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## Accident closes Ihaia Road

Ihaia Road was closed for a time last Thursday following an accident involving two vehicles.

The crash occurred about 1.36pm just north of the Opunake substation, and the Opunake Fire Brigade and St John's Ambulance attended.

Opunake chief fire officer Craig Dingle said it was a head-on crash and air bags went off in both vehicles. The occupants of both vehicles were able to walk away from the crash, he said.

It is understood three people sustained moderate injuries.



The scene of the accident in Ihaia Road near Opunake, which caused a road closure.

## Car torched on Wiremu Road



ABOVE: Front view of the torched Toyota Caldina. Note the burnt vegetation which could have led to a major grass fire.

Car thieves are about, with a vehicle stolen from Arawhata Road on Monday/Tuesday on February 17-18. It was a green 2008 Holden Commodore registration GGY437.

If anyone has seen the vehicle or has any knowledge of the theft the police on 111 would be very keen to hear from anyone who can assist in the enquiry.

A car that had broken down in Wiremu Road was also torched in the morning of February 18.

The white Toyota Caldina has been positioned on Wirema Road near the turnoff to Kina Road for several days, maybe a week. One of the rear tyres was flat. Its registration number was HGF 438.

One of the Opunake & Coastal News staff had noted the registration number and was about to report the situation to the police when

he discovered on February 18 that it had been torched. Also, an extensive area of dry grass on the nearby bank has been burnt. There was fire service tape around the burnt out car, so presumably the fire service had been there to extinguish the fire, but there was no mention of any callout in the recent Opunake Fire Brigade report (in this issue).

However, further information has been provided by Constable Bryce Allison who tried to contact the owner, several days ago, without success. He then contacted the South Taranaki District Council so they could remove the car. Unfortunately, before they could act a tyre was removed from the car and the vehicle was torched on the morning of February 18.

If anyone has information about this crime can they contact the Police.



A close up of the interior of the Toyota showing the extent of the senseless destruction. The Police are keen to find out more about this crime. Can you help? Also refer to Coastal Cops Column page 6.

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Letters to the Editor

23 Napier Street, Opunake.

Fax: (06) 761 7016

email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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Letters to the Editor

Syria gas attack

My letter printed Thursday Feb 6th regarding falsification of OPCW reporting (Organisation for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) reads so terribly that I must apologise to any reader trying to wade through it.

What I mean to say is:

The OPCW has been found falsifying its own scientific report of the Douma gas attack in Syria in 2018.

There is evidence OPCW Head Office further ordered its staff to cover that falsification up.

The OPCW at the same moment, is bidding to

change its United Nations’ mandate from “Independent Scientific reporting of fact - without blame,” to that of one able to ‘attribute’ blame.

A bid that our Government is paying Eu64,000 to help finance.

My question is: Why would our Government be

financing this official shift in OPCW policy just when OPCW is found guilty of manipulating evidence to lay blame for the Douma gas attack on the Syrian Government of Bashar al Assad?

Roger Morris Oeo

ADELPHOS

Words matter

I recall a group of girls in a large high school outside of Taranaki, who regularly ate their lunches while sitting on the very public steps of the school’s counselling block. This seemingly exclusive clique of seven or eight high achieving and beautifully presented Year 11 and 12 girls regularly used God’s name in vain, and spouted sexualised language that would embarrass their grandmothers’ socks off. I greeted them saying, “Ladies, how can such intelligent and beautiful girls use such filthy language?” They looked momentarily stunned; then one said with a fleeting quizzical smile, “Thanks, sir, for the compliment.” They loved my compliments about their beauty and intelligence but couldn’t care less about their filthy language.

Interestingly, another girl piped up, “If the boys can swear, we can too.”

We live amidst postmodern language-based gender wars: women vs. women with the abortion and feminist issues and women vs. men with stereotyped toxic masculinity to name two. A third major example is the 70 plus non-binary language constructed gender options for transgender, transsexual and intersex individuals (non-binary means outside of exclusively masculine or feminine genders). These examples are weaponised by a socially constructed language tsunami of gender categories. Any gender identity can become “fluid.” This means that if someone becomes attracted to one or more of the 70 plus genders, it is acceptable to fluidly change their

partner/s, gender/s or sexual preferences. These game-changing societal issues require thinking and open discussion from both secular and Christian perspectives. It may boil down to respectfully agreeing to disagree?

Many, however, shy away from respectful debate—fearful of homophobic, sexist, divisive or hate speech labeling. Here, Jesus’ challenge for Christians is to love those who hate and discriminate against them. One wonders how the media’s language campaigners, social and others, will affect our children’s sexual and mental health and future family relationships? What input will the government, churches and the New Zealand Health Curriculum have in a postmodern world

of ever-changing alternative facts and realities?

Today’s message reflects upon the power of language in forming beliefs, values and lifestyles—including having respect for the name of God, who created and loves us all. Jesus advised us that “all” our everyday language matters, “But i tell you that men [and women] will have to give account for every careless word they have spoken. for by your words you will be acquitted and by your words you will be condemned” (Matthew 12: 36 NIV).

Words matter. They have the power to connect or disconnect people. Maybe that’s why God gave us 100 billion brain cells, two ears and one mouth.

Adelphos

Who killed my pet possums?

Every evening at dusk, like clockwork, two sets of ears would appear silhouetted against the twilight, crouched near the guttering of the roof.

After some time as darkness descended they would climb down a tree and land on my verandah.

On an old disused fire I’d leave a banana and other fruit. Sometimes they would take the fruit from my hand.

I could stroke the mother. The baby was more timid and would bravely venture forth then spooked, run back to the mother for security climbing on her back. It was comical and endearing to watch.

They were two possums. There was another possum too that would turn up. The father.

They were cute.

By coincidence my sis-

ter who lives in Australia – where possums are protected – also had tame possums she’d describe in her letters to me.

They’d been coming for a long time, living I think in the attic of my house though I once climbed on the roof to see if they were sleeping in a cabbage tree alongside the house. I googled where possums sleep - often in trees but I couldn’t see them in the cabbage tree.

Some weeks ago they stopped coming.

I wasn’t sure why.

I left fruit out and occasionally caught sight of a lone possum, the less tame male, I assumed.

But the mother and baby I never saw again.

On the weekend just past I heard what sounded like a gun. Perhaps an air gun. I had a sick feeling when I heard the noise.

I left fruit out that night. The next morning it remained uneaten.

It was still there several days later.

I wondered.

Did someone newly arrived

in our lovely quiet cul de sac where some of the properties back onto farmland shoot them?

Occasionally I’d return home at night and there’d be a few rabbits scampering around. Would they be next? Birds. Or my cats (which were originally strays).

So what of my pet possums? It is against the law to discharge firearms in a township according to Constable Bryce Allison. “You can’t discharge a firearm in or near a dwelling house.”

Air guns are considered firearms he added.

And with good reason.

Hunters who like to kill sometimes shoot each other of course. By accident.

And they sometimes shoot others. Like the camper who was shot a few years ago while brushing her teeth.

Laws are there for a reason. So we can all rest easy in our home.

If the possums were shot hopefully this article might make the thoughtless idiot who did it think.

Animal lover



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# Moving together into a new year

Kotahitanga or Unity and Togetherness is this year's theme at Opunake High School. It is a theme which head prefects Blake Harkness and Meg Gibson have taken to heart.

Blake came to Opunake High School halfway through Year 10 from Whanganui High School. This meant a big change going from a school with a roll of 1600 to one with a roll of 320, he says.

"I love it much more here than Whanganui," he says.

One interest of his is the school's Peer Support program, which he sees as fitting in well with the Kotahitanga theme.

"Twice every term all the Year 13s pair up with Year 9 students, so they become more comfortable with us and helps them develop friendships," he says.



Meg Gibson and Blake Harkness, Head Students at Opunake High School.

He is studying calculus, chemistry, physics, digital technology and statistics and lists volleyball among his interests. He says he wants to go on to university and work in the maths/science area, but at this stage is still unsure of his exact plans.

Meg plays soccer for the high school and is studying biology, chemistry, health, calculus and statistics.

She says she is unsure about her plans for next year but wants to be a paramedic, an interest she says has been encouraged through her involvement with the Opunake Surf Life Saving Club.

"I've dealt with lots of first aids and I've really enjoyed it. I like helping people," she said.

Assisting Blake and Meg in leading the 14 prefect-strong team will be deputy head

prefects Jackson Henare, Tamara Turnbull and Jamiee Siciliano.

School principal Peter O'Leary said the new leaders had made strong contributions to the school, especially in the last year. They had been chosen through a team decision involving himself, the deputy principals and school deans.

"It's cool to see the leadership they will offer. We've got so many students of a high calibre with so many different strengths it's always a difficult decision to make."

He said the school roll is similar to last year's and he was pleased with the school's NCEA results.

"I'm really proud of the kids, and I'm proud of the staff too."

# Looking out for their fellow students



The school leaders at Coastal Taranaki School for 2020 are Te Ahumairangi Waaka (left) and Mackenzie Hill.

The Head Students for 2020 at Coastal Taranaki School (CTS) are Te Ahumairangi Waaka (aged 16) and Mackenzie Hill (aged 17). They were interviewed

at CTS on Wednesday February 12.

**Te Ahumairangi Waaka**  
When she heard of her appointment she said, "I

was nervous and felt pretty humble."

In her role Te Ahu intends to be a positive role model. "I'd like to connect well with the kids and promote

more involvement with the community."

This year her school subjects include Pathways, English, Social Studies, Hospitality and her personal favourite Te Reo.

When she leaves school she will attend university, probably Waikato, with the goal of completing a teaching degree to pursue primary teaching as an occupation.

When not studying her focus is her family. She is also a member of the school's Board of Trustees.

Te Ahu's final comment? "I hope this year goes well."

**Mackenzie Hill**

Her reaction at being appointed a student leader? "I was a bit surprised because some of the others were more suitable. However, I was quite happy that I can make my own mark so I will be remembered after I have left."

As to her aims as a leader she comments, "I want to be more with the younger students so I can help them to be leaders. It will be nice for them to know they have a person they can come to, if they need help."

Mackenzie's subjects this year include English, Mathematics, Media Studies, Hospitality, and Physical Education, her favourite.

She also has visits to WITT to learn more about fitness and recreation.

After she leaves school she intends to have a career in the New Zealand Air Force. She explains that her father and uncle were also involved in the Air Force. Her aunt is currently in the Air Force.

Mackenzie's interests include reading (mysteries and history), drawing (especially digital), and going to the gym where Boxfit is a focus.

Finally, "I just hope the year goes well."

Congratulations to both student leaders. We wish you all the very best in your endeavours this year.

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# Tighter water restrictions for Okato and Inglewood

High water use, low river flows and continuing dry conditions led to a ban on using water outdoors in both Inglewood and Okato from February 10. The rest of the District was asked to remain Wai Warriors to help save water.

