this does not go very far when fighting a large blaze. We do have access to water tankers, but these will take a while to arrive. So think of a water supply that we may be able to tap into, such as a swimming pool, river, creek, a well, or tank at a cow shed, and if possible, have someone open gates and be available to lead us once we arrive.

If you are unable to get out of the house, close the door of the room you are in and put something like a towel, jacket, rolled up mat, along the bottom of the door to stop the smoke from seeping under. Go to the window and shout "fire, fire, fire."

Sit tight and wait to be rescued. However, if things are starting to get desperate, and the room is "hotting-up," put the back of your hand on the door and walls, to get an idea as to where the fire has spread to. If there is a cool wall, you may have to think about standing with your back to that wall, and use your heel to kick a hole in the gib board to climb through. The next room may buy a little more time, or it may in fact give you a way outside. It's certainly worth

a try if things are getting unbearable.

I was looking through a 1909 Taranaki Herald the other day, and spotted a report on a fire in the main street of Opunake. The fire was on June 9, 1909, in a block known as the Trotter Buildings, and the four shops were levelled. The TSB and library now stand on this spot. I will copy part of the paper report so you can see how far the brigade has developed over time.

"Opunake, although possessing a fire station and engine, has not a fire brigade and as this is the first fire for some years, the appliances were somewhat out of order and of very little use. The fire station itself was locked, and the door had to be removed before the engine could be run out. Even when out, owing to lack of water, leaky hose and want of systematic control, very little could be done."

The 2016 Fire Fighter Male and Female calendars are now out and available in selected Opunake shops, or from Jana or Jozien at the Fire Station. There's no better Christmas present for the "Connoisseur of Beauty". Profits from the sale of these calendars go to the Child Cancer Fund and to date over \$748,000 has been donated. So if there's a space on the

Man or Lady Cave wall, or behind the toilet door, pick up a copy at \$10 each and support a worthwhile cause.

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> saw the brigade out on two occasions. We were called to Opunake Primary School to make ready a helicopter landing spot. A young girl had been injured on the playground and as a precautionary measure the helicopter was assigned to transport her to Base Hospital. The second call out was to assist the Opunake St. Johns crew with an awkward lift from a two storied house into the ambulance.

On the afternoon of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> we were called to help the Opunake St Johns Ambulance lift an 81 year old Eltham lady who had lost her balance while climbing up from the beach. According to the owners of a camper van who witnessed the incident, the elderly lady was walking up a track at the lookout end of the beach, lost her footing, and fell back on to the rocks. She was in an extremely difficult (not to mention uncomfortable) position, wedged between the rocks, so help was required to "extract" her. A big "up" must go to the new camp manager for his assistance and quick response when the camper van owner approached him with the dilemma.

*Pretty Pictures*

## CTS Trade Fair a big success

On Thursday November 19 there was a successful Trade Fair at Coastal Taranaki School in Okato. The event involved students from Year 7 to 10 setting up small business ventures (stalls and games), with proceeds being used for their Activity Week fees (financing trips and excursions).

The event was organised very well by Sharleen Balantyne and Rohan Oldfield. Sharleen was pleased with the turnout of people, "It is busier than last year," she commented.

In the school gymnasium there was a plethora of colourful, busy stalls, which were open for business from 5.30pm to 7.30pm. There were games and stalls both inside the gym as well as outside. On offer were art and crafts, hot food, slushies, plants, cakes, lollies, candles, face painting, Henna artists - you name it. The slushy machine stall made an impressive \$416.

Sharleen was delighted with the event.

"Our students all represented themselves and our school very well. They worked hard to organise and provide a wonderful event for our community," she said.

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Pictured from left are Hannah Boyd (12), Megan Boyd and Kyla Radford (11).

## Andrew Little Labour Leader



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# Innovation is in our genes

Some people quote scripture that says "The sins of the fathers are visited on the fourth generation." Pretty much the meaning is that bad decisions by one generation can still be effecting the lives of those still to come long after the 'sinner' has died. It seems the opposite is also true. The attributes, talents, skills, and profits of the parents are also visible through successive generations. On Wednesday the Minister of Business, Innovation and Employment visited the South Taranaki Museum in Patea to open an exhibition celebrating the innovation of his great-grandmother's family, the Battens of Tokaora. This was a family who did a lot of firsts in farming and technology in South Taranaki like herd testing, milking by machine, making chopped silage, the use of



**Hon Chester Borrows MP**

hydro-electricity, and owning a tractor. They also exploited short-wave radio and explored photography long before either were popular. Their descendant, Hon Steven Joyce, is similarly innovative and is aptly the responsible minister for such things, having being born and raised in Taranaki, making his name in radio, building the company Mediaworks, before coming to Parliament.

In our day visiting businesses and speaking to groups around the electorate after the exhibition opening, it is obvious that the generations who have come to our country have enjoyed the hybrid vigour from cross pollination with other entrepreneurs who have also found their way here. It is amazing what is going on behind the doors of various enterprises around our patch, ideas for creating jobs, and exploiting remoteness an advantage and not a roadblock to innovation. Steven puts New Zealand's ability to think outside the square and find new ways of doing things down to the fact that our forebears once in New Zealand couldn't go back to get whatever they needed for that next job, but had to find another way of doing it, or making something

fit for purpose. I think that is what lies behind kiwis hating rules and regulations in the same way. We are used to finding our way around such things as they will only ever slow us down. That doesn't make us a nation of lawbreakers, but does mean we push the envelope and test the boundaries. It is why Kiwis will soon be launching satellites into space from the Mahia Peninsula at an infinitesimal fraction of the price of NASA. It's why we are farming in Botswana, selling croissants to the French and graphic design to Hollywood. Nobody told us we can't, and if they did, we wouldn't believe them. It's growing jobs in Taranaki and turning heads around the world. Pure magic.

*Chester Borrows  
MP for Whanganui*

## Adrian Rurawhe MP for Te Tai Hauāuru



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**Labour**

# Kiwi expats deserve a better deal



**Andrew Little MP**

Think Australia and many of us will think outback, kangaroos and weird rugby rules. Our big, friendly neighbour has been stopping off and landing point for hundreds of thousands of Kiwi looking, if not for a new gold dream, a new, slightly different lifestyle.

The climate's generally better, there have been jobs for the taking, and the wages are better.

The not so good news is there's some 300,000 New Zealanders living in Oz who aren't able to access student loans, state housing, or social

security, and they can't vote.

The large majority are on temporary or 'non-protected' visas following the Australian Government's decision in 2001 to remove rights to permanent residency. They pay taxes, including national disability insurance premiums through Medicare, like every other worker yet are not eligible for most benefits.

If an Australian in New Zealand on holiday had an accident, they would be eligible for ACC. Kiwis in Australia have to jump through hoops to get citizenship, and are denied a raft of benefits that they could previously apply for, including support for victims of domestic violence.

It was clear from talking to various people across the ditch last week there's a real willingness to look at the issues and to address the unfair aspects faced by New Zealanders in Australia.

The Labour politicians were particularly supportive. As Melbourne MP Clare O'Neil said: "We've got Kiwi heart

surgeons working in this country, we've got Kiwis right across business and government, people who are making a contribution, paying taxes and yet they're not seeing Australia treating them in the way that Australians get treated in New Zealand."

Immigration Minister Peter Dutton was pretty adamant there would be no change around deportation laws which have seen Kiwis locked up in detention centres while a decision is made on whether to send them back to New Zealand. Meeting some of them confirmed what we have been saying - they don't want to move back to New Zealand, they have family, friends, work and support in Australia. As one of them said, 'if you're going to send me to New Zealand you might as well send me to China - I have just as much connection with New Zealand as any other country in the world'.

Still, there was a willingness

from Dutton to have us send individual cases that we become aware of directly to his office, and recognition that there was some unfairness in the treatment of Kiwi expats.

John Key tried to play down Labour's visit, suggesting we could sabotage work he has done on bringing the issues to the attention of the Australian Government. He has done nothing for seven years. We have been pushing the issue for some time - Phil Goff was talking better rights for Kiwis when he was Labour Leader, and has continued to do so, Kelvin Davis has spent time with detainees on Christmas Island. I pick up the phone, book some flights, organise to talk to officials, and the PM jumps. What a crock.

If my trip helps even one mum get better support for a sick child, or make it easier for someone to get temporary financial help if they find themselves in difficulty, then I'll be happy.

*Andrew Little MP*

## On this month in history MJ Savage becomes PM

On December 6, 1935 Michael Joseph Savage (1872-1940), who was born

in Australia, assumed office as prime minister. His Labour Government had

won the General Election in convincing fashion. The West Auckland MP became leader in 1933 following the death of Harry Holland.

The Government did a lot to improve the lot of ordinary NZ people in the aftermath of the Great Depression and in-

stigated the 'cradle to grave' security system.

He was regarded with reverence by many people who made sure they had his portrait prominently displayed. Savage died in office and there was much public grief.



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**2016 Prefects Jumping for Joy**

Senior students selected as Prefects for 2016 began preparing for their roles at a training day at school. The Head Boy and Girl will be named at the Junior Prizing on Friday December 4.

Photo above: Ben Morgan, Timatanga-Mykade Ratahi, Cate Tulloch, Sophie James, Ashleigh Clement, Atalya Fakavamoenga, Hone Grindlay, Puanani Tahau, Kodi Wickliffe, Brooke Heaps, Tara Clement. Absent: Christian Rosewarne, Michael Brimelow.



Junior students attended sports week on 16-20 November, and competed at indoor bowls, flags, fast 5 netball, futsal against other Taranaki Secondary Schools for the McKean Shield.



**Remembrance Day 2015**

On 11/11/15 four Year 10 students were honoured with the task of raising flags in respect to those who served New Zealand in the armed forces, particularly in World One, a century ago. Pictured with members of the Opunake branch of the RSA are (from L to R) – Stevee-Jai Kelly, Cian Howarth, Katie Sinclair, and Keonte Ngatai, staff members Robin Davey, Ken Brown and Murray Dobbins were also in attendance.

**Year 8 Technology**

Year 8 students from Rahotu School prepared lunch for their parents on Thursday as part of their designing, creating and delivering a virtual restaurant for their V.I.P guests.



**OHS 2016 SPORT COACHES/MANAGERS POSITIONS**

For 2016 if you are interested in coaching/managing the following teams at OHS please register your interest with the Principal. It would be great to have you supporting our young people.

The following positions are available.

1. 1st XV Coach/coaches
2. Basketball Coach and Manager
  - Senior A Girls & Boys
  - Senior B Girls & Boys
3. Netball Coach/Manager
  - Senior A
  - Senior B

Details and application available from school office for anyone interested in the above positions.

Applications close on 16th December, 2015

*The Principal and Staff warmly invite you to be present at*  
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*10.30am Friday*  
**4th December**

**In the school hall**  
**Simon Fuller**  
**Principal**

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

4 December	Junior Prize-giving
7-9 December	Junior Camps
9 December	End of Term 4



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COASTAL OUTLOOK

# Old tired men keeping us poor

Old tired men hold up the progress of Taranaki. It is incredible how the members of our key institutions are so "old world". I discovered this when I was trying to find out why Taranaki is so under-developed. We do not take advantage of the vigour that diversity and conflict bring.



