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Christokindl popular in Okato

There was a huge turnout of people for the Christokindl celebration held at the Stony River Hotel in Okato on Saturday July 13 (11am to 5pm).

The lively event was organised by Heimo and Renate Staudinger as well as Rob Wright and Belinda Lubkoll of Ringcraft Moana, Oakura.

The line of cars stretched for a long way in most directions so it was good that Maori Wardens, Traffic Management Services (TMS) and Okato Lions were on hand to ensure there were no adverse traffic incidents and everyone knew where to go to secure safe parking.

"It's amazing," commented one cheerful Maori Warden. "Everyone has smiles on their faces."

The weather was positive so umbrellas, coats and the like were not needed as people enjoyed the produce, edible and otherwise, as they strolled about. This year there were 32 stalls, with some extending along the grass verge adjacent to Kaihihi Road.

Inside a tasty buffet was on offer with mulled wine a specialty. "Great value for money," commented one man.

Live music was on offer with well-known musicians Aaron Bosch and Bernhard Schmid keeping everyone well entertained, alternately inside and outside. In the



Santa pictured with a lady selling spices.

early afternoon the patrons were entertained by the melodic singing of the Taranaki Harmony Choir.

A special visitor was Santa Claus as he showed great interest in the stalls. "The reindeer don't have their coats on today," he commented as he looked up at the blue sky.

Another special visitor was Bree, who is an entrant in the Miss Five Crowns

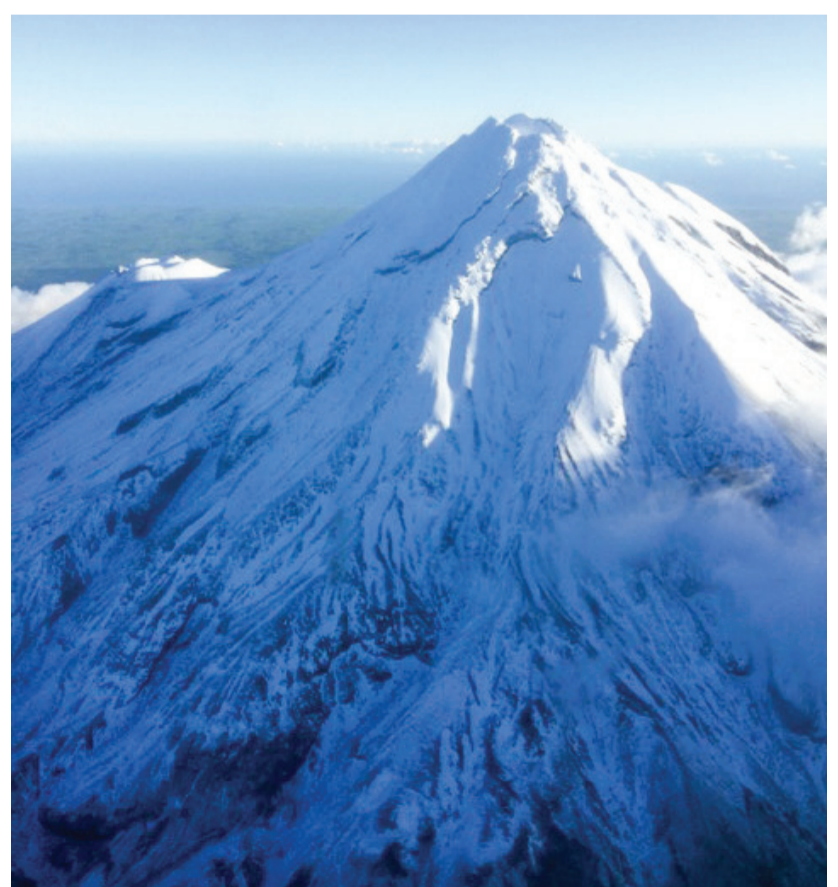
contest. Her stall had lots of delicious food such as mini carrot cakes, scones and mocha muffins. They are raising money for Youthline, the telephone counselling service.

To try and describe what was on offer is tricky because the word 'everything' comes to mind. However, here is a

small selection; children's toys (wooden and fabric), clothing of every description (hats, scarves, jerseys, t-shirts, slippers, shoes, babyware etc), jewellery, purses, bags, watches, sunglasses, plants, pencil cases, soap holders, paintings, photographs, computer mouse pads, wooden signs, cushions

– even dog beds. Edibles on offer included lollies, liquorice, baking, chutney, pickles, gelato ice cream, as well as hot food and drinks.

Hot dogs were very popular. Well done to everyone who took part in this worthwhile event, which was obviously a resounding success.



An aerial view for Jack

Former Opunake resident and local identity Jack Van der Sar was finally able to achieve his 90th Birthday present from his grandchildren, of a helicopter trip. This was taken by Jack's daughter Irene, lucky to be also a passenger, on the 18th June 2019 flight.

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Letters to the Editor

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Scaremongering nothing new

I congratulate the Ardern government for refunding Community Law Centres with a 20% increase last year and ongoing funding over the next four years.

The Opunake and Coastal News (July 4, 2019) published this information alongside the MP for New Plymouth's latest rant decrying various tax increases.

Scare-mongering by the right-wing is nothing new, and I have a pretty good idea just who would benefit the most from the National Party's tax reduction plans. They would be their well-heeled mates in the legal profession, whose services the present Government has made available through the refunding of the Community Law Centres, funding frozen for the last seven years by the National Government. Perhaps the Member for New Plymouth could enlighten us on the reasoning behind this freeze?

While we know he supports debt peonage for students, and prefers not to mention assistance for winter heating

provided by the current government, he takes no responsibility for the poor quality housing he mentions.

As the National Party has spent more time in Government than any other political party during the 20th and 21st Century (since 1949) perhaps it is their poor housing policies mostly to blame?

At a time when society needs to transform itself radically and rapidly in the face of a climate emergency, the Member for New Plymouth should be focussed on his Party's intended response to coming crisis. The political game has changed, and slugging off political opponents is simply no longer good enough.

R. Herdson
Manaiia

Rahotu's artists

Our Coastal towns of Taranaki have always been noted for their sporting and academic achievements. But in recent years it has become a somewhat hidden secret that there's many people, regardless of their ages or genders, have been hiding their real hidden talent by



Letters to the Editor

being extremely good at art in whatever it may be.

So in reading (Daily News June 24) 70-year-old Susie Harrop of Rahotu, who during the time when her and her late husband Jim ran their farm, also taught swimming and bred horses, while Susie raised a family, plus cramming any spare moment into her art, which now she'd converted the cowshed into her new studio and has started to paint.

It now seems that, at the Percy Thomson Gallery in Stratford, Mrs Harrop has her first art exhibition plus with her is fellow artist Michelle Rowlands so I wish both ladies well in their first of many art exhibitions. Maybe they can bring them to New Plymouth in the near future. If there's anyone else who does art let's see it and like Susie Harrop of Rahotu let us the public see it more. Maybe something like this could become a tourist attraction.

Tom Stephens,
New Plymouth

Hawera's new town centre

I am extremely impressed at seeing the artists impression of South Taranaki's new

library, culture, art centre, which is also going to incorporate their new council building, (Taranaki Star, June 13), which in Maori will be called Te Ramanui Ruaputahanga and is now set to be built in Hawera.

It seems the district council is giving \$4.8 dollars then we now see our TSB Community Trust will give \$2.8 million grant, which in total is \$7.6 million while the remaining \$3.2 million is being sought for external funding which then being a grant total of 10.8 million dollars.

Hawera is somehow similar to New Plymouth and Stratford where traditionally buildings were then built in a manner suitable to that era, but times have now changed in our building industry and we are all seeing a more modern style of buildings and complexes being designed to improve the appearance of many cities and towns.

Construction is to begin either later on this year, or early next year, with the completion date by July 2021, maybe sooner, so it will be great to see the finished project.

Tom Stephens,
New Plymouth

ADELPHOS

Bereavement is a type of grief over the loss of a loved person or an animal. However, grief can also be experienced over the loss of an inanimate object such as a house or a car. Or, people can experience grief over a divorce or job loss (disenfranchised grief). I know of a teenager who had severe grief because their cellphone dropped in the toilet and stopped working. The strength of the connection or attachment with the lost person, or animal, will relate to how strongly a bereavement grief is experienced. No two bereavements for an individual are the same and no two people experience the bereavement the same way, because everyone is a unique person (Psalm 139:13-14).

After the death of a loved one it is often a time of shock. Grief often floods over our entire being like a wave that

Losing a Loved One

brings us under. It is important to realise that this is a natural process and the wave will pass over. Let it pass and try to focus on the three essentials of health: good sleep, good nutrition and activity/exercise. Be kind and treat yourself to something special.

Bereavement has been a natural and universal process since time began. However, at times, some people get stuck in complex bereavement because of traumatic deaths such as suicide, murder, sudden death, car accidents and the loss of babies, children and young persons. It is always considered a traumatic loss for children and young people experiencing a close bereavement due to their developmental level. Counselling may help.

Some of you may be aware of the writing of Dr. Elisabeth Kubler Ross, a pioneer in the field of bereavement.

Although many aspects of her writings are helpful, bereavement is no longer thought of as a linear experience of set stages: denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. Bereavement is now seen as much more complex. Rather than being a series of steps to work through, it is more a weaving back and forward and to and fro (vacillating). People working through their bereavement (grief work) are trying to make meaning and sense of their loss. They might ask, "How does this loss fit into my life now?" or "Why did that person die?" or "How do I cope with missing them?"

Death calls us to question our world and spiritual views. Such events are challenging to say the least.

I will give further tips on ways to cope with bereavement in my next article. Arohau

Adelphos

PS. For seventeen years of his mixed career Adelphos earned his bread and butter in his own counselling business and as a high school guidance counsellor counselling approximately 900 bereavement clients. He holds an M.A. in counselling from the University of Auckland and is a member of the NZAC.

Apology

In the last edition of the Opunake & Coastal News in their article entitled A glimpse of life ninety years ago some words were accidentally left off at the end of the article on page 3. It has been corrected in the online version. We apologise for this error.

Also a slightly different version of the tribute to our dear mother Paula McKellar on page 2 is on the on line edition.

Rolland and Bernice McKellar

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EDITORIAL

Well done Black Caps and England

In the end, rules are rules and we must congratulate England, even though the number of boundaries struck deciding the outcome seems a bit strange. However, you can hardly say the Black Caps were bested by England. If New Zealand were not to win the Cricket World Cup trophy, this time, at least a team that has never won it before gets their name inscribed (England). Australia, by contrast, has won the trophy many times.

However, the rules in such a deadlocked situation, obviously need changing. In the final both teams ended up with 241 runs, but England were all out, while the Black Caps had lost only eight wickets. Surely, it would have been logical to have awarded the game to New Zealand (had the rules been more logically derived).

However, there are many positives to be taken from the tournament. The Black Caps have reached the final for the last two World Cups - even Australia haven't managed that. They have also featured positively in one of the greatest cricket games of all time

Furthermore, Captain Kane Williamson has been named Player of the Tournament and had an amazing batting average upwards of 80 (It was 90 at one point). His gentlemanly poise and composure as an outstanding captain have been widely applauded. Kane Williamson, now just 28, has a higher batting average in both test cricket (53.38) and ODIs (47.9) than such greats of the past as Martin Crowe and Glenn Turner. The future for him and the Black Caps under his excellent leadership, must be bright.

On this month in history

Springboks arrive in NZ

On July 19, 1981 the South African rugby team (The Springboks) arrived in New Zealand.

They were scheduled to play 16 matches but two were called off because of protest action.