The ban means residents can't use water in their

gardens or for cleaning windows or cars and comes as the towns' water sources, the Mangatete and Ngatoro streams, continue to run very low.

NPDC data for the week ending 2 February reveal Okato residents used one million litres more than for the same period in 2019, up from two to three

million litres, and while Inglewood's use is the same as last year, figures show the town had just 50mm of rainfall in January, that's 37% of the average monthly rainfall for the township.

"We need substantial rain over a decent period before the streams' flows will rise again. With the long-range forecast predicting just a few showers coming our way it's vital that Okato

and Inglewood residents stop using water outdoors so we can conserve water," says NPDC Infrastructure Manager David Langford.

"The very low levels in the Ngatoro stream are leading to a big rise in algae in the stream which affects the taste of water in Inglewood. It's another key reason why residents should be Wai Warriors and cut down their water use.

"For everyone else in the district, water restrictions mean using only hand-held hoses on the odds and evens system – no sprinklers, irrigation systems or unattended hoses are allowed. Even so, we encourage all of NPDC's water customers to reduce their water consumption as summer continues."

Okato and Inglewood residents can still use

grey water from washing machines, baths or showers in the garden. Just be careful what detergents you use in your washing machine – read the back of the packet as it usually says if the product is greywater-safe.

Putting a bucket in the shower when you use it can also capture water that would otherwise go down the drain.

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Mangatete Stream Okato.

## Scholarships to help boost local student's health careers

Twenty seven local students have been given a boost to achieve their aspirations of working in the health sector by receiving a scholarship from Taranaki DHB.

The scholarships were presented by Taranaki DHB chief executive Rosemary Clements at a ceremony at Taranaki Base Hospital in January.

The grants will financially assist students studying in a range of areas including; pharmacy, nursing, midwifery, dental surgery, oral health, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, medical imaging, clinical psychology and, medicine.

"As a DHB we like to encourage people to train as health professionals and invest in growing our own future workforce," says Ms Clements.

"These scholarships will support students to achieve their goals and then hopefully once their studies are complete, they will return to Taranaki as highly skilled professionals and enhance our community."

The scholarship programme has been running since 2000. Since then a total of \$486,000 has been awarded in scholarships and 31 scholarship students have been offered a position with Taranaki DHB after graduating.



Back row (left to right) Taranaki DHB's Chief Medical Officer Greg Simmons, Chief Executive Rosemary Clements, Director of Nursing Lyn Wardlaw, Adre Hunter, Paloma Aston, Sharlaye Bardsley, Rebecca Cole, Fiona Nicoll, Cind Griffin, Caitlin Helme, Kayla Hemara-Wahanui.

Front row (left to right) Ollie Sibanda, Savannah Brown, Sally Bruce.

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From left. Laurence Larkin (signist), Ian Clifton (Chairman Kaponga Progressive Group), Sonya Douds (Eltham-Kaponga Community Board).

# Kaponga puts up the welcome sign

Motorists entering Kaponga will now notice something different on their way into town. The Welcome to Kaponga signs that for the last 20 years have greeted people coming in on each of the four approaches into town have been replaced.

The layout of the new signs is not unlike those that there were there before, although there is a fresh infusion of colour and an added greeting in Te Reo.

“When there was a meeting in the town hall a few years ago, the number one issue was that everyone wanted the signs updated. The existing signs were faded and dilapidated,” says Eltham-Kaponga Community Board deputy chair Sonya Douds who also lives in Kaponga. One of the signs had even been stolen at one point.

The Kaponga Progressive Group, which had been set up at that meeting worked with the South Taranaki District Council and called for design submissions for the new signs. Five were selected which were put up against each other and the original design for the people of Kaponga to ponder. Rather than follow the lead of other towns which had gone for

new logos and a complete new look, they preferred to have the existing logo refreshed and updated.

“There was a lot of connection to the old design and they wanted to keep the retro look,” says Sonya.

It therefore seemed logical to get the man who had done the original design to design the new one.

Laurence Larkin who has lived in Kaponga for the last 40 years describes himself as a “signist.” He says that he had been asked to design the original signs after he had designed something similar for the Kaponga School.

Sonya says this time they wanted to recognise the town’s Maori heritage, so a greeting in Te Reo was included as well as a reference to Te Rere o Kapuni.

Pam Wharepapa of Nga Ruahine iwi says this refers to the area which includes the Dawson Falls, and from which the Kapuni River flows. This was a place often visited for its healing powers, particularly during the heyday of the prophet Ratana.

“We believe it is very holy waters for us. Whenever

there are sick people they go up there to be blessed. A lot of healing took place there and it still does.”

On Thursday the signs which had been paid for and installed by the South Taranaki District Council were in place. Laurence liked the look of them.

“It’s even a brighter blue than the previous one,” he said, looking south towards Kaponga.

There are now plans for the design to adorn T shirts and sweat shirts as a way of spreading the word about the town.

The Kaponga Progressive Group still meets twice a month to look at new ways of brightening up the town. Fresh from their latest success they are looking at pastures new. The group’s chairman Ian Clifton says they want to have a walkway from town to Hollards Gardens. He says there is also interest from Stratford about this being extended from the gardens in the direction of Dawson Falls.



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### OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

# Dry times are busy times

We are now in a Prohibited fire ban season. Things are really getting dry now. Grass and scrub fires are set off very easily, so please be careful. We think a cigarette out the window over the Waiau Bridge caused a



CRAIG DINGLE

10x10 metre grass fire. It is lucky the Brigade were able to contain it quickly. Opunake had to travel down to Hawera Fire Station for a 'cover move' while the Meremere Road fire was at its peak on Sunday

afternoon. We were relieved after four hours once the first Hawera truck came back. The Opunake Brigade shut the top of Ihaia Road while dealing with a head on car crash. Airbags went off in both vehicles and luckily

everyone was able to walk away.

A big thanks to Collins Sports Centre for being the major sponsor for the Fire Service Fishing Competition. Country Connections and Dreamtime

Surf Shop also helped out with some spot prizes.

Until next time, take care.

Craig Dingle  
CFO Opunake

# Prohibited fire season declared

Taranaki, Whanganui and Ruapehu regions are now in a prohibited fire season. Principal Rural Fire Officer Nigel Dravitzki says all fire

permits have been cancelled as of 8 am this Friday February 7.

"A prohibited fire season means no fires are permitted

as the fire danger is too high," Nigel Dravitzki says. "During a prohibited fire season only gas barbeques can be used".

Nigel Dravitzki says it is vitally important that people understand the risks. In extreme conditions it only takes a spark to start a devastating wildfire. That spark can come from a piece of equipment such as a lawnmower, or a grinder, or a plough.

"To protect your home, keep roofs and gutters clear of dead leaves, debris and pine needles. Have a hose attached at all times and

move anything that could burn (such as mulch, leaves, firewood piles) away from exterior walls, decks or porches."

The entire North Island and most of the South is now in either a prohibited or restricted fire season.

Manager Rural Fire, Tim Mitchell says the hot and dry conditions have created extreme fire risk, including in areas such as Northland, Auckland and Waikato which haven't traditionally experienced such extreme fire danger for an extended period.

"Please pay attention to the

fire season.

"If you are in an area where there is a prohibited fire season there is a total fire ban. No fires are permitted, including rubbish fires. This is because there is a very real risk that in the current conditions a fire could easily spread and get out of control. Tim Mitchell says all New Zealanders are urged to be careful and take precautions to prevent a fire starting or getting out of control.

"It only takes one spark to start a fire so don't risk it. Some routine activities like driving vehicles through roadside vegetation or

machinery work, can cause a fire in these extremely dry conditions.

"If you have to, use any machinery that could spark such as lawnmowers, welding, or even a plough, in the morning or evenings - during the cooler parts of the day.

"Make sure any permitted fires or historic burn sites from the past two months are fully extinguished. Even though they may seem out they have the potential to remain hot and flare up in these conditions."



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## *It is just lucky this incident of arson didn't lead to a more serious crime - such as manslaughter*



This Toyota car on Wiremu Road was torched last Tuesday before its owner could retrieve it. Much dry grass was ignited which could have led to a serious fire with fatal consequences.

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# From parent to principal

A journey which began 13 years ago has seen Laila Kivell move from acting principal to principal of Manaia School.

"I have lived in Manaia over 25 years, and I started here at the school as a parent 13 years ago," she says.

She later became a teacher aide, then went on to train as a teacher and moved up to assistant principal, acting principal, and now principal.

"This is going to be a very different role, as being acting principal you were just keeping the boat afloat until the new principal came aboard," she says.

"I was part of the school when it wasn't doing so great, and I was part of the process when they were making the changes that needed to be made."

The school has a roll of around 90 students.

"We have quite a powerful



Manaia School principal Laila Kivell (centre), deputy principal Kefa Grindlay and assistant principal Bronwyn Wesley.

team this year. Both the assistant principal (Bronwyn Wesley) and deputy principal (Kefa Grindlay) have been in the community longer than I have, and they have had their own children come through as well," says Laila.

As principal, she says she wants to carry on along the avenue of child-centred learning and learning through play and inquiry.

"This approach towards learning allows children to develop into creative, confident, self directed learners who are able to see purpose in their learning," says Laila.

"Our goal is to source more community voice and

our aim is to encourage our community to support initiatives such as our upcoming bike track which aims to provide positive recreational solutions for our community's youth."

She is looking forward to getting a technology teacher later in the year which will help the school in its aim of catering for the full range of the school's students up to Year 8.

Thirteen years ago being a teacher was not something she saw herself doing.

"The principal at the time saw something in me that I did not see myself, and now I've found my passion," she said.

# New deputy principal at Coastal Taranaki School

I'm delighted to be joining Margaret Normanton as a Deputy Principal supporting Scott Walden as part of the senior leadership team at Coastal Taranaki School. Last year I returned to the classroom and was the year 7 teacher at Devon Intermediate School in New Plymouth. Prior to that I was a senior advisor at the Ministry of Education overseeing school improvement for over 35 schools across Taranaki. I have lived in New Zealand for five years, having spent the last 25 years in London, where I was the principal of two primary schools.

Why Taranaki? My partner, Tony Young, is originally from Toko (out the back of Stratford) and our extended whānau live and work in

Opunake. We have two boys - Fergus and Campbell who are keen footballers. You may have guessed that I originate from Edinburgh in Scotland, hence the good Scottish names. We made a decision to educate and bring up our children in New Plymouth where we felt they would have the chance to thrive both at school and enjoy the outdoor life Taranaki has to offer.

It is great to be joining the school at such an exciting time, implementing our new vision and values (Ako. Manaakitanga and Kaitiakitanga) and introducing a school-based curriculum which includes project based learning. The staff and students have welcomed me warmly into their fold and I'm looking forward to becoming part of the community of Okato.

