



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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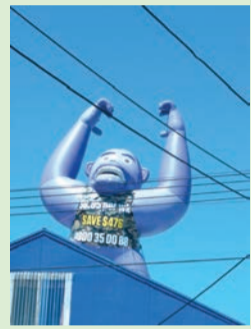
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Everybody's theatre set for the next century

After earthquake strengthening and a radical facelift Opunake's historic Everybody's Theatre looks set for the next century.

The charming theatre which has been a focal point of the town since the early 1900s, and is now owned by the community has been extensively renovated. Two adjacent buildings have been incorporated into the theatre complex. A new digital projector and wide screen has been bought to accommodate current movies.

The acknowledged 'architect' of the huge project, the chairperson of the Everybody's Theatre Trust Debbie Campbell who refused to go onstage at the official opening until her committee joined her, received two rounding cheers followed by applause as she took the microphone to thank all who had contributed.

She ended her short address by thanking husbands and families and apologising "for not being around much for the last year."

It's been an absolute labour of love for Debbie Campbell, who with the assistance of treasurer Maree Drought has overseen the renovations and earthquake strengthening necessary to comply with the New Zealand Building Amendment Act of March 2012 brought in following the Christchurch earthquake of five years ago.

The scale of the project was acknowledged by South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop at the official opening of the renovated theatre on Thursday February 18, who admitted, "many of us had some



Opunake's revamped picture theatre.

scepticism about taking on this building." Clearly very impressed with the result the mayor quipped perhaps Debbie and Marie could "move around the district and do up more buildings." He was also amazed at how they managed to raise the \$900,000 funds, "in a relatively short amount of time," with other major projects like the medical centre also happening. "It's absolutely amazing, absolutely fantastic," he said, adding they'd still retained the character of the building.

The mayor went on to recall his last trip last year to Everybody's Theatre and the "risqué comedy" he'd watched to commemorate the completion of the earthquake strengthening. "I'd been look-

ing forward to seeing another one at this opening," he said.

Geoff Lealand, Associate Professor of Screen and Media Studies at the University of Waikato, then spoke introducing a short documentary on historic theatres which featured Everybody's Theatre, by a young American called Nick Homler, now back in New Jersey. He explained that Nick came to New Zealand on a Fulbright scholarship, intending to do a documentary on old cinemas.

"I suggested instead he do a documentary on all those independent cinemas which are still going, not those who have gone," said Professor Lealand. They still continue

Continued page 13.



Chairperson of the Everybody's Theatre Trust Debbie Campbell speaking at the official opening. At left is Rachael Hughson-How Vice-Chairperson..

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Letters to the Editor

Opunake water

To STDC. I arrived in Opunake from the UK 55 years ago. Then Opunake town water was at times dirty, so we had brown baths and brown washing. It appears nothing has changed in 55 years. I have tasted this water, supposedly meeting the required Health Dept standards. Even when it has been through three

household filters. Thank goodness I now live out of town and enjoy water from a rainwater tank.

The detail given re Opunake water treatment plant upgrade cannot be disputed? What independent authority checks this? If so, the problem then must be with the reticulation? Can we have details of the pipe work and the flushing

system? Who flushes and how frequently, and for how long each flush? Who checks this, and when are samples taken for Health Department testing of water from each section of reticulation? How many sections are there? How old is the oldest reticulation etc etc

Who is keeping records of the problems reported? Who is keeping a map of these?

Therein may lie the solution. I could add more, but replies to my above queries will be enough for now.

Maybe each Opunake household should keep a record of dates times etc when they have dirty water. Keep a copy but send a hard copy to STDC via Opunake library internal post bag which costs nothing.

Jean Roach

Ruining it for everyone else

I read with interest, your Editorial re: "Student loan defaulter jailed" in your Feb 12 issue.

I wasn't sure whether you wrote with 'tongue in cheek' in your first sentence. But as I kept reading I realised that you were truly supporting this man.

My daughter also has a Student Loan and like everyone else who travels overseas to work, had a 'one year' Interest Free loan. As she didn't return to New Zealand, then interest was

applied. I do agree with you when you state that all loans should be interest free. This used to be the case, but due to so many going overseas and not repaying their interest free loan, the Government had to get money back somehow, so interest was added.

My daughter pays IRD twice yearly an amount calculated for her. She is encouraged to pay more, if she can, which she does sometimes. But while she is paying at least the

minimum requirement, she is free to come and go from New Zealand, as well as travelling to any country her profession takes her.

I assure you, she would not be in the same "annual Income bracket" that Mr Puna is. While she was in New Zealand studying, she held down three jobs to make sure her commitments were met. So why should she make the effort to abide by New Zealand Student Loan rules now that she is overseas, if others feel they

do not need to make the gesture of paying a 'minimal amount' back to the government who provided the education in the first place? I assure you, it didn't take long for IRD to find her in Australia.

She is slowly nibbling away at her loan and if everyone else did the same, then there possibly wouldn't be the need for interest. It is people like Mr Puna that ruin it for everyone else.

All for one, and one for all.

Helen Cameron, Stratford

Thank you Dr Shaw

Just wanted to drop you a note to thank Dr Robert Shaw for his column in the Opunake and Coastal News of Friday, January 29. I thought the article laid out very plainly

and thoroughly what is really going on in New Zealand and what needs to happen to strengthen the Taranaki region. In this day and age, politicians and the media are

no longer reliable sources of objective information, and I don't believe that most people understand this. It's good to talk about these things at the local level so that people understand and hopefully then make

moves to demand change from their representatives. Thanks again for the article. I hope that it will have inspired some people.

Mary Moore, Manaia

BBC:

I believe that the Bible is God's Word for today. And that means that the gifts and callings that operated in that first century, as described in the book of Acts, still operate today.

God can still send prophets, apostles, pastors, evangelists and teachers to His people today, just as He has always done. Not only that, but all believers, even those who are outside of the five fold ministry of preachers and

pastors will also have gifts and callings too. In other words the church of today should be much like the church of two thousand years ago. Everyone has a part to play. It is a supernatural church in today's world.

And that means we can see the Bible working in lives today.

For example; many are questioning the relevance of the Christian faith in light of today's events and beliefs. What has the Bible to say

that is relevant to today's world?

Well that is exactly what the two disciples were discussing as they walked the road to Emmaus (Luke 24). It was Sunday and they had a relevance issue. They had followed this Jesus of Nazareth. They thought He might be a new leader, the Messiah. But the authorities had killed Him, He was gone. All their dreams of the Bible prophecies coming true for them had been destroyed.

So they talked about Jesus as they walked.

Now Jesus had promised that where two or three gather in His name that He will be there. Now those two had fulfilled those requirements by their actions. Although dead, Jesus must keep His promise. He has to turn up. So suddenly He was there, joining in with their conversation.

That is what happened, and is happening today. If people talk of Jesus then He has to arrive, and not necessarily as a person but as the Holy Spirit. He comes guiding the conversation, revealing new truth about himself, teaching us His way, His life.

Of course many reject the leading; sometimes because of who is bringing the message, sometimes because of the way it is being brought. Imagine Jesus using a local newspaper.

But rejecting God's message, even in a newspaper, is a dangerous thing to do. God can work through anyone at any time. And He does.

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collection on April 1-2. The annual appeal raises funds for the breeding and training of guide dogs. Guide dogs provide freedom and independence to people who are blind or have low vision.

That means being able to carry out day-to-day tasks such as catching the bus, crossing the road and going to work.

Blind Foundation spokesperson, Alison Wheatley, says guide dog puppies go through two years of rigorous training before they graduate. Once assigned, their

working life averages between eight and 10 years. Some of this year's graduates will go to people who haven't had a guide dog before, while others will replace retiring guide dogs. "We don't charge people to receive a guide dog – all the costs for breeding and training are met by public donations. That's why the Red Puppy Appeal is so important," says Wheatley. The continued generous support of the New Zealand public enables our puppies to succeed in their vital work. "Just a few hours of your time could help make a world of difference to someone who is blind or

has low vision," she says. Guide dogs give people living with sight loss independence and confidence. They are taught to guide people around hazards, negotiate traffic, locate common destinations and travel on public transport. Guide dog puppies are identified by their bright red coats.

The average time spent waiting for a guide dog is around 12 months, but it can take longer if people have specific needs.

The average working life of a guide dog is eight to 10 years.

Opunake assault under investigation

Opunake police are investigating an assault which took place in the Opunake business area earlier this month.

Wednesday February 8 and 12.30am the following morning when a man was found unconscious.

"We found him lying on the ground and tried to pick him up. We didn't realise he was hurt so badly."

said a local man who didn't want to be named.

"I helped tape his fingers together. He was shaken badly, and his medication had been stolen. He had concussion, had a hole in his head and was bleeding."

The victim has said more than one person had been involved in the assault, and he had been punched, kicked and bottled. He also suffered broken ribs and smashed hands, and a pair of prescription glasses was broken.

From brother's 21st to a wedding day

Sarah (daughter of Neil and Aileen Pennington) and Simon (son of Roger and Joy Harper) were married on November 28 at The Bungalow on 456 Lower Pitone Road. "It was a beautiful day and there were many comments such as best wedding I've been to, which is always nice to hear," Sarah said. "I'm glad everyone enjoyed themselves as that was our goal."

She said she and Simon both attended Taumarunui High School, although he was a couple of years older than her. She had gone to school with Simon's younger brother Reagan, who was best man on the day.

"Simon used to have a bit of a crush on me, which Reagan did tell me but we had never even spoken," Sarah said.

"It was at Reagan's 21st birthday party that Simon plucked up enough courage to come and talk to me for the first time. I actually have a photo of us together from that night which I think is really special to have. We really hit it off and just a few months later he had moved down to Wellington where I was living at the time. On our five year anniversary, he proposed and then 11 days later we found out we were expecting. Our son, Cohen was 13 months old when we got married, and he was quite a hit at the wedding."

A p o l o g y
In our February 12 issue, part of our piece on Simon and Sarah Harper's wedding was inadvertently left off. We apologise for the error.



Simon and Sarah Harper.

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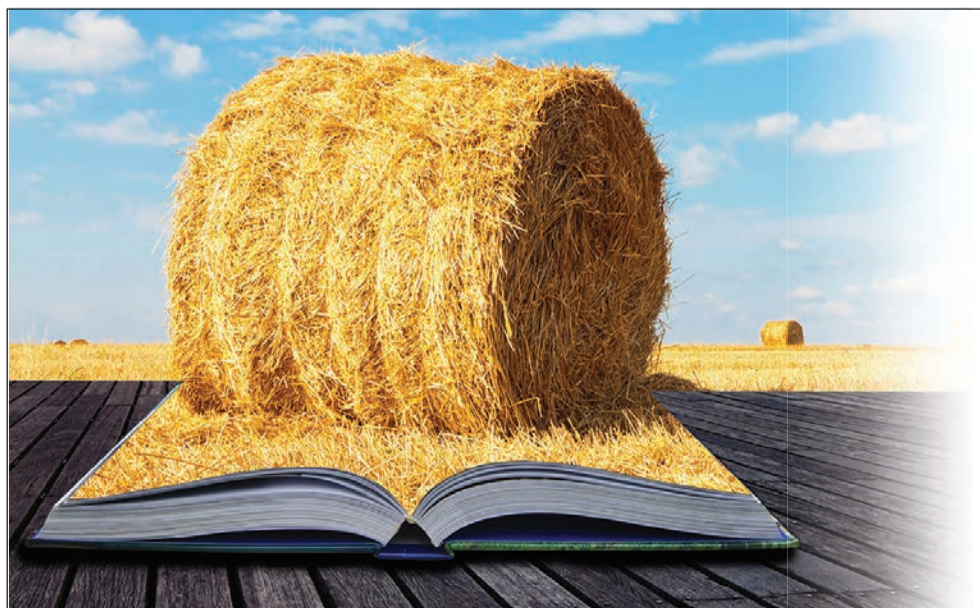
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COMMUNITY COMMENT

District councils join forces to get local businesses online

A group of North Island District Councils are joining forces to support small businesses in their region to succeed online.

#GetDigital is a regional initiative supported by Whanganui, Rangitikei and South Taranaki District Councils, with more councils in the region looking likely to follow.

"Taranaki as a region is out on its own geographically, so we need our businesses to be thinking beyond their local horizons and connecting with the world," South Taranaki District Council mayor Ross Dunlop said. "Anything that

promotes digital literacy in our business community is a good thing, and we're excited to be involved in this cross-regional initiative."