The game against Waikato was abandoned because protesters had occupied the ground. The game against South Canterbury was also called off for security reasons.

The final game was at Eden Park where a small aeroplane dropped flour bombs, with one hitting All Black prop Gary Knight. The All Blacks won the series two test to one, although overall the Springboks scored more points.

Before the tour All Black captain Graham Mourie of Opunake made himself unavailable for selection because of his moral objection to apartheid.



The historic Methodist Church in Rahotu about to be re-roofed.

Where's the roofing iron

Brazen thieves have stolen thousands of dollars worth of grey corrugated roofing iron from the front lawn of the Methodist Church in Rahotu.

The iron was bought to replace the roof of the 122-year-old church. About a quarter of the iron was stolen overnight on Tuesday July 9.

It is thought the offenders would have needed a trailer,

truck or a van to remove the roofing iron, comments Bryce Allison of the Opunake Police who said each sheet was 3.5 metres long and tricky to hide and transport.

The heartless crime has left the church community devastated.

Volunteers spent hundreds of hours baking cakes and making jams and preserves

for 15 months to raise funds to pay for the new roof.

The church also received donations from parishioners.

There are no tyre marks on the lawn where the iron is stacked. It appears the thieves carried it off the property sheet by sheet.

Anyone with information, or who may have noticed vehicles/trailers parked near the

Rahotu School and toilets, is urged to contact the Opunake Police. Anything reported might help find the culprits. Perhaps some sharp sighted local or someone further afield has noticed some new sheets of iron on someone's roof.

Help us get it back.

Editor

Budget boost for weed control in iconic lakes

Several of New Zealand's iconic lakes are getting a helping hand with a significant funding boost to help tackle the spread of aquatic weeds in the lakes said Land Information Minister, Eugenie Sage in Wanaka.

"With hundreds of thousands of people visiting our major lakes each year, keeping invasive aquatic weed at

bay is essential to ensure they can continue to be enjoyed by generations to come."

"I'm pleased that Budget 2019 has delivered LINZ the first increase to baseline funding in ten years to support its biosecurity and biodiversity programmes," says Eugenie Sage.

\$7.5 million over four years has been set aside to support Land Information New Zealand's work to protect lakes, rivers and lands from invasive weeds and pests.

"The funding will double LINZ's annual spend on tackling the spread of aquatic weeds like lagarosiphon to around \$2 million."

LINZ is responsible for biosecurity at Lakes Wakatipu, Wanaka, Dunstan, Benmore

and Aviemore in the South Island, and several Te Arawa Rotorua lakes and Lake Karapiro in the North Island.

"Helping ensure lakes are healthy not only makes sense for biodiversity but for the economy too."

The money will allow LINZ, working with Boffa Miskell and NIWA, to increase surveillance of lake weed, as well as improve the monitoring and evaluation of control activities such as hessian matting and herbicide spraying.

Visiting Lake Wanaka, Minister Sage heard firsthand about the impact hessian matting has had on weed control.

"I'm pleased that this funding will mean more hessian

matting can be used for weed control in lakes and waterways around the country.

"The funding will also mean increased surveillance for Lake Wakatipu, which couldn't come at a more critical time with lagarosiphon having been removed from this iconic waterway earlier this year.

"Whilst we have seen a strong focus on our land-based pests in recent years, the threats to our aquatic native species, and in fact to people's livelihoods, often go unseen."

"I'm pleased that this Government has been able to provide much needed funding to support LINZ to make a real difference in these important water bodies."

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Parks, walkways a big contributor to high quality of life in New Plymouth District, survey reveals

The majority of New Plymouth District residents are happy with NPDC's parks, green spaces and the Coastal Walkway, according to a new independent survey by the National Research Bureau (NRB). The phone survey of more than 400 residents found 94% were very or fairly satisfied with

the quality of our parks and reserves including the world-class Pukekura Park while 94% were also happy with how easy it is to access the district's natural environment.

That satisfaction with parks and green spaces contributed to some 76% of residents saying the quality of life in the district was very good, well above the national average of 40%.

The District also

scored well on financial management, with 84% of respondents either fairly satisfied or very satisfied with how rates were being invested.

"Our vision is to Build a Lifestyle Capital and this independent data shows we are on the right track to achieving that. Investment in our parks and great community facilities like the Coastal Walkway has been money invested wisely as they are a big part of so many people's daily lives. It's also satisfying to see support for how rates are being used as we manage assets worth \$2.6 billion and a \$155 million annual operating budget," says New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom.

Other key findings of the Communitrak survey by NRB include:

- 89% of residents were satisfied with the district's urban landscapes and streets
- 88% of people who contacted NPDC in the last year were satisfied the help



The NRB survey found that 94% of people were satisfied with the quality of NPDC's award-winning Coastal Walkway.

they received

- 90% were very or fairly satisfied with Puke Ariki's Museum
- 78% were happy with the quality of the district's roads
- 84% were happy with the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre and the

community pools.

Meanwhile, Stats NZ's Wellbeing Statistics for 2018 (<https://www.stats.govt.nz/information-releases/wellbeing-statistics-2018>) show Taranaki had the highest mean overall rating for life satisfaction compared to other regions.

The data also revealed the province had the highest rating for people feeling safe in their neighbourhood and the highest percent rating for residents having enough money to meet everyday needs.

Magic or science Pukeiti has both

The magic of Pukeiti has enchanted thousands of Taranaki people – but it's the science and deep knowledge behind the magic that captivated one recent visitor.

Botanist, leading plant breeder and Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture president Dr Keith Hammett likens a good garden to a symphony, and he found himself in tune with Pukeiti's stewards last week on his first visit for 25 years. "Taranaki should be proud," he says, describing Pukeiti as a true botanic garden with much more value than the seasonal rhododendron displays that are known and loved throughout the region and beyond. As he inspected the garden with Pukeiti staff and Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust members, the experience and expertise behind the



Plant breeder and Royal NZ Institute of Horticulture President Dr Keith Hammett (left) with Pukeiti's Rhododendron's Collection and Project Officer Andrew Brooker at the gardens.

garden was evident. "These people are at the top of their game."

Dr Hammett says Pukeiti stands above most display gardens because of its

continued on page 5.

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Third contender in race to replace Mayor Dunlop

The race to succeed long serving South Taranaki District mayor Ross Dunlop is heating up. Councillor Clem Coxhead is the latest to throw his head into the ring, joining deputy mayor Phil Nixon and Hawera businessman Craig Baylis. After 12 years as mayor, Mr Dunlop is not seeking re-election at this year's local body elections.

Clem Coxhead sees the future of rubbish collection and recycling as among the major issues facing the Council. He says that for the last 20 years, collecting recyclable material has been kept free in the hope of encouraging people to cut down on waste. The result has been a large stockpile



CLEM COXHEAD

of plastic, with China and India no longer interested in taking any from us.

"We have got all this plastic stockpiled and no market for it, so we are going to have to start to make our own decisions. Sometime in the next 10 years we will have to start to charge to have plastic picked up.

"I am proposing that

ratepayers continue to pay for the waste and recycling services that go past the gate each week. I then propose that residents pay for the rubbish and recycling they create and put out each week.

We will have a set charge similar to the current Green waste fee. All rubbish and recycling will be recorded at each pick up with a microchip recording the date and weight. At the end of each year residents will receive an account if over the limit or a rebate off the following years fees if under.

It won't take long for residents to band together and share waste and recycling bins in order to reduce our waste. We may

get to know our neighbours better as well."

Solutions are needed which involved "thinking outside the square," he said.

"I would be very embarrassed as a grandfather to have our grandchildren sort out the mess that we should have fixed up.

"My generation was bought up to use as much fuel as we liked, spray and kill anything and everything, and take whatever pills the doctor said without question," says Clem. "I see the end result of that and I can understand how our young people worry especially when there are still many people of my age who have no desire to pass on a better world for our own

children and grandchildren."

He would also like to see the \$3.75 million the Council subsidises rates from the Long Term Investment Fund reduced to \$2.5 million. The remaining \$1.25 million could be used for one off projects that aren't being done now because money had already been allocated under the 10 Year Plan. He says he would like to see the use of the fund limited to areas of the District that have the same type of need and service, such as toilets, swimming pools libraries and sports fields.

Clem says he wants to see public toilets made more

user-friendly, particularly for older people.

"Our toilets are for citizens, not vandals," he says.

He believes the Hawera Race Course site should be kept as a green site forever, so is against an industrial estate being placed there. The Eltham Landfill site would be better, he says.

"The Eltham site is ready to go and is close to Eltham's industrial centre and the rest of Taranaki. It has sewerage etc already to go and one industry that I have organised to go there will allow us to keep our Landfill consent open."

continued from page 4

Magic or science Pukeiti has both

exhaustive plant cataloguing and publicly available database, and its research and conservation work.

"Conserving native flora is tremendously important and that's happening here. But the conservation of precious exotic plants is equally vital in a global sense, and Pukeiti is playing its part here, too."

Pukeiti plays a key role in New Zealand's part of the global rhodo conservation effort, in conjunction with Massey University, to ensure particular species are

conserved by distributing them among different botanical gardens around the country, according to where conditions suit them best.

Dr Hammett says this is the best approach to conserving a species. "You don't save a species by growing just one example in one place."

Pukeiti is also literally the front line in Restore Kaitake, part of the wider Towards Predator-Free Taranaki project. A virtual barrier of 1300 high-tech traps is strung across the width of

the property so that it and the area below, all the way to the sea, can become a Zero Possum Zone.

Auckland-based Dr Hammett, whose PhD is in plant pathology, is regarded as New Zealand's leading professional breeder of ornamental plants with a particular focus on dahlias, sweet peas and clivias. His dahlias are renowned for their bright, vibrant flowers, dark central discs and dark foliage. They have won international awards.

He spent four days visiting Taranaki gardens and nurseries last week in a visit organised by the Taranaki Rhododendron and Garden Group, whose members he also addressed.

Pukeiti is owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region. It is open daily and entry is free. For details of the garden, see www.pukeiti.nz.

Importance of natural gas

ICCC report confirms importance of natural gas

The importance of natural gas in keeping power prices down and reducing emissions has been confirmed by the Government's Interim Climate Change Committee (ICCC), says the Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ).

"The ICCC's report concludes that moving away from natural gas and to

100% renewable electricity would be enormously costly for New Zealand households and for little environmental gain," says PEPANZ CEO Cameron Madgwick.

"Natural gas supports and enables renewable energy by keeping electricity prices much lower than would otherwise be the case. This is especially important when demand is high and other sources can't keep up.

"A 100% target could

see a 14% increase in retail electricity prices for households, 29% for commercial and 39% for industrial users.

"The report warns that 'increased retail electricity prices will disproportionately impact low-income households, including Māori and Pasifika households.'

"Natural gas can also help lower emissions by

encouraging industrial users to switch away from coal to electricity - a win-win outcome.

"We strongly support the focus on lowering New Zealand's emissions in the least painful way to New Zealanders, and clearly natural gas needs to be a part of the solution."

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Mark Utting on Thursdays for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills, Estates and refinancing matters.

