



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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Cat's Mother a hit. Page 32.



The Opunake Cup, a fixture on the racing calendar Saturday July 23. page 32



Ian Baker with members of his family.

## Wishing Ian au revoir as century approaches

Ian Baker is due to turn 100 in April next year, a milestone he is determined to achieve. The long standing Coastal Taranaki identity has had a big impact on the community that has been home for the last 70 years. Now he is shifting to Cambridge to be closer to his daughter Jan. On Friday July 8, friends, family and community members met at Opunake Library Plus to say goodbye and wish him all the best for the future.

"There wouldn't be many people who have been life members of organisations longer than they have been members," said Clem Coxhead.

It was perhaps fitting that the farewell be held at the library, as outside the library is a stone wall with a plaque saying that it had been put together by Ian Baker.

"That stone wall is going to be a legacy in this community for a long time," said South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon. "It's volunteers like Ian that make these communities hum."

Ian Baker farmed on the Watino Road, and Shane Ardern, whose own farm now includes part of the Baker farm spoke about Ian Baker the farmer and dairy industry leader. Ian Armstrong spoke about his community involvement and Paul Bourke spoke from

notes he had put together from a conversation with Ian nearly 20 years before. Ian Baker's oldest niece Christine Cambie spoke on behalf of the family, and others spoke about his involvement with the Opunake RSA, the Opunake Golf Club, and the Opunake Co-operating Church of which he was an elder. Other interests included the Opunake Players and the Coastal Singers.

Ian Baker's father was a manager for Hallensteins, a job which meant moving around the country. Ian was born in Stratford, before the family shifted to Hawera and then to Hawke's Bay. He worked for the Post Office in Wellington and returned to Taranaki during World War II when he was conscripted to work in the Oeo dairy factory. He later joined the army in Bougainville and Guadalcanal. While in Taranaki he met Netta Duff at the Auroa Church and they later married.

By this stage Ian decided he wanted a change in direction and decided to go farming. He started working for wages for Bob Hunt at Pihama, moving up to a 39% sharemilking agreement a year later. Bert Hurst who farmed on the Watino Road asked Ian if he wanted to buy part of his farm.

Paul Bourke quoted Ian's

reaction to this offer.

"I just laughed. I told him I had no money, He told me to begin spending my savings on 60 calves and everything else would be on time payment. Mr Hurst told me he wasn't selling a farm, he was buying a neighbour, as he was getting on and needed a younger person to develop the farm, which had two paddocks and only the river for water."

Ian started with 70 cows, pushed that up to 104, and then back to 86.

He was elected a director, and then chairman of the Awatuna Dairy Company. The high point of his time

as chairman was negotiating a unique deal whereby his company became the sole supplier of milk to the Eltham Rennet Dairy Company.

"It was a magic agreement. I don't know how you came up with it," said Ian Armstrong, who recalls that it did not go down well with other dairy companies.

In 1982, Ian and Netta sold the farm to their niece Maisie Luttrell and her husband Sean, and shifted to Opunake where they had designed a futuristic house for themselves.

Ian had previously worked for as an accountant and later put these skills to good use. There was one year

when he audited the books for 26 different voluntary organisations in Opunake. He received a Lloyd Morgan award for his years auditing the books of the Opunake Lions Club.

Also while farming at Te Kiri he had developed an interest in stonework, which stood him in good stead when he put together 26 stone walls along the streets of Opunake.

Ian is a life member of the Opunake RSA, has been awarded an M Badge and received a certificate of appreciation for his years as auditor.

Continued page 3



The many stone fences that grace Opunake were all built by Ian's voluntary labour. This one is at the southern entrance to the town. There are many others throughout the town.



## Letters to the Editor

Send your your views to:  
Letters to the Editor  
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While we welcome free speech, the views expressed in the Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Opunake & Coastal News. Please limit letters to 350 words as we sometimes struggle for space to fit them all in.

## Electric cars

Just a thought of reply to Brendan Dixon.

It is good to have open dialogue and I am happy to discuss this matter with anyone.

Battery issues that affected the early EVs continue to this day.

1. Continued reduction of economy from Hero to zero over life of battery is still valid.

2. Maximum life of battery has not changed.

3. Cost of battery and replacement is not openly discussed by suppliers of many EVs.

4. The distance an EV can travel between charges is directly related to the weight of the battery, ie 1000kg in a Tesla (half the cars weight), the number of recharges and its age.

5. A hybrid will from new begin to use more fuel over its life, 8-10yrs, until the last two years when there will be little to no fuel savings.

6. EV and hybrid manufacturers I have contacted regarding price of replacement batteries avoided giving a price. Isn't that an important factor in determining the viability and

"greenness" of these cars?

The cost of energy determines its viability and we are seeing a move away from the natural fuels which are high in energy. Batteries rely on power converted from another source to exist. There is a big loss in energy efficiency from this that is not included in EV efficiency ratings.

There are many more unspoken and unanswered questions to this subject.

Do not believe the first story you read but dig deep and the truth becomes obvious.

Destroying our energy

independence by shutting down Marsden Point refinery by this government is an attempt to force us toward EVs. Just look at the fuel prices.

Happy hunting.

Shutting down our A grade coal mines in Huntly and importing D Grade coal from Chile and Indonesia for our Huntly Power Station will not help reduce emissions, as is the "green" agenda.

Paul Butler  
New Plymouth

## ADELPHOS

Most of us have heard the saying, "Into everyone's life a little rain must fall." There has surely been enough rain-fall this autumn and winter in Taranaki. Good for the farmers; often a few complaints from others though. But my winter veges are happy.

When it rains on our parade it challenges us to bounce back and recover. That's called resilience. If you've lived long enough all of us have experienced painful experiences.

It depends on where we get the strength to recover from these hardships. Proverbs 24:13 says, "Though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again..." (Proverbs 24:16)." A few good friends who can keep confidences are sometimes all you need to recover. Prayer, meditation, a hobby or exercise can also help.

Today many people of faith face the painful challenge of an anti-Christianised world-

view. This takes the popular position that there are now expiry dates – like on milk containers— for the old morality and the value of human life. This is the enlightened contemporary opinion popularly broadcasted secularly and even accepted among some Christian churches."

The "rain" today seems similar in 2022 to the times Noah and Sodom and Gomorrah. However in today's 2022 unprecedented globalised media reporting we hear similar messages on a scale as in Noah's time. They might have said, "These are modern times in 1832 B.C. and Moses is old fashioned stuff. God is dead." Jesus promised that He will definitely return in conditions like in the days of Noah. (Luke 17:26-27).

It doesn't matter when Jesus will return, even He didn't know the exact time. The Christian's job is to live like we'll see Jesus tomor-

row. Rain blesses us with our beautiful maunga looking after our lush green paddocks. Too much rain challenges us. Too

little causes suffering. For everything there is a season.

Manaakitanga,

Adelphos



## Anyone lost this?

This photo was picked up in Opunake recently. If anybody has lost it or knows who the people in the photo maybe contact Maria at Opunake Library Plus ph 0800-111-323.

## More Opunake & Coastal News' out

We have printed more copies of the Opunake & Coastal News.

It is available on stands at the following locations

### New Plymouth:

Ate Forty One, Tukapa St, Westown  
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The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City  
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### Waitara:

Outside the North Taranaki Community House Trust, 67 McLean St

### Inglewood:

Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St

### Stratford:

Stratford Knit & Sew, 202 Broadway  
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### Eltham:

Eltham Four Square

### Hawera:

Outside First National, Cnr of Victoria and High Streets  
Outside Nursery Rhyme, 158 High St

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OPINION

# Russian invasion of the Ukraine

The Russian invasion of Ukraine started on February 24 and the military aggression looks likely to continue for a long time yet. Meanwhile, more and more buildings are being targeted with the emphasis on apartment buildings – the homes of civilians. The invasion is less a war and more akin to genocide, as the main aim of Vladimir Putin, Russia's psychopathic leader is the killing of as many Ukrainian people as possible. There have been reports of mass graves, torture victims, summary executions, the rape of women and girls, as well as the bombing of schools, supermarkets, transport stations and hospitals. A while ago it was reported that about 250 children are numbered amongst the dead. One of our former writers Kaumatua Gordon 'Mac' Sole commented: "Putin can be bracketed with Hitler." NATO's leaders are in a quandary. They would like to do more and even involve troops to try to stop the indiscriminate killing and wanton destruction, but are aware that this would risk nuclear war and maybe even spark a third World War. Putin is playing on this fear as he feeds misinformation to his people to enable support amongst Russians of this needless conflict. New Zealand has become involved in a modest way by providing military training and the like. Our country should confine itself to humanitarian relief only from now on, as to continue anything of a military nature is to line us up as a potential target. If Putin wanted to make an example of any nation, it is unlikely to be any possibility such as the United States (which could fight back), but rather a small country - preferably away from the northern hemisphere, where the issue of nuclear fallout is much less

serious. Recall the Chernobyl nuclear plant catastrophe where radioactive fallout caused the deaths of many people in several nearby European nations, as well as Russia. The unfortunate truth is that because of the imbalance of military might, Ukraine is unlikely to win this war and their inspirational leader Volodymyr Zelensky is already explaining that the weapons needed (supplied by other nations) are not keeping up with their military needs. The longer this war continues the more Ukrainians will be killed (as well as young Russian soldiers for that matter) and the more infrastructure and homes destroyed. Eventually, Zelensky will have to consider a conditional surrender, hopefully with considerable input from the United Nations. Looking back in history, Japan surrendered when they lost the war (World War II), but maybe they eventually won the peace (Look at them today). When this terrible war is over, New Zealand and the rest of the world will have a mammoth task to help this wrecked nation where so many people have lost their homes, as well as, in many cases, their lives. Will Putin be ever held legally accountable for his heinous crimes against humanity? Unlikely. It is pity that he will not eventually face judicial account, along with the perpetrators of another needless war, the one in 2003; I refer to Sir (!) Tony Blair and GW Bush for their illegal invasion of Iraq (over non-existent weapons of mass destruction), which has led to the deaths of many people (some estimates number over a million people), including civilians and young service people.

*Rolland McKellar*

# Wishing Ian au revoir as century approaches

*Continued from page 1*

Chris Cathie of the Opunake Golf Club said he remembered Ian as "very

much a gentleman golfer." He was the club's longest serving life member, having received that honour back in 1985.

Arthur Hughson recalled his golfing prowess. "He hit a golf ball and it whistled like a jet engine." Christine Cambie this latest

shift would not be the end of Ian's association with the area. "It's only au revoir, not goodbye."



**Ian Baker surrounded by members of St Paul's co-operating parish in Opunake where Ian has been a regular attendant for many years. Commented Cobus Blom in presenting Ian with a book last Sunday entitled The Spirit of Taranaki "you are such a good example of how to live your life" and added that he was someone to look up to. He referred also to Ian's late wife Netta who also set such an example to others. "Thank you for what you've done." At a special morning tea held in Ian's honour Ian said later that he had enjoyed his time in Opunake which he described as "the best little town in New Zealand."**

## Missing Bulldog



**This is Nina. A two year old female British bulldog missing from Te Kiri since 30/6/22. Please phone Michelle 027 565 9101. Nina is white with a brindle spot over her right eye and spot on bottom.**



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# It is time to demand better water reform

## MAYORS COLUMN

It's time for the community to demand better three waters reform, and reject the Government's one size fits none plan, says South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon.



STDC MAYOR  
PHIL NIXON

The public currently have their one and only opportunity to have their say on the water reforms through the Select Committee process and Mayor Nixon says it's important that they don't miss the opportunity.

Everyone has until July 22 to have their say.

Mayor Nixon says that he and other councillors had been approached by many people unhappy with what was being suggested, now it was time for everyone to take action.

"This is the only chance that you will get to have any say whatsoever on what happens to our district's infrastructure," he says.

"We need to deliver a strong message to the Government that people want a better form of reform that respects

the decades of investment by local communities and enables them to preserve a real say in how their money is spent in future.

"Through Communities 4 Local Democracy He Hapori mō te Manapori we've developed a common-sense model for reform that everyone can get behind and that delivers every outcome sought by the Government," says Mayor Nixon.

"We've worked hard to create a model for reform that will ensure better long term water services for every

community, now it's time for our community to take a few minutes and demand better water reform.

"We're also calling on the Government to ensure that local communities are heard by making sure that the select committee meetings aren't heard solely in Wellington, so when you have the option of speaking in person it's important to take that opportunity."

"If you don't want to see future water services that are 'all pay, no say' this is

your only opportunity to stand up and be counted."

"Every person that doesn't take part in the process will be counted by the government as being in support of this plan."

Submissions are now being accepted on the Water Services Entities Bill at: [https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/53SCFE\\_SCF\\_BILL\\_124081/water-services-entities-bill](https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/53SCFE_SCF_BILL_124081/water-services-entities-bill)

# Drive-in movies and comedy

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First it sends out notifications on Council notices, events and alerts. Secondly it lets you submit reports. So if you see somewhere maintenance is required, graffiti, problems with rubbish needing to be cleaned up or maybe your bin wasn't emptied or anything else, you can report it direct to Council and it will be recorded and the issue attended to. You can take photos and add it

to your report too which is handy, so the person reading the report knows exactly what you are talking about. Download the app from the App Store or Google Play and save places you care about, such as home, work, your holiday home or school. Just search "Antenna."

If you aren't so tech savvy you can of course report all these issues direct to Council on 0800 111 323.

Now on a completely different subject - Events. Recently Drive in Movies were held at Rāwhitiroa Domain in Eltham. The movie was Grease, and in Opunake - Herbie: Fully

Loaded. I hear that these were well supported although the weather did its best to keep people at home. It's so good to be able to have events again after having nothing for so long with Covid keeping us all at home.

Coming up on the 15th is the Comedy Evening at Eltham, with Hawera on Saturday the 16th. I and a couple of other Board members attended the last Comedy Night and really enjoyed it, and we are all looking forward to this one too. The Eltham Lions Club took care of the catering and we felt so

well looked after. I had not laughed so much in a long time which felt great, so I'm looking forward to being entertained again.

School Holidays are here, and so with it the South Taranaki Library Plus Holiday programme. It looks to be an interesting assortment of activities for school age children.

*Karen Cave  
Eltham Kaponga  
Community Board  
Chairperson*

## STDC Annual Plan sees 2.84% average rate increase

The South Taranaki District Council (STDC) has adopted its 2022/23 Annual Plan for the new financial year, approving a 2.84% average rate increase, well below the current rate of inflation (6.9%), and lower than the 4.68% originally projected in its 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

South Taranaki Mayor Phil Nixon says he is very pleased the Council has been able to reduce the projected rate increase, although the effect on individual properties will

vary due to the recent district property revaluation, which saw substantial increases in the value of residential and commercial properties.

"Since its last valuation three years ago, the district has had an average increase in property value of 20.4%. This was largely driven by significant increases in the residential and commercial sectors - while dairy and pastoral properties saw a small decrease."

"If your property's valuation increased more

than the district average increase (20.4%) you will pay more than the 2.84% rate increase. Conversely, if your property's capital value did not increase as much as the district's average movement then your rates will not increase as much as indicated and may even decrease," says Mayor Nixon.