The campaign, set to run over the next three years, provides businesses in the regions with tools, events and resources aimed at helping them get online and more digitally engaged.

At the centre of the campaign is the AboutUs small business platform, which after a successful trial in Whanganui is now being rolled out to the other districts around the region.

AboutUs provides businesses with a free web presence, digital resources and

local coverage of success stories, all aimed at boosting their online profile. With an estimated 60 per cent of small businesses having no web presence at all, AboutUs provides businesses with the crucial first step on an ongoing online journey.

"Digital engagement is a massive driver of economic growth, particularly in the regions" says Whanganui Mayor Annette Main.

"Businesses that embrace digital can increase turn over by up to 30 per cent. When you apply that across the region, it has a huge impact.

"The Whanganui District Council has been at the forefront of digital engage-

ment and we were recently honoured to be chosen as Smart21 for the fourth year in a row. The #GetDigital initiative is a part of the innovation that Whanganui has become renowned for."

Rangitikei Mayor Andy Watson, agrees. "Getting digital is a huge opportunity for regional New Zealand. Here in Rangitikei, we have businesses who understand the importance and reap the benefits of a great online presence. Our business community can reach a global audience online. We want to encourage more of our businesses to take full advantage of the opportunities that #Get Digital will deliver."

Water restrictions for Okato residents

The dry weather has taken its toll on Okato's Mangatete Stream, prompting water restrictions in the town from Saturday (13 February) morning.

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) has announced a total ban on the use of sprinklers, irrigation systems and unattended hoses, and a partial restric-

tion (using the odds and evens system) on hand-held hoses. This means that hand-held hoses can only be used on properties with even street numbers on even calendar dates and on properties with odd street numbers on odd calendar dates.

The Mangatete Stream is the town's sole water source, but lack of rain has resulted in the stream dropping below

NPDC's consented limit for extraction.

"We need water use to be kept to a minimum in the town so that there's enough for people's day-to-day use and for firefighting," says Manager Water and Wastes Mark Hall.

The restrictions will be in place until further notice.

Mr Hall says water use is still high in other areas

of the district and he asks residents to do their bit to reduce how much water is used around the home.

"We can be smarter about how we use water, such as watering gardens on still mornings or evenings to reduce evaporation, shortening our showers, and washing laundry or dishes only when there is a full load.

Don't miss out on your chance to vote on the flag

March 2 is the enrolment deadline for the second referendum on the New Zealand flag, and the Electoral Commission wants all eligible New Zealanders enrolled and ready to vote.

"There may be many people out there who think they're enrolled, but because they've moved house, or changed their details, their enrolments are no longer accurate," says Robert Peden, Chief Electoral Officer.

Father convicted for son's murder

The last known sighting of Aaron Roigard was on June 2 2014. The 27 year-old Opunake man has not been seen since. On February 15, his father David Roigard(51) was sentenced to life imprisonment with a minimum non-parole period of 19 years on one charge of murder and eight of theft in a special relationship.

Roigard, who had always denied killing his son had been found guilty after a jury trial in the High Court at New Plymouth.

"On the evidence that the jury and I heard, I am satisfied there was no reasonable possibility that Aaron is still alive" Justice Paul Heath said. "I am satisfied that his body would likely have been located had he committed suicide out of despondency. Once the fact that Aaron was dead was established, there was no other candidate as his killer. It is implausible that Aaron might have been killed by someone else. The same comment applies to the

possibility of accidental death. In either of those situations, the chances of the body being located were very high."

Police prosecutor Cherie Clarke told the court Roigard had killed his son to cover up having taken \$86,000 from him in the course of a period of seven and a half years.

Defence lawyer Paul Keegan said Roigard had always maintained that he had never killed his son, but accepted that he would face

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Head students at CTS for 2016

The Head Students at Coastal Taranaki School are both female; they are Dekodda Tippett and Anne-Maree Harris. Both are aged 17.

Dekodda Tippett commented, "I was nervous and excited at the same time, as well as happy."

This year she is studying Mathematics, English, Biology, Hospitality, Physical Education and Outdoor Education. She has no favourites amongst them, liking them all equally.

In her leadership role she wants to ensure, "There are heaps more girls sports, such as teams for soccer and rugby."

She also wants to promote more communication and interaction between the seniors and juniors.

Her interests revolve around her family and sport. She plays soccer and two types of netball.



Head Students at Coastal Taranaki School are (from left) Anne-Maree Harris and Dekodda Tippett.

As to the future Dekodda intends attending university (probably Massey) where she

intends to complete a degree in Nursing.

Anne-Maree Harris said, "I was really happy." She added, "It's an honour to have

this role."

She is studying English, Mathematics, Hospitality, Physical Education – and her two favourites Agriculture and Outdoor Education.

As a student leader she intends to endeavour to get the school in closer contact with the community. One way, she thinks, would be to organise an event where members of the community

come to play games and perhaps have a picnic.

In her spare time Anne-Maree plays "lots of sport", notably in line hockey and soccer.

Her vocational intentions include either event management or becoming a personal trainer. Either option will involve tertiary study, probably at Auckland University.

Father sentenced for son's murder

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were very high."

Police prosecutor Cherie Clarke told the court Roigard had killed his son to cover up having taken \$86,000 from him in the course of a period of seven and a half years.

Defence lawyer Paul Keegan said Roigard had always maintained that he had never killed his son, but accepted that he would face a life sentence following the jury's guilty verdict.

In sentencing, Justice Heath said there were no mitigating factors.

"You do not accept responsibility for what you did. you show no remorse, you show no understanding of the enormity of your deceit, and the evil act of killing your son, you were not prepared to tell the police when they asked where the body could be found," he told Roigard.

Detective Senior Sergeant Blair Burnett who led the investigation said he believed the jury had reached the right verdict.

"I want to say a big thank you to all the people who came to court to give evi-

dence, which enabled a full picture to be shown," he said.

Mr Burnett said the investigation had always aimed at reuniting Aaron with his family, and this had not changed.

"We are not actively searching for a body at this period of time, but if we get any further information we will definitely be looking at it. Our objective is still to bring Aaron home and allow his partner and children to show their respects and bury him properly."

Cases like this are never considered closed until a body is found, Mr Burnett said.

"People's bodies have been found some considerable time after certain events, and we will keep on looking, and if I'm gone, somebody else will be looking."

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COASTAL COPS

Greetings to you all. After the long period of dry weather we finally got some rain even if it was in limited quantity around these parts. This period of dryness brings with it extreme dangers on our roads when it finally does arrive, our advice to you all is please be cautious and as the old saying goes *drive to the conditions*.

In regards to traffic matters I am aware that a number of people are driving around breaching their graduated licence. To those that continue be warned that receiving just 3 tickets will have your licence suspended for 3 months. There will also be tickets issued to passengers also in the vehicle at the time for aiding/abetting. We make no apologies for this hard line.

With children back at school and the continued fine weather

OPUNAKE COPPERS



Constable Kylie Brophy

it is good to see children riding to school wearing their bike helmets. Parents, please take note. Many of you choose not to wear a helmet when riding your bike. Your children learn by example, so let's start being a little more responsible and start wearing those skid lids. Buying a helmet if you don't have one is more cost effective than a \$55 ticket for not wearing a bike helmet.

Rural property owners please

be aware there has been some activity that is of concern to us. There have been a number of reported rural burglaries in our area over the recent weeks where petrol and various small items have been stolen. We ask that you be vigilant and if you notice anything out of the ordinary note it down, suspicious people or vehicle. No information is too small.

November till March is considered the cannabis growing season. This affects everyone in our area, whether you are a rural landowner or urban dweller. The 'growers' will not hesitate to use you, your neighbours, or your property for their own means. With your help we can put a serious dent in their income and prevent the goods from making it to the streets.

Please keep your eyes and ears open while out and about. If you note anything

suspicious give us a call. Jotting down a registration number of vehicle parking on rural roads where they are not normally known to park may supply us with the link we are looking for. We can't be everywhere all the time, but with your help we can make those dishonest individuals out there think we are!

Police are currently investigating an assault that occurred earlier this month at the rear of a local eatery on Tasman Street. If you have any information in regards to this matter please pay us a visit at the station.

That's about it for now. Remember, if you have any information for us give us a call we are more than happy to help. Alternatively you can call Crimestoppers at 0800 555111 with all anonymous information

Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade News

There is now a Restricted Fire Season in place. That means a fire permit from the Rural Fire Authority is required if you wish to light a fire in the open air. When you apply for a permit, the Rural Fire Authority will offer sound advice on the current fire danger and fire season. Someone will inspect the prospective sites to burn, and also assist you to prepare a prescribed burn plan for significant fires. If a permit is issued, it will set out conditions for you to undertake the lighting of your fire safely. If you fail to obtain a permit, you are committing an offence (Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977). If you are caught lighting a fire, you will be up for the cost of putting it out, and if a helicopter is

involved, the cost will be extremely high. If a fire starts on a property, even without any input from the landowner, it is the landowner who has to pick up the cost. Therefore, it is a very good idea to carry an appropriate insurance, including Forest and Rural Fires Act fire suppression cover. In New Zealand, 20% of all wildfires are caused by managed burn offs that have gone wrong. If you require further information, get in touch with the South Taranaki District Council (0800 111 323) Please don't call us for a permit because we don't handle them.

On Thursday 11th, we took our dog to Hawera for another summer haircut. As we left Opunake, I could see a little smoke rising up from the waste area by the Waiau River. Well, the little smoke developed into big smoke and someone (rightly so) called the brigade, who in turn, dealt to it. As I drove into Hawera, I looked over at the Smith Brothers site, and saw a fancy car transporter, and thought to myself, he's "a lucky chap." I certainly didn't think I would be back at the Hawera Fire Station that night on stand-by, while just about every other brigade around, was putting out a fire at the "lucky chap's"

shed. My heart sure went out to him. The term Stand-by means if there was a 111 call, in or around Hawera while their brigade was busy at Smith Brothers, we would have been sent. Luckily, our services weren't required and we were home in Opunake at 3:27am. I would like to thank all of those people who brought food to the Hawera fire station for all of the fire crews, and would especially like to thank the person who wrote on one of the boxes, "We wish to thank you for your time and risk." What a lovely thought to pass on to volunteer fire fighters. It is nice to be appreciated for the work we do.

Saturday 13th saw the brigade called out to a group of small fires started by some local lads down by the Waiau swimming hole at the back of Farmlands. A local resident spotted the lads "playing with matches" and yelled out to them but they weren't interested in her thoughts. The brigade was called to check out the situation and then we went in search of the culprits. With the good descriptions that were given to us, we were able to catch up with them outside the library. The officer in charge had a very stern chat with the boys and we are sure this type of

behaviour will not happen again. However if it does, the Police will be involved, and we will probably have the shiniest fire trucks around.

Andrew Pentelow has just returned from a Station Officers week long course in Rotorua. The course involved a lot of theory, as well as overseeing a crew at an assortment of scenarios, with recruits being assessed on their performance and expertise. Andrew passed with flying colours so it's a big congratulations to Andrew on a job well done. Congratulations also are extended to James (from our Fire Support Unit) and Trudie Murray on the arrival of their new baby girl.

We were called to a power box on the corner of Hector Place and Longfellow Road on the night of Friday 19th. We extinguished it with a dry powder extinguisher, put Fire Service warning tape up and coned it off so it was out of harm's way. The power company were on their way so we decamped.

Please remember, there is now a restricted fire season, and a permit from the Rural Fire Authority via the STDC is required.

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Trees versus Waiaua river bank

About 17 pine trees on the bank of the Waiaua River have been removed. The root structure of the trees was eroding the river bank, in the vicinity of Opunake Lake, and the whole bank would have likely collapsed. There was also an element of danger to the public as the Opunake Walkway passes the location and a sudden collapse could cause injury or worse.

An engineer from the STDC made an assessment late last year and it was determined that the trees would have to go. Because a waterway was implicated the Taranaki Regional Council was also involved in the process.

The tree felling was carried out by the Tricky Tree Specialists and carried out 15-17 of February. The fallen timber has been donated to Opunake High School for their firewood venture.

There are still some finishing off to be done including a new fence to be established. Also, some large boulders will be placed at the base of the bank to slow down any further erosion.