Dr Robert Shaw

Sell half the shares in Port Taranaki to strategic partners from outside New Zealand and change the composition of the Board.

We need international partners who will invest in our Port, develop strategic relationships, and market Taranaki. A global Chinese logistics business would be good, but there are other contenders.

If the Regional Councilors cannot share ownership, they might at least appoint more people from outside of Taranaki to the Port's board. Try to build strategic partnerships and bring in new thinking – we need board members from overseas. There is probably nobody in Taranaki with the skills, insights and drive we need to govern an internationally



These are the guys we depend on to compete globally and deliver prosperity to Taranaki through the development of our key infrastructure asset. Are they dynamic, progressive, innovative, strategic, creative, global, diverse and daring? I think not! focused Port business.

**Leadership**  
I compare the business leaders I meet in Taranaki with those I meet in China. Guangdong Province, where I work, is China's commercial powerhouse. Here they trade and innovate. They all hate Beijing the way Aucklanders hate Wellington.

I meet mid-career managers who come to the university to do an MBA degree. They bring their directors and managers into the university and there is much integration of business and university personnel. Taranaki can learn from this observation.

Chinese business leaders are aggressive, innovative,

risk takers. They seek diverse opinions (that is why they question me), and they are ambitious in their goals. If the choice is small-size, middle-size or big-size, they always decide big-size. The problems match the ambition. We need similar people in Taranaki.

**China Southern Airlines**  
The people I meet own or run significant businesses. For example, we have about 20 students each year from China Southern Airlines. Did you know that China Southern Airlines is the third largest airline in the world, by passengers carried? All the other airlines in the top five are American.

The Chinese want their firm to be the biggest and the best, not because they want to make money, but because the prestige of China is at stake.

China Southern Airlines is owned by the government, but it also has shares listed on stock exchanges in Hong Kong, New York and Shanghai. It is a model of ownership the Regional Council might

consider for our Port.

**Port's goals**  
Most New Zealand ports want to equip themselves for larger cargo vessels and more tourist boats. We can be sure that investment is a good bet long-term. Port Taranaki in its planning, seeks to be modest, prudent and short-term. That is okay if your responsibility is limited, but what if you feel obliged to contribute to the whole of Taranaki? What if you worry about the situation of our children and our grandchildren?

The Port has as its focus the service it can provide to existing customers and any new ones who walk through the door. It does not think beyond its customers. Yet this Port is owned by us. It should serve us, not the Regional Council's budget. I want the Port to lead in the fight to diversify the Taranaki economy, lift the pressure off the farmers, educate the young, and produce commercial opportunities.

Continued page 11.

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# Old tired men keeping us poor

Continued from page 10.

## Statement of Corporate Intent

Not too many people use statements of corporate intent as bedside reading. The name makes them sound horrid. But, in fact, the Statement for our Port is vital to our wellbeing.

The law requires that the Port and its owner agree this Statement. It is the Regional Council's agreement with the Port directors. It is the mechanism by which we turn the Port into a Taranaki winner.

## Income Minimal

Do I read correctly, the Port's plan is to return each to the Council a bit over 5.5 per cent on its investment, after tax. This is so little you wonder why the Council does not sell the Port and invest on the stock exchange. There have been years when the Port has

actually lost money, according to a New Zealand Institute of Economic Research report.

## No ambition

The success criteria in the current Statement indicate the lack of ambition. "Success is measured by: \* Improving the satisfaction rating from customers via formal feedback, \* Growing freight volumes, \* Exceeding targeted return on capital employed, \* Achieving a safety based culture."

The criteria say nothing about the responsibility of the Port to drive the economic diversity of Taranaki! They do not include any useful development goals for the region or indeed even for the Port. The plan is to sit tight and be nice to customers.

## Dandong

The Port of Dan Dong is an artificial deep-water sea-

port in China. It is right up north next to North Korea. The strategic move is to link North East Asia to the rest of the world.

The investment was made and now they want to find customers. In Guangzhou, a city thousands of miles away with its own port and close to the Hong Kong, Dan Dong advertises on television every night.

Taranaki can learn from Dangdong: invest in infrastructure facilities and market your services. Do not wait for the customers to demand facilities. Generate opportunities for people.

## Tourism strategy

Taranaki's tourism strategy could be built around just one observation. China's middle class population exceeded 200 million people in the year

2000 and it will soon double because of the development of the inner rural parts of China. We want their money in Taranaki.

The Chinese middle class spend first on property and children. Then, they spend on travel. It does not take them long to run out of tourist destinations. They go everywhere once. They will come to Taranaki if we provide them with direct sea access.

In an earlier Coastal Outlook I set out ideas on our potential agri-tourism business. It is easy enough to develop attractions. But, Taranaki's economy depends on the Port's ability to develop a decent business plan - wake up regional councillors!

Robert Shaw  
robert@porirua.net

# Council wants feedback on proposal

As preparations for Hawera's first town centre redevelopment project (Campbell Lane) get underway a major new private development is being considered for the town.

South Taranaki Mayor Ross Dunlop says the Council has been approached by a local development company to see if it would sell some Council-owned land currently used for public car parking at the Victoria Street to build a new supermarket.

"The development company already owns the adjacent property, and before we make a decision we are consulting with our residents to get feedback on the proposal," says Mayor Dunlop.

"From Monday 30 November Council staff will be doing some pamphlet drops around the area as well

as having feedback forms available from various locations in the town centre and on the Council's website so residents can have their say."

STDC Chief Executive Craig Stevenson says if the Council decides to sell the property, the local development company plans to start the consenting process to build a new, larger supermarket on the existing public car parks at the Victoria Street end.

The existing supermarket would then be demolished and replaced with new two hour time restricted car parks for supermarket customers.

Mr Stevenson says while people would no longer be able to park all day in the supermarket car park, the Council already had projects underway to counter that and ultimately there would be

more car parks in the CBD.

"As part of our town centre revitalisation project Council has recently purchased two buildings on High Street which will be demolished and developed to 'open up' and improve access to the CBD from the underused Cornish's and Napier St car parks, which offer free all day parking. We also have plans in place to increase parking on Nelson and Union Streets, and these projects will help off-set any reduction of car parks on Victoria Street," he says.

Mr Stevenson says the most important thing to consider about the proposal is that it would mean that a key anchor business is kept in the town CBD.

"It's an exciting time for the town. One of the key goals

underpinning the Hawera town centre strategy was that it would be a catalyst to drive change and to encourage private enterprise to invest in the town centre - and that is exactly what we are seeing happen. We are starting to see some real momentum develop," says Mr Stevenson.

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# Results from Stratford A and P Show

**Dairy all breeds**  
 Heifer 2 year old in milk, R and S Johnson, Hasty Spring D.N. Peach 1, K and B Baker, Bekay Angelo Olina 2, B and D Tippett, Glenalla Tequila Mezz E T 3; Heifer 3 year old in milk, R and S Johnson, Hasty Spring Fever Capri 1, R and S Johnson, Ferdon Governors Fashion 2, K and B Baker, Bekay Blitz Angelia - E T 3; Intermediate champion, R and S Johnson, Hasty Spring Fever Capri 1, Reserve intermediate champion, R and S Johnson, Ferdon Governors Fashion 1, Premier Pedigree Dairy Cow 3 Years and over, Revell Family, Beledene Sams Starlee 1, R and S Johnson, Hasty Spring Fever Capri 2, R and S Johnson, Ferdon Governors Fashion 3; Cow 4 year old in milk, Revell Family, Beledene Top Lillian 1, M.Radford, Golden Star Future Fancy 2, Tosland Family, Derriland O.L.M Wilma 3; Cow 5 and 6 year old in milk, Revell Family,

Beledene Sams Starlee 1, D and K Perrett, Fairleigh B S Bluebell 2, Revell Family, Beledene Mons Miri 3; Cow 7 year old and over in milk, Tosland Family, Lexland Min Pauline 1, MD and JA Muggeridge, Truday Lees Carleen 2, R and J Soffe, Oliver Woods Tal Cara 3;  
 Senior champion cow, Revell Family, Beledene Sams Starlee 1, Reserve senior champion cow, D and K Perrett, Fairleigh B S Bluebell 1, Supreme in milk dairy exhibit of the show 2015; Revell Family, Beledene Sams Starlee 1, NZ Premier Dairy Yearling Heifer, B and D Tippett, Te Awhata Tequila Violet 1, D and W. Harker, Westell Shot Luckie 2, W and L Taylor, Muritai S - Sire Lianna 3; Heifer senior yearling, B and D Tippett, Te Awhata Tequila Violet 1, W and L.Taylor, Muritai Goldsun Willow 2, D and W. Harker, Westell Shot Luckie 3; Heifer junior yearling, J Manley,



**Best All Breeds Junior Heifer at the Stratford A and P Show was Te Awhata Tequila Violet handled by Aleisha Tippett, owned by Barry and Deidre Tippett.**

D.Taylor, Maungaview Laven Taylor 1, R and S Johnson, Hasty Spring Paytn Piper 2, Buckthought Family, Kyambur Winbrook Shaz S2 F 3; Heifer calf senior, W and L Taylor, Muritai Uno Deliha 1, J.Manley, D.Taylor, Te Awhata Vans Charlie 2, J.Manley, D.Taylor, Maungaview A.T.M Wattle 3; Heifer calf junior, D. & K Perrett, Sentinal Hot S B G Chocky 1, Larkspur Ayshires, Larkspur A Mystical Red 2, W & L Taylor, Muritai Mccutchin Lian 3; Junior female champion, B and D.Tippett,

Te Awhata Tequila Violet 1, Reserve junior female champion, W and L.Taylor, Muritai Goldsun Willow 1, Bull calf, K and B.Baker, Bekay Egmont Max - E T 1, Buckthought Family, Kyambur Seaver Sarge S2 F 2, Tosland Family, Derriland K S Casanova 3;

**Boys and Girls Calves**  
 Best lead calf pedigree or grade, junior, Larni Horgan, 1, Sophie Ogle 2, Isabelle Radford 3; Best lead calf pedigree or grade, senior, Tamara Turnbull 1, Joshua Keech 2, Emma Cathie 3<sup>rd</sup>;

Champion and reserve best lead calf, Larni Horgan, Sophie Ogle; Best reared pedigree or grade, light breed, junior Paige Taylor 1, Ruby Horgan 2, M Parker 3; Best reared pedigree or grade, heavy breed, junior, Michelle Hurley 1, Katelyn Symes 2, Mikayla Symes 3; Best reared pedigree or grade, light breed, senior, Reeve Wilson 1, Tamara Turnbull 2, Blake Crawford 3; Best reared pedigree or grade, heavy breed, senior, Emma Cathie 1, Claudia Parker 2, Isaac Hancock 3; Pre School Heavy and Light Breeds Lacie Taylor 1, Zach Taylor 2; Champion and reserve champion best reared, Paige Taylor, Reeve Wilson; Dairy type, light breeds, pedigree, junior and senior, Paige Taylor 1, Madison Parker 2, Tamara Turnbull 3; Dairy type, heavy breeds pedigree, junior and senior, Niamh Moriarity 1, Millie Parker 2, Claudia Parker 3; Dairy type light breeds, grade, junior, Ruby Horgan 1, Larni Horgan 2, Jayden Horgan 3; Dairy type light breeds, grade, senior, Blake Crawford 1, Baileigh Collins 2, Breannee Good 3; Dairy type heavy breeds, grade, junior, Katelyn Symes 1,

