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Inside

Crossing sparks protest

A pedestrian crossing on Eltham's High Street will be the focus of a protest event on Friday morning.

The crossing by the town's Four Square is near a corner on the road heading north to New Plymouth and is not always visible to traffic heading through town. While it can be seen by drivers coming from the south, it is not always visible to those coming around the corner in the other direction, says Eltham resident and South Taranaki District councillor Mark Bellringer.

"I've nearly been bowled on the crossing once. Everyone will testify who works here that you can hear the trucks slamming their brakes every day," he says.

Eltham's High Street is part of State Highway 3 and there is considerable traffic, including trucks passing through town throughout the day. Tucked away among corners, the crossing is not always easy to react to, says Mark.

He says the purpose of Friday's "protest/awareness exercise" will be two pronged, to let passing traffic, particularly drivers of trucks know that the crossing is there, and to educate pedestrians about what they need to do to stay safe.

"Pedestrians see it and think they have some God given right to walk out in front of cars and trucks," he says.

The event will start at 7.30am with people gathering at Stark Park and then sent off with signs to different points along High Street.

Mark had recently travelled



Mark Bellringer wants people to be more aware of this crossing.

through town as a passenger in one of Uhlenberg Haulage's trucks, going at 40kph in one direction and 30kph in the other. He says this gave him an appreciation of the truckies' point of view and on Friday he plans to show the video he took on that occasion.

Mark says the crossing has long been a concern for people in Eltham, and an earlier petition had "gone nowhere."

In May, the Opunake and Coastal News reported that board member Lindsay Maindonald had raised the issue of the crossing along with other traffic concerns at a meeting of the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board.

Mark says that while he welcomes Eltham, along with Waverley, being included in a grant from the NZTA's Innovating Streets Project, it could be eight months before a pilot scheme could be set up. In the meantime he would like to see temporary measures like 30kph signs put in place. He says he would like there to be a 70kph sign for drivers heading south before they reach the 50kph zone in the town centre. He believes this could slow traffic before they reached the crossing.

Other possible alternatives could include flashing lights to make incoming traffic aware of a crossing ahead, or a chain on the footpath to heighten awareness for pedestrians.

Two Awatuna accidents

The Kaponga Fire Brigade was called out to attend two vehicle accidents in the Awatuna area during the weekend. The first callout was at around 8.10pm on Friday after a vehicle rolled on the Eltham Road about 400 metres west of the intersection with Auroa Road.

Kaponga chief fire officer Jason Hurley said one of the vehicle's two occupant was already out when they arrived, but they had to get the roof off to free the second person. Jason says there was "a little bit of light rain" at the time. Police, ambulance and both Opunake fire trucks also attended. The rescue helicopter was dispatched but stood down.

Two people were admitted to

Taranaki Base Hospital. At 3.16am on Sunday the Kaponga Brigade was called to another accident at Awatuna, this one involving two utes at the intersection of Eltham and Oeo Roads.

The driver of one of one of the utes had self-extricated by the time they arrived there, said Jason.

"His injuries took over and he was not in good shape." The vehicle's passenger had to be cut free. The roof of the other ute had to be removed to rescue the vehicle's sole occupant.

"It was raining and windy. It was terrible," says Jason. The rescue helicopters were dispatched, but because of bad weather couldn't get there. Three ambulances as well as

police and the Opunake Fire Brigade also attended.

Three people were transported to Taranaki Base Hospital, one with critical and two with serious injuries.

Man dies while cutting trees

Emergency services were called to an Otakeho property at around 10.30am on Sunday after a tree felling accident. The man who had been felling trees on the Auroa Road property was unable to be revived and died at the scene.

A Worksafe spokesperson has since said they would not be investigating the incident as employed work was not being carried out at the time.



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Everybodys Theatre up and running. Page 29



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Comedian comes to Pihama page 30

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Statue article disgusts

What a contrast to read such a lovely editorial this week about how important community newspapers are for sharing our news and views and for supporting local businesses and journalists. I couldn't agree more but then I read the following article, presumably by the same editor, making not very well veiled racist remarks about people objecting to monuments to oppressors of people of colour. It says a lot about our community if articles like this stand unchallenged.

To quote a recent CNN article about Winston Churchill "he said that he hated people with "slit eyes and pig tails." To him, people from India were "the beastliest people in the world next to the Germans." He admitted that he "did not really think that black people were as capable or as efficient as white people." That took 10 seconds to find on the internet. So it is pretty shocking that our local paper's editor still claims people like him were "supposedly racist."

How is it also possible to hail the "inspirational military leadership" of Colonel Malone who like many other descendants of our community invaded the non-violent resistors at Parihaka and stole Taranaki territory from Māori? I am disgusted by this article and demand that the editor publicly retracts their comments and goes through a decolonisation course. Your views do not represent the decent people of our community who strive to find peace and justice amongst ongoing oppression from white supremacists.

Emily Bailey
Pungarehu

Statues not meant to reflect history

In the edition of June 18, the writer stated he believes that statues which are causing

controversy these days should just be left where they stand because someone is bound to find offence with any commemoration to a historical figure anyway. I disagree.

The defects of many of these figures are not slight and yet they stand in places of honour. One cannot ignore the faults of these individuals because of an inconvenient truth. Maori suffered greatly at the hands of the colonizers – they suffered loss of land, exploitation, lack of human and civil rights, and death. The descendants whose ancestors suffered at the hands of the colonizers must face these symbols of oppression every day.

Removing the statues does not deny history. They were not meant to reflect history. They do not tell the whole story and they do not spell out the faults of these figures. If they are not history, what are they? Do their "achievements and good points" trump their racism, their barbarianism?

What meaning do they have for you? Are they reminders of the supremacy of colonists? Do they celebrate the great and benevolent thing that is colonization? Where are the statues that commemorate events and individuals honoured in the Maori world? Let's have statues that are relevant to Taranaki. Let all the community choose who or what to honour.

Opposition to the statues is considered divisive but also opposition to their removal is divisive. What does it say about a community that refuses to consider the impacts of these symbols on our Maori neighbours? People are beginning to understand that these symbols represent colonial oppression, inequality and discrimination to Maori. We need to stand up against injustice and racism. We live, work, and play side by side. Let's end the divisiveness. It's time for communities to work together to foster fairness, inclusion, equality, and kindness.

Mary Moore
Mania

ADELPHOS

A lot of people chuckle at the TV programme 'Married at First Sight.' They wonder where true love comes in. Obviously, love is related to feelings and emotions and are part of the marriage relationship. We experience feelings consciously whereas emotions surface either sub-consciously or consciously. Relationship experts often explain that most couples are "in love" for the first 18 months. After that they have

to learn what love really is. Most couples married for more than 18 months know this from hard learned experience.

As a marriage celebrant, no one I married planned on having feelings of resentment or hatred toward their beloved spouse. But over time, their vows, even before God, can turn into anger or jealousy and destroy their relationship. Traditionally many have included God, as the author

Photos wanted of Warner family

I have several interesting items from Papers Past concerning the Warner family I am connected to that were printed in the Opunake Times from as far back as 1907, and up until 1948, either in public notices, or obituaries, and another one in Hawera and Normanby paper.

I was hoping to find some photos that may have been printed in the paper too. I am not sure that I can find those through Papers Past.

Would you know anywhere that I could try and locate any please that might have been stored in some archives? I found a lot on Papers Past re the Opunake Warners. Husband Robert was on the Council I think, and Agnes had been a nurse and had been a huge help to the community including Maori settlement. There was an obituary on her when she died at age 93 in 1948.

My late parents were born in Stratford, I am one of their six kids, and was born in Patea.

As a family we left Taranaki in 1948, I was five. Every year and even now, there is a trip back to my old roots, as I still have many cousins there. And we usually stay in Stratford. No more aunts and uncles now.

Coincidentally I married a Taranakian, and this was another reason for tripping back each year.