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COASTAL COPS

OPUNAKE COPS

Kia Ora people of South Taranaki, Welcome to another edition. As I sit hear typing away the rain is torrential and there are sporadic bursts of thunder and lighting, a good time to be inside safe and warm. Things have been reasonably steady over the last couple of weeks. Some of you may have seen the article in the Taranaki Daily News where there were 20 sheets of corrugated roofing iron, in the colour of Windsor Grey, taken from front lawn of

the Wesley Church at 5829 South Road, Rahotu. Do you know something about this? The offenders would have needed a trailer, truck or a van to remove this roofing iron. It will be hard to hide as the lengths are nearly 3.5 metres long. We would be very keen to get to find out who has taken this and where is it stored. As I have said before phone the Police on our new number for Non-Emergency matters on 105 or Crime Stoppers on 08000-555111. Crime stoppers is completely anonymous if you are worried about any repercussions from the information you provide. We have been to two vehicle crashes in Opunake and Manaia in the last two weeks. In one crash a motorcyclist has come off his motorcycle

on State Highway 45 while travelling north from Opunake. It would appear that he has consumed an amount of alcohol prior to departing Opunake. He has suffered some reasonably serious injuries as a result of coming off his motorcycle. The Traffic Crash Report states that fatigue, alcohol and possibly drugs may have been a contributing factor to this crash. As I said in the last column Police have a focus on four main contributing factors to crashes. They are safety belts, don't drive impaired, don't use mobile phones while driving, drive at or below the posted speed limits and drive to the conditions in order to stay safe on our roads. I spoke to a lovely elderly lady in the last week. She advised that there

is somebody knocking, banging on her doors and windows in the early morning hours. She asked me what she should do. I said to her phone the Police on 111. This sort of behaviour is not to be tolerated. It designed to frighten and scare people. Please report suspicious or unusual behaviour to the Police. This may be part of a bigger picture and may give us some important information. Some people seem concerned to phone 111 for what they may think are more minor matters. The Police Communications staff are trained to take your information and decide on the best and appropriate course of action to take. Remember if you are unsure then phone 111. You can then let the Police Communications

Centre Call-Taker make the decision as to where to send your call and what priority they will give it in relation to what you are reporting. By the time you read this the Black Caps will be World Cricket Champions! It just shows what self-belief, commitment and drive can do. With that the Rugby World Cup kicks off on the 20th of September 2019. I hope that the All Blacks make the final and win as this would make 2019 a great sporting year for New Zealand. Well that it about it from me. Stay safe and until next time take care. Nga Mihi.

Senior Constable Bryce Allison Opunake Police.

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OPUNAKE FIRE BRIGADE

Recently, a house fire occurred in Taranaki resulting in severe damage to the property. A fire investigator has advised that the fire started from an electric blanket. The occupant of the house reported that she noticed electrical arcing around where the power cord goes into the heat control mechanism. By the time the children were removed from the house the bedroom was in flames which quickly spread to the rest of the house. This presents for us a number of lessons, which we can all use in our own home environments. In respect to electric blankets Fire and Emergency NZ (FENZ) recommend that electric blankets are replaced every 5 years. FENZ also recommend that electric blankets are turned off the moment you get into bed. Electric blankets should never be stored folded, they should be rolled up with care taken not to bend or twist the electrical cords. I checked with our local electrical retailer Sinclair Electrical and they have advised me

that they provide an electric blanket check service for around \$15.00. FENZ recommends that an annual check should be carried out on your electric blanket. During my career I have attended a large number of house fires. One of the best bits of advice I can give, based on my experience, is that if a fire occurs in a bedroom for example, the best thing you can do is shut the door. I never cease to be amazed at how such a simple action like that can significantly reduce the amount of fire damage that occurs to the rest of the house. Some time ago I attended two house fires within a week of each other in the same area with the houses of similar construction. The first fire the occupant of the house closed the door of the room that was on fire, restricting the fire damage to that room only, with the rest of the house suffering minor smoke damage. With the second fire the occupant left all the doors open, including the front door resulting in flames coming out all the windows when we arrived,

totally destroying the house. Back on the local scene the Opunake brigade have had a busy couple of weeks. On Wednesday afternoon July 3 the brigade was called out to assist St John at an incident in Tasman St. Before they could get out the door they were advised that they were not required. Then on Thursday July 4 they were again responded to Gisborne Terrace by the Ambulance crew to provide lifting assistance. Early on Friday morning 5th July the brigade received a call to a fire alarm activation at Everybody's Theatre Tasman St. No cause of the alarm activation could be found so the boys and girls returned to station recording the incident as a false alarm. On the Sunday afternoon of that week the Opunake brigade, along with the Rahotu brigade, attended a motor cycle accident on South Rd Oaonui. The rider of the bike had lost control on a corner resulting in him breaking an ankle. The brigade assisted with first aid until the arrival of the ambulance crew.

On the Saturday just gone the brigade responded to a switch board fire on Beach Road. The occupant of the property had put the fire out using his own fire extinguisher. All that was left for the brigade to do was to check the surrounding area using the thermal imaging camera to ensure the fire had not spread to behind the wall. It is a really good idea to have a small fire extinguisher in your home to deal with small fires. These should be located in an exit way in an easily accessible position. Should you need further advice about fire extinguishers please contact our Chief Craig Dingle. That's all for now. Keep yourself warm and remember to turn off your electric blanket the moment you get into bed

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Victoria University students demand an end of forced swim for laboratory animals

Hundreds of students at Victoria University of Wellington are demanding an end to the Forced Swim Test.

Students from over a dozen clubs, including the Psychology Club, have signed a letter to the Vice-Chancellor and members of the University's Animal Ethics committee urging the institute to end the Forced Swim Test. The test is used as an attempt to mimic depression or hopelessness in humans, which the students say should be ended on ethical, scientific and financial grounds. The test involves placing a small animal such as a rat or mouse into an inescapable beaker of water, where they are forced to swim until they 'give up' and float.

New Zealand Anti-Vivisection Society (NZAVS) Executive Director Tara Jackson says

shock and disappointment have been felt by many students.

"There is deep concern among the student body that such an outdated and irrelevant test is being used at their institute," says Miss Jackson.

"Not only is this test cruel but it does not model human depression. This test is less predictive than chance at determining if a compound would have efficacy in humans. Victoria University is wasting valuable resources, including time and money, each time they approve this test."

The Victoria University Animal Ethics Committee has so far refused to commit to no longer using the Forced Swim Test.

"We must continue encouraging Victoria University to make this commitment and join the global shift away from this cruel and irrelevant

test. Hopefully committee members listen to these many concerned students and reconsider their decision," added Jackson.

The Psychology Club of Victoria University recognises that it's time to get rid of such an outdated test. Hayley is currently a student of psychology at Victoria University, and says she was shocked to learn about the use of the Forced Swim Test.

"I am appalled that this test has passed through the ethics committee and been permitted to go ahead at our institution," says Hayley.

The letter sent to Victoria University affiliates reflects the views of over 1500 students at the University, all supporting an end to the use of this test.

SAFE Head of Campaigns Marianne Macdonald says she is not surprised to see this reaction from students.

"No-one wants to see

animals suffer. These students want to see their institute take a progressive approach and show the rest of Aotearoa and the world that they are capable of evaluating and updating test methods to improve the way they do research," says Ms Macdonald.

"I applaud these students taking action and demanding change at their University. Pharmaceutical companies such as Johnson and Johnson have already committed to no longer using the Forced Swim Test. It's time that Victoria University did the same."

NZAVS and SAFE are encouraging people to send a message to members of the Victoria University Animal Ethics Committee, urging them to reconsider their decision and commit to ending the use of the Forced Swim Test.

Botched mudfish transfer costly

Reports that nearly 1000 native fish have died in a botched transfer project costing ratepayers \$160,000 have horrified Fish & Game. The project that involved the recent transfer of 921 rare black mudfish organised by Carterton District Council, under expert advice provided by Council consultants, has resulted in virtually none surviving.

The wetland site at Daleton Road, Carterton is also used to discharge partially treated wastewater from the District Council Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Fish & Game were perturbed by recent comments from freshwater ecologist Angus McIntosh that were implying that trout could have been

the cause of fish loss. Wellington Fish & Game Manager Phil Teal notes that there are no trout at the site, and the failure was much more likely to be from poor habitat.

"This is a classic diversionary 'red herring' tactic to deflect attention away from a flawed process and mismanagement of an at-risk native species," Mr Teal says.

"Fish & Game have purchased and managed thousands of hectares of wetland, not only for waterfowl habitat, but for native fish habitat.

"We know what the habitat requirements are for native fish, and a Fish & Game senior scientist even advised the project co-ordinators last

year that this project was not advisable, but his concerns were dismissed. Sadly, his predictions were proven correct."

The public should be demanding answers from the Council.

"We are keen to know how this project got the go-ahead, who was responsible for providing management advice and funding approvals.

"An independent inquiry by the Department of Conservation is needed. This must cover the approvals, pre-release assessments, and investigating how the funding for this conservation

project was managed. "If any member of the public had caused the loss of nearly 1000 mudfish, which have been compared by fish experts as rare as Great Spotted Kiwi, then there would be severe consequences. "This is \$160,000 of ratepayers' money that would be much better used on meaningful conservation projects that would benefit all fish habitat."

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The responsibilities of being an MP



JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

Sometimes being an electorate MP is like being a doctor - people often only come to see me when they need help.

An electorate MP has three broad responsibilities: represent the views of the electorate in Parliament, advocate on behalf of groups and individuals, and assist constituents in dealings with government departments.

Assistance is probably the most visible part of my work. Constituents having difficulties with Immigration, ACC, Work and Income, Inland Revenue and Housing New Zealand come to me for help when they've exhausted official channels. Often my team

and I are able to facilitate solutions to problems that in some cases have caused significant distress, and that is truly rewarding.

With the technical developments of recent years it's become easier for Opunake people to contact me online and by email,

rather than waiting for one of my monthly clinics at Coastal Care. This has meant I've been able to try different things, including hosting other MPs and holding morning tea sessions for superannuitants and farmers. I will continue to set aside clinic time in Opunake once a month in addition to other commitments around the coast, but it is important that that time is useful to you, the constituent.

My next clinic is Friday August the 16th at 10am. Please get in touch if you'd like to make an appointment. Or if there's a new enterprise you'd like to show me or somewhere in the community you think I need

to visit. Knowing first-hand what's important to you means I can more effectively represent you in Parliament. And of course, if you are in need of my support to work through an urgent problem with a government department, please don't hesitate to make contact to set up an appointment.

My email is newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz, my phone number is (06) 759 1363.

I'm always keen to hear from you to keep democracy healthy in the New Plymouth electorate.

Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

Volunteers make New Zealand what it is

Last month communities around New Zealand were celebrating National Volunteer Week, acknowledging the contribution of the 1.2 million New Zealanders who give back by giving their time.

This is everything from sports coaches to firefighters, community groups to conservation corps, New Zealand is richer and more connected thanks to our dedicated army of volunteers.

Here in Taranaki, we know the value that volunteers bring to our community, volunteering for organisations such as the Opunake Surf Life Saving Club who do amazing work keeping the beach safe for us the public. Te Kiri Women's Institute provide friendship and fun for their members as well as supporting the wider community through the fundraising work they

do. Then we have Coastal Rugby who have tireless and committed volunteers who keep the club's wheels turning and rugby alive and available for school children through to seniors.

Some of the most valuable work in our communities is done by volunteers and our communities are the better for this. Whether it's supporting a local society or sports club, in a marae kitchen, or for a school in your community, giving of your own time is about manaakitanga, which is something that New Zealand as a nation, does best.

Volunteering is great for the community, and it's great for volunteers, too. Volunteering helps us connect with people, and it can be incredibly rewarding. I know personally how rewarding this is when I was the local coordinator for Clean Up New Zealand.

It was wonderful meeting people from around my neighbourhood, connecting with them and working on a common cause. Not to mention the exercise and fresh air I got from being outside. But the best part was the satisfaction when we finished the clean up and could see our achievements together as a community.

