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Jesus is the reason for the season

The Okato Christmas Parade was held on Sunday November 24 and the Okato Community Church has, as usual, organised the event very well. Credit is due to Suzette Taingahue and her organising committee.

A huge crowd turned out to see the parade of floats highlighting the festive season. The parade was led by a police car with a brass band just behind. An ambulance was nearby – just in case, with fire engines also from Okato and Ngamotu.

The intrinsic message of Christmas was upheld by the float of St Patrick's Church's nativity scene *Jesus is the reason for the season*; Christmas commemorated the birth of Jesus Christ 2019 years ago in Bethlehem.

The safety message also wasn't overlooked, as so many holiday makers will be soon be on the roads en masse; *Have a happy and safe Christmas* was the timely statement on the Okato Lions float.

The parade set off at 6.30pm sharp and made two circuits of the town allowing everyone to have a good look at the colourful spectacle.

There were lots of lollies hurled from the floats and many youngsters scrambled to get their share. There were also a few water pistols around and some onlookers got an early shower.

Visitors from other towns included Jahryl Anderson and



Santa Claus was a welcome addition to the parade.

Christin Piripi, who are both aged 10 and attend Opunake Primary School. "I liked the Christmas deer," Jahryl commented. He added, "I got heaps of lollies. It was fun and I liked the floats."

All the floats were highly imaginative and it is hard to say which one was best as they covered so many aspects of Christmas. However, standing out was the *Warea Rocks* one with their Kiss inspired white make up and dark clothes, as well as elongated tongues sticking out

(Kiss were an American rock group from a few years ago, as many will recall).

The Coastal Taranaki School had several students proudly wearing their new uniforms. The Pitone Dirt Demons also made an impact as they motored along on their mini motor bikes.

Of course, Santa Claus made an appearance as he travelled on one colourful float, resplendent in his red suit, his white beard flowing. There was plenty of noise, but the sirens from the police car and fire brigades topped everything. 'Scotland the Brave' played by the band

completed the cacophony of sound.

A barbecue completed the successful and enjoyable Okato Christmas Parade. Congratulations to all who contributed in some way including constructing floats, organising the event and ensuring optimal safety.

An advocate for Opunake

Brian Vincent has done a lot around Opunake. He was a member of the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade for 59 years, and a member of the Lions Club for 30 years. Many will remember him for the 12 years he and his wife Maureen were lessees of the Opunake Beach Motor Camp.

Last week at a function at Opunake Library Plus he was thanked for his 12 years as a member of the Egmont Plains Community Board.

"I've had my innings and I think the right people are there now with new ideas," he says.

He had always been interested in anything to do with the local council, and was first elected to the Community Board in 2007.

"I get phone calls all the time. The locals get in touch with the Community Board members more than the councillors themselves," he says. "I think I've been the eyes and the ears for the council around here. Somebody's got to do it."

One issue that has figured prominently in council and



Brian Vincent with the plaque he was presented with in thanks for his twelve years service on the Egmont Plains Community Board.

community board discussions in recent years has been freedom camping. It's something he first became aware of while at the Beach Camp.

"I'm not against freedom campers. It's all part of the tourism scene now," he says. "People have got to be prepared to talk to them. If I see them down at the lake or the beach I talk to them and find out where they are from."

He recalls talking to a couple of Germans who worked as

a pilot and air hostess for Lufthansa, and had heard about the attractions of this part of the world from their passengers.

Brian has himself been a long time advocate for the attractions of Opunake. He recalls his involvement with Coastal Promotions alongside the likes of Melva Yarrow, Phylis Komene, Michael Bannister and others.

Continued page 4

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from Taylor Dental. The last day for appointments in the Opunake Clinic is 19th December. We are open again on 9th January 2020.



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Huge upgrade for our hospital

When our coalition government's Health Minister Dr David Clark announced details of a \$300 million government-funded project to build a complete new government-funded East Wing at our Taranaki Base Hospital it had really taken me by surprise while, by the same token, I really do believe that our province really deserves such an upgrade which will bring it in line with any hospital in the country and with new modern up-to-date medical technology.

Now, during the nine years of the previous government they knew for some time that most provincial hospitals needed to be somehow upgraded. They stated they would look into it; maybe they did or didn't, but nothing really happened

at all.

Our province, at this stage, has a population of 120,000 people at the moment, but it's increasing slowly due to the fact that, since these Chinese investors were allowed into Auckland, they bought up many houses unaffordable to our young home buyers, so many Aucklanders have shifted to different parts of the country, like here in Taranaki, to live.

This new hospital wing will bring more doctors and nurses to live and work here.
*Tom Stephens,
 New Plymouth*

Thanks

On behalf of the NZ Blood Service a big thank you to the Opunake community for their support of the blood drive recently.

Forty six people attended and we collected 40 units including 13 new donors.

Your donation goes to support those patients in our hospitals who require blood and blood products every day.
*Sue Nix
 NZ Blood Service.*

Speed limits

This letter concerns the speed limit on Tasman Street, Opunake, and continued U turns on the main road.

This letter proposes a 45 km speed limit and no U turns in the shopping area for everybody's health, safety and wellbeing.

Each and every day a "near miss" occurs because of the above. Personally I have lost count of the number I have experienced. Please take immediate action before someone else is injured or killed.
*John.R.Smith
 Opunake.*

Beach Road

Although there's been a set speed limit to all vehicles of 10kph shown on the sign at Opunake Beach, as Councillor Bryan Roach says, which is really great, but there is

still remains the problem that there will always be idiots who won't abide by the sign and speed and do wheelies plus abuse the wonderful Opunake Beach front.

If I was a councillor I would propose a complete ban on all vehicles on this beach with the exception of police, ambulance, fire brigade, rescue helicopter, DOC vehicles and any vehicles authorised by the police.

What is wrong with having a coastal patrol unit done by volunteers like they have in New Plymouth which has really helped the police in many ways?

Once again Councillor Roach has reminded all farmers about being safety conscious as we all don't want the same thing happening here which is happening in Australia right now.

Maybe Councillor Bryan Roach should consider putting his name forward for mayor of the South Taranaki District Council at the next local election in three years time.

*Tom Stephens
 New Plymouth*



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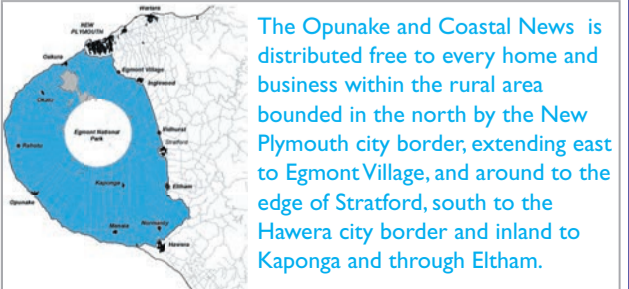
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ADELPHOS

They say good things come in small packages. We'll start with one of Jesus shortest parables. It's a real little gem designed to make His hearers think.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it (Matthew 13:45-46 New International Version).

In this pithy *Pearl of Great Price* parable Jesus leaves us to wonder why the kingdom of God was so valuable to this businessman. He was willing to invest and risk "all" his assets.

A Word in Season

In our parable today the pearl merchant had great confidence in his investment in the economy of the kingdom of God. Economists would describe his financial investment attitude as bullish: because he had faith in Jesus' future financial forecast of exponential and eternal kingdom growth. Call that a bullish Christian faith economy. For him, the purchase of that one precious pearl was a once in a lifetime investment opportunity.

In contrast, Jesus' encounter with the rich young ruler (Mark 10:17-31 Good News Bible) illustrated an opposite attitude to the pearl merchant.

This wealthy entrepreneur wanted a cheaper investment price for entry into the eternal kingdom of God or Heaven. But, Jesus saw into his heart and discerned that his love of wealth was greater than his love of God. Jesus then, "... looked at him with love..." and told him to give away all he possessed to the poor. The young multi-millionaire sadly walked away. His cash holdings, community status, farms, vineyards and livestock seemed more valuable to him than life in God's eternal kingdom economy. Perhaps he never heard Jesus say, "Do not store up riches for yourselves here

on earth... Instead, store up riches for yourselves in heaven... For your heart will always be where your riches are" (Matthew 6:19-21).

As Christmas approaches, our short pearl parable surely points to the most precious pearl investment of all—the baby Jesus who offers us eternal life in His kingdom. His sparkling little eyes again invite everyone, rich and poor, to invest their hearts and wills in Him. When He comes again, He will share heaven's riches and rewards with those who invested in His kingdom.

Te aroha, te whakapono, me te rangimarie, tatou tatou e.

EDITORIAL

It is a move in the right direction that the Government has made allowing some prisoners (those whose sentences are less than three years) to vote

Prisoners should all be allowed to vote

It is a move in the right direction that the Government has made allowing some prisoners (those whose sentences are less than three years) to vote in general elections and local body elections. Their democratic rights should never have been taken away from them in the first place and it is extra-ordinary that the last Government should endeavor

to justify their actions. A total of 1900 prisoners will now have their franchise returned to them which was rescinded about nine years ago.

New Zealand is the first truly democratic nation going back to 1893 when women were allowed to vote – admittedly not before a hard fight and several huge petitions. Admittedly, even in 1893

women did not have full rights in many ways, but it was a good start which paved the way for further progress including the right of women to become Members of Parliament.

People, who have broken the law, are sometimes required to serve prison sentences, depending on the

Continued page 3

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Down the Chute with Chute

A war crimes investigator has joined her uncle in his campaign to change the name of a street in Normanby.

South Taranaki District Council are currently developing policy on the naming of streets and roads into the future and are giving consideration to possible changes to street/road names, said South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon.

In a letter to Alison Cole who wrote to him in connection with Chute Street in Normanby, a campaign to change the street name seems to be gathering momentum.

It was Mac Sole from Hawera who is spearheading the campaign to change the name of the street named after General Trevor Chute who replaced Cameron and waged a campaign to destroy Maori resistance in Taranaki.

In several weeks he and his force which include 620 troops beginning at Whanganui, swept up through eastern and central Taranaki destroying Maori villages, many undefended, in his path taking few prisoners and inflicting countless casualties on the Maori people.

"It as a war crime," says Alison who is Mac Sole's niece and for the last 20 years has been working for the United Nations investigating international war crimes, the aim being



Mac Sole (left) with his family's coat of arms and niece Alison Cole.

to prosecute war criminals. She is currently living in Wellington working at the New Zealand Government War Crimes Enquiry investigating allegations against SAS

troops in Afghanistan. "Uncle's initiating changing the name of Chute is justice in New Zealand," she says. "My uncle is my hero and inspiration. I'm really proud of what he's doing.

It was only by accident that she discovered what her uncle was doing when visiting the office of South Taranaki iwi Ngati Ruanui and they assumed she'd

come in to get their opinion. Mac, who was a close friend of Ronald Hugh Morrieson jokes that he's spent a lot of his life behind bars. He means the drinking ones and is delighted that his niece has joined the cause. It was Alison who wrote to the mayor. Alison comments "I applaud him for giving this issue consideration." Some residents in Chute Street are in favour of a name change. Alison says if it happens she would like to see "some sort of memorialising of why the name was changed" alongside the new name.

Comments Mac a more appropriate spelling would be "Shoot Street". Comments Mac of Chute "He was doing what the Nazis were doing in Germany." While others could come in for criticism, Chute was out on his own for his ruthlessness." The only word I can think of is "a murderer." He ordered it and thus set the tone for his troops under him also. Added Alison, "He dehumanised Maori. That's what war criminals do." And she added incredulously "He (Chute) was knighted."

Prisoners should all be allowed to vote

Continued from page 1

nature and severity of their offending. Few are evil or beyond redemption, but the majority have poor literacy skills and appalling family backgrounds with poor adult role models as they grew up. Low esteem is also a factor for many. Surely, with so many negatives in their backgrounds, there is no need to also further diminish these people by removing their democratic rights. Taking an interest in their nations'

affairs, including voting, surely is part-and parcel of prisoners' rehabilitation towards their eventual release and playing a constructive part in society.

Regardless, with the suspension of the rights of prisoners this was, in effect, a suspension of full democracy in New Zealand.

Originally, the Waitangi Tribunal ruled that the removal of voting rights by the last government impacted unduly on Maori prisoners. Subsequently, a High

Court Declaration (upheld by the Court of Appeal and Supreme Court) that the law as changed was inconsistent with the right to vote in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Mr Bridges, the Leader of the Opposition is a man of integrity and undoubted ability, but his recent comments about this issue are unfortunate. Also, given the above paragraph, his sentiments on the issue most unwise.

As soon as possible, all prisoners should have their

democratic rights returned. It is just a shame the current Government did not go further and restore the democratic rights of all prisoners.