*Sylvia Howieson  
Deputy Principal  
Coastal Taranaki School*

We welcome your contributions to our newspaper. Our next issue is March 5, but we need editorial and advertisements by Monday March 2 at the very latest.



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# Taranaki has a lot to offer in the arts

Coming from one of the country's most creative and historic regions, I'm thrilled to be named the National Party's new Arts, Culture and Heritage spokesperson. This portfolio adds to my existing responsibilities in Energy & Resources, and Regional Development (North Island).



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

to believe – you just need to visit our many galleries as

well as take a drive around the coast, or check out the Taranaki Arts Trail. The New Plymouth Operatic Society continue to produce world class shows, driven by the passion of local Taranaki people. From a strong base of grass roots talent, the region has developed an enviable reputation and facilities like Puke Ariki, the Govett-Brewster/Len Lye Centre have secured our premier status overseas.

Each year I'm an enthusiastic participant in WOMAD and the other events that are so well organised by the Taranaki Arts Festival Trust. I'm looking forward to working even more closely with Suzanne Porter and her talented team. I'm conscious that arts, culture and heritage aren't always about the past either, which is one of the reasons then-Prime Minister Bill English announced a \$5 million dollar Government

contribution to St Mary's Cathedral in 2017. Looking to the future, the Project will see the Cathedral at the centre of a significant heritage, education and visitor destination. I'm excited about this new role and look forward to advocating on behalf of the talented artists, avid historians who celebrate who we are as New Zealanders.

*Jonathan Young  
MP for New Plymouth*

*National Party  
Spokesperson: Energy & Resources  
National Party  
Spokesperson: Regional Economic Development (NI)  
National Party  
Spokesperson: Arts, Culture & Heritage  
newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz*

# Prime Minister's commitment to water quality welcomed

Fish & Game New Zealand welcomes the Prime Minister's strong commitment to progress freshwater reforms to stop the degradation of our waterways and clean up our rivers and lakes within a generation.

outlining the Government's legislative and other policy intentions for the year ahead. Yesterday, Jacinda Ardern committed that in 2020 her Government will: "act further to protect nature by finalising the freshwater package. We know that the overwhelming majority of New Zealanders want us to act to clean up our waterways - so we can swim in our local

rivers, gather mahinga kai - without getting sick." The Prime Minister's statement also said that the: "Government's shared goal is to stop the degradation of our rivers and lakes, achieve a noticeable improvement in five years, and to restore our waterways in a generation". Fish & Game New Zealand Chief Executive Martin Taylor says the Government

campaigning in the 2017 Election on cleaning up New Zealand's waterways so that we can swim, fish and gather food from our rivers, lakes and streams. "It is always difficult for a Government to deliver on a strong election promise once in office. That's why we welcome yesterday's strong commitment from the Prime Minister."

"The Government can halt the decline in water quality and improve rivers, lakes and streams with its new Freshwater National Policy Statement and a new National Environmental Standard, which are due to be finalised in the next couple of months." "The only way the Prime Minister's promise can

be delivered on is if the Government rejects voluntary management plans and imposes strong regulation that will protect water quality so our children's children can have a New Zealand they are proud to call home."

Each year, the Prime Minister makes an annual statement to Parliament

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## Mangatoki WI's Christmas meeting

Our Christmas meeting was held on December 4 at the Kaponga Hotel, where 18 members attended. We were welcomed by our President who opened the meeting. The Secretary read the minutes and correspondence. The Treasurer then read the report of accounts. Twenty three items of toiletries were donated for the Island Women. There was no sick visiting required during November and the Mangatoki Church at the Pioneer Village was cleaned. After the meeting,



**Our Christmas meeting had a festive atmosphere.**

the two raffles were drawn and won by Denise Carter and Cathy White. Our lunch was served and then we had our Christmas gift exchange.

The next committee meeting is to be held at the beginning of February and our Mystery Trip will be on June 2, 3, and 4. Our AGM will be

on February 5, the meeting place to be arranged.

*Lucy Moger  
Mangatoki W.I. Reporter*

**Join us for a BBQ Lunch with Jonathan Young MP**  
MP for New Plymouth • Spokesperson for Energy & Resources

**Todd Muller MP**  
MP for Bay of Plenty • Spokesperson for Agriculture

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# Project Litter – tracking beach trash

Walking along the Taranaki coastline students noticed a lot of litter, prompting them to not only take action but also find out how it ended up on their beaches. This blossomed into Project Litter, an experience for students to learn about science outside of the classroom.

Project Litter aims to gather information on different types of litter, mainly focusing on marine litter found on beaches. They want to know the story behind this litter - where is it from and how did it get there?

One focus of the project came from students finding large amounts of plastic glow sticks on the beaches. After their observations, students went through the scientific process of framing a question, hypothesis and what investigative tools to use. The students made the hypothesis that the glow sticks were not coming from people on the beach, but were landing there from the sea.

After some research, the students started contacting recreational fishers and the commercial fishing industry, as well as MPI and the Federation of Commercial Fishermen. From the organisations' reports, students found that Aotearoa New Zealand fishing fleets use half a million of the glowing fishing sticks per year. Although there is an effort from these groups to collect the glow sticks they use, many of them end up in the ocean and then wash up on the beaches.

The students have also worked with other organisations such as MetOcean Solutions to give further depth to their knowledge. MetOcean Solutions have worked with the data collected by the students to plan animations that can help to demonstrate the migration of plastics in Aotearoa New Zealand's seas.

As well as aiding their project, the data collected has been shared with other local projects that are focusing on



Students sick of seeing litter on Taranaki's local beaches are taking a deeper look at where it's coming from.

litter, sustainable coastlines and plastics.

Pat Swanson, the science teacher at Highlands Intermediate School in charge of the project, says, "These projects work best when they are not stand alone." The co-operation and collaboration that involves other projects helps the team to share information and expand the other projects.

The students also wish to bring another element into the project - an official rubbish bin in an isolated area of their local beach. This would be another place for locals to put their litter that would also serve as another source for the students to collect data

about litter. By auditing the items in the bin, the students may be able to find patterns and answers to questions such as 'does litter change seasonally?'

Project Litter was set to officially wrap up in 2019, however, the experience will continue to have an impact on the students.

Pat says that the students have gained "confidence and ability to go through the scientific process of identifying a problem, coming up with a hypothesis and finding a way to solve the real-life problem".

Students have also had opportunities to put the scientific process into action,

work with large organisations and see science learning in a context outside of the classroom.

"The ability to have the students working as advocates for the environment, and on a problem they identified themselves, is very powerful. It can show them how they can influence a wide range of people in the community,"

Pat says.

Project Litter is run by the Highlands Intermediate School marine studies group, with support from the Taranaki Participatory Science Platform.

Juliet Young  
Curious Minds



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# Auction of lifestyle property offers huge potential

Mark this date in your diary - Saturday February 29 (midday); an auction will be held for the lifestyle property at 185 Tasman Street, Opunake. There will be a final Open Home on Sunday February 23 from 11am to 12 midday if you'd like to see this home set in one hectare (2.5 acres) of prime flat land, divided into four paddocks, two large and two smaller, all of which are fenced and well-resourced with many automatically filled water troughs. A great view of Mount Taranaki is complemented by a nearby walking track. The property is certainly sub dividable if the new owner so desired. The characterful three bedroomed house with verandas, was built in the



An intriguing house full of character.

1920s, is very private and is situated at the end of a long driveway. Much has been done to upgrade the house including a virtually new (18 months) Colour steel roof. The owners had many plans for the house including re-cladding and the

installation of two sets of French doors. The materials for these improvements are stored in the double garage and these will be left for the convenience of the new owners. A feature of the semi-open plan house is the large

lounge with good sized woodburner positioned in front of an attractive brickwork background. The woodburner has a wetback thus allowing a saving on electricity bills for hot water. Attractive woodwork extends halfway up the walls of the lounge.

Another positive feature is the pleasant kitchen with aesthetically appealing woodwork, quality vinyl floor covering and plenty of cupboard space and pantry. The house is well-insulated with underfloor pink batts and most of the ceiling is also taken care of.

It was pleasing to see the original wooden sash windows in place instead

of less appealing substitute joinery as is often the case when older houses are modified.

Two of the three bedrooms have built-in wardrobes. The master bedroom has handsomely stained wooden floors.

The house has the need for some handyman attention and the workshop can only be of benefit for the new owner as they attend to various improvements. There are several sheds most of them with concrete floors. One of them has an adjoined flush toilet.

A well-metalled turn-around has been established for the use of trucks and trailers. The metal has been freshly laid.

The property is marketed by Harcourts (phone 06 759 9160) under the expert and experienced care of Team Taranaki Ltd - Pat McFetridge (mobile 027 273 3940 ) and Linda McFetridge (mobile 027 571 8080) who invite viewing by appointment. You are welcome to access [open2view.com/S472169](http://open2view.com/S472169)



The lounge is very welcoming and interesting.



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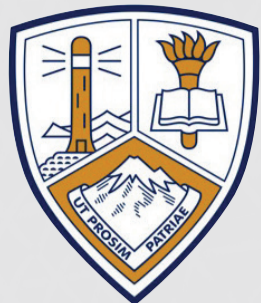


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## ATHLETICS 2020

Once again Opunake High School was blessed with the perfect weather for holding our annual Athletics Day. From our fresh Year 9's through to the more seasoned campaigners our rangatahi ran, jumped, skipped, bounced, leapt, sprinted through track and field events such as 100m sprints, high jump, long jump, discuss and shotput.

As always, the day started with a fierce tug-o-war competition amongst the four Hapu - Karo, Awhina, Rimu and Totara. By midway through the day, it was evident that the boys & girls in the blue Hapu were looking pretty strong in their challenge for the Pohutukawa Trophy and that's how things played out with Totara streaking their way to a big win. Congratulations to Mr Totara Hapu on their victory.

### FINAL PLACINGS

1. Totara 2. Karo 3. Rimu 4. Awhina



*from the Principals desk...*



Nga mihi o te wa ki a koe me to whanau

Greetings to you and your family

I hope you have all had a fantastic break over the festive season and are acclimatising to the regular routines the new year brings. I would like to begin by extending a warm welcome to all of our new students, whanau and teaching staff that have joined the Opunake High School community in 2020. This year we welcome 72 new Year 9 students as well as new staff members - Anna Debreceeny (Leader of Learning, English), Sarah Roberts (Hospitality) & Sarah Reddish (Guidance Counsellor)

Our theme for 2020 is Kotahitanga focused on unity and working together to be the best we can be. The term started with staff focused on professional development around raising literacy levels in the junior school and continuing with our NCEA focus in the senior school. For students, the term started with a powhiri to welcome new students to Opunake High School followed by an orientation programme for all students based around our DREAM values. Our first Iwi (assembly) acknowledged those students who gained merit and excellence endorsement in NCEA at Level 1, 2 & 3. The academic goals and Kotahitanga theme have been outlined to all students and we are excited to continue on our journey of relationship based learning to exceed expectations.