My mother-in-law Mabel Warner had been a candidate in the Opunake Queen Carnival in 1921.

Mabel was the youngest child of a large family.

I have been reading the issue of Coastal News dated 18th. What a wonderful newspaper! Congratulations to you and your team

Joan Adamson

Hamilton

ajadamson@xtra.co.nz

The Editor replies. The Opunake Times used to be stored in the library in Opunake. But

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a while back was relocated to the New Plymouth Library.

Open letter

To Mayor Nixon and Council members.

While it is good news that the new plant for Waverley will deliver potable water of a higher standard, I must lodge our objection to its fluoridation. The District Health Board may have supplied funding for this purpose but it has no mandate to insist on adding fluoride compounds to the water. As you must know, the legislation designed to give DHBs such powers has only passed its first reading. Moreover, with an increasing body of evidence, medical and environmental, highly critical of fluoridating water supplies, it is irresponsible of Council to persist in proceeding with this measure.

We find it curious that all the current MPs in this region are National, yet, in supporting fluoridation, they fail to observe one of their nine basic 'Values' as listed on their web-site - namely 'individual freedom and choice.' We trust they will remember this should they be re-elected to Parliament. Meantime, we respectfully ask you and your council to halt the fluoridation of water supplies in your district.

With best wishes - Kia Ora.

Heather Marion Smith.

President Social Credit

Western Region

Correction

In regard to a story in the last issue about the future of the Eltham Municipal Building, Eltham-Kaponga Community Board member Lindsay Maindonald says he wanted the matter decided by a public meeting. He says he agreed in essence with the recommendations before the community board and had voted that way on the proviso that a public meeting would be held.

What's love got to do with it?

of love, in their vows. However today, in our secularised society, many see this as an unpopular option.

God is the author of love. Because of Him love is all around us. It's in the camaraderie of a rugby team or neighbours helping each other in a time of real crisis. It's in the eyes and tail wag of your dog when you return home from work. It's a pure unselfish love that a soldier would throw himself

on a hand grenade to save his mates.

The pressing issue for those searching for love is how to tell the difference between true love and the projections of society, the media and Hollywood. It makes common sense that since God is the author of all kinds of love, that human erotic love (eros) should be infused with God's love (agape). Agape

Continued page 3

Editorial

Scott Watson case finally being reviewed

It's pleasing to see that the Scott Watson's conviction is to be referred back to the Court of Appeal.

The action follows Justice Minister Andrew Little's recommendation to the Governor General Dame Patsy Reddy who accepted the Justice Minister's advice.

Scott Watson was convicted of the double murder of Olivia Hope (17) and Ben Smart (21) who disappeared in the Marlborough Sounds on New Year's Day in 1998.

Having visited the remote area where the young couple disappeared many years ago (before their disappearance) it seems hard to contemplate that this beauty area could be the scene of a double murder.

It is indeed remote and Furneaux Lodge where people congregated in 1998 to usher in the New Year, has no road access.

You could drive to nearby Punga Cove and from there follow a track around the bay to the Lodge. It was quite a hike.

It is the fourth time Scott Watson has challenged his conviction for the murders.

Trying to solve possible miscarriages of justice in New Zealand is something of a national pastime.

It all began with the Crewe murders.

Those old enough will recall New Zealand's collective groan – or so it felt – when Arthur Allan Thomas was somehow found guilty for a second time when

seemingly, bar the 12 jury members and a few police, the rest of New Zealand including his fellow inmates sensed the wrong person was in prison.

The planting of evidence by those who are expected to enforce the law was what of course nailed it for the unfortunate Arthur Thomas who was eventually freed when the Prime Minister at the time Rob Muldoon – having read a book called Beyond Reasonable Doubt by English author David Yallop who was visiting New Zealand around this time – in 1979 granted a royal pardon to Arthur Thomas after 9 years in prison.

All this is history of course but that old saying those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

The case of Scott Watson certainly warrants review and good on our Minister of Justice. A former Minister of Justice in 2013 recommended there were no grounds to review the case. Scott Watson also unsuccessfully appealed the conviction earlier in 2000 and lost a subsequent application for leave to appeal to the Privy Council.

The two hairs found on the blanket in Scott Watson's yacht (26 foot in length) was the most damning evidence against Watson. The reliability of the DNA evidence linking the hairs to one of the victims is now being challenged.

The problem with scientific forensic evidence is that it



Scott Watson today

is often not well understood by the jury.

In the Thomas case, one of my fellow students also studying chemistry at Auckland University, was the son of Dr Jim Sprott, the forensic scientist employed by Thomas supporters. I remember a conversation I had with him in connection with the controversial cartridge case. He said that the jury did not understand the significance of a measurement in parts per million.

In the Scott Watson case suspicions are now focussed on the analysis of the hairs found (again suspiciously missed initially when the blankets was first examined for evidence by a scientist who collected all the hairs found on it). Times have changed since 1998 with DNA analysis now much more advanced.

Arthur Allan Thomas was given a million dollars for his wrongful incarceration and somehow went on to successfully resume his life.

So, thanks to our justice minister for his wise action. I'm sure a lot of New Zealanders are relieved that the case is finally being reviewed.

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What's love got to do with it?

Continued from page 2

love "can" transform eros love into something more enduring and meaningful – especially when that agape love is put into practice. Even then God doesn't promise us a rose garden in our relationships. There's always weeds or problems that have to be rooted out and worked on

together.

CS Lewis drew a distinction between love and feelings, "The great thing to remember is that, though our feelings come and go, His love for us does not." When love is rooted in oneself and not the other person it is self-centered. Jesus' love was centred on others, not Himself: "This is how we know what love is:

Jesus Christ laid down His life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers" (1 John 3:16 NIV). God came down to earth in the humanity of Jesus. While He was sacrificially dying on the cross He was thinking about one thing: You and me and not Himself.

Adelphos

PS. Remember to worship God at Oakura, St. James, 10:00 am. while you can on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Buyer wanted for building with presence

STDC and Eltham are currently looking to find a new owner for the old Eltham Municipal Building on Stanners Street which was built in 1911. STDC owns a number of buildings that it no longer has any use for, and require upgrading to bring them up to the current government standards. The council will look to advertise the building nation-wide and we are confident that there will be someone out there that can see a use for the building, and has the ability to bring it up to standard. The building has a real presence, and stands next to the Eltham Town Hall which is also a fantastic building and is being maintained by the council and available for community use. Last Friday I was lucky



MARK BELLRINGER

enough to help front a 7 Sharp programme to tell the story to New Zealand, and we have had good feedback and enquiries. So here's hoping the Eltham Municipal will be around in another century providing a glimpse into New Zealand's past colonial architecture.
*Cr Mark Bellringer
Eltham-Kaponga Ward.*



The Eltham Municipal Building.

Mayor welcomes Parihaka investment

The story of Parihaka is one which everyone needs to learn and understand and we welcome this investment from Government to assist in rebuilding the once thriving

community," says South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon. "This investment from the Minister of Regional Economic Development Shane Jones builds on the reconciliation agreement signed in 2017 and reflects a shared commitment from the Crown and the local community to ensure the history is preserved and Parihaka's story is told by their people." "Work is being undertaken to develop a Taranaki story with support from Government to build an integrated historical tourism journey which will include Parihaka, Tawhiti Museum, the Taranaki Cathedral, the National Park and potentially other places as further funding becomes available."

"I am delighted for the people of Parihaka as they have waited a long time for this to happen." "The investment comes at a time when the region is looking to support the local construction sector and is therefore particularly welcome. Locals helping locals with welcome support from Government."



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Rupert and Bill Badger above Black Rock



Rupert and Bill Badger above Back Beach is the latest work from Coastal Taranaki artist Graham Kirk. "I was reading about Alfred Bestall, the amazing artist who illustrated the Rupert books, which I grew up with in the fifties and sixties.," says Graham. "He was a survivor of Flanders in the First World War."