Rolland McKellar

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Festive season begins

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Well hasn't this year flown by, with Christmas right on our doorstep. It's time to start thinking of buying presents. If you are looking for something unique, why not pop down to the South Taranaki District Councils "Arts in the Park" Event? It is all happening this Saturday the 7th December 10am till 3pm, at King Edward Park, Hawera. There will be loads of craft stalls with lots of options that you wouldn't find in commercial stores.

One of the most tedious jobs I despise is the wrapping of the presents. You spend a lot of time wrapping, then on Christmas Day it is ripped off in seconds, only to be left with a huge pile of discarded paper. Actually the amount of waste generated in the Festive season is at least double, sometimes triple more than



Steffy McKay

normal. Our Environment and Sustainability Team are organising a free sustainable wrapping event. They will be offering free Christmas gift wrapping (with a difference) in the Hawera Town Square on Thursday 19th and Friday 20th 10am till 2pm. Not only could you learn ways to be more environmentally friendly, it will also save you

a lot of money. And the extra bonus here is you could have all your wrapping done early.

If you need to take some time out, head on down to one or all of our Town's Christmas Parades. These will be held on the following days:

Eltham- Friday 13th December from 5pm.
 Hawera- Saturday 14th December 12pm.
 Manaia - Saturday 21st December 11.30am.
 Opunake - Tuesday 24th December 6pm.

During the Festive season it's really easy to get hot and bothered. If you need to cool down you can utilise one of our seven "Free Entry" Rural pools that open on Friday 13th December. These are a real point of difference for our Council as you would be hard done by to find other

District Councils in New Zealand that offer seven rural pools in our outlying towns that are free for our residents to use.

They reckon our summer is going to be a scorcher, so I have no doubt they will be well attended.

Lastly as we head into our silly season and the Christmas work parties start, please stay safe. Make sure you have alternative transport options rather than drinking and driving. Let's not keep our emergency services busy. I'm sure we all want our loved ones around the Christmas table with us.

Wishing you all a Safe and Joyous Christmas and will see you all in the New Year.

Councillor Steffy Mackay

Head student a family tradition

I was a year five student at Coastal Taranaki School when my eldest brother was selected to be head student for 2012. At the time I didn't really think much of it, well, you all know what year five students are concerned about - and it certainly isn't who is head boy. Then, three years later my other brother was also selected to be head student, this time for 2015. I was in year eight at that time and it started to register with me how important his role was and that perhaps I would be expected to follow



Lucy Cruden-Powell

the lead set by my brothers. No pressure - not in the slightest! So, I decided to live up to the standard set by my brothers and three years later it was announced that I would be head student for 2019. Three out of three. It felt pretty unreal but I was proud of myself. Being a fairly quiet and reserved person, this was a big deal for me. This was a chance for me to come out of my shell while being in a safe and supportive environment, which is exactly what I did. I learned to be comfortable

with speaking in front of large crowds and to work independently as well as with others. I enjoyed being busy running assemblies, council meetings and other school events, such as the ball. Being head girl has been a highlight of my time at CTS, it is an experience that I will never forget and which has helped me to grow and develop. I now feel more prepared to meet the world at large than I did at this time last year.

Lucy Cruden-Powell

An advocate for Opunake

Continued from page 1

He even went to Auckland airport with a placard extolling the attractions of Opunake and parked himself so that visitors could see it as they arrived in the country.

Brian grew up in Rahotu where he went to primary school. One of his classmates was future prime minister Jim Bolger, who Brian remembers would still drop in at the Beach Camp for an ice cream when passing through town.

Home for Brian since 1967 has been Opunake. It's a town with whose history he is very familiar. There would

have been few community board meetings in the last 12 years which didn't include some historical note of interest from Brian about whatever issue was being discussed around the table.

At one meeting he came with photos of Opunake Beach in the 1920s, pointing to what was then a towering rock, but today barely juts its head above the sandy surface.

The future of his beloved beach is something which still resonates with Brian. He is aware of the threat posed by rising sea levels and he knows the local tides and what they can do.

"It's not if the water goes over, it's when, and it will take out the beach," he says. "These things are happening around the world and it will happen here."

Other groups Brian has been involved with have included the Opunake RSA, of which he has been a committee member for the last five years.

"596079, that's all I need to tell you sir," he quips in reference to his army days.

He has helped with drawing up rosters for the Bayly Road Lighthouse and takes people to medical appointments as a driver for Coastal Community Transport.

Keeping movies screening along the coast has been another passion of his right back to his times helping "Boss" Whiting show movies in Rahotu. Today he keeps his hand in as a member of the Everybodys Theatre Trust.

Other things he is remembered for around Opunake include his earthmoving work which has included helping out with drainage projects and

energy projects like the Maui pipeline.

It's been a while since he had the Motor Camp but he still gets Christmas cards from people who had stayed there when he was in charge.

He says he will still turn up at meetings of the Taranaki Coastal (formerly Egmont Plains) Community Board when issues he is interested in like the town's water intake or the future of his beloved beach come up for discussion.

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Food drive shows there's generosity aplenty



The Opunake St John Ambulance about to leave on the Food Drive.

On Tuesday last week, there were sirens sounding on the streets of Opunake, but there was no need to panic. It was the Opunake Fire Brigade and St John's Ambulance combining to do what they always do this time of year, help out with the Food Drive for the Opunake Foodbank.

"We actually got some good stuff and some thoughtful stuff. It's not just cheap cans," said Vlad Purgaric of

Opunake St John's.

Opunake Foodbank coordinator Aretha Lemon said last year they had made up 30 Christmas boxes, and this year they were looking at somewhere between 30 and 40.

"There's definitely still a need, and the need keeps growing. That's what seems

to be happening around the country."

She said she was pleased to see the number of young people who helped out with the Food Drive.

The number of items collected on Tuesday night was similar to that picked up on previous food drives, but what she'd noticed this year

was the number of items brought in by churches, community groups and schools from as far afield as Rahotu and Auroa.

"Opunake is really cool for that," says Aretha. "I think the whole thing has been a community event."

Opunake Library Plus book review



Force of Nature by C. J. Box

Up until this book I had never read anything by C. J. Box but now his books are on 'my must read' list. Like other suspense writers this author puts a lot of mystery and thriller elements in this book. What makes a difference is his amazing descriptions of the landscape his characters move through. It is easy to feel you are sitting right

with the characters moving through mountains, towns and streets. One of the main characters is Joe Pickett, a Wyoming game warden and he is a solid family man and an unassuming hero. It was easy to vision him in cowboy boots and hat, and I got a chuckle at his one word 'Yup and nope' answers when he is trying to avoid engaging with people he thinks are a bit behind the ball. He is hardworking, moral and a character of great strength.

Nate Romanowski is Joe's loner friend, a former special agent who holds a deep dark secret that his former boss would rather he never tell. Nate Romanowski now lives off grid and is a top class falconer. Falcons and the art of falconry play a big part in this story woven into it in such a way that the reader easily understands the connection between Nate's current and former life and even our own lives. Joe

gets involved in a deadly situation when Nate's past comes back to haunt him. They want Nate dead and they will attempt to garner information from anyone who knows him and kill anyone close to him.

Nate is the force of nature and we are taken on a roller coaster ride through this page turner. The plot is expertly written and hooks you in the first few pages, making it nearly impossible to put down. This is one of those 'It is 3am but just one more page' gripping reads.

You can reserve this book in at any South Taranaki LibraryPlus branch in person, or call us on 0800 111 323.

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Matt Stone on the beat in Okato and Oakura



Constable Matt Stone, the newly appointed policeman in Okato.

The new policeman for Okato and Oakura is Constable Matt Stone who took up his position on November 13. Although he has lived in Taranaki for the last fifteen years he spent his formative years in Windwhistle, a small farming community in Canterbury.

Matt has an interesting

vocational history. After leaving school he completed a sports degree before choosing the police as a career. After graduating as a police officer he was stationed in New Plymouth for eight years before deciding to train to become a primary teacher. He consequently spent the next four years

teaching. However, he found he missed the police and returned 18 months ago to be stationed in Stratford. "I'm stoked to be back," he reveals. However, he adds, "I learned a lot from teaching."

He explains that he found the primary school teaching excessively tiring in that

you are never free of it, there is always something that needs to be done. Even the paperwork requirements alone these days is onerous. "It was very time consuming" and his young family were not seeing enough of him, he felt. He and his wife have four children ranging from one to eight in age.

Most of Matt's interests revolve around sport. He has extensive coaching experience and currently is coach of the Port Taranaki Whio, which is the Taranaki women's rugby team.

With his job, he feels that education is foremost in preventing crime. "Prevention of dishonesty is the key. It is 50/50 in relation to the number of thefts of insecure buildings and vehicles as there is to secure ones."

These days the Police are endeavouring to change the mind-set of the public; with prevention the focus, rather

than having to carry out a prosecution. As regards domestic violence, two factors which often emerge include "people not working and a lack of money."

Matt concludes, "I want to be part of the community and for people to feel

confident to call by and say hi." There is little doubt Matt has hit the ground running; he has already visited Coastal Taranaki School and has visited a number of homes in the township to introduce himself.

Wide-ranging works will deliver better journeys

Road works along State Highway 3 this summer will help ensure motorists travelling between Waikato and Taranaki will soon experience safer, more enjoyable journeys.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Acting Waikato Systems Manager Rob Campbell says as the Transport Agency focuses on improving the roads, increasing safety and making people's journeys more enjoyable, there are a number of sites on SH3 with traffic management in place.

"Warmer spring and summer months are the best time for resurfacing as daylight hours are longer and the warm temperatures and dry air help the new seal stick to the road surface.

"While we try to keep inconveniences and delays from road works to a minimum, we urge motorists to be patient and recommend they allow extra time for journeys between Waikato and Taranaki, and in other regions as well."

The Awakino Tunnel Bypass is currently the main construction site on State Highway 3. This 2.3km project involves building two bridges to take traffic away from the single-lane tunnel and includes a northbound passing lane.

Most of the bypass work is happening away from the main highway, so overall disruption is expected to be at a minimum through to the scheduled completion date of mid-2021. Retaining walls are currently being built at either end of the site, with traffic down to one lane and controlled by lights.

Other SH3 works currently

underway include passing lane construction at Ladies Mile, near Awakino. Traffic management is expected to be in place until around April 2020.

Retaining wall construction at Mangaotaki and the Awakino Gorge. Both are scheduled to be finished before Christmas.

Resealing and repair works in the Awakino Gorge should be completed before Christmas.

Resealing works at various sites between Mokau and

New Plymouth will continue throughout the summer.

Mr Campbell encouraged motorists to stick to the signposted speed limits and be patient when driving through road works sites this summer.

"We want to keep everyone safe when driving through road work sites, and that includes our road workers.

"The Transport Agency thanks the public for their patience while we carry out this important work."

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Victims should get justice

Released last week, National's Law and Order Discussion document has created a great deal of comment. There are 43 ideas aiming to reduce crime, improve community safety and help break the cycle of violence that hurts so many New Zealand families.

There's been plenty of media coverage of the anti-gang proposals like banning patches, and the Strike Force Raptor targeted policing, but there are many more proposals intended to put victims at the heart of the justice system.

We believe victims should get justice, criminals should be held accountable for the harm they cause, and offenders should be rehabilitated so they can become contributing members of our society. In certain circumstances, when set criteria is met, we will wipe the convictions of young people so their life isn't defined by one incident. Our Police are vital to



JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

fighting crime. We will ensure Police know what law enforcement targets they must meet and we will free them up to do so, for example, by greater use of non-sworn or authorised officers and mental health professionals.

Keeping people safe with a tough response to crime goes hand in hand with reducing it through Social Investment measures, such as prevention and rehabilitation.

Both are essential. Victims of crime should be at the centre of the justice system, not an afterthought.

Our MPs have spoken with families who have had loved ones murdered and who haven't got the justice they've deserved as victims in their own right.

Our proposals seek to correct this, whether that's by automatically signing victims and their families up to the Victims Notification Register or by giving them the right to read their Victim Impact Statements in Court, uninterrupted and uncensored.

Using National's Social Investment approach we want to ensure prisoners can upskill so they have a better chance of not returning to prison. Alongside this, we think there should be increased support for prisoners when they are released back into the community so they are less likely to commit further crimes and victimise more people.

National is focused on the justice system as a whole. Our proposals touch on

all aspects of it, whether it's the Courts system, or Corrections, or the law in between.

We're working hard, and these proposals show National has the ideas and momentum to deliver for all New Zealanders.