Michelle Hurley 2, Isabelle Radford 3; Dairy type heavy breeds, grade, senior, Emma Cathie 1, Joshua Keech 2, Courtney Shaw 3; Champion and reserve champion grade dairy type, Ruby Horgan, Larni Horgan; Best grade calf residing in Stratford District Council boundaries, Isabelle Radford 1, Sophie Hancock 2, Isaac Hancock 3; Best pedigree calf residing in Stratford District Council boundaries, Zac Radord 1, Liam Newton 2; Group of 3 calves from one school, Auroa 1, Hawera St Joseph 2, Ngaere 3; Grand champion calf, Paige Taylor;

**L a m b s**  
 Leading Pre School, Sophie Jensen 1, Amy O'Rorke 2; Leading Junior, Emily Jensen 1, Anabella Aldridge 2; Calling Pre School, Sophie Jensen 1, Amy O'Rorke 2; Calling Junior, Emily Jensen 1, Anabella Aldridge 2; Feeding Pre School and Junior, Amy O'Rorke 1, Anabella Aldridge 2; Rearing pre-school and junior, Anabella Aldridge 1, Amy O'Rorke 2, Emily Jensen 3; Dress up junior and senior, Annabella Aldridge; Champion Lamb, Emily Jensen;

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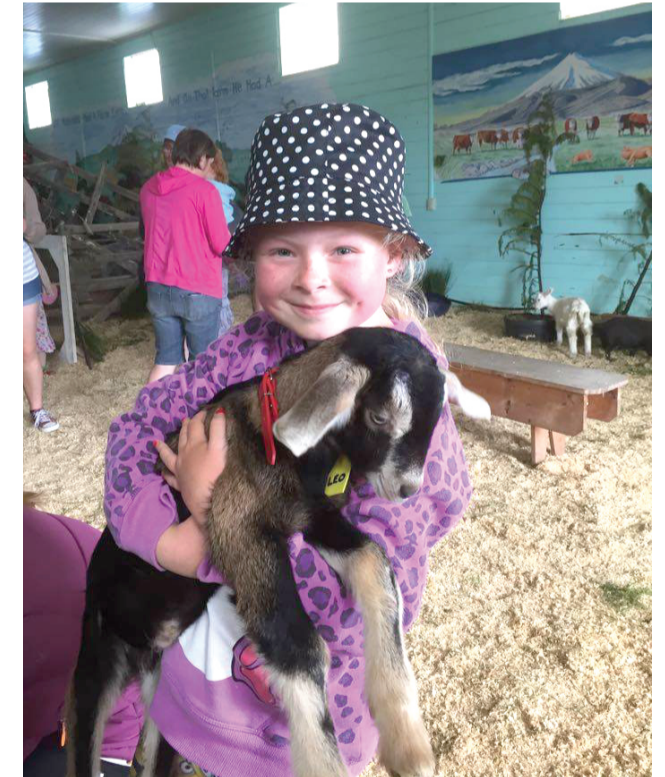
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Jayda Sharp from Auroa made a new friend at the Old McDonalds Farm Barn at Stratford A&P Show.

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# New faces at Opunake petrol station

Dave Knofflock knows his way around Opunake and the petrol business. Waitara-born, he recalls many an expedition around Opunake in search of paua as a child. Since then he has done the occasional shift at the Allied Service Station in Opunake. Now he and Michelle Van der Elst have taken the station over.

“The opportunity came up and we thought it was a good fit for where we were at,” Dave said. The two have been running the station for the last month and are pleased with the way things have been working out. “Everyone’s been pretty friendly and supportive,” he said. Dave and Michelle have been commuting from Waitara, but are looking forward to shifting into Opunake and getting involved with the Opunake business community. Dave began pumping petrol in 1995, and has been doing so ever since, apart from a two year break when he ran a Four Square store in Clive. This is Dave’s first venture running a garage, and he has already added hiring out trailers to



The new faces at the Allied Service Station in Opunake, David Knofflock and Michelle Van der Elst.

the business’ repertoire. Dave says it’s often been the case that anybody wanting a trailer for picking

up something in Hawera or New Plymouth would need to pick up a trailer at this end, pick up what there, meaning the hassle of another trip back to return it. “Now they can hire a trailer at this end, pick up what they need, and bring the

trailer back here to return it.” Since July, the service station has been operating a 24/7 eftpos system for buying fuel outside business hours. Dave says he believes some customers still feel a bit reluctant about using it, and wants

to reassure them there’s nothing to worry about. “We’ve taken a lot of people through it. Once we’ve done it, they realise it’s a pretty simple process,” he said. “Using the after hours payment is as simple as using an ATM machine.”

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# New Zealand's dairy reputation under attack

Animal advocacy organisations SAFE and Farmwatch have called on New Zealand and international consumers to ditch dairy following an investigation into animal cruelty in the New Zealand dairy industry. Filmed by hidden cameras,

footage shown on TV One's Sunday programme showed cows running after their babies after they are removed from them at only a few hours of age, calves destined for slaughter left in crates at the side of the road for up to eight hours, despite the law requiring them to be fed two hours before transportation, truck drivers roughly throwing calves into the back of trucks, calves thrown onto dead-piles at farm gates, and a slaughterman kicking and throwing helpless calves before bashing them and slitting their throats.

"New Zealanders will be horrified by this footage," says SAFE executive director Hans Kriek. Each season over two million unwanted calves, referred to as bobby calves, are killed as young as four days of age. "Bobby calves are basically



DairyNZ chief executive Tim Mackle.

regarded as trash. They are literally left like rubbish, to be picked up at the side of the road.

They are just waste products to the industry and are treated accordingly.

These animals pay a heavy price for our insatiable appetite for dairy – and massive industry profit."

Following the undercover investigation, the organisations alerted the Ministry for Primary Industries and provided film footage.

John Darroch from Farmwatch says, "This investigation is the first of its kind to look into New Zealand's dairy industry and I believe what we uncovered will shock consumers. The footage we obtained shows that dairy production in New Zealand involves the systematic abuse of defenceless animals. As an investigator I am used to seeing animal cruelty, but the brutality I witnessed towards these calves was beyond belief. The treatment of these animals is nothing like what consumers would expect when they buy dairy products." Mr Kriek says consumers have the right to know about how milk is produced, and what this means for the animals.

"As most of our dairy produce is sold overseas, we will provide this footage to international media and animal welfare organisations so that consumers can be informed. There is cruelty in every single glass of milk, and now consumers have to decide if they are willing to accept that," says Mr Kriek.

DairyNZ chief executive Tim Mackle says cruel and illegal practices are in no way condoned or accepted by the industry as part of dairy farming.

"We are shocked and farmers are too," he says. "We will be asking questions of everyone involved. Farmers don't see what goes on when calves leave their farm, and we need to be holding the transport operators and processing plants to account to ensure bad practices get stamped out of our industry."

"Our surveys show that 95 percent of farmers

are compliant with all animal welfare codes and they take great care of their animals including calves. We obviously want to see that even higher because the dairy industry takes its animal welfare responsibilities seriously and we are committed to farming to high standards," he says.

"There is a range of industry initiatives already in place and we will be boosting our actions with other groups to ensure the care of calves."

Federated Farmers' Dairy Section Chair, Andrew Hoggard says "farmers have to farm within strict animal welfare rules and the vast majority care for their animals humanely and responsibly".

He says the footage released by SAFE and Farmwatch includes some appalling behaviour, by a minority of farmers, but also by transport companies and slaughterhouse workers.

"This is something we and the industry will not tolerate. "Federated Farmers strongly, and each season, reinforces to its members that the highest standards of animal welfare must apply when dealing with all calves. The federation will also put resources behind any industry initiatives to review the handling, transport and processing of bobby calves," says Mr Hoggard.

Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand executive director Kimberly Crewther says that compliance with the New Zealand codes of welfare is important to dairy companies.

"These codes are internationally recognised as robust. Where there are breaches we fully support and expect Ministry for Primary Industries' compliance action," she says.

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# Blue Read loses Fonterra seat

Urenui farmer Blue Read has been voted off the Fonterra Board of Directors. Mr Read was one of three sitting directors up for re-election. The other two, board chairman John Wilson of Te Awamutu and Nicola Shadbolt of Pohangina, were returned. The new director is Te Awamutu farmer and businessman Ashley Waugh.

From his first position, milking 85 cows for wages, Mr Read worked his way up to owning his present farm in Urenui, as well as having interests in two dairy equity partnerships in the lower Waikato. Although he has only been a director since 2012, he has been well known at the co-operative for much longer, having been first elected to



**Blue Read. Photo. Fonterra**

the Shareholders Council chairman from 2003-7, and in 2001, serving as deputy was chairman from 2007-

10, during the 2007 capital structure review. He has also been chairman of the New Zealand Co-operatives Association, and was chairman of the dairy section of Federated Farmers from 1999-2001. Earlier, he had been national chairman of the

New Zealand Sharemilkers Association from 1986-88. The election was carried out by postal vote, with candidates travelling around the country to talk to suppliers at a number of meetings, including one at Stratford on November 11.

After a slow start to voting, a late rush of votes led to a record turnout with voters from 65 per cent of farms producing 73 per cent of the co-operative's milk solids taking part.

## Reprieve for coastal plant

Coastal Banksia appears to be safe, for now. The Australian shelter plant with the botanical name banksias integrifolia had been one of four plants flagged by the National Plant Pest Accord (NPPA) as needing further research before deciding whether it should be listed as a pest.

As reported in the May 22 issue of the Opunake and Coastal News, Opunake nurseryman Murray Baylis had started a petition against banning the tree.

The NPPA had been expected to make a decision about the plants' future in November, but Murray has been told they have decided to defer a decision until the review of the entire NPPA list in 2017.

Concerns had been raised about its rapidly growing nature and competing with native plants.

Murray had argued that Coastal Banksia provides good shelter in an area prone to salt laden winds, while tui and bellbirds are attracted to the tree's yellow flower cones.

"I planted hundreds of Banksia as shelter belts around my nursery 34 years ago," he said. "They have proven to be excellent shelter, and are still standing, just as strong and healthy today. As far as seeding goes, I only occasionally see the odd Banksia seedling come up in comparison to the taumata seedlings which are continually appearing."

Similar sentiments had been voiced by Steve Pivac from Pihama and David Hopkins from Waitotara. Steve said that of the 400 trees growing on his property, he had only pulled out three or four seedlings in the last 10 years. David, who has 4-5km of Banksia shelter on his farm said the plant has no apparent downside.

"From a farming point



**Coastal Banksia**

of view it's a winner. It's something we can thank the Aussies for," he said.

The NPPA had said that although concerns still existed about Coastal

Banksia and the other three plants under consideration, they needed more information before a final decision could be made.