"Our Council is always conscious of the need to

*Continued on page 4*

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# STDC Annual Plan sees 2.84%

Continued from page 4

keep any rate increases to an affordable level, and we were particularly focussed on minimising any impact the new property values may have on ratepayers without compromising future plans or our overall

financial position," he says. Mayor Nixon says the Council's focus for the 2022/23 year continues to be on undertaking activities that encourage sustainable, prosperous and vibrant communities.

"We are doing that with projects such as the district business park, construction

of Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga, development of town centre revitalisation upgrades for Eltham, Waverley, Manaia, Pātea and Ōpunakē, implementation of Council's Environment and Sustainability Strategy and completion of the Nukumaru Station Road extension south of Waverley. At the

same time we are continuing upgrades and improvements to our road, water and wastewater infrastructure."

Other notable projects the Council has planned for 2022/2023 include: building a new reservoir at Waimate West, replacing water pipes in Ohawe, earthquake strengthening and upgrading

the Eltham Town Hall, undertaking water pressure improvements in Pātea, developing a new water bore for Eltham, water plant upgrades in Ōpunakē, tertiary treatment for the Waverley waste water treatment plant, establishment of a business enterprise hub and co-working space and

progressing investigations with Te Korowai o Ngāruahine into the feasibility of new combined multi-purpose facility in Manaia.

# TRC chair and deputy to stand down

The Taranaki Regional Council will have a new chair and deputy chair after this year's local body elections. Chair David MacLeod and Deputy Chair have both announced they will not seek re-election. Both men also represent the South Taranaki constituency, which currently has three councillors. The other councillor is Neil Walker.

The chair and deputy chair of Taranaki Regional Council have announced they will not stand in October's election.

David MacLeod has been on the Council for 22 years, the last 15 as the chair. Michael Joyce has been a councillor for 15 years including three as deputy chair

David MacLeod says he believes the time is right for a changing of the guard at the council.

"I have announced my decision early in the hope it will prompt people across our community to think about whether they have



David Macleod.

the skills, experience or attributes that would add value to the Council. If so, I encourage them to seriously consider putting their name in the hat to become a councillor.

"It does take courage, but I assure you it is rewarding. We need a diverse set of

councillors to make quality decisions.

I am passionate about Taranaki and it has been a privilege to represent the South Taranaki constituency for more than 20 years.

"I felt incredibly lucky and humbled when my fellow councillors supported my

elevation to chair at such a young age back in 2007. It has contributed to my growth as a governor and helped me gain leadership roles with numerous other entities.

"I have been fortunate to be involved with a council that understands what matters, which is 'getting stuff done'. Making decisions on behalf of the community is a balancing act and although we can't always please everyone, we endeavour to make the best decision possible at the time.

"To be successful, the Council must have a reasonable relationship with our community. This can be tested when the Council has to implement change because of policies made in Wellington. We are currently transitioning through such a time, with numerous legislative changes bestowed on us. I'm confident the Council will continue to focus on finding the most pragmatic way forward, while ensuring we push back on 'silly' legislation.

"I would like to thank my fellow councillors for their strong support during my tenure and the management and staff who have largely contributed to a high performing council.

"I must thank former Council chief executive Basil Chamberlain who I worked with for than a decade as chair. Basil is an unsung hero of many things Taranaki and in my

opinion that has not been recognised widely enough.

"I have also enjoyed welcoming Steve Ruru into the chief executive role and am pleased to see the skills and experience he brings, with the many challenges we have before us.

"Taranaki can be proud of our progress. We punch above our weight. I look forward to seeing that continue."



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# Change of site for defibrillator

The Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Events Centre will be getting a defibrillator which will be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Taranaki Coastal Community Board had voted at their May 24 meeting to fund defibrillators to be based on the outside of the CoastalCare building in Opunake and the Yarrows

building in Manaia. At the board's July 5 meeting, board member Liz Sinclair said that after the May 24 meeting she had been contacted by Raewyn Robinson of the St John Taranaki District Committee who told her that St John was donating a defibrillator to CoastalCare.

After this conversation it

was decided to place the defibrillator on the outside of the Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Events Centre building, with the Events Centre being responsible for ongoing maintenance. This defibrillator and the one to go on the Yarrows building are due to be placed later this month.

Next issue of our newspaper is published on Thursday July 28.

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or some other immediate life threatening injury. As well as responding to these calls alongside our local ambulance personnel, we will also respond if the local ambulance crew are busy with other jobs. With ambulances sometimes dispatched from Hawera or New Plymouth it could take a while, and our fire trucks carry defibrillators,



Checking it out - one of the new trash pumps(from left) Beau, Skin and Kane

oxygen and a well-resourced medical kit, with our fire fighters well trained to give medical support.

So, if you've called for medical help and you see a fire truck arrive, we are probably there to help you – come and make yourself known to us.

Currently all paid firefighters are taking industrial action around the country in search of better pay conditions. This does not mean that they will not attend fires or any other emergency; they are still responding to all calls. As we are volunteers, we are not affected or involved, but we fully support them. Rest assured your volunteer fire service personnel from Opunake or the paid fire fighters from New Plymouth will respond as normal.

Congratulations to our three new fire fighters, Leah Scott, Sean Nunes and Steve Kelliher. They have recently completed a seven-day recruit fire fighter course in Rotorua, which you may have seen them training for around the town streets over the past five months. While on the course they are evaluated on what they have learned, as well as given some extra training. These firefighters always come back from these courses with valuable new knowledge for us.

Congratulations also to Jo Pullar, who is a member of our Op-Support team. She has recently returned from Christchurch after attending a two-day Op-Support course, where she learnt about scene lighting, traffic management and much more.

Thankyou to the Toi Foundation, Opunake Lakeside Lions and the Op Shop for their donation, which has allowed us to purchase two new trash pumps. After the Summer floods, we found that our FENZ supplied pump was inadequate for pumping dirty flood waters. These pumps will provide a quick, hassle free way for dispersing water from flooded houses around Opunake.

Ngā mihi  
Andrew Pentelow(CFO)

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## OPUNAKE COPS

Greetings from the Sunshine Coast – Where the Sun is always shining but now often behind the Clouds.... Winter is officially here and with that comes the great migration of farm workers as they all move around the area to their next venture. Unfortunately also at this time of year we receive a spike in reported rural thefts and burglaries. Farm bikes, fuel and tools are all on the rural burglars shopping list at the moment. We continue to preach that the rural community is its own best security. Neighbours need to keep an eye on each other's property. Most of you know the people who frequent your area and the vehicles they drive. If anyone looks out of place please take note of them and their cars as placing someone in the right area at the right time can sometimes be the final nail in the coffin as far as evidence goes to catch them. Please keep in mind that if someone offers to sell something to you at a price that is too good to be true then it most likely is. Don't help these "people" by taking stolen property off their hands. What they give you with one hand they are

## Moving on



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

just as likely to take away with the other. With the onset of the wet weather we are seeing an increased amount of surface water pooling on our roads. I would also stress to all road users, remember to drive to the conditions. We haven't had too many accidents on our roads of late and we would like to keep it that way. Remember to wear your seatbelt. There have been a number of domestic violence incidents attended in our area recently. One thing I continue to stress is that any behaviour that makes someone feel controlled and fearful is never OK. Everyone in a family or in a relationship should feel safe and nurtured. No one should be frightened of their partner

or someone in their family. If you are frightened or fear for your safety, call 111 for immediate help.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the community of my recent appointment to the Taranaki IPT Team based out of New Plymouth. My last day as an Opunake Community Constable is June 30.

It has been nine years since I returned home to Police and according to our station staff list Ernie Gulliver was the last longest serving Opunake Community Constable for 11 years, back in 1973, that's 49 years ago. Lastly I would like to thank Matt for all his assistance since his arrival four years ago. Both he and his understanding wife have embedded themselves and their tribe of five into our community. Look after him guys because he's a "bloody good bugger."

That's about it for now, remember, all information will be treated as anonymous unless requested otherwise and alternatively you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Constable Kylie Brophy

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# RSA secretary and padre steps down

After 25 years as Secretary of the Opunake RSA Geoff Williams is calling it a day. Geoff, who has also doubled as the RSA's padre has been a familiar face at ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day commemorations at Opunake. Before being made secretary of the Opunake RSA in 1997, he had served two years as president from 1994-6. He is also an Anglican minister, so was made padre in 1994, a role he is also stepping down from.

"The hardest have been funerals for service people," says Geoff. "I don't know how many burials I've done since 1994, but there have been quite a few."

Geoff had served in the Royal New Zealand Navy, and is a Korean War veteran. Among the ships he had served on was the HMNZS Kiwi, which was already well known for having sunk a Japanese submarine in World War II. After leaving the navy he shifted to Taranaki. He worked in a number of dairy factories, was active in the New Zealand Dairy Workers Union, and was on the Taranaki Polytechnic Dairy Industry Training Council and the New Zealand Dairy Industry Training Council.



Geoff Williams is calling it a day.

Geoff has been active in Lions, and was a member of the Egmont Plains (now Taranaki Coastal) Community Board, serving two years as deputy chair.

He has led the Remembrance Day services for the last 14 years. Originally these were held at the Opunake Cemetery, but in more recent years they have been held at

the Opunake Library Plus. Last year the Remembrance Day service was followed by a 90<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for Geoff.

"Geoff says one pleasing aspect of local ANZAC and Remembrance Day services has been the contribution made by young people, particularly the high school students who look after the flags.

"I admire those kids from the high school," he says.

He has also enjoyed going to the ANZAC services held at Rahotu School when school reconvenes after ANZAC Day.

"I admire the teachers because they have taught about ANZAC Day and know what it's all about," he says.

This year for the first time the Opunake ANZAC Day service featured the flag of Turkey along with those of Australia and New Zealand. He hopes to follow it up next year with the playing of the Turkish national anthem along with those of Australia and New Zealand.

Also planned for next year is the addition of the flag of the Merchant Navy, something which Geoff says is long overdue, for a service that has failed to get the recognition it deserves.

"Where the hell did they

get the food and ammunition from when they were at Gallipoli?" he says." It was only nine years ago that they got recognition. All they get is one medal, but guys who had not gone overseas still got two.

"My sermon on Sunday is going to be about Jesus walking on the water. They were fishermen. They brought fish over the water so they were merchant seamen, but they were looked on as the scum of the earth."

Another innovation Geoff has been working on for next year's ANZAC Day service is to have records playing which represent each of the services being commemorated.

Maria Brewerton is taking over as Opunake RSA secretary, with Ian Sargent taking over as padre.

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## A safer, quieter Egmont Village on the way

Steps to improve safety and reduce traffic noise on State Highway 3 at Egmont Village will get underway shortly, in response to feedback from the local community.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency says new advanced speed warning signs will soon be erected, alerting motorists to the upcoming reduction in speed limit from 100km/h to 70km/h through the village. The new signs will be

installed approximately 200 metres out from the existing 70km/h signs to the north and south of the village.

At the same time, Waka Kotahi will install new signs near the state highway entrance points to the village advising heavy vehicle drivers not to use their engine brakes.

Director Regional Relationships Linda Stewart says it's great to be able to deliver these improvements

following discussions with members of the local community.

"We've heard the community's concerns and these measures will contribute to a safer and quieter environment for everyone in Egmont Village, including the primary school, residents, businesses and those travelling through the village.

"We are also considering additional safety

improvements along SH3 between New Plymouth and Hāwera, including at Egmont Village, as well as reviewing appropriate speed limits on this and other state highways in the region. This work contributes toward Road to Zero – an Aotearoa New Zealand where no one is killed or seriously injured on our roads."

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# Historic free trade agreement to benefit Taranaki businesses

Our Government has secured a free trade agreement with the European Union – a move that's set to boost our economy, enable New Zealand businesses to grow, and unlock one of the world's biggest markets. The agreement will increase the value of New Zealand's exports to the European Union by up to \$1.8 billion



STEPH LEWIS  
MP FOR WHANGANUI

per year from 2035, and will boost our GDP. This comes on top of our recent \$1 billion United Kingdom free trade agreement, and is fantastic news for businesses here in Taranaki and across the country.

We know that New Zealand products, such as our food and fibre goods, are some of the very best in the world. But Kiwi exporters have had to compete against barriers that other haven't.

Our new agreement now levels the playing field for Kiwi businesses. It delivers tangible gains for exporters into a restrictive agricultural market, cuts costs and red tape for exporters, and creates exciting opportunities within the hugely important market of nearly 450 million high-value consumers.

As well as providing significant opportunities for Taranaki businesses and those across New Zealand to diversify into high-value markets, the agreement cuts red tape for our wine producers, and creates room to grow traditional exports of red meat and dairy.

We've fought hard for our dairy and beef exporters and the deal could deliver up to \$600 million in additional revenue. We've also secured an eight-fold increase in the volume of beef we can export, and we've improved access for our butter and cheese producers, some of which will now be able to trade with the European Union for the first time in many years.

The agreement also provides immediate benefits for other world-class New Zealand

products such as apples, wine, mānuka honey, and more. Total savings on tariffs for exporters will be worth \$110 million annually, with over \$100 million slashed from day one.

The European Union is the largest export market for our kiwifruit growers and this agreement will bring \$37 million in annual tariff savings on kiwifruit exports alone on day one. For fish and seafood exports, annual tariff savings will reach \$20 million.

New Zealand services are also a big winner. By cutting red tape, the deal now improves access into the European Union for the education, engineering and professional services sectors.

We've also made sure

to embed our values around climate change, sustainability and labour standards into the agreement – because in addition to being the best in the world, we need to be the best for the world.

Goods exports have increased every year since we took office, including through the COVID pandemic – from \$53.6 billion in 2017 to over \$63 billion in 2021.

As New Zealand reconnects with the world, our Government will continue to pursue an ambitious trade policy to boost our economy and support Kiwi businesses, like those in Taranaki to succeed overseas.

Steph Lewis  
MP Whanganui

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## Take some of the blames Labour



BARBARA KURIGER MP  
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

"Families on low incomes are doing it tougher than ever before. They can't absorb the rising cost of living, and by the end of the week the food runs out. It's an awful way to live."

KidsCan founder Julie Chapman made this comment in a news story about King Country families in Kāwhia, who are at breaking point, as New Zealand's cost of living crisis bites.

KidsCan is dealing with those at the very heart of New Zealand's current cost of living crisis and her organisation is overwhelmed. Already helping to feed a record 44,000 children via schools and ECE centres, thousands more are on a waitlist.

It is a telling call for help. And it's not the only one. Throughout my electorate, Parliament, and the places I go in between, food and fuel prices are the biggest topics of conversation.

Given what I do, talks quickly turn to another F word — failure.

Failure by the Government to do anything remotely useful to address the crisis we're all living in.

Wages are falling rapidly behind rising interest rates due to the inflation rate, the highest in our history. Businesses are fighting major skill shortages, desperate for workers, and facing increased costs across the board.

Labour has also presided over the single worst yearly increase in rents since records began. The average median rent is now an eye-watering \$540 a week — up \$50 on the previous year — again, the highest ever yearly increase on record.

The Government likes to put all this down to global conditions, to COVID-19, to Russia's invasion of Ukraine and anything else that comes mind, rather than its poor fiscal management.

Statistics NZ's latest figures show food prices are now 6.8% higher than this time last year.