This document is just one part of the biggest policy development process undertaken by an Opposition ever. Enter into the contest of ideas with your feedback at https://www.national.org.nz/law_and_order. And of course, I'm very to hear your thoughts as well – contact me at newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

*Jonathan Young
New Plymouth MP
National Party
Spokesperson for: Energy and Resources
National Party
Spokesperson for: Regional Economic Development (NI)*

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Provincial Growth Fund provides a boost

The Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) is providing a boost to future-proof the Manawātū-Whanganui economy

The Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) is investing \$772,000 in opportunities for growth in Manawātū-Whanganui, says Regional Economic Development Minister Shane Jones.

NZ Bio-Forestry Limited will receive a \$380,000 boost for game-changing research which could unlock significant growth in the wood processing sector, while Horizons Regional Council will receive \$200,000 for the refresh of the region's economic action plan, Accelerate25.

"The Coalition Government wants less raw logs shipped overseas and more processing happening domestically, particularly in

our regions. We also know that trees play a huge role in reducing our greenhouse gas emissions not just by absorbing carbon, but through innovative use of wood fibre," Shane Jones said.

"Research led by NZ Bio-Forestry Limited could lead to New Zealand's first bio-plastics facility in Manawātū-Whanganui, and put NZ Radiata Pine at the centre of solving recycling challenges."

"The research will consider whether NZ Radiata Pine is a viable alternative to carbon-based plastics like food packaging and single-use cups, and can be used for high-value plywood. The could lead to a processing facility being built to manufacture these products and enable more efficient processing by making use

of the entire log, thereby reducing waste.

"Nationally, this research is a key step in developing technology which could help New Zealand meet climate change targets and transition to a low emission economy. For the wood processing industry, this would lead to increased productivity, new jobs, and growth across many regions which could also use the technology. Given the majority of forests in Manawātū-Whanganui are on iwi-owned land, there is also an opportunity for this project to improve economic returns for Māori.

"The PGF will also provide funding support to Rangitikei District Council to develop its plan to establish a rural water supply scheme for its region, and provide funding to assist Tararua and Whanganui with support

to undertake economic development projects.

"We'll also invest \$200,000 in Horizons Regional Council to refresh the Accelerate25 economic action plan. This will make sure priorities for the area reflect recent changes in regional economies, keeping local people front and center of spearheading Manawātū-Whanganui's pathway to a stronger regional economy," Shane Jones said.

The projects announced were NZ Bio-Forestry Limited \$380,000, Horizons Regional Council \$200,000, Tutaenui Community Agricultural Water Scheme \$120,000, Capability Funding Support for Tararua District Council \$32,000, and Application Funding Support for Whanganui \$40,000

JONATHAN YOUNG

MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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Authorised by Jonathan Young MP • Corner of Gill & Lizardet Street • NP

Mere Kirihimete me nga mihi o Te Tau Hou Merry Christmas and New Year greetings

Harete Hipango MP for Whanganui

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Looking forward to a new year



Harete Hipango MP for Whanganui.

Christmas is quickly approaching. In just four weeks we will wrap up Parliament for 2019 and soon after welcome an election year. I have had a chance to reflect on 2019 – on the relationships formed, the successes had in our communities, and the work I've undertaken as a representative of the Whanganui electorate and member of the opposition. There's been the annual Taranaki Women's Lifestyle Expo, Waverley and Egmont A & P Shows, and the Whanganui Home Show, graduations, citizenship ceremonies, sports awards,

cultural festivals, fundraisers and exhibitions.

I have been busy with work throughout the electorate up into South and Central Taranaki, and with my NZ Maori Tourism portfolio; attending conferences and presentations, meeting with tourism operators and local Government authorities. There are regular meetings with councils, business and community leaders, reporters and radio stations, as well as weekly Select Committee hearings, Parliamentary and National Party work, all of which has me travelling throughout Aotearoa, New Zealand and at times overseas.

My role has taken me to the Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, Canberra and Brisbane, and whilst in Brisbane on the Australian Parliamentary Exchange, I met with the New South Wales Police Commander Criminal Groups Squad and Strike Force Raptor. The meeting was arranged following the release of National's Law and Order Discussion Document. We discussed their "supress

not oppress" approach to gang and high-end criminal offending.

My focus remains on doing what is good and the greater good for my Whanganui electorate and constituents. I have kept a close eye on issues like the Arms Amendment Bill, South Taranaki's healthcare and the Government's Freshwater Proposal – which has been a cause for concern to a number of locals, particularly those on the Waingongoro River. I have spent time with constituents, discussing their concerns and ideas, meeting farmers at marches on Parliament, and I receive regular updates on matters from councils, community bodies and my team.

This year I was fortunate to have debated in the Chamber on the significant Abortion Legislation Bill and End of Life Choice Bill. I have long advocated for the welfare and protection of our most vulnerable and I have a responsibility as a legislator to protect those most susceptible to abuse and harm. I have used my

experience and knowledge of the law to focus on the facts and issues of what the proposed legislation will do – diminish due care, regard and responsibility to and for others.

The highlight of my role is meeting and engaging with constituents. Whether through appointments in my electorate offices or out and about in the community. I have felt the atmosphere and passion at marches and protests on Parliament, from climate activists, farmers, pro-life advocates, and White Ribbon – men against violence.

As a National MP, I am part of a party that challenges and holds this coalition Government to account. Part of that has been to seek feedback from the public on a range of issues from primary industries to social services. This is part of the biggest policy development process by an opposition ever. We're doing the work now so we're ready to hit the ground running in 2020.

Harete Hipango MP Whanganui

Scrap oil and gas subsidies

Scrap oil and gas subsidies says Māori Party candidate

Māori Party candidate for Te Tai Hauāuru and environmental campaigner Debbie Ngarewa-Packer is calling on the Government to scrap oil and gas subsidies in the wake of news that Tamarind Taranaki may be leaving it to the Government to front up the entirety of the \$155 million decommissioning costs for its Tui Oil field.

This follows news that Tamarind has gone into voluntary administration and that there has been a

small oil spill from the Tui Oil field this month.

"Aotearoa has fringe companies like Tamarind operating in our waters and on land because the Government offers the industry subsidies, tax breaks and split decommissioning costs," said Ms Ngarewa-Packer.

"The current review of the Crown Minerals Act offers the Government the opportunity to ensure that oil and gas is recognised as a sunset industry. This must include scrapping incentives and subsidies, including the income tax break and the offer to meet 42% of

decommissioning costs.

"Concerns about the ability of Tamarind to foot the decommissioning bill were raised during the EPA consent hearings, yet as usual they fell on deaf ears.

"New Zealand taxpayers are footing the bill for the recklessness of what is a multi-billion-dollar industry, while here in Taranaki we are suffering the environmental consequences of their negligence.

"It's good that last year the Government closed the loophole that meant Tamarind did not have to go through financial checks in the consenting process,

but we also need to scrap incentives and put a ban on new onshore exploration.

"We have known for years that oil and gas is a sunset industry, and yet the Government's policy settings still do not properly recognise this reality.

"We need to act urgently to protect our whenua and moana, while ensuring Aotearoa takes real action on climate change," said Debbie Ngarewa-Packer.

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Meri Kirihimete

Our 2019 Prefects first official function is to wish you and your whanau a happy holidays, their second official function is to pull together the Opunake High School float in the annual Santa Parade, keep an eye out for their very Kiwi Christmas.

Pictured clockwise from top left: Blake Harkness, Richard Takarua-Hewitt, Cody Doherty, Gabriel Broughton, Emma Wineera, Jayden Churchill, Tamara Turnbull, Hayley Quinnell, Danielle Kidd, Jamiee Siciliano, Meg Gibson and Ariana Dingle. Absent - Kaiah Bloor and Jackson Henare.

Congratulations to Blake and Meg on being named out 2019 Head Boy and Head Girl respectively. Jamiee, Tamara and Jackson were named as their deputies.

JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING 2019

Held on November 6th, our 2019 Senior Prizegiving was truly one out of the box, and for Opunake High School we took another step forward in embracing the future by live-streaming the entire event. Below is a list of our Art, Cultural & Special award winners, the full list of winners is in our Yearbook, due out early in December.

SPORTS AWARDS

- Cavaney Cup
Junior Girls' Athletics Champion
Kyah Newton, Bethany Cook & Jorja Symes
- Clement Cup
Junior Boys' Athletics Champion
Crisjohn Abad
- Cassie Cup
Intermediate Girls' Athletic Champion
Lia Sefton-Zachan
- Opunake High School Cup
Junior Girls' Cross Country Champion
Jorja Symes
- Grant Cavaney Cup
Junior Boys' Cross Country Champion
Jaden Siciliano
- Opunake High School Cup
Intermediate Girls' Cross Country Champion
Lia Sefton-Zachan
- Harvey Rosé Bowl
Junior Girls' Swimming Champion
Arna Bright
- Pennington Cup
Junior Boys' Swimming Champion
Harry Gibson & Cayden Marsh
- Sulzberger Cup
Intermediate Girls' Swimming Champion
Miriama Gibson
- Opunake High School Cup
Most Consistent Girls' Hockey Player
Jorja Symes
- Eileen Anderson Trophy
Most Improved Girls Hockey Player
Ella Bright
- Dawn Pentelow Cup
Most Improved Year 9 Netballer
Jordyn Farquhar
- The Roach Cup
Most Improved Girl in Soccer
Lia Sefton-Zachan
- Meyburg - Weir Trophy
Junior Boys' Surfing
Regan Story
- Warren Turnbull Trophy
Junior Grom Girls' Surfing
Aroha Turnbull

- L'Ami Trophy
Most Valuable Junior Girl Basketball
Bethany Cook & Jamie Wineera
- L'Ami Trophy
Most Valuable Junior Boy Basketball
Cameron Quinnell
- Rangi Ngaia - Bernie Fleming Trophy
Most Promising Junior Rugby Player
Quade Ericsson
- Most Improved Junior Rugby Player
Brayden Shaw
- Hobson McLachlan Cup
Most Points Scored U15s Rugby
Manase Filihia & Kaleb Paton
- Captain U15 Rugby
Manase Filihia
- Most Dedicated Junior Rugby Player
Kaleb Paton
- Best Forward in Rugby
Brody Fox
- Best Overall Junior Rugby
Manase Filihia
- Player of the Year U15s
Thomas McLean & Brody Fox
- MX Trophy
Most Improved MX Rider
Luke Whiston

- Opunake High School Dream Achiever
OHS Junior Dream Achiever Trophy
Jorja Symes & Lexi McQuaig
- Lena Sharrock Award
Runner-Up in Year 9 subjects
Harry Gibson
- Kaupokonui Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award
Top in Year 9 subjects
Jorja Symes
- Lena Sharrock Award
Runner-Up in Year 10 subjects
Lorin Symons
- Phillips Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award
Top in Year 10 subjects
Lexi McQuaig



CULTURAL AWARDS

- Te Rawhiti Ihaka Trophy
Manu Korero Speech Competition
Junior Maori
Thomas Tito-Green
- Talia Maree Patene Memorial Trophy
Female Leader
Keesha Craig

SPECIAL AWARDS

- OHS Cup
Junior Sportsperson of the Year
Jorja Symes
- Aveling Family Cup & Award
Character Award for Junior Students
Lorin Symons & Natalie Bradford

IMPORTANT 2019 START DATES

- Monday 20th January:** Office Re-Opens
- Tuesday 28th Jan., 1.00pm:** Year 13's - Preparation Afternoon
- Wednesday 29th Jan.:** Welcoming Powhiri for new Students - 9.00am Year 13's to Hall, Year 9's and other new students meet in carpark area. 9.30am Powhiri.
- Thursday 30th Jan., 9.00am:** Orientation for Year 9 & 13 Students
- Friday 31st Jan.:** Orientation for *all* students - 9.05 Iwi for all year levels, followed by orientation.
- Monday 3rd February:** First day of timetabled classes (Week B).

GROWING GOOD GARDENS

It's been all go in the Agriculture department at Opunake High School this year, with a dual focus on planting and proving trees for the Coastal Walkway and improving our garden beds from ground level to raised ones to tidy up the area and to make them ergonomically better for all. Many contributions of support came from our local community and without them this would've been a lot more challenging than it was.

Special thanks must go to Jared Wilson (Taranaki Pine) for donating the timber, Kerry Stockwell (ITL) for delivering at a very cheap price, the topsoil donated by J Swaps and Paul O' Rorke and kindly delivered by Lewis Rampton and moved by Tracy and Keith Crawford and lastly Pauline Sandford who coordinated the delivery of soil and has been instrumental in this project moving forward.

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou katoa!



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GROWING GOOD PEOPLE FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

He waihangatanga o te tangata pai i roto i tenei ao hurihuri

New seat a welcome addition to walkway



A gathering of Pihama WI members, the Hickey family and friends were on hand for the delivery of the latest addition to the Opunake Walkway.