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# Science projects aim to foster public awareness

Six Taranaki community science projects have gained funding support from Curious Minds, the pilot of the Participatory Science Platform, to connect them with science expertise. The Participatory Science Platform is part of a government initiative to encourage public engagement with science, and it being piloted in Taranaki, Otago and South Auckland. It is funded by the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment and coordinated by the Office of the Prime Minister's

Chief Science Advisor. The successful projects span measurement of long-tail bat and kiwi populations, exploration of Taranaki marine life, and the development of beneficial heirloom vegetable crops, and will see communities around the mountain work on project of local significance. "We were really impressed with the quality of applications that were put forward by the Taranaki community," says Venture Taranaki's Lucy Graydon, the pilot's regional manager.

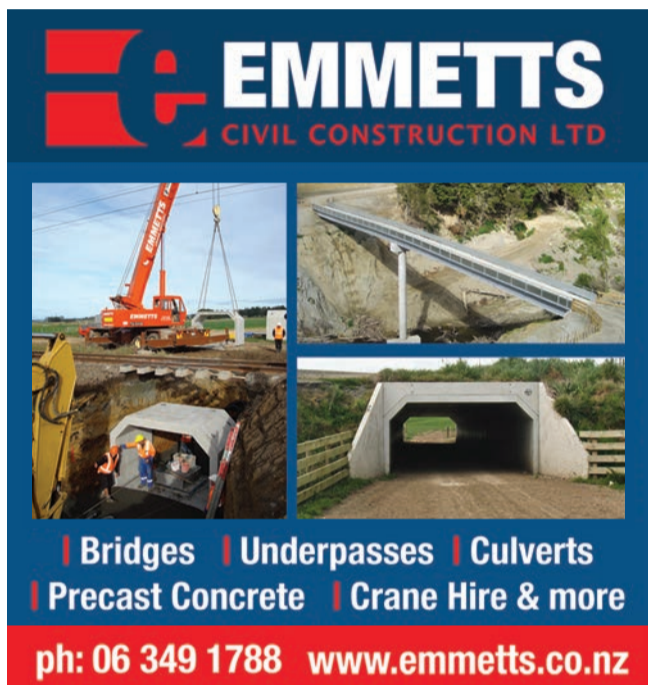
"It was clear that people across Taranaki are passionate about their region, its landscape and the plant and animal life. The successful projects reflect that enthusiasm and are united in their goal of measuring and preserving Taranaki's natural and historical taonga."

The projects to win Curious Minds funding include Waitara District Kaimoana Survey - Titiro tui muri, haere whakamua which will undertake a comprehensive survey of kaimoana stocks along the Waitara coastline, as well as capturing oral histories from community elders. Te Moeone - Growing for the Future is an exploration of the nutritional characteristics of heirloom vegetable cultivars. The project seeks to develop ways to capture crop production data on a range of traditional crop seeds, and then use this information to increase both the yield and nutritional value. The

project is being led by Ngati Tawhirikura hapu, and will involve marae gardeners from Tarereare, Muru Raupatu and Parihaka, Tahuri Whenua - the Maori Vegetable Growers Association - and Taranaki Seedsavers Project Ultra - Pekapeka in Purangi will analyse six Eastern Taranaki hill country sites to measure long-tailed bat populations. Led by East Taranaki Environment Trust's Education and Volunteer Coordinator Erin Griffith, the project will see the students of Kaimata School investigate the sites. Students will determine where bats are, and select sites to trial both traditional and student-modified bat homes. The students will monitor how successful their adaptations are at supporting the bat population. A comprehensive exploration of South Taranaki's subtidal coastal reefs using underwater video cameras,

diving surveys, staff gauge, and hook and line surveys will determine what makes the local marine ecology unique. Led by the South Taranaki Diving Club with involvement from the Patea and District Fishing Club, Hawera High School, Nga Rauru, and Te Runanga o Ngaati Ruanui Trust, the project will work with Taranaki Regional Council's Thomas McElroy. The Kiwi Presence on Mount Taranaki survey will determine how successfully the Egmont National Park Kiwi Conservation Programme has increased kiwi numbers and survival. Project leaders Taranaki Kiwi Trust will include Taranaki conservationists, three local schools, Forest and Bird, and the Mangorei Group and Maude Tracks Trapping Group, to find kiwi numbers and distribution throughout the park using walk-through surveys, kiwi call surveys and radio-tracking released

kiwi. The Department of Conservation and Taranaki Regional Council will support the project with scientific and technology application. Project Hotspot: Protecting Coastal Threatened Species in Taranaki will see schools survey sightings of four threatened marine species - orca, reef heron, little blue penguin, and New Zealand fur seal - to identify occurrences along the Taranaki Coast. The project will then identify why the species occur there and what threats confront them. Each school will focus on local priorities for threatened species. Project leaders Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society will work with St Pius X School, Huirangi School, Manukorihia School, Mimi School, Urenui School, and Taranaki conservationists, with support from Taranaki Regional Council, MAIN Trust, NatureWatch NZ, the Department of Conservation and MetOcean Solutions.



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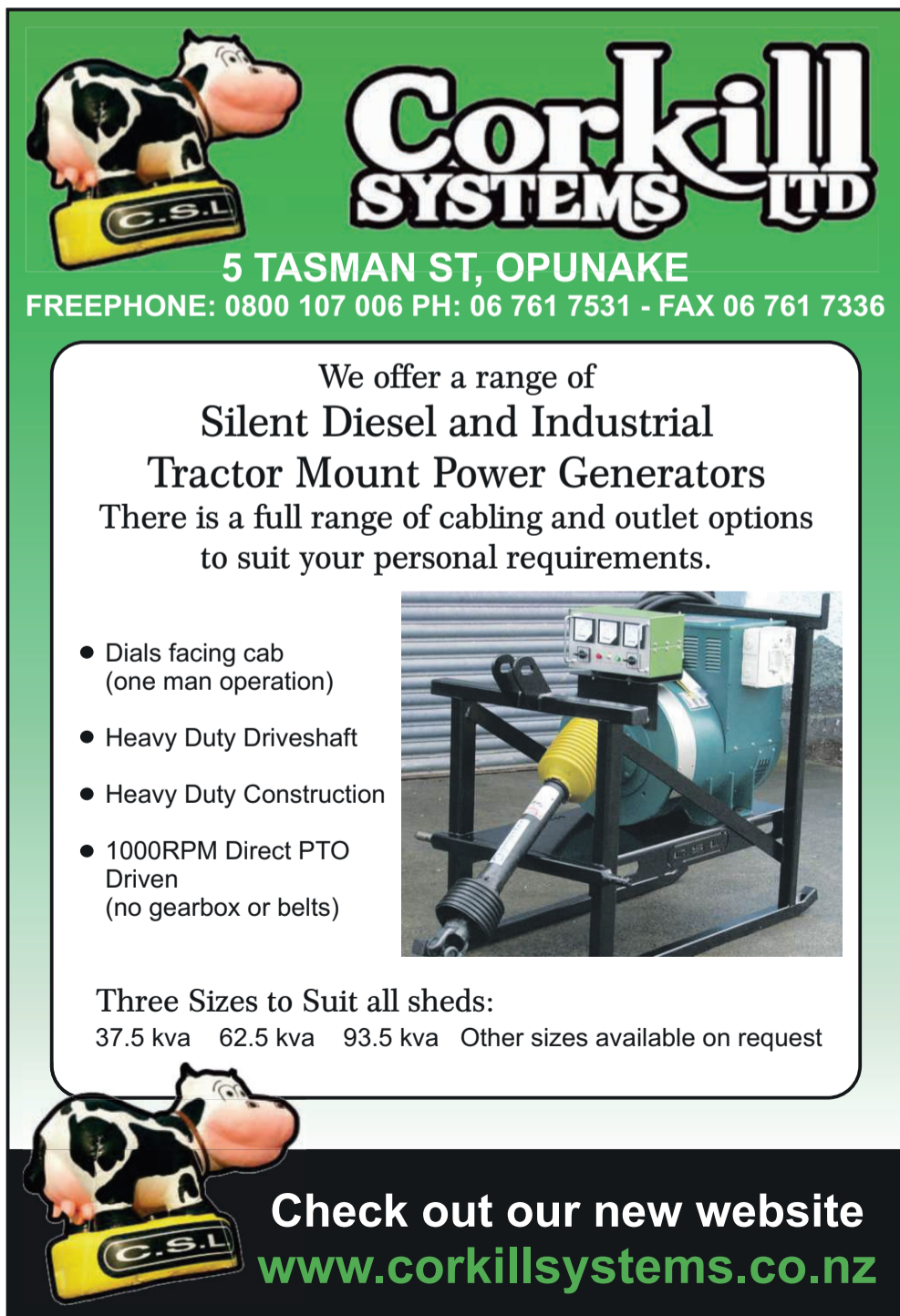
## Make pet care part of holiday planning

When planning your summer holidays, remember to plan for your pet's care too. That's the message from the North Taranaki SPCA, which encourages

pet owners who plan to holiday away from home this season to not leave it to the last minute to organise care for their animals. "Your pets are your responsibility, and your animals do need care over the holidays while you're away," says SPCA spokesperson Jackie Poles Smith. "They're reliant on us - they can't forage for themselves." Pukekura Park curator

Chris Connolly says the park goes through spates of animal dumping, including roosters and cats. "The park and Brooklands Zoo are not dumping places for unwanted animals," he says. "They can bring diseases and cause problems for the birdlife in the park, so we're asking people to take proper care of their animals instead of leaving it to

someone else to handle." Cats that are dumped become malnourished and unwell, and from four to five months old the female kittens become pregnant and continue the cycle of unhomed animals. Says Ms Poles Smith: "The best thing you can do is desex your pet - then you don't have unwanted, unanticipated animals to care for."




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The newly hatched chicks at the Stratford A&P show are still a huge hit with young and old in the Old McDonalds Farm Barn.