The breakdown is alarming — fruit and vegetables up 10%, meat, poultry and fish up 7%, grocery food prices up 7.4%, ready-to-eat meals up 6% and non-alcoholic beverages up 2.7%

The reality is mothers are eating less so their growing children can eat more; families can't afford speciality foods needed due to allergy/health problems,

and tenants are planting vegetables, if they have a back yard, while trying not to breach tenancy agreements.

Labour puts our astronomical food prices down to decisions made by our supermarket duopoly, while failing miserably to own the starring role it has taken in creating the cost of living catastrophe, in which we are living.

Instead of producing an economic plan to tackle all of the above, the response of late has been to introduce a jobs tax, continue the major restructuring of our health and water systems and announce billions of dollars more in spending.

On June 28, the Commerce (Grocery Sector Covenants) Amendment Bill to stop supermarkets from using covenants in an anti-competitive way was passed. But it will do little to help our current state of affairs.

New Zealanders are struggling, and suffering, under the yoke of this kind of governance.

National has offered several constructive policies and

Continued page 9

## Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country Backing Rural and Provincial New Zealand

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# Take some of the blame Labour

*Continued from page 8*  
 a five-point plan to fight inflation to Labour. That plan is:  
 • to refocus the Reserve Bank on price

stability;  
 • stop adding unnecessary costs to businesses and employers;  
 • reduce the bottlenecks that are holding back growth, including

addressing labour shortages;  
 • restore discipline to Government spending and  
 • inflation-adjust tax brackets to increase Kiwis' disposable incomes.

A National Government would be focused on removing bottlenecks in our economy – improving immigration pathways, eliminating deadweight regulations, and ending

plans for new taxes. But the Government refuses to accept the reality of the economic situation they have created. And for that, they must accept the blame.

*Barbara Kuriger  
 MP Taranaki-King Country  
 Authorised by B Kuriger,  
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 Wellington.*

# Sequestration essential for He Waka Eke Noa

Rewards for sequestration are an essential part of He Waka Eke Noa, National's Agriculture spokesperson Barbara Kuriger and Climate Change spokesperson Scott Simpson say.  
 "National is disappointed

the Commission wants to take sequestration out of He Waka Eke Noa and combine it with biodiversity and other environmental outcomes in a new system," Barbara Kuriger says.  
 "If farmers are going to be

charged for their on-farm emissions they should also be rewarded for on-farm sequestration either through He Waka Eke Noa or the ETS.  
 "The Commission should not over-complicate things.

Its first priority must be emissions."  
 "National is committed to emissions targets and the Government's emissions budgets. Today's advice is another step towards those important goals but it could

go further," Scott Simpson says.  
 "The Commission has correctly recognised farmers need the widest possible range of options to manage their emissions. That offers the best chance to

successfully deliver methane targets.  
 "The Government can make more progress towards emissions targets if it is committed to a principle of rewarding efforts to capture and store carbon."

# Police minister to visit every police district

Police Minister Chris Hipkins is heading out on the beat to visit every police district over the next few months.  
 "I've had briefings from the Police executive, met with the Police Association and now I want to hear from the frontline," Chris Hipkins said.  
 "I am looking forward to hearing from police officers who work day-to-day in our communities. I want to know how I can best support them,

make sure they have the tools they need to do their jobs and the right legislation to tackle crime from both ends.  
 "I'm interested in learning about what works for police, how to best utilise the skills and expertise of other agencies and frontline services and whether there's more I can do to support the good work they are already doing to tackle crime, and prevent it."

This week he will go to Levin, Palmerston North, Whanganui, Ohakune, Tūrangi, Taupō and Rotorua police stations. He is also planning further visits to the Auckland districts and Northland in coming weeks.  
 "I will be joined by the Police Commissioner Andrew Coster, who is also undertaking a programme of regional visits," Chris Hipkins said.



**LEFT:**  
 Mr Hipkins will see many of these as he travels round New Zealand.

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# Sound reasons to buy an electric vehicle

An article offered to the Opunake & Coastal News on electric vehicles by Mike Procter was too long for the space available. It has therefore been rewritten in three parts. This first part covers the Range and Charging of electric vehicles.

Mike Procter has tertiary qualifications in aeronautical engineering and computer science. He managed the maintenance and operation of aircraft in organisations in Europe, Canada and the Middle East before being bitten by the IT bug. Re-starting his career at the bottom of the IT ladder he was initially involved in software development for guided missile systems before taking up a position in Taranaki with an international oil company. He subsequently established a successful IT consultancy with major clients across a range of sectors in both Government and the commercial world.

## Introduction

I have a keen interest in the changing energy scene and the article in the Opunake & Coastal News of 16 June, titled Twenty drawbacks of electric vehicles, draw my attention. After reading the first of the 20 "drawbacks" I had a feeling of déjà vu. As I read on it was as if the article had been written 6 years ago. The same old anti electric vehicle (EV) rhetoric was again being rolled out, without any supporting facts. After reading the article I felt that it was important, for the local readership, to provide some balance to the misinformation it contained.

My interest in EVs started in 2015 after reading an article in the Taranaki Daily News about the experience of Ian Wickham, the owner of the first Tesla in Taranaki. I researched and learnt as much as I could find about all EVs before buying one in 2019. In this article I have set out some facts gained from personal experience of owning an EV and my extensive research. I am

not involved in the motor trade in any way and have no vested interest in whether people buy an EV or not.

One important thing to understand about EVs is that you need a mindset change to fully appreciate what they offer. There are some major differences from petrol/diesel such as charging, driving characteristics, maintenance, etc. In the same way that owning a digital camera is different from a film camera or a mobile phone compared to a landline. The capabilities of those new technologies are considerably more than the one they replaced. It is the same with EVs, you can do things that are inconceivable with a petrol/diesel vehicle.

When you buy your first EV there is a learning curve. The more you can find out beforehand the easier the transition will be. I suggest that the best place to start asking questions is current owners of EVs. Be cautious of going to car dealers and motor mechanics for advice about EVs, most have little knowledge and no interest in them. They see EVs as a threat to their business model, which to some degree they are.

## Range

The most common question I am asked about my EV is; "How far can it go on a full charge?" My response is "about 500km". The distance any vehicle can travel is dependent on many factors, the way it is driven, the type of road, traffic, and weather conditions all have an effect on the range.

Historically range anxiety was a thing with the first generation of EVs such as the Nissan Leaf Gen 1, Renault Twizy, VW E-Golf, Mitsubishi I-Miev, etc. Those cars were designed for city use and not for longer trips.

The cars that have been released over the last 3-4 years have had a dramatic improvement in range. It is common now for EVs to have a range of 350km plus with newer models being over 500km. The owner of a petrol/diesel might rightly say "That's still not much, my car can do 700km on a tank full". That may be true but remember what I said about a mindset change.

Consider the questions: How far do you usually travel in a day? How often do you drive for 700km without stopping for a break?

Battery technology is developing very fast. In April 2022 Mercedes achieved over 1,000km on a charge.

## Charging

The second most common question I am asked is; "How long does it take to charge." That is not so easy to answer because there are many variables and there is not just one answer.

The question should be rephrased to "How long does the driver spend charging the car?" The answer to this is simple, between 10 - 20 seconds. This is because the driver does not need to stand in the cold and wet for 5-10 minutes holding the nozzle before queuing to pay. The car looks after the charging.

As an example, when at home you park the car at the end of the day, plug it in to your mains electric then leave it to charge. Just like plugging your phone or laptop in each day. It really is as simple as that.

All trips within Taranaki can be done by charging at home.

A weekend away to Auckland/Wellington with an EV needs a little bit more thought beforehand. Most modern EVs can do the whole trip on a single charge but if yours can't that's not a problem because you will

stop for a break on the way. You choose somewhere to stop for a drink/meal and plug your car into a nearby fast charger. This will charge while you are having a drink/meal I often get a text message from the charger to say it has finished charging my car before I have even finished my drink/meal. The charger company send you a bill at the end of the month. The next part is in my view one of the best things about an EV. When booking a motel you chose one that has EV charging facilities on-site, usually at no additional cost. You plug in just as you do at home. The concept that you can fill your car with fuel at a motel is another mindset change from petrol/diesel.

When travelling away from Taranaki there is an excellent free app (PlugShare) that shows the location of all chargers in New Zealand.

Most EVs come with a 2kW mobile charger that can be plugged into any standard wall socket. There are also 7kW chargers for residential properties. Farms and business with 3 phase power can have an 11kW or 22kW charger.

Some businesses and other locations provide public chargers free for customers to use, e.g. The Warehouse and Pukeiti in Taranaki. In other main centres I have used free chargers in shopping malls.

Public chargers like those you might have seen on Napier Street in Opunake, Pak-n-Save Hawera or New World in New Plymouth are fast chargers. These are everywhere but not obtrusive like petrol stations. They are mostly operated by ChargeNet, a wholly owned New Zealand company.

Part 2 will cover Driving and Environmental issues of EVs.

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# Giant cancer banner points at fertiliser factory

On Monday Greenpeace members unfurled a, 1500 sq metre banner outside the Kapuni fertiliser factory in South Taranaki.

The banner read Cancer fertiliser - cut synthetic nitrogen. The largest letters are over three stories high. An arrow directed the message at the fertiliser factory stacks..

Greenpeace Senior campaigner Steve Abel said they were at the Kapuni fertiliser factory to name synthetic nitrogen fertiliser as a cancer killer and call on the government to hold the fertiliser industry to account for the human harm they are causing.

“Much of New Zealand’s worst pollution starts right here. Every year around 450 thousand tonnes of synthetic nitrogen is applied to land,



The giant banner near the fertiliser factory.

mostly for intensive dairy. It pollutes rivers and the climate, and it is poisoning the well.

“Synthetic nitrogen fertiliser use leads to contamination of rural people’s drinking water with the nitrate. Scientists

warn that nitrate in drinking water could be causing 100 cases of bowel cancer and 40 deaths each year in New Zealand,” says Abel.

“Groundwater is the drinking source for 40% of New Zealanders. The fertiliser industry is

contaminating that vital supply, rendering rural people’s drinking water undrinkable, risking cancer, and also harm to babies in the womb. The Government needs to step in and stop it.”

“Leachate from synthetic nitrogen fertiliser and millions of litres of cow urine a day is seeping into groundwater drinking supplies - that’s causing worsening nitrate contamination across the country,” says Abel.

“The spike in groundwater nitrate concentrations is attributable to a near seven-fold increase in nitrogen fertiliser use since 1990 and significant intensification of dairying in that time.”

“Despite fine words about Te Mana o te Wai, and about the right of all people to safe drinking water, the Ardern

Government plans to do nothing to stop worsening nitrate contamination caused by the fertiliser and dairy industries.”

“Right now there are decisions being made by politicians around protecting sources of human drinking water. We are calling on Associate Environment Minister Kiritapu Allan and Prime Minister Ardern to act now for the sake of those

rural communities whose health is most at risk. The government must phase out the use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser to ensure healthy water for all.”

The Kapuni fertiliser factory, was built in 1982 and, is owned by Ballance Agri-Nutrients. The banner was removed later that morning and the Greenpeace members trespassed from the site.

## Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



## Herbs that thrive inside over winter

There are plenty of herbs that you can successfully grow indoors on a sunny windowsill. Add that ‘just picked’ taste to your meals by growing herbs indoors.



**Chives**

Chives pack a lot of flavour for their compact size, complementing many dishes of numerous cuisines from breakfast to dinner.

Sun: 4 – 6 hours

Temperature: Average room temperature. Will withstand temperature fluctuation of 13 – 24 degrees.

Soil: All-purpose potting mix

Water: Twice weekly when the soil surface feels dry. The tips of the foliage will turn yellow if the plant is too dry.

**Oregano**

A staple used most frequently in Italian dishes and as a pizza topping.

Sun: 6 – 8 hours

Temperature: Average room temperature. Will withstand

**Parsley.**

temperature fluctuation of 13 – 24 degrees.

Soil: Well-drained, sandy soil mix.

Water: Water when the soil surface feels dry, about once a week. Oregano is susceptible to root rot so do not over water.

**Rosemary**

Rosemary is an easy-to-grow plant with great culinary and ornamental value.

Sun: 6+ hours

Temperature: Average room temperature. Will withstand temperature fluctuation of 7 – 21 degrees in winter.

Soil: Well drained sandy



**Rosemary.**

soil mix

Water: Allow the top 5 – 7cm or so of soil to dry out between waterings, then water thoroughly.

**Thyme**

The intense flavour of thyme complements most meats and works extremely well in crockpot stews or roasts.

Sun: 6+ hours

Temperature: Average room temperature. Will withstand temperature fluctuation of 10 – 24 degrees in winter.

Soil: Well drained sandy soil mix.

Water: Allow the top 2.5cm or so of soil to dry out between waterings, then water thoroughly.

**Parsley**

Parsley adds a light, fresh flavour and burst of colour to many dishes.

Sun: 6+ hours

Temperature: Average room temperature. Will withstand temperature



**Thyme.**

**We look forward to your contributions for our next issue due out on July 28.**

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# Coastal Taranaki School

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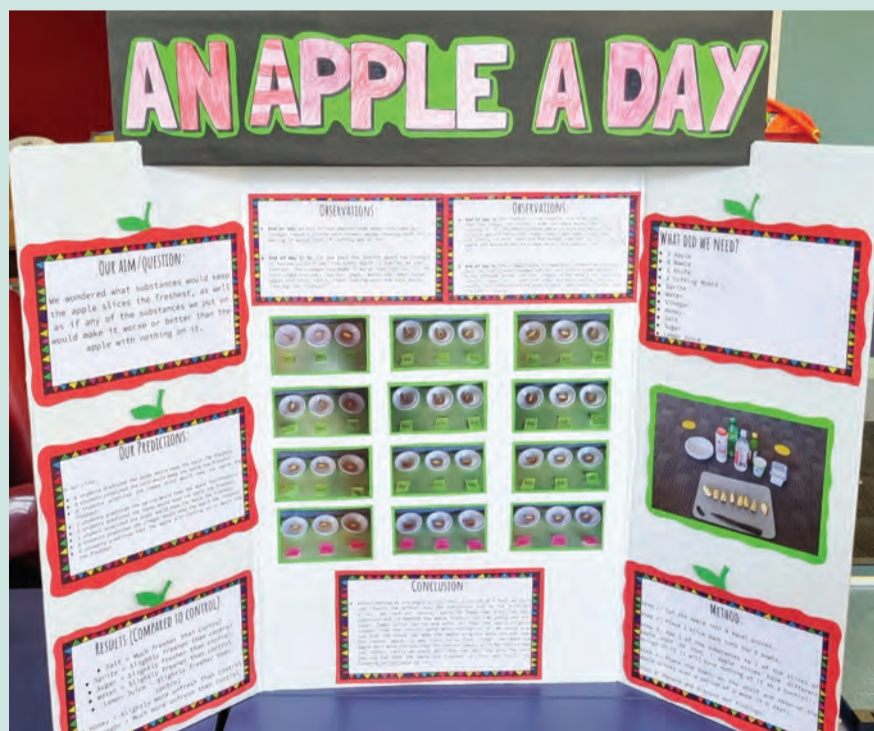
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*Mā te whānau te tamaiti e puawai / Through collaboration, our learners will thrive*

## CTS SCIENCE FAIR

The CTS Science Fair 2022 was open to the public on Wednesday 29th June 4-6pm. The Science Fair portrayed our teaching pedagogy perfectly of Learn (Ako), Create (Hanga) and Share (tohatoha). Students were taught the scientific and/or the design process, they created their own project and then shared it at our Science Fair Event. The Pukeiti team (Years 0-3) presented their Science Fair experiments one per class to give even our youngest students the opportunity to learn about how to undertake a fair test. The Kaitake team (Years 4-6) headed in the direction of the technology design cycle process with Mr Leppard and the Year 6 students learning all about how to create a weta house. Pouakai (Years 7-10) students undertook their science experiments in pairs, mostly. They were looking to enter into the Witt Science and Technology Fair in town. We were fortunate to have five boards ready and with the support of an ex-student, Taylor Koboski, she helped them to finetune their boards even further. Some Pouakai students also entered into the Observational Drawing, Scientific Journalism and Photography sections. Thank you to whānau and the extended CTS school community for supporting your children at the CTS Science Fair open day. It was great to see people gathering again to support the many efforts of ngā ākonga and kaiako.