If you have any questions, concerns or feedback do not hesitate to get in touch.

Noho ora mai ano

Our school theme for 2020 is:

# Kotahitanga

*By ourself we can achieve many things,  
but together we can achieve greatness.*

## 2019 NCEA RESULTS

Once again, our senior school did a tremendous job with their NCEA results in 2019. Congratulations to the following students on the rewards for all your hard work.

Level 1 - Merit	Level 2 - Merit	Level 3 - Merit
Elise Dixon	Meg Gibson	Saisha Padayachi
Elizabeth Andersen-Gardiner	Caitlin Manley	Corban Bright
Camryn Redin	Jamiee Siciliano	Cormach Hughson-How
Caleb Feek	Hayley Quinnell	
Sinead Heaps		
Travis Klaasen		
Level 1 - Excellence	Level 2 - Excellence	Level 3 - Excellence
Lexi McQuaig	Kaiah Bloor	Myah Kemsley
Joe Gibson	Danielle Kidd	Te Aotoumarewa Meihana-Eiffe
Pero Brophy	Tamara Turnbull	Lia Harrop
Ella Bright	Blake Harkness	Sam McNeil
Jazlin Marsh	Ariana Dingle	Regan Bloemen
Madaline Symes	Brydee Hunt	Joel Clement
Jenna McCarthy		Joshua Barratt
Dinah Symons		Michael McCarty
		Ruby Gatenby

## WHATS HAPPENING AT OPUNAKE HIGH?

- Term One is absolutely action-packed with events:
- Year 13 REC Overnight Tramp - February 19th-21st
- Year 12 Workplace Safety - March 3rd-4th
- Duke of Edinburgh Tramp (Y9-10) - March 5th
- School Gala - March 5th
- Swimming Sports - March 6th
- Bring an Artist to School Day - April 8th

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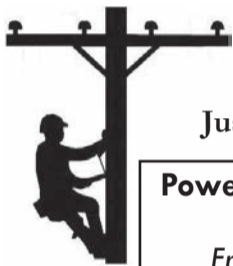
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# News from the Cottage

Happy New Year to you all...

We had a lovely Christmas this year and catered for 39 people with residents and their families, friends and the staff and helpers. Many thanks to all those that contributed to make it a wonderful luncheon which was enjoyed by all.

We have started off the new decade full steam ahead with the recently donated funds for a kitchen upgrade, and now have our new combi oven installed and working. We are still working on the most appropriate extraction fan to keep the temperatures down in the kitchen for the staff. We are about to install ensembles in two of our existing rooms with funding we were granted last year.

Our garden tidy ups have been incredible with Phil Brown leading a small and capable team including Alistair Cook (aka Cookie) and some of the residents, and it is looking fantastic. If anyone has any mulch that would be suitable for the gardens, and at a good price, please contact Cookie, Phil or Sandra at the Cottage and it will be gratefully accepted.

Continuing on with the good news, we have been steadily filling our rooms

with residents and respite clients. At the time of writing the Cottage is fully occupied.

The Trust is now seeking funding [estimated \$61,000] to prepare a full set of drawings for building upgrades. It is envisaged that these will include two Premier Rooms, three semi-independent units and two independent villas with attached garages. The next step will be financing, and there have been a degree of positive comments already. Once we have the full set of drawings finalised in the next couple of months, we will be able to seriously start to fundraise and go to tender for the build. The estimated for all this work to be completed is \$800,000-900,000 and would be a great asset for our community.



The Cottage Rest Home has a new combi oven.

## MAC SOLE Episode 17

### A return to childhood

*This episode was inadvertently overlooked (our apologies to Mac), but we think it is well worth a viewing.*

I was born on May 30, 1934 at Fraser Road in my parent's home on land leased from the Nicholas whanau, which was adjacent to my father's freehold land. Together this made up our dairy farm, although we did lease other land on Fraser Road and across the Pukeiti Gorge.

The Nicholas land and home was opposite the Wharepuni Marae, although the home was about 50 metres up Fraser Road from the Marae entrance.

In 1937 we moved into our own home which was built on the corner down from the Marae towards Hawera.

I started school in 1939

at Fraser Road. The other momentous happening for that year was the start of Second World War.

In about the mid 1940s for family reasons I went to Hawera to live with my mother, who, at that time had the Heatherlea Boarding House in Wilson Street and, although the house is no longer there, a street adjacent to where it once stood is called Heatherlea in remembrance of the old place. From there I attended Turuturu School for about one year and about the same amount of time at Tawhiti School before returning to Fraser Road School to finish my schooling. This coincided with my 15<sup>th</sup> birthday, the legal age to finish school. As I had not quite reached 15 it was necessary for me to do secondary correspondence

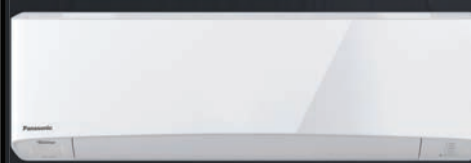
for a number of months. Edna, my sister, asked my father to send me to Te Aute Maori College in Hawkes Bay. On my father asking me if I wanted to go, I replied I would like to stay on the farm to help, but I believe my answer was because I felt I wanted some sort of family security in what had been to that time something of a transient life. However, this was put aside on reaching the age of 15 with a clearer view of the realism of life and self-preservation so I swung my bluey and headed back to Hawera to face the trials and tribulations of an adult life.

I cannot recall any thoughts or questions on me attending Hawera High; I believe it was considered I was needed on the farm to work.

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# Hundred year-old church getting facelift



These volunteers shared happy moments when painting the white fence at Wesley Church in Rahotu. Pictured left, Elva Symons and Kathy Stanley and right, Irene Leatherby and Janette Linn made quick work of brightening up the church property. The church is over 100 years old and it needs a facelift. More volunteers are needed so if you can help please get in touch with Elva Symons on 763 8650.

## Riverlea WI Annual Prize giving



President Lynette Gargan with her prizes.

Riverlea WI held their AGM and prizegiving on Wednesday February 5.

President Lynette Gargan and Secretary Leonie West were returned to office and Helen Cameron is the new Treasurer.

Prize-giving results:- Bloom: Riverlea WI vase 1. Myra Gibson. 2. Lynette Gargan, Dot Pope and Leonie West. Cluster: Kapuni Trophy. 1. Myra Gibson. 2. Betty Goodwin. Handcraft. 1. Lynette Gargan. 2. Dot Pope. Handcraft. Cherry Willingham Tray 1. Doreen Matthews. 2. Lynette Gargan.

Cup for most points overall: Myra Gibson.

The monthly meetings are to remain on the first Wednesday of each month either in members homes, Riverlea Hall or out and about.

The February meeting of the Manaia Womens Institute was held on Tuesday February 4, followed by the annual meeting.

The officers and committee for the coming year are: Joint Presidents Phyllis Malcolm and Jenny Hamley. Secretary Meg Kelly. Treasurer Ann Chisnall. Committee. Janice Walsh, Daphne Ashley and Raewyn Fredrickson.

Annual Competition Winners. Edna Free Tray – Shrub. Phyllis Malcolm/ Daphne Ashley. Mary

Wright Trophy – Any other stem Daphne Ashley. Mary Hurliman Tray – Hand Craft Daphne Ashley. Mary Stevenson Cup – Home Craft Ann Chisnall. Jubilee Trophy – Overall Points. Daphne Ashley

The wondering coin was won by May Mulholland and the Mary Hutton Trophy awarded to Phyllis Malcolm.

Next Meeting – Tuesday March 3– Floral workshop to make posy bowls to be donated to the folk at Trinity Rest time.

Meg Kelly

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# New Year new opportunities

It's a new year, a new decade and if the adverts for gym memberships are to be believed, 365 days of orbit around the sun also means a "New You". New health and safety clauses, waterway legislation and environmental policies are coming into effect in 2020. And while this may seem daunting it also means more opportunities.

The rising, and ongoing cost of compliance is beginning to beat down on farmers. Some will be feeling the heat more than others. Those that are feeling behind may not have got the head start they needed.

No matter how established you think you are with compliance, there is always



NINA POLETTI

more to do to minimise health and safety risks and maximise environmental care. As for the cost, early investment will mean less financial pressure in the long run, as many have learnt from 20 years of riparian planting in Taranaki.

Streams look better, wildlife is healthier and it's all due to early investment into compliance.

As far as health and safety goes, no amount of money is worth losing a human life. Worksafe NZ recorded 13 fatalities from November 2018 to October 2019 in the agricultural industry and it goes without saying that we need to take this number down to zero.

5th Business Agri puts immense value in making farms safer, more efficient and environmentally friendly, starting with the animal. By prioritising animal requirements you end up with significant on-farm advantages that not only reduce animal health risk but also minimise environmental and OSH risk.

How, you might ask? Well, healthier animals mean less interventions. In a drystock situation, optimising stock nutrition often goes hand in hand with decreased drenching frequency. This means less handling and less opportunity for something to go wrong with the animal or you. The animal can get on with eating and growing, meanwhile you've got one less job to do.

In dairying, improved stock health may mean less down cows to try and get back up, or fewer assisted calvings. The sheer size and weight of these animals, not to mention four potentially kicking legs all adds risk when in close contact. You also gain back significant time not having to treat sick animals.

Healthier animals are far more efficient. Higher per cow/sheep production rates mean less intensive farming and lower nitrogen

and GHG production, minimising stress on both the environment and the farmer's mental health.

It all goes hand-in-hand, while an investment into compliance may seem like a challenge now, flip the coin and see 2020 as a time of

opportunity to better your operation for the future.

Similarly while investment into animal health may seem like it's not worth the return in gained production alone, it's the advantages you'll get that will really put you ahead. Whether it's

improved mental health, more time, lower OSH risk, improved environmental compliance, or all of the above, the opportunity is yours for the taking in 2020.

*Nina Poletti  
5th Business Agri*

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## End of an era for Taranaki Holstein Friesian stud

A Taranaki farmer's 40-year commitment to breeding Holstein Friesians is set to come to an emotional end.

Ian McCormack, who's battling a terminal illness, has decided to sell his herd at a complete dispersal sale in April.

About 180 head of mixed aged cows, in-calf heifers and calves will go under the hammer on his Stratford dairy farm.

"It's quite emotional," said Ian. "But the time has come for me to move on."

"Holsteins Friesians have been my life. My herd can be traced back to the original animals imported into New Zealand."

"It's been my passion to maintain the purity of the breed. You won't find too many herds left like that," he said.

Ian milks about 120 cows on his rolling 54-hectare (effective) farm on Opunake Road.

The herd produced 68,000 kilograms of milksolids (kgMS) in 2018-19. It was one of the highest producing fat herds, of registered Holstein Friesians, in the country.