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OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

A busy weekend for fire brigade

Friday night had Opunake called out to a car that had rolled on the Eltham Road. Kaponga Brigade arrived first at the crash and soon had things under control. Two people were taken by ambulance to Taranaki Base Hospital with moderate injuries.



CFO CRAIG DINGLE

Unfortunately, at 3:20am Sunday morning Kaponga and Opunake attended a T-Bone crash at the intersection of Oeo Road and Eltham Road. On arrival one person had themselves out of the vehicle but were in extreme pain and freezing cold in the pouring rain. Kaponga

and Opunake worked hard to cut free the patient from one car before focusing on the last patient. All three were taken to Taranaki Base with moderate to serious injuries. Later on Sunday morning around 10am - Opunake were called to a tree felling accident to help with CPR. Sadly, the patient was unable



Chief Fire Officer Craig Dingle and fire engine.

to be revived and we were turned back before arriving at the scene.

Please take it easy on the roads, wet and wintery conditions.

Craig Dingle
Chief Fire Officer
Opunake Fire Brigade

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Kia Ora Koutou,

As the weather starts to dampen and conditions deteriorate I ask that everyone adjusts their speeds accordingly. Our ultimate goal as Police and community is to have zero crashes, injuries and fatalities on our roads. We all play a big part in this by changing our individual driving behaviours and



Constable Matt Stone.

reporting any unsafe driving.

*555 can be used if you are concerned about someone's driving but if it becomes a situation where you believe public's safety is comprised at that time then 111 is appropriate. If you are reporting an incident after the fact then 105 online or by phone should be used.

I understand that this time of year is busy for the rural sector. I ask that you are still

vigilant around security for your properties. If anyone needs any advice around security please don't hesitate to contact me.

Enjoy the school holidays everyone and I'll see you on the street.

Matt Stone
Okato Police

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Eltham's Mary Poppins

Last year the Eltham & Districts Historical Society embarked on a project to upgrade their building in Bridge Street, Eltham.

They received grants for painting the exterior (Taranaki Electricity Trust) and repairs to the masonry (Lysaght Watt Trust & Eunice Roddie Trust), but sadly missed out on obtaining funding for a roof replacement which is

desperately needed. Any grant applications submitted at present have to be 'Covid related'.

So, funding officer Maree Liddington came up with the idea to launch a Facebook appeal. The group has 1300 Facebook followers. She says, "I would not ordinarily go to our Facebook Friends. They are friends and we want them to remain so, but these are extraordinary

times. I have appealed for the donation of the cost of a cup of coffee as a starting point. Many people have given more and that's great. In the first week we have received \$650. I feel it is good for charitable groups to be seen to be trying to help themselves. We can't always expect handouts."

The post needed an eye catching photo so the idea of a photo of an umbrella over

the roof came to mind. And it has worked and gone viral. "I am being called Mary Poppins as I walk down the street now."

See Eltham & Districts Historical Society FB page for more information.

Maree Liddington.

Getting back on our feet starts at the grassroots

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) has put together a \$453,000 lifeline for grassroots groups that will help get the District through the Covid-19 storm.

On June 17 councillors topped up the community funding pot for the 2020/21 financial year to bring it to a total of \$760,000.

The funding will be open to groups delivering essential services which saw a spike in demand or costs during the Covid-19 response; or will help our District recover after lockdown; or are struggling to survive amid the Covid-19 response.

While most stayed in their bubble during the lockdown, many vulnerable people found themselves exposed. Without friends or family to rely on or left behind in the Internet era, the elderly and those in poor health found a helping hand in Volunteering New Plymouth which receives NPDC funding. They organised Police-checked volunteers to assist in their Covid-19 work to help the needy and bridge the lockdown gaps.

"A huge amount of our work was just buying groceries for people who couldn't get



A helping hand: Volunteering New Plymouth's Wendy Richards and Marie Riordan.

out themselves and they had nobody to call on," said Volunteering New Plymouth manager Marie Riordan.

"COVID-19 has changed our world in so many ways and not-for-profit services, such as Taranaki Computer Access Centre Trust's tutoring on digital devices and the Internet, will need to adapt."

With National Volunteer Week highlighting the benefit of working together,

it's important to remember that grassroots groups like Volunteering New Plymouth are the cornerstone of our community and are vital to our recovery, says Mayor Neil Holdom.

"Many of our households and businesses are having a tough time coming through the Covid-19 economic storm and our grassroots groups can make the difference between sinking or swimming. But they need help too and this

NPDC funding top up worth nearly half a million dollars will help them get back on their feet."

The funding will be issued in two rounds with the applications for the first round closing on July 9.

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Redressing the wrongs of the past

I welcome the efforts to create some significant opportunities for Parihaka. Its story is indelibly one of the most significant in New Zealand's history of conflict. Under the previous National-led Government the Hon Chris Finlayson commenced an initiative that would bring apology and reconciliation from the Crown with a \$9 million investment to rebuild the infrastructure of the Parihaka settlement. The South Taranaki District Council and the New Plymouth District Council partnered in this.



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

The \$14 million dollar Provincial Growth Fund investment announced this week is adding to this, and is to provide a new visitor centre and

other new buildings to assist in the vision of Parihaka being recognised as a significant place in New Zealand's history, and as a place of learning.

As the local MP for the electorate that Parihaka sits in, and as someone who grew up in South Taranaki with only limited knowledge of the terrible events of November 5 1881, it is gratifying to see history being redressed where Parihaka is recognised and supported. Parihaka, so important in New Zealand's history, was founded by two Māori

statesmen and leaders, Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi, who instead of "doing unto others before they do to you" were "doing unto others as they would have them do to them" which is essentially turning the other cheek and responding to aggression with peaceful resistance. They were men of faith and vision for their people, and men who were prepared to stand tall to support their people by saying no to the aggression and confiscation that confronted them.

When I read the opening re-

marks in the apology that the Crown put into the Parihaka legislation last October, it reminded me that we need to understand that the House of Parliament legislated against the people of Parihaka, back in the 1880s. The law did not work to help; it worked to harm. So when the Parihaka Reconciliation Bill was passed, the House of Parliament, the people of New Zealand represented by Members of Parliament, reversed the injury history had created. It moved to ensure that the Government stood by the rule of law and the

moral purpose of the law, to protect its citizens, and is now working to see restitution and reconciliation in our nation.

*Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth
newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz
National Party Spokesperson: Arts, Culture & Heritage
National Party Spokesperson: Energy & Resources*

Funding boost to provide instant access to information for people with vision loss

Blind Low Vision NZ has received funding from the Ministry of Social Development to purchase and roll-out 3500 Alexa smart-speakers.

The announcement coincides with the launch of Blind Low Vision NZ's Strategic Plan where one of the key priorities is independence. The speakers will be distributed to Blind Low Vision NZ members to open up access to information. Blind Low Vision NZ designed an Alexa 'skill' (similar to an app) which was released in 2019 which gives instant access to the accessible library.

"Our skill gives our library members access to more than 35,000 audio items. There is no waiting around for CDs – with a few simple voice commands, members can be



Minister Carmel Sepuloni with NZFB chair Rick Hoskin and Blind Low Vision chief executive John Mulka.

listening to whichever book they choose," says Blind Low Vision NZ Library and Studios Manager Geraldine Lewis.

"There are also many other benefits to a smart-speaker such as checking public transport timetables, the weather, Covid-19 updates and whatever you can think of asking."

John Mulka, Blind Low Vision NZ Chief Executive, says providing technology to empower independence directly relates to the new Strategic Plan for 2020-2024.

"Under our strategic priority of independence, we want to connect people with technology that is accessible and affordable so they are future ready."

"With thanks to the Ministry of Social Development, we are on our way to delivering on this and we look forward to providing instant access to information for thousands of Kiwis who are blind or have low vision."