## SMOKEFREE ROCKQUEST

Coastal Taranaki Schools band HeadCase whose members include Soren Grevers-White, Oliver Foley, Levi Bines and Tipene Bidios (who is currently on Medical Leave) were selected from their 'Heat' at the June 11th Smokefree Rockquest event to compete in the Regional Finals where they must submit a video of another song they have written.

HeadCase under the guidance of Mr Riccitelli have been hard at work finetuning their performance for the final submission, and recently gave a rocking performance at school assembly.

## TECH ON 45

At the beginning of 2022 Coastal Taranaki School became a Technology provider school for Rahunu Primary. This means every fortnight on a Friday Rahunu students from Years 7 & 8 travel to Okato to spend their learning day at Coastal. The students have the opportunity to learn in three contexts of Technology - Foods, Design and Digital and in Science. The programme is divided into two semesters with the first semester concluding at the end of Term 2. This has meant this semester the Year 7's have been learning in Foods and Digital and the Year 8's have been learning in Science and Design Technology. Students in Design have been creative and utilised our school's recently acquired laser cutter and developed their ability in using our wide range of tools. Those in Digital have enjoyed using the EPro 8 kits developing their skills in robotics as well as apps from the google suite. In Science they have been developing safe practices in the Science lab and learning about different states of matter. In Foods the students have been introduced to working safely in the Foods room and to the basics of cooking with a focus this term on sauce making as a basis to an easy meal.

As teachers we have all really enjoyed teaching in this way ie, in a large block of time and as a school we are very excited about developing this new learning partnership with another school in our Coastal community.

## PROJECT BASED LEARNING

### Beekeeping

This year we have started a beekeeping group for our Project Based Learning. We meet every Wednesday for two hours. We started by learning about the different parts of a bee, the different bees, how bees make honey, extracting and processing honey, hive care, bee life cycle, parts of the hive etc... Once we extracted the honey we also learnt how to extract the bees wax. This was then used to make Kawakawa Balm. The group are in the process of making more Kawakawa Balm and bottling honey to sell for fundraising for their school skiing camp. Some of the skills used during this process have been designing a logo for the honey and Kawakawa Balm using Google Drawing. Designing a stand for displaying the product on, which will be cut out using the laser cutter and budgeting using Google Sheets along with working together.

If all goes well we will be placing a hive down at the school farm during the July holidays. As part of Health and Safety we will be attending a training session with the school nurse about how to use the EpiPen in case of an anaphylaxis reaction from a bee sting. A safety lesson will also be undertaken when using the smoker, especially when summer comes and we have fire bans. The students will have access to new beekeeping suits, hive tools and a bee brush. Students also have an opportunity to research an area of interest i.e. hive equipment care.



### Coding Group

For this year's Project Based Learning, the Coding Club decided to create, design and programme their own game.

The team is made up of five students in years 9 and 11.

In year 9, we have Thomas McLellan (character development), Gene Wyniard (creative designer) and Alyssa Rayner (concept art).

And in year 11, we have Soren Grevers-White and Kade Liddall (programmers).

In their words, they are developing...

"An abandoned world ... that you as a person are looking for something.

Is it revenge? Is it a friend?

Or is it just to explore?

Or was it never real to begin with?"

These students have demonstrated their passion for gaming week to week. There was an obvious gravitation towards one another, especially knowing they had creative control over building a game. The hope for these students is to not only develop the skills in programming, but also to obtain the intangible benefits and skills such as working within a team, meeting deadlines, organising and presenting work, effectively communicating with each other, and asserting themselves with industry experts.

We decided to visit EB Games at Centre City in New Plymouth this term. There we met an employee who also attended university and was enrolled in a technology program. She was just as passionate about the gaming world as the Coding Club. The discussions bounced back and forth, which provided more ideas for the group to incorporate into their project.

Terms 3 and 4 should be interesting as they intend to progress further with concept art of the characters and world, and potentially a game simulation which may provide a clear vision and experience of their end game.

Special edition

# Talking Taranaki



## Chairman's chat



This edition of Talking Taranaki is dedicated to *Our Place: Taranaki State of Environment 2022*. The report, released late last month, sets out the current state of our region's air, climate, land and water.

It looks at what is being done to protect and restore the environment as well as what the future holds.

It's fascinating but at times sobering reading. Taranaki can be proud of many aspects of our environment but we have a lot of work to do in other areas, such as freshwater health.

On a positive note, the report contains some great examples of community-led success stories. This is the kind of Taranaki passion and 'can-do' attitude that will help us overcome the challenges ahead.

Some of the key findings are set out below. I encourage you to have a look at the full report – it's written for the everyday person so you don't need to be a scientist to understand it! This is your data, your knowledge. Let's use it to understand the place we call home, to spark conversations and if you haven't already, to take action.

David MacLeod



## Climate and Air



- Taranaki is one of the sunniest and windiest regions in New Zealand.
- Climate change already affects Taranaki. In coming years we can expect more frequent and extreme rainfall events, fewer frost days, increasing drought conditions and milder winters.
- The Council has monitored air quality for more than 25 years at up to 30 sites. Taranaki is one of only two regions in New Zealand not considered at risk of exceeding current national air quality standards.
- The Council supports a Government proposal to introduce even stricter air quality standards to protect our health, which may make compliance more challenging in some places.

## Water



- New freshwater legislation provides for cultural understanding and mātauranga Māori; empowering tangata whenua to be involved in the management and monitoring of freshwater.
- Groundwater is generally suitable for stock drinking water, but often requires treatment where it is used as drinking water for people.
- Demand for surface water for a range of domestic, farming and industrial uses has increased 3% since 2013.
- Between 2015 and 2020, sampling for faecal indicator bacteria found that the health risk was low more than 90% of the time at 19 monitored beaches and 65% of the time at 18 freshwater sites.
- Long-term water quality trends show more beaches improving than deteriorating in terms of bacteria levels, while 63% of freshwater sites were deteriorating.
- Vulnerability to the effects of sedimentation and nutrient enrichment was high or moderate-high in 10 estuaries.

- Over the past five years the Council has helped restore and protect more than 100 wetlands. 8.4% of the region's original wetland habitat remains.
- 45% of native freshwater fish within Taranaki are at risk of decline nationally, work is underway to improve habitat and address barriers to fish passage.



- Possum numbers are still relatively low across the ring plain. However, there has been a gradual increase since 2015.
- 40% of original native forest and bush habitat in Taranaki remains intact, ranging from 55% in the hill country to less than 5% on the ring plain. More than 8% of New Plymouth is covered in indigenous vegetation.

## Land



- The area of land used for dairy farming has increased by 43% over the last 30 years. The number of dairy cows remains similar.
- Soil conservation works over the last 25 years have resulted in a 29% net reduction in mean annual sediment load, with a further 15% reduction expected as existing works mature.
- The amount of solid waste to landfill is currently reducing by about 3% per year.

- An assessment of soil health at 18 active land use sites in 2017 found the majority of soil health indicators were in the target range. Exceedances were typically for high macroporosity levels. This is a result of soil compaction, a common issue throughout New Zealand.

- 1,336 Taranaki sites with a risk of contaminated soil have been inspected. There was no contamination at 56%, low levels at 40%. No known sites present an unacceptable risk to the community. Eighteen sites have been remediated.



- Five rare and threatened native bird species have been reintroduced to Taranaki since 2000: whio, hihi, tieke, pāteke, kōkako.

- Since 2009, Taranaki land owners have planted 46,000 poles to treat erosion-prone land; erected 237km of fencing and planted 894ha in trees along waterways and retired 5,523ha of erosion-prone land.



Intrigued? Want to read more? Download *Our Place: Taranaki State of Environment 2022* from [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz).

To request a free hard copy call 0800 736 222 or email [info@trc.govt.nz](mailto:info@trc.govt.nz). You can also view the report in all the region's libraries.



# OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL

## Celebrating student success

### Principal's Address



**Ka mahuta a Matariki i te pae, ka mahuta ō tatou tūmanako ki te tau**

*When Matariki rises above the horizon, our aspirations rise to the year ahead.*

The aspirations we have for our tamariki is to support them to grow into good people of Aotearoa. To this end, our akōnga have been actively involved in toi maori (maori arts), and kapa haka practice. Our celebration of Puanga was incredibly powerful, with waiata and korero making for a very special dawn ceremony with a massive community turn out.

Our Year 12s have been out in the workplace on work experience week, gaining exposure to career pathways of interest to them. Whilst our Prefects and young kaiarahi (leaders) have been visiting primary schools in the rohe (local area) to build relationships with future students of Te Kura Tuarua o Opunake. We have also managed to raise significant funds for the kura through a fabulously fun bingo night. A huge thank you to all of the community members who turned up and bingo'd, bartered, and benefited our kura with their generosity, and to Chantal Brophy and the Home and School for making this happen.

Our students also prepared a magnificent meal for the Lions club, who we would also like to thank for their ongoing support of Ōpunakē High School

Also a huge shout out to our very own mana wahine: Keesha Craig who has been accepted for a Future Leaders camp in Rarotonga. Whilst our dynamic Lexi McQuaig (Head Girl) has been accepted to Massey University to study a B.Sc Human Nutrition and not forgetting talented Thomas Tito Green (Head Boy) who has been having a korero with the Prime Minister through his role as Youth MP. Cameron Quinnell has also become a local celebrity, gaining a spot on the Under 19 Tall Blacks team.

To ensure we continue to grow our sportsmen and women we have nearly completed our weights and fitness gym room. This will be a place for our tamariki to go and work on their stamina, strength and cardio development. David Hughes has done a brilliant job working in this space.

However, our sports teams and players are already punching about their weight with boys and girls senior basketball, plus boys and girls hockey being undefeated in their leagues. Not to mention Paige Taylor being nominated captain of Taranaki mixed netball, and along with Arna Bright and Beth Cook representing U17s Taranaki Basketball. Alex Moss also in the U15s Taranaki Basketball development team whilst Koby and Jordan Bird-Luke are holding their own in the U15s Whanui Maori Rugby League, with Te Rauna Cassidy-Whaiapu in the equivalent U17s. Ella Griggs, Shinae Minhinnick and Vanessa Shaw have all been selected for the TRFU U18s, with Beth Cook being selected for the U18s TRFU squad. And finally our mana tane; Cayless Rangī, Kymani Parata, Jahrese Tamatea have been chosen for U14s Taranaki Whanui Maori.

So many DREAMS becoming a reality for our tamariki, congratulations to you all.

And so now we can all kick back and relax, enjoy our winter wonderland of Aotearoa. This term has been challenging as the impacts of Covid 19, and Influenza have been relentless. Therefore, I would like to conclude with an enormous thank you to our teachers, support staff, administration team, community volunteers, Soul Kitchen and our students for having the resilience to make it through this difficult time, and still manage to find success, study and smile.

**Andrea Hooper Carr**  
Principal

# PUANGA

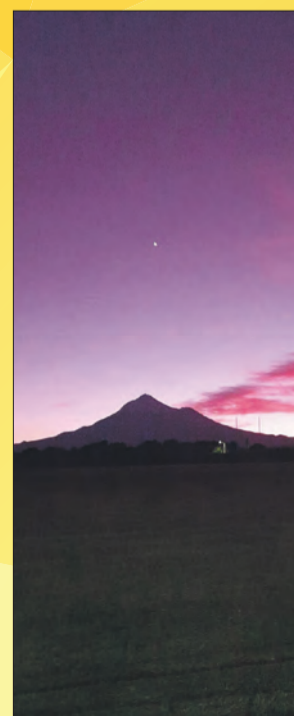
## COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

Puanga (or Matariki) is a time for people to gather, honour the dead, celebrate the present, and make plans for the future. Over the week of our first ever Matariki public holiday, Ōpunakē High School students were involved in a series of workshops in order to prepare for a community celebration later in the week.

The workshops designed by our very own Whaea Kerry Walsh and wonderfully supported by office staff, Te Whare Kura (Māori department) staff and student Kaiarahi (leaders) engaged students through waiata, korero, learning poi dance, and playing traditional games such as horohopu. Each of the hapu planted a rakau (tree) in commemoration of Puanga.

Together with te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tamarongo, over 200 students, staff and community gathered at our kura before dawn to participate in a ceremony (held on the 23rd June) recognising Puanga. Following an emotional morning, everyone had a time of shared kai and of course some warm drinks! Learning for our rangatahi finished early, but not before we were able to head to Everybodys Theatre to take in the brilliant "Whina" film.

A huge thank-you to everyone involved, make sure you circle the calendar for next years event!



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# SPECIAL EDITION

*and kotahitanga*

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## Get on board!

Nominate yourself or someone you know to be a school board member

Our Board of Trustee elections are coming up. For more information, please contact Stephenie Langton in our school office or email: [sl@opunake.school.nz](mailto:sl@opunake.school.nz)



## Congrats Cameron Quinnell

Opunakē High School would like to celebrate with Cameron Quinnell and his whanau on his selection into the New Zealand U19 Tall Blacks Basketball team recently.

Cameron and the team will be travelling to Iran to contest the FIBA U18 Asia Championships.

Well done Cam, an outstanding reward for a ton of mahi!



## Could you support Cam?

Cameron has to raise approximately \$6000 for his trip to the championships in Iran.

If you're a business or an individual who might like to sponsor or support Cameron, could you please contact him at:

[18camqui@opunake.school.nz](mailto:18camqui@opunake.school.nz)

Opunakē High School will be holding some fundraising events for Cameron through-out Term 3 to support his DREAMS.

Opunakē High School  
Te Kura Tuarua o Opunakē

**bring it in!**  
enrolments open now

Hear what Opunakē High School has to offer

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



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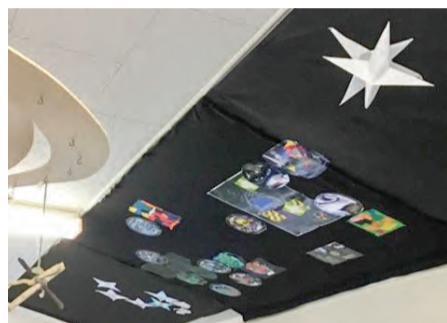


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## Ōpunakē Communities Kindergarten - Ngā mihi o te tau hou



### Our Puanga and Matariki display

pick-ups and enjoying a soup and a korero set the tone and mood for a nice relaxed welcoming learning environment where the Kindy becomes an extension of the home.