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# Record year predicted

2015 is shaping up to be the hottest year on record, according to the World Meteorological Organization. This year's global average surface temperature is likely to be the warmest on record and to reach the symbolic and significant milestone of 1° Celsius above the pre-industrial era, according a statement from the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). This is due to a combination of a strong El Niño and human-induced global warming, the UN agency says. The years 2011-2015 have been the warmest five-year period on record, with many extreme weather events - especially heatwaves - influenced by climate change, according to a WMO five-year analysis. The WMO has issued the provisional statement on the status of the climate in 2015, and a five-year analysis for 2011-2015 in the runup to the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris. "It seems that Mother Nature is now trying to send some simple round numbers to

the United Nations climate policymakers about to meet up in Paris," Prof Martin Manning of Victoria University's Climate Change Research Institute said. "The predominant greenhouse gas, CO2, is going over 400 ppm for the first time in more than a million years, and surface temperatures are now going over 1°C above preindustrial levels. "Records are being broken even more comprehensively at a regional level for: extremes in temperature, the extent of wildfires, the areas being affected by cyclones, and flooding caused by extreme rainfall. Science is now trying to deal with one in 500 year and one in 1000 year events. Professor Matthew England, Deputy Director of the Climate Change Research Centre at the University of New South Wales says these trends should be a huge wakeup call for the Paris conference. "The global average air temperature record has been absolutely smashed in 2015," he said. "This warming blows

away the record-breaking 1997/1998 El Niño by a massive 0.2 degrees Celsius. "The cause of this difference between two similar El Niño years is record levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Similar sentiments were voiced by Professor Steven Sherwood, Director of the Climate Change Research Centre at the University of New South Wales. "2015 stands to become the hottest year ever recorded, probably by a considerable margin, although there is still a bit over one month to go. "Some have been claiming in the last few years that global warming has slowed, but this new surge of global temperatures leaves these already dubious claims completely in tatters. "It is not a surprise that global warming continues as strong as ever, because greenhouse gas emissions continue as strong as ever. Only when these emissions are brought to a much lower level will global warming really stop. Professor of atmospheric science at the University of Melbourne David Karoly

says the new record high global temperature in 2015 is mainly due to human-caused global warming, with smaller contributions from El Niño and from other natural climate variations. "It is now all but certain that 2015 will be the hottest year since record keeping began. "El Niño is a relatively small contributor to the record 2015 temperatures because the largest contribution from El Niño usually occurs in the year after the peak in El Niño, not in the year when the warm ocean temperatures in the tropical Pacific Ocean associated with El Niño are increasing. Hence, due to the current El Niño, it is likely that 2016 will set a new record high global temperature, even hotter than in 2015." NIWA climate scientists say the effects of El Niño will prevent New Zealand from recording a record temperature for the year. NIWA principal climate scientist Dr Brett Mullan says New Zealand is "nowhere near its warmest on record". "New Zealand, in particular, often behaves differently to the global average because of El Niño. "The characteristic of El Niño is a very large area of warmer water along the tropical Pacific that pumps heat into the global atmosphere and makes the globe warmer. But for New Zealand, El Niño produces more southerlies and south westerlies a lot of the year so we often average out to be below normal." So far this year New Zealand was more half a degree colder than 1998 which holds the record as the country's warmest year on record.



Ariana Lawn and her mother Cerise made friends with a Jersey cow visiting at Old McDonalds Farm Barn at the Stratford A and P Show.



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# The Rumble comes to Hawera

Hawera is at last getting a fight night. Believed to be the first professional boxing event to be held in Hawera in over half a century. The Hawera Rumble will be held December 12 at The TSB Hub and will feature three professional and six corporate fights.

Headlining the event is James Langton who will be fighting Joshua Tai. Josh is fresh from a win against Monty Filimaea at the televised event – the Big Bash. James also beat Monty at the Coastal Rumble in June this year to become the New Zealand National Boxing Federation Cruiserweight champion.

The main undercard is Sam Rapira against Sivan Hermez. Sivan is a kickboxer with a solid boxing record and this will make for an entertaining

The third professional bout on the night is Keiron Toa of Waitara fighting Blake Bell from Wellington. These are two exciting fighters, both looking to prove a point.

The corporate fights at the Colton's Hawera Rumble are:

The Battle of the Rugby Vets – Craig Fevre v Mark Davis. These two veterans of Taranaki rugby are switching codes and battling for individual glory.

Mate v Mate – Thomas Watt v Josh Caskey. These two fighters went to school together and used to play together for Coastal.

Big Boy Battle – Saia Aholelei v Kevin Mulligan-Green. This bout is between a couple of big, heavyweight lads. These hard hitting powerhouses are sure to provide plenty of excitement. Boxing Enthusiasts Bout –



James is headlining the event this December at The TSB Hub.

Dallas Stuart v Paul Waite. Both these men love their boxing. They love to watch, study and live boxing - they train hard for boxing even when they don't have a fight on! Both have been in the ring before.

Town v Country – Trish McKenzie v Bobbi-Jo Nathan. Both women are from Coastal Taranaki, but now Bobbi-Jo lives in the city and Trish is on the farm. Both love their boxing with Bobbi-Jo a trainer at Box Office Boxing and this is the second corporate fight for Trish.

Battle of the Locals – Shi-han Ngarewa v Lyn Smith. Both women are very fit, very tough and very determined. Shi-han is a talented kickboxer and Lyn is as hard as they

come on the league field. The Colton's Hawera Rumble is delighted to support the Little Fighters Trust. The Trust does incredible work supporting Taranaki children with life threatening illnesses. A portion of every ticket sold will go to the Trust to help them help others.

The Rumble is also pleased to support the Hawera Intermediate Fire Fund. 100 per cent of the profit from all Hawera Rumble t-shirt, hoodie or sleeveless hoodie sales will go towards supporting the school.

General admission tickets are \$30 and both tickets and shirts are available from the Hawera i-SITE. Those out of town can call the Hawera i-SITE on 06 278 8599 to order.

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**DALLAS STUART** VS **PAUL WAITE**

**CRAIG FEVRE** VS **MARK DAVIS**

**TRISH MCKENZIE** VS **BOBBI-JO NATHAN**

**SHI-HAN NGAREWA** VS **LYN SMITH**

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# Free trips for seniors on bus service

Seniors with SuperGold Cards are able to travel for free on the Hawera-New Plymouth Connector bus service during off-peak hours from November 30 onwards.

Cardholders using the popular weekday service between 9am and 3pm will not have to pay a fare if they show their card to the driver. New Connector timetables highlight the services and bus stops for which this

apply. The Government-administered SuperGold Card is a discounts and concessions card for seniors and veterans, in recognition of their contribution to New Zealand society. It already enables free off-peak travel on Taranaki's other commuter bus services, Citylink in New Plymouth and Southlink in south and coastal Taranaki. But there was a moratorium on new services when the Connector

service began in 2014.

"There have been a few changes to the scheme and now we've won approval to include the Connector, which is fantastic news," says Chris Clarke, Transport Services Manager for the Taranaki Regional Council, which provides the Connector, Citylink and Southlink services through contracted operators.

"The free trips apply from November 30, and the only

requirements are to use the service between 9am and 3pm, and to have your SuperGold Card on you and show it to the driver. Otherwise you'll have to pay the full fare."

The Connector, operated by Pickering Motors, makes four return trips between Hawera and New Plymouth every weekday except public holidays. Passenger numbers have risen steadily since it started.

# Progress continues on freshwater management

A new regional Freshwater and Land Management Plan for Taranaki maybe some time away, but the Taranaki Regional Council is making progress with its existing programmes, chief executive Basil Chamberlain said.

This includes a regional switch to land-based treatment and disposal of dairy effluent, and completion of Taranaki's Riparian Management Programme..

"In the meantime, the existing Freshwater Plan for Taranaki remains in force, and it gives the Council scope to make adjustments to its freshwater management regime to change the way things are done in line with a direction of travel that the Council has clearly signalled to the community."

"The effectiveness of the current Plan is borne out in the Council's five-year State of the Environment Report published in July, which reported that trends in both the ecological health and the physical and chemical state of the region's waterways are the best ever recorded."

The Council's Policy and Planning Committee has approved a revised timeline for its review of its current Fresh Water and Soil Plans, which are being merged into a Regional Freshwater and Land Management Plan for Taranaki. A Proposed

Plan will go out for public consultation as soon as reasonably possible, but within five years.

The Committee also formally adopted an implementation programme for new requirements under the Government's latest National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

The Council has a statutory obligation to inform the Government and the community by the end of the year of its progress in reviewing the plan, and in implementing the National Policy Statement requirements, Mr Chamberlain said.

"There has already been widespread targeted consultation as part of the Plan review, and the revised timeline allows an opportunity for further consultation and work on issues already identified to date. Several parties have requested more discussion."

He said it also allows time to factor in the Government's recent freshwater management reforms, further changes yet to be announced, and reform of the Resource Management Act and other legislation announced by the Minister for the Environment, Hon Nick Smith. These include changes to the way such Plans are made, changes to the consent process, and

national regulations on stock exclusion from waterways.

"The Council has a duty to produce the best possible Plan for Taranaki, and it would not be prudent to rush into a new one when the legislative framework is still undergoing major changes," he said. "In particular, the reforms of the plan-making process and the stock exclusion measures announced today will potentially have a major impact on the Taranaki Plan."

Mr Chamberlain said progress is being made in a number of areas including farm dairy effluent, treatment and disposal.

"There is already a marked swing towards land-based treatment and disposal of dairy effluent, and away from the discharge of treated effluent into waterways," he said. "Land-based systems are regarded as best practice and the Council's existing rules allow it to require consent holders to follow best practice."

"The Council's Riparian Management Programme has achieved widespread buy-in from the farming community and is being implemented in a substantial way. Last year, 378,000 native plants were supplied under the programme, taking the total to 3.9 million since the scheme

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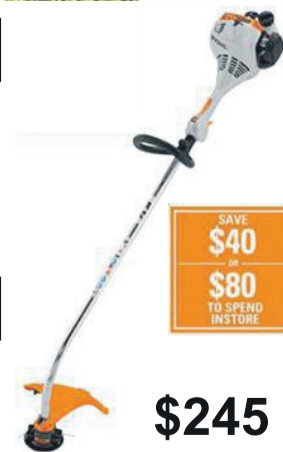
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# Delay not good enough say Climate Justice Taranaki

The Taranaki Regional Council's suggestion to postpone the public notification processes of the Proposed Regional Freshwater and Land Plan would "delay the much needed policy until after 2020 and cause irreparable harm to rivers, wetlands and soils in Taranaki" says Emily Bailey from Climate Justice Taranaki.

"The National Policy Statement (NPS) on Freshwater requires regional councils to fully implement the NPS no later than the end of 2025.

"Delaying the public notification of the proposed plan till 2020 suggests that council is not serious about public inputs or making sure

that there is adequate time for its full implementation in accordance with the NPS. The delay would also have serious implications on a number of oil and gas activities which do not fall under the NPS, but urgently need to be better aligned with district council processes, as advised by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment.

"The draft revised plan, while far from perfect, offers a platform for improvements, such as requiring farm effluents to be discharged to land rather than to waterways and completion of riparian planting and fencing by 2020, although the proposed date is three years behind central government advice. Council should incorporate stakeholders' inputs, notably those already received from district councils, the District Health Board, Fish and Game, iwi and others, to produce a proposed plan for public notification by December as planned so that broad-based public inputs can be brought in effectively."

She says the TRC have claimed the delay is acceptable because the recent State of the Environment Report had declared Taranaki waters to be of a "high quality," but this report had itself been criticised by some of the country's leading freshwater

scientists.

"We have less than 8 per cent of our original wetlands left, which are the breeding grounds of many fish and birds and a natural control system for floods and droughts. 74 per cent of our native freshwater fish, mussels and crayfish are already threatened with extinction and the world is losing 75 billion tonnes of soil worth US\$400 billion dollars per year."

Taranaki Regional Council chief executive Basil Chamberlain said a new regional Freshwater and Land Management Plan for Taranaki maybe some time away, but the council is making progress with its existing programmes, including a regional switch to land-based treatment and disposal of dairy effluent, and completion of Taranaki's Riparian Management Programme..

"In the meantime, the existing Freshwater Plan for Taranaki remains in force, and it gives the Council scope to make adjustments to its freshwater management regime to change the way things are done in line with a direction of travel that the Council has clearly signalled to the community."

"The effectiveness of the current Plan is borne out in the Council's five-year State of the Environment Report published in July, which

reported that trends in both the ecological health and the physical and chemical state of the region's waterways are the best ever recorded."