Local woman Heather Sharpe was saddened by what has happened, but realises something had to be done for safety reasons. She said, "It's not a nice scene. I'd just like to see the area tidied up and a seat established."



A somewhat sad scene but these pine trees had root systems were undermining the river bank so had to be removed for reasons of safety.



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Poorer communities get left in the lurch with orphaned government sites

A couple of weeks ago there was an article where a number of us complained about the state of the Patea Hospital.

The history of the matter was that ownership had been moved from the Ministry of Health to the Taranaki District Health Board in the 2000s, and then flicked off to a local demolition company presumably for deconstruction and clearing the site. The paper transfer of the building between health authorities allegedly showed a value of \$2.5 million. The property was purchased for demolition for a mere \$25,000. Point one percent of its former value.

The place has not been demolished and stands derelict, although bits and pieces have been done. This seems to give a slap in the face to the community who had worked, recovered and convalesced in the hospital for about a hundred years. But as long as the rates are paid, the threshold for any other action is very high. Property rights are paramount.

The scenario highlights a



Hon Chester Borrows MP

problem that many other rural communities face around New Zealand. The land value is so low, it is not worth clearing unless what can be recovered and sold from the site is enough to pay the costs of demolition, and they aren't. South Taranaki has seen over ten schools abandoned by the government and left to fall into disrepair. Wanganui city has seen the same in places. The biggest insult is that these buildings were handed over in pristine condition because they were schools and hospitals that were in full operation right up until the doors were shut. The

fees paid for interim maintenance through to point of sale were so low, no company would consider repainting, re-roofing or doing any more than mow the lawns and nail plywood over the windows as vandals smash them. Meanwhile, who loses? The very community that fundraised and volunteered in working bees to maintain and enhance those same institutions be they school or hospital. The fact the buildings slowly sink into the ground and rot drags down the property valuations of those who cared the most and fought long enough in a losing battle to keep them open.

This makes the circumstance the most unfair of all.

The government needs a policy to deal with orphan sites, where the land value doesn't demand a high enough price for timely deconstruction and clearing of the sites. It needs tender documents that require action within certain timeframes, or terms can be enforced to clear the site. Government needs to recognise that their

lack of attention has caused the problem, and it is not a new problem. South Taranaki schools were closed in the early years of the last Labour government, and the last local school to shut was Waverley High School in 2007. The taxpayer always ends up paying in the end when costs are well inflated from the point of sale. An example is the old Patea Freezing Works after the Waitangi Day fire of 2008. That largely privately owned site cost the taxpayer and ratepayer over \$2 million in site clearance and recovery.

I am currently working with Finance Minister Bill English to get some resolution, but nothing is clear as yet. In the meantime other government buildings will continue to close in rural and provincial towns, and provision must be made for their speedy refurbishment, restoration or removal. Local people shouldn't have to put up with being slapped in the face repeatedly on this issue.

*Chester Borrows
MP for Whanganui*

Unemployment figures not telling the whole story

Government MPs were quick to claim credit for figures showing a fall in unemployment recently. But we need to have a closer look to see what's happening.

The figures show the official unemployment rate has fallen from 6.0% to 5.3%. But they also show the number of Kiwis who are looking for jobs in the workplace has also fallen. These are people who last year were actively looking for work but gave up after months of not finding anything.

These aren't people on the unemployment benefit. They are folks who have a partner who is working, or who don't qualify for any assistance.

In reality the number of people who can't find work

has risen by over 14,000. Couple that with wages flat lining, and the job market suddenly looks pretty weak.

As Kiwis get out of the labour market altogether, they are ironically contributing to a lower unemployment rate. Inflation may be low, but wages are not keeping up with housing costs that have gone through the roof, and so house ownership is now beyond most people.

There are also many people in part-time work who are desperate for more hours, but can't get them. They don't show up as unemployed, but their need for more work is just as important.

In Taranaki, there is a familiar story. If you can't find



Andrew Little MP

work, you leave town. I know of a tradesman who lost his job in 2014, and the only other one he could find using his skills and qualifications was in the South island. So

he lived there for a year. He came back to Taranaki last year to have another go at finding a job, but after three months unsuccessful job search left to go overseas. He says he'll come back in another year to try his chances.

Behind official statistics telling one story there is real life that often tells a very different story. The unemployment figures tell us there is still much to do to generate more work so hard working people can get ahead and fulfil their dreams.

Andrew Little MP, Leader of the Opposition

On this month in history: Democracy suspended

On February 21, 1951 the PM Sid Holland invoked the Public Safety Conservation Act to deal with striking waterside workers. This gave the Government sweeping powers: a state of emergency

was declared, censorship was in place, police had special powers to enter buildings including homes, trade union meetings were banned, unions were deregistered and their assets seized.

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Urinary tract infections - cystitis, a burning issue

Urinary tract infections, also known as cystitis are due to inflammation (swelling, often with irritation) of the bladder. While it can be caused by some medicines and chemicals, the usual culprit is bacteria that travel along the urethra (the small tube leading up to your bladder). These bacteria are always present in our intestines and normally are found around the openings of the rectum, vagina and urethra. Usually the bladders 'self defence' mechanisms enable the body to cope with these bacteria but in some circumstances, and more often in women, infection can result.

Signs of urinary tract infections are burning or

stinging when passing urine, an urgent need to pass urine - and frequently, passing only small amounts at a time, or producing discoloured, cloudy and smelly urine. Urinary tract infections can be painful. They may last a long time or they can keep coming back.

"Help is available to treat urinary tract infections" say Self Care pharmacists. "At the first sign, drink two or three glasses of water, and continue to drink as much as you can - to try and 'flush-out' the bacteria from the urinary tract". If that is not successful, the next step is to try urinary alkaliniser medicines that help make the urine less acid and less likely for the bacteria to thrive.

"They help relieve the burning when you pass urine, and are available from our pharmacies," Self Care pharmacists advise. However, alkalinisers can interfere with the activity of certain medicines and you would need to discuss this with your pharmacist if you are taking other medicines. If after trying these measures your symptoms don't go away within 24 hours, you need to follow this up with your pharmacist or doctor. Pharmacists are now able to discuss your condition with you and provide a course of antibiotics known as trimethoprim, or they can advise you if it is necessary to visit your doctor.

Cranberries are thought

to prevent bacteria from attaching to the bladder and other parts of the urinary tract - which may assist with preventing cystitis. If you get the condition often, drinking cranberry juice or taking other cranberry products on a regular basis may be beneficial. However, there are chemicals in cranberries that may interfere with the medicine warfarin (for blood thinning). If you are taking warfarin, check first with your pharmacist before you also have any cranberry products.

Some symptoms may indicate that the infection is more serious.

"For example", caution Self Care pharmacists, "if you experience high fever, confusion, pain in your lower back or lower stomach, an unusual vaginal discharge or blood in your urine, see your doctor immediately". Children can get cystitis, and men too. Both should have their symptoms checked out by their doctors without delay.

Women can take some simple steps to prevent urinary tract infections, and help decrease the number of attacks.

"In addition to drinking lots of fluids - especially water, our advice", say Self Care pharmacists, "is to wear cotton underwear, or underwear with cotton

gussets, as these allow the skin to breathe. Empty your bladder completely each time you pass urine, and immediately after sexual intercourse - to help get rid of remaining bacteria. Avoid using diaphragms or tampons when you have urinary tract infections as these can increase the number of bacteria and make the infection worse. After urinating, use toilet paper to wipe from front to back, and be careful with personal

hygiene of the anal/vaginal area. Perfumed soaps and vaginal deodorants can irritate the skin, so avoid using them".

Ask your Self Care pharmacist for a copy of the Urinary Tract Infections fact card that has more useful tips on how to care for yourself when you get this infection.

Prepared by Pharmacy Self Care, Pharmaceutical Society of NZ Inc, 16-20 Willis St, Wellington

Global rock star supports NZ charity

Hozier, the Grammy-nominated artist behind the hit single *Take Me To Church* has released a music video highlighting the issue of domestic violence.

Irish-born Andrew Hozier released the *Cherry Wine* video on Valentine's Day (February 14) with all proceeds from New Zealand sales donated to domestic abuse specialist charity Shine.

The video stars two-time Oscar nominee Saoirse Ronan in a portrayal of a woman dealing with living in a physically abusive relationship.

Shine provides a national domestic abuse Helpline and a range of other services aimed at helping adult and child victims of domestic abuse to get safe and stay safe. The organisation also aims to motivate people who have been abusive to



Andrew Hozier has released a music video highlighting the issue of domestic violence.

their partners and families to change their behaviour.

Shine is one of the charities internationally that will benefit from the proceeds of *Cherry Wine*.

"Domestic abuse is at epidemic levels in New Zealand, with NZ Police attending an incident every five minutes," Shine executive director Jane Drumm said.

"We are incredibly grateful

that Hozier has chosen to raise awareness about domestic violence as well as donate proceeds from his single to Shine."

Ms Drumm says the release of the video comes at a key time for Shine as it gathers support for its annual fundraiser Orange Friday on March 11.

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COASTAL OUTLOOK

Book review: "Crossing the Floor" by Helen Leahy

This week Coastal Outlook is a book review. The book is about the long-serving Maori Member of Parliament Tariana Turia and it is called "Crossing the Floor: The Story of Tariana Turia" by Helen Leahy. Published by Huia Publishers. 2015.



Dr Robert Shaw

Over 2,700 people came to hear him. The speech was entitled "The Other America". This was three weeks before King was shot and killed. A very famous extract from the speech is at the front of Leahy's book. It is about the decision-making of politicians.

High Schools

Grosse Pointe High School, which is in Michigan, in some ways, resembles Opunake High School. It is a state institution, it is close to the sea and it is working on its bullying policy. They say: "Appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of students, as well as administrators, faculty, staff, visitors, and volunteers." Bullying was just a part of life for many, now it is an issue. I take it to be a sign that we are making progress.

On average they have 20 students per class and they are working to reduce that

number. The student-teacher ratio is 16.1. All textbooks are online so as to reduce costs to the school and their students.

The contrast with Opunake is marked when we consider the number of people – Grosse Pointe has 1,343 students and 82 full-time teachers. They report that 32 per cent are from minority groups, and 18 per cent from economically disadvantaged homes (these get reduced-price lunch).

Your child

School size is critical because larger schools can employ specialist teachers. When you come to enrol your offspring at a high school, ask them these questions: what is the average class size, what are the qualifications of the physics teachers, are their textbooks and course materials all on the internet?

What politicians do

King said: "Cowardice asks the question, is it safe? Expediency asks the question, is it politic? And vanity comes along and asks the question, is it popular? But Conscience asks the question, is it right? And there comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular; but he must do it because Conscience tells him that it is right."

For us

When we look at the things that politicians do we might well ask how



Dame Tariana Turia greets the Prime Minister. They are two pragmatists about as different in life experiences and goals as people can be – Key with the rich man's goals and Turia with the survival of her people. Her close relationship with Key brings criticism. However, Turia is the only person since James Pope to make a difference to Maori health throughout the country. Who you might ask is James Pope? Pope worked in Taranaki, became NZ's first inspector of Native Schools, and in 1884 he published a much used book, "Health for the Maori: A Manual for Use in Native Schools?"

they conform to King's classification. Popularity and the marketing of their own alleged popularity appear to

be the most common reason for Government decisions in New Zealand at present – at least so far as the issues

before she went to school and she had to read aloud newspapers to her family. He was very education

The plot

The Honourable Dame Tariana Turia (known as Tari) was born into humble circumstances. She showed much independence of mind from a young age. She came to be noticed when she took a leadership role in the unlawful occupation of some land, and subsequently was asked to stand for Parliament in the 1996 general election by the Labour Party.

She was an active and successful parliamentary member of the Labour Party until 2004. Her views on policy differed from those of her Party and she voted against her Party in Parliament. That act is called "crossing the floor," and it is such a significant event that it forced her to leave the Party and subsequently to form the Maori Party.

The Maori Party as a support Party for the National-Led Government has achieved some of its goals, and it has helped to maintain John Key as the Prime Minister.

Front piece

On March 14 1968, Dr Martin Luther King spoke at Grosse Pointe High School.

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Grosse Pointe High School where in Dr Martin Luther King made a famous speech which is of relevance in New Zealand today. He set out the different kinds of motivation for politicians' decisions. They must do what conscience tells them is right, not what is popular or politic.

that concern the public are concerned, but fortunately that is only a small part of government decision-making. There are thousands of decisions made each week by those who govern us – Ministers of the Crown and public servants – that we never hear about and which are often very positive.