The Minister for Social Development Carmel Sepuloni said access to technology like the Alexa and its offerings supports the needs of the blind and low vision community through innovation.

"It's a mechanism that can offer real value to the community and the Government is committed to supporting disabled people to live their lives to their fullest potential," she said.

JONATHAN YOUNG
MP for New Plymouth

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Our next issue will be published on July 16. We look forward to your contributions.

Interest shown in Eltham Municipal Building

Potential buyers have already made enquiries about the old Eltham Municipal Building, following the decision at the June 15 Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting to declare the unused building surplus and put up for sale for a nominal sum.

The Committee agreed to a recommendation from the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board that the building be offered for sale, on condition that the buyer has the means to strengthen



Eltham Municipal Building.

the building.

The former Municipal Building was closed to the public in 2018 following a

detailed Seismic assessment which rated the building at only 8% of the New Building Standard. The cost to

strengthen and upgrade the building was conservatively estimated to be up to \$1.7 million with community use over the last 30 years being relatively low.

South Taranaki District Mayor Phil Nixon says he would prefer to see ratepayers funds put into buildings that are better used such as the Eltham Town Hall or on urban revitalisation projects such as the Eltham Town Centre masterplan. But while the Council can't justify spending millions of ratepayers dollars on a

building which isn't used, they would prefer not to lose it either.

"This is an old Council Building that has been underutilised for over 30 years. It would cost a couple of million dollars to upgrade and the Council cannot spend public money doing that when there is no community need for the building. But the Council does recognise the buildings Heritage value and wants to make it as easy as possible for anyone genuinely interested and capable of saving it, which

is why we are offering the building at a nominal price provided the buyer has the means and genuine intention to strengthen and maintain the building."

Mr Nixon, says he is confident that a buyer will be found and was heartened to hear that enquiries had already been received before the building had even been advertised. He adds that if, after 12 months, no buyer has been found for the building a report will be brought back to the Council for a decision on its future.

Eltham and Waverley projects chosen for funding

Two South Taranaki District Council street improvement projects that will support more vibrant spaces for community and businesses have been chosen by Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency to be 90% funded by the Innovating Streets for People pilot fund.

Waverley and Eltham's town centres were chosen for the projects which will test potential street treatments aimed at reducing

issues identified in the Town Master Plans developed last year including speed of traffic, noise, safety, amenity and sense of place.

The aim of running the pilot, which has been tentatively confirmed at around \$450,000 for the two projects, is to test potential treatments and compare which are the most beneficial at reducing the identified issues and creating a 'heart' within each township. Both

projects will be co designed in partnership with local communities and business people.

Waka Kotahi Urban Mobility Programme Manager Kathryn King says the Innovating Streets pilot fund supports quick, low-cost interim improvements that create more people friendly spaces in our neighbourhoods.

"By using a 'tactical urbanism' approach to test

what works for communities we can create attractive, vibrant places that make space for people and help to support local businesses. We're pleased to support these projects through the Innovating Streets pilot fund."

South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon says he is delighted with the announcement. "I'm really pleased that these projects have been funded and we can begin working

with the community to enhance our town centres." The pilot projects will be used to inform street improvements throughout the district with timelines for the co-design and community consultation still to be finalised.

"We want to encourage locals and visitors to stay longer, be safe and comfortable in our towns. This supports our local businesses and encourages

social interaction. Locals know what works and we want to encompass their experience and creativity in any final plans," Nixon said. The Eltham and Waverley projects are part of a \$13.95 million government programme which will see around 40 projects that make streets more people-friendly being delivered across the country before June 2021.

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How genetically modified New Zealand goats could help fight cancer

Genetically-modified goats could make a big difference in the war against our biggest killer, New Zealand scientists have found.

Over recent decades, researchers have increasingly turned to antibodies - the main weapons of our immune system - to fight cancer.

While our immune system normally makes use of a large collection of antibodies that can target slightly different parts of a pathogen, one in particular is capable of recognising a single, specific target.

That's made what are called monoclonal antibodies - or mAbs - exciting candidates for anti-cancer therapy, with the potential to exploit differences between cancer cells and normal ones.

One of the best-known

examples today is breast cancer therapy Herceptin, designed to spot and bind to the HER2 proteins on the surface of cancer cells.

AgResearch senior scientist Dr Goetz Laible said mAbs continued to represent an important class of pharmaceutical proteins for the treatment of many serious human diseases, cancer among them.

However, therapies required the application of relatively large amounts of mAb for each patient - and getting that scale out of traditional lab-based methods wasn't so easy.

"Mammalian cells need a highly controlled environment for their culture which causes high production and scale-up costs," Laible said.

That's where animals -



AgResearch senior scientist Dr Goetz Laible, with goats that have been genetically tweaked to produce certain antibodies used for cancer therapy. Photo / Supplied

capable of producing large amounts of these proteins in their milk - could speed things up.

In a new study, Laible and colleagues turned to transgenic goats - or those that have had a foreign gene deliberately inserted into their genome - to see if they'd make a suitable platform for cetuximab, an mAb commercially produced as Erbitux.

Genes holding the information for producing the mAb in milk were inserted into the genome of goat cells, from which

the scientists produced live goats using the same technology made famous by the cloning of sheep Dolly.

"The additional genes in the genome enabled these goats to produce the antibody in their milk," Laible said.

"Aside from this change in their milk, the goats involved are otherwise healthy, normal animals."

His team were specifically interested to see whether the goats could not only make large volumes of the protein, but also whether it could be purified from the

milk - and whether goat-produced mAb turned out to be fully functional.

Not only did the goats tick those boxes, but their mAb also appeared to be less immunogenic - producing less of an immune response - while packing attributes comparable with commercially available mAb produced in cultured mammalian cells.

Laible was excited at the prospect.

"A production platform for high-value therapeutic mAbs in goats would be especially attractive for

New Zealand," he said.

"Our animals have an excellent health status and are free of many harmful animal diseases that are common in many other countries.

"Adding New Zealand's leading expertise in farm animal genetics and reproductive technologies, quality milk processing capabilities and efficient farming systems, this shows what an opportunity this could hold."

The findings, published in preprint server bioRxiv, follow a slew of fascinating insights AgResearch scientists have gained through genetically engineering animals.

In 2018, they discovered a new way to knock out a major milk allergen by editing a cow's genome.

They're now using the latest GE tech to create New Zealand's first «climate-smart» cow - boasting better milk production, greater heat tolerance, and fewer emissions - along with pigs that could make ideal organ donors for humans in the future.

Jamie Morton
Science Reporter, NZ Herald



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Mac Sole: Episode 21

My work every morning consisted of milking, although my brother Bill would get the cows to the shed and start the milking. When nearly finished I would catch the two draught horses, take them to the shed and get them set for the wagon to take the milk to the factory. Next, I'd go to the house for breakfast, which Dad would normally cook. I would then go to school. I never took lunch. I liked school because of the company.

On Saturday and Sunday at times I would take the milk to the factory, which was about two miles from home. This I liked as I had the feeling I was in control of something.



A Blacksmith at work.

On a Thursday was an occasion, which at the time was called "Cockies Day." It was farmers going to town when they and their wives dressed up in their finery as did any children. It was also stock sale day

at the saleyards on Glover Road where Mitre 10 and other businesses now stand, so on the odd Thursday when Dad had stock to sell I would jump on a horse and I would drive them into Hawera. Dad would meet me at the sale yards. I liked school, but taking stock to school to town was something exceptional and afterwards the horse ride. The six miles home was great with me doing my best to be a cowboy minus guns and Indians.