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The Committee also formally adopted an implementation programme for new requirements under the Government's latest National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

"There has already been widespread targeted consultation as part of the Plan review, and the revised timeline allows an opportunity for further consultation and work on issues already identified to date" He said it also allows time to consider factors such as the Government's recent freshwater management reforms, and changes to the Resource Management Act and other legislation.

"The Council has a duty to produce the best possible Plan for Taranaki, and it would not be prudent to rush into a new one when the legislative framework is still undergoing major changes," he said. Mr Chamberlain said progress is being made in a number of areas including farm dairy effluent, treatment and disposal.

"There is already a marked swing towards land-based treatment and disposal of dairy effluent, and away from the discharge of treated effluent into waterways," he said. "Land-based systems are regarded as best practice and the Council's existing rules allow it to require consent holders to follow best practice. There is strong industry support for land-based systems, and farmers have been delivered a clear message that it is the way of the future.

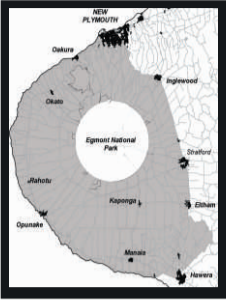
"The Council's Riparian Management Programme has achieved widespread buy-in from the farming community and is being implemented in a substantial way. Last year, 378,000 native plants were supplied under the programme, taking the total to 3.9 million since the scheme began."

The Council is also committed to the protection and enhancement of native biodiversity, and is working with landowners towards this end, he said.

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	Sunday	10am - 4.00pm
Stratford	Weekdays	8.30am - 5.00pm
	Saturday	9.30am - 1.00pm
Broadway South	Saturday	10am - 12.00pm

## Events this Term...

Some of the extra-curricular activities the children have participated in this term:

- \* Wheels Week
- \* School Transition visits
  - \* Pets day
  - \* Halloween
- \* Kindergarten Birthday
- \* India Week and Diwali Day
- \* Middleton's Bay Clean up
- \* Fringe Garden Festival
  - \* Rest Home
  - \* Opunake Beach
  - \* Christmas Party



## Oranga Mokopuna

Here at Opunake Kindergarten we have been selected to be part of a new initiative called ORANGA MOKOPUNA. This programme has been designed to improve and promote the health and wellbeing of children and whanau that are involved in early childhood education. Nutrition, physical activity, breastfeeding and active movement are the focuses of this programme.

So far we have achieved Breastfeeding Welcome Here accreditation and are now concentrating on nutrition and physical activity. Active movement in early childhood is about engaging in quality physical movement experiences daily. These experiences are essential for brain development and strengthen the connections within the brain and body. Children need as much time as possible to balance, stretch, twist, turn, roll, crawl, walk, run, gallop, hop and skip. At Kindergarten we encourage children to practice these fundamental movements in a range of different ways.

Supporting children to establish healthy habits now means that they can continue this throughout life. This is an ongoing commitment for us. The next step is working towards achieving the 'Healthy Heart Award' in 2016 with the healthy policies and initiatives we've established at Kindy.

### Parent tips

- \* Be a role model. A powerful example for your child is to be active yourself. Playing ball, walking or bike riding with your children shows them that being active is fun.
- \* Incorporate language when children are doing different movement as it enhances the child's understanding. For example: Can you go up the ladder? Look at you crawling under the table.
- \* Did you know that children need to be taught how to catch, kick, bat, dribble and bounce balls as these skills cannot be acquired alone?
- \* Children from 0 to 3 should ideally have zero hours of screen time per day.

## Nutrition



Diane, Skyler 4, Chloe 4, Amber 3, Briar 2, and Maggie 4, are learning about healthy foods as they make their sandwich.

## PLAY RECIPE UNCOOKED PLAY DOUGH

Just pop it all in a mixing bowl & mix!

- 2 cups of plain flour
- 4 tablespoons of 'cream of tartar'
- 2 tablespoons of cooking oil

- 1 cup of salt
- 2 cups of boiling water
- food colouring

- \*It looks as though it is not going to mix well at first but hang in there and throw it onto the bench to knead, and it will come together really nicely.
- \*We put different things in ours also such as glitter and sand. Just be careful you don't put things in like rice as they tend to go mouldy - we find glitter is really good.
- \*Add peppermint oil for a great smell and even longer lasting playdough...

## Physically Active



Sienna 4, Amber 3, Skyler 4, Jaxon 3 and Danni are using hula hoops as cars to learn about spatial awareness.

## Halloween Night



A group photo of the parents and children who attended our recent Halloween night at Kindy.



**DAYS AND SESSION TIMES:**

**Monday to Friday**

**9am - 3pm**

**Ph: 06 761 7440**

**opunakekindy@xtra.co.nz**

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES**

**St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahu**  
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**

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**MEETING ON DECEMBER 7 2015 AT 5.30PM**

**Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake**  
(opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

*You are invited to an afternoon of Music at Pihama Lavender*



This is a free family friendly event. Bring your own picnic dinner & blanket or seating.  
**Saturday 5th December from 3pm.**  
Pihama Lavender, 3510 South Rd, Opunake

*This will be before the Opunake 150 Fireworks later that evening.*



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**Arthritis Workshops**

**Thursday 10th December**

**Arthritis**

Come along to a general session on arthritis including a description of the 3 most common types Osteoarthritis, Gout and Rheumatoid arthritis - and some tips for managing them

**10.30pm - 12 pm**

**All about Gout**

Gout is the second most common sort of Arthritis in NZ. Come along hear more about what causes gout and how to manage this condition **1pm - 2pm**

Optional - Uric acid tests available following the presentation.

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**26 Napier Street Opunake**

There is no charge for entry however donations are appreciated. Registrations are essential: Please call:

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email wendy.kopura@arthritis.org.nz

Or call Aretha at 06 761 8488

www.arthritis.org.nz



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  - \* Senior A Girls & Boys
  - \* Senior B Girls & Boys
3. Netball Coach/Manager
  - \* Senior A
  - \* Senior B

**Details and applications available from school office for anyone interested in the following positions. Applications close on 16th December, 2015**

*The Rahu School community would like to thank the following generous sponsors of this years Calf & Lamb Day.*

*Your support really makes the day!*

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Rahotu Service Station	Field Torque Taranaki
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TSB Opunake	Dex Newland/Silver Fern Farms
Argri Sea - Gavin Robertson	LIC
RD 1 Pungarehu - Fiona	Elite Farm Solutions
FBT	De Laval
Washer & Co	Goodin Ag
Sugar Juice	Power Farming
Opunake Pastimes	Westpact
Karams	Mach 1 Yamaha
Coastal Vets	Dreamtime Surfshop
Rahotu Tavern	Mitre 10 Mega
Ravensdown	FMG
Rahotu 4 Square	Farmlands
Okato Vets	Tim Hurley
Sinclair Electrical	Countdown Spotswood
ASB Rural	Ballance
Collins Sports Centre	Country Connections
NRM	FIL
Coastal Welders	Swandri
Rural Fuel	Barrett Family
Stoney River Hotel	ANZCO - Bruce Thompson
Quality Presentations	Anderson Pies
Skellerup	Fibre Fresh
PGG Wrightson	Neil and Pauline Hadland
Bay Engineers Supplier	Kingsway Menswear
Haigh Family	David Engelberger
CRV	Taranaki Rugby Union
Sealers Winslow	Ko Design/G.J. Gardner
Bikewise	Cancer Society
Warwick & Shona Allan	

**RAFFLE RESULTS**



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

would like to congratulate the winners of the "Celebrating 150 Years Draw"

1st: Jason Dickinson

2nd: Mike Roach

3rd: Tracey Wooldrage

Drawn under Police supervision

Thank you to all customers and businesses who participated

**EVENT**

**MARGARET SCOTT** will be in store signing copies of her new book 'Self Portrait of a Paua', Monday 7<sup>th</sup> December. A great idea for Christmas.

**TO RENT**

**HOUSE TO RENT** in Opunake. Central, 3 bedroom, heat pump, conservatory, deck. \$220 per week. References required. Ph: 027 218 3377

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

Call us today to advertise **06 761 7016**  
Next issue out **December 18**

**SITUATIONS VACANT**



As a Finalist in the 2009 and 2010 JRA Best Workplaces Survey the council has been rated amongst New Zealand's Best Workplaces - by its employees.

**AQUATIC STAFF**

Some places just offer more of what really counts and the South Taranaki District is a perfect example. Our district has some of the most spectacular scenery in the world - wedged between Mt Taranaki's majestic cone and the rugged coastline of the Tasman Sea - the region boasts outdoor pursuits to satisfy even the most active individual and is alive with opportunities.

The South Taranaki District Council offers a proven "Best Place to Work" environment and the chance to join an energetic, progressive organisation. We encourage innovation, employee leadership development and you will be working with a dynamic and motivated team.

South Taranaki District Council is seeking responsible staff members to join the high performing team at the Hawera Aquatic Centre and our seasonal rural pools, located at Patea, Manaia, Waverley, Kaponga, Rawhitiroa and Eltham.

We require people who are mature, show attention to detail, have the ability to learn new skills and are safety conscious. Good swimming skills are essential. Previous work in a swimming pool environment would be an advantage but not essential.

Aquatic centre and rural pool staff assist in all areas and can include reception work, poolside duties, teaching learn to swim, lifeguard training, cleaning, water testing, water treatment plant operation and facility maintenance. This will include weekends and evenings. Sound interesting?

Interested parties need to be available to work during the February March period.

If you excel at customer service, are passionate about helping people enjoy a great aquatic experience, know your way around pools and lead by good example then we want to hear from you.

If you would like to join NZ's most "Can Do Council" you can apply on line by going to our website: [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com)

Applications close at Sunday 20th December 2015.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**HERE TO THERE WITH CARE**

**Need help getting to your community appointment?**

Red Cross Community Transport is here for you – without the worry of transport costs.

Call 0800 733 726 to see if Community Transport operates in your area, and how to book your lift.

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[www.redcross.org.nz](http://www.redcross.org.nz)



**NEW ZEALAND RED CROSS**  
Community Transport

5955944AA

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**LIFEGUARD COURSE**

This is your chance to gain a nationally recognised Pool Lifeguard qualification

You must be 16 years and over. Courses held at Hawera Aquatic Centre, Hawera.

**Course Dates and Times**

Monday 14th December	8.00am - 2.00pm
Tuesday 15th December	8.00am - 2.00pm
Wednesday 16th December	8.00am - 2.00pm
Thursday 17th December	8.00am - 2.00pm

Following the completion of the course there will be some voluntary poolside work to finalise the qualification.

Costs: LG & First Aid: \$370.00 LG only (already hold First Aid): \$220.00

If you are successful you will be eligible to apply for jobs when they arise at both Hawera Aquatic Centre and at the district's rural summer pools.

Enrolments close 11 December 2015

For further information please contact Justine or Candice on: 06 278 0021

Or collect an enrolment form from:

Hawera Aquatic Centre, Waihi Road, Hawera

**The Cottage Rest Home - Opunake Celebrates 25 years**

The Opunake Cottage Rest Home Garden Party 5th December 11am till 2 pm.

Baking, homemade lollies, arts and crafts, Christmas decorations made by the residents.

Food and drinks available, barbeque, an outdoor cafe with musicians and other entertainment.

Old time games for children like the egg and spoon race, sack races, horse shoe around the stick, quoits.