We have been learning about Puanga and Matariki together as a collaborative unit, sharing knowledge about their significance and traditions associated with them. We have learned that the whetū rise and can only be seen in the early hours of the morning

at Puanga. We discovered that we all celebrate Puanga and Matariki slightly differently and that is what makes it special and unique for us all. In the lead up to our Matariki Public Holiday we explored the nine stars which make up the cluster of Matariki and the star Puanga. We delved into the significance of each whetu and the tamariki and kaiako had fun creating some artwork to add to our ceiling display as we were inspired by each star. If we were keen to, we made a star for the special people / animals in our lives which had passed away in the past year. Pōhutukawa is known to be and believed by some to be responsible for guiding them to their final resting place at the time of Matariki. This helped us talk about the losses we have had this past year (and earlier) and acknowledge and cherish their significance as we navigate the grieving process.

We have been doing baking too – cheese scones and bread rolls went down a treat with our lovely soups which filled the Kindy with beautiful aromas. Baking is a fun and exciting way to explore numeracy as the tamariki measured out various amounts of ingredients and used their fine motor skills to ensure the ingredients were mixed together correctly to the right consistency. Vegetable soup seemed to be the favourite and perfect afternoon tea as the temperature dropped on some afternoons. It was a good way to warm ourselves from the inside out and have a korero with our friends and peers and share stories.

In addition to the soup, we kept warm sitting around our morning fire in the bottom sandpit. This was super exciting for the tamariki as this was something very different to see and experience at Kindy. Whānau too spent longer times at drop offs sitting around the fire and sharing stories about how they celebrate Puanga and Matariki and what it means for them personally and them as a whānau unit. Having the firepit opened up further conversations where we



Above: Diane, Abbie, Rhea, Elizabeth and Lucas enjoying the fire.

Puanga and Matariki have been a theme for exploration at Kindy for the past month or so. The contributions our whānau have made, have had such an impact on the learning the tamariki and kaiako have been engaged in. It is with whānau participation in the centre sharing their prior knowledge and expertise that the culture of our centre is enhanced. Whānau spending more time at Kindy at drop offs



Israel, Katie and Elliotte help make the stars for Puanga

discussed fire safety and how we conduct ourselves safely in the presence of fire. We also talked about emergencies and how to go to evacuation points if there was ever a fire. It was interesting to find out from the tamariki where the evacuation points were at home. We all know that we get to the playground fence in the case of a fire emergency at Kindy as we have regular drills and practice keeping ourselves and others safe.

We have been celebrating our learning progressions and considering some new challenges to set ourselves. The tamariki are great at supporting themselves with their own goals in addition to supporting others with theirs. Having conversations, the tamariki have often come up with some great suggestions for a new goal for their friends. Setting oneself a goal and working towards achieving it, helps the tamariki realise their value, self-worth and the power of resilience. Perseverance to persist and keep trying in the bid to succeed help the tamariki see that their contributions are valued and respected and that they all have important contributions to make in life as they grow and develop in various areas.



Above left: Bella celebrating achieving her current goal



Above right: Farah organising the seeds ready for sowing and helping Riaan sow them.

We have also been busy planting in the gardens - we planted a tangelo tree as a tradition to mark Puanga and Matariki in Reggie's old enclosure. We said our karakia to thank Papatūānuku for the tree and promote the healthy growth of it. We have also been busy in the gardens making sure our plants are all looked after and in addition sowed some seeds which Farah's whānau donated. Farah's whānau have been bringing in seeds for the last three months to support our exploration of learning about what we should be planting at the various times of the year. This has been really insightful and the tamariki have been able to take some home or plant them around Kindy once they have become seedlings.

We also had Amy (Tui's mum) and Anahera come and share their dancing expertise with us and explore various types of music. The tamariki loved exploring the music with someone new and teach each other's their dance moves in addition to learning some new ones! It was great to see the tamariki showing such confidence as they moved their body expressing themselves with one another.

The four year olds also went and visited Ōpunakē Primary School to explore their Puanga and Matariki display. We were all blown away with the quality and quantity of the work. Miss Ogle's class helped our tamariki by showing them around and pointing out the work which belonged to the tamariki's siblings. We felt really welcomed and we enjoyed exploring what significance Puanga and Matariki had for the tamariki at Opunake Primary School and our community.

Eli (Sebastian's dad) brought in his drum kit on Thursday afternoon (prior to the public holiday) and we ended our Puanga and Matariki celebration week with a jam! Eli played the drums and the tamariki and kaiako had fun expressing themselves through dance as they explored the various beats and rhythms. Some tamariki enjoyed using the rakau alongside the music and chose to contribute in this way. The drums brought the whole Kindy together at the end of the day and week and was the perfect end to a busy enlightening, exciting, exploratory, inviting week for us all. On reflection of the week, the kaiako maintain just how important whānau involvement is and how it impacts how we support all tamariki with their learning and development at Kindy.



Eli playing the drums and the tamariki having a dance to the various beats.

Whānau involvement within the curriculum is always appreciated and valued and Puanga and Matariki has reinforced this. Our learning snapshots, Storypark blogs and whānau being an active part of our curriculum not only celebrate the learning and development of the tamariki but also extend it.



# Taranaki Treasures Bo'ness crockery

Raewyn Cornford of Cecilia's on Tasman is the proud owner of a pair of matching Bo'ness Pottery dogs. She acquired them as the successful bidder at a recent auction in Hawera. "They are in awesome condition given that they are over a hundred years old," explained Raewyn.

After her successful bid the former owner came and spoke to Raewyn and said they had belonged to his mother-in-law. "I was just



loving them. And he was happy. They are in prime condition with no chips, having been well-cared for."

The pottery dogs have come all the way from Borrowstouness (Bo'ness is the common abbreviation) in Scotland. The town and former port still exists, but the pottery factories do not, the last one having closed

**Left: These matching Bo'ness crockery dogs are over a hundred years old.**

in 1958. Bo'ness is situated on the southern shore of the River Forth, ten miles west of Forth Bridge.

At one time there were three pottery factories in Bo'ness, over a span of about 200 years going back to 1784. Apart from the Bo'ness factory the other two companies were called Grangepans and Bridgeness.

The companies thrived for a while, with their heyday in the nineteenth century. All the necessities were present

in the environs, such as a plentiful supply of local clay, coal and salt all necessary in the manufacturing process. A number of Dutch potters also arrived in the town to enhance the trade.

These days antique shops can supply a variety of Bo'ness treasures including mugs, plates, jewellery, vases, candle holders and miniatures houses. The website [www.bonesspottery.co.uk](http://www.bonesspottery.co.uk) is well worth a look.

# Mangatoki WI women are shown how to decorate a Christmas tree by an expert

Our June meeting was held at the home of Karen Joblin, when 15 members attended. We were welcomed by our President Robyn Roberts, who also welcomed Debbie Sheehy, who demonstrated decorating one of Karen's Christmas trees, which was already standing in place. This was done beautifully by Debbie. Following this, she demonstrated the art of bow making for tying on parcels, Christmas trees or to be used as any other decorations. We then tried our hands at bow making with the ribbons we had taken for this purpose, some were successful, others not so much, but we all enjoyed ourselves.



**Karen Joblin and Debbie Sheehan at Karen's home in June.**

After this, we had a lovely potluck finger lunch, the table having been set with a Christmas theme. After lunch, we had a short business meeting, with the minutes and correspondence read by our secretary Helen Whyte. Bev Marx gave a donation to Hospice from the sale of Easter chicks, jams and pickles she had made. After the meeting, Robyn thanked Debbie for the demonstrations and Karen for hosting, presenting them

with a gift. Some members dressed in Christmas attire, necklaces, hats, earrings, etc. and also brought old Christmas ornaments and decorations. The raffle was won by Jenny Brown. The WI photo albums had been updated by Olwyn Duthie and were perused during the meeting.

During the same evening, 15 members, husbands, and partners enjoyed a meal together at Rough Habits, in

Hawera. On July 6, members met at the Touchpoint car park to pool cars and drove to Hawera, where everyone met at the Arabica Café, where we had an enjoyable lunch, 15 members attended. Afterwards, some members did shopping, making use of the time while in Hawera and then members met up at Cinema 2, where a short business meeting was held. Secretary Helen Whyte

read the minutes of the last meeting and read the correspondence. Donations of new tea towels and dish clothes for The Rotokare Wildlife Trust to be brought to the next meeting in August. Volunteers are required for the Cancer Society (who now have an office in Hawera) when fundraising.

After the meeting, 13 members enjoyed the film "Elvis", at the Cinema 2, most departing for home around 4.45pm. A good day out was had by all.

*Lucy Moger  
Mangatoki WI Reporter*

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Matamata to assist him and learn the trade. That was 45 years ago.

After completing his apprenticeship, David and wife Ann bought the business, and today, with the able assistance of their son Ben are still servicing the coast. As winter nears, most peoples' main concerns are methods of staying

warm and dry. Roofs become the number one concern, as are ways to heat the house -be it by solid fuel or gas, all of which require checking and servicing (e.g.chimneys cleaned etc) to ensure maximum performance and safety. Due to the many facets of the trade, ( i.e. plumbing, gasfitting,

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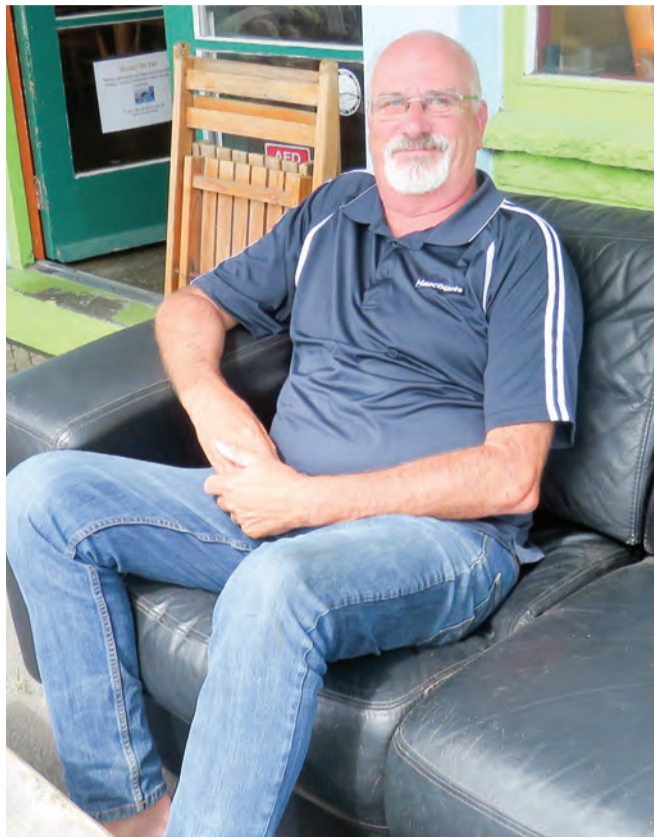
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It's time to **Heat up** your home!

# Heating your rental property

Did you know that the Housing Improvement Regulations Act 1947 states that, Every living room must be fitted with a fireplace and chimney or another approved form of heating

This has been overlooked by many owners and landlords. Some councils may provide information on approved forms of heating. The Tenancy Tribunal may consider that an inexpensive plug in heater is enough but this will not meet the new healthy homes standards (a power point in the living room is not sufficient).

Under the healthy homes regulations, landlords must provide one or more fixed heaters that can directly heat the main living room to a maintained temperature of at least 18 degrees C all year round.



Colin Tyler of Harcourts New Plymouth..

heater is required.

There is an online tool available at [www.tenancy.govt.nz/heating-tool](http://www.tenancy.govt.nz/heating-tool) or use an inspection company experienced in the healthy homes standards.

Some heaters that cannot be used to meet the standards include portable LPG bottle heaters, unflued combustion heaters, open fires, heaters less than 1.5 kilowatts.

There are some exemptions. These include where it is not reasonably practicable to install a qualifying heater, where the rental is a certified passive building and work could cause substantial damage to the property.

For more information regarding the healthy homes standards for your rental property contact Harcourts Rentals New Plymouth

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Winter is just around the corner!  
It's time to **Heat up** your home!

# Keeping home and occupants cosy this winter

Cheaper may not always be best when it comes to heating your home in winter says Trish Anderson of Sinclair Electrical.

"If you are feeling freezing cold with your small heater it's sometimes

worth looking at longer term solutions," she says. "People might ask for something cheaper, but they're still not getting enough heat, so it's a false economy."

Longer term solutions could include getting a



A large range of heaters available at Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration.

is looking sad we can get you a new one, and we can check your electric blanket if you think there's something dodgy."

As well as heating the home, it's a time to think about warming the inner person, and keeping the hunger pangs away with nice hot food.

One thing that's good for cooking large amounts of food is a crock pot. Bigger pieces of meat which can end up tough when roasted in an oven can be nicely tenderised when placed in one of these.

"Rolled roasts can sometimes end up a bit tough in an oven, but they are good for a crock pot," says Trish. "It's a good way of using up any surplus pumpkins and making pumpkin soup."

Winter is also a time for the pie maker and toasted sandwich maker to come into their own.

"The toasted sandwich maker is always good in winter. You can't go past a toasted cheese sandwich followed by a bowl of soup," says Trish.

Insulation programme many homeowners are eligible for 80 per cent grants for ceiling and underfloor insulation.

As well as keeping the house warm it's also important to warm the occupants of the house. Trish points towards the electric blankets.

"If your electric blanket

heat pump, which can be installed in the home, is an economical form of heating says Trish.

Another solution, and one which people may not have thought about is getting a dehumidifier.

"If the house is damp and cold then it's harder to heat," she says. "The dehumidifier is good at taking the moisture out of the air if you have problems with mould or a damp house. It's really beneficial and can

last for years."

Something else people might like to look at is a heat transfer system, which can be installed in the home.

"It can take the heat out of the room where the fire box is roaring and transfers it to other rooms in the house," says Trish.

The basics of staying warm in winter also include insulation and dealing with draughts in the home. Under the EECA Warmer Kiwi Homes



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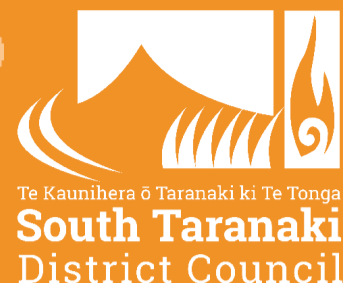
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- Te Tai Tonga (1)

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- Taranaki Coastal (2)

- Eltham-Kaponga (2)

- Pātea (2)

### COMMUNITY BOARDS

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# Is my tractor too small for a slurry tanker?



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New Zealand's arable industry is on the hunt for its 'tall poppies' - not to chop them down but to celebrate their achievements and to inspire others.

"We're a sector that generates \$800 million of sales a year, \$260m of that in exports, and we're determined to better highlight to fellow New Zealanders the role we play," Federated Farmers Arable Industry Chairperson Colin Hurst said.