It is now possible to sit and relax while enjoying what for many has been a hitherto unexplored part of town.

The site of a dam along the Otahi Stream which can be accessed from the Surf Highway is somewhere which even people who have lived in town for a long time maybe unaware.

Now that it is part of recent extensions to the Opunake Loop Track that maybe about to change. Earlier this year, Opunake Lions Club members had put in a track across land owned by the Hickey family as part of extensions to the Opunake Walkway. Two weeks ago a seat which had been donated by the Pihama Women's Institute was placed on the banks of the Otahi Stream across the road from the Opunake dairy factory..

The seat had been built from Australian hardwood by John Pine. Pihama WI members and their husbands had spent two and a half hours retrieving the wood from the cross arms of power poles that had once stood along the Nopera Road.

"The Pihama WI is celebrating 65 years and we wanted to do something to acknowledge that and to remember past and present members," said president Bernadette Gopperth.

Pihama WI members were among those present when the seat was delivered and placed in position. Adrienne (Snapper) Young then said a blessing.

Longstanding Pihama resident Peter Trolove said until recently he had been

unaware of this site.

Farmer Darrell Hickey said he believed allowing his land to be used for a walkway was a way of serving the local community.

The area was rich with memories for the Hickey family.

"My Dad used to say that heaps of people used to come and swim in the hole here," he said.

He points to the concrete

structures of the dam.

"All this would have been mixed by hand and done with shovels and wheelbarrows," he said. Gloria Kahupukoro said the Opunake Loop Trail Committee wanted to thank the Pihama WI for their donation of the seat, as well as Adrienne (Snapper) Young for the blessing.



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A bench seat for St Barnabas

A new bench seat has been made by Ron Brewer and donated to St Barnabas Church by Ron and Nevis Brewer in memory of Nevis' friend and our's, the late Pat Gibson. The bench seat was collected from the Brewers' home and delivered to the church by Peter Robinson. It was dedicated by Dean Peter Barleyman after morning service on Sunday November 17.

Nevis said Pat was the first friend she had in Opunake, and they remained friends through the years.

Pat was a wonderful lady



Dean Peter Barleyman and Rev Ian Sargent.

who gave herself freely to the church, partaking in Sunday services, being Guild secretary for 25 years and serving as the Regional Dean's Warden.

She was a dab hand at painting. The kitchen and other sundry rooms received her special attention.

The garden was always a blaze of colour, and growing plants for the annual fair was another of Pat's specialities.

Our lives have been enriched by knowing Pat.

We sincerely thank Ron and Nevis for their generosity.

The plaque reads. "In memory of Pat Gibson. Who

gave her time unstintingly to St Barnabas. Donated and made by Ron and Nevis

Brewer.

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Rinnai

Apiranas perform in Opunake



Ainsley and Steve Apirana performing at Soul Kitchen.

Steve and Ainsley Apirana love their music and are happy to share it with others anywhere any time.

“We’ve played in big festivals and in little concerts. We’ve played in schools and prisons and little house groups where you might get 10-20 people with a barbecue and you become the entertainment. I love doing it,” says Steve.

On Saturday he and his wife Ainsley were in Opunake playing to an appreciative audience of about 100 at Soul Kitchen in Opunake at a concert organised by The Wave Church. The next morning they followed this up with a performance at The Wave’s Sunday service.

Steve’s last visit to Opunake was five years ago

Born in Rotorua, Steve later became a street kid in Christchurch before embarking on a musical career which saw him become one of New Zealand’s leading Gospel performers.

He took up the guitar when he was 14 and became a Christian while playing in a band in Christchurch,

“From quite early my music career involved church. There was a local drop-in centre in Christchurch which helped us with our music. They would let us use their music gear and we had a great time. We learned our music trade there. Our manager was a Christian minister’s son and he kept telling us about the Lord. We became Christians quite early in our careers, then my friend and I started playing Gospel music.”

Ainsley was born in Australia, the daughter of New Zealanders who had made the move across The Ditch.

The two have been married 37 years, and with their children having left home they now have more time to tour together. Although they now live in Australia, they like to tour New Zealand as often as they can. As soon as they get a few invitations like the one they received from The Wave Church, they string a tour together and come over here. Before coming to Opunake they had performed at Taneatua in the Bay of Plenty.

Both Steve and Ainsley are songwriters and Steve says their repertoire would include a third of Steve’s material and a third of Ainsley’s, with the remaining third being covers.

On Saturday they came with original songs from both of them including a love poem Ainsley’s great grandfather had written which Ainsley had set to music. As well as the Gospel music for which the two are best known, a couple of secular numbers were performed including The Turtles hit tune Happy Together which Ainsley

described as “our theme song.”

Steve’s storytelling abilities have become a well known feature of his performances, and his wit showed as he related some of his own life story, and about how he came to the realisation that God accepted him regardless of how he saw himself.

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

Increasing numbers of elderly Kiwis facing deteriorating health are being forced to turn to the government for help in paying for rest home care.

Ministry of Health (MoH) figures show that in 2016-17 alone, the government provided \$966 million to assist 26,100 older New Zealanders in care.

Although the government expects people who can afford to do so to contribute to their own care - including using assets such as their

Elderly relatives



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homes - once these funds whittle down to \$230,495 (the current threshold set by the government), they may be eligible for help.

However, industry experts believe many New Zealanders are either unaware they can apply for a government subsidy (known as a residential care subsidy) or leave it to the last minute to do something about it.

Jane Smart, chief operating officer of specialist health and aged care provider Radius Care, says families need to prepare earlier to help an elderly parent or relative enter the later stages of their life "otherwise it's a panic zone".

She says when families are suddenly faced with a struggling parent, it can be daunting: "It is not easy to traverse the system and is a hard conversation to have. But it is important they have it while the person is cognisant and able otherwise they (family members) may impose their own thinking on the matter.

The subsidy, administered by the MSD and funded through the Ministry of Health (MoH), is available to seniors who need long-term residential care in a hospital or rest home but who don't have the income to fund it.

The money is paid directly to the rest home or hospital by the MoH. The level of subsidy is determined

following an income assessment and is calculated as the difference between the cost of care and what is able to be contributed by the individual.

It covers stay in rest homes, long-term care in a hospital, dementia care and psycho-geriatric care and is designed to assist those with "high" or "very high" needs which cannot be safely accommodated by carers (often other family members) at home.

Smart says the number of elderly people needing this type of care is increasing and believes many are not being assessed for their eligibility quickly enough: "We always do our best to help in these situations, but it is incumbent on the families to initiate an application for an assessment; we can't apply for them.

"People need to get on to it, they can't just leave it," she says. "It is best to do so before they reach the stage where they are worried; they may have an aged mother who's not coping well and perhaps has had a fall, that sort of thing.

Radius is a New Zealand owned and operated company providing rest home and private hospital care in 22 locations across the country. Smart says most of its 1700 residents are receiving a residential care subsidy.

To be assessed for a

subsidy, people over 65 must first meet an asset threshold set by the government. At present, that figure is \$230,495.

If their assets are worth more than this (most houses are valued higher) then the subsidy is not payable - meaning many will decide to sell their home. The proceeds go towards care but, once that threshold of \$230,495 is reached, the state can bear the full cost of care and that money remains with the person in aged residential care - to be used for an inheritance or other purposes.

An income assessment is also carried out and can involve New Zealand superannuation, contributions from relatives, earning from interest and bank accounts, investments or income from a business or job. Money earned by a partner through work is not counted as income.

For those receiving New Zealand superannuation (and a Veteran's Pension or any other benefit), most of this income will go towards their care. However people get to keep a personal allowance of \$45.28 a week and receive a clothing allowance of \$283.97 a year.

Services covered by the subsidy include accommodation, food, laundry, nursing, visits to a GP, prescribed medication and transport to health services. Among those not covered are 'premium' rooms, visits to a specialist not publicly funded, transport to social events, and the cost of private phones, newspapers, books, magazines and personal toiletries.

Smart says the subsidy will cover the cost of a standard room and if people wish to upgrade their accommodation at Radius this will typically cost an additional \$15 to \$20 a day which must be paid for privately.

Age Concern, the New Zealand charitable organisation which promotes the rights, wellbeing and quality of life for those aged over 65, recommends everyone at this age appoint

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a person as an Enduring Power of Attorney before moving into a rest home to, if necessary, manage their affairs and make decisions on their behalf.

It also recommends people shop around when considering a rest home and says a list is available either from a local Age Concern, the District Health Board or a NASC.

There is a deep-seated social conundrum poised to affect our elderly: how do we fit hundreds of thousands of people who will need aged residential care into only tens of thousands of beds?

It's a problem the rest home industry says is already hitting home – and which, if not solved, will sentence increasing numbers of frail, elderly people to a lonely death at home.

The numbers, say Brien Cree, the managing director and founder of Radius (22 aged care facilities around New Zealand), don't lie. There are about 39,000 beds in the country – beds for frail elderly who need medical treatment and/or nursing help.

However, our ageing

population is set to mushroom spectacularly. Our population as of June 2018 was 4.8m. The latest figures for those aged 65-plus come from 2016: 700,000. Those 85-plus at 2016: 83,000. Fast forward to 2048 and the numbers of 65-plus are forecast to swell to 1.4m, with those 85 and over are predicted to hit up to 315,000, according to research from the New Zealand Aged Care Association (NZACA).

So those 39,000 beds are going to be in demand, particularly, says Cree, if the current shortage of new facilities by the aged care industry continues. The NZACA has forecast there will only be 52,000 beds by 2026.

Reports late last year noted there were 81 retirement villages being built, seeking consent or being planned. That figure of 39,000 beds does not include retirement villages – but they often have more to do with property development and retirement lifestyles than aged care, says Cree.

"Many have some aged care facilities but not very many beds," he says.

"They tend to use care as a marketing tool; an incentive to buy into a retirement village that many people think will be their last move. If their health starts to fail, many will have to shift to a facility like Radius – but the bottom line is that, unless you have additional funds, it is very difficult to move out of a retirement village."

It's difficult to plan ahead, he says, as most people want to stay home, but families should try to do so as much as possible for the sake of their elderly relatives, because of the current shortages.

So why is the aged care industry not building more facilities to cater for this wave of elderly? Cree says they simply can't afford it: "Funding in this sector is so low that existing operators can continue to exist – just – but the margins are low; the returns aren't sufficient and the funding just doesn't exist to build care facilities, as opposed to retirement villages.

"We have been lobbying successive governments about this for years but nothing is being done."

Part of the problem is reports of over 80 retirement

villages on the way tend to mask the situation, suggesting the wave of increasing elderly will be comfortably contained on welcoming shores.

"But those retirement villages don't cater for the vast majority of 65-85 year-olds who have become frail and can't look after themselves," says Cree, "or the 85-plus age group who have a higher percentage of people who need care."

NZACA chief executive Simon Wallace says New Zealand's property boom has made the cost of land and development difficult for not-for-profit, religious, welfare and charity operators. Retirement villages were able to "cross-subsidise" their smaller care facilities through the cost of the units sold.

Residential aged care facilities do not sell units; most people needing care are on government subsidies – many sell their homes to pay for their care until their assets reach the \$230,000 threshold which means the state can pay from that point if they are within income and asset limits.

Cree cites his own mother's

experience – in a wheelchair after a stroke, she was in care for 17 years – as an example of the long-term care many people need: "The reality is that a lot of people need ongoing care. The DHBs do critical care really well – but they are not geared up for long-term care and no one has any more beds. There is a massive shortage."

"The Northland DHB has 700 people waiting to be assessed for care. They normally have seven needs assessors to do that job. Now they have only two – and they will be stressed out trying to get round 700 people when they can only do about two a day."

Wallace says the NZACA's recent report, Caring for our older Kiwis, raised concerns about the ability of many elderly people to access care when they need it. Over half of the country's DHBs are delaying access to rest homes, with potentially serious consequences for their health.

That's led to what Wallace calls "postcode care" by

DHBs, as evidenced in the NZACA report, meaning the ability of elderly to access residential care varies according to where they lived.

It showed that, out of the 21 DHBs, the best admission rate for people in most need of care was only 54.1 per cent (Waitemata DHB), with Bay of Plenty (29.6 per cent) and West Coast (28 per cent) the worst. Only 10 DHBs had an admission rate of better than 40 per cent.

In terms of months taken to get into a residential care bed, it took those people most in need of care an average of 2.1 months (if they lived in the Waitemata DHB area) or 9.7 months if they lived in Hawkes Bay. Only 8 DHBs had waiting times of less than four months.