Home influence
Tariana's father was an American marine who probably was not aware he had a daughter. Tariana was educated more by her family than her school. Her (adopted) father taught her to read

conscious and his father had donated the land for a school at Whangaehu.

Brutal discovery
The young Tariana was told by an aunty that "Charlie" was not her real father. She says of that news: "It bloody devastated me. I took off, and I hid: hid in the drains. The hours drifted by as I watched my Dad drive his truck up and down the road. Eventually when it got dark and I was frightened, I hopped out of the drains to flag him down. That's when

Continued page 11

COASTAL OUTLOOK

“Crossing the Floor” by Helen Leahy

Continued from page 10

Dad said to me, ‘I may not be your father, but I am your Dad in every sense of the word’. He was so upset. He told me, ‘no one can take that away from you and me’. To this day, I hear those words and I feel comforted.”

Dad dies
Tariana’s Dad was an important person in the Maori and Pakeha worlds. He was the descendent of a chief of Rangitane and Ngati Apa. He died in a car crash when she was fourteen.

Later Tariana says of her Dad: “He taught me everything I know about unconditional love. That is probably why I never bothered about my own father.” There are two accounts of Tariana’s real

father, and her children have tried to find him (a story in itself).

Whanganui
Tariana lived in Gonville, Whanganui, for much of her schooling. The young Tariana was much involved (not enthusiastically) in the Anglican Church, with her family. She then was a boarder at Whanganui Girls’ College. She hated it, particularly the total immersion in the Pakeha world. The school was probably not enamoured with her either: she would always say exactly what she thought. At 17 she lived in the nurses’ hostel, met George Turia (who was “born up the river”) and fell in love. He became her husband and her rock thereafter.

Epilogue

I met Tariana through her work in Porirua City, which was a part of her electorate. I was a city councillor, and she would appear at the Saturday morning market. It is funny what you remember. Perhaps nothing of importance was ever said, for I cannot remember anything. I do remember she would hold my hand and that I always felt distinctly calm in her presence. She is everybody’s mother.

Tariana’s contribution to Maori health is significant. She remains much involved in Taranaki and was at our recent Treaty settlement ceremony. Leahy’s book provides insights into our country. You should read it. Kia kaha.



Those who suffer economic depression in Taranaki may learn from Martin Luther King: “Capitalism does not permit an even flow of economic resources. With this system, a small privileged few are rich beyond conscience, and almost all others are doomed to be poor at some level. That’s the way the system works. And since we know that the system will not change the rules, we are going to have to change the system.”

Te Kiri WI welcomes new year

Our president Sue Muggeridge welcomed us to the first meeting of the year held at Merle and Roy’s home. There were two visitors.

The opening of the picture theatre on February 18 was an exciting time for Opunake, and members are looking forward to going to the pictures again.

Members were happy to make cup cakes for the family fun day to be held at Hollards Gardens. A thank you note from Clair Poole was read. Judith’s daughter was married, and members were thanked for the gift of an Edmonds Recipe Book given to the bride and groom.

Adopt a Project was discussed, and our project was help to be given to the Cottage Rest Home. It was decided to donate to the fund for a seat at the Federation meeting on April 18.

We welcomed a new member, and there was lunch and a social time before we had our annual meeting.

Sue thanked members and the committee for all the help during the year. It was a very busy year with all the knitting done for Plunket. Te Kiri also hosted the Fun and Friend Day, where two members received their 50th and 60th badges.

A big thank you to all the members whose homes our meetings were held in.

Committee elected. President Sue Muggeridge. Vice President and Secretary Merle Clement. Treasurer Judith Armstrong. Convenors. Nita Kaiser, Heather Radford, Pat Barrett, Joy Collins, Merle Clement and

Mavis West.

Te Kiri WI points results February-December 2015. Bloom (Bennett Plate). 1st Merle Clement. 2nd Joy Collins. 3rd Sue Muggeridge. Shrub(Golden Jubilee Vase). 1st Merle Clement. 2nd Joy Collins. 3rd Judith Armstrong.

Handcraft(Langlands Vase). 1st joy Collins. 2nd Mavis West. 3rd Heather Radford.

Floral(Silver Vase). 1st equal Raima Karam and Sue Muggeridge.

Cooking and Homecraft(Opunake Cup). 1st Joy Collins. 2nd equal Pauline Clough and Sue Muggeridge. 3rd Heather Radford.

Display(Silver Tray). 1st Mavis West. 2nd Joy Collins. 3rd Kath Perrett.

Handcraft. Most entries. 1st Mavis West and Joy Collins. 2nd Heather Radford. 3rd Aileen Simpson.

Most entries Helen Watson Cup and Perrett Cup runner up. 1st Merle Clement. 2nd Joy Collins. 3rd Sue Muggeridge.

McGee Memorial Book Ends overall points and trophy runner-up. 1st Joy Collins. 2nd Merle Clement. 3rd Sue Muggeridge.

Bennett Cup for most unplaced entries and not gaining a prize. 1st Aileen Simpson. 2nd Judith Armstrong. 3rd equal Gwen Flavell and Pauline Clough.

After afternoon tea, our meeting closed with a stroll around Merle’s garden. Very admirable. A credit to Merle and Roy.

Next month is our birthday month, and we will be celebrating this at Pauline Clough’s home.

Mavis West

On this month in history

Terra Nova arrives unexpectedly in Oamaru

On February 10, 1913 Captain Robert Falcon Scott’s ship Terra Nova arrived in Oamaru, which was not expected.

The news was bad – Cap-


tain Scott had died on his return from the South Pole, as well as the four others in the Polar Party.

When he reached the South Pole on January 17, 1912


he found that he was been beaten by Captain Roald Amundsen (and his team of four others) by just 34 days (December 14, 1911).

Captain Scott’s men were

defeated by extreme unseasonal cold, frostbite, exhaustion and a lack of food and fuel within a day’s march to their next food and fuel depot.



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An audiologist for the coast

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Thankfully full audiology services are now available locally at Coastal Care in Opunake.

Audiologist, Lisa Keen, who is based in New Plymouth, brings her expertise to Opunake for visiting clinics fortnightly on a Wednesday. Lisa has held clinics for the past 3 months and says many locals are taking advantage of the service.

Lisa Keen has 24 years practicing experience, with a doctorate in audiology from the Arizona School of Health Sciences. She arrived in New Zealand in 2008, and last year opened her own clinic, Lisa Keen Audiology in New Plymouth. It was then she saw a need existed on the Coast.

"It's an hour for anyone to travel to New Plymouth and 35 minutes to Hawera," she says. "The area was underserved, and you have a lovely new community building here. It's easier for me to come here than it is for 10 or 11 people to travel. You don't have to go to Hawera or New Plymouth. You can be seen here in

your own community."

A visiting clinic does not mean there are limitations on service. "Everything I can do and offer in New Plymouth, can be done in my Opunake clinic," says Lisa. Whether it be hearing testing for adults or children, problems with tinnitus (ringing in the ears), or auditory processing (what your brain does with what you hear).

"I also offer a same day service, which is unique. You can have a hearing test, get your results and be fitted with a hearing aid on the same day, cutting down on travelling and appointment times."

Her practice comes equipped with a soundproof booth provided by Coastal Care, and audiometric tools, all certified for ACC testing.

A patient sitting inside the booth is sealed off from any ambient noises which may interfere with test results, and is then asked to respond on hearing any sounds transmitted from outside the booth.

With Opunake serving a rural community, there is likely a large proportion of people who may have noise induced hearing loss. "Anyone who works or who



Lisa Keen providing audiology care for the coast.

has worked around loud noise and thinks or knows

they have difficulty hearing should come in and have their hearing checked to see what the best solution is," she said. ACC does provide funding for hearing aids.

"Hearing aids are getting smaller and more discreet.

There are a lot more people out there with hearing loss who could be helped."

When asked what makes her different, Lisa said "Two things. I am owner operated, that means you will always see me, every

appointment. And operating out of Coastal Care, it is truly local audiology.

The result is a personal service in your community. Really the way it should be."

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Everybodys Theatre set for the next century

Continued from page 1

to serve a central role in communities, he said adding that laptops and other such devices do not

take the place of cinemas. "Film has always been larger than life. It's where film should always be seen." The 20 minute documentary

'The Reel People of New Zealand' was then shown. With shots of the rundown theatre before renovation, it reinforced the magnitude

of the project, and featured interviews with Debbie and Maree. The documentary included images taken from historic glass slides

found in the theatre. The official proceedings concluded as they'd begun with a karakia. An Open Day during

which 'The Reel People of New Zealand' and Glass Slides will be re-screened is to be held on Saturday 5th March between 3.30 - 5pm.

One of the first picture theatres in New Zealand

Everybodys Theatre was one of the first picture theatres in New Zealand. The building which still sports the original columns on the verandah dates back to 1914 and was originally a general store

Thorpe and Callachan. In 1921 it was established as a theatre, and an auditorium added by a local farmer JC O'Rorke whose descendants still reside in the district. It was run as a commercial enterprise for many years by 'Boss' Whiting and his son Bruce who used to run regular movies. They would also transport the projector on a horse float and show movies at Rahotu and Pungarehu.

In 1980 the picture theatre was bought by the community. Leo Hickey one of the original trustees remembers how it came about. The theatre closed suddenly without notice disappointing a group of students who were on an exchange trip to Opunake. Leo and a

few people including Mac Calvert who was the general manager of the Opunake Dairy Company, and, says Leo, "a great organiser," decided to buy it.

"We saw Bruce Whiting the next morning," remembers Leo, adding that he thought the price was \$40,000. Two other people had options on it, but Bruce agreed to give them first option. A public meeting was called. "The hall was choc a block. A couple of us got up and donated \$1000 - we set the bar high. We got \$30,000 that night." They continued to canvass for money from Oeo to Rahotu says Leo. He recalls one elderly couple in Ihaia Road who he visited. "We've been waiting for you, they said, and peeled off \$100 in notes explaining they'd done all their courting in the picture theatre and had pleasant memories of it."

Leo was appointed the first manager "for six months," while Ann, his

wife, did the roster for the ushers etc. "Eighteen years later I was still there."

Leo is still a trustee and says they also used to put on live shows there, and recalls fondly artists such as American country musician George Hamilton IV who stayed locally in a private house, and was "lovely," and attracted a full house.

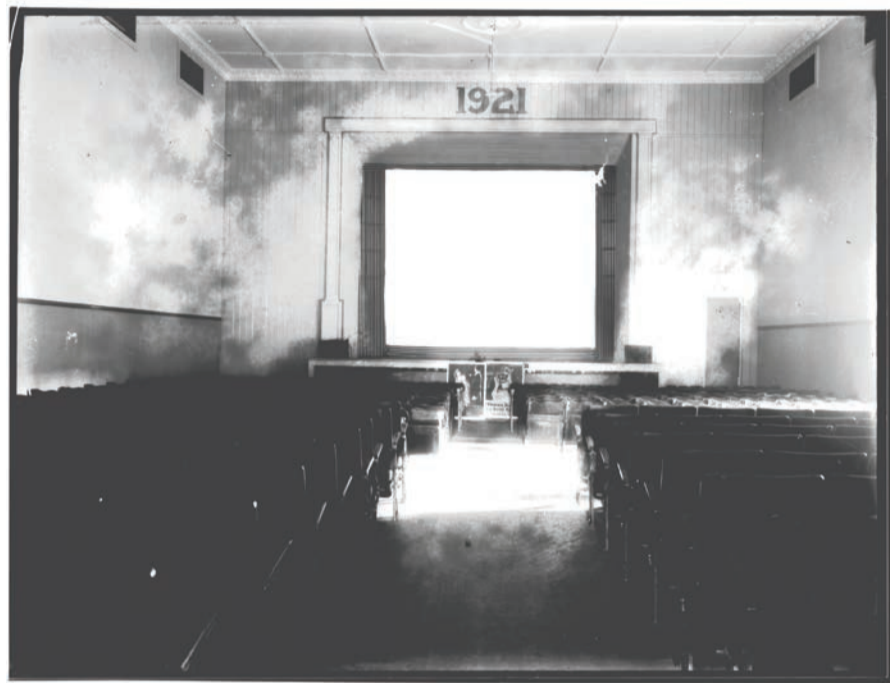
Graeme Dodd who has been a projectionist since the early 1980s has fond memories of the old projectors. "I really loved them," he said with a slight catch in his voice. "You had to nurse them along," adding they could be a little temperamental. There were two projectors side by side. Sometimes there'd be nine reels for a film. "The bell would ring when it was two minutes before the end of the reel to give warning to start the other projector with the next reel."