Another hideaway was a blacksmith shed next to the cowshed. The smithy was named Harry White who, on the odd occasion, stayed with us and shod our horses. He was a friend of Dad's and was a very very good smithy

and farrier. He was not a big man, but no horse scared him and I liked working with him. My job at times was to hold the bridle of the horses while they were being shod, keeping the fire hot to heat the iron that Harry made the shoes from, plus I liked heating irons and to beat out objects on the anvil. It appeared I had a certain skill at making meat hooks, which I cannot recall being used.

Harry was a very wiry fellow and would walk to Normanby where he had a smithy shop, but he got there by walking cross country. Harry's finances were limited, but he was very kind to me. Good memories.

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TRC farewells chief executive

New Zealand's longest-serving local body chief was farewelled into retirement, lauded for his 'extraordinary' contribution to the Taranaki community.

Basil Chamberlain has been Chief Executive of the Taranaki Regional Council since it was established in 1989. He'd been employed by its predecessors since 1980, starting out as a Water Resources Officer for the Taranaki Catchment Commission and Regional Water Board.



Basil Chamberlain.

"He's been fully committed to the region for those 40 years and he's made an extraordinary contribution," says the Council Chair, David MacLeod. "The region has benefited immensely from his powerful intellect and his superb ability to strategize and develop robust and effective processes and programmes.

"Taranaki is known as a place of creative, innovative and successful initiatives, and Basil has been at the forefront.

"The Riparian Management Programme and Towards Predator-Free Taranaki are just two notable examples of his approach: careful forethought and planning, adaptability as lessons are learned or circumstances change, and strong community involvement. No wonder these programmes are successful.

"And being the man that he is, Basil is always reluctant to claim any personal credit for Council successes under his leadership. He'll firmly tell you they are the results of team effort by staff, Councillors and, most importantly, the Taranaki community itself."

He says Mr Chamberlain's

team-first approach is also reflected in the way he attracted talented and committed people to work for the Council, and mentored them effectively. Many have gone on to prominent roles in other regions or nationally. "I think of Stratford as the country's university of Regional Councils, thanks largely to Basil's efforts."

Mr MacLeod says he personally owes Mr Chamberlain a debt of gratitude. "I became Chair at a relatively young age, and greatly appreciated the guidance and wisdom offered by Basil and my Council colleagues," he says. "Over the years, Basil and I have made a lot of trips together as Chair and Chief Executive, and discussed many issues at great depth. Basil is direct and honest with his advice, and has contributed much to my personal development and chairmanship skills."

Mr MacLeod's predecessor as Chair, David Walter, says he greatly valued Mr Chamberlain's ability to condense complex issues into clearly understandable language without becoming entangled in excess bureaucracy or officiousness.

In particular, he praises Mr Chamberlain's adept

approach to the uniquely Taranaki challenges involved in regulating major oil and gas activity, as well as the part he played in bringing Tūpare, Hollard Gardens and Pukeiti into regional public ownership, and ensuring they are widely appreciated and enjoyed.

"We've seen entrance fees removed and far more people visiting the properties and taking advantage of the upgrades that have occurred under Council ownership. This is but one instance of Basil's foresight and ability to deliver tangible developments for the betterment of the region and its people."

Mr Walter says the Council's performance under Mr Chamberlain's watch earned it numerous awards, including being rated by Federated Farmers as the best-performing Council in the country in 2007.

Mr Chamberlain himself was honoured with a Distinguished Management Award by the Society of Local Government Managers earlier this year. The award citation noted his "intelligent, strong and pragmatic leadership" and said he is known as a "strong advocate of public participation in community governance and the need to empower and work with people to achieve vibrant and prosperous communities".

He was also honoured with an Outstanding Person Award by the Resource Management Law Association in 2013.

Mr Chamberlain has had numerous external appointments over the years, serving on Ministerial and departmental advisory groups and local government sector working parties and interest groups, mainly

dealing with resource management and biosecurity. He has also been included in New Zealand delegations to international forums on planning and environmental issues.

Originally from eastern Southland, Mr Chamberlain studied at Otago University. Later in his career he attended leadership courses at Harvard University in the US, and at the University of Reading and Ashridge in the UK.

In Taranaki, he has served as a Justice of the Peace, as a director of the Taranaki Rugby Football Union, and as a member and Chair of the Board of Trustees for St John Bosco School, New Plymouth.

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The Battle of Waireka in 1860

This issue we are describing the incident from the perspective of the colonial settlers and the military. Next issue we aim to have another perspective – one that looks at the conflict from a Maori viewpoint. We are grateful for the input of Len Jury who is a

descendant of the pioneering Jury family. He pointed out various places of interest. Jesse Jury bought land in 1847 and established his farm homestead near the Waireka West / Sutton Road crossroad. The homestead was unoccupied at the time of the conflict. Jesse was killed while felling a tree,



The plaque reads: About this hill the first major engagement of the Taranaki War the Battle of Waireka was fought 28 March 1860. (Historic Places Trust).

and his widow Elizabeth had moved to New Plymouth for safety reasons. However, son John's homestead, which was nearer the coast and down on the flat, was caught up in the conflict. The farm was in the Jury family until the 152.5 hectares was sold about three years ago.

Just south of New Plymouth (and a few kms north of Oakura) is the tranquil Waireka Road, but 160 years ago it was far from peaceful as many people lost their lives in a bloody battle. Five settlers were ambushed and killed near Omata township on March 2, 1860; two of the victims were boys aged 14 and 12, respectively. The five were either shot, tomahawked or both. It was thought the

perpetrators were from Kaipopo Pa, which had been recently established overlooking the Omata Stockade and the Main Road South. The pa was eight km southwest of New Plymouth and four km from the Omata Stockade. The pa was occupied by about 500 Maori from the following iwi – Taranaki, Ngati Ruanui and Nga Rauru. One of the chiefs was Manahi. It was a time of unrest against the background of the disputed land sale in Waitara where some land was sold to the Crown by one chief Te Teira, while his ownership was disputed by many others including the most influential, Wiremu Kingi. There had been several minor Maori-European clashes and many settlers had left their farms

to seek relative safety in New Plymouth itself. Many of these farm homesteads and farm buildings ended up being ransacked and burnt, with the stock driven off or killed. To be fair the situation was something of a vicious circle; the British led soldiers (65th Regiment) would destroy most pa they captured including belongings and crops, while, perhaps in retaliation, the farms of the European settlers would be targeted.

Anyway, the Battle of Waireka became the most serious clash of what was known as the First Taranaki War (March 1860 – March 1861).

The Governor at the time was Thomas Gore Browne (1855-1861), who was followed in turn by George Grey (1861-1868). Governor Browne was concerned about the safety of settlers who lived in the locality and various contingents set off to the locality. A consultation between the Governor and overall military leader Lt-Col Gold led to a military rescue plan. Two settlers in possible danger were Rev Henry Brown and Thomas Gilbert, although they professed to be neutral.

One military group set off on March 28 along the coast under the leadership of Captain Charles Brown (later relieved by Captain Charles Stapp), while Lieutenant-Colonel GT Murray approached Omata by the usual inland route. His orders were to return to New Plymouth by nightfall as he

was needed for the defence of the town, if needed.

Under the various leaders were British soldiers (who had overall authority), local volunteers (Taranaki Rifle Volunteers), local militia and even seamen from the HMS Niger, at dock on the New Plymouth waterfront. Captain Peter Cracroft was in command of this latter group.

Some Maori warriors had left the Kaipopo Pa and taken up positions in the bushes and flax lower down near John Jury's isolated farm homestead (near Waireka Stream). They engaged with some European soldiers who were mostly the locals (Taranaki Rifle Volunteers and militia), who came under heavy fire. Their weapons were mostly double barrelled shotguns, although some had rifles. Ammunition was also running low with each volunteer having been given just 30 rounds for their Enfield rifles.

There was a definite expectation that Lt-Col Murray would come to the rescue of the volunteers who were holed up in the vicinity of the isolated Jury farm homestead. However, Murray stuck rigidly to his orders (back by nightfall) and headed back to New Plymouth around 5.30pm leaving the volunteers to their fate. His actions were strongly criticized and there was an inquiry after the event. Just after midnight the volunteers made it back to Omata Stockade.