We rely on people giving their time for things they are passionate about - especially in areas like conservation. That's why the Wellbeing Budget is committing funding to better look after conservation volunteers and make sure they're safe and secure in their work.

The Government is also investing in digital literacy training for seniors. This will be delivered by community organisations through a network of volunteer tutors and administrators. It will help seniors stay

connected to each other and navigate services as things increasingly move online. This kind of volunteer work makes a real difference in people's lives, and will help many thousands of people.

Recently Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern spoke to a group of volunteers and said: "Volunteers make New Zealand what it is, just through their generosity. If you are one of those volunteers, you have my thanks and my admiration."

To all volunteers in Taranaki, kia ora and keep doing what you're doing. Thank you for making New Zealand a better place through your efforts.

Glen Bennett New Plymouth Labour Committee Spokesperson

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Coastal Singers get funding

For 34 years the Coastal Singers were an Opunake icon. The popular singing group was founded by Gabrielle Barr in 1983 and entertained at festivals and events around Taranaki until dwindling numbers forced their group to disband. Two years after they sung their last note another step has been taken to ensure their contribution will not be forgotten in the town where they were based.

The Egmont Plains Community Board took only a few minutes to grant the entire \$1500 the Coastal Singers were asking for to place a concrete sofa overlooking the Opunake



Melanie Brown with the plaque which will go on Opunake's next mosaic sofa.

Lake. This would pay tribute to the Singers and their contribution to music on the coast.

Their application for funding said work is due to begin in November, and be completed in January.

This will be the third mosaic sofa to be placed in Opunake. The first was placed by Debbie Campbell and Robyn Chard in a Napier Street spot overlooking the Tasman Sea in time for the 2016 Garden Festival season. This was followed by a second one with a harakeke (flax) theme. Melanie Brown who has been treasurer and historian for the Coastal Singers arrived at the Community Board meeting with the plaque planned for the sofa, and prepared to put forward her group's case for funding. She left with a promise from the board to fund the full amount asked for.



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Kiwi aid worker saves lives

Kiwi Aid Worker acts to save lives as monsoon rains displace thousands of Rohingya refugees.

A New Zealand Aid Worker is responding to the needs of thousands of vulnerable Rohingya refugees, as heavy rains and winds pummel the world's largest refugee camp. Nearly one million Rohingya refugees live in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, having fled extreme violence and apartheid-like conditions in Myanmar. Since the beginning of July, heavy monsoon rains have battered refugee settlements, washing away the shelters of over 4,000 men, women, and children, and causing at least two fatalities. "The rain has been very

heavy and continuous for the past 10 days," said Carl Adams, a New Zealand aid worker who leads a team of humanitarian workers in Cox's Bazar. "There have been landslides throughout the camp, and thousands relocated so far due to their houses being destroyed or in areas with imminent risk of flooding or landslides."

With the support of Tearfund, Carl and his team are delivering life-saving health and nutrition services to more than 14,000 Rohingya refugees. This work has been made possible thanks to generous donations from the New Zealand public and funding from the New Zealand Aid Programme. Now, as camp conditions deteriorate rapidly during

the monsoon season, Carl and his team are providing extra assistance to people threatened by high winds, floods, and landslides.

"We are now also distributing emergency shelter kits to families whose shelters are in need of urgent repairs. Our clinics are preparing for the increase of waterborne diseases that usually increase when people are in contact with water that can easily become contaminated in such a densely populated camp.

Parts of the camp are knee-deep in mud and water. People are doing their best to get by, though the rains have made a bad situation even worse."

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on Aug 1



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NEWS

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Mac Sole: Episode 9



My friend, Ronald Hugh Morrieson

The man I want to make comment of next may be the last of my memoirs of people in extended form – his name Ronald Hugh Morrieson.

Ron was not well thought of with the fake intelligensia of Hawera and surrounds because, in their minds, he was a drinker and a womaniser. Ron did have tendencies in that direction, but most of his critics need only to gaze in a mirror to see an equal. Ron, I'm very proud to say, was a good mate of mine and on occasions when he and I over-celebrated and I was in the grip of John Barleycorn at Ron's home, which he shared with this mother and aunt, I would stay the night so not to drive home. The house was situated on the land now occupied by KFC on South Road.

Ron not only had music (piano and guitar) teaching skills, but was an author of note. His books were made into movies. Two of the most well-known were 'Came A Hot Friday' and 'The Scarecrow'. A restaurant in Victoria Street was named after him 'Morrieson's Café Bar'.

Also, Hawera has every

year a competition called the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards. Ron once jokingly said to me he will not be famous till dead; how

true that has turned out.

A man who works with the Opunake and Coastal News Rolland McKellar has written a book draft of

Ron's life and came to my home and took photos of me with Sharna-Lee on my knee, which will feature in the pages of my association with Ron. I'm so very happy for Sharna-Lee.

Finally, there are so many incidents concerning Ron and I would take half a book to relate them, but let's just say we travelled the roads Opunake to Patea to Tariki socialising. Ron, Rest in Peace.

Mac Sole

At Tawhiti Museum are two novels ('The Scarecrow' and 'Came A Hot Friday') with a personal written message by Ron Morrieson to Mac (and his wife of the time Diana). One inscription refers to him as 'Mac' and interestingly the other to 'Gordon.' (Mac's real first name). Mac regularly visits Ron's grave at Hawera Cemetery to say a karakia.

At 53,600 words my book draft is finished, but is currently being proofread by my wife Stephanie to ensure accuracy in all senses of the word.

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Riparian award for improving freshwater

Taranaki efforts improving freshwater win national award

Taranaki community's mammoth efforts to improve freshwater health at a landscape scale have been recognised by a national award.

The 25-year voluntary work by farmers, iwi, schools and community groups to fence and plant waterways, helping achieve some of the best results in Taranaki's river and stream health in two decades, earned the 2019 Excellence Award for Environmental Well-Being from Local Government New Zealand.

"This belongs to our community," Taranaki Regional Council Chair David MacLeod said as



Megan Symons and her father Gordon Symons.

he accepted the award in Wellington recently.

He says the thousands of people involved have invested "so much sweat, money and time" into fencing and planting rivers and streams on private land around Mt Taranaki since 1993. The voluntary

scheme keeps stock out of waterways, cuts down effluent and nutrient runoff and shades streamwater to encourage native biodiversity.

More than 15,400km of Taranaki streambanks – about the length of New Zealand's coastline

- are covered under the voluntary programme. NIWA scientists say it's likely one of the largest and longest-running restorative freshwater projects in the world.

The figures are staggering:

- \$128 million programme – 70% funded by landowners.
- 5.6 million native plants
- 2,500 properties with a riparian plan including all dairy farmers
- 13,207 kilometres of fencing on streambanks
- 6,000 hectares native habitat protected

"This award highlights the power of Taranaki's community and what can be achieved when people

continued on page 11.

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continued from page 10.

Riparian award for improving freshwater

are supported and work together," Mr MacLeod says.

An independent NIWA report in 2018 found that Taranaki's riparian protection work to date has contributed to improved freshwater health and a reduction in bacteria levels. "We're seeing encouraging results year after year," says Mr MacLeod, adding that farmers are carrying out the massive project without subsidies.

"We've provided plenty of technical assistance and advice – but they've funded all the planting and fencing," he says.

"What's more, they've done so voluntarily. These results haven't been achieved by a Council rule or the Resource Management Act. They've been achieved because our

community knows it's the right thing to do."

Long-term monitoring shows Taranaki's ecological freshwater health – the most accurate way of measuring stream and river health – is the best it's been in 23 years. Extreme weather impacts on river and stream health, leading to seasonal variations, but long-term trends show water health is improving across many freshwater indicators. The latest results are here: www.trc.govt.nz/healthy-waterways-report-2018/

"The results speak for themselves," Mr MacLeod says.

Paradise restored by farming family

One of the first Taranaki dairy farmers to start riparian planting and fencing in the 1990s was 83-year-old

Gordon Symes.

He still lives on the Opunake farm, which is now run by his daughter and son-in-law, Megan and Matt Symons.

"This is our little slice of paradise, but it wasn't always like this," says Mrs Symons, who grew up on the farm and has seen first-hand how the water has improved as streambanks have been fenced and planted.

"I can remember trying to cross the river and the rocks would be all slimy and slippery and the water level was low and warm, like unnaturally warm – it's because there wasn't the shade."

"Now it's a pleasure (since the streambank planting and fencing) that my children get to enjoy this and they love coming here and

swimming."

Mr and Mrs Symons are among about 1700 dairy farms in Taranaki, which all have a riparian plan, with recommended fencing and planting.

Mr MacLeod says Taranaki is well ahead of the national work on freshwater restoration, but the region is not sitting still – work is underway to make riparian planting and fencing compulsory on Taranaki's ringplain around 2020.

"This is Taranaki's answer to a national concern, but it won't be solved with a one-size fits all approach. We're building on a programme that science has proved is working, supporting livelihoods and improving lifestyles."

Our next issue will be published on Thursday August 1.

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Mr New Zealand and Miss Opunake Beach contestants, can you help

Fiona Clark from Tikorangi is researching early body building for an upcoming exhibition at the Govett Brewster art gallery in New Plymouth. Part of the research is about Quentin Smith who was Mr New Zealand in 1959.

He is pictured posing with Miss Opunake winners from 1960 at Opunake Beach, the photo taken around New Year.

The girl on the left is Colleen Duckett from Kapnga and at right is Margaret Cowling from Manaia.

Fiona would like to know who the woman at the centre is wearing the Miss Opunake sash.

She would like to know who took the photo.

The other photo is a colour image of Quentin Smith as the back cover of the New Plymouth Photo News September 1959.

Any details about this image would also be welcome.

If anyone can help they can contact Fiona on 06 754 6627.

Thanks to Alan Lay for dropping in the photo.



The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News August 1

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Race Relations Commissioner appointed

Retiring Gisborne Mayor Meng Foon has been appointed the next Race Relations Commissioner, Justice Minister Andrew Little has announced.

Mr Foon will take up his new appointment on August 26 and will be responsible for leading the work of the Human Rights Commission in promoting positive race relations.

"I would like to congratulate Meng on his appointment," said Andrew Little.

"He has an outstanding record as a relationship builder and walks comfortably in the pākehā world, the Māori world, the Chinese community and other communities making up New Zealand. "Race relations is a priority



Meng Foon, the new Race Relation Commissioner.

area for the Human Rights Commission. We need to continue to break down barriers to racial and ethnic

equality in New Zealand society.

"This is an exciting appointment to a role

that presents enormous challenges but tremendous possibilities," Andrew Little said.

The Human Rights Commission is an independent Crown entity that works with Government and civil society to promote respect for human rights, encourage harmonious race relations and equal employment opportunities, and to resolve complaints about discrimination and related issues.

The process and panels used to appoint Commissioners is independent and complies with the Paris Principles. The leaders of all political parties represented in Parliament were consulted on the appointment process.

"It is regrettable that the appointment of the Race Relations Commissioner

has been delayed as long as it has been," said Andrew Little.

"At the end of last year, an unsuccessful applicant in an earlier round sought an injunction to stop the appointment process. When that did not succeed the same person sought judicial review of the process earlier this year. The decision on that was finalised in May[1]. The Governor General accepted the recommendation to appoint Mr Foon this week.

"It has been a long wait but I am confident this is an excellent appointment," Andrew Little said.