Cree: "People need to have confidence that we are there and the system is there – only the system isn't really there and we are facing a future that doesn't look good."

*New Zealand Herald
Contributed by Opunake
Cottage Rest Home.*

Another Green Flag for Pukekura Park



Pukekura Park curator Kristian Davies says his team is keeping the world-class park in great shape for future generations.

It's Kristian Davies' first year on the job as NPDC's Pukekura Park curator and he's already keeping up a world-class tradition.

Mr Davies has led his team to a Green Flag award for the seventh year running. The Green Flag is an international mark of the world's best parks.

"This is a tribute to the hard work of NPDC Parks staff in all weathers and seasons and reflects the dedication that goes into the ongoing development of the park," said Mr Davies.

"Pukekura Park has been the green heart of New Plymouth since 1876 and it's

also a Garden of National Significance and a major draw for visitors and locals alike. The team is keeping it in good shape for future generations."

Pukekura Park is unique in offering a diverse range of landscapes, from remnant native bush, to vast lawn areas and garden displays, and has a world-renowned sports arena.

It also includes the TSB Bowl of Brooklands, the Fernery and Display Houses and the popular Brooklands Zoo. The park is set to host the TSB Festival of Lights from 14 December which this year includes 14

new light features. Next year, the Bowl will host A Summer's Day Disco on 11 January, a sold-out show from Kiwi band Six60 on 1 February, Ben Harper and the Innocent Criminals on 21 February and WOMAD on 13-15 March.

This year, the park underwent a successful trial to desilt its lakes and waterways, using an amphibious dredging vessel imported from Sweden and plans are being drawn up to complete the project over the next two years.

Experts assess a park for a Green Flag Award

on 27 criteria, including horticultural standards, cleanliness, sustainability, community involvement and providing a warm welcome.

Pukekura Park covers 52 hectares, and was established in 1876 when lawyer Robert Hughes persuaded the Taranaki Provincial Government to buy 12 hectares of wasteland as a recreational reserve.

It became known as Pukekura Park ('red hill' park) in 1907.

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Shameful day of plunder in Parihaka

How NZ's colonial government misused laws to crush non-violent dissent at Parihaka

This month, Māori in the Taranaki region remembered the "day of plunder," – the 1881 government

invasion of Parihaka, the small settlement that had come to symbolise peaceful resistance to the confiscation of Maori land..

It was one of the most brutal events in New Zealand's past. Government



Parihaka.

troops marched into Parihaka and took control of the settlement. They systematically destroyed the community's ability to sustain itself, suspending the ordinary course of law and imprisoning people without trial for participating in what was a justified act of non-violent resistance.

Almost 140 years later, New Zealand is beginning to make amends for this low point of civil liberties, biculturalism and tolerance in the history of the nation. The Crown has formalised its apology with the signing of the Te Pire Haeata ki Parihaka/Parihaka Reconciliation Act. A succession of recent governments acknowledged and apologised for "unconscionable actions at Parihaka" and a NZ\$9 million reconciliation agreement was signed last year "to heal the relationship between Parihaka and the Crown".

While it is important that we apologise and reconcile, it is equally important that we learn from the experience so it is never repeated. This is why I have looked back at how law has been wrongfully applied as an instrument of power to crush non-violent dissent.

Justifiable non-violent action

This story began in 1866 when Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kakahi established a settlement at Parihaka on land confiscated by the government in the 1860s as a penalty against "rebels" in the Taranaki wars. Te Whiti and Tohu began to develop a community which adopted non-violent measures to resist further land loss. It quickly grew to more than 2,000 inhabitants.

Matters started to come to a head when Governor Grey's government began opening the area for European settlement in 1878. Te Whiti resisted, rightly claiming that Māori land reserves promised in 1865 within the confiscation process had not been set aside.

Accordingly, after surveyors failed to mark out reserves promised to Māori in southern Taranaki, in March 1879 Te Whiti ordered the surveyors to be peacefully evicted. In May of the same year, followers of Te Whiti and Tohu began to plough land across the disputed areas, as an assertion of their rights to it. By the end of July, 182 ploughmen had been arrested.

Worst land laws in NZ's history

The government responded in early August with the Maori Prisoner Trials Acts. This enabled their continued imprisonment "for offences against public order" until a date was set for their trial.

The crime of removing

survey pegs or ploughing was liable for a penalty of up to two years in jail. The date for trial was continually postponed and the numbers continued to build up. Between July and September 1880, 223 more Māori were arrested for placing fences across the road in an attempt to protect their cultivations.

Only 59 fencers received a trial, but all were sent hundreds of kilometres away to prisons in the South Island. In late July, a new Maori Prisoners Act of 1880 deemed it lawful to hold people in custody. To avoid any confusion (or questioning of what was going on), a text was added that said:

All the said Natives so committed for and waiting trial ... shall be deemed and taken to have been lawfully arrested and to be in lawful custody, and may be lawfully detained.

The West Coast Settlement Act 1880 allowed any armed constable to arrest without warrant anyone interfering with surveys, engaged in unlawful ploughing or fencing, or obstructing a road.

In 1881, a commission set up to examine the matter concluded that the Crown had failed to fulfil promises about Māori reserves. It recommended some be granted. The government started creating new reserves by late September 1881, but these were not returned to Māori outright and instead placed under the administration of a public trustee. Many were sold or leased in perpetuity by European farmers.

The new law did not resolve the situation. People in Parihaka continued to erect fences around traditional cultivation sites. The government decided to

use direct action.

Fearing that the non-violent resistance was a prelude to armed conflict, the government called up 31 units of the volunteer militia and five companies of the armed constabulary and a naval brigade (655 troops and nearly 1,000 settler volunteers). They entered the site on November 5 1881.

Passive, peaceful resistance

The troops found the road blocked by 200 children singing songs. The troops carried groups of older girls off the road and finally met residents sitting in the centre of the marae (meeting area). After reading out the Riot Act and telling those gathered to disperse, some 1,600 Parihaka inhabitants were expelled and dispersed throughout Taranaki without food or shelter.

The remaining 600 residents were issued with government passes to control their movement. Soldiers then destroyed most of the buildings at Parihaka. The government issued an indemnity order for all of those acting on behalf of the Crown at Parihaka.

Te Whiti and Tohu were arrested and charged with sedition for saying that "the land belongs to me." They were held without trial for 16 months. With the West Coast Peace Preservation Act of 1882, the Crown decided not to prosecute the case, but the governor was given the right to retain them in custody, or free them with, or without, conditions if deemed necessary.

Local Māori were also prohibited from gathering in groups of more than 50. Anyone threatening to breach the peace could be jailed for 12 months.

A few months later the government gave itself the authority to proclaim amnesties for "offences... more or less of a political character...during the insurrections...committed by Maoris," but Te Whiti and Tohu were not covered by this. Not until 1883 was a truly general political amnesty issued for all Māori in this matter – as if it was them who were at fault.

*Alexander Gillespie
Professor of Law,
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Superette opening in Opunake soon

A superette opening in Opunake in mid December will be a mini supermarket with add ons.

Called Opunake Discounter, the new business is opening in what was previously Treasure Trove, several doors down from Everybody's Theatre.

The owner Prince Joshi had a café in Hawera for two years. The lease however was due to run out and they had to relocate providing a new opportunity.

"I like living in small towns," said Prince. The beach was another attraction.

Initially he had planned to open a pizza and a café in Opunake.

Then he changed tack. "I started thinking differently" and decided on a superette.

He is independent of the major supermarket chains not a franchise which gives him "more freedom". That means no fixed pricing, and flexibility.

Noting that there was nowhere in the town centre's



Prince Joshi and Nana Tabokai and their son Virat in Opunake's new superette.

main street you could buy cone ice creams he's adding cone ice creams to the usual

supermarket fare of grocery items, vegetables and meat. He's also installed bulk food

bins.

They'll also sell coffee, milk shakes, and "a

different" chicken and chips currently available in town.

He's also open to

suggestions and says, "You name it, we'll get it."

His wife Nana will be assisting in the business and he'll also employ locals he says.

The opening hours are yet to be decided and will depend on demand. He's open to suggestions.

The location will also help bring business to the seaside of the main street. "There'll be no more u turns," he quips which will be safer.

The couple have a 7-year-old son Virat who says he is interested in meeting new friends.

Prince's interests include cricket and the sociable man says he enjoys chatting with people.

They've just rented a house in Opunake and are hoping to, in six months, buy a house in the town.

"People have been very welcoming," says Prince.

He extends a welcome everyone to come in and say hello.

"You don't have to buy anything."

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Cows face their own exams

High school students aren't the only ones facing exams – about 50,000 dairy cows are undergoing their own rigorous assessments.

Trained inspectors are visiting hundreds of farms across New Zealand to assess each cow's characteristics and traits.

"The data we collect is hugely important. It helps shape the genetics powering our multi-billion-dollar dairy sector," said Holstein Friesian NZ inspector Tony O'Connor.

"We record a cow's height and weight, and score her udder, legs, rump, capacity, condition and behaviour in the milking shed."

The data is combined with milk production records and is used to evaluate the performance of the country's top bulls.

Herd owning sharemilkers Dean and Aimee Perrett milk 260 cows on 73 hectares at Manaia in South Taranaki.

They're one of around 400 Holstein Friesian breeders having their cows' traits other than production (TOP) assessed this spring.

"It's a really important information gathering exercise for our business. It gives us more data to help improve our mating decisions," said Dean.

"Our cows have great udders, but the



Aimee and Dean Perrett.

TOP assessments have highlighted rump angle as a weakness we need to consider when selecting bulls at mating."

It's believed changes in a cow's rump angle can be partly blamed for a decline in her fertility and ability to get in calf quickly.

The Perrett's have all their two-year-old heifers and a handful of older cows assessed under the TOP system each spring. They also herd test, which records a cow's production, six times a year.

The coastal farm produced 110,000 kilograms of milksolids (kgMS) last season and is on track to produce 120,000 kgMS this year.

"Our herd sits in the top 1% for Holstein Friesians in New Zealand for BW (breeding worth)," said Dean.

"I'm trying to breed a

cow that's a solid producer with an udder built to last. Longevity is important."

The Perretts have sought-after genetics with breeding companies seeking to contract mate almost 40 of their cows this season.

The couple didn't mate the spring calving portion of their herd this year. They are in the process of transitioning to a fully autumn calving system.

"We started the transition in 2016 when we milked our cows which didn't get in calf through the winter," said Dean.

"This area is suited to winter milking. We can grow 30kgDM/ha/day of grass at that time of the year. Growth rates are as low as 5kgDM/ha/day in the summer."

About 100 tonnes of palm kernel and 220 tonnes of homegrown maize silage are fed on a feed pad. They also

buy in 80 tonnes of Prolig

and harvest surplus grass for silage.

"Our goal is to lower our stocking rate and have cows producing close to 600 kilograms of milksolids each. That's the benefit of having Holstein Friesians, you can produce more milk with fewer cows," said Dean.

Holstein Friesian NZ TOP inspectors will assess more than 31,000 Holstein Friesian cows and two-year-old heifers this spring.

Registered pedigree animals receive a classification score which is awarded as part of the assessment. Last spring 413 Holstein Friesians achieved excellent or greater.

Other breeds of dairy cows will be assessed by inspectors from their breed society.

Brad Markham

Jail sentence for animal abuse

A Palmerston North man has been jailed and his wife fined \$30,000 after pleading guilty to a total of 20 charges relating to the abuse of cows and calves in their care.

Malcolm and Cheryl Wood pleaded guilty earlier this year to multiple charges under the Animal Welfare Act which included wilful ill-treatment and reckless ill-treatment of cows and calves that were part of a dairy herd they were in charge of.

They were both sentenced at the Palmerston North District Court. Mr Wood received a two year jail term and his wife was fined \$30,000. They were disqualified from owning animals for five years and ordered to pay court costs of \$11,700 between them.

The Ministry for Primary Industries took the prosecution after receiving a complaint about the poor condition of a large number of cows and calves in the 500-plus herd.

MPI's Director of Compliance Gary Orr says animal welfare inspectors found significant animal

welfare issues after they visited the 280 hectare property in Opiki.

"There were multiple incidents of severe neglect. Some of the calves that were found were in such poor condition that they had to be euthanised. These calves were in a state of physiological stress resulting from severe malnourishment and should have been euthanised much earlier in order to end their suffering.

"Many of the milking herd that comprised approximately 167 cows were in extremely poor condition.

"The herd had been subjected to prolonged under-feeding leading to physiological stress and concurrent disease, such as mastitis.

"Neither Mr or Mrs Wood took any steps to address the malnourishment of the herd. Instead, they continued to walk these cows to the milking shed twice a day in spite of their poor condition and low quantities of milk.