The innovators and heroes of New Zealand's arable industry will be recognised at an event at Te Pai,

Christchurch, on August 4.

Federated Farmers, the Foundation for Arable Research, United Wheatgrowers and the Grain & Seed Trade Association are working together to make the 2022 New Zealand Arable Awards a showcase of the sector's people and products, recognising, celebrating and rewarding excellence.

"Our industry involves more than \$2 billion in annual direct and indirect spending and 11,310 full-time equivalent jobs," Colin said.

"Not only are we world leaders in seed production - 60% of the world's radish seed, 50% of white clover seed and 40% of global

carrot seed, for example - the maize, feed and grass seed we grow is crucial for the New Zealand dairy and meat producers who drive the lion's share of our export receipts."

Home-grown wheat for bread products assumes even more importance with supply chain disruption and the war in Ukraine, and our thriving brewing industry soaks up our barley, Colin said.

The growing diversity and impact of the arable industry is reflected in the fact that the 2022 awards have been expanded to eight categories, Foundation for Arable Research CEO Alison Stewart said.

"As well as recognising

top maize, cereal and seed growers and a standout agronomist, there are awards for Emerging Talent, Environment & Sustainability, Innovation and an 'Arable Food Champion' award open to both growers and those innovators who turn our seeds and grains into end products that consumers want to snap up."

An overall winner will be chosen from the eight category winners.

"We're building this event up to be a 'must attend' on the arable sector calendar," Alison said. "It's time the arable industry stood up and told the rest of New Zealand just how good we are!"

## Boy racers raise rural concerns

Federated Farmers Taranaki is concerned the increasing illegal congregations of boy-racers in rural areas has heightened the threat of crime to people and livestock.

"Farmers are increasingly frustrated and disappointed by what appears to little or no action taken against the boy-racer behaviour," Federated Farmers Taranaki president Mark Hooper says.

Bylaws prohibiting boy-

racers in urban areas is shifting the issue into rural areas, where the lack of police resource means nothing is done.

The recent sentencing of a local farmer over an incident with boy racers shows the levels of frustration out there, Mark says.

"While we wouldn't recommend any farmer taking matters into their

own hands with unruly individuals and groups, we understand farmers' anxiety about their personal safety, traffic safety, harm and stress to livestock, and damage to property."

"This is an unwanted perverse outcome of government cutbacks.

"The lack of rural policing in this situation is forcing otherwise law-abiding farmers being labelled as 'the bad guy'."

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# End of an era for valuable community earner

Mention casualty or slink calves and for some people it conjures up images of something slimy or unpleasant. For others, picking these up every winter has meant a way their club, group, school or church could raise some extra money while being a valuable team building exercise at the same time.

At this time of year Eric Ardern would normally be organising rosters for casualty calf pick-ups. It is something he has been doing for the Opunake Lions Club every year since 1997, but this year a number of factors including a crash in the market for animal skins brought about by the COVID pandemic has led to the casualty calf collection programme being cancelled.

The Opunake Lions Club has been organising pick-ups for an area stretching from the Oeo Hotel to one supplier north of the Surf Highway-Witiora Road intersection, and the area from the sea to the maunga in between since 1987. Eric, who joined Lions in 1996, took over the co-ordinating job from Doug Coxhead and Eddie Baylis a year later. For the last three or four years Andy Whitehead has been



Eric Ardern at the site where the bins which held the casualty calves were once kept.

organising the northern end of the area.

Eric says he thinks every possible group in the Opunake area has picked up casualty calves in that time. Most farmers have been happy to have their dead calves picked up for them, for which, Eric says, the Lions are very grateful.

"I estimate it's brought \$521,000 into the district

over the time it operated," says Eric.

In its heyday in the 1990s there were 26 groups picking up calves, with \$23,000 being paid out to the different groups in one season. As the number of groups in the area declined, the Lions changed the method of payment to reflect the number of pickups being carried out.

The season typically ran

from mid-July through to October. For most of the time the Lions were selling the skins to the Wallace Group, although for a time Waitoa Tanneries, itself a Wallace Group subsidiary took over. In more recent times the skins have been sold to Taranaki By-products Ltd.

The skins have been used to make high end leather products, and attracted ready

markets in Asia and Europe, particularly Italy.

Eric recalls Alison Stewart of the Wallace group speaking to the Opunake Lions about the range of products the leather was used for, which have included luxury handbags, moccasins, and even biblical parchments.

At one time the Wallace Group was receiving skins from most of the North Island, and in one year wrote out cheques for \$1.3 million. In recent years Taranaki has been the only area still picking up the calves.

The state of the market started looking shaky when COVID meant people in Europe stopped buying and factories producing the leather goods weren't able to operate. Eric says other factors like transport costs may have contributed, but he believes the final nail in the coffin was the fire at the Taranaki By-products plant at Okaiawa around Christmas last year. In February the Lions got an

email saying the scheme would be discontinued.

"It's had its moments, but all in all it's been enjoyable, and I've enjoyed seeing the clubs get the benefits," says Eric. "I want to thank the club for the support the members have given. Despite all the knockers, it's brought in half a million dollars to the local community, and it's been a great service to the farmers to get the dead calves picked up at their gate."

He says farmers will now have to find other ways of dealing with the dead calves.

"What's going to happen now? They have obviously got to be disposed of. I just hope the farmers will do the right thing, although I think the majority will be trying to do the right thing."

He says the casualty calf collection scheme once ended is unlikely to ever come back.

"If the price of skins suddenly shot up to \$10 there might be a revival. If it did I would be back in," he says.

## Market remains largely closed to dairy

The Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) is disappointed that the free trade agreement (FTA) between New Zealand and the European Union leaves the EU market 98.5% closed to key New Zealand dairy products.

"The combination of very small quota volumes relative to the market size and trade restrictive in-quota tariffs has this deal falling well short of being commercially meaningful for the dairy industry," says DCANZ Chairman Malcolm Bailey.

While it can be theoretically claimed that the value of this access grows to \$600m over

seven years, the commercial reality is far less given the remaining trade restrictive in-quota tariffs and quota administration. In-quota tariffs of around NZ\$630 for butter and NZ\$435 for milk powder will constrain competitive opportunities, including versus alternative market opportunities closer to home.

"This is a considerable missed opportunity for the New Zealand economy as a whole when considering that dairy accounts for 28% of NZ exports and has been a pillar of resilience for the economy through COVID".

"Opportunities to reset and upgrade access with

trading partners come along once in a generation. Failure to capitalise on this opportunity, as occurred with the NZ-UK FTA, leaves us poorly placed in this much bigger market for a long, long time".

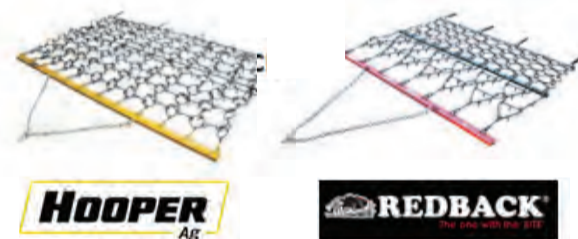
By not doing more to liberalize dairy trade, the deal reached is also a lost opportunity for sustainable food systems. The EU has largely rejected the opportunity to provide its own consumers with access to NZ dairy products that have a considerably lower carbon footprint.

New Zealand dairy farmers will be disappointed that their considerable efforts

in adopting on-farm sustainability practices are not able to gain the extent of market recognition they deserve under this outcome".

The agreement also includes the loss of New Zealand cheesemakers' rights to feta and gruyere. It will also prevent any new business development opportunities for parmesan. This is a significant blow to the many New Zealand feta, gruyere and parmesan cheeses which were celebrated for their quality at the annual champions of cheese dinner.

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# Farming the regenerative way

Farmers may know about the livestock above ground, though many are less familiar with the ones living beneath. These are the organisms like bacteria and fungi which keep the soil healthy.

“There’s a whole farm of livestock underground that many don’t even think about, and they need food, water and air,” Jules Matthews of Integrity Soils told a day-long workshop hosted by Taranaki Regenerative Agriculture at the Normanby Hall on July 2.

Regenerative agriculture works towards the wellbeing and resilience of farming systems, the environment, people and our communities into the future. Working collaboratively with nature, Soil health is foundational and has been a game changer for many, says event organiser Fiona Young.

Jules grew up on a farm near Stratford and now manages a sheep and beef property 10 minutes out of Upper Hutt.

“Like you guys we deal with a lot of wind and rain, and occasionally sunshine,” she said.

Jules said since the advent of industrial-style agriculture in the first half of the 20th century, 40 per cent of nutrients from our foods had been lost. The only thing that had gone up was phosphorus, and this was reflected in increased rates of cancer.

She said nobody had intentionally gone out to destroy the soils they depended on, but a paradigm shift was needed. As an example she cited the words of Henry Ford’s lawyer who said that the horse would always be around, and the automobile was just a



Jules Matthews(left) talks soil. On the right is Cherryle Prew.

passing fad.

There is no set formula as to how regenerative farming should operate, it’s context specific and varies from farmer to farmer. Local initiatives are helping farmers explore regen farming together and realise improvements on their

farms.

“You guys are the experts. You live on the land. Success starts with enabling people, and that’s you!”

Jules said what many farmers saw as problems, that had to be treated every year, were instead symptoms of something not right with the soil. She cited the

example of farmers who had to continually deal with Californian thistles growing on their farm, which usually indicates an issue of compaction.

A farmer also needed to know that that 50ml of rain was getting into the soil, as the soil is the buffer against the next drought.

“Healthy soils are going to hold on to and release nutrients, and hold on to and release water.”

About a hundred people turned up to the meeting. Among these was Auroa farmer Dave Gibson.

“I think it’s the way to go. It just makes sense,” he says. “There’s all this phosphorus in our soils that’s already locked up, so you’ve got to get the soil healthier and nutrients cycling well.” He said that since exploring more biological approaches to farming, he’s had a “few hiccups” before then joining a local regenerative farming group. Now the health of his cows is “way better.”

Cherryle Prew told the meeting that the soil could be seen like a three legged stool, with the three legs being chemistry, physical aspects and biology. All three are interactive and all play their part.

She said a variety of grasses is good for the stock.

“The stock know what plants to eat when they are not feeling well. The more plants you have in there the better chance your cow has of medicating herself,” she said.

Opunake farmers Ken and Rachel Short have been on the same farm for the last 17 years, and had started off farming the conventional way. They had some success doing so, being named Taranaki Share Farmers of the Year in 2013.

“That was when the industry push was to go big, go big, more milk, but that did not click with our values’ Rachel told the meeting. In 2015 they started on their journey to be certified organic, and from there got interested in regenerative farming.

“We used to farm ryegrass and clover, then we got interested in multi-species but we didn’t know where to go.” After a visit to Field Days they sowed a third of their farm in a 15 seed mix.

They now have 27 different plant species on their farm and have noticed the benefits in better water filtration and animal health. Their hedgecutting contractor had even commented on what a pleasure their paddocks are to drive over.

Brooke Laurence, who with husband Matt are dairy farmers at Tikorangi spoke of their experiences with regenerative farming. Like the Shorts they had farmed the conventional way, but felt there was something not right with their farm.

“We knew the urea was not doing our farm any good, and our pH was horrendous,” she said. Since deciding to go the regenerative way, the improvements could be seen in lower empty rates, lower mortality rates, higher quality milk and a huge difference in paddock recovery after disturbance events.

Mark Anderson, a fifth generation South Otago dairy farmer shared that he had been milking 900 cows on 580ha.

“Everything looked good on paper, but when we hit the low payouts and droughts we were not making money.”

He decided to transition his farm and take out the imported supplements, including grain and also changed breeds for dual purpose for meat and milk, along with getting into soil health and adding diversity to his farm taking on a regenerative approach.

Now he’s milking 600 cows once a day.

“We’re doing less, though it’s paying dividends in animal health.”

At one time he had empty rates of up to 25 per cent, now it’s down to 8 per cent.

“If we’re farming regeneratively, we can be the last into the drought and the first out of the drought.”

Community initiatives for farmers will start up again later in September/October.

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**Fifth generation farmer Mark Anderson.**





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Harry Foreman carries the ball against Clifton.

## Season over for Coastal Seniors

Saturday dawned overcast after a week of wet weather and we headed to Tikorangi to play top of the table Clifton who had been putting big scores.

Clifton came out of the blocks hot, and with the Blyde brothers and Matty James running the cutter we were in early trouble being 33-0 down after 20 minutes. Everything was going well for them. Short passes, long passes out the back of the hand, it was impressive stuff, and with the ref just as excited as the Clifton crowd about their skills, he didn't seem to want Coastal to have the ball, and every time we had it, we got pulled for some minor technical infringement, giving them the ball again. Crooked line-out throws too late charges after the whistle by Taranaki reps were fair game, making it hard for us to get momentum.

Then we scored our only two tries of the game, one to a great break to Morne Pistorius and the other to Thomas Kalin off an intercept to make it 33-14 at

the break.

Our line-out and scrum were going well with young hooker Harry Foreman throwing well giving us some time with possession.

In the second half Clifton carried on their dominance and ran away with a 57-14 win, a game we were never winning after our poor start.

We had patches of good pick and go rugby with captain Jeremy Newell and Liam Hurley and Foreman and Chris Gawler all having barging runs along with the rest of the pack.

We are out, now finishing fifth, a disappointing season for us, but reality as we didn't have enough bodies in all grades to make us a serious threat.

Thanks to Trent Oliver, Alan Crowley and Ross Sinclair and Gerard Kalin for coaching and managing the team, and our club physio Amy Honeyfield for helping all grades. She was as busy as anyone along with our biggest helper Harpa Oliver.

Congratulations to Daniel Crowley playing his 50th match, a great team player

and member, the fix up man who played every position in the backline.

I would also like to congratulate Scott Quinnell and Jacob Whittle for playing their first games for the prems in the last couple of weeks. Both have big rugby futures for the club.

We have a lot of work in the off season to bolster numbers in all grades and get us back to where we belong at the top of the Naki club competition, so if your keen to play for Coastal next season don't hesitate to make yourself known to someone. We have a van running from New Plymouth every training and game, and also have numerous rides from South Taranaki.

The under 20s on Saturday showed what the club is about. They were short of numbers and got four boys in from Francis Douglas College and beat the top team in a thrilling match. It just shows what a difference a few more numbers can make.

We thank those guys and all guys and girls who

played for the club this year. It is much appreciated.

It is my personal opinion the TRFU needs to sort out the Under- 20 grade when Coastal is coming up against teams like they did on Saturday with nine dispensation players, and having high numbers of players on their playing roster.

Other teams in that grade are doing the same, and with those clubs having teams in all other grades they should be made to play in another grade..

Lastly Jeremy Newell our skipper is standing down as captain next season after many seasons for the Coast. He is talking retirement but we know he won't leave the club in the lurch.

Thanks Jeremy for everything you've done. For our team and club you set a very high standard.

Your 156 games was a massive achievement and we loved all your work on and off the field.

Bring on next year.  
 Ride the wave!!



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**Shamus says goodbye with a win**

We were in need of a win when we hosted our nearest rivals Southern at Rahotu.

Unfortunately for Southern they had a couple of injuries and with their star prop Michael Bent into the Ireland team to cover a few injuries as well.