Meng Foon was first elected onto the Gisborne District Council in 1995 and became mayor in 2001. He is one of a handful of people of Chinese descent to have become a mayor in

New Zealand. He is fluent in English, Cantonese and Te Reo Māori. As of 2019, he is still the only mayor in New Zealand who is fluent in Te Reo. He is a member of a number of community organisations including the Ngā Taonga a nā Tama Toa Trust, the New Zealand Chinese Association Aotearoa Social Enterprise Trust and MY Gold Investments Ltd.

He has released a musical number, Tu Mai, which includes various native tracks, he has been chair of Gisborne/Tarawhiti Rugby League since 2007, and is a member of the New Zealand Rugby League Board.

New Plymouth man back in the boat for historic regatta race

New Plymouth man back in the boat for historic regatta race

Royal New Zealand Navy (RNZN) trainee mine clearance diver Sub Lieutenant Rob Creasy thought his rowing days were long gone, but recently he lined up in the prestigious Henley Royal Regatta in England.

Sub Lieutenant Creasy, 38, is part of a New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) rowing squad competing for the King's Cup, 100 years since the event was held at the end of the First World War, featuring troops waiting to return home.

The Cup was run from 5-7 July at Henley-on-Thames, in England, under the umbrella of Henley Royal Regatta. Australia won the 1919 Cup from New



The NZDF rowing eight training at Lake Karapiro. photo: Vera BucsuArt of Rowing NZ.

Zealand, the United States, the United Kingdom, France and Canada, and this year the original six nations will be joined by Germany and The Netherlands.

Sub Lieutenant Creasy, who attended Whanganui

Collegiate and calls New Plymouth home, is no stranger to elite sport, having won three World Triathlon Championship age group titles. He has also competed in the Hawaii Ironman twice.

He rowed for Whanganui Collegiate and New Zealand Universities and then had a hiatus from the sport until a few months ago.

"I remember from when I was rowing that the Olympics was the ultimate, then World Champs and

then Henley was the next major regatta," he said.

"So when I saw that we were putting together a team for a Henley regatta I thought, 'Well, I've got to try'. I hadn't been rowing for a long time but I knew I was fit."

Sub Lieutenant Creasy joined the RNZN only three years ago, following a 12-year career in the high-performance sport field. He

continued on page 13.

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continued from page 12.

New Plymouth man back in the boat for historic regatta race

was a sports scientist for Triathlon New Zealand for eight years, working with its elite team and travelling to events including the Beijing and London Olympics, the Commonwealth Games and world championships.

for a change and had family in the military, including brother Lieutenant Warwick Creasy, 35, an RNZN trainee mine clearance diver.

“He talked to me about it and said it was a career I should consider,” Sub Lieutenant Creasy said.

The opportunity to row at the Henley Regatta highlighted the opportunities available in the NZDF, he said.

“That’s the beauty of the Defence Force – you get these opportunities that you never expected. It’s one of

those wildest dreams kind of things – you think the chance has gone by and here it is. It’s pretty good.”

The NZDF squad for the event is: Leading Aircraftman Alex Hill (coxswain), Major Emily Hume, Lieutenant

Commander Juliet MacLean, Corporal Rebekah Salt, Flying Officer Connor Broughton, Sub Lieutenant Rob Creasy, Lieutenant Ricky Daniel-Nield, Lance Corporal Mark Evans, Private Ryan Flintoft, Second Lieutenant Ashton

Lovell, Lance Corporal Jack Proudfoot, Ordinary Rate Cathan Tamarapa, Rachel Gamble-Flint (coach), Wing Commander Rhys Taylor (manager).

Opunake’s home away from home

How much do you really know about Aged Care and the role Opunake Cottage Rest Home plays in the Community? On the coast we are the only Resthome between Hawera and New Plymouth.

We provide Rest Home level of care. Respite care can be either funded or private, and this can be for the client recuperating or giving family members a break from caring in their own homes. There is also Day Service and Meals on Wheels. We also have our services for those that find living at home difficult, but don’t yet meet the rest home level of care, like a boarder

Most of our Residents come from the Opunake township and surrounding communities with a few from further afield.

In a few cases we have had couples, allowing them to room together. We encourage family or friends to visit as much as possible and be part of the decision making for the person’s well being.

On the lake/mountain side, rooms get the morning sun,

and on the other side the view is of green trees with afternoon sun. At present we have one ensuite bedroom available.

Unlike a hospital there are no visiting hours, and we are not a lockup facility. We are open 24/7. We have Residents that walk up town and those with mobility scooters are still able to use them so as to retain some independence. One resident is a bowler and was part of a Club Championship team this last season, while another resident has own greenhouse and regularly supplies us with fresh vegetables.

Weekdays are a hive of entertainment, where Activity staff encourage participation in organised games, quizzes, entertainment and outings in our modern equipped van.

What do we offer? A home away from home with home cooked meals including morning and afternoon teas by our cooks. We have a community spirited environment where the Residents care about each other and the staff. The staff

are well trained and there is always someone around if needed. Laundry and cleaning is done daily.

A few years ago we came to the community as we were financially in trouble with a minimum of residents. We are now in a similar situation with the recent passing of several elderly residents. At the moment we are financially holding our own but unable to have anything left over to go into our rainy day pot. So we have ample rooms available and welcome new people requiring our assistance.

What will that mean for our community? Mainly your loved ones, family and friends will have to go to a bigger facility in a bigger town. It means a separation of partners of families. No day care or day respite for some families. We are small and able to provide good care in a family-orientated surrounding.

We have had a great response from the questionnaires which are still coming in daily. We hope to have a summary of

your thoughts available in later editions of this paper. The ideas that are coming forward are being worked on for the future building upgrades.

It is clear to us that there is confusion in the community about subsidies for rest home living, so we will start on articles that simply describe the processes, and in the interim, if you have any queries or know anyone that does need some assistance, please call or drop into the Cottage and discuss with our manager, and she will get the pathway going for you. Sandra and the trustees are keen to come to your local community groups and organisations and help explain how these processes work to assist our own members in the community. These people in the community are very important us as they had the foresight and developed the fantastic community that we have today for our generations now and to come.

For further enquiries and information contact the Manager Sandra Deegan



LEFT: Well-known Taranaki artist Graham Kirk’s painting entitled ‘Catwoman descending near Moturoa Island.’

We welcome the art from other artists, which can be considered for being featured in our newspaper.

It can be emailed as a PDF or Jpeg.

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OBITUARY Owen Thomas Mander Taranaki Jersey breeders honoured

November 19 1920 - May 31 2019

In his 100th year Owen passed away peacefully with Doreen, his loving wife of 64 years by his side.

Owen has had a long association with the Jersey breed, as his maternal grandfather Joseph Belcher was a foundation member of the Stratford Jersey Cattle Club in 1910, and the Stratford A & P Association in the same year. He exhibited at the inaugural show and was on the committee for 12 years.

He registered the stud prefix Riverside in 1918 and enjoyed considerable success in the A & P shows

for many years.

Owen's father Albert Mander established the Wellworth Jersey Stud in 1932 and Owen took over the Stud and the Wellworth Prefix in 1950. Owen joined the Stratford Jersey Club in 1953.

Some of the well-known cattle that come to mind are Wellworth Lady Gay VHC CP SD, bred so well in the Cloverbloom Stud of C.P.Hartstone Te Kowhai in the Waikato, and she won many championships.

The bull Wellworth Valley Beaut was a magnificent type bull and a great



Owen Mander.

specimen of the breed who won many championships at the Stratford A & P Show.

Another bull that made its mark and bred extra well in the Wellworth herd was Brookvale Gay Son Merit Sire 27, son of Erinview Skillful and Brookvale

Regal Gay VHC CP, a noted show cow that was 11 years old when sold to the Heatherview Stud of H.B.Morgan at Waitoa.

In 1967 Owen introduced a Polled Jersey bull to the Wellworth herd which was a first for Taranaki. The herd was all but 100 per cent polled by the time Owen gave up farming in 1984.

The Wellworth Stud is now in the capable hands of son Paul, who farms at Lepperton.

Owen was a great historian. At a Stratford Jersey Club function where Owen was present, still taking an interest in Jersey affairs well into his 90s, his face really lit up when Wellworth Jerseys was mentioned.

We extend our sympathy to his loving wife Doreen and his children Anthony, Clare, Helen, Paul and Jane(deceased), grandchildren and great grandchildren in their loss of a truly great gentleman.

Allan Jenkins

At the recent Purebred Jedresey Breeders Society of NZ AGM at Blenheim, several Taranaki Jersey breeders were recognised for their service over a long period.

Malcolm Revell is now the new patron of the Society. Allan Jenkins was awarded his life membership badge for his involvement with the Society over the years.

Two Distinguished Members awards were presented to Nola Johnson and Judith Muggeridge

for their contribution in the success of the Hasty River and Truday Studs respectively.

Chris and Rachel Wilson's Camaro Jerseys picked up several production awards.

The Young Achiever's award and Mount Meadows Trophy went to Lynden Muggeridge. This award is judged by a panel of judges on the farm on tidiness of the farm and surroundings, knowledge of the herd, pasture management and general knowledge.

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Colin Hurst named Arable Farmer of the Year

Federated Farmers Arable Industry Group Chairperson Karen Williams said it was difficult to know where to start with Colin's contribution to farming. The South Canterbury farmer has served Feds at national, regional and branch level and has also put in countless hours for the South Canterbury Rural Support Trust, the Arable Industry Group's Herbage Seedgrowers Subsection, United Wheatgrowers and the Foundation for Arable Research.

"This is an award that recognises excellence," Karen told delegates at the arable group's AGM in Wellington.

"Without Colin's hard work, tenacity and leadership, we believe farmers and growers wouldn't have got the right outcomes. All of the work undertaken is in a voluntary capacity, which makes his contribution to industry all the more impressive."

Other Federated Farmers Arable awards, which were presented by the Minister of Agriculture Damien O'Connor, were:

- Biosecurity Farmer of the Year - Richard Kershaw, Wairarapa
- Wheat Grower of the Year - Syd and Earl Worsfold, Canterbury
- Seed Grower of the Year - Jim Macartney, Canterbury
- Maize Grower of the Year - Peter Kelly, North Waikato

One of Colin's wins for the industry involved a plan change proposed by Environment Canterbury that not only would have hit the livelihoods of local farmers, but also had consequences for all land owners. Colin organised a meeting that drew more than 80 affected farmers and got them engaged in the process.

"Thanks goodness the Council saw sense," Colin



Federated Farmers Arable Farmer of the Year 2019 Colin Hurst (left) with the Minister of Agriculture, Damien O'Connor.

told those at the awards ceremony. "They didn't change the nutrient limits, but they did change the way they were allocated."

Despite stepping back from the arable industry group, Colin continues to ensure growers are informed and engaged in the process of reviewing the Plant Variety Rights Act and that they understand crop residue burning - while a vital tool - is a privilege and farmers need to manage it accordingly.

Colin has also been a staunch advocate for farmers around the Seed Quality Management Authority (SQMA) table; on the Fertiliser Quality Council (FQC), driving the development of a physical standard for fertiliser; and as a member of the FAR Board and ARG. He continues to advocate for local farmers affected by the Mycoplasma bovis response as a member of the Rural Support Trust in South Canterbury.

Richard Kershaw

His "immense contribution" to Federated Farmers, related industry bodies and across the nation's arable sector saw Colin Hurst recently named Arable Farmer of the Year.

Richard Kershaw was instrumental in getting early stakeholder meetings off the ground when pea weevil was first found in the Wairarapa, and - along with Karen Williams and Jamie Falloon - led a group of stakeholders to provide feedback to MPI and governance.

He was part of the Wairarapa Cropping Strategy Group, and has been committed to this with alternative crop trials on his farm over the past two years as well as initiating a number of discussions with key stakeholders out of the region to help build resilience within the region.