He recalls one night, a week after the screening of Ghost, the film reel, as it

was rewinding, inexplicably spun off and smashed through the window. It was eerie, acknowledged Graeme, and gave him "a hell of a shock". He recalls another occasion there was a fire in one of the projectors,

which was always a risk. Reflecting back Graeme says, "I knew what I was doing," and is clearly not so enamoured of the new digital one which, once you've "injected the film and keyed in a special code

there's nothing to do". A sadder tale involves another projectionist. The usual transfer of film did not happen during a screening, and when someone went to investigate they found the projectionist



Everybodys Theatre interior



From left projectionist Graeme Dodd, Leo Hickey one of the original trustees who raised the share of the theatre for the community and Ann Hickey who sold the land on which the theatre stands. Leo is the boy in the red shirt who used in the theatre to be a projectionist.

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Restoration with meticulous attention to detail

The upgrading and earthquake strengthening of the theatre has cost in the region of \$800,000. The new projector cost \$85,000 including the screen.

We applied to Pub Charity for the funds for the earthquake strengthening and TSB Community Trust, Lotteries Grants Board and a number of smaller funding agents for the revamping of the theatre and South Taranaki District Council for the kitchen., says Debbie.

The theatre has been restored with meticulous attention to detail.

Opunake building firm Heartland Construction were the main contractors, who oversaw the entire project.

The theatre complex now includes two buildings which flank the main entrance. To the left of the

entrance is what was once Penny's Cafe, now called The Projector Room and has been restored as the theatre's lolly shop, and also displays old theatre memorabilia.

"One of the original mirrors belonging to Des Forges barber shop is also displayed in the main foyer of the theatre," said Debbie. A shop on the other side of the theatre entrance, formerly Dave's Barbers, will be used as an office.

The theatre still has the original wood panelling in the main foyer, as well as the ticket box.

All of the ceilings in the front of the buildings, including the adjacent shops and main entrance however, had to be covered because the timber wasn't level," says Phil Brophy, the owner of Heartland Construction. "It was all crooked due to



Inside the main theatre before it was renovated.

the age of the building." The auditorium though still has the same ornate ceiling.

An interesting discovery under the carpet in the main entrance was a large 'EP' logo, the significance of which is open to speculation. "Perhaps it stood for Everybody's Picture Theatre," says Phil.

Another intriguing find was an old woman's handbag found strung up in the rafters on a wire. It contained old tools. "No makeup," quipped Phil.

Other interesting discoveries included some old glass film slides in the projector room, said Debbie. Some of the original lighting has also been retained.

There were 7-8 old lights which still worked. "We painted them up," said Brian Sinclair, the owner of Sinclair Electrical. All of the electrical wiring in



Phil Brophy (left) and Malcolm Campbell.

the building however had to be completely replaced. New chairs have been installed upstairs. Some of the original seats have also been recovered and installed.

Downstairs will retain the boutique theatre atmosphere with easy chairs and couches. The blankets however strewn about on chairs to keep people warm will no longer be necessary, as gas heating has been installed. The roof and ceiling of the theatre have also been insulated.

New ink blue curtains adorn either side of the huge auditorium and also the screen.

The original toilets have been revamped and a new kitchen and servery added.

The exterior of the building has been attractively sign written in black and gold.

Heartland Construction generously donated money for one of the fire exit doors.

"It's been a huge project," says Phil.

Everything however "went to plan," and came in "on budget, on time", he says, acknowledging the big contribution by

Doug Gibson who does the costings and ordering.

"It was good working with the ladies in charge, even though they kept throwing more orders at me," says Phil with a grin. "Debbie knew what she wanted," adding that once her mind was made up no one could

change it. And the result has clearly surpassed even Debbie's high expectations. "She reckons it's better than what she thought it would be," says Phil.

The renovation has taken five months to complete. Comments Phil "We'll miss going down there".

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Regular screenings

As well as being one of the oldest picture theatres in New Zealand it is also possibly the cheapest.

It costs \$10 for adults and \$8 for children and seniors.

There are regular screenings on Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights at 7 pm with a Saturday matinee at 1 pm.

Wednesday matinees have also recently resumed, and there are evening screenings also on Wednesday at 7pm.

Most of the films are new releases, though not all. A Charlie Chaplin screening awhile back proved popular.

On the first Sunday of the month, they hold boutique nights which make for a great night out with savoury finger food, complimentary wine or beer and a dessert or sweet at half time. Occasionally they'll have a meal, as when they ran The Hundred Foot Journey, a great movie about an Indian restaurant opening in France. They served a curry.

"We choose ones which are rated highly on Rotten



Debbie Campbell and Maree Drought at the Opening refurbished theatre.

Tomato and Flicks," says Debbie explaining that Rotten Tomato is a film review site.

Debbie said they try and choose films that cover various genres. "We try and get a kids movie, a drama, comedy and action movies

over each month. Usually there's several trailer versions they watch which gives an idea of the content. It doesn't always though. Awhile back to celebrate the completion of the earthquake strengthening, they invited all of the

community to watch A Million Ways to Die in the West. Billed as a comedy, a few of the shocked audience walked out. "We only saw the 'G' rated one not the 'R' rated one which was shown," says Debbie and Maree

in their defence. South Taranaki's broad minded mayor who was there thought it was "hilarious" said Debbie (Indeed most of the audience seemed to be sporting big grins as they exited the theatre).Debbie added with a grin "We've

learnt a lot since then - it can only get better."

Everybody's Theatre will be available for private hire for functions and for concerts.

"It's a multi functional facility right in the centre of town," says Debbie.



Frank and Arina singing while the lovely music entertainment.



The lolly Shop.



One of the original lights illuminates the upstairs.

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Voluntarily run

Everybodys Theatre is currently run by a trust of eight and an army of 40 volunteers. Debbie Campbell is Chairperson of the trust and Maree Drought, Treasurer. Secretary is Jenny Bennett and Vice-Chairperson is Rachel Hughson-How. There are also 10 trained projectionists.

Over the years various people have been involved in Everybodys Theatre, some for many years. A photo of the late Robert Fisher outside the ticket office acknowledges his long association with the theatre.

The late Fred Schultz is another who sadly is not around to see the fruition of everyone's labours. "He was one of our oldest ushers," said Debbie, who added that he died two years ago. He used to come to all the meetings. He would have

"loved" the new renovations, Debbie added sadly. Bev Henderson, Life Member and Patron is another who has been involved with Everybodys

Theatre for many years. Thanks to Mayor Ross Dunlop who gallantly 'caught' an exuberant journalist who misjudged one of the stairs as she arrived at

the upstairs en route to the projectionist's room. Not part of the official entertainment but it raised a few laughs, and admiration for our quick thinking mayor!



Volunteers at the opening (from left) Nicola Wright, Esther Ward-Campbell, Peter Clement and Robyn Davy



Nigel Fraser with his 1927 Chevrolet Speedster.



Some old theatre memorabilia.



The projector room with new digital projector at right and the old projector with (far right) some blunt instructions on their use.

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At the Opening



LEFT: A family affair. Debbie's family were all at the opening. From left Brian Vincent (Debbie's father), Rick Wilson (brother in law), Sharon Wilson (Debbie's sister), Debbie, Malcolm Campbell (Debbie's husband), Maureen Vincent (mother), and Bethany Campbell (daughter).



ABOVE: Rachael and Murray Hughson-How.



Sharon and Rick Wilson.



Adrienne and Arnold Hickey.



Steve and Rosie Corkill.



ABOVE: Judy Dodd and Robyn Chard.

LEFT: Peter and Jenny Trolove.

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Coastal can-do sorts out boating problem



Many hands got the job done in two days.

Members of the Opunake Boat and Underwater Club are pleased with the results of two days work back in December.

A working bee at Middleton's Bay which brought together contractors and voluntary labour appears to have sorted out the club's boat ramp and sand bar problems in time for the summer.

The club had been having problems with undermining and cracking of the Middleton's Bay ramp for a number of years, club commodore Steve Corkill said.

The ramp was too steep leaving no margin for error if anything went wrong. "We had three or four instances of drowned tractors costing the club a

lot of money," he said.

A natural sandbar would be created by backwash developing in certain conditions, making problems for launching boats, as vehicles trying to back over the bar would get stuck.

The club wanted to iron these issues out in time for summer. Backed up by a \$30,000 grant from the TSB Community Trust and \$26,000 of their own money, the club got to work on the week of December 7-12 to get the problem sorted.

"As a committee we worked out a design, cut out the damaged part of the ramp and added 25 metres," Steve said. "We altered the gradient to help stop the sandbar, and so far it's been successful.

The sandbar's not recreated itself and the ramp appears cleaner than ever under present weather conditions."

The project saw 115 cubic metres of concrete and 145 cubic metres of rock put in. Contractors donated their time and equipment, and members of the 85 member club pitched in to help.

Rock was carted on December 7-8, the main work was done between tides on December 9-10, with tidying up on December 11-12.

"We crossed our fingers for good weather and got three good days," Steve said. "It's a great demonstration of what a little community can do, and typical of coast people to get together to get a job done."

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World War 1 Maori photos wanted



One of the images up for publication in *Whitiki: Māori in the First World War* is of Private Aperahama Turei Grace of Tuparoa, aged 17, who was a member of the original Māori Contingent and died of typhoid in Egypt on 21 October 1915.

Images of Māori First World War servicemen are wanted for inclusion in a book due for publication in 2017.

Whitiki: Māori in the First World War is one in a series of books on New Zealand and the First World War being jointly produced by the Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Massey University, the New Zealand Defence Force and the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services Association.

Dr Monty Soutar, who wrote the award-winning publication *Nga Tama Toa: C Company, 28th Māori Battalion*, is in his third year of research for this new book.

“When I began my research I didn’t think there would be much material available after 100 years,” says Monty Soutar.

“I was surprised and thrilled to find some families still hold diaries, letters and photographs of loved ones who served in the Great War.

“Thanks to government support the history of the unit known as the Māori

Contingent, later morphing into the New Zealand Pioneer Battalion and finally the NZ Māori Pioneer Battalion, has never had the detailed attention it’s getting now and probably will not for another 100 years.

“My own grandfather was in the Pioneers, but I knew nothing about what his unit did overseas and it’s been a fascinating journey for me.

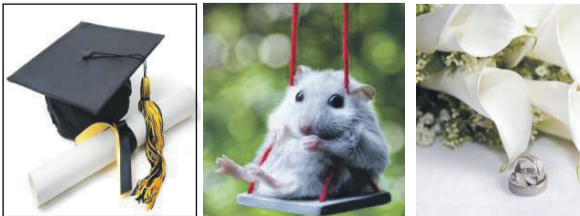
“The book is already shaping up to be quite a tāonga and when people read it they will learn many fascinating things about the Māori contribution to the war effort.”

Some 2,500 Māori and Pacific Island people served overseas and Soutar wants to include as many of their images in the book as can be found.

“It may end up that only a few hundred can be located, but it’s well worth seeking them out so we can remember them for what they did,” Monty Soutar says.

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RAMP UPGRADE PROJECT
7th - 12th December 2015

Project kindly funded by the
TSB Community Trust
and with the generous assistance with time and machinery from:

Machinery Operators
Gary Langlands (Langlands Contracting)
Karl Bunn (Karl Bunn Contracting Ltd)
Bryan Campbell (Campbell Contracting)
Sean Luttrell (Digger)

Builders
Ian Brimelow & Phil Brophy (Heartlands Construction)
Gareth Collins (Gareth Collins Building Ltd)
Craig Lock (Concrete laying)

plus
Elite Farm Services
Coastal Agri Services
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and all the club members who gave freely of their time to make this project a success.

The Committee

f

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Campbell takes improved times into the nationals

Campbell Grayling began road racing eighteen months ago, when he joined the Victoria Motorcycle Club at Manfeild in Feilding. This year, he is having a crack at the nationals in the New Zealand Superbike Championship.