Meanwhile Captain Cracroft had approached the pa in the late afternoon and bombarded it with rocket tubes. Captain Cracroft offered ten pounds to any soldier



A soldier drew this picture showing John Jury's embattled homestead and Kaipopo Pa on the brow of the hill (Jury's Hill).

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The site of Kaipopo Pa as it looks now. Rocket remnants have been found on the site.

who captured their flag. Seaman William Odgers obliged and won a Victoria Cross for his bravery. The pa was captured.

There are conflicting accounts of how many people lost their lives on both sides. One estimate stipulated that as many as 150 Maori warriors lost their lives, but some authorities (such as historian James Belich) have stated this is wildly exaggerated. The European soldiers killed numbered about ten.

At the corner of Waireka Road West and Sutton Road is a small stone memorial established by the Historic Places Trust. The plaque reads: About this hill the first major engagement of the Taranaki War The Battle of Waireka was fought, 28 March, 1860. The site of the Kaipopo Pa is nearby, just down from Sutton Road. Five minutes' walk down the hill is the Waireka Cemetery, where graves of



Part of the battleground. Kaipopo Pa is to the left of the picture.

members of the Jury family can be seen. John's farm homestead was on the flat area just below the western boundary of the cemetery (where the Waireka Road winds down towards the sea).

In the cemetery is the grave of Antonio Rodriguez Sardinha, one of the Taranaki Mounted Volunteers. He

died on 12.5.1905, aged 73. He was awarded the NZ Cross, served under Captain Mace and was frequently mentioned in dispatches for bravery.

At the intersection of

Sutton Road and Waireka Road West can be seen the remains of trenches, which were established by soldiers around a military camp in 1860.



This gravestone commemorates several Jury settlers including Jesse, his wife Elizabeth and elder son John.

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Antonio Rodriguez who was a member of the Taranaki Mounted Volunteers.

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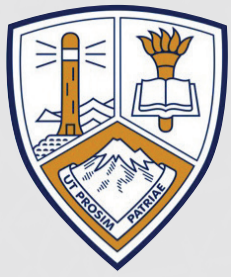
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from the Principal...



Nga mihi o te wa ki a koe me to whanau
Greetings to you and your family

We are now at the end of Term 2. It has been a Term of constant and unimaginable change within our community locally, nationally and globally. We are constantly looking at improving our lines of communication with students, whanau and the wider school community. The Opunake High School app will enable you to get information from the school as soon as it is available, the app is available to download from the school website to your mobile phone.

As a school, I feel that we have risen to the challenge that COVID has brought about, to ensure all students had the opportunity to conduct their learning at home using devices and hard copies for those whanau who did not have internet access. It is this theme of Kotahitanga that we identified as a focus for 2020 along with our DREAM values that has enabled both staff and students to focus on our core business of teaching and learning. Since returning to COVID Level 2 we have continued to focus on re-establishing relationships, reconnecting and investigating how we can build on the great work of staff and students and the experiences during the COVID lockdown.

The buildings continue to be a focus on improvement at Opunake High School. The science block is almost finished and the gym is to be finished by the start of Term 3, which I am sure you will agree is good news especially as we are now into the winter weather. The administration block is currently due to be completed by the start of Term 3 and then the focus will be on the hall. The cladding and windows are being replaced. The building that currently houses the AE programme is also being renovated as we look to start the conversion of this into a wharekura. This has been on the school strategic plan for a number of years and we aim to have this conversion finished in time for the Opunake High School centenary.

Currently we are celebrating Puanga and the whakatauki "Puanga kai rau" –the abundant harvest of Puanga – connects our celebrations to the results of hard work over a number of months of both staff and students. To students and staff, enjoy your holiday break and thank you to our wider school community for your support of Opunake High School. We look forward to the academic results of your mahi this year. If you have any questions, concerns or feedback do not hesitate to get in touch.

Noho ora mai ano
Peter O'Leary - Principal

WRITING WITH STYLE

This year the 2020 Ronald Hugh Morrieson writing workshops were held online. While it was disappointing to not meet our writers face to face, the Zoom platform was still a wonderful opportunity to learn from two leading writers and poets; Glen Colquhoun and Whiti Hereaka. The workshops are best described by two highly accomplished attendees: Lexi McQuaig and Madaline Symes.

In preparation for the annual Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards 2020, I was provided with an opportunity to discuss with and seek feedback from Glenn Colquhoun. Glenn Colquhoun, who is a New Zealand Poet and the Judge of the poetry section for this year's competition, ran a workshop for us to gather some tips before writing our entries. A few weeks prior to our meeting, we were required to submit a sample of our poetry for Glenn to read and on June 11th 2020, a zoom meeting

was held for Glenn to give us individual feedback on our work. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 and social distancing regulations, the workshop had to be held online this year which, although initially posed a challenge, it allowed us to share notes and continue to have in-depth discussions with Glenn. He spoke with a sense of familiarity and humour and passed on many key tips from his experience as a poet. I found the Ronald Hugh Morrieson poetry workshop highly informative and it inspired me to continue to write, putting my new found skills to use. Having the opportunity to share my work and review the work of my peers was very humbling as they all voiced their poems with passion and insight and it allowed me to consider the power of words for myself, and to others. Many thanks to Glenn and Pam Jones from South Taranaki District Libraries for all of their efforts and to anyone who may be interested in writing, I highly recommend that you attend

future workshops because after all, "There's a power in words. There's a power in being able to explain and describe and articulate what you know and feel and believe about the world, and about yourself." - Tracy Chapman.

Lexi McQuaig

I joined the short story Ronald Hugh Morrieson workshop on the 11th of June. I, along with many other students joined a Zoom call with the judge for the short story competition, Whiti Hereaka. She is a well known New Zealand author. She gave us inspiration for what type of stories she is looking for in the competition. It was very enjoyable to have her assist our group and I would recommend people attend the workshop next year. Personally she really helped me with building a characters profile, and showing the importance of knowing your character before you write about them.

Madaline Symes

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Over the last few weeks our Year 9 & 10 students have been working with Predator Free Taranaki, and EnviroSchools to build traps to go around the local

loop track. Students are making the traps, planting trees, then will be monitoring the traps. The eradication of pests, along with the extensive planting will rejuvenate

these areas, and ultimately bring back our native bird species. Another example of our junior students living the DREAM both in and out of our kura.



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Start of Term 3 - July 20th
School Ball - August 8th
Y12 Topec - Aug. 17-21

Manawatu Exchange - Sept. 3/4th
Benchmark Exams - Sept. 9-11th
End of Term 3 - Sept. 25th

ALL EVENTS AFTER MAY 11th SUBJECT TO SCHOOL & FACILITIES RE-OPENING

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Local artists exhibit at winery



An exhibition of local artists is currently on at Okurukuru Winery on the Surf Highway just south of Omata.

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Lester Earl based at Koru on Koru on Kuru Gallery.



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Next week these empty space will be filled with merchandise. The team at Eltham Farm Supplies. From left Joe Menzies, Claire Menzies, Sandy Moore, Margaret Kemp.

marked its 100th birthday. Except for the time after Farm Source moved out of here just before Christmas 2018 it had always been run as a farm supplies store. On Monday 6th July it will do so again when Eltham Farm Supplies open their new store to the public. "This is a farm supply store with a general supply twist to it," says Eltham Farm Supplies owners Joe and Claire Menzies. As well as supplying

the farming community, they aim to cater for the townspeople of Eltham, including any supplies for garden or DIY projects. Joe says they are an independent store, and without the access to distribution centres enjoyed by bigger operators, they may not always have everything a customer may want, but they would always be keen to source it. "We have a can do, will do approach," says Joe. "That's

what we like to work under." "We want to work in with as many local businesses as we can and work together to keep Eltham people shopping in Eltham." Eltham Farm Supplies will be run as a stand-alone company, in conjunction with Eltham Timber Supplies of which Joe and Claire are also owners. Eltham Timber Supplies will continue to be the base for Eltham Construction. Joe has been a well-known

figure in Eltham community and business circles, as front man for Mangamingi Timber Transport and Contracting, and then for Eltham Timber, Eltham Construction, and now Eltham Farm Supplies. He says customers at Eltham Timber Supplies had asked him if they could supply other items like gumboots and dog biscuits. When Farm Source moved out in 2018, he was asked if he

Continued page 17



The old Farmers Co-op building which from next week will be the new home to Eltham Farm Supplies.