Richard has been and continues to be a tireless advocate for growers.

Syd and Earl Worsfold
South Canterbury growers

Syd and Earl Worsfold are the inaugural winners of the Federated Farmers Arable Industry Group Wheat Grower of the Year Award.

The award is presented in conjunction with Ruralco and United Wheatgrowers. The Worsfolds emerged as the supreme winners of the recent Wheat Awards. The award recognises a Federation member who has made a contribution to the wheat industry over a number of years and a grower who has demonstrated outstanding yields.

Jim Macartney

Jim Macartney of Canterbury has made a significant contribution to Federated Farmers through his involvement with the Herbage Seedgrowers Subsection. Stretching over 20 years, Jim was the Chairperson of the Subsection and oversaw the successful continuation of a number of referenda. The Herbage Seedgrowers Subsection manages

the Non-Proprietary and Uncertified Seeds levy on behalf of growers and ensure these cultivars are available for continued use by growers in New Zealand.

Karen Williams said Jim's greatest contribution to the seed industry has been in recent years, with his advocacy for growers around the Seed Quality Management Authority (SQMA) table. The SQMA is responsible for managing the seed certification system in New Zealand. While a lot of work of the SQMA is undertaken behind closed doors, Jim's pragmatic and common sense approach to issues has been valued by all SQMA members.

Peter Kelly

The Maize Grower of the Year Award recognises a grower with outstanding maize silage or grain yields, a contributor to the industry, and someone who balances production and profit requirements against environmental, sustainability and other compliance requirements.

Peter Kelly of North Waikato fits this bill, producing 3,000 tonnes of maize with an average yield of 13.1 tonnes generating a significant income for the farm owners. Peter balances the drive to increase production against environmental regulation and the needs of the soil.

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the match 26-15 to advance
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Stadium. Try scorers were
Josh Thomson, Sam Lawn,
Troy Stevenson and Rick
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points came from the boot
of Rick McKenna with 3
conversions. Man of the
match was Blake Barrett.

Saturday July 13th was
finals day. Coastal was to
do battle with Spotswood
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The match was very
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The scores were locked at
8 points all at half time,
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Continued page 17



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Jacob Gopperth tries to evade a tackle for the Farm Source Prems against Spotswood.

Continued from page 16

put Coastal in front 13-8. Spotswood hit back with a penalty followed by a converted try to lead 18-13 with 19 minutes to play. Despite Coastal's constant pressure, Spotswood held on to their lead and took the final. Point scorers for Coastal were Liam Parker and Troy Stevenson tries, and Rick McKenna a

penalty. Well played both teams and congratulations to Spotswood on their win. Thank you must go out to everyone that helped the team make the final, the third in 3 years. The coaching team of Aaron Fisher and Ricky Tito spent countless hours planning the season and did a fantastic job. The final game plan very nearly

worked. The team physio, Amy Lean, kept players on the park as the seasons hard knocks started to take toll. A big thank you also goes out to the Division 1 players who backed up as bench players all season, even after playing their own final. Thank you also to our supporters. You make a big

difference to the players and it is great to see all the colours and hear the cheering. Let's get you all back to support the 2020 team to make another final. Finally, a huge thank you must go out to all club sponsors. Without your support the club couldn't survive.
Brian Olliver, Manager.



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Coastal FBT Win Division one



Div 1 The champion FBT Div 1 team.

First I would like to acknowledge Southern in our semi final clash, where Coastal FBT Div 1 had more to prove than just winning. Southern were a great battle, but were just unable to fire a shot. Testing our defence time and time again, Coastal were able to keep them out and capitalise, finishing 41-19 and on the way to finals footy.

It was a bitter sweet final clash, starting the season with Spotwood and ending it with them in the final. Spotswood were very physical, which we expect nothing less from a strong

Continued page 19



Jarrod Davy lifts the cup for FBT Div 2



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Coastal FBT Win Division one



Dave Hughes makes a break for the FBT Div 1 against Spotswood.

Continued from page 18
side like them, but phase after phase Coastal were able to wear them down slowly, ending the first half 25-3. Coastal with a lead, started again, chipping away and going about their work, scoring two more tries and nailing the last nail in the coffin securing them a Championship win over

Spotswood. Coastal ended the game 37-17.
What a season it has been. First of all thank you for the undying support from family, friends, the Coastal community, the Coastal following and sponsors. It has been noticed and greatly appreciated by all in the Div 1 team. Secondly, thank you to the club for giving this

opportunity to represent Coastal, to wear the wave emblem, play for the Coast and be a part of the green, white and black culture. And last of all, thanks to the FBT div 1 Championship team. Thank you for your respect, your love for the game, your willingness to improve every week, your fight for the guy next to you

and for your ever growing brotherhood and for that boys you deserve this. Enjoy this moment, remember this 2019 season and see you all again next year.

From the FBT Coastal Div 1 coaching staff it's been a pleasure – *we did it.*

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COASTAL RUGBY



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Coastal Division 2 Goodin AG 2019 Winners



The champion Goodin Ag Div 2 team.



Try time.

Well what another great year for the Coastal Thirds. We got the job finished this year, which was an outstanding team effort from everyone involved. I would like to thank GoodinAg for their ongoing support to our team. I have been involved with this team for some time now. It's a great team of brothers, boys and old men which has a great culture. We have had a great team running the helm with Jimmy Quay, myself and Mark Harrop so cheers for that. I would like to thank Carl Hayman for helping us with the team, it was great

to have you back. Finnley Binshergen, it's great to see this young player step up to the occasion and take on the Okaiawa defence. Another standout player was Steve Barron who still has the silky skills of a young player and an accurate boot to boot. It's been great having a forward pack like we had all year; we pushed a lot of forward packs around the field. And as for you backs, you guys made it easier watching tries get scored from set pieces. Signing out for another season, Sheldon Keech



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Dave Wakeling does the hard yards as the Goodin Ag wear down Okaiawa.

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Nominations open for South Taranaki Sporting Hall of Fame

Last year Opunake's own All Black captain and a sporting hero of the 1930s were added to the South Taranaki Hall of Fame.

Now the search is on for two more names to be inducted on to the Hall of Fame at the TSB Hub in Hawera.

"South Taranaki has produced some incredible sports people and we want to acknowledge that" says Community Events Coordinator, Liesl Davidson. "We have inducted five people over the past two years and are now looking for the next two to join them."

When the Hall of Fame was opened in 2017, shearer Roger Cox, 1905 All Black Original Jimmy Hunter and netballer Adine Wilson were the first inductees. Last year Graham Mourie, the Opunake farmer who led the All Blacks to their first ever Grand Slam against the four home unions and javelin thrower Stan Lay were added.

A nominee must have a strong association with South Taranaki and have spent a significant part of their life living in South Taranaki. They must also meet one of the following criteria, achieved international



Stan Lay.

success by winning Gold, Silver or Bronze at either the Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, World Championship or an officially approved elite

level event; or been a senior athlete or a significant contributor of a national representative team at an elite international level; or made a significant contribution

Graham Mourie and Stan Lay recently added to the South Taranaki Sporting Hall of Fame at the TSB Hub in Hawera. The search is on for more names to be added.

and distinguished service to elite sport which has brought credit to South Taranaki.

"Nominations don't roll over from year to year, so unsuccessful applicants from previous years, while still eligible, need to put in a new nomination form," says Liesl.

The selection would be made by a committee made up of Mayor Ross Dunlop, Councillor Jack Rangiwahia, Rotary Club members Selwyn Metcalfe and Malcolm Greenhill and community representative Lionel Shaw.

At a meeting of the Egmont Plains Community Board Cr Bonita Bigham said she would be disappointed if current sports people like rugby league player Isaac Luke miss out being inducted in favour of sports people whose careers had finished.

"I would be disappointed if there are people who don't get listed because they don't meet criteria which aren't listed," she said.

Community and



Graham Mourie.

Infrastructure services manager Fiona Greenhill said there are no extra criteria that have to be met and nominees who are still

active in their sport are still welcome to have their names considered.

"Absolutely they can be nominated," she said.



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- The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd, Westown (By the Locals Café)
- Nth Taranaki Community House, 67 McLean St, Waitara
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Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

Monday 1 July

It was a close call for top shot of the night with visitor Frank Eustace, 99.5, 96.2, 96.3, just being pipped by Garry Rowlands 99.8, 98.4, 97.5. Paul Tidswell 97.5,

95.2, 97.4; Alan Drake 95.3, 96.3; Craig McGill 95.3, 95.2; Clare Bramley 94.4; Alex Sadovnikova 90.4, 94.3; Don Litchfield 87.1, 94.2; Henry Armond 93.2, 92.1; Michelle Hofmans

91.1; Murray Chinery 89.2, 90.2; Keely Burnell 100 group card.

Friday 5 July

The honour of the only possible went to Paul Tidswell tonight scoring 100.7, he also scored 99.4 and 96.4. Stephen Hicks also had a good night scoring 97.3 and 97.4. Garry Rowlands double 99.4/96.4, 96.3; Clare Bramley 96.4, 97.6; Alex Sadovnikova 96.4, 94.2; Brian Hicks 95.3, 93.2; Paul Longstaff 94.1; Craig McGill 89.1, 94.2, 92.2; Henry Armond 93.2, 91.2; Murray Chinery 89.1, 89.0.

We had some guests recently who came along to give shooting a go. Blair Ladd shot a 100 group card while the competition between Luka Herrick and Caleb Mattock was fierce – Luka scored two 94 group cards while Caleb scored 93 and 97 group cards.

Monday 8 July

On July 8 was the inter-club clash between Inglewood, Eltham, Hawera and Oaonui rifle clubs. Each club put forward teams of three members who then shot and the scores were added

up to give the overall team score. It was also the Peter Smith Memorial Teams of Three shoot, where shooters are randomly selected into teams of three and handicaps are applied depending on each shooters grade.

Congratulations to Inglewood 2 team – Craig Cleland 98.4, 98.6; Simon Barkley 99.5, 97.5; Martin Michel 99.4, 98.5 who won the Bridgeman Shield for Inglewood. Hawera came second; Bruce Cameron 98.5, 99.6; Jason Cameron 97.6, 96.4; Hayden Andreoli 97.5, 97.1. Eltham 1 came third; Paul Tidswell 96.3, 99.4; Garry Rowlands 99.3, 97.3; Clare Bramley 98.6, 94.1.

Special mention goes to Matt Vaughan who shot a personal best 91.3 as well as a 70.0. Other Eltham shooters also did well Bob Bramley 99.5, 92.3; Alex Sadovnikova 96.4, 95.4; Craig McGill 94.2, 90.2; Henry Armond 94.1, 90.3; Bjorn Fowler 93.2, 93.3;

Boston Taylor 92.2, 87.0; Murray Chinery 89.3, 90.2; Keely Burnell 85.1, 88.1; Michelle Hofmans 84.1, 82.0.

The Peter Smith Memorial Teams of Three was taken out by Graham Moratti (Inglewood), Hayden Andreoli (Hawera) and Bjorn Fowler (Eltham). Second placed team; Alex Sadovnikova, Paul Tidswell (both Eltham) and Lou Donnelly (Inglewood).

Eltham shooters who did not compete in the inter-club shoot; John MacLeod 96 and 100 group cards; John McGill 100 group card, 82.0, 79.0; Brian Hicks 92.2, 88.0.