It was a good feeling to have a couple of fresh players on the bench and the boys were pretty focused to put in a strong performance for themselves and our supporters and to send off Super star flanker Shamus Hurley-Langton who is heading to Ireland to play professionally for his next chapter of his young rugby career.

Jeremy demanded a big performance from the boys and he got what he asked for.

Backs and forwards were chiming together well and with Morne Pistorious causing havoc out wide Coastal ran in three well worked tries in the first half to lead 19-0 at the break, with a try to Rick McKenna off a great off load from Morne, then other tries to hardworking Alex Kalin and Mark the zoo keeper Martin, we were looking at we could run away with a big win.

After halftime unfortunately we were down to 14 after a unfortunate incident leaving the ref no option but to reduce us a man.

Harry Symes took the field and produced 36 minutes of excellent play scoring two scintillating tries using his



Shamus and his father James with the cup he is donating - 'Cup 200'. He is pictured

Shamus pictured with dad James in our paper 15 years ago with the cup James donated after playing his 200th game for Coastal also playing against Southern on that day.

pace and silky skills. beating the Southern defence on the inside and out after a lot of great phases to make a final score of 31-0.

It was pleasing to keep Southern scoreless and there was a lot of positive play.

For us it was hard to single anyone out as all players deserve a mention, but the one point went to Morne Pistorious, two to Logan Crowley, and Player of the Day to the tireless hardworking abrasive Beni Kalin.

For Southern it was a tough

day out, and like us in the off season after next week's game, it will be working hard to get us into the top four next season.

Shamus' last game for us was like every other game, 100% top effort. He is a great player and guy, and we wish him well for his future, and we all look forward to following him when he plays for Connacht next season in Irelands top league.

Ref Mitch Young controlled the game well and we thank him and all the officials who take their time to make rugby possible

every Saturday.

Henie Fourie is running a hundred club draw for the Coastal Legacy Fund. The winner takes all \$5000. if you require a \$100 ticket don't hesitate to contact Henie 0210381604 and he will secure you a ticket and give you a bank account number to transfer the money to a great cause which will be drawn at the Okato Clubrooms on Friday August 5 at our season's prize giving, so get along, you are most welcome.

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Jacob Whakatutu scores against Clifton playing for Coastal Colts. *Photos by Spinna Photography.*



Jacob Whittle breaks away from Clifton Colts to set up a Try for Jack Fever.



Juan Niwa-Tehuia kicks to win the Coastal Colts game against Clifton 29-27.

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# Trish's first pro fight a close one

In the end it came down to the score cards. In her first professional fight, Opunake boxer Trish Mackenzie had gone the full six rounds against Ayisha Abied. It was the main fight at this year's Coastal Rumble. Both boxers had their moments, probing each other and landing blows where and when they could. Now it was decision time. Ring announcer Sam Bennett announced that "Judge Number One" had awarded the fight 58-56 to the boxer in the red corner (Trish) and "Judge Number Two" had awarded it 58-56 to the boxer in the blue corner (Ayisha). "Judge Number Three" awarded it 58-56 to Ayisha, making Ayisha the winner.

It was Saturday night, July 2, and despite a rugby test being on the same night the Rumble had been a sellout.

"I generally think Trish had done enough to win the fight," said James (Batman) Langton, the driving force behind the Coastal Rumble. "It was a very close fight and could have gone either way. I was very proud and very impressed with the way Trish fought, and she handled herself very professionally in the training



And the winner. Ayisha Abied over Trish Mackenzie.

event."

Ring announcer Sam Bennett, who is also a New Plymouth District Councillor describes himself as a "Coastal boy" who was raised in Rahotu. He has a background in public speaking, and says he has also had a corporate fight. When James Langton rung him up and asked him to be the ring announcer, he was happy to oblige.

"I love coming to do this show. Look at the crowd enjoying themselves. It was a real professional night put on by James and his team, and it was good for the town."

Also at stake that night was the Barbwire Boxing Trophy donated by James, and competed for by boxers from Barbwire Boxing and Clifton Fight and Fitness from Waitara.

James says there had not been an inter-club competition in Taranaki for 25 years, and he hoped that having a trophy that was competed for regularly would change that.

"Twenty-odd years ago

*Continued page 29.*



...and an embrace after a hard fight.



A word of advice from Batman between rounds.

camp and in the after-match function."

James said they had had to shift in 60 extra general admission seats, and they had all been snapped up.

"I really enjoyed the crowd," said James. "I think that having younger fighters brought in a younger crowd, and this brought another dimension to the whole



At the Weigh-in. Layden McDonald and Michael Hardy assess each other...



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...and face each other in the ring.

# Trish's first pro fight a close one



The crowd get into it.



The Coastal Rumble is sold out.

*Continued from page 28.*

there used to be many clubs in Taranaki and they would regularly hold boxing events, but over the years the sport faded away, but now the fight game is making a comeback, and you see a lot more clubs opening up.”

In the first fight of the night, which was also the first of the Coastal versus Clifton match-ups, 17 year-old Troy Davy-Beech had a unanimous decision over his Coastal opponent, 17 year-

old Manase Filihia.

The ledger was 1-1 after the next fight as Bobby Katene won a split decision against Dylan Barham. The fight between Caleb Thomas of Barbwire Boxing and Jono Heaps of Clifton Fight and Fittes was the first of three that night to be stopped by the ref, with Heaps winning. The last of the fights for the Barbwire Trophy saw Toni Tuitupou (BarbWire) take on Connor Perry (Clifton), a battle of two big men with Tuitupou at 110kg and Perry at 107kg. It was a hard fought

match, but the fighters could be seen having a friendly conversation before the result was announced, a split decision in favour of Tuitupou.

In other fights that night, Barbwire Boxing's Natasha Norden squared off against Nikita Mullin who trains out of the Hydra's Club in Eltham, with Nikita winning a unanimous decision.

James McDonald, whose brother Layden was also fighting that night took on Otago law and science student Elias Mataitini,



A win for Barbwire Boxing's Toni Tuitupou over Clifton's Connor Perry.

of the bigger men as 104kg Layden McDonald going into his second corporate fight took on 100kg Michael Hardy. Both fighters came out all guns blazing determined to make a point. There were gasps when it was announced that it was a split decision. The fight was awarded to McDonald.

In the main undercard Delaine Mihaere took on Quinton Wilson, with the ref stopping the fight in the second round in favour of Wilson.

“I felt all the Barbwire fighters handled themselves to a very high standard,”

says James. “A big thanks to the sponsors, as without the sponsors it's hard to get an event off the ground. I want to thank Ange Hapeta who did a great job in helping me organise the event, and to Natasha from the Event Centre for her service over the years. All the fighters gave it their best go. Win or lose, it doesn't matter in a corporate fight. It takes a lot of training and a lot of bravery. Your own mind can play games on you. There's no losers as far as I'm concerned.”



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# Interesting artworks at From out of the Blue

Patrons got a chance to meet with the artist at the opening of an exhibition at From Out of the Blue Studio Gallery in Opunake last Friday July 8.

The exhibiting artist Francis Salole who is based in Paekakariki has also in the last fortnight been selected as a finalist in the Parkin Drawing prize.

It was something of a meeting of minds as patrons enjoyed refreshments and gained some understanding behind the execution of and motivation behind the intriguing works.

Francis creates his original artworks by using his own paintings and reassembling them by

slicing them up and weaving the strips into new works.

Explains Francis: He created 800-1000 paintings a day for a period until he had 100,000 paintings and prints then left then for three years and then "viewed them with fresh eyes" which affected how he assembles them. "Cutting up and rearranging old images encourages fresh vision and creates new narratives," he says.

A video speeded up accompanying the exhibition showed the artist assembling one of the artworks.

One of his works depicts the porthole views when he and his mother and siblings came over to New Zealand by boat.



Viv Davy and Francis Salole with one of the exhibits.

The works also symbolise his weaving together his work as a psychiatric nurse and artist and originally the plan was to raise money for mental health.

Of one of his works he says: "In 9 years working psychiatric nursing, he comments: "I witnessed the strength, resilience, generosity, humour and

creativity of the patients and I wanted to show this to others. I hoped to make familiar that which is often sensationalised and to normalise that which is stigmatised."

Another piece is entitled "Every silver lining has a cloud."

Francis said he believes drawing is the foundation of art and comments "It's a meditative way of feeling in the world."

Francis said he would like to thank Viv for "this beautiful space" which he had heard about via a friend.

Interestingly Viv Davy who owns From out of the Blue Gallery and

Francis attended Ontario College of Art at Ontario, Canada at the same time during the mid 80s though never met. "He was doing painting and I was doing textile design," says Viv.

Originally from England, Francis who was then living in Christchurch joined his father in Ontario where he was living.

Commented Viv, it was "really exciting to have the exhibition at the gallery."

Entitled Blindspot, the exhibition will continue at From Out of The Blue Studio/Gallery in 18 Halse Place, Opunake till August 15.

Do go and have a look.

# Coastal Taranaki School Basketball



The standard of excellence for Coastal Taranaki School basketball is at a new height. Thank you to all students, parents, administrators - special mention to Nicki and Jacky in the office for their admin support and organisation, and staff that supported and helped make this year's basketball programme so special.

Thank you to the dedicated

students that showed up to all the trainings we held in term 1, even when the season was delayed due to Covid.

We held two trainings a week, after school, leading into the season. This prepped the kids with the fundamental skills and rules of the game. The competition eventually kicked off Term 2 and we had 4 teams entered into the Opunake league at the Sinclair's Event Centre.

Years 3-4 Coastal Pukeko, Years 5-6 Coastal Hoppers, Years 7-8 Coastal Shakers and Seniors (Years 9-13) - Coastal Cowboys.

New uniforms for all teams were gratefully provided by funding from FOCTS - Friends of Coastal Taranaki School. We also had a great fundraising drive with the Whittakers chocolate bars, thanks to the families that sold these around the

community. We were lucky enough to receive free tickets to the Taranaki Steelformer Airs home games. Each team had a turn attending the game and this was a great opportunity to get the students excited about playing the sport and showed them the opportunities available in basketball.

We have signed up for the Taranaki Basketball in School Programme which began on June 15 and will go for 6 weeks. The Taranaki

Steelformer Airs help run these sessions. The students were very excited about this opportunity and had a great time at the first session, playing basketball with some of the best players in Taranaki.

We would like to recognise the team coaches, especially Zoe Kensington who has been instrumental in progressing basketball this year. She is the coach of our junior teams and has boundless energy.

Zoe is looking forward to furthering the basketball programme at Coastal in 2023, and hopes that next year we can develop more coaches to participate in the season, for anyone interested in coaching next season we have great resources available to anyone wanting to give it a go.

The 2022 season has been a great success and we are excited to see how the teams go in the upcoming final games.

# Sandfords Manaia Golf results

July 2. Men. 1. Garry Wallis. 2. Greg Elliott. 3. Kevin Murrell. 4. Jim Ngere.  
July 9. Men. 1. Nathan Ngere. 2. Nod Symes. 3. Greg Elliott. 4. Grant Hastie.

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Francis said he would like to thank Viv for "this beautiful space" which he had heard about via a friend.

Interestingly Viv Davy who owns From out of the Blue Gallery and

Francis attended Ontario College of Art at Ontario, Canada at the same time during the mid 80s though never met. "He was doing painting and I was doing textile design," says Viv.

Originally from England, Francis who was then living in Christchurch joined his father in Ontario where he was living.

Commented Viv, it was "really exciting to have the exhibition at the gallery."

Entitled Blindspot, the exhibition will continue at From Out of The Blue Studio/Gallery in 18 Halse Place, Opunake till August 15.

Do go and have a look.

# Coastal Taranaki School Basketball



The standard of excellence for Coastal Taranaki School basketball is at a new height. Thank you to all students, parents, administrators - special mention to Nicki and Jacky in the office for their admin support and organisation, and staff that supported and helped make this year's basketball programme so special.

Thank you to the dedicated

students that showed up to all the trainings we held in term 1, even when the season was delayed due to Covid.

We held two trainings a week, after school, leading into the season. This prepped the kids with the fundamental skills and rules of the game. The competition eventually kicked off Term 2 and we had 4 teams entered into the Opunake league at the Sinclair's Event Centre.

Years 3-4 Coastal Pukeko, Years 5-6 Coastal Hoppers, Years 7-8 Coastal Shakers and Seniors (Years 9-13) - Coastal Cowboys.

New uniforms for all teams were gratefully provided by funding from FOCTS - Friends of Coastal Taranaki School. We also had a great fundraising drive with the Whittakers chocolate bars, thanks to the families that sold these around the

community. We were lucky enough to receive free tickets to the Taranaki Steelformer Airs home games. Each team had a turn attending the game and this was a great opportunity to get the students excited about playing the sport and showed them the opportunities available in basketball.

We have signed up for the Taranaki Basketball in School Programme which began on June 15 and will go for 6 weeks. The Taranaki

Steelformer Airs help run these sessions. The students were very excited about this opportunity and had a great time at the first session, playing basketball with some of the best players in Taranaki.

We would like to recognise the team coaches, especially Zoe Kensington who has been instrumental in progressing basketball this year. She is the coach of our junior teams and has boundless energy.

Zoe is looking forward to furthering the basketball programme at Coastal in 2023, and hopes that next year we can develop more coaches to participate in the season, for anyone interested in coaching next season we have great resources available to anyone wanting to give it a go.

The 2022 season has been a great success and we are excited to see how the teams go in the upcoming final games.

# Sandfords Manaia Golf results

July 2. Men. 1. Garry Wallis. 2. Greg Elliott. 3. Kevin Murrell. 4. Jim Ngere.  
July 9. Men. 1. Nathan Ngere. 2. Nod Symes. 3. Greg Elliott. 4. Grant Hastie.

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The Health Shop Centre City 067587553

# Cup is one of highlights of racing season

Taranaki Racing are gearing up for a massive day on Saturday July 23 with the Powerworx Opunake Cup Raceday at New Plymouth Raceway.

Allan Sharrock his second winner in the prestigious raced after winning it in 2006 with Don't Ya Lovett.

With this being the first major race day since February, all corporates are fully booked and Intertrack Investor Competition with of first prize of \$4000.00 is proving very popular. (Details about this can be found on the Taranaki Racing website).

Club Chief Executive Officer Carey Hobbs commented that, "Although we are clashing with Taranaki Rugby finals day, we are still expecting a large walk in crowd.

Admission is only \$5.00 and the first race is scheduled for 12.30

Having had its first race day for over four months on Friday June 9 after significant track renovations, the club is focussed on making the Saturday race day one of the highlights of the racing season in Taranaki.

The Powerworx Opunake Cup is acknowledged as the leading winter race in the Central Districts and the \$80,000.00 listed feature has had historically many top winter gallopers taste victory.

The likes of Irish Rover, three time winner, Longchamp, twice a winner and New York Minute. Last year Justaskme gave local trainer



Trainer Allan Sharrock (centre) with his brother Bruce and the winner's dress rug for the Listed Powerworx 2021 Opunake Cup (1400m) Picture: Race Images

## The Cat's Mother superb entertainment

The New Plymouth Little Theatre's latest show The Cat's Mother is a superb night out. The play was written by Erica Murray and

directed by Terry Darby and co-directed by Jenny Lawn. The season runs from July 13 to July 23.