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A farm supplies store for country and town

Continued from page 16.

could do something to fill the void in Eltham resulting from their departure. They set up a temporary farm supplies store in a former joinery factory across the road from the Farmers Co-Op building. Joe says he got a "leg up" with supplies from fellow independent operator Ruralco from Ashburton. Sandy Moore who will be in charge of the new Eltham Farm Supplies store had also been sourcing locally and from other suppliers.

Joe got advice and help from regular meetings with a focus group representing local business and farming leaders.

"It gave us a chance to bounce ideas off each other," says Joe.

There was also a lot of local help from local farmers and the Eltham Volunteer Fire Brigade to get the empty Farmers Co-op building ready in time for Eltham Farm Supplies to move in.



Eltham Farm Supplies former store will go back to being used by Eltham Construction.

Now having outgrown their temporary premises, Eltham Farm Supplies will make the big shift across the road this weekend.

Sandy Moore who will be the store representative knows the Farmers Co-Op building well. She worked here for 11 years, first for Taranaki Farmers and then six years for Farm Source. She has lived in Eltham since 2002.

"Half our customers I would have worked for at some time," she says.

"We've outgrown the Eltham Construction Shed which the team also need back, so it's a great feeling to be able to breathe life into this building and give Eltham its farm supplies store back. We've had 100 per cent positive feedback about this next step from the community and we aim to

give 100 per cent service in return. We are very pleased to not only be of service to the farming community but also to Eltham residents, the district and further afield."

Also working at the store will be Joe's wife Claire and Margaret Kemp.

Originally from Waiuku, Claire shifted to Taranaki in 1992 and married Joe in 1995. They have two daughters and live near

Eltham. She also works as a reliever for IDEA Services.

"I'm excited about providing services to the community as a whole, and not just the farming community, whether you need a hose fitting for a garden hose or milk powder," she says.

Margaret Kemp has lived in Eltham for 16 years and says she has been working

for Eltham Farm Supplies since August 26 last year. For 15 years she ran a herd testing team in the lower North Island.

"I'm proud to be working for an independent private company," she says. "We've got a great team and we work together well. It's good for Eltham to be going forward with everyone backing each other."

DCANZ welcomes launch of UK-New Zealand FTA negotiation

The Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) is welcoming the launch of free trade agreement negotiations between New Zealand and the UK as a positive development in the trade agenda.

"A high-quality and comprehensive FTA between the UK and New Zealand will further strengthen the historic and close relationship between our two countries" says DCANZ Chairman Malcolm Bailey

"At this time, when we are seeing a number of countries revert to trade protectionist policies and subsidies, it is heartening to see like-minded countries like New Zealand and the

UK showing leadership on trade issues."

Currently, the UK is only a small market for New Zealand dairy exports, accounting for 0.08% of New Zealand's dairy exports in 2019. This is despite the fact that the UK is one of the world's largest importers of dairy products.

"The UK's previous membership of the European Union (EU), one of the most protected dairy markets globally, has severely limited the opportunity for its consumers to purchase high quality New Zealand dairy products. Now that the UK is able to negotiate its own trade arrangements, a UK-NZ FTA will provide important commercial

opportunities for dairy sector participants in both countries".

The New Zealand and the UK dairy sectors are complementary, with counter-seasonal production systems and a shared interest in managing price volatility globally. Both countries also place a high level of importance on food safety, animal welfare and environmental outcomes. The UK dairy industry is also efficient, with a long-history of competing against highly subsidised dairy exports from across the EU.

"An FTA between the UK and New Zealand will ensure that unsubsidised New Zealand dairy products have the same level of market access as has been enjoyed

by European dairy products over the past four decades".

A high-quality FTA between the UK and New Zealand will be an important pathway for the UK, should it wish to join the wider Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

"This is also an opportunity for NZ and the UK to demonstrate that not only can a high-quality FTA be negotiated in the current environment, but that it can be negotiated quickly and to the mutual benefit of both Parties" says Bailey.

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Taranaki farmers set native plant record

Almost 600,000 native plants have been distributed to farmers as part of Taranaki's Riparian Management Programme – a record number for the scheme that's having a huge impact on the region's water quality and landscape.

For 27 years the Taranaki Regional Council has

worked with the region's farmers to develop individual riparian management plans to improve freshwater quality. Plans recommend fencing off waterways and native planting on riverbanks to keep stock out of streams and reduce overland run-off.

As part of the programme landowners can buy native plants at cost through the



Native plants at the Lepperton depot ahead of this week's pick-up.

Council, ordering one to two years in advance so plants can be grown for them.

Over the past few weeks more than 40 species of native plants were shipped from nurseries around the North Island to depots in Lepperton, Stratford, Pungarehu, Opunake and Hawera ready for the annual pick-up.

"The planting programme is a huge success story," says South Taranaki farmer Roger Luscombe. "It's too often understated what we have achieved here. Taranaki has been doing this voluntarily for a long time."

Despite being voluntary at the moment, 99.5% of dairy farmers have committed to getting a riparian plan, with most implementing the planting and fencing at their own cost.

And it's working. Taranaki now has some of the cleanest freshwater in New Zealand, with many waterways in the best shape they've been in for decades.

The Kapuni Stream runs the length of the Luscombe family farm, along with smaller tributaries. They've all been fully fenced for 30 years, when the family also started planting the banks.

Mr Luscombe says it has improved efficiency and farm operations. But most important are the environmental benefits.

The family and its team are committed to "doing their bit" and say the vast majority of Taranaki farmers are too.

"We're only the caretakers of the land for the next generations. It's our responsibility to look after the land."

The planting, together with predator control, has brought added benefits.

"Nature is to the fore again. We've got more birdlife than we've had in previous years, which is important to the farm ecosystem."

Stratford farmer Ross Soffe has planted more than 1000 plants each year for the last five or six years.

He says the Council has been pro-active in its approach, putting Taranaki

well ahead of the rest of the country.

"Farmers don't often get the credit for what they have done. We're spending a lot of money in areas to do with the environment," he says. "We've got the job done."

Ian Benefield has farmed in Mahoe for 40 years and hopes to complete his riparian planting plan this year.

"It makes such a difference to your farm, it beautifies it. You appreciate the park-like surroundings."

An independent NIWA report last year found the ecological health of Taranaki rivers and streams was either improving or not showing any significant changes. At more and more sites, testing

showed the best results since monitoring began in 1995.

Council Director-Operations Stephen Hall says while there is still work to be done, Taranaki should be proud of what it has achieved.

The Government recently released its proposed freshwater reforms, which he says are likely to include a requirement for fencing stock out of waterways. Additionally, native planting is also recommended by the Council to make a real difference to improving water quality and biodiversity.

Mr Hall says the Council has consistently encouraged farmers to 'crack on' and get their riparian plans

Feds support new apprenticeship programme

The Government's Apprenticeship Support Programme announcement is a win for farm employers and workers, says Federated Farmers employment spokesperson Chris Lewis.

The programme provides \$380 million for employers to take on and train apprentices under approved apprenticeship programmes, and will be implemented from August 2020.

"COVID-19 has unfortunately meant a lot of New Zealanders are looking for work.