"I've always enjoyed motor bike racing, and Dad used to do it," 16-year old Campbell from Awatuna said. A Year 12 student at Francis Douglas Memorial College, he rides a Kawasaki 250. On average,

he is away racing every third or fourth weekend, and more often in summer. Now things have moved up a gear with the nationals, competing in the 250

production class in a sport which is stronger in the South Island than in the North. Of the 15 riders competing in his class, he is the only one from

Taranaki, and one of only two from the North Island. In January Campbell spent three weekends in the South Island racing on unfamiliar tracks in Christchurch, Timaru and Invercargill, and now sits sixth on the points table. With the North Island part of the competition coming up in March at the Hampton Downs track, with which he is more familiar, he hopes to improve that position.

He attained a time of 1 minute 24 seconds, something he had not achieved to that point, and not far off the 1 minute 21, which is the fastest time recorded at Hampton Downs on a 250 bike. Since then, Campbell has got his times down to the vicinity of one minute 23 seconds.

His father Michael says Campbell has done well for somebody who started so recently. "He's coming up against South Island guys who start a lot younger, and were racing on their home tracks. They've got a very good development programme there."

Campbell says entering the nationals was something he had been thinking about since the middle of last year. "I said if I dropped my lap times at Hampton Downs to a certain amount I would enter the nationals."

With this in mind, he

Campbell says his coach Neil Chappell and the Victoria Motorcycle Club who got him a scholarship to do a course with the California Super Bike School, have been very supportive. He is looking forward to continuing his involvement in the sport.

"My short term goal is to go on to a different bike, probably a 650. Longer term it's to win a national championship," he says. Depending on the availability of sponsors, there's also competing overseas. "First of all it would be Australia, so I could see what it might be like competing in Europe or Asia," he said.



Up and coming road racing star Campbell Grayling

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Tough contest for 55 dairy industry scholarships

Fifty-five DairyNZ scholarships have been

awarded this year to Lincoln, Massey and Waikato university students as part of a wider drive to attract more motivated young talent into the dairy industry.

DairyNZ has awarded the annual scholarships to successful students undertaking degrees in agriculture or related fields, with a particular interest in the dairy industry.

DairyNZ industry education facilitator Susan Stokes says the quality of applications this year was particularly high and bodes well for future talent coming into the dairy industry.

"This support for outstanding young scholars

is part of the industry's drive to encourage talented, motivated people into the industry as future research scientists, farm advisors, farm managers, farm owners and rural professionals," says Susan.

Thirty-one students at Lincoln University, 22 at Massey University and two at the University of Waikato will receive a DairyNZ scholarship, funded by the levy invested by DairyNZ on behalf of dairy farmers.

"We received applications from 168 students from 135 schools and the high standard made our selection process challenging – a good problem to have, but it does mean some very

good students missed out this time round," says Susan.

The scholarship assists with the costs of university study (up to \$6325 per year) and continues until course completion, as long as grades are acceptable. Scholars are mentored and supported through their university years, often continuing into employment on-farm or in a role supporting the dairy industry.

In the last three years, 80 scholarship recipients have graduated from the scholarship programme. Twenty four per cent of these graduates are employed on farm, 40 per cent are employed as rural professionals and 13 per cent are employed in science.



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Science of lime saves wasting time



Craig Hendry, Ravensdown lime operations manager.

Aglime is essential to the sustainable productivity of New Zealand farming systems and vital in optimising soil health and pasture growth. But lime is in danger of being taken for granted. Without it farmers are faced with an inability to modify soil acidity and alkalinity. This affects the soil's ability to absorb nutrients and ultimately puts the nation's fertiliser investment in jeopardy. As a general guide, maintaining optimum pasture at a pH between 5.8 and 6.0 means an annual lime application is needed, at a rate of 350-500kg/

ha for dairy, 250-400kg/ha for dairy support and 100-300kg/ha for dry stock. While lime is indispensable, it's worth considering that not all limes were created equal. To avoid wasting time and money on lime comparisons, the three factors to consider are:
1. Calcium carbonate content
 Calcium carbonate (CaCO₃) is the 'active ingredient' when it comes to altering pH and this varies throughout the country from 99 per cent to 65 per cent CaCO₃ depending on local geology. A lower CaCO₃ lime will be needed in larger amounts to achieve the

same effect. Lime with an 80 per cent value will need to be applied at a 12.5 per cent higher rate than a lime with a 90 per cent value. At about \$30 per tonne, it pays to know the contents.
2. Fineness
 The solubility or dissolution rate of the CaCO₃ is largely dependent on the particle size of the lime – the finer the particle the quicker it will react. Hardness or porosity are less important influences. But fineness itself does not increase the total liming effect, because the amount of CaCO₃ required to neutralise a unit of acidity in the soil is fixed. A combination of

fine and coarse particles will neutralise acidity over an extended period of time.
3. Moisture content
 Many limes have a relatively high naturally-occurring water content level. In the South Island several Ravensdown quarries dry the raw lime prior to processing to allow it to be crushed to required specifications. This results in a low water content in the final product, often around 1 to 2 per cent. Farmers don't want to

have to pay for transporting tonnes of H₂O in their lime. And depending on how the CaCO₃ level is stated, it could also mean that they are buying water at the expense of the "active ingredient".
 A Fertmark-certified product has been assessed as having the water and calcium carbonate levels that it declares. So it pays in terms of time and money to look at the science behind aglime. There is a fourth and final factor. Is the lime safely sourced? Lime quarries

are investment-intensive operations and, to be safely sourced and processed they need practical measures like guarding around machinery, geotechnical stability, staff training as well as a safety-first culture. As owners of eight out of the nation's 70-80 quarries, Ravensdown encourages both customers and quarry managers to put lime safety on their agenda in order to sustainably deliver this vital soil conditioner long into the future.

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Wool PGP programme to benefit Whanganui sheep farmers

A new Primary Growth Partnership (PGP) programme to make wool more lucrative and sustainable will benefit Whanganui farmers, Whanganui MP Chester Borrows says. A seven-year partnership between the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and The New Zealand Merino Company, 'Wool Unleashed' (or W³) is expected to contribute \$335 million to the country's economy by 2025. "A few years back, wool was one of the top export earners we had, with the

bulk of that being strong wool," Chester Borrows said. "Since the 1990s wool earnings have been in decline. The W³ PGP programme is a real mechanism to help turn that around. "The programme will go about this by linking resilient wool farmers with the right markets, developing new and niche products, and sharing best practice information across the industry. "The end goal/result is to make New Zealand strong wool and wool products relevant to end users around the world. I look forward to the

benefits of W³ finding their way back to wool producers right here in Whanganui."



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Representing New Zealand

Three young basketballers who practice in Opunake have been selected to represent New Zealand at Under-16 level.

Morgan Trott has played for the U15 Taranaki Country Basketball (TCB) team, Taranaki U15 team, Stratford High School Junior and Senior teams.

"I'm very thankful for the support from all the coaches that have helped get me to where I am," Morgan said.

"I would like to thank those who train and scrimmage in Opunake on a Saturday, as they are high quality scrimmages with high skilled players, and has improved my game heaps. I'd like to make a special thanks to some coaches that have had a big part in helping me reach my goal, Miss O'B, Sam Mako, Angelo Hill, Aaron Langton, Chook (Darren Hohaia) who pushes me hard at Opunake scrimmages. Special thanks to Solly (Brendon Hughes) who individually coaches me and has improved my

game enormously."

Caitlin O'Connell was a surprise selection for the New Zealand Basketball Under 16 team after a late call up to trial. Caitlin was initially selected for the New Zealand Koru Basketball Development team which toured Australia in January. Based on her performance in Australia Caitlin was then asked to trial for the New Zealand Under 16 team. Caitlin has played basketball since the age of five years of age and has represented Taranaki Basketball and TCB (Taranaki Country Basketball) in her age group for the last three years. She would like to thank Chook Hohaia for the tough weekend scrimmages and fitness sessions that gave Caitlin the opportunity to play against older and more experienced players who have helped her to develop her speed, strength and confidence. Caitlin would also like to thank Solly Hughes who has coached Caitlin privately



From left. Morgan Trott, Caitlin O'Connell and Isabelle Cook.

for the last three years, and thank Fletcher Jennings her training partner who continues to push her and challenge her at these sessions.

Isabelle Cook has been selected for the New Zealand U16 team and will get to play against Australia in July. Izzy began playing basketball as a five-year old, and started playing reps four years ago. She has played for Auroa primary school, TCB and Taranaki U13 and U15, and training for U17 teams, NZ Koru, and Opunake High School Junior and

Senior A's.

"I would like to thank everyone who has helped me along the way family, friends, many different coaches especially Chook who has given up many many hours of his free time to train me and push me to my limits and the elite basketball squad that train at Opunake on Saturdays," Isabelle said.

"Basketball on the coast

is producing some great talent, with the Opunake Basketball leagues for ages from five year olds to adults to the amazing coaches and the many volunteers of the sport. The facilities that we have available have been a great support to help with my progress, Opunake High School gym and their shooting machine and the Sandford's Event Centre, thank you."

Promote your events in the

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Next issue due out March 11

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It's Gala time at Opunake High School

The Opunake High School Gala kicks off at 5.30pm on March 10.

This annual event is the school's main fundraiser, and this year the aim is to build future focused curriculum through developing innovative learning space. The funds raised will be used to purchase furniture supporting the use of digital devices in classrooms.

organise fun activities and games, and there's a bit of student competition to see which group makes the most money on the night. Let's see what crazy games and ideas they have this year.

Each of the four Hapu have a raffle in which the students are asked to sell 10 tickets each. For Totara the prize is \$150 cash, for Rimu it's chocolates, Awhina have groceries, and Karo have \$150 Opunake Business

Association Vouchers. If a student calls in selling tickets please purchase one or two.

Fun activities on the night will include go-karts, bouncy castle, face painting, hoopla, auctions, Hapu cake auctions, quickfire raffles and many more.

Food available on the night will include nachos, hot dogs, hangi, hot chips, sausages, and steak sandwiches. Hangi tickets are \$10 each and



Fun for everyone, get along to the Opunake High School Gala on March 10.



The popular 'Jail truck'.

can be purchased from the school office.

We appreciate the input

and support from sponsors and whanau to make this a great event. If you wish to

donate some items for the gala please take to the school office or phone 067618723.

OHS GALA



THURSDAY 10TH MARCH
FROM 5:30PM

Bouncy Castle, Go Karts, Face Painting, Golf, Fun Activities, Quickfire Raffles, Hangi, Sausage Sizzle and much more.....

Tasman Street, Opunake
Phone: 067618723
Email: admin@opunake.school.nz



Advanced Driving Course 2016

Taranaki Anniversary weekend is the perfect opportunity for young drivers to improve their driving skills by attending an Advanced Driving course funded by Roadsaf

With instructors from NZ Advanced Driver Training (including V8 Championship driver Phil Blythe) drivers will gain valuable skills to improve their driving skills.

The course is free for anyone with a driver license and is being held at the Stratford Racecourse on

Pembroke Road. Each driver registered will go through two practical courses; What to do in an emergency and how to brake safely, and improving cornering skills and understanding what understeer and oversteer are.

Parents are encouraged to come along and also go through the course to learn some modern driving skills that may help improve their driving. Local driving instructors will be on hand to answer questions and offer advice to learner and restricted drivers. Interactive activities will create some excitement and

local partners like SADD, NZ Police, and Central Taranaki Safe Community Trust will also be on site to offer guidance and support.

The course takes between one and two hours, is being held at the Stratford Racecourse on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th March. The first scheduled time available is 10am and last time available is 4pm each day. To register for this free course, contact Roadsaf Taranaki on 0800 111 323 email marion.webby@stdc.govt.nz or text your name, preferred day and time to 027 279 2662.

FREE Driver Training

2 hour practical sessions to help young or inexperienced drivers gain better driving skills.

Stratford Racecourse (Pembroke Road)
Sat 12 and Sun 13 March
10am to 4pm

Practical driving lessons with instructors from NZ Advanced Driver Training, including NZV8 Championship driver Phil Blythe. Interactive exhibits provide something for everyone. Cars will be supplied for the driving sessions.
You must hold a drivers licence and be able to drive.

For more information or to book a two hour spot
email marion.webby@stdc.govt.nz, text your name to Marion at Roadsaf Taranaki on 027 279 2662 or call 0800 111 323.

Complete the course and be in to win one of 12 places on a full day Advanced Driving Course at Manfeild Raceway in Feilding.