It has been described as a dark comedy and is a unique mixture of some serious

subjects and comedy. Don't let the topics of euthanasia and dementia put you off, it is very humorous indeed, as well as also thought-provoking, which I also appreciated.

A highlight of the play is the outstanding acting, notably by the main leads Gillian Gibbons (as Ireland-based Sinead) and Gillian Somers (as London-based Ciara). Much of the play, which is set in London, centres on intricate dialogue between the two sisters as they wrestle with a dilemma, involving their senile mother and also her noisy cat, but humour is always to the fore.

A feature of the play, apart from the richly-constructed set, is the music (mostly Irish) that played at various times as the play progressed.

All the players were well-suited to their parts and contributed significantly to making this a special event. These include: Katherine Paul (as Marge a café assistant), Emma Glucina (as Gemma a personal trainer), Briar Tucker (as Dr Hill), Rhiannon McGrane (as a zookeeper), Stephanie McKellar (as a lawyer) and Chris Morrison (as a spiritual healer).

I don't want to give too much away and spoil the show for those lucky enough to see this entertaining show, but I must mention the scene between Ciara (Gillian Somers) and the spiritual healer (Chris Morrison); I've rarely seen anything so killingly funny as their comically awkward dialogue and mannerisms; my favourite scene in the play.

Make sure you book to experience this this uniquely remarkably show. (See the accompanying advertisement for details).



The Cast of the Cat's Mother.

Opunake Basketball Association Inc



### KIDS CAMP



Saturday 16th July

5-8 years 10.30am-12 noon  
8 years and over 12 noon -1.30pm

WHERE: Sinclair's Event Centre Opunake  
COST: Gold coin donation entry  
Turn up and register on the day

DON'T FORGET A DRINK BOTTLE & BALL IF YOU HAVE ONE

Contact Bryan Roach with any questions phone 027 445 7888

Rolland McKellar

NEW PLYMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS

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A Dark Comedy by Erica Murray  
July 13th - 23rd, 2022  
Directed by Terry Darby

PRIMO  
A community theatre production by special arrangement with Samuel French and New Zealand Play Bureau Ltd

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littletheatre.co.nz

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# OK Boomers to play in Opunake

The OK Boomers formed during the 2020 Covid lockdown, after a bunch of friends began jamming songs over Zoom. The original quartet comprised Bev Tatham on ukulele, mandolin and vocals, Blue Monkey Racket members Nic Boheimer on guitar and vocals, and Andy Bassett on guitar, bass and vocals, and Wellingtonian Bruce Kenyon on ukulele and vocals. However, before their debut gig in September of that year, they expanded to a six-piece, adding Tony Hansen on ukulele, banjo and vocals, and Wayne Morris on drums. A well-



Performing at Everybody's Theatre on 31 July.

saxophonist Peter Hickey. Sadly, founder Bruce Kenyon passed away early in 2022, but the band has carried on in the same spirit with which it began. With songs brought in by every member of the band, The OK Boomers' music is not bound by genre or time: they play folk, blues, Americana, rock, funk and jazz – everything from John Fogerty to Lil Nas X, Herbie Hancock to Tami Neilson.

The 2022 line-up is a five-piece, with Nic taking time out to visit his family in the UK, planning to return to Aotearoa in the spring. Meanwhile, Bev, Andy, Wayne, Tony and Pete look forward to coming to Opunake to perform at Everybody's Theatre on 31 July.

## The Love of the Press

This is a superb exhibition, and I'm really pleased to be able to show it on the Virtual Tart website.. Linda Larsen and georgie raulerson, both of the United States, and the story of the press they've shared. It's a touching story, and has led to a fine exhibition of monoprints. Linda's with added conte

crayon, and georgie's with super - imposed collage. Do have a look, and drop a note to the artists... no matter how good you are, you always appreciate a bit of feedback. Thank you for looking, at [www.tart.co.nz](http://www.tart.co.nz) And, for those who've asked... after six really

productive months, you might have noticed no new work from me recently on my part of the Tart Showcase section... it's because, shock horror, I'm actually clearing a bit of space in my studio.. An enormous task, but I'm winning. Slowly. cheers  
*Dale Copeland*

received set at the arts celebration Arti Gras led to offers of more gigs through to the end of the year and an invitation to play at the 2021

Koru Project festival in New Plymouth. Along the way, the band picked up another Blue Monkey Racket refugee in

## New Frill Back pigeons at Stoney Oaks



Stoney Oaks will be open again daily in July School Holidays 11am to 4pm but check facebook on the day in case circumstances change. NO EFTPOS

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Adults \$12, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$10, Under 4 free

<p><b>TOP GUN MAVERICK</b> Action, Drama   2hrs 11mins   M:Violence Thurs 14th July 7pm</p> <p><b>MY SWEET MONSTER</b> Animated   1hr 38mins   PG:Violence Fri 15th July 1pm, Sun 24th July 1pm</p> <p><b>JURASSIC WORLD: DOMINION</b> Action, Adventure   2hrs 26mins   M:Violence Fri 15th July 7pm</p> <p><b>MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU</b> Adventure, Comedy, Family   1hr 30mins   G Sat 16th July 1pm, Sat 23rd July 1pm</p> <p><b>LIGHTYEAR</b> Animated, family   1hr 33mins   PG Sat 16th July 7pm, Fri 22nd July 1pm</p>	<p><b>ELVIS</b> Drama, Music   2hrs 39mins   M Sun 17th July 1pm</p> <p><b>NUDE TUESDAY</b> Comedy, Drama   1hr 40mins   R16: Sex Sun 17th July 7pm</p> <p><b>THOR: LOVE &amp; THUNDER</b> Adventure, Fantasy   2hrs 13mins   M Thurs 21st July 7pm, Sat 23rd July 7pm</p> <p><b>PRESS PLAY</b> Romance, Musical   1hr 25mins   M Fri 22nd July 7pm, Thurs 28th July 7pm</p> <p><b>WHINA</b> True Story   1hr 52mins   PG Sun 24th July 7pm</p>
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## COASTALCARE

Haumaru ki Tai - Health and Community Centre

COASTALCARE  
AGM and  
STRATEGIC  
PLANNING  
MEETING

TUESDAY 19th JULY  
AT 5.30pm

Please RSVP by 14th July  
for catering purposes:  
Aretha Lemon, Facility Manager  
06 761 8488  
or by email to [info@coastalcare.co.nz](mailto:info@coastalcare.co.nz)

## TOURS & SHOWS

**Hawkes Bay Mid-Winter Getaway. Selling Fast!!!**  
22-25 August 2022 \$1795.00 pp  
Hawke's Bay is known as one of the sunniest places in New Zealand and winter is no exception.

**The Great Southern Rail Trail**  
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**Waiheke Garden Escape Limited Seats available**  
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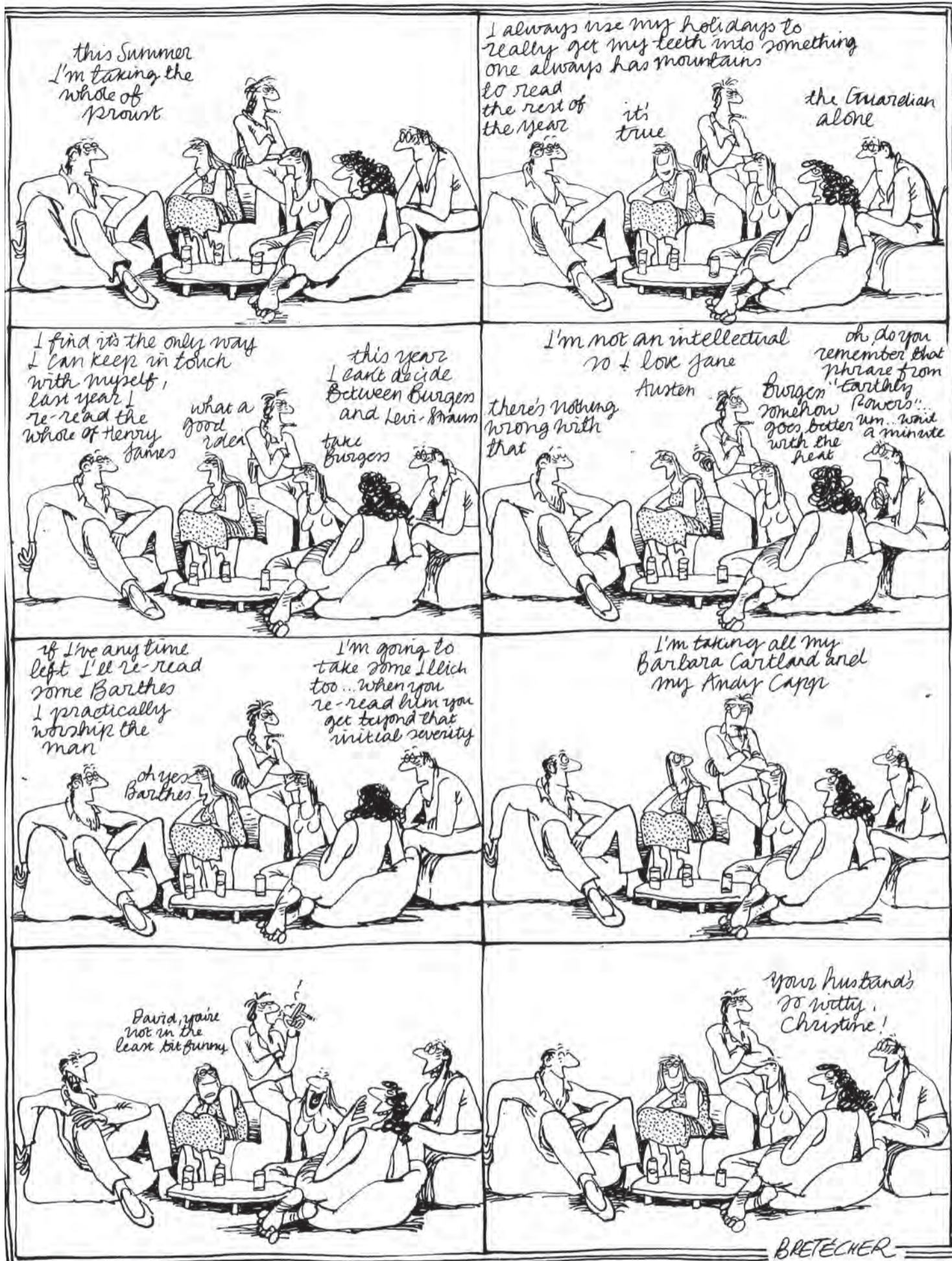
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What's On Listings

COUNTER-CULTURE



ONGOING

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

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

TUESDAYS

**Opunake Walking Group:** Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.

**Life Drawing Group:** Weekly at the Emporium, 86 Tasman St, Opunake 7pm to 9pm. \$10 to pay for the model. If anyone is interested please call Marianne Muggeridge on 06 274 5713.

WEDNESDAYS

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

**Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday:** At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.

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

**Okato Market:** In Hempton Hall, Okato 4.30 to 6.30pm.

**Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus:** Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.

THURSDAYS

**Coastal Young Farmers:** Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.

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

FRIDAYS

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

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

WEEKENDS

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

**JULY 5 - 29 Puanga - Looking Up exhibition:** At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

**JULY 8 - AUGUST 18 Blindspot exhibition:** Woven paintings from Francis Salole. at from out of the blue gallery, Opunake.

**JULY 13 - 23 The Cats Mother:** At New Plymouth little Theatre.

**JULY 16 Opunake Basketball Association kid's Camp:** At Sinclairs Event Centre, Opunake. 10.30am/12pm starts.

**JULY 19 Coastal Taranaki Health Trust AGM:** At the Community Lounge, Coastal Care, Opunake. 5.30pm.

**JULY 23 Powerworx Opunake Cup Day:** At the New Plymouth Raceway. First race 12.30pm.

**JULY 24 Opunake Surf Club AGM:** At the Opunake Bowling Club clubrooms, 11am.

**Cape Egmont Boat Club AGM:** At the Clubrooms, Bayly Rd, 11.30am

**JULY 31 OK Boomers:** At Everybodys Theatre, Opunake.

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To advertise here call us on **06 761 7016**. Next issue out on **June 28**.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**Notice of 2022 Cape Egmont Boat Club AGM**  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July - 11.30 am**  
**At Club Rooms, Bayly Road**  
AGENDA:  
- Apologies  
- Annual Reports  
- Election of Officers  
- Life Membership  
- General Business  
**Followed by a shared lunch**  
**- All Welcome -**  
**Members to bring a plate**

**The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on Thursday July 28.**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**Opunake-Rahotu Veterinary Trust**  
PO Box 117, Opunake - Phone: 021 729 471 - Email: ORVTrust@gmail.com

Applications are now open, but closing soon, for students to apply to the Opunake Rahotu Veterinary Trust for financial assistance. To qualify for this grant you must be studying or in an apprenticeship and have a relationship to the Taranaki Coastal Farming Community (Okato - Kaponga - Oeo)

**SCHOLARSHIPS CLOSING SOON**

Applications close **31st July 2022**



Contact Aretha Lemon, Secretary on 06 761 8488 for an application form

**He Pānui 2022 Trustee Election**

Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust (the Trust) is the PSGE entity established to receive and manage the Treaty settlement assets of Taranaki Iwi. It replaces the former Taranaki Iwi Trust.

The trust is governed by seven trustees who are elected on a rotational basis. Four of the current trustees will retire by rotation later this year. The Trust now invites nominations to fill the four vacancies. The retiring trustees can stand for re-election if they choose.



Nominations must be made on an official nomination form and close at 5pm on Thursday 4 August 2022. Candidates must meet the eligibility criteria set out in rule 2.1 of the Second Schedule of the Trust Charter. Those eligibility criteria are outlined on the nomination form. The Trust will give further notification of the election process after nominations have closed.

**Membership Registration**

The Trust also takes this opportunity to invite all adults of Taranaki Iwi descent who have not already registered, to do so by completing a registration form. Registration forms and nomination papers can be sourced from the following:

Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust office  
1 Young St, New Plymouth  
Ph 06 751 4285  
www.taranakiwi.org.nz

The Returning Officer  
electionz.com Ltd  
PO Box 3138, Christchurch  
Ph 0800 666 035  
iro@electionz.com

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Opunake Co-operating Parish**  
Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday  
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month

**Okato Co-operating Parish**  
Okato, St Paul's - Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10am  
Okato, St Paul's - Prayer Meeting, first Thursday of each month, 7.30pm  
Oakura, St James - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10am  
Oakura, St James - Prayer Meeting, first Wednesday of each month, 7.30pm

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

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**  
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

**The Wave**  
Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake  
Sunday Services 10.30am  
Women's Group 10am Tuesday  
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday  
Come along or contact  
Belinda Philp  
027 935 6191

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**  
141 Tasman St, Opunake  
Sunday Services 10am  
Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday  
Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday  
Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

**Okato Community Church**  
Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.  
Everyone welcome

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23 Napier St, Opunake  
**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**



**Opunake Surf Life Saving AGM**  
Sunday 24 July, 2022  
I am meeting followed by light lunch  
Venue - Opunake Lawn Bowls Club  
Apologies to Trish Rankin  
opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com

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