His top cow, Bushview Braxton Hazel VG89, produced 12,525 litres or 828 kgMS last season.

Bushview Holsteins was founded in 1980, when Ian and his brother Gerald were herd-owning sharemilkers on their parents' Rowan Road farm.

"The stud really kicked off in 1988 with the purchase of a heifer named Snowline Poppy," he said.

"She was from the well-known Snowline 'P' family, which traces back to the cow

Egmontdowns OG Peggy."

Poppy had six daughters, five were reared as replacement heifers.

"A number of her descendants are still in the herd and have all classified as very good (VG) or excellent (EX) for traits other than production," he said.

Bushview Windbrok Picture VG89, who's a six-year-old, produced 712 kgMS last season. Bushview Braxton Petal VG88, a five-year-old, produced 701 kgMS.

Ian bought his current farm in 2005.

A major focus of his breeding has been cow families, production and type. He strives for a well-balanced cow with longevity.

*Continued page 15.*

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# Popular couple back in the butchery business

Sinclair Home Kill (formerly Sinclair Farm Kill) is back, up and running. Back in 2017, Colin and Bridgette Sinclair, owners of the popular Stratford business felt they needed a break from the butchery trade, so they sold their Cordelia Street factory. Now they are back in business, and working from their Warwick Road home. The location might be different and the scale might be smaller, but the people behind the business are the same, and their former clients have come back on board.

After selling their business, Colin had been driving trucks and Bridgette had been working in aged care. What they found was that they weren't seeing much of each other and missed the companionship they had enjoyed working together, says Colin.

"My son Beau wanted to leave school and join the butchery trade. In our last business the everyday costs were enormous and the



At work. Beau, Colin and Bridgette.

pressures of work used to play havoc with our health and mental wellbeing. So we decided to set up at home on a smaller scale with me, Bridgette and Beau. We set up shop, acquired the necessary machinery and

opened our doors in August last year."

When they did their former clients came back to them.

"It was very humbling," says Colin. "Obviously we did a reasonable job when we had the factory. It was not

until we sold the factory that we realised how much we were appreciated and how much we had been missed."

Brigitte says their customers have become friends. They know their families and what meat they

eat, putting them in a better position to give them what they wanted.

They no longer do any killing, just processing. Their customers are mainly farmers, although they get the occasional hunter bringing in their venison.

"We can do all cuts of beef, sheep, pigs, bacon and a range of smallgoods like sausages, saveloys, salamis et cetera, which I enjoy doing," says Colin.

They also cater for people with allergies and various forms of food intolerance.

Colin and Brigitte say that since they restarted the business they have spent more time together and are able to work the hours that best suit them. Colin recalls one evening they went out to work in the butchery and before they knew it the time had ticked over to 1.30am.

Farming and businesses

like theirs' that depend on it are always subject to factors beyond their control like market forces and the effects of the weather, as well as unknown factors like Coronavirus. Colin says he has been through times like this before and been able to weather the storm.

This is not the first time Colin has been drawn back to the butchery trade. He had started as an 18 year-old and worked in retail shops and freezing works throughout the North Island and the top of the South Island. He had a break and went farming but came back to butchery 15 years ago. Now he says they are in it for the long haul.

"This is our retirement and Beau's future," says Colin. "He's coming along really well and is learning the trade quite nicely. Hopefully in the future I can start working for him."

# End of an era for Taranaki Holstein Friesian stud

Continued from page 14.

Ian's used mainly North American genetics from World Wide Sires, Semex and Genetic Enterprises.

"You'll see I have a few old cows in the herd that don't look their age. They look young. I don't think I've done too badly," he said.

Bushview Holsteins currently has 17 cows classified as excellent.

The largest cow family in the herd descends from Okains EC Vrai.

"I bought my first cows from that family when Nouveau Holsteins in Dargaville and Chrislerae Holsteins in Palmerston North held dispersal sales," he said.

He later purchased another member of the family, Ruaview Star Rosemarie EX2. Her descendent, Bushview Selvino Marie EX, is for sale.

Ian's had his own successes

in the show ring.

Bushview Bolton Hottie VG88 was named the senior champion cow and took out the Burkitt Family Trophy at the Stratford A&P Show in 2015.

Bushview Bolton Sassy VG87 won champion cow at the Egmont A&P Show in 2013 as a four-year-old.

In recent years Ian has used several Italian sires, such as Heavenly Golden Dreams-ET, to help reduce the stature of some of his cows.

One of the bull's daughters, Bushview Heavenly Heidi EX, produced 761 kgMS last season as a four-year-old. She has a two-year-old daughter Bushview Solomon Hayley in the herd.

Bushview Shottle Heidi VG87, who produced 680 kgMS in 2018-19 as an 11-year-old, will have several descendants in the sale.

One of her daughters, Bushview Danilo Heidi



Ian McCormack is passionate about breeding purebred Holstein Friesians.

VG89, sold to Waipiri Holsteins in the Waikato in 2013 for \$3,700.

Two full sisters to the 2019 North Island supreme champion Holstein Friesian cow Makuri Gold Amber-ET EX2 are also for sale.

The herd's diet consists of pasture, grass silage and

a palm kernel blend fed through the feed system in the rotary milking shed.

Bushview Holsteins complete dispersal sale is being handled by Carrfields Livestock and will be held on 24th April 2020.

Brad Markham

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# Getting smarter at growing grass

Trewhithen is a 288ha farm with 1,100 cows in New Plymouth, owned by the Faull Family from Waitara. In his third season, sharemilker James Barbour takes us through the farm's approach to nutrient management.

## The problem

We cover a large area, so paddock variability is an important issue for us. If we just apply a blanket rate without testing or targeting, the costs mount up very quickly because of the scale of the operation.

We're milking all year around with various winter run-offs. We have an ambitious target of 600,000kg MS. Our focus is on growing more grass, taking care of the animals and becoming increasingly efficient. And we've managed to cut our stocking rate while increasing production.

This is a very public farm just outside of town and on the main highway. The community rightly expects us to be on top of our game. We can't afford to compromise cow health or environmental performance.

We're putting 180 units of nitrogen on throughout the



James Barbour and James Livingston.

year. Volatilisation is a real risk when you're not getting the rain at the right time. It's one thing to be forecasting 10-20mm, but it's another to get that amount coming down in this area, which is a drier part of Taranaki.

## The solution

We have a large effluent pond and we use the effluent

instead of fertiliser on a proportion of the farm. The soil tests enable us to check that the correct amounts are going on and if any extra is required, this can be applied as fertiliser. We do our own fertiliser spreading and have two Ravensdown silos: one for mixes and one for coated urea such as N-Protect. Part of our product policy

in the summer is to switch to N-Protect as it starts warming up. With less being lost, we can put on lower rates of N and there's definitely a potential saving in there.

We organised all-paddock testing with Ravensdown when I started so we knew what needed to go where. It was a week from soil testing until maps and plans were received and we have done it twice now which gives us great paddock fertility information. It is an upfront cost, but it's been recouped.

Recording tests and spreading data in the HawkEye software tool is helpful. Seeing paddock history helps us to get the best out of each one. HawkEye also allows the owner to feel like he can stay in touch by seeing those actions being taken from anywhere in the world.

By walking the farm, we can see the 'hungry paddocks' which generally match pretty well to the soil test results. Spreading our own fertiliser enables us to leave out the areas which don't need fertiliser such as around troughs, gates and the like.

There's pride in the environmental efforts like

the riparian strips and the 1,500 trees planted near our run-off areas. We organise plenty of school trips and have the odd high-profile guest come to look around.

## The people

Being in the third year out of five is the sweet spot where we know what works and are making little changes. The trust and relationship with the owner is vital. I have a great partnership with my brother-in-law Jason Groot. It's all about progression - getting better at what we do. The goal is to keep learning with a view of farm ownership one day.

The farm benefits from the strong support of Ravensdown's James Livingston. He's really easy to work with - everything is planned. For example, we'll talk about which paddocks to plant maize or other crops in and, as the farm is on Hawkeye, we can look at the maps online and discuss what needs to be done. If

any paddocks need more testing, he just gets it done. Hawkeye also captures the paddock areas and fertiliser history which all help with decision making.

James always has everything well planned - frequently it's just a matter of texts and phone calls to sort out what is happening.

In drier areas like coastal North Taranaki, and the pressure coming on for more environmental efficiency, N-Protect is a great tool for controlling N loss from volatilisation. As the climate changes and becomes drier and warmer, using it all year round needs serious consideration.

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James Barbour,  
Ravensdown shareholder.

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# Pastures need TLC to recover when rain comes

Livestock has been the top priority in areas hit by the recent dry – and rightly so – but now, pastures also need attention, to fuel farm recovery after rain, and provide the main source of feed for the next 12 months.

Successful pasture recovery after drought has three stages: current management in dry conditions; actions to be taken when rain comes, and a renewal programme.

Bruce Paterson, Taranaki and Manawatu area manager for Barenbrug Agriseeds, says the first step is to assess all paddocks on the farm, and divide them into three categories.

“Most important are the Category 1 paddocks, ones you think will recover. Category 2 is for those which might survive; Category 3 is paddocks past the point of no return,” he explains.

Category 1 paddocks are vital for drought recovery, because after rain they will be the first to start providing feed.

Two golden rules apply to



Careful management now will help grass recover after rain.

these paddocks – look after them while it’s dry, and be patient with grazing after it rains.

It’s critical not to overgraze these pastures during the dry, because ryegrass plants store all the energy they need for survival and regrowth in the basal stem (not below

it). Grazing too close to the ground depletes these energy reserves.

“Even if the grass is brown, having 3-4 cm of length on it is much better than having 1-2 cm. The extra length holds the energy to power plants back up for growth when enough moisture is

available.”

To protect Category 1 paddocks, Bruce says farmers can use Category 3 paddocks as a sacrifice area(s), to hold stock and to feed supplement in, or use a feed pad if available.

“When it rains, keep managing Category 1

paddocks carefully for the next 3-4 weeks as things green up. Putting animals on too soon can kill them. Wait until ryegrass tillers have three leaves before grazing any new growth post-rain.”

Category 2 paddocks meantime should be monitored.

“If you pull plants apart, green in the base of the tiller means there’s hope,” Paul says. “Wait until it rains, then they will become either Category 1 or 3.”

Category 3 paddocks need to be re-sown. These are pastures coming out of summer crop or those which have less than 50% grass cover remaining; contain a

high level of weeds; have been damaged by insects; or been used as sacrifice paddock.

“A plan needs to be developed for these, which is typically a mix of winter feed and pasture renewal, and may include full renewal, spray-drilling and undersowing.

“In years like this with widespread pasture damage, undersowing is a key tool, as larger areas can be sown quickly. Options for this include winter crops, 12 month pasture (e.g. Tabu+), 2-3 year pasture (e.g. Shogun), and sowing early in the dry.”