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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

Opunake Catholic Church

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

Other areas

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

ALL WELCOME

THE WAVE

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett Street, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7 pm Wednesday
Youth Group 7pm Friday
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ENTERTAINMENT

OPEN MUSOS gig Sunday 28th February. 2pm-6pm at Rahotu Tavern.

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OPUNAKE tidy unit, insulated, sunny and warm. 2 bedroom + garage. \$205 pw. Please phone Brenda 021 365 652. Sorry no pets.

PUBLIC NOTICES

PIHAMA DOMAIN BOARD A.G.M.

4th March at 11.30am
Pihama Cricket Clubrooms
All welcome.

Contact: Macey Luttrell 06 761 8927



ELTHAM SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB

Annual General Meeting Monday 7th March at the Clubrooms

5 Pinny Drive, Eltham at 7.30pm.

All members and intending members welcome.

Pre-season competition begins 14th March.

Club nights Mondays and Fridays at 7.30pm.

All gear & tuition supplied.

No Firearms License required.

FOR SALE

NEW AIR RIFLES from \$79 at Collins Sports Centre.

ARE YOU DRINKING heaps of water in this heat? But getting headaches or cramps or muscle twitches, you may need minerals. CMD mineral drops contain 72 mineral essential especially at this time of year, just add a few drops to your drinks. From \$10 at Hardys the health shop in Centre City.

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Next issue out March 11

OPUNAKE INDOOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION SENIOR TEAM REGISTRATIONS



Registration forms available from Sandfords Event Centre or email opunakebasketball@hotmail.co.nz

REGISTRATIONS to be returned by Tuesday 1st March 2016 by email to OBA or drop into Sandford's Event Centre office

DUTY TEAMS to supply referees and bench for the whole night

Cost \$300.00 per team plus \$200.00 bond for new teams Men's/Women's A & B Grades

Tuesdays & Friday nights - starting Friday 11th March

For more information check us out on facebook Opunake Basketball Association or contact us by email Send us your email address to receive draws and notices or phone Bryan Roach 027 445 7888 or Kim Ahern 027 632 4377

Performing Arts Grants

Your invitation to share the dream

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

Applications are now being invited for the second annual funding round, closing at 5 pm on Thursday 31 March 2016.

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

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

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

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

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



Dame Malvina Major Foundation

www.dmmfoundation.org.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES



Growers & Makers Market

Sunday 20th March
10am - 5pm

In the premises of Pihama Lavender. \$10 per stall, tables available at extra cost.

Contact Liz Sinclair 06 215 8169 for details

Opunake Junior Soccer AGM

Wednesday
March 9 at 7pm
Sandfords Event Centre

Oaonui Smallbore Rifle Club AGM

March 2nd 2016
at 7.30pm
Oaonui Hall
All welcome

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

Financial assistance is available to students to undergo tertiary education relating preferably to agricultural or horticultural studies although consideration will be given to other applicants.

Application forms available from:-

The Secretary
P O Box 117

OPUNAKE 4616

PHONE 761-7150

EMAIL: nevisbrewer@xtra.co.nz



PRESEASON TRAINING

**Tuesdays and Thursdays
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FBT SENIOR Bs

Alan Crowley - 06 763 8255

CLUB CONTACTS

Brent Davies - 027 431 7772

BJ Kettlewell - 027 229 8932

CLUB MEMBERSHIP & SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Deb Davies - 027 408 5414



**SPORT NEW ZEALAND
RURAL TRAVEL FUND**

Applications for financial assistance under the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund open on Monday 29 February 2016.

The fund is open to sports clubs and school teams with young people aged between 5-19 years who require assistance with transport expenses to regular, local sporting competitions.

Application forms are available from all LibraryPlus centres, the Council Contact Centre in Albion Street, Hawera, or the Council website www.southtaranaki.com.

For further information please contact:
Executive Assistant Community Services
Phone: 0800 111 323 or 2780555
Email: maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz

Applications close **Friday 8 April 2016** at 4.30pm.

WHAT'S ON



JONATHAN YOUNG

MP for New Plymouth. Need to speak with your local MP?

Monthly clinics being held in Opunake,

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

First Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm.

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

Wednesdays 9am - 5pm , for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

SURF INN

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

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

COASTAL SINGERS

7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

COASTAL RUGBY PRESEASON TRAINING

6.30pm Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Rahotu Domain

TE KIRI SPORTS AND REC SCHOLARSHIPS. Applications now open until February. Forms available and explanations for criteria for applying. Ph(06)761-7228. (06)761-7294.

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Stratford Village Quilters Exhibition. February 5 – 28.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY ELTHAM

A RETROSPECTIVE in Watercolours. Paintings by Bjorn Grube. NZ Jewellery by Ross Macdonald. 15 Feb – 11 March.

FREE BUSES TO THE AMERICARNIVAL

Saturday 27 February. Free buses to the Americarnival will run from Hawera and Opunake to New Plymouth and return.

PUBLIC MEETING

Assisted Dying, What is proposed; End of Life Directive. Sunday 28th February @ 1.30pm at New Plymouth's Community House (by YMCA) More details ph Jan 06 756 8836.

OAONUI SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB

AGM Oaonui Hall, March 2nd at 7.30pm. All welcome.

PIHAMA DOMAIN BOARD

AGM March 4th at 11.30am at the Pihama Cricket Club. All welcome.

LAWNMOWER RACE DAY

Saturday 5 March at Lepperton School. Refer advert.

COASTAL JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB REGISTRATION DAYS

7th March 2016 5.30pm - 7.00pm, 12th March 2016 10.00am-11.00am Sandfords Event Centre. Refer advert for full details.

ELTHAM SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB

Annual General Meeting , Monday 7th March at the Clubrooms, 5 Pinny Drive, Eltham at 7.30pm.. Refer advert for details.

OPUNAKE JUNIOR SOCCER

AGM Wednesday March 9 at 7pm, Sandfords Event Centre.

GROWERS AND MAKERS MARKET AT PIHAMA LAVENDER

Sunday 20th March, 10am – 5pm. Refer advert for full details.

KAPONGA AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

50 years of athletics at Victoria Park Kaponga

18th March 2016 at the Kaponga Rugby Gym.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Come one Come All
Junior Rugby
Registration for 2016 Season**

Junior rugby registration days:
7th March 2016 5.30pm - 7.00pm
12th March 2016 10.00am-11.00am
Sandfords Event Centre



For further information contact:
Mike Grayling 06 274 5884
Kelly Young 027 333 5199
Drax Campbell 06 761 8442



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

**Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT 5.30PM**

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



Calling all Entertainers

7:30pm Tuesday, 16th February 2016

Young, old, amateur, professional.

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

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

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

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.

Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The seventh gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 16th February 2016 Opunake Players Theatre, Layard Street, Opunake.

Web Site www.colourconversions.com

Colour Conversions Limited

Video, Audio and Graphic productions

027 897 8941



Clippers
cutting bar

Happy to support the
Hawera Gym &
Fitness Centre

203 HIGH STREET - HAWERA
PH: 06 278 5732

SUBWAY HAWERA

SUB OF THE DAY \$4.90

Proud to be a supporter
of The Hawera Gym

Limited time only at participating restaurants. One selected SUBWAY SIX INCH® Sub available per day as shown. Additional cost for extras. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. *Regular SUBWAY SIX INCH® Sub with 6 grams of fat or less prepared according to standard recipe on white bread without cheese or additional non-fat condiments



The helpful staff Nick, Nathan (owner) and Spencer.

Hawera Gym & Fitness Centre has a not-to-be-missed Open Day

Hawera Gym & Fitness Centre has an Open Day on Saturday February 27, which starts at 9am and ends around 2pm. Entry will be free. The friendly, helpful staff - Nathan (owner), Spencer, and Nick plans an action-packed

day with many promotional opportunities. Look for the huge purple gorilla floating high above the premises at 190 Princes Street, Hawera.

There will be door prizes to win, including a chance to win an Apple watch (just for inviting a friend along), as well as many giveaways. A special promotion deal will see the first seven people to sign up win an ipod so they can listen to their favourite music wherever they are - including their workout at Hawera Gym.

There will be a free sausage sizzle at 11am and a Bouncy Castle to keep the kids entertained.

Nathan Macauley has been proprietor since December 2000 and has built up the gym in many positive ways, notably extensive access. The doors are open Monday to Thursday 6am till 8pm, Friday 6am till 7.30pm, as well as weekends (and public holidays) 8am till 12pm. However, for 24 hours access a one off payment of \$45 will secure an Access Fob.

The Gym's clients generally range in ages from 18 to 80, although Nathan does point out that school age students are welcome to attend under parental supervision.

The spacious premises are very well supplied with a wide range of equipment which should cater for the needs of all clients. For example, the Cardio Studio has Treadmills, Exercycles, Concept Rowers, Cross Trainers, a Stepper, as well as Swiss Balls.

The gym has a relaxed atmosphere with soothing music playing. "It's my kind of gym - unpretentious," enthused one client with a smile, as he took a moment's time out from his exercises.

The Punch Bags get plenty of use on the Tuesday Boxing sessions, which start at 6.30pm with the well-known trainer Dean Logan. Keen boxers, and many others like to use the Weights Room with quality equipment brands such as Nautilus and Cyborg.

There are many advantages for joining Hawera Gym. For a start the rates are most

competitive with a special deal of just \$9.95, which is a saving of 23% (a saving of \$476).

There are a number of worthwhile classes you can join including the Spin Cycle Classes (Monday to Friday). These present a great low impact opportunity to burn fat and get fit in a safe environment.

Another class is the Cross and Box Boot Camp (Monday to Thursday), which suits all levels of fitness and strength, with a focus on natural body movements, core strength and overall fitness.

Expert personal trainers are available so members can maximise the benefits of their time in the gym. The charge is a competitive \$15 for 30 minutes.

There are many success stories associated with the gym and here's just one; Leigh's story: "I had to wear a double XL t-shirt, was smoking, drinking, knew heart conditions ran in the family ... I thought it's time for a change. I took it slow at first with lighter weights and cardio. After 8 weeks I started to see results, I was pumped. Two months later it felt amazing when friends and family mentioned how good I looked. I've dropped two pants sizes and I'm so proud. I'm sleeping better, I bounce out of bed in the morning ...". Leigh went from 117kg to 82kg in weight, a massive reduction of 35kg.

Want to know more, including concessions for senior citizens, students, couples? Phone 0800 350 088 or mobile 027 276 8460. Friendly, professional service guaranteed. You can also check Hawera Gym and Fitness Centre out on Facebook haweragym@xtra.co.nz

FREE OPEN DAY

SATURDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 9am till 2 pm

- * FREE iPod for the first 7 to join on the day*
- * FREE Sausage sizzle from 11am
- * Bouncy Castle for the kids
- * Door Prizes and Giveaways
- * Fitness Challenges

*Must join on \$9.95 p/w promotion



CALL NOW
0800 350 088

**190 Princes St
HAWERA**
24hr Access
See us on Facebook

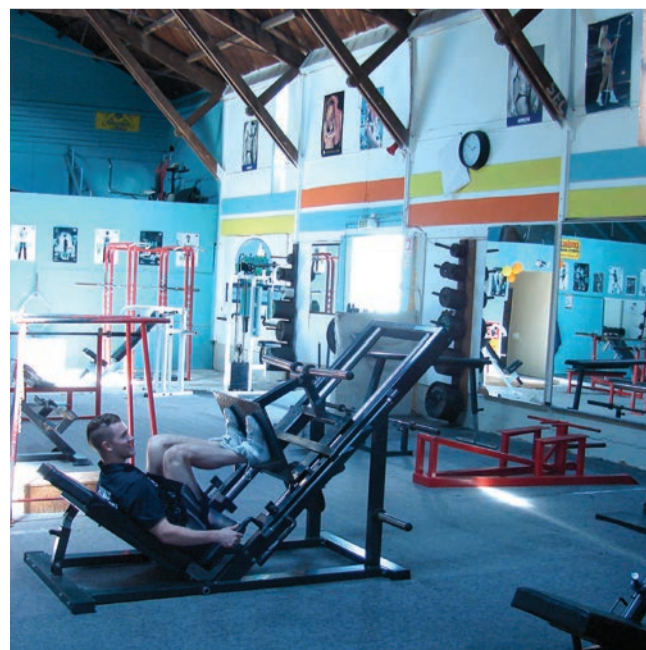


OFFER ENDS FRIDAY!