Friday 12 July

It was a small gathering tonight, the weather and school holidays obviously playing a part in how few shooters came along to the range. The high score of the evening went to Clare Bramley with 100.3, the only red ink of the night. Paul Tidswell almost had

red ink with 99.6 followed by 97.5, 96.3 while both Garry Rowlands and Bob Bramley shot very well 98.7, 97.2 and 98.4, 98.7/97.5, 96.2, respectively. Paul Longstaff 97.5, 95.6; Alex Sadovnikova 95.4, 97.3, 97.2; Murray Chinery 95.2, 91.0, 91.1; Bjorn Fowler shot consistently 94.2, 94.1, 94.3. Stephen Hicks 93.3, 95.1; Brian Hicks 94.2, 94.0.

All newcomers are welcome, Monday and Friday from 7pm, 5 Pinny Drive, Eltham. All equipment, ammo, supervision and instruction are provided.

The Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club welcomes newcomers and visitors. All instruction, equipment and supervision is provided as well as safety briefings. We meet Monday and Friday from 7pm at 5 Pinny Drive, Eltham.

We also have a Facebook page if anyone has any questions or would like to see some of the things we get up to.

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Manaia Golf youngsters perform well

Six youngsters from Manaia played at the Fitzroy Golf Club, New Plymouth on Wednesday July 10, with very pleasing results:

18 holes - Joe Gibson 1st Gross 96. Jaden Siciliano 1st Nett 59.

9 Full holes - Carter Symes 3rd

9 Short holes - Oliva Symes 1st, Hannah Symes 2nd

Margaret Putt

Taranaki Indoor Bowls

On Sunday June 23, The Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre held their Open Triples event. Eleven teams competed with seven qualifying for post section play. After the next game the final four teams were playing off, Karl Hughes' team played Dennis Behrent's team, Ali Wilson's team,

played Gordon Hamley's team, with Gordon Hamley and Dennis Behrent playing off in the final. Dennis Behrent, Ross Wright and Paul Eastman (NT) defeated Gordon Hamley, Jenny Hamley and Jane Augustine, with the teams of Karl Hughes, Andrea Berry, Steven Vince and

Ali Wilson, Ivan Phipps Paul Wilson obtaining third equal.

Manaia Golf results

End of month tournament. 1. Phil Elliott. 2. Kingsly Young. 3. Neil Scown. 4. John Oliver.

June 30. Men.1. Caleb Andreoli. 2. Trevor Larsen. 3. Kingsly Young and Jamie Johnson.

Junior. 1. Jaden Siciliano. 2. Joe Gibson. 3. Payton Siciliano.

Saturday July 7. Men. 1. Greg Elliott. 2. Jim Ngere. 3. Adrienne Johnston. 4. Paul Hunn.

Juniors. Senior Boys. 1. Jaden Siciliano. 2. Joe Gibson and Ashton Sharp. Girls. 1. Jayden Sharp. 2. Hannah Symes. 3. Payton Siciliano.Boys. Carter Symes, Liam Campbell

Saturday July 13 Men Stableford round.

1st Bruce Duffus 44
2nd Neil Scown 41
3rd Craig Jones 40
4th Jim Ngere 40
5th Kevin Murrell 39

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Matariki Glow Show

On the 13th of June the whole school travelled to Puke Ariki to visit the Matariki exhibition. This was a part of our school's celebration of the beginning of the Māori New Year and a chance for us to extend our learning outside of the classroom.

Father Vijay's Farewell

On the 28th of June the school community said goodbye to their smiling parish priest, Father Vijay. Father has since left to briefly return home to India to spend time with family, before heading to Canada for a sabbatical. Father has been our parish priest for the last 5 years, and will sorely missed by all. The school gifted Father a greenstone taonga to remember his time in New Zealand.



Caritas Mufti Mania

On Friday the 5th of July, students took part in the Caritas Mufti Mania day. This year was in support of the Doputz Primary School in Bougainville, Papua New Guinea in their aims to reopen their school. To do this they need new water tanks, toilet blocks, and classroom repairs. If you wish to support us in raising money for

this community, feel free to get in touch with the office.

Pastoral Rewards Trip

Recently, thirteen students from our school went on a trip to Inglewood and New Plymouth to congratulate and show appreciation for students' commitment to their faith and to our parish, outside of school hours. This included students who had committed to attending preparatory classes for First Holy Reconciliation and Eucharist, and students who alter serve on Sundays. The first stop was Inglewood, where attending students, staff, and parents attended mass alongside the children of St Patrick's School. The group then headed through to Mega Bounce in New Plymouth where everyone, including Father Vijay, had a great time on the trampolines.

Basketball Finals

The Opunake Basketball Association Junior Finals night was held on Tuesday the 2nd of July. The St Joseph's Bulls competed in the years 5 and 6 A grade final against the Auroa Breakers, the Breakers coming away with the win. The St Joseph's Hawks competed in the years 7 and 8 A grade final against the unbeaten Opunake Coasters - the team fought hard, but the Coasters came away with the win in the end. We are very proud of these teams, and of all other students that participated throughout the season.

Sustainability

At St Joseph's we know that God created the world and

everything in it. It is our duty to care for all things. We have an environmental committee who look after our school gardens, puts our food scraps into the compost bin and suggests ways in which to make our school environment better. In the last week of term Whaea Esther came to school and helped us to make beeswax wraps to reduce our use of plastic cling wrap when packing our lunches. These are for sale from school in packs of 3, for \$10.



Above: Cheska Centeno holds up a pack of wraps for sale.

Below: Sarah Welsh and Cheska drying their beeswax wraps.



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Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Opunake Catholic Church

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins),
10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea)
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Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm
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From July 2018, if the quality of photos
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What's On Listings



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ONGOING

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

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

SUNDAYS

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

MONDAYS

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

Club Hotel Pool: Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

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

WEEKENDS

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

APRIL 6 TO OCTOBER 6

'Whare Kahurangi: 100 Years of Collecting' Exhibition: At Puke Ariki, New Plymouth. Refer advert and article in previous issue of OCN.

JULY 19

Midwinter Hobby Craft Expo Market: At Eltham, 10am-3pm. Refer advert in previous issue of OCN.

JULY 1 TO 26

Fibre Fantastic Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham. Refer advert.

JULY 19

Midwinter Hobby Craft Expo Market: At Eltham, 10am-3pm. Refer advert. in previous issue of OCN

JULY 20

Powerworx Opunake Cup Day: At the New Plymouth Raceway. Coastal bus available. First race at 12.15pm. Refer advert in previous issue of OCN.

Midwinter Hobby Craft Expo Market: At Eltham, 10am-3pm. Refer advert in previous issue of OCN.

Mark and Miriam Holloway speaking at the Stratford Baptist Church Hall: Fish and Chips nite \$5 at 6pm and presentation at 6:30 pm. Topic "Conversations with God" from their book Freedom Diaries.

JULY 22

Ngati Tara o Oaonui Sandy Bay Conservation Society Meeting: At Sandfords Event Centre, 5.30pm. Refer advert from previous issue of OCN.

JULY 24

Commemoration of the anniversary of the sinking of the Lizzie Bell: Wreath placing ceremony to be held at Pihama Cemetery, Puketapu Rd, Pihama at 11am. Refer advert in previous issue of OCN.

AUGUST 22

Opunake Simplifying Life: Coastal Health Day. Opunake Main St, TSB Bank/Library courtyard. From 10am to 3pm. Refer advert.

SEPTEMBER 14

Fabricana, a Taranaki Hospice fundraiser: Open to all crafters to sell surplus craft supplies. No finished items. Stall charges donated to Hospice. September 14th 2019. Highlands Intermediate Hall. Enquiries to M Richardson 06 758 5101 email lfr@xtra.co.nz

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LOOKING FOR WORK?

At the suggestion of a regular advertiser, the Opunake & Coastal News is considering starting a Work Wanted column in the classified section of the paper which will be free. This is partly to fill a gap in the media. Another newspaper used to run such a column. Anyone seeking work is invited to submit their details to the paper. Your skills, experience, availability etc, is a suggestion but this will be up to the person.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Native bush brings bonuses to farmers

If you've got a special slice of nature on your property, don't pass up an opportunity to protect and improve it because the effort will reward you in ways that may surprise.

So say Taranaki farmers Vanessa and Mat Vujcich – and they speak from experience. Their 100ha beef unit near Inglewood includes kamahi and swamp maire forest remnants which they've fenced off and are now aiming to make largely free of introduced predators.

They launched into the project because they appreciate and enjoy New Zealand's unique biodiversity and were glad of an opportunity to do their bit to preserve it. But they've discovered other pluses, some of them unexpected.

"There are many farm management benefits to secure fencing, compared to the previous single hotwire that was in place" says Mat.

"Fencing the block off, plus the riparian fencing we've done, makes stock management easier – no more fear of stock disappearing into the bush or getting into trouble in a waterway. Now we can put



Mat and Vanessa Vujcich.

them in a paddock and know they'll still be there when we get back and they will not be damaging native vegetation or impacting on water quality."

Another bonus has been encounters with rarely seen birdlife including the threatened whio and the 'at risk' karearea, or NZ falcon. "We know there's been kiwi passing through, too," says Vanessa.

The couple say their native forest block, which adjoins a river on the property boundary, has also proved invaluable for giving their city-dwelling grandchildren experience of the NZ bush and waterways – an experience not always available to many other urban youngsters.

As working farmers, Mat and Vanessa also appreciate the advice and financial support they've been able to tap

into. Their forest remnant is on the Taranaki Regional Council's register of Key Native Ecosystems (KNEs), under which a tailored Biodiversity Plan has been drawn up.

This supports their fencing and predator-control programme and opened the way for a variety of assistance including providing traps and advice from experienced field officers. "It's proved

really useful to be able to access their expertise," says Mat. "We're all on the same page."

Taranaki Regional Council, QEII National Trust and New Plymouth District Council helped assist with the cost of the fencing by contributing funds.

The Council's Environment Services Manager, Steve Ellis, says the voluntary KNE programme is getting good results, with 293 sites on the register covering almost 123,400ha. In recent years the Council has boosted its funding for Biodiversity Plans, with officers now preparing 20 to 25 a year.

"So if anyone thinks they might have something special on their property, they should call us on 0800 736 222 so we can arrange an ecological assessment," he says. "If everything falls into place, and the area can be legally protected with a QEII covenant or the like, then the way may be open for the sort of assistance Mat and Vanessa are benefiting from – not only for fencing and predator control but also pest-plant control and infill planting."

The Vujcichs see this pro-

tected and restored forest remnant as their responsibility and eventual legacy. "This natural area is important in its own right," says Mat. "It's all about using the land for what it's best suited to – and that doesn't mean chasing every last blade of grass."

On this month in history John Walker wins gold medal

On July 31, 1976 John Walker (later Sir John) won the 1500 metres final at the Montreal Olympic Games. His winning time was 3 minutes 39.65 seconds. He became the third New Zealander to win after Dr Jack Lovelock in 1936 and Peter Snell (later Sir Peter) in 1964.

John's expected rival Filbert Bayi of Tanzania did not compete because his nation took part in a boycott.

John Walker became the first person to break the 3minute 50 second barrier for the mile. Apart from this world record, John was also the first athlete to run under 4 minutes for the mile 100 times.

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Behind Pukekura Park's Green Flag



NPDC's Botanical Records Officer Ian Hutchinson.

Did you know a record 12,000 people turned out to the Pukekura sports ground on 16 July 1921 to watch the Springboks draw 0-0 with Taranaki's own rugby 1st XV?

The *Hawera and Normanby Star* reported "the largest crowd that ever mustered in the park" was three deep on the famous terraces.

It's just one of the Pukekura Park highlights recorded by NPDC Botanical Records Officer Ian Hutchinson.