## Five years at the top of the FVI



### Five years at the top of the FVI

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# Coastal boxes ahead as season approaches



played, with Josh Lord and Alex Kauvalu having appeared for Taranaki the previous weekend. Josh is also in the Chiefs Under-20 squad.

Mark Davis is making the step up from the Third division to co-coach the Premiers alongside fellow newcomer Kane Barrett. Separate training sessions are being held in Opunake and Okato before they combine at Rahotu closer to the start of the season.

On a fine Opunake evening, players were taken through exercises, and took in a

three kilometre run which included the views of the Opunake Lake.

The gym, which is the latest venture for the current national heavyweight champion has been doing well, says James.

“We’ve got the Coastal Rugby boys here and the basketball guys are coming,” he says. It’s also attracting a lot of interest from the general public.

“We’re changing people’s lives. They’re giving up smoking, drinking and drugs, and they’re wanting to train.”

## Manaia Golf

February 3. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Winks Rd. 2. Manaia Hackers. 3. Hakana Matata. 4. Tui & Red.

February 8. Saturday Men’s Stableford. Wayne Baker 65. Steve Caldwell 66. Jim Ngere 67. John Oliver 67. Trevor Larsen 67. Phil Elliott 68. Gary Dowdle 69. Dennis Hurcomb 69. Twos. Grant Hastie 9th.

Junior. Longest Drive. 1. Lian Campbell. 2. Kieran Taylor. Pee Wees. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Jack Gargan. 3. Reiden Robinson.

Chipping. 1. Kieran Taylor. 2. Liam Campbell. Pee

Wees. 1. Reiden Robinson. 2. Luke Norris. 3. Jack Gargan.

Team Chipping. 1. Kieran Taylor. Jack Gargan.

February 10. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Manaia Hackers. 2. Mahi. 3. Hakana Matata. 4. Otakeho Hackers. 5. Jo Boys.

February 15. Saturday Men’s Stableford. 1. Logan Symes 46. 2. Grant Gopperth 41. 3. Cody Clark 40. 4. John Oliver 40. 5. Logan Kennett 39 and Noddy Symes 39.

Juniors. 1. Liam Campbell. 2. Luke Norris. 3. Reiden Robinson.

Coastal Rugby players gather at James Langton’s Barbwire Boxing Gym for some pre season training.

With their first pre-season game a matter of weeks away, Coastal Rugby players have been getting in some pre-season training. Last week they were at

the Barbwire Boxing gym with new Premiers co-coach Mark Davis and gym owner James (Batman) Langton taking them through their paces.

“You’ve got a game in four weeks, so come on” James told the players who included members of the Premiers, Women’s and Under-20s teams. “I see my

job as to get you guys ready for the season. That’s my role, so that you don’t lose the early games.”

A couple had already



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# Opunake Boat and Underwater Club OMV Snapper Fishing Tournament Results

Our annual OMV Taranaki tournament kicked off with registration night at the club rooms on Friday January 24 with a BBQ.

This year our annual tournament had a couple of new spot prize sections, and thanks to Viv Scott, McDonald Real Estate sponsoring \$1000 for the Early Bird Entry to be drawn at prize giving, and on completion of the registration night we had 103 entered, which was helped by great weather and sea conditions for the first weekend.

The sea was a little cooler at the start of the competition, so snapper were harder to find, which made a brand new section with special thanks to the staff at Gibson Plumbing who sponsored \$1000 for a lucky snapper in the 4-6kg division, also to be drawn at prize giving.

We ended up with 107 anglers competing and 15 divers, which is a record for some years due to the nice clear water that we have been experiencing here. The fish were a little elusive to start with, and not a lot were being weighed until midway through the tournament, and then it went mad with people being knocked off the various ladders each day.

We ended up with a beautiful roast meal at prizegiving thanks to Dan Morgan for getting us wild pig, which came out beautifully in the cooker, with all the roast vegetables and other meats from Silver Fern.

To be in the spot prize draws you had to be at prizegiving to collect, and it took two draws in each section. Sarah Procter won the Early Bird and Jackson Sinclair with the Lucky Snapper (of which only 17 were weighed in during the two weeks).

Other Results were

OMV/Ecolab/Balance Agri Nutrients Snapper — Once again Reel Pleasure was in the money (\$1000) with this year Danny O'Donnell weighing in a 11.53kg. The other nine places went to Shannon McMillan, Tony Campbell, Grant Hill, Steve Corkill, Robert Shirtcliffe, Kobe Sinclair, Paddy Walsh, Owen Evans and Ben Gibson with 7.80kg.

The Tasman Marine Kahawai section went to five places, with Owen Evans with his 2.91kg taking the top spot, whilst the other placegetters were Shannon McMillan, Steve Corkill, Rhys Griggs and John Walsh sharing fourth place with 2.85kg.

Malcolm Livestock/ASB



**Danny O'Donnell with his winning snapper(11.53kg) caught on Reel Pleasure owned by Danny and Mark Neal.**

Blue Cod section also went to five places, John Coltart hooked up 2.29kg in the first weekend and kept that position right through with Ben Gibson, Gareth Collins, Garry Northcott and Sage Cooksley with 2.08kg.

Sandfords John Dory section, Grant Hill's 2.57kg was easily the winner of this section with Steve Coltart and then John Coltart with 1.96kg.

Campbell Contracting Kingfish section – Shannon McMillan weighed a clear winner with 13.94kg then Terry Sullivan, and Paddy

Walsh in third place with 10.08kg.

Marine Services Wanganui Tuna section. These were a little harder to find and only four were weighed in with Dave Lee's 4.77kg taking top place, then Rory Gibbs and Garry Northcott with 4.48kg.

Marine Services Wanganui Tarakihi section was a clean out by Bounty Hunter with Sage Cooksley's 1.58kg the heaviest, followed by Grant Hill and then Andy Collins with his 1.30kg.

West Coast Marine Terry Sullivan, and Paddy

Walsh with his 0.900kg and then we had a second equal with Gareth Collins and Shannon McMillan with 0.78kg.

Taranaki Building Trevally section. Paps Klaassen was a clear winner with 4.152kg followed by Shannon McMillan and Lynda Corkill's 2.55kg.

Blair Burnett, McDonald Real Estate Crayfish section was won by Simon Foley with 1.87kg followed by Simon Drought and Robert Shirtcliffe 1.49kg

The Top Boat trophy this year was a clear winner

Black Ops skippered by Shannon McMillan followed by Bounty Hunter with Grant Hill, then Big Blue with Steve Corkill.

The Collins Sports rod and reel raffle was won by Darcy Wineera.

The evening finished off with auctioneer Graham Payne entertaining all present by setting various

people against other with various donated goods, and of course there were plenty of stories about the ones that got away. Until next year a huge thanks to all those that make this tournament an annual event not to be missed in our local boating calendar.

Lynda Corkill

*The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News comes out on March 5. Phone (06)761-7016 to advertise.*



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## Opunake Boat and Underwater Club Notice

We wish to acknowledge and thank the following sponsors for their support for our 2019 annual fishing and diving tournament:

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And all those who donated food, equipment, time and energy to make this another successful tournament, the committee and club members sincerely appreciate your efforts, we look forward to seeing you back for the our next annual tournament early in 2021 – Commodore and Committee.



# Opunake Surf Life Saving Club News

It's been a great few weeks at the Club. Finally we got some warmer weather and ocean temperatures warmed up a bit. Our regional paid guards finished at the end of January, and now our patrol hours are 11.30-4.30 Saturday and Sundays until March 8 when all patrols finish.

Recently we were involved in an After Hours rescue. Once alerted, we were able to send off duty lifeguards to attend the swimmer in trouble, and together with the rescue helicopter helping by finding him off shore, the IRB crew picked the patient up. This was a very lucky rescue. Members of the public played their part in phoning 111 who were able to contact the rescue squad, meaning we could alert our team. A very timely reminder to never swim alone, and never at the left hand side/tail race end of the beach. This is where most of the rips occur. Always swim in front of the area by the surf club - this is where rips occur less frequently - but they can still happen. If you are caught in a rip - remember relax, raise and ride. Relax and focus on floating. Raise your hand to



**Opunake performed strongly at the Taranaki Surf Life Saving Champs.**

alert bystanders and ride the rip until the end and then focus on swimming back to shore once you are out of the rip.

Our juniors attended the Taranaki Surf Life Saving Champs. Congratulations to Under-8 Girls Champ Harpa Olliver ,Under-8 Boys Second Overall Luca

Harvey and Under-12 Third Overall Will Perrett. We also achieved a lot of placings in the events.

U14 Girls. Flags. Caro Oliver(Second). Sprints. Caro Oliver (Second). U12 Boys. Surf Race. Will Perrett (Second). Diamond Race Will Perrett (Third). Run/ Swim/ Run. Will Perrett (Second). U12 Girls.

Surf Race. Harriet Muller (Third). Run/Swim/Run. Harriet Muller (Third). U11 Boys. Sprints. Jayden Doherty (Third). U11 Girls. Surf Race. Georgie Olliver (Third). Run/Swim/Run. Georgie Olliver (Third).

U10 Boys. Sprints. J.C.Goodman (First). Jak Lawn (Third). Flags. Victor Gibson (Second). Boogie

Board Race. J.C.Goodman (First). Run/Swim/Run. J.C.Goodman(Third). U10 Girls.Sprints.Renee Fleming (Second). Run/Swim/Run. Renee Fleming(Third). U8 Boys. Sprints. Luca Harvey(Second).Run/Swim/Run Luca Harvey(Second).

Boogie Board Race. Luca Harvey (Second). U8 Girls. Boogie Board Race. Flags. Harpa Olliver (First). Sprints. Harpa Olliver (First). Boogie Board Race. Harpa Olliver (Third).

*Trish Rankin*



**Surf Life Savers were involved in an After Hours Rescue.**



## MEGA Deals

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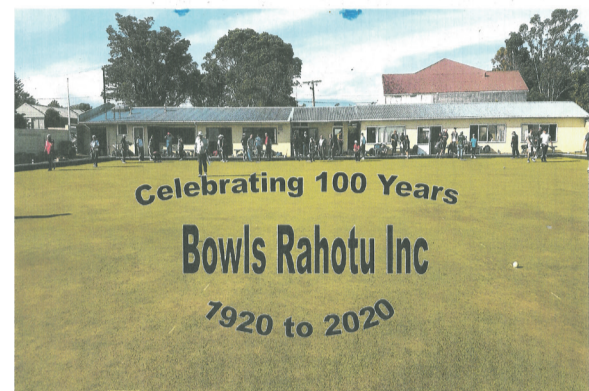
# Celebrating a hundred years of bowls at Rahotu



Bowlers have been taking to the greens of Rahotu for a hundred years. This photo was taken by Kevin Waswo at a bowling tournament in 1971.

been at this site ever since. One of the club's members Harry Pennington built the new clubrooms, helped by members and local residents. The current clubrooms were built by Bruce Barron Builders in 1991. The club's most decorated current member is Des Lowry. Having won five or more Taranaki titles, he is

their only gold star holder. The Club has chalked up a number of successes in their time. These have included Trevor Wilde, Cor Hofmans, Ray Schultz and Peter Bennett winning the H.A.N.Z.(North Island) tournament in 1978, 1980, 1981 and 1987, and being runners-up in 1988.



## NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

**Proud to support Rahotu Bowling Club.**  
**Congratulations on your centenary.**

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On Taranaki Anniversary weekend, Rahotu will celebrate a century of bowling. The Rahotu Bowling Club, now known as Bowls Rahotu Inc began back in 1920 with 33 members and a grass green with four rinks at the Rahotu Domain.

On the weekend of March 7-8 they will look back on a hundred years with a Centenary Bowls Tournament. The weekend kicks off on the Friday evening with a get together, barbecue and happy hour, with the bowls beginning in earnest the following day. There will be 128 bowlers representing Taranaki clubs and former members from around the country. On Sunday afternoon there will be a hangi, catering for about 200 people to which club sponsors are invited. This will be followed by speeches from current club president Len Reader and club captain Gavyn Horo. Prizes will then be presented by three of the club's youngest members and three of its oldest. Camron Horo, Nathan Goodin and Joshua Allan are all still at high school. Ninety seven year-old Ron Bingham is a life member, has been with the club since the 1976-7 season, and still lives on his own. John Morgan is also a life member. At 92 he maybe a bit younger than Ron, but he has been with the club for a longer time, having joined in 1965-6. Mick Guthrie has been with the club since 1978-9.

Although the club membership is now 26, Rahotu Bowls Inc has kept going while other country

bowling clubs have had to fold. Their club days held every Sunday still draw a full turnout.

"They all couldn't get on the green at once," he says. He points to a montage of photos of a tournament held here in 1971 taken by Harry Waswo who once worked at the Rahotu Post Office. "The locals are in love with their bowling club. It's like a second home," says Peter. "This is a real Coast story this bowling club. It's run by a really great bunch of blokes. All work done is voluntary. If you're not dedicated, then you don't survive."

The club rooms remain

Pungarehu Lions Club, or acting as a changing room for students performing at a production at the Rahotu School.

For its first eight years, the club was based at the domain until local publican Ted Whittle donated land next to the Rahotu Hotel.. The club then put in an



Players at a 1971 golf tournament.

Photo Kevin Waswo.

a focal point for the local community, whether it's hosting the monthly meetings of the Rahotu-

eight rink green and Ted Whittle the publican joined the club himself, later acting as secretary. The club has

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# Local artist creates colossal birthday cake



New Plymouth artist Reuben Paterson has created a two-metre tall cake for the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Celebrated local artist Reuben Paterson's piece - a colossal, glittery cake - is set to take centre stage for the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery's 50<sup>th</sup> street party.

Reuben, best known for his giant tree *The Golden*

*Bearing* which has previously been a huge hit at the gallery and the TSB Festival of Lights, has worked on the cake for two months.

The two-metre tall behemoth uses 5kg of glitter and will be the centrepiece

of the party on Saturday 29 February marking 50 years since the NPDC-owned and operated gallery first opened its doors.

"I don't want to spoil the surprise but all I can say is once the cake is activated

people will be blown away," says Reuben. "Fifty years is a significant milestone for a gallery, and to help celebrate this you have to have a monstrous two-metre tall cake covered in glitter!

"It is of course the second

glittering centre piece after the perfection of our sparkling gallery as we acknowledge the history of Monica Brewster's legacy and the journeys the gallery has taken us all on, in its golden 50th jubilee year."

The two-metre tall by 1.8-metre wide cake includes a number of tiers and includes fabrics and dresses dating from the 1970s to the present day in honour of the 50-year celebrations and of Monica Brewster. "We have all been on a beautiful journey with the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery so the fabric patterns and floral designs, which are all painted in glitter, share their own genealogy of swirling curls that come to represent these journeys."

Co-directors Aileen Burns and Johan Lundh said: "It's been anything but a piece of cake for local artist Reuben Paterson as there's been a lot of hard work in creating this piece of art. Together the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery and Reuben are celebrating an important milestone as we mark 50 years."

The party runs from 3pm to 9pm on Queen Street. There's live music from Dictaphone Blues, Hans Pucket, Serious Happiness, O Juliet & Charlotte Johansen. There'll be food trucks as well as a bar. Party-goers can participate in and interactive art work *The Cell* by Brook Andrew and take part in workshops. The party will see the world premiere for Len Lye's *Sky Snakes* kinetic sculpture.

## Govett-Brewster Art Gallery 50th Birthday Street Party!

Free | Queen St | Sat 29 Feb 2020 | 3 - 9 pm

Live music from *Dictaphone Blues*, *Hans Pucket*, *Serious Happiness*, *O Juliet & Charlotte Johansen*. Food trucks, cash bar, interactive art, all ages welcome.

The summer holidays may be done, but the fun isn't over in New Plymouth. We're breaking out of the Gallery, taking over the street, and bringing out the art with a summer street party to celebrate 50 years of Govett-Brewster!



Govett-Brewster Art Gallery

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Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/  
Len Lye Centre

42 Queen Street  
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Aotearoa New Zealand

govettbrewster.com





# Oaonui hall to host MP's meeting



Oaonui Hall chairperson Andy Whitehead.

The Oaonui community has been working hard to raise the funds required for the Hall upgrades and exterior painting.

"When the farmers are hurting it's the rural communities that suffer the most," said Oaonui Hall chairperson Andy Whitehead. It is for this reason the Oaonui Hall committee is excited to be hosting our local MP Johnathan Young and National Party spokesman for agriculture Todd Muller MP for Bay of Plenty. With an election later this year, we really encourage people to come along and hear what's in it for us when we vote on Sep-

tember 19. The Opunake community relies heavily on the Agriculture and Energy sectors and here is an opportunity to hear from the two spokesmen on these sectors from the National Party. Strong rural communities allow us to strength our schools and health sector and also make sure we have the ability to maintain our community assets such as Oaonui's rural hall.

"We are really proud of how the hall is looking and we are keen to show it off," added Andy. A BBQ lunch will be provided and we are hoping for a good turnout of farmers.

Andy Whitehead



Govett Brewsters 50th Birthday celebration Reuben Paterson's colossal, glittery cake, one of the tiers of the cake.

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## TARANAKI HARNESS CENTENARY RACE DAY

Sat 29 Feb 2020

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The Next Issue is the 5th March

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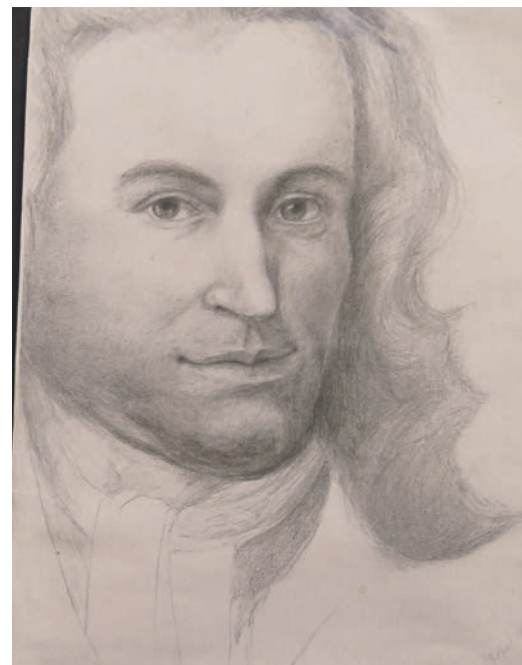
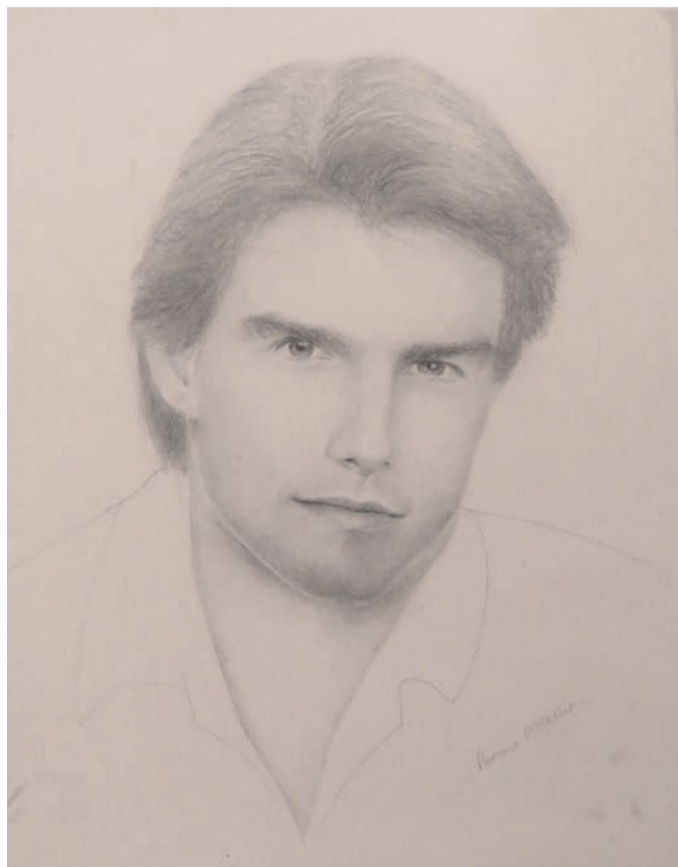
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OF THE OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS FOR 12 MONTHS

Artists Corner



Above and right: Bernice McKellar works with pencil on paper.



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Tickets: \$30 per person (under 16 years free). Purchase online via Eventbrite - use Buy TicketsNow or instore (cash only) at Nicci Goodin Designer Florist and McDonald Real Estate. All proceeds go directly towards funding the Life Education programme for children in Taranaki.

This event is only possible due to the generous support of our sponsors, NZME and Goodin Country Gardens.