4TH MARCH @ 7PM SHARP
NEW YEAR NEW YOU OFFER

23% OFF
SAVE \$476

ONLY
\$9.95
PER WEEK



Inside the gym.

Riding a lawn mower can be fun at Lepperton race day

On March 5, Lepperton Primary School will be holding their 4th Ride-On Lawnmower Race Day. Racing kicks off at 10am and features racers from clubs in Taranaki, Bay of Plenty and Fielding. This is a growing sport, and the Taranaki Club was formed after spectators at our first event took an interest and got things going. It is now one of the strongest clubs in the North Island, with their own racing track

in Bell Block.

There is much for the whole family with activities such as; Mini Ferris Wheel, Merry-go-Round, Smash-a-Car, Bouncy Castles (and more), stalls and a Silent Auction. There is also great food being served up with a sausage sizzle, pig and mutton on a spit, hot chips etc. Entry by Gold Coin donation. Eftpos available (for cash-outs only). Come and enjoy a great rural day out.



Racing at the Ride-On Lawnmower day kicks off at 10am.

Summer Sounds Returns to King Edward Park

Summer Sounds will be playing at the stage by the oriental garden in King Edward Park on Sunday 28 February 28.

After being introduced to the South Taranaki summer events programme in March last year, Summer Sounds makes an earlier return in 2016 to take advantage of the

stellar weather we've been having.

Entertainment will start at 4pm with local lad Ben Dixon taking the stage, followed by Wanganui's eight-piece band *The Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra* (a huge hit at this year's Sounds on the Sand in Opunake). Finishing the evening is the feature

act, Auckland-based *The Mermaids Dance Band*.

There will be something for everyone, with rocking tunes, classic hits and current top 40 hits.

South Taranaki District Council events co-ordinator Jody Bloor says she wants to see as many people as possible come along to

enjoy the evening's free entertainment.

"We hope families take the opportunity to have a relaxing evening, taking in the music and the stunning scenery," says Jody. "Make a night of it and bring along a picnic, or make use of one of the food stalls on offer."

FILM REVIEW

The Revenant and The Danish Girl

The Revenant

Friday February 26 at 7pm. Inspired by true events, *The Revenant* is an immersive and visceral cinematic experience capturing one man's epic adventure of survival and the extraordinary power of the human spirit.

In an expedition of the uncharted American wilderness, legendary explorer Hugh Glass (Leonardo DiCaprio) is brutally attacked by a bear and left for dead by members of his own hunting team.

In a quest to survive, Glass endures unimaginable grief as well as the betrayal of his confidant John Fitzgerald

R16 | 2h 36min | Adventure, Drama, Thriller

The Danish Girl

Boutique Night 6 March @ 7pm. \$25 per person includes one beer/wine and tasty treats sitting on the comfy sofas. Contact Maree 0273137494 to book your tickets.

A fictitious love story loosely inspired by the lives of Danish artists Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener. Lili and Gerda's marriage and work evolve as they navigate Lili's groundbreaking journey as a transgender pioneer.

Copenhagen, 1926. Danish artist, Gerda Wegener, painted her own husband, Einar Wegener (Eddie Redmayne), as a lady in her painting. When the painting gained popularity, Einar started to change his appearance into

a female appearance and named himself Lili Elbe. With his feminism passion and Gerda's support, Einar - or Elbe - attempted one of the first male-to-female sex reassignment surgery, a decision that turned into a massive change for their marriage, that Gerda realized her own husband is no longer a man or the person she married before. A childhood friend of Einar, art-dealer Hans Axgil (Matthias Schoenaerts), shows up and starts a complex love triangle with the couple. Written by Gusde

M | 1h 59min | Biography, Drama, Romance

Normal charges for upstairs viewing. \$10 Adult and \$8 Senior Citizen

ASSISTED DYING - WHAT IS PROPOSED; END OF LIFE DIRECTIVE

Public meeting 1.30pm Sunday 28th February at New Plymouth's Community House (by YMCA)

Guest Speaker: Carole Sweney National Secretary VESNZ.
Independent Chair: Catherine Quin
Refreshments to follow.

Contacts: Jan Randle 756 8836
Mary Anderson 753 9067
Local group of End of Life Choices.

Lepperton School & Walker Bros are proud to bring you...

Lawn mower race day!

A FUN DAY OUT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.

Saturday 5 March at Lepperton School

ALL RACERS & PUBLIC SPECTATORS ARE WELCOME!

- Races start from 10am at the School (540 Richmond Road)
- Good food, drinks and coffee available
- Kids motorbike rides, bouncy castle, ferris wheel and much more!
- Spectator entry by gold coin donation
- Races from Taranaki, Bay of Plenty and Fielding!
- All proceeds raised go to Lepperton School

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE
For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre
www.everybodystheatre.co.nz

Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale
Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-pos

<p>Spotlight Thriller, True Story & Biography 2hr 08mins M Offensive language & content that may disturb</p> <p>Wednesday 24th February 7 pm Saturday 27th February 7 pm</p>	<p>Alvin and the Chipmunks Road Chip Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family 1hr 26mins</p> <p>Wednesday 2nd March 1 pm</p>
<p>Dirty Grandpa 1h 42 Comedy R16 Sex scenes, violence</p> <p>Friday 4th March 7pm Saturday 5th March 1pm Wednesday 9th March 1pm</p>	<p>Room Drama, Festival & Independent 1hr 58mins M Offensive language</p> <p>Saturday 5th March 7 pm Friday 11th March 7 pm Sunday 13th March 7 pm</p>
<p>The Danish Girl Drama, True Story & Biography, Historical 2hr M Nudity & sex scenes</p> <p>Sunday 6th March 7 pm Boutique Night Wednesday 9th March 7 pm Saturday 12th March 7 pm</p>	<p>The Peanut Story Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family 1hr 33mins G Snoopy and Charlie Brown</p> <p>Saturday 12th March 1 pm Wednesday 16th March 1 pm Saturday 26th March 1 pm</p>

The Danish Girl **Boutique Night**
Sunday 6th March 2016 - \$25 pp includes a drink & food, bar facilities no BYO
From 6.30pm - Movie begins 7 pm
Bookings essential - no eft-pos
Regular movie attendance available.
Tickets available from
Debbie Campbell 027 290 2892 or
Maree Drought 027 313 7494 or email
everybodystheatre@gmail.com

COMMUNITY INVITATION OPEN DAY
5 March 3:30-5pm

Open Day at the theatre for the public to come and view the renovations. There will be snippets of the glass slides on the big screen and a documentary about old NZ cinemas.

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
24 Spotlight 7 pm	26 The Revenant 7 pm	27 Oddball 1 pm Spotlight 7 pm	28 Oddball 7 pm
2 Alvin & the Chipmunks 1 pm Joy 7 pm	4 Dirty Grandpa 7 pm	5 Dirty Grandpa 1pm Room 7 pm	6 **Boutique** The Danish Girl 7 pm
9 Dirty Grandpa 1 pm The Danish Girl 7 pm	11 Room 7 pm	12 The Peanut Story 1 pm The Danish Girl 7 pm	13 Room 7 pm

Countdown to Americarna 2016

Get your motor running, because the Countdown to Americarna 2016 is on.

On Friday February 26, more than 500 American vehicles will be travelling from New Plymouth to Opunake along State Highway 45 (SH45) where they will park up at Sandfords Event Centre from 10.30am-12.30pm. From there they will travel along SH45 to Hawera where they will spend the afternoon before returning to New Plymouth.

South Taranaki District Council Event Coordinator Jody Bloor says preparations to welcome the visitors are well underway.

"The stopover in Opunake gives the drivers a chance to re-gather, have morning tea,



A red racing car shows off to the crowd.

take a look around the local shops and visit the beach. Because the cars are parking up at Sandfords Event Centre we don't need to close any

roads, though motorists and pedestrians will need to take extra care as school children will be walking in to view the cars" says Jody.

"In Hawera the cars will be parked on High Street (from Argyle St to Caledonia St) and part of Union and Regent Streets. The Community

Centre carpark and Albion Street (From High St to Erin St) will be closed for the extremely popular Recco Go-Stop Drags. With all these cars in town parking is going to be at a premium so it'll be a good idea to car pool or to walk to work on that day," she says.

Go-Stop Drags are an event where competitors charge off from the start line and head for a set of cones at the other end of the straight. When they reach the other end they have to come to a complete stop inside the cones - the competitor that completes this task in the fastest time is the winner. This discipline needs a combination of good acceleration and braking capabilities - the bigger vehicles with more horsepower can get away

quicker, but the smaller, more nimble cars stop quicker. Lots of noise, *smoke* and fun this event was a real crowd favourite last year.

In Hawera's CBD there will be music by the new Taranaki Folk Band 'The Stove' and a market day with the local businesses entering in a window dressing competition.

"We're really excited to have Americarna visit South Taranaki again. The community and businesses always get behind this event and make it a really successful and entertaining day," Jody said.

The Americarna vehicles will be in New Plymouth for the big AmeriCARNival on Saturday February.27.

The First and the Last

The Village Gallery's latest exhibition features the watercolours of Bjorn Grube. Formerly from Hawera, Bjorn has retired to New Plymouth and says this is his final exhibition.

Bjorn has been painting for over 20 years, mainly in

watercolour. He has exhibited regularly in club exhibitions and has sold paintings in England, Denmark and New Zealand. Bjorn attended many workshops and enjoyed the challenge of painting outdoors.

Accompanying Bjorn's

artworks is Ross Macdonald who creates unique one-off designed jewellery. These pieces are crafted from New Zealand native timbers, paua shell and paua laminate. The range includes pendants, brooches and necklace sets.

Ross's interest in Jewellery

making had unusual beginnings. It arose from his interest in orchids and a book he wrote on the subject. Just displaying books and selling them alone didn't seem enough - they needed something else to accompany them. So, Ross did research and experimented to come up with his own unique designs. He has been making these pieces for 12 years now, and sells mostly at market days. This is his first venture into exhibiting in an art gallery. They well deserve to be here alongside Bjorn's paintings.

The two very different art forms complement each other perfectly, and the exhibition is well worth a visit.

'A Retrospective', exhibition runs from February 15- March 11. The gallery is



Ross Macdonald as he sets up his display

open 10 am - 3pm Monday to Saturday, at 166 High Street,

Eltham.

Maree Liddington



IS ROARING INTO TOWN!

Friday 26 February

Opunake

Sandford's Event Centre 10.30 am - 12.30 pm

The cars will be entering town via SH45 from New Plymouth and will be parked on the Sandford's Event Centre fields.

They will then travel around SH45 to Hawera.

Hawera

Hawera Town Centre 1.00 pm - 4.45 pm

The cars will be arriving via SH45 from Opunake, along South Road and Caledonia Street and will be parked on High Street (from Argyle to Caledonia Streets) and in the Community Centre Carpark, some of Union and Regent Street will also be used. They will depart town via Argyle Street and Glover Road.

Albion Street (from High to Erin Streets) will be closed (11 am - 5 pm) for the Recco Go-Stop Drags, which will start at approximately 2 pm.

Come and check out the 500+ American vehicles on display.

Supported by



For further details contact
South Taranaki District
Council Events
@ TSB Hub 06 278 0646

Stony River Hotel and Country Diner

Your Hosts: Heimo & Renate Staudinger

Phone: 06 752 4454 - 022 091 4079

2502 Surf Highway 45 - Okato



\$35 for One Entry to the
1st Stony River Beer Garden Festival

incl. German Bratwurst with Sauerkraut,
Beer Pretzel & 1 x 500ml German Beer (or non
alcoholic soft drink)

with All Day Live Music - 6th March
2016, 11.00am-9.00pm

Tickets available now at Stony River

Hawera Repertory to open 2016 with Duets

The Hawera Repertory Society is pleased to announce that they have successfully cast their first play for 2016. Duets directed by Samantha Turner, will be performed in the newly refurbished Repertory House at 59 Collins Street, Hawera from April 15-23, with eight evening performances and one matinee. Tickets will go on sale in early March from TicketDirect.

Thirteen people turned up for auditions. The cast will be: Blind Date. Richard Kennedy-Moffat and Jane Lawrence. Secretarial Skills. Graham Fraser and Hollie Weir. The Holiday. Clive Cullen and Carole Hosie. The Bride to Be. Mike Brotherson and Ainslie Alexander.