Raffles and a Birthday cake for the Rest Home.

Everyone is very welcome and expect to have a great time!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Ph: 06 761 8009 or call at 1 Layard Street, Opunake



**Christmas issue and Holiday Guide**

We have just one issue of the Opunake & Coastal News left for 2015. This will be published on December 18, still time to attract Christmas shoppers and also get in your Christmas messages and advise people of your opening hours over the Christmas break and when you will resume trading.

It would be appreciated if you could get your adverts in to us as soon as possible as it gets pretty hectic and is usually a bumper issue.

We will also as usual be publishing our popular Holiday Guide of things to do round the mountain which will include a dining and accommodation section.

Call us for our special deals with the Holiday Guide where people invited to supplement their advert with complimentary editorial and photos.

## WHAT'S ON

**JONATHAN YOUNG**

Monthly clinics being held in Opunake, 3rd Monday of each month. 10am-12pm at the Opunake Business Centre. Please email or phone to book a time.

**PIHAMA INDOOR BOWLS**

Pihama Hall, Monday nights, 7.30 start. Everyone welcome

**OKATO CHRISTMAS PARADE.** Sunday December 6 at 6.30pm in conjunction with the Okato Zeal church. Floats and activities will be on display and will parade through the town. A free BBQ will follow. Okato Lions will provide traffic and crowd control and all are welcome.

**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

**SURF INN**

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

**COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS**

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

**COASTAL SINGERS**

7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654

**ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS**

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

**PERCY THOMSON GALLERY**

Stratford Art Society, November 13 - December 13.

**BUTLER'S REEF**

Bad Nut – Saturday December 5 in the front bar from 9pm.

**OPUNAKE COTTAGE RESTHOME**

is celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> Birthday and the Sesqui Centennial for 2015 on the 5<sup>th</sup> of December with a garden Party starting at 11 am till 2 pm.

**PIHAMA LAVENDER – FREE FAMILY EVENT - BAND**

When: Saturday 5th December from 3pm at Pihama Lavender, 3510 South Rd, Opunake

**150 YEARS OF OPUNAKE DISTRICT**

End of year celebrations, Fireworks Display and DMan Entertainment. 5 December at Sandfords Event Centre. Refer advert for full details.

**STRATFORD SINGERS CONCERT**

'Christmas is Coming' Sunday December 6. 2pm in St. Andrews Church, Stratford.

**SELF PORTRAIT OF A PAUA – BY MAGARET SCOTT**

Book Signing at Country Connections 7th December 10.30am to 2.30pm. Refer ad.

**T & H APPLIANCES, HIGH STREET HAWERA**

Customer night, Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>. 5pm till late.

**COASTALCARE ARTHRITIS WORKSHOP**

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Refer advert.

**COASTAL SINGERS PRESENT 'AS TIME GOES BY'**

Saturday December 12 at Opunake High School. Refer advert.

**OPUNAKE COMMUNITY POOL OPENING HOURS**

Lanes – Mon-Fri 6:30-8:30am. Mon 6:30-7:30pm. Tues 9-10am and 5-6:30pm. Wed 5:30-7pm. Thurs 9-10am and 6:30-7:30pm. Public 1-4pm Weekends and Public Holidays.

**Aquafit classes** – Opunake Pool. Tues and Thurs - 9-10am. Mon and Thurs - 6:30-7:30pm. Tues - 5:30pm.

**KAPONGA AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB**

50 years of athletics celebration at Victoria Park Kaponga. Refer advert for full details.



Explorer Day coming up at Pukeiti on December 6.

## Learning to explore at Pukeiti

Bush skills will be the focus of a family-orientated 'Explorer Day' at Pukeiti on December 6.

Participants will learn skills for survival in the forest, such as building a bush shelter and making fire. Activities will run from

10.30am to 2pm.

Participants should bring water, good walking shoes, a hat and sunblock.

Pukeiti Explorer Days are held every two months, providing garden and 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 and administered by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.



## GUTHRIE BOWRON WALLPAPER SALE

Get ready for the Summer season and colour your home with wallpaper from

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MEMBERS EXHIBITION  
**Pukeko in a Punga Tree**

Ends December 18 2015

We re-open on January 18th 2016 for  
Creative Clearance

**Great gift ideas for Christmas**

The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM



Ariana Dingle and Jack Fryer performing at the musical evening at the Lakeside Playhouse on November 24.

# Opunake is buzzing with talent

A successful first meeting for the musical evening held at Opunake Players. Twenty five people turned up to display their talents.

Ashley Pedersen kicked off the evening with a video presentation demonstrating the calibre of video and audio recordings made by his company Colour Conversions. He emphasised that the purpose of these meetings is to gather talented artists with the goal of creating concerts with live recordings using the company's video, sound and lighting equipment. "If you are good enough you may be chosen to perform at these concerts. If you're not, keep practising, and we'll help you to prepare for future shows". He pointed out that the venue at Opunake players provides a platform for artists to meet, create, rehearse and practise their musical talents in new combinations with each other.

Ariana Dingle (13 Years) still at primary school, sang beautifully with a great rendition of "Rolling In the Deep". According to her mum Andrea, she also plays piano and guitar. Jack Fryer (17 years) strummed the electric guitar and performed an original rap song, making a strong statement in his lyrics about upholding school values. He is a positive role model for fellow students and young people, well done Jack. He is currently a student at Opunake High school with strong aspirations to pursue his love of music. He confided, his goal, to perform in Australia. Ariana

and Jack sang together - they regularly perform at gigs.

With his unique style, Noel Gillie from Okato, played acoustic guitar and sang an original piece "Life Wasn't Meant To Be Easy", a statement we can all relate to. The timbre in Noel's voice is such that I could listen to him often, and just get caught up in the mood of his songs. I look forward to the completion of his first album - he has already started recording with Colour Conversions.

Russell Wicks and Lisa travelled from Eltham to perform. Russell played acoustic guitar and sang an emotionally charged original song about his experiences as a child being bullied at school. The pair also sang some catchy country covers adding to the variety of the night.

There were other singers present such as Maree Christensen - now based in New Plymouth - and Ranjit Aaron (from Opunake) who have previously recorded with Colour Conversions who did not perform this time, allowing others the opportunity to demonstrate their talents first.

Mike Smith and Helen Duff from Opunake Players said they are keen to support these music sessions. Mike is a long time member of the Opunake Players, who played Jock, the canny old Angus bull in "The Jersey Girls" Farmed and Dangerous performed by the Opunake Players in July 2015. On the production team, Helen played the role of vocal coach, and sound desk operator. That's not all,

she's also a musician and the president of the Opunake Players.

Ashley, also a musician, says "we have some valuable expertise amongst us, and together we can offer "young to old" the benefit of constructive advice and guidance to help craft and perfect the artists talents to help them perform competently. A common comment Ashley says he hears is "We go along to music clubs, but it doesn't seem to go anywhere".

The next gathering will be the first that starts identifying potential talent, graded and grouped into categories for future live shows. Ashley says, using our collective experience, a constructive filtering process will begin to identify skilled and talented individuals or groups. Those performers that may not quality at present will be given direction and information that they could use to raise their performance level. In an ideal world everybody should have a chance to participate in this type of event. How close can we come?

Ashley asked the burning question - when would we like to meet up again? Majority vote determined a final decision, fortnightly meetings at Opunake Players Theatre, Tuesday evenings, starting at 7:30pm.

The team at Colour Conversions would like to say a special thanks to all the talented people who attended the first music/artists gathering/session on November 24 and look forward to even more

variety of local talent at the next meeting at 7:30 pm on Tuesday December 8 at the Lakeside Playhouse in Layard Street, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery



Calling all Entertainers

7:30pm Tuesday, 8th December 2015

Young, old, amateur, professional.

Are you a musician, singer, actor, poet or dancer?  
Do you have a talent that can entertain?

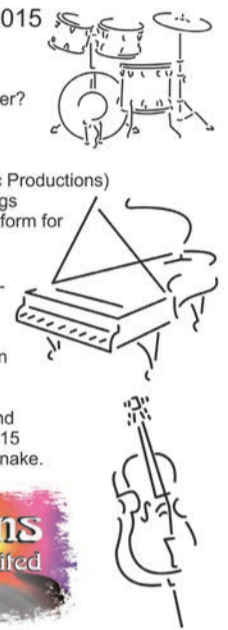
Opunake Players Inc. and Colour Conversions (Video, Audio and Graphic Productions) are starting regular performance driven evenings that will result in creating an entertainment platform for covers and original performances.

Join us for the beginning of a new opportunity - be part of future live shows.

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.

Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The second gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 8th December 2015 Opunake Players Theatre, Layard Street, Opunake.

**Colour Conversions Limited**  
Video, Audio and Graphic productions  
027 897 8941



## 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 \$10 to \$110**



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# The Club Hotel Opunake

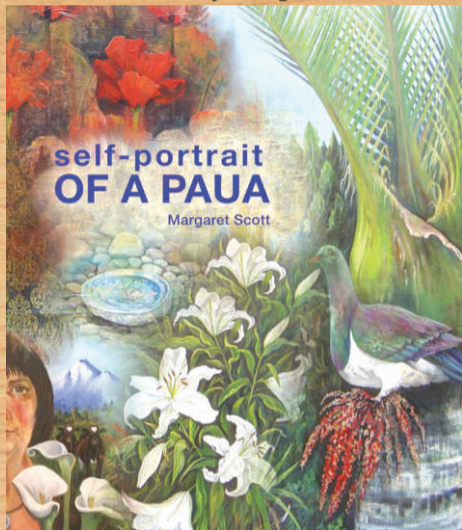
**Book in your private function**  
Pool Tuesdays - Poker Wednesday & Thursday

**Dine in or Takeaway Meals available**  
- TAB -



## Buy now for Christmas

**"Self Portrait of a Paua"**  
an Art book by Margaret Scott



**Book Signing at Country Connections**

7th December 10.30am to 2.30pm

Books also available at:

Crafty Fox, Oakura and Poppies and Paperplus  
in New Plymouth

email: artbythesea@xtra.co.nz ph: 06 752 1116

# Self Portrait of a Paua

It was while teaching art at Opunake High School that Margaret Scott first started thinking about writing a book. The syllabus required teachers to use New Zealand artists as teaching models, but she was often frustrated by the scarcity of suitable books and resources on New Zealand art to use with country school children. Students' contact with original works of art was limited, as many did not have original works of art in their homes, nor had they visited an art gallery. So she started bringing her own paintings into class to demonstrate painting techniques, and to give the students ideas for their own work.

Margaret kept thinking of what she would produce in a book that would be ideal as a teaching resource. That was 15 years ago, and finally after a year of writing, she has produced a unique and inspirational book called Self Portrait of a Paua. The stories and paintings are not only autobiographical, but also historical, in that they refer to what life was like growing up

in a large family in rural New Zealand during the 1950s and 1960s.

After she left secondary teaching, and started adult art classes from her own studio, she developed workbooks to use with her students. These students were always telling her she should publish these pages, so she has used some of these workbook pages, and developed more for her book.

Margaret has worked with graphic designer Moon Cameron from Hall of Design, to use her paintings in such a way that each page is visually beautiful. Kerry Lilley has edited the book, and Virginia Winder and Margaret's daughter Natalia Sheppard were proof readers.