Thank you for supporting Life Education Taranaki. For more information, please contact Christine: [jgoodin@farmside.co.nz](mailto:jgoodin@farmside.co.nz)



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FEBRUARY/MARCH 2020

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<p><b>THE GRUDGE</b> Horror  1hr 34min R16: Violence, Horror Fri 21st Feb 7pm Sat 29th Feb 7pm</p> <p><b>SPIES IN DISGUISE</b> Animation, Action  1hr 49mins M: Sat 22nd Feb 1pm</p> <p><b>BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD</b> Drama, True Story  1hr 49min  PG Wed 26th Feb 1pm Sun 8th Mar 7pm</p> <p><b>FRIDA VIVA LA VIDA</b> Documentary   1hr 30min  Exempt Wed 26th Feb 7pm  Wed 4th Mar 7pm</p> <p><b>GUIDE TO 2<sup>ND</sup> DATE SEX</b> Comedy, Romance 1hr 38min  R16: Sex scenes Fri 6th Mar 7pm Sun 15th Mar 7pm Wed 18th Mar 7pm</p> <p><b>BIRDS OF PREY</b> Crime, Action  1hr 40min  R16: Violence Fri 28th Feb 7pm Sat 7th Mar 7pm Fri 13th Mar 7pm</p> <p><b>Taranaki Day – Cottage Rest Home- Fundraiser</b> <b>EMMA</b> - Drama Romance  2hrs PG Mon 9th Mar 1pm</p> <p><b>1917</b> - Drama, Action, War 2hrs  R13: graphic realistic war scenes Mon 9th Mar 7pm</p>	<p><b>BAD BOYS FOR LIFE</b> Action, Comedy 1hr 53min  R13: Language and sexual references Sat 22nd Feb 7pm</p> <p><b>MY SPY</b> Action, Adventure   1hr 33min  PG Sun 23rd Feb 7pm</p> <p><b>DOLITTLE</b> Comedy, Family  1hr 46min  PG Sat 29th Feb 1pm Sat 14th Mar 1pm</p> <p><b>MIDWAY **BOUTIQUE**</b> Action, History  2hr 18min  Violence and language Sun 1st Mar 7pm Wed 4th Mar 7pm Wed 11th Mar 1pm</p> <p><b>SONIC THE HEDGEHOG</b> Action, Family 1hr 40min  PG Sat 7th Mar 1pm  Sat 28th Mar 1pm</p> <p><b>Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club Fundraiser</b> Meet the Director Kiel McNaughton <b>THE LEGEND OF BARON TO'A</b> – Action, Comedy 1hr 53min RP13: Language and sexual references Mon 23rd Feb 7pm</p> <p>Also screening Sat 14th Mar 7pm Fri 20th Mar 7pm</p>
--	---

Come along - meet the Director and support the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club

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**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**

St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th  
Sundays of the month  
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday  
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  
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**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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**LAWNMOWING,** and section maintenance by local contractor SOS. Free quote. Ph 027 605 8437.

**Motor vehicle round trip to New Plymouth:**

Time: 2.15 hours,  
Cost: 122 kms at 0.76 cents (AA published rate) \$92.72

**Motor vehicle round trip to Hawera:**

Time: 1.25 hours,  
Cost: 88 kms at 0.76 cents (AA published rate) \$66.88

**Community Spirit**

It abounds in Opunake and it is **PRICELESS**  
**SHOP LOCAL**



- |                      |                             |                                     |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Actionaki            | Farm Source                 | Opunake High School                 |
| Allied Opunake       | Gibson Plumbers             | Pastimes                            |
| Bob Clark            | Ian & Judith                | Phoenix 45                          |
| Campbell Contracting | Armstrong                   | Pickering Motors                    |
| Club Hotel           | Jean Roach                  | Pihama Lavender                     |
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| Coastal Vets         | Little French Bird          | Entertainment                       |
| Cottage Resthome     | Photography                 | Retro on 45                         |
| Country Connections  | Opunake & Coastal News      | Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration |
| Craig Corrigan Ltd   | Opunake Chinese             | Turn Heads                          |
| Dreamtime Surf       | Opunake Beach Kiwi          | Viv Scott                           |
| Everybody's Theatre  | Holiday Park                |                                     |
| Fabulous Flowers     |                             |                                     |
| Farmlands            |                             |                                     |

Your business could be here if you join the Opunake & District Business Association

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**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 8 vacancies available for Term 2, 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 25th March.

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 26th March.

Rodney Mullin, Board of Trustees

**TARANAKI CLAN CAMERON LAR**

is proud to present Taranaki/King Country MP  
**MRS BARBARA KURIGER**  
who is a strong advocate for Rural NZ.

Following Barbara's speech we will have the haggis ceremony followed by supper.

**Venue:** Hawera Club, 38 High St, Hawera  
**Date:** Saturday March 7  
**Time:** 7pm

Tickets \$20 each.  
Available from Hardings Funeral Services,  
Regent St, Hawera.

Out of towners - payment to TSB bank number 15-3950-0650035-00. Put your name in deposit details. Register before February 28.

If you need further assistance please call Neville on 027 416 3563 or Shane on 027 663 2825



**THIRD RATES INSTALMENT**

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third instalment of rates for 2019/2020 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 26 February 2020.**

WD Crockett  
Chief Executive

**OAKURA INDOOR BOWLING CLUB**

OPEN NIGHT FOR ALL  
Come and see if this for you.  
**Monday, March 2nd 7.30pm at Oakura Hall**  
This is a family sport - 7.30 to 9.30 on Monday evenings - March to September.  
Contact Marvin 7527531 or Zena 7527450 or just turn up.



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting 1st Monday of each month 5.30pm**  
at Hughson & Associates Boardroom,  
Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St  
(opposite CoastalCare Medical Centre)  
**Next meeting March 2**



**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**Taranaki Anniversary Monday (9th March)**

Inland Rahoitu/Okato areas  
 \$60 per vehicle, includes driver. \$15 per passenger.  
 \$5 for children under 13 years.  
 BBQ lunch included. Bring general snacks and water.  
**Drive amongst 20 to 50 thousand year old lahar.**  
**Experience Taranaki boulder fields, 400 years of mud flows and turned pasture fields.**  
 Some optional Challenge and play areas.  
 Entry by registration. Only 50 available spaces.  
 Road legal, unmodified vehicles with AT or mud grip tyres a must. 10am departure (A.R.R).  
 For starting points and further information please phone Mariska 0275093390 or Tom 06 7587767  
 Limited to Entry 50 vehicles

**Opunake Junior Soccer AGM**

**Thursday March 5 at 7pm Sandfords Event Centre**



Next issue due out March 5, 2020.. Contact us on 06 761 7016 to be in it.

Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
 ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
 accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
 Phone: 06 761 7016  
 23 Napier St, Opunake



**TARANAKI NATIONAL ART AWARDS AGM**

1pm Wednesday 11th March 2020 Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake

Further information at contact@taranakiartawards.co.nz

**Rahotu Home and School Association AGM**

Tuesday 10th March @ 7pm  
 Rahotu School Staffroom  
 All Welcome  
 S Holmes, Secretary



**I've lost my cell phone**

On October 24 last year I lost my cell phone. I'd been at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake and somehow between being in the theatre mid afternoon and walking to the car parked near the theatre entrance the phone disappeared.

I wonder if anyone can help me. It's a new Nokia phone with the phone number 020 4105 0230 cellotaped on to the back of the phone. I'm happy to give a reward if it's returned, no questions asked. My home

phone number is (06) 761 8206 or I can be contacted at the Opunake & Coastal News office in the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier Street, Opunake. Many thanks, Bernice McKellar

*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 Tavern:** 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.

**TUESDAYS**

**Club Hotel Pool:** Tuesday nights. New players welcome.  
**WEDNESDAYS**

**Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake:** Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676  
**Schnitzel Night:** Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato  
**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.  
**Opunake Embroiders Guild:** Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.

**THURSDAYS**

**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.  
**Coastal Young Farmers:** Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.  
**Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia:** Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.  
**Egmont Euchre Club:** Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

**FRIDAYS**

**Eltham Business Association Friday Markets:** 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.  
**Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth:** Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.

**WEEKENDS**

**The Historic Cape Light & Museum:** Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.  
**NOW UNTIL FEBRUARY 29**  
**'For the Love of Art' Exhibition at Lysaght Watt Gallery:** At 6 Union St, Hawera.  
**FEBRUARY 9 TO MARCH 6**  
**'Inspired by Nature' Pottery Exhibition:** At The Village Gallery, Eltham. Opens on the 9th at 1.30pm. Exhibition runs from February 10 until March 6.  
**FEBRUARY 19 TO 22**

**Americarna:** Various location and events throughout Taranaki. Refer advert and editorial from February 6 issue for details.

**FEBRUARY 21**

**My Baby:** Playing at Butlers Reef, Oakura. 7pm start.  
**FEBRUARY 23**  
**The Slacks:** Goodin Country Garden, 158 Mirikau Rd, Warea. 11am-2.30pm. Refer ad.

**FEBRUARY 26**

**Oaonui Smallbore Rifle Club AGM:** 7.30pm at the Oaonui Hall.  
**FEBRUARY 29**  
**Red Bull Forceback National Finals:** At Rahoitu Domain, 10am start.

**Taranaki Harness Centenary Race Day:** Pukekura Raceway, New Plymouth. First race at 12.15pm. Free entry.

**Govett Brewster Art Gallery 50th Birthday Street Party:** 3pm to 9pm, Queen St, New Plymouth.

**MARCH 2**

**Opunake Business Association meeting:** 5.30pm at Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake.  
**Oakura Indoor Bowling Club Open Night:** At Oakura Hall. 7.30pm. Refer ad.

**MARCH 5**

**Opunake Junior Soccer AGM:** At Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake, 7pm.  
**MARCH 7**

**Taranaki Clan Cameron Lar presents Taranaki/King Country MP Barbara Kuriger:** At the Hawera Club, 30 High St at 7pm. Refer ad.

**MARCH 7 & 8**

**Free Driver Training with Road Safe Taranaki & Auto City:** Egmont A&P Showgrounds, Hawera. 9.30am to 4pm. Refer ad.

**MARCH 9**

**Okato Lions Club Driving Event:** 10am departure. Refer advert for details.  
**MARCH 10**

**Rahotu Home & School Association AGM:** At Rahotu School staffroom, 7pm.  
**MARCH 11**

**Taranaki National Art Awards AGM:** At Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake, 1pm.  
**MARCH 18 TO 26**

**Discover Northland Tour:** With Weir Bros. Ph 06 278 5858. Refer ad.  
**MARCH 20**

**Blindspot:** At Butlers Reef, Oakura. Refer ad.  
**MARCH 22**

**The Slacks. And Open Mic:** At Lahar, Okato. 4.30-6.30pm.  
**MARCH 23**

**NPBHS Boarding Open Day:** 10.15am to 3pm. Refer ad.  
**MARCH 27**

**Raw Muscle:** At Butlers Reef, Oakura. Refer ad.  
**APRIL 4**

**New Zealand Military Tattoo at Palmerston North:** With Weir Bros. Ph 06 278 5858. Refer ad.  
**OCTOBER 3 & 4**

**World of Wearable Art, Wellington tour:** With Weir Bros. Ph 06 278 5858. Refer ad.  
**OCTOBER 25 TO 30**

**Great Barrier Island & Auckland Tour:** With Weir Bros. Ph 06 278 5858. Refer ad.



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- The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd, Westown (By the Locals Café)
- Nth Taranaki Community House, 67 McLean St, Waitara
- Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St, Inglewood





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