Ian started his career as an 18-year-old horticulture apprentice with the then New Plymouth City Council in 1979.

For the last seven years, he's been digging through the

history of NPDC's Pukekura Park to find out about early plantings and to prepare for the park's guided walks.

"Pukekura Park has a Green Flag awarded to world-class parks and it's a Garden of National Significance. We need to keep records of the older plant specimens in the park and in amongst that is an enormous amount of New Plymouth and Taranaki social history," says Ian.

"Because the park dates back to 1876, a lot of the research throws up fascinating information that still helps us manage the park today and tells us more about one of our historic landmarks and the community around it."

Ian, who grew up in New Plymouth, has worked on various projects around the district including the plantings when Puke Ariki Landing was first developed in the 1980s.

He's also a regular with the New Plymouth Operatic Society and familiar in local arts circles.

Pukekura was a shooting range before the park was created in 1878. The local militia used to practice rifle shooting across the valley at targets on the hillside east of where the main lake is now.

A winery was once planned in Pukekura. From 1875 to 1881, German father and son Heinrich and Johann Briedecker had a vineyard in Stainton Dell. The business was abandoned, but plants grown from cuttings from the vineyard today grow near The Gables.

A swimming club was formed at the newly created main lake in 1879, and a bathing shed was constructed where the Tea House now stands.

Cannon Hill was once known as Flagstaff Hill because a flag pole once stood on top of the hill and a flag was raised to warn the gentlemen away when ladies were bathing in the Main Lake.

The sports ground was

originally a swamp, which was filled in 1881 using soil from the cutting through to Liardet Street and from the creation of the southern terraces. The level of the ground was raised with more soil

from the creation the other seating terraces.

A boxthorn hedge maze was planted in what is now Rhododendron Dell in 1892. The maze was abandoned in the late 1890s as the Recreation

Grounds Board could not afford its upkeep.

Kiwi were successfully bred in an aviary near the Fountain Lake in the early 1900s.

Next time you're taking in a band or Carols by Candlelight on the Hatchery Lawn, try to imagine that it was a lily pond until 1954. It is named for a trout hatchery there from 1909 until about 1928. The pond was filled in with soil from an island that was dug up to build the fountain in the Fountain Lake in 1954.

Now it draws some of the biggest music acts from around the world, but the Bowl of Brooklands was a paddock where Newton King grazed stock and racehorses until his death in 1927.

Slit trenches were dug alongside the main pathways in case of air raids during World War II.

In 2003 filming of parts of *The Last Samurai* took place on the sports ground and the first WOMAD festival was held at Brooklands Park.

Advertise in the What's On pages and get complimentary editorial.

Next issue

August 1 2019

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Lizzie Bell Commemoration Service

On Wednesday 24 July a commemorative service is being held at Pihama Cemetery for the seamen killed during the sinking of the Lizzie Bell barque, which took place off the South Taranaki Coast on that same day in 1901.

The service, which is being organised by the New Plymouth branch of the Merchant Navy Association, will start at 11am and will include a wreath laying ceremony and roll call of the 12 sailors who died that fateful night.

The Lizzie Bell was travelling from Wellington to Newcastle, Australia when it struck rocks a mile and a half south of the Oeo river.

Two of the crew fell overboard and with the vessel totally wrecked the remaining crew abandoned ship into a lifeboat which itself later overturned.

In all 12 of the Lizzie Bell's 18 sailors lost their lives as a result of the shipwreck.

For more information about the commemoration service you can contact Mrs Denise Wood secretary of the Merchant Navy Association, New Plymouth Sub Committee by email at denise.wood@xtra.co.nz or phone 06 757 9218.



Remembering those who perished in the Lizzie Bell.

Prostate cancer awareness

Taranaki locals are being called on to get together and host Blue Do social fundraising events in support of Blue September, the official awareness and fundraising month for the Prostate Cancer Foundation.

Whether it's a golf day, blokes BBQ, girls' night out, morning tea at the office or anything that brings people together and encourages men to get checked, every dollar raised through Blue Do events in September goes towards funding groundbreaking research and providing support to men and their families facing up to prostate cancer.

43 registered Blue Do events took place in the Taranaki region in September 2018 with a total of \$13,252

raised in support of Blue September.

Prostate Cancer Foundation CEO Graeme Woodside is challenging people in the Taranaki region to out-do their 2018 efforts and encouraging Blue Do organisers to get their plans underway.

"We were impressed with the terrific effort from Taranaki locals last year, and I know that there's plenty of people busy working on their Blue Do ideas right now," said Mr Woodside. "Taranaki men rely on the funds raised through Blue September to provide advocacy and support services so this is a great way to help out men in your region while having some fun!"

Go to www.blueseptember.org.nz to find out how to put on your own 'Blue Do' and

raise funds to join the fight against prostate cancer. Free Blue Do packs include awareness information and decorations to add extra atmosphere to registered Blue Do events.

Fast Facts: Prostate cancer in New Zealand:

Prostate cancer is the most

common cancer in Kiwi men

1 man is diagnosed every 3 hours, 2 will die each day

Around 3,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer every year – that's on par with breast cancer diagnosis levels

Prostate cancer is a family issue – if a man has two or

more first-degree relatives who were diagnosed with prostate cancer under the age of 65 years, then his risk increases by 5–11 times

Early detection saves lives – it's as simple as that. A blood test is all it takes to start the process – simple and quick

If you're between 50-

70 then consider an annual prostate check that includes both a PSA blood test and a digital rectal examination (DRE)

Men over the age of 40 are strongly recommended to have regular prostate checks if there is a family history of prostate cancer



Coastal Care supports

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Opunake's Coastal Health Day, its about simplifying life, therefor come along and find out where does one go for information, for advice, and who is the right person of contact.

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- Find ways to support all ages, single/married and their family/whanau and friends.
- Find the right help, at the right time, in the right way.
- Raise awareness by creating a community where you can participate in life that you desire.

When: 22nd August Thursday 2019
Where: Opunake main street TSB Bank/Library - Courtyard
Time: 10am – 3pm

Tataraimata Oakura Okato Manaia Warea Pungarehu Rahotu Oonui

Marama Simeon
Equipment Information Coordinator
Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre New Plymouth
A: 28 Young Street 4310
T: 06 7590019 E: marama@taranakidic.org.nz

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OPUNAKE LIBRARY PLUS BOOK REVIEW

Council by Snorri Kristjansson

This is the second book in the Helga Finsdottir series, the first being *Kin*. It reads like Scandinavian Crime with a Viking twist. It's

quite a dark read but like its predecessor the character of Helga binds you to the story very quickly. She is a strong and wise young woman with a great character and the plot is engaging and atmospheric. In fact all the characters are well developed

and thoroughly believable, some are truly unlikeable also which always makes for an interesting read.

At the ending of *Kin* we see Helga leave the home of her foster parents and wander for five years until she settles near King Erik's court in

Uppsala. Helga is relatively happy in a relationship that she's not entirely sure about and known for her herbal and healing abilities. When the King summons his subjects to a King's Council all does not go well with the back biting and arguing starting almost

immediately. Then the body of an unknown boy is found near the river but with all the visitors arriving and the King hearing rumours of an impending attack no one is really interested in who he might be or why he died. Only Helga suspects there is more to it, and a second body makes it obvious there is a traitor in their midst intent on causing trouble. Once again Helga is thrown into the middle of the turmoil and a happy ending does not seem in sight as plots thicken all around her. Who to trust becomes an ever-growing dilemma and Helga makes some serious mistakes. I truly didn't see the ending

coming and am now hanging out for the next book.

One warning – this is not a stand-alone book so reading the first book is advisable. If you are a fan of Scandinavian crime novels and historical fiction this book is an excellent blend of both.

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

You can also visit <https://www.southtaranaki.com/Live/LibraryPlus>

Maria Brewerton RLIANZA Branch Librarian Opunake & Manaia LibraryPlus\South Taranaki District Council

Funds raised by community for generator



Trish Anderson (left) president of the Opunake Lakeside Lions Club presents a cheque for \$3000 to Aretha Lemon Coastal Care Facility Manager of CoastalCare towards the generator for CoastalCare Health Trust. Funds were raised with generous support from the community at their recent garage sale.



Aretha Lemon receiving a cheque, this time from Te Kiri Women's Institute President Sue Muggeridge. Te Kiri WI raised \$600 with members of the Opunake Friendship Club by making and serving a hot roast meal for the June meeting of the Friendship Club.

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8yr and under must be supervised by 14 yr or older ID required for all R movies

X MEN DARK PHOENIX Action, Sci Fi 1hrs 34mins PG The X men face their most formidable and powerful foe: one of their own, Jean Grey. With Jean spiraling out of control, and hurting the ones she loves most, she begins to unravel the very fabric that holds the X-Men together. Now, with this family falling apart, they must find a way to unite. Fri 19 th Jul 7pm	SECRET LIFE OF PETS Animation, Comedy 1hrs 27mins G The sequel begins three years after the events in the first film on a hot summer day inside Max's apartment in downtown Manhattan. Max and Duke wait for their owner, Katie to return, when they are woken up by a noise from next door. Sat 20 th Jul 1pm
SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER Comedy, Drama, Mystery 1hr 31 mins PG Alan has spent years searching tirelessly for his missing son Michael who stormed out over a game of Scrabble. With a body to identify and his family torn apart, Alan must repair the relationship with his youngest son Peter Sat 20 th Jul 7pm Sun 28 th Jul 7pm Wed 31 st Jul 7pm	ROCKETMAN Biography, Drama, Music 2hr 1mins M ROCKETMAN is an epic musical fantasy about the incredible human story of Elton John's breakthrough years. The film follows the fantastical journey of transformation from shy piano prodigy Reginald Dwight into international superstar Elton John Wed 24 th Jul 1pm
ANNA Action, Thriller 1hr 58mins R16: Violence, Sex Scenes Beneath Anna Poliatova's striking beauty lies a secret that will unleash her indelible strength and skill to become one of the world's most feared government assassins. Sun 21 st Jul 7pm Fri 26 th Jul 7pm 7pm 13 th August 7pm	TOY STORY 4 Animation Comedy 1hr 29mins G When a new toy called "Forky" joins Woody and the gang, a road trip alongside old and new friends reveals how big the world can be for a toy. Fri 19 th Jul 1pm Sat 27 th Jul 1pm Sat 3 rd Aug 1pm
TOP END WEDDING Comedy, Romance 1hr 43mins M Engaged and in love Lauren and Ned have just 10 days to reunite her newly separated parents and pull off their dream Top End Wedding. But Lauren's mother has gone missing, experiencing a midlife crisis. In order to find her, the couple goes on a fantastic road trip across northern Australia. Sat 27 th Jul 7pm	CAMINO SKIES !!ARTHOUSE!! Documentary 1hrs 20mins PG "Six strangers from New Zealand and Australia between the ages of 50 and 80 set off on an inspirational trek along the Camino de Santiago, each hoping to overcome the personal and physical trauma that life has dealt them." Wed 24 th Jul 7pm Wed 31 st Jul 1pm

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	19 Toy Story 4 - 1pm X Men Dark Phoenix 7pm	20 Secret Life of Pets 1pm Sometimes Always Never 7pm	21 Anna 7pm
24 !! ARTHOUSE!! Rocketman 1pm Camino Skies 7pm	26 Anna 7pm	27 Toy Story 4 1pm Top End Wedding 7pm	28 Sometimes Always Never 7pm
31 Camino Skies 1pm Sometimes Always Never 7pm	2 Men in Black: International 7pm	3 Toy Story 4 1pm Anna 7pm	4 ** BOUTIQUE** Wild Rose 7pm

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