This book covers over 40 years of Margaret's painting career. Over the years her style has evolved and changed depending on her circumstances. These changes are demonstrated in the many styles that appear in the book. No matter what style she is painting, she has always tried to stay focused on the culture -rich area where she



Margaret Scott with her book 'Self Portrait of a Paua'.

lives. Her paintings reflect this environment, between the mountain and the sea in coastal Taranaki, and are captured in her beautiful paintings.

This book will look great on the coffee table for holiday reading, and as a Christmas

gift, and will be for sale in Opunake at Country Connections. Margaret will be available on December 7, from 10.30 to 2.30, to personalise your copy. Books can also be obtained at Crafty Fox Oakura, and Poppies and Paper Plus in New Plymouth.

## New Exhibition

The exhibition for December is Mahwah Kitchen Studio, by Elisabeth Holmes of USA. There are some lovely things there, so do have a look.

Also coming up is GET REAL - any interpretation. For the online exhibition in February 2016, details are on the Tart website.

ICE18, the 18th annual collage exhibition/exchange is in April. Details for taking part are on outofsight.co.nz/Dale/collage.htm. Just email me if you have any problems or questions at dale@tart.co.nz

Dale Copeland

Our next issue is due out on December 18  
Phone us today to advertise on 761 7016

Dine in, Takeaway, Functions  
and Special Events



**\$10 Lunch Menu**

Wednesday - Sunday

**2 Pizzas \$25 :Thursdays**

**\$15 Sunday Roasts**

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**FREE BBQ every Friday**

**FREE pool everyday**

**Coming NEW YEARS EVE!**

**GHOST CHIPS  
and DJ**

**9PM**

**OPUNAKE SURF INN**

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Promote your events in the

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz



Stratford Art  
Society

November 13 - December 13



There's something for everyone in this vibrant exhibition. Get your Christmas shopping done early with a unique hand-tailored gift!



All welcome

Stratford District  
**creative**  
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STRATFORD

06 765 0917



Members of the Stratford Singers choir, with director Peter Copeland, warming up for their December 6 concert, 'Christmas is Coming!' Photo by Michele Bellomo.

# Christmas and the Stratford Singers are coming

The Stratford Singers are busy rehearsing for their December performance of 'Christmas is coming!' The choir is growing and the talents of director Peter

Copeland are encouraging and creative. Marina Roskilly will accompany the choir. There will be a wide range of Christmas songs, some unfamiliar

and some old favourites. Special guest will be Christopher Luke, organist extraordinaire, who enjoys playing on the resonant organ at St Andrews

Church, Regan Street.

The concert begins at 2pm on Sunday, December 6 and will be followed by afternoon tea.

# Rotokare Lake closed but Reserve remains open

Due to high levels of blue-green algal bloom (Cyanobacter), the lake at Rotokare Reserve is closed to all users until further notice. The grounds at Lake Rotokare Reserve remain open for visitors.

South Taranaki District Council environmental health officer, Geraint Evans says Cyanobacter is a naturally occurring algae capable of producing toxins, most commonly causing skin and eye irritation. However some of the toxins could potentially cause sore throats, asthma, paralysis and vomiting or diarrhoea.

"Any visitors to the reserve showing these symptoms should consult their doctor immediately or contact the Taranaki District Health Board Public Health Unit on 06 753 7798 for further information," says Mr Evans.

"Visitors to the lake should not collect or eat fish and plant life or come into contact with the water," he says.

Mr Evans says there are a number of alternative locations for those who want to go water skiing or the like, such as Lake Rotorangi at Glenn Nui, Tangahoe or the Patea Dam Camp site off Ball Road.

The lake will remain closed until cleared by the Taranaki District Health Board.



Coastal Singers present

*As time goes by*

*Celebrating 150 years*

**7pm - Saturday 12th December**  
**at Opunake High School**

DINNER SHOW

2015

Tickets \$40 - BYO - Tickets available from:  
Pastimes, Tasman Street, Opunake  
or Choir Members

Our big Christmas Issue is due out on December 18  
Phone us today to advertise on 761 7016

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM 02 BIKES**

See in store for more amazing Christmas Specials on bikes & accessories. Ends 20th December 2015

**BIKES:**

2015 Radius Petal Pushy 12"	<b>\$149.99</b>
2015 Radius Stinger AL 16"	<b>\$169.99</b>
2016 Merida J20	<b>\$399.99</b>
2016 Kona Lanai with accessory pack	<b>\$799.99</b>

**181 Gill Street, Taranaki | Ph 06 757 2085**

**0<sup>2</sup>BIKES**

*What's On* **butlers reef**

**BAD NUT**

**Saturday December 5**  
from 9pm in the front bar  
*No cover charge*

**1133 Main South Rd, Oakura**  
Phone 06 752 7765 - [www.butlersreef.co.nz](http://www.butlersreef.co.nz)

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[www.opunakenz.co.nz/everybodys.html](http://www.opunakenz.co.nz/everybodys.html)

Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale

Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Senior Citizens \$8. *No Eft-pos*

<p><b>The Last Witch Hunter</b> PG-13   Action, Adventure, Science Fiction &amp; Fantasy   105min Centuries ago, Kaulder (Vin Diesel) managed to slay the all-powerful Witch Queen, decimating her followers in the process. Her resurrection now threatens the survival of the human race as Kaulder, the only one of his kind remaining, faces her vengeful wrath.</p> <p>Friday 4<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 7pm</p>	<p><b>The Dressmaker</b> 119min   Drama   Kate Winslet, Liam Hemsworth, Hugo Weaving In 1950s Australia, beautiful, talented dressmaker Tilly returns to her tiny hometown to right wrongs from her past. As she tries to reconcile with her mother, she starts to fall in love while transforming the fashion of the town.</p> <p>Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> 1pm</p>
<p><b>Goosebumps</b> PG   Horror   Kids &amp; Family   Mystery &amp; Suspense Teenager Zach Cooper meets the beautiful girl, Hannah, living next door, her dad is R. L. Stine, the author of the bestselling Goosebumps series. There is a reason why Stine is so strange... he is a prisoner of his own imagination - the monsters that his books made famous are real, and Stine protects his readers by keeping them locked up in their books.</p> <p>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 1pm</p>	<p><b>The Hunger Games: Mocking Jay 2</b> M   Violence, horror scenes &amp; content that may disturb   137 min Katniss Everdeen teams for the ultimate mission, together, they leave District 13 to liberate the citizens of war-torn Panem and assassinate President Snow. What lies ahead are mortal traps, dangerous enemies and moral choices that will ultimately determine the future of millions.</p> <p>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> 1pm Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm</p>
<p><b>Spectre</b> PG-13   Action &amp; Adventure   150min A cryptic message from Bond's past sends him on a trail to uncover a sinister organisation. While M battles political forces to keep the secret service alive, Bond peels back the layers of deceit to reveal the terrible truth behind Spectre.</p> <p>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 7pm Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> December 7pm</p>	<p><b>Hotel Transylvania 2</b> PG   Animation   89min Hotel Trans the hit CG-animated family comedy Hotel Transylvania gets a follow-up with this Sony Pictures Animation production.</p> <p>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> 1pm Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> 1pm Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> 1pm</p>

Friday	Saturday	Sunday
4 The Last Witch Hunter 7pm	5 The Dressmaker 1pm The Last Witch Hunter 7pm	6 Spectre 7pm
11 Mocking Jay 2 7pm	12 Mocking Jay 2 1pm Spectre 7pm	13 The Last Witch Hunter 7pm
18 Goosebumps 7pm	19 Hotel Transylvania 2 1pm Goosebumps 7pm	20 Mocking Jay 2 7pm

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

Call us today to advertise  
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Next issue out Dec 18

# Celebrations to end with a bang

A hundred and fifty years of celebrating a town's history will wind up with night of celebration on Saturday.

In a departure from the way such events are traditionally celebrated, Opunake has celebrated its sesquicentenary

by asking groups to hold their own events during the year, rather than having one big celebration at one point in time. On December 5, a year of celebration will culminate with a night of entertainment at the Sandfords Event Cen-

tre and a fireworks display. Admission is free and doors open at 6pm, followed by a welcome at 6.20pm.

Those who have pre-booked can enjoy the dinner put on by Belinda and her team at Soul Kitchen, with a cash bar

available.

After speeches at 8pm, there will be a chance to show off facial hair with the beard judging competition at 8.30pm. A similar competition held back in 1965, when Opunake celebrated

100 years proved popular, and it is hoped this one will prove just as big a hit this time round.

The Mix and Mingle begins at 9pm, and then everything goes off with a bang at 9.30pm with the fireworks

display. It is advised that pets be kept indoors at this time.

Entertainment will be provided by DMan Entertainment, recognised by the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce when it took out their new business excellence award.

## Beards make a comeback for Opunake's Sesqui

It doesn't matter if it's a lifetime's facial growth or the result of a few days not shaving, all beards are welcome.

That's the message the Opu-

nake Sesquicentennial Committee wants to get out for the beard judging competition to be held during the end of year celebrations at the Sandfords

Event Centre on December 5. Entries will be judged by South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop, Carla Tito and Bronwyn McNeill at 8.30pm, after the speeches.

Unlike other beard judging competitions held in similar places on similar occasions, there will be no restrictions on the age of the facial hair.

"Come as you are, whether it's a beard that's 30 years old or 30 days old," committee chairman Bryan Roach said. "It's free to enter, just bring and show your beards, goatees or moustaches."

The idea of having a beard judging competition for the end of year celebration had come up when it was pointed out that a similar competition had been held during the Opunake Centenary celebrations back in 1965.



These are some of the contestants who will be there on December 5. Back row. From left: Bryan Roach (150yr Chairman), Murray Dobbin, Michael Roach, Mark Gopperth

"We just decided what a cool thing it would be to run it again in 2015," Bryan said.

Somebody had found a photo taken in 1965 showing

the competition entrants, who included a number of well-known local identities. It is hoped a similar photo could be taken of those taking part

in the Sesqui competition.

"Hopefully when Opunake celebrates its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary, they might want to run another one," Bryan said.

*Pihama Lavender*

You are invited to an afternoon of Music at Pihama Lavender

This is a free family friendly event. Bring your own picnic dinner & blanket or seating.

Saturday 5th December from 3pm.  
Pihama Lavender, 3510 South Rd, Opunake

*This will be before the Opunake 150 Fireworks later that evening.*



150 Years of Opunake  
Free Entry to our  
End of Year Celebration  
Fireworks Display &  
DMan Entertainment

Pub  
Charity

TSB  
COMMUNITY  
TRUST

5 December @ Sandfords Event Centre

Doors Open 6pm, Welcome 6:20pm, Dinner 6:30pm, Speeches 8pm

Beard Judging 8:30pm - Mix & Mingle 9pm, Fireworks 9:30pm

Optional Buffet Dinner \$29 per head (Must be prebooked by 1st Dec) with Soul Kitchen 06 761 7115

Dinner will be served in the Stevenson Lounge - Cash Bar Facilities

Beard / Moustache / Goatie Judging Competition, come along & show off your beard

Contact for Information: Jean Roach Secretary 06 761 8654

www.facebook.com - 150Years of Opunake District