"Fortunately, the farming

sector has been able to continue working through and there is strong demand for workers, particularly given restrictions on immigration. While the industry still needs to hang on to all the experienced staff that we have, including migrants, this extra investment will help Kiwis from other sectors make the move into agriculture," Chris says.

One of the key problems farmers face is the costs associated with taking on and training new staff, who are new to the sector.

"The Apprenticeship Support programme addresses some of those costs, providing an incentive and support for farmers looking to take on inexperienced staff and support for workers transitioning to farming.

"Existing programmes such as the Federated Farmers Apprenticeship Dairy scheme can be critical for training and retaining good staff," Chris says.

The recent Federated Farmers - Rabobank Farm Remuneration Report underlines the number of well-paid roles and progression pathways in the farming sectors, combined with a great lifestyle.

"The Apprenticeship Support Programme will make the transition and retention of new workers a lot easier, benefiting farmers, workers and the economy as we rebound from the effects of COVID-19," Chris says



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Dairy sustainability stars recognised with awards



The Bourke family. From left, Robert and Verna Bourke, Corinna and Nick Smith. Photos courtesy of the New Zealand Farm Environment Trust.

Ten Kiwi dairy farmers who have shown exceptional care for the environment were recently recognised with a DairyNZ Sustainability and Stewardship Award as part of the Ballance Farm Environment Awards.

“The dairy sector has made a commitment under the Dairy Tomorrow strategy to protect and nurture the environment for future generations,” says Dr David Burger, DairyNZ strategy and investment leader – responsible dairy. “The award recipients are fantastic examples of this commitment in action on farms.”

In Taranaki, the Bourke/Smith family received the

DairyNZ Sustainability and Stewardship Award for their work to enhance a property which has been in the family for nearly 150 years, with judges also commending their animal care standards.

Fern Flats is a 73 hectare, 180 cow farm owned by Robert and Verna Bourke. Their daughter Conna and son-in-law Nick Smith are 50:50 sharemilkers there. The farm was bought in 1873 by Robert Bourke’s great grandfather, with what were believed to be profits from striking gold in the Otago goldrush.

Robert began farming at a young age, working for his parents at Fern Flats, and the business is now operated

under a family trust. The property has grown in size since Robert and wife Verna took over, with them combining two smaller properties into the modern farm of today.

“We have a gully area in the middle of the farm which used to be grazed by heifers but it wasn’t a very productive area,” Robert explains. “After attending some farm forestry field days, I saw how planting trees could be a good use for areas that were hard to manage and also help beautify the farm.”

Extensive planting in the gully has created a 12 hectare forest of pines. Another 4-5 hectares of riparian margins

have been planted with native species and a farm wetland provides a habitat for pukeko. Testing shows that water from two springs on the farm is good enough for the family to drink.

Robert says there’s plenty of advice on offer for other farmers who want to improve their farm environment – including from regional councils and farm forestry field days.

The judges also commended them

for the health and wellbeing of the cows, saying the stock’s friendly nature made it obvious they are well cared for.

There is a strong focus on reducing the farm’s environmental footprint, with the couple following a low-input farming system that includes breeding highly productive cows. They have planted about 18ha of trees under the Emissions Trading Scheme, and the judges were impressed with

the significant planting of wetlands, riparian margins and shelters that is encouraging bird life to flourish. In addition, a sophisticated, ring water system means every paddock has water.

DairyNZ also hosted a discussion group on the farm where an expert assessed the farm effluent requirements – providing valuable information on improving the effluent system.



Planting on the Bourke family farm.





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New name; same great people, products and advice

The name behind some of New Zealand's best-known pastures and forage crops is changing this spring.

Thirty-three years after it first teamed up with a family-owned seed business in the Netherlands, Barenbrug Agriseeds will be known as Barenbrug, effective July 1.

Managing director Michael Hales says the Royal Barenbrug Group has been part of the NZ company since it was founded, providing unique access to plant genetics, science and knowledge.

"This collaboration has been a key part of our success in the NZ pastoral industry – we would not be where we are today without it."

While the name on the distinctive yellow seed bags will be different as of this season, Michael says farmers can be reassured everything else remains unchanged: "Our people, products and strategy remain the same."

So too is the company's long commitment to providing NZ pastoral producers the best seed they can grow and all the advice they need.

"The Royal Barenbrug Group has always given us

the scope here in NZ to tailor the business to the needs of NZ farmers. As a result, we've been able to develop many innovative and successful varieties which are widely used throughout the country. We also export these varieties to several countries, including through our subsidiary in Chile."

Founded in 1904 by Joseph Barenbrug, the Group is now a fourth generation family business with 22 research programmes across six continents, and operating companies in 18 countries.

John Thijssen, global head of the Royal Barenbrug Group, says this long history of stability is no coincidence.

"We are proudly family-owned, and like their predecessors, the current owners Bastiaan and Frank Barenbrug have always been focussed on further growing the company and investing for the future generations. Rather than try and satisfy short term interests, like publicly listed companies, which think quarter to quarter, we think generation to generation."

Likewise the Group's truly global footprint sets it apart, both in terms of seed production and research, he says.



Managing director Michael Hales, left, and marketing manager Graham Kerr, getting ready for the new branding from 1 July.

"Having a physical presence in six continents means we have our own people and our own knowledge and technologies developed in these different regions. It also allows us to use each other's capabilities."

"From a research perspective, for example, being able to share the insights gained from our work in in all these different continents within our global research group allows us to excel as a company."

Critically, as pastoral farming faces pressing new environmental demands, this scale gives the Group

more opportunity to pursue emerging technologies in plant breeding, such as genomics and phenotyping, he says.

"These new technologies will allow us to identify plants that are more efficient users of nitrogen, more efficient users of water, and more tolerant to disease, and to do this much faster than we have traditionally been able to."

"This work is high tech, high cost, and high risk. Because we are a global group, we can afford to invest in these rather expensive techniques to

allow our breeders to make big leaps forward in finding ways to address the challenges staring grassland farming in the face."

New Zealand itself has much to offer the Group in this regard, not least in its pastoral knowledge base, which was a key factor in the Barenbrug family's decision to become involved in the industry here more than 30 years ago.

"We look at NZ, the country, the farmers, and the institutes, as global champions of grazing grassland management. There's a tremendous amount of knowledge and experience that we can both take from and contribute to, to further develop and grow our understanding of productive and sustainable pasture and pasture management."

John Thijssen says Christchurch-based start-up Farmote is a perfect example of NZ's ability to innovate in this area.

The Farmote system combines satellite-based hyperspectral technology with in-field sensors to provide farmers real time accurate insight into the amount of feed available in every paddock every day.

"We are so intrigued by this development that we have taken an equity position in that company. We see global potential there. In parallel with developing new plant genetics, we feel it's also very important to find ways to help farmers get the best out of their pastures and their grazing management."

He may be the head of a global business turning over in excess of \$NZ425 million a year, with more than 750 employees, but John Thijssen has a close and personal interest in NZ, and the NZ Barenbrug business is part of his regional responsibility.

In 1988, he did an internship on a Waikato dairy farm, and 'fell in love' with the country and its unique grass-based farm systems.

"I've always stayed in touch with what's happening there, and I have been back many, many times."

Barenbrug is based on a 224 ha breeding and research station in Canterbury, and has a total staff of 60 throughout NZ. Its advanced pasture and forage cultivars include several industry firsts, such as Trojan, Rohan, Shogun, Tabu+ and the new Maxsyn.



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Uncertain future for Pukekura Raceway

Pukekura Raceway has been the home of racing in New Plymouth for more than 160 years and now NPDC is seeking public feedback on the future of the 38-hectare central New Plymouth site.

Taranaki Racing Incorporated's (TRI) lease arrangements are currently uncertain, due to complex and historical reasons.

They have approached NPDC to ask for a "forever" or perpetual lease on the same