"Other examples of abuse included 87 calves that were found in a rearing shed.

All were dull, depressed, dehydrated, malnourished or emaciated to varying degrees. It was found that calf-rearing basics were not being done and the calves were effectively being starved through receiving only a quarter of their daily needs.

"Milk was being fed cold to them meaning that half of the milk energy was consumed just to achieve body temperature. Calves in need of veterinary treatment were not receiving it.

"Inspectors also found several injured cows on the property. Despite being aware of the injuries, Mr and Mrs Wood did not seek veterinary advice or treatment."

A veterinarian found that multiple management issues had contributed to the farm's animal welfare issues, including insufficient feed and pasture on the farm and insufficient labour to satisfactorily run the farm.

"This is a very sad case that could have been avoided if farm practices were optimal."



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Organic transition paying off for Pihama farmers

Stephen and Janet Fleming were already established Pihama dairy farmers when they made the plunge to go organic. They had bought their Watino Road farm in 1988, added on to it in 1993, and in 2004 started on the certification process. The process takes three years for the land and 18 months for the stock.

“We had been buying a lot of organic food for our family, and meat and milk was a large part of our diet,” says Janet. “What drives me is that we wanted to be proud of the product we are producing.”

The early years were not easy.

“There was a big drop in production initially, but over the years we pulled it back to 10 per cent below what we had been doing conventionally.”

Janet says it was tougher for them than for those making the transition today who have a wider range of organic products and advice to help them with their conversions.

“One hurdle to cross was the rule introduced a few years ago that prevented organic farmers from using tanned timber. Today there is an alternative fence post available made from milk bottles, which meets organic farming requirements.”

Janet says by the time they bought a 60ha farm on the Omuturangi Road, it was easier to apply what they had learned from their experiences on the home farm to their new property. Today they milk 315 cows on their 132ha Watino Road farm and 180 cows at Omuturangi Road.

Stephen and Janet’s son Jordan who initially worked on Omuturangi Road now contract milks both farms.

Janet is a member of the Fonterra Organic Farmers Advisory Group set up four years ago to recognise the value and provide transparency for organic farmers.

“Organic dairy farming is recognised at the highest level of Fonterra for the value it adds to the company, and it fits with Fonterra’s



Janet and Stephen Fleming.

strategy as well for value and sustainability goals.”

Janet says one of the big challenges they face is being able to come up with enough organic milk to satisfy a growing international demand. Fonterra exports organic dairy products to many countries including the United States, Korea, China and Australia.

The advance rate for Fonterra organic farmers in the 2019-20 season is \$8.75kg/MS.

Milk is processed in Waikato and picked up at

night so that it stays cool while travelling the longer distances.

The Flemings have recently made another transition. They have gone from milking all year round and calving twice a year to milking once a day, with winter’s off and calving in spring. When taken alongside their organic farming practices, Janet sees this as a way of the future for the dairying industry. It could attract people back into dairying who may have been put off by seeing how hard their parents worked,

and wanted to spend more time with their families.

“I think organic once a day attracts families who want to eat well and live well. You can finish at 10 o’clock in the morning and then get away to do what you enjoy doing.”

It also ticks a lot of boxes on compliance issues, with less effluent. Cows are in the shed only once a day, so effluent is not such a big problem, races are used less often, and the reduced stress on the animals minimises animal health costs. To be

certified organic there are rules on stocking rates per hectare, so organic dairying is not as intensive as its conventional counterpart.

“You need to be good conventional farmers to be good organic farmers. You

can’t farm by default,” says Janet.

“Many farmers in Taranaki are farming very close to being organic, and there’s support to help them with their conversions that wasn’t there when we started.”

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Managing facial eczema

It's that time again. With summer now upon us and the weather warming up, you may be starting to think about facial eczema management.

As of last year, recommendations around treating facial eczema have changed. It is now indicated that when using zinc supplementation, you should go straight to a full dose of zinc. Research information suggests there is little value in "priming" with a half rate.

The DairyNZ website is a great place to find industry recommendations for FE control. These articles contain practical steps for managing the FE challenge and include dose rates of zinc. 5th Business Agri fully supports the DairyNZ recommendations to monitor the FE risk on your own farms. Regional spore counts are merely indicators of the trends in FE risk. Additionally, recommendations to blood sample to check if the zinc dosing programme is effective is also supported.

As many farmers found during the severe eczema season several years ago, relying entirely on zinc may not offer the complete protection expected.

Additionally, the rate of zinc use, even if half rates are used, will be detrimental to animal health and performance e.g. promotion of copper deficiency, reduction of feed intakes and interference with calcium nutrition. Therefore, taking steps to reduce the requirement for zinc and the length of time zinc is used is recommended.

Incorporating FE risk into planning of summer dry feeding strategies is recommended. Pasture sprays are useful but need to be monitored for effectiveness. And as FE is essentially a rye grass problem, cropping and supplementary feeding are good strategies for minimising FE risk. Substituting rye grass for tall fescue when re-grassing can be considered, as fescue has a significantly lower FE risk. Other low risk options include pure swards of chicory, plantain or lotus.

While maintaining pasture quality over the summer



Pat Poletti

period is important, some management strategies can actually increase your risk for FE. Topping over the FE period may increase the FE risk by leaving behind dead matter.

As mentioned above, zinc therapy induces a secondary copper deficiency, the symptoms of which can include increased somatic cell counts and clinical mastitis, reduced growth rates in young stock and decreased fertility.

Restoring copper levels post-treatment is imperative and supplementing with a customized trace mineral blend will ensure copper levels are gradually restored and unwanted side effects of copper insufficiency are minimized.

It is estimated that for every cow with clinical FE, another 10 cows will have subclinical symptoms, including reduced milk production and damage to the liver. Fortunately, the liver has great powers of regeneration. There are plenty of dubious brews and potions that claim to assist this process but in the end just taking care of these animals with good levels of feed will deliver the best result.

As there is no cure for FE, prevention through risk management is key to protecting your stock.

*Pat Poletti
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Taranaki dairy farmer wins big at Stratford

Two cows owned by a Taranaki farmer have won major accolades at a hotly-contested dairy show in Stratford.

Almost 200 cows and heifers competed in the North Island Championships at the Stratford A&P Show over the weekend.

Makuri Goldwyn Hazel EX, a nine-year-old Holstein Friesian owned by Mark Rowland, was named the champion all breeds dairy cow.

She also took out several other awards, including best udder in the Holstein Friesian section.

"The win still hasn't sunk in. We've had some great moments in business, and this is certainly right up there," said Mark.

"Hazel is my favourite cow. She doesn't like a lot of fuss and is always one of the first at the shed for milking."

Mark milks 110 Holstein Friesians at his Stratford dairy farm. Hazel produced



Makuri Goldwyn Hazel EX, Harvey Verwaayen and Mark Rowland.

712 kilograms of milksolids in 2018-19.

She was one of three cows and two calves he entered in the show, which drew breeders from the Waikato

and Manawatu.

His six-year-old cow, Makuri Gold Amber-ET EX2, also won several accolades, including supreme champion Holstein

Friesian cow.

It was her first time in the show ring.

"She's never been shown before, but she's always been quiet and is a really

sweet cow who's a dream to work with," said Mark.

Amber was born after Mark and a friend imported 10 embryos following a trip to Canada.

"I got to see four generations of the same cow family in one barn. That's unusual in Canada," he said. "We sold her full sister two years ago for \$13,500."

It was the first time cattle have competed at the Stratford A&P Show since 2017.

Cattle classes were cancelled last year because of the threat posed by the

Mycoplasma bovis outbreak.

Two-year-old heifer Larkspur Beemer Libby-ET, owned by Palmerston North-based Fusion Genetics, was named the Holstein Friesian intermediate North Island champion.

Yearling heifer Hukaview Darling August-ET took out the Holstein Friesian junior North Island champion title.

Holstein Friesian NZ member, Gordon Fullerton, 22, won the World Wide Sires all breeds junior judging competition.

Brad Markham.

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Bee-threatening soil residue up to 14 times 'safe' levels

Traces of a class of insecticides known to pose a risk to honeybees and other 'friendly' insects have been found in the soil across nine North Island sites a year or more after the insecticide was applied.

Evidence suggests the concentrations of neonicotinoid soil residues identified in the new study are potentially harmful to bees and other beneficial insects, but non-toxic to humans.

Dr Chris Pook, now at the University of Auckland-based Liggins Institute, and Dr Iana Gritcan from AUT sampled soil for residues of neonicotinoid insecticides from maize fields in the Bay of Plenty, East Coast and the floodplains of the Waikato, regions known for long-term maize growing. These sites were selected after local beekeepers reported, over several years, unexplained losses of hives wintered in these areas.

Neonicotinoids are most commonly applied as a coating on planted seeds, which dissolves and disperses into the soil, and recent research shows traces can remain for months or years.

Tests revealed that, in 43 out of 45 samples, concentrations of neonicotinoid residues exceeded the Environmental Exposure Limit set by the New Zealand Environmental Protection Agency (NZEPA), which is one nanogram of imidacloprid per gram of dry soil (about one part per billion). The average concentration of

imidacloprid across all sites was 5.1 parts per billion; the highest measured was 13.7 parts per billion.

Imidacloprid is one of three neonicotinoids licenced for use in Aotearoa New Zealand as seed coatings. NZEPA have not set residue limits for the other two, thiamethoxam, clothianidin. However, the researchers also found residues from clothianidin across all 45 sites (average 8.2 parts per billion, and up to 109.3 parts per billion).

"Either the NZEPA has overestimated the hazard from neonicotinoids, and these levels are nothing to worry about, or it's got its threshold right and these findings flag up a huge problem," says Dr Pook, a research fellow at the Liggins Institute.

"There's robust evidence that these kinds of concentrations are accessible to pollinators via a multitude of routes - via flowering plants, or residues leached into surface water, for example."

In Europe, the use of neonicotinoid insecticides was heavily restricted after the European Food Safety Agency accepted concerns raised by scientists and conservationists about their detrimental consequences for non-target species.

In New Zealand, there are no such restrictions, and nor is there any requirement to keep sales records, so it is not possible to tell whether neonicotinoid use is rising or falling. Anecdotal evidence suggests it's used widely across the country and for a



Chris Pook.

variety of crops, especially for maize.

Dr Pook pointed to the recent comments from the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, Simon Upton, who highlighted that the way NZ collects and uses data about the environment could be leading to poor policy decisions and environmental damage. "It's a classic example of how you can't manage what you don't measure," says Dr Pook.

"Even if New Zealand's use of neonicotinoids is not increasing, the annual application of neonicotinoids, whose residues persist for more than a year, may cause their accumulation in the soil of the country's fields," he says.

The consequences for New Zealand's biodiversity are unclear. The study authors point to evidence from the Netherlands that the abundance and diversity of both freshwater invertebrates and insectivorous birds are heavily reduced in

areas where neonicotinoid concentrations in surface waters exceed about one hundred nanograms per litre, or one hundred parts per trillion.

But, there is no way of telling if this is an issue in New Zealand because we appear to have no reported measurements of neonicotinoid in surface water.

"Our study was not designed to assess the impact of neonicotinoid residues upon bees and we are not suggesting a link between the soil residues and the reported beehive losses," says Dr Pook. "However, in light of our findings, the effects of these residues upon non-target insects in New Zealand's agricultural communities should be investigated and the risks associated with their continued use reviewed by the NZEPA."



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A Saturday afternoon ride at Warea Stables.

On Saturday mothers who may have taken their own children through Pony Club without having had the chance to do so themselves were given the chance to live their dream.

Warea Stables hosted a Master Class for adult riders put on by the Oakura Pony Club. The club had been one of four in the country given the chance to run trial Master Classes for adult riders in the 2019-20 season. As it was still a trial, the number of riders taking part was being capped at 8-9.

This was the third rally or gathering they had had, said Oakura Pony Club president Tracey MacKenzie. Previous events had included showjump lessons and a beach ride.

“We have access to a great bunch of coaches across Okato, Oakura and New Plymouth who are prepared to give up their time,” she said. “Fun, friendship and adventure is our motto.”

On Saturday afternoon a group of riders made their way to an arena which had been laid out by Warea Stables’ Lisa Deane, complete with Christmas lighting.

“This whole arena lights up at night time,” said Lisa. “I spent three days and three nights doing this.” There is

also the utility room which Lisa has dubbed the She Shed with inspirational quotes on the wall for any riders who for one reason or another maybe having a hard time.

Lisa says events like this give mothers who may have taken their children to Pony Club for years to do something similar for themselves. It also provides a comfortable environment for anybody who may feel nervous about appearing before an audience.

“This gives the ladies the

opportunity to live their dreams,” she says.

“I loved horses ever since I was little. I did Pony Club when I was young, but money was tight so I never got the opportunity to do it all. Now I’ve gone full circle and I’m doing Pony Club myself.”

She thinks it could be the start of something bigger.

“If we can start this chain reaction we can get other clubs to start their own adult clubs and compete against each other.”

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Mania Golf results

November 23. Saturday Men. 1. Trevor Larsen. 2. Paddy Heta. 3. Phil Elliott. 4. John Oliver. 5. Denis Hurcomb. 6. Kingsly Young.

Stroke. 1. Reiden Robinson. 2. Jaxon Robinson and Jack Gargan. Putting. Jaxon Robinson. Jack Gargan. Reiden Robinson.

Stroke Kiwis. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Jahrell Hunn. Seniors. 1. Kieran Taylor. 2. Oliva Symes.

November 18. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Hunnuz. 2. Cory’s Mullet. 3. Hakana Matata. 4. J & Boys. 5. Otakeho Hackers.

November 25. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Tu Meke. 2. Hakana Matata. 3. Cory’s Mullet. 4. Tui & Red. 5. Rookies.

End of Month Tournament. 1. Marina Gopperth. 2. Matthew Laing. 3. Cody Clark. 4. Greg Elliott.

Closed Club Xmas Hamper. Ladies. 1. Michelle Cathy. 2. Adrienne Johnston. 3. Tui Steele. Men. 1. Joe Gibson. 2. Janine Johnston. 3. Paul Hunn. 4. Matthew Laing. 5. Phil Elliott.



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Defending champs at home in opening round of club rugby

Defending champions Spotswood United will be at home in the first week of next year's CMK Taranaki premier club rugby draw, which has been released by Taranaki Rugby.

Spotswood United, who won the premier division for the first time after beating Coastal at Yarrow Stadium in July, will host Stratford/Eltham at the same venue when the competition begins on 28 March 2020.

Taranaki Community Rugby Manager Cole Brown said he is looking forward to next year's competition which seems to always produce quality rugby in the community.

"It's proved to be a very tight competition that anyone can win, evident in finals over the last few years. What's also important is that a number of our Yarrows Taranaki Bulls players are playing in club rugby raising the standard for everyone and producing great rugby. There are also players who are striving for higher honours."

Brown also credited club volunteers for their hard work during the year, especially when formulating the draw.

"Rugby couldn't happen without these volunteers. That's from administrators, people making the clubs operate, field markers and referees. They make rugby happen across the country and we couldn't do it without them," he said.

The repeat of the final will be held in week seven of the first round when Coastal travel to Yarrow Stadium to play Spotswood United.

Semi-final repeats between Spotswood United and Tukapa, which will double as Dan O'Brien Day, and New Plymouth Old Boys and Coastal will be played in the second and third weeks of the competition respectively.

The cross-town rivalry between Tukapa and New Plymouth Old Boys will come as early as the first week at Sanders Park.

Brown said having the rivalry early in the competition will build hype



Coastal had the ball but lost to Spotswood in the Premier final this year.

and engage the community from the 'get go'. Old Boys will then host the match in the second round on Saturday 16 May at Vogeltown Park.

Outside of these matches,

A total of 14 regular season rounds will be played with eight teams competing for the silverware in the premier competition.

The Division 1 and Colts

rugby, continuing their five-year relationship with the Union.

Company Principal John Dazley said the company is proud to extend their sponsorship which, not only includes club rugby, but also the Taranaki U19 and sevens sides.

"It is great to see so many local players progress from the local club competition and onto the Under 19 and Sevens side.

"Hopefully the club competition can once again produce a close contest where everyone can beat each other on their day," he said.

Dazley encouraged the community to travel around the province to watch the games whether it be the ladies, senior thirds, colts or seniors.

"We look forward to getting to all the clubs and watching some good footy." CMK has been providing



CMK principal John Dazley.

Brown said that there are plenty of other club rivalries throughout Taranaki.

"For me other highlights include the Crowley Cup matches in the Division 2 grade and Dean Cup games at the end of the year. There is plenty of rugby in 2020 for our communities to enjoy."

Some clubs have already announced their new coaching groups for next season as the preparation begins, he said.

draws will mirror the premier competition.

Semi-finals will be held on Saturday 4 July with club finals day to be played on Saturday 11 July at Inglewood's TET Stadium.

The Division 2 and women's draws will be announced in due course.

In addition to the draw being announced, CMK Chartered Accountants have re-committed as the major sponsor of Taranaki club

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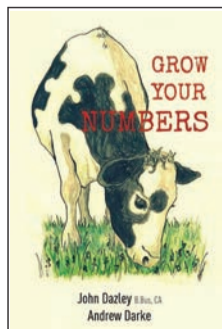
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Summit looks to future for water safety sector

Water safety organisations from around the country gathered in Auckland to address the need to innovate and adapt in a changing world in order to address New Zealand's drowning

problem.

In 2018 66 people lost their lives in New Zealand in preventable drowning incidents. Preventable drowning fatalities are those where water safety sector



Swimmers at Opunake Beach. Photo Rena Tarrach.

intervention could have had an influence (for example where the victim was boating, swimming, diving) while non-preventable suicides, homicides and vehicle accidents (where include events such as water safety education and

Continued page 25.

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Summit looks to future for water safety sector

Continued from page 24.

activity would not have prevented the death).

This was the second lowest toll on record, but as at November 4, there have been 61 preventable fatalities. The five year average (2014 – 2018) is 79.

There were 204 drowning related hospitalisations in 2018. This is a 25 percent increase on 2017 and an 11 percent increase on the five year average of 181 (2013 – 2017).

Drowning is the leading cause of recreational death and the third highest cause of accidental death in New Zealand. New Zealand's drowning rate per 100,000 of population is towards the top end of developed countries, and over the past ten years the cost of drowning deaths and injuries is in the order of \$4.79 billion.

The Drowning Prevention Summit was an opportunity for water safety sector members, partners and stakeholders to get together and share ideas around the step change needed as the sector looks beyond 2020.

"New Zealand's drowning problem is a complex one.



Surfers at sunset. Photo Rena Tarrach.

We have a very diverse and growing population with very high participation rates across a wide range of different activities and aquatic environments," says Water Safety New Zealand CEO Jonty Mills.

Mills warns of the widening gap between the water safety sector's ability to meet growing expectation and

demand. "Sector resources are stretched beyond their capability. This is a sector which relies on volunteers and vulnerable funding streams."

"The Government is supportive of the sector and the important role we play in keeping people safe in, on and around the water. Discussions are ongoing

to work out the best way to ensure the long-term sustainability of the water safety sector" says Mills.

At the Drowning Prevention Summit Water Safety New Zealand identified the challenges the sector must overcome and urged leaders and organisations to become change-makers.

"In an ever changing and

evolving world if you are treading water you are going backwards" says Danny Tuato'o the independent chair of the WSNZ board.

"The challenges presented by climate change and rising sea levels are already being felt by surf clubs. The cost of relocation will be significant for some and raises questions about how organisations need to evolve, and whether efficiencies can be identified" says Tuato'o.

The future shape of the sector is part of the work of The Water Safety Sector Capability Plan which is a set of actions to be undertaken in the short, medium and long term to help address the water safety sectors' capability, capacity and effectiveness in drowning prevention.

The plan has been developed, driven and owned by the four core drowning prevention agencies – Water Safety New Zealand, Surf Life Saving New Zealand, Coastguard New Zealand and Swimming New Zealand, together with a number of sector partners and interested parties.

"This work will inform the future direction of the

water safety sector and help us to become world leading and I hope a country where we work towards a zero preventable drowning toll" says Mills.

"A shift in the focus and delivery of drowning prevention activities in New Zealand is upon us. This summit was about beginning the conversation. Preparing ourselves for change and how we can be most effective at drowning prevention. The future starts today."

The final edition of the Opuake & Coastal News for the year is on December 19.

It will include a holiday guide, dining guide and what's happening over the holiday times.

Get in early and send in your copy to guarantee it gets in.

Don't miss out!

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Tuesday's: Coffees only \$3 50

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Fri & Sat evenings: 6pm to 10pm



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Opunake Christmas Parade



Opunake Playcentre cute kiddies with Stacey and Freya Smith.



Joel Clement and Nico Hill hand out the lollies modelling OHS Netball dresses.



Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club.



Coastal Rugby represent the Junior Club members.



Opunake and District Business Association

Presents

Opunake Christmas Parade 2019

Tuesday 24th December. Gather from 6-30pm onwards for 7-00pm start.

Assemble on Layard street from Tasman street down towards the Rest Home.

Please be prepared for judging from 6-30pm as prizes will be awarded this year at 6-50pm outside Opunake Players, Winners will be given a flag to show on the parade.

Prizes are awarded based on

- 1/ Best effort
- 2/ Most creative

Please review the parade safety rules and guidelines below and retain for your records.

- 1/ Parade officials will inspect all entries and reserve the right to eliminate any entry that is in violation of these rules.
- 2/ The 2019 Parade will at the Tasman street and Layard street corner and end again at that corner.
- 3/ No one may leave or enter your float once the parade has begun.
- 4/ Please cover all open wheels for safety so marchers cannot snag clothing or be pulled under wheels.
- 5/ Your entry may not exit the parade before it is ended.
- 6/ No Alcohol is allowed.
- 7/ For the safety of the public we ask that no items be thrown from your entry.
- 8/ All motorized vehicles must have wheel watchers (people) on both sides.
- 9/ All entries must have clear identification.
- 10/ Changes in the parade line-up on the day of the parade will be made at the sole discretion of the parade officials.
- 11/ A representative must make themselves known to official (Clem Coxhead) on arrival

Entries must be received by December 17th



Entry form for Opunake Christmas Parade 2019.

Please type or print legibly

Name of entry

Type of Vehicle Length (mtr).....

No of Adults No of Children.....

Responsible person

Contact Number.....

Email address

Rule acknowledgement

My printed name or signature below is my bond that I understand the rules and guidelines for the 2019 Christmas parade and warrant that my/our entry will fully comply.

Name or signature.....

Please email this to greencow62@gmail.com

or drop into Aretha Lemon @ CoastalCare, 26 Napier St Opunake.

For further info: call Clem Coxhead 06 761 7082 or 027422389

Christmas at the Bowl is coming

With 9000 candles to give away and the Powerco Fireworks Spectacular the best public display in Taranaki there is a feeling of excitement in the air, with many locals and visitors alike already planning their picnics, the best spot and what time to arrive for this year's Christmas at the Bowl.

Run each year by a dedicated organising committee appointed by the Christmas at the Bowl Trust it is an event that provides the opportunity for a fun-filled evening based on the spirit of the season. All the performers are volunteering their time and energy to bring the Bowl stage to life with Taranaki talent. New this year, there is a link on the Christmas at the Bowl – Taranaki Facebook page so you can learn a dance in advance and become part of the show.

Also new is the focus on encouraging a "Clean Christmas." Picnics and takeaway food are more than welcome but audience members are being asked to take their rubbish home and recycle or compost. Bringing food in reusable containers and making clean choices for the suppliers of



Thousands gather at the Bowl for the annual event featuring Taranaki talent.

takeaway food will all help in making Christmas at the Bowl a true community

event where the audience can share in a fun evening while also taking pride in

our beautiful park.

Gates open at 5.00pm, Ash & Aidan are on at 6.30pm and the Christmas at the

Bowl Variety Show begins at 8.00pm – Sunday December 15, Bowl of Brooklands, New Plymouth.

For more information on the venue, timings, carol words, etc see www.christmasatthebowl.co.nz

Christmas is coming – and so are Saturday buses

An antidote to seasonal stress is on the way for Christmas shoppers in Taranaki – extra Saturday bus services to make gift-buying expeditions easier.

For the next three Saturdays, extra bus services are available on Citylink routes in urban New Plymouth plus Bell Block and Waitara, and on the Connector service linking Opunake and Hāwera with New Plymouth via Normanby, Eltham, Midhurst, Stratford, Inglewood and Egmont Village. Timetable and route details are available at www.taranakibus.info.

www.taranakibus.info.

Five or six Saturday services will run for those in New Plymouth, Bell Block or Waitara, plus a morning service from Opunake through to Hāwera and on to New Plymouth, returning in the afternoon.

"It's a great opportunity to tackle Christmas shopping minus traffic and parking hassles," says Chris Clarke, Transport Services Manager for the Taranaki Regional Council which provides the services through its contractors Transit Coachlines and Pickering

Motors.

"A bus ride to town can be a fun family outing, better than a stressful ordeal in a hot car caught in traffic and going nowhere fast. If you've never given the buses a go before, this might be the time to try."

Chris says the services are part of the Council's focus on improving lifestyles for Taranaki people. "If these services are well supported, we will be able to offer more

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New studio gallery in Opunake



From out of the blue studio gallery in Opunake.

In time to be part of the excitement around the yarn bombing, the Taranaki Art Awards and the Garden Festivals, a new studio gallery space was opened at 18 Halse Place, Opunake. This space is also a part of the newly formed Opunake Studios and Galleries Circuit.

Rob and Viv Davy have designed and built from out of the blue studio gallery as an addition to their lifestyle property - a place to showcase and encourage fabric and fibre art and making. Drawing on Viv's 40 plus years of practice as a fibre artist they feel there is a need in the North Island for a gallery to foster the textile

arts.

The gallery space occupies the ground floor. Rotating shows will be hung here, with both NZ and International artists presenting their works. Any textile artists who are interested in using such a gallery to showcase their work should contact Viv for details.

The upstairs houses Viv's equipment, which includes a variety of looms, book making equipment, sewing space etc. This area is available for people to work on their own projects using the available equipment. Workshops and classes will also be held here for both adults and children.

Information on the

workshops will be posted on from out of the blue studio gallery's Facebook page.

As part of the studio gallery operation Rob and Viv have partnered with The Straw Hat Gardener to provide a selection of plants. These are offered at the rear of the building and are focused on herbs, companion plants for sustainable gardening, and perennials. The list is posted on Viv's Garden Facebook page.

From out of the blue studio gallery is open 1 - 5 pm Thursday to Monday. Otherwise by appointment. Message Viv or call +6421407424

Eftpos and Visa are available.

Layby is also offered.



Percy Thomson Gallery's boutique art shop has new stock arriving daily. The perfect place to shop for Christmas. Supporting local artists.

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Maleficent: Mistress of Evil

Screening at Everybody's Theatre Opunake on Saturday 30th November at 1pm and Friday 27th December at 7pm.

Director: Joachim Ronning
 Writers: Linda Woolverton, Micah Fitzerman-Blue, and Noah Harpster.

A very enjoyable morning was had with the special screening of *Maleficent: Mistress of Evil* for Rahotu School. What a lovely bunch of kids, and teachers. The audience must have been captivated, as there was barely a shuffle to be heard from the downstairs seating. Angelina Jolie is magnificent in her titular role, and this sequel introduces the quintessential Queen Ingrith played by Michelle Pfeiffer. Elle Fanning enchants as Aurora. Another eye-catching character is Lickspittle, a de-winged pixie. His laboratory is in the depths of the castle and doesn't bode well for unusual little beings. Warwick Davies plays this reluctant lab technician

with his usual understated flair. Davies past films include *Star Wars*, *Willow* and *Prince Caspian*. After appearing in the TV sitcom *Extras*, Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant wrote a series specifically for him; *Life's Too Short*.

Maleficent is rated PG, as it has some intense action, but I think that all ages would find it doable. Parental discretion withstanding. There are some longish conversational scenes, imperative to the storyline, but for the younger viewers these are more than balanced with beautiful flying fairies and pixies. I didn't see the first *Maleficent* movie so may have been a bit behind the eight ball for the first act, but I think it made the movie just that bit more interesting. So, don't feel you have to rush out and find the first *Maleficent* DVD. Though now that I've seen this one, I am tempted.

If I had to watch *Maleficent* again it wouldn't be the end of the world, the acting is first rate, and the screen illuminates with all things fairy-tale thanks to the fantastic CGI. I did have a trip down Golden Book

memory lane. My Granny used to buy me one a month, and I ended up with quite a few. *Sleeping Beauty* was one of my favourites. The pixies Knotgrass, Flittle and Thistlewit aka the fairy godmothers are exactly how you would imagine them. Knotgrass is wonderfully depicted by Imelda Staunton – love her as *Vera Drake*, also known for *Harry Potter and the Order of Phoenix*. Flittle – Lesley Manville another actress who has worked with the great director Mike Leigh (*Another Year*, *Secrets and Lies*, *Topsy-Turvy*). Thistlewit – Juno Temple, a lesser known actress (*Atonement*, *Far from the Madding Crowd*).

Maleficent: Mistress of Evil has concrete block foundations, supported by a cast of well-seasoned actors. The Director, Joachim Ronning is very thorough, even down to in-depth discussions with Angelina (Maleficent) about her change of lipstick colour. For a movie of this genre its worth a trip to the theatre. I'm sure Rahotu School would agree.

Jane Forkert.



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Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale No Eft-Pos	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8.			
8yr and under must be supervised by 14 yr or older	ID required for all R movies			
<p>TERMINATOR: DARK FATE Fantasy, Sci Fi 2hr 14min R13: Violence and Language Sarah Connor and a hybrid cyborg human must protect a young girl from a newly modified liquid Terminator from the future. Sat 7th Dec 7pm Fri 13th Dec 7pm Wed 18th Dec 7pm</p>	<p>PAW PATROL: READY, RACE, RESCUE Kids, Family 44min G The pups are back and ready to hit the racetrack in this feature-length film based on the hit kids' series. Sat 7th Dec 1pm Sat 21st Dec 1pm Fri 27th Dec 1pm</p>			
<p>BELLBIRD Comedy, Drama 1hr 39min M: Language In the wake of the loss of his beloved wife, a New Zealand, rural community rallies around a farmer to help him deal with his grief Sun 15th Dec 7pm Sat 21st Dec 7pm</p>	<p>FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS Drama, Comedy 1hr 52min M: Language, Sexual references Ten fisherman from Cornwall achieve a Top 10 hit after they are signed to Universal Records by a cynical London music executive. Wed 11th Dec 1pm</p>			
<p>MOSLEY Animation, Kids 1hr 38mins PG: A species of creatures known as "thoriphants" rebel against their life of servitude and embark on a treacherous journey to find the fabled city of Uprights. Temuera Morrison, Rhys Darby and Lucy Lawless lend their voices to this Kiwi-Chinese animated feature Mon 16th Dec 1pm Sat 28th Dec 1pm</p>	<p>JOJO RABBIT Action, Comedy 1hr 48mins M: Violence Jojo is a lonely German boy who discovers that his single mother is hiding a Jewish girl in their attic. Aided only by his imaginary friend -- Adolf Hitler -- Jojo must confront his blind nationalism as World War II continues to rage on. Fri 6th Dec 7pm Sun 8th Nov 7pm</p>			
<p>ABOMINABLE Fantasy, Adventure 1hr 40min G Sat 14th Dec 1pm</p>	<p>LAST CHRISTMAS Romance, Comedy 1hr 42min M: Language, sexual references Kate is a young woman subscribed to bad decisions. Her last date with disaster? That of having accepted to work as Santa's elf for a department store. However, she meets Tom there. Her life takes a new turn. For Kate, it seems too good to be true. Wed 11th Dec 7pm Sat 14th Dec 7pm Sun 22nd Dec 7pm</p>			
Monday	Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		6 JoJo Rabbit – 7pm	7 Paw Patrol – 1pm Terminator – 7pm	8 JoJo Rabbit – 7pm
	11 Fisherman's Friend – 1pm Last Christmas – 7pm	13 Terminator – 7pm	14 Abominable – 1pm Last Christmas – 7pm	15 Bellbird – 7pm
16 Mosley – 1pm	18 Knives Out – 1pm Terminator – 7pm	20 Arctic Justice – 1pm Knives Out – 7pm	21 Paw Patrol – 1pm Bellbird – 7pm	22 Last Christmas – 7pm

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ST BARNABAS Opunake Street Market Raffle, 17D winner Barbara Garrett;
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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

Opunake Catholic Church

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

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Come along or contact
Murray Baylis
027 218 3377

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

141 Tasman St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10am
Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday
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Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

Okato Community Church

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PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGES TO THE CATHOLIC SERVICES BELOW AS OF NOVEMBER 30 2019

Opunake Catholic Church
St Martin's, Pungarehu : 8.30am every 2nd & 4th Sundays of each month
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake 10.00am every Sunday

PUBLIC NOTICES

COASTAL TARANAKI SCHOOL



Academic and Sport Certificate Prize-giving
Thursday 12th December 2019 at 9.30 a.m.

Trophy Prize-giving
Friday 13th December 2019
Years 1-4 at 9.30 a.m.
Years 5-13 at 11.00 a.m.

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

Buses will be departing from the school on Friday at 12.30 p.m.

Manaia's Lions Santa Parade
Saturday, 21st December



Parade at 12 noon

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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in history
Darwin visits
New Zealand**

On December 21 1835 naturalist Charles Darwin arrived in the Bay of Islands on a round-the-world voyage that led to his famous book *On the Origin of Species*. He spent nine days in New Zealand and was not impressed. He wrote in his diary: I believe we were all glad to leave New Zealand. It is not a pleasant place. Among the natives there is absent that charming simplicity which is found in Tahiti; and the greater part of the English are the very refuse of society. Neither is the country itself attractive."

What's On Listings



ONGOING

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

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

SUNDAYS

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

Open Mic at the Rahoitu Tavetrn: Every second Sunday from 1-5pm.

MONDAYS

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

Opunake Singer Songwriters, every second Tuesday. Next meeting December 10 7:30pm at Coastal Care, Opunake

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

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

Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth: Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm. Next one August 30.

WEEKENDS

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

DECEMBER 12

Coastal Taranaki School Prizegiving, 9:30am. Refer public notice

DECEMBER 15

FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS, Choir of the Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary, hosted by and at St Barnabas Church 141 Tasman St Opunake All most WELCOME.

DECEMBER 21

Manaia's Lions Santa Parade at 12 noon.

Delivered free around the Mountain every fortnight.
Ph: 06 761 7016

OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL CALLING FOR COACHES AND MANAGERS

We are inviting interested coaches and managers of our major winter sporting codes Netball, Basketball, Rugby, Hockey, Soccer to apply for the 2020 season. Please contact Peter O'Leary or Josh Baylis on 06 761 8723 if you would like to express your interest OR email sports@opunake.school.nz



Auroa School

734 Auroa Road, RD 28, Auroa, 4678
office@auroa.school.nz

Applications for Out of Zone Pupils

Auroa School is a decile 8 full Primary School (includes year 7/8 students) located in South Taranaki. Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

The Board has determined that there are likely to be 10 vacancies available for for Term 1, 2020. These vacancies are mostly in Year 1 and New Entrant with limited vacancies in Year 2 to 8.

Applications can be made by applying in writing to the school by either post or email and by visiting the school office.

The deadline for applications is 3pm, Wednesday 11th December. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. Ballots, if required, will be held on the 12th December.

Rodney Mullin, Board of Trustees

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15-12 HYUNDAI IX35 ELITE
2.0-2.4, Tiptronic, SUV, **Low kms**



15-08 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDERS
5-7 Seaters, **Low kms**
FROM \$8,995



2009 HOLDEN COMMODORE SV6 UTE
3600cc, Auto, **97KM**
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2016 SUZUKI SWIFT GO
1400cc, Petrol, **63km**
\$14,995



2009 BMW X3 X DRIVE 25I
4WD, Tiptronic, **46km**
\$17,995



2007 MAZDA CX 7 SPORTS CRUISING
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2012 TOYOTA AVENISIS SPORTEWAGON 20G
Tiptronic Auto Leather Trim, Cruise **Low Kms**
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2013 TOYOTA COROLLA GX
Station Wagon, 1500cc, **97km**
\$13,995



15-08 SUZUKI SX4 SPORTS & S-CROSS
1.6-1.5 litre, From **48km**
FROM \$9,995



ONE SOLD

2010 MAZDA ATENZA SPORT
2000cc, Sedan, Tiptronic, **81km**
\$13,995



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2010 HOLDEN COMMODORE GTR
3600cc, Station wagon, Tiptronic, **197km**
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- 07 TOYOTA AVENISIS SPORTSWAGON 2.4G Auto leather reverse camera **87km** **\$10,995**
 - 09 Hyundai iMAX 8 Seater 2.5DT, 5sp, Spacious Transporter **\$16,995**
 - 12-10 Mazda Demio 13C Auto, **Low kms**, White or blue **FROM \$10,995**
 - 12 Hyundai i20 Sporthatch 1.4 Auto, **66km** **SOLD**
 - 11 Mitsubishi Lancer Sports 2.0 Tiptronic **87km** **SPECIAL \$10,995**
 - 08 Mazda 2 Demio Sports, 1.5, Tiptronic **76km** **NOW \$10,995**
 - 07 Toyota Caldina Z, 2.0 Auto Station Wagon **63km** **NOW \$10,995**
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- 96 Caldina Wagon 1.8 Auto WOF & Rego **\$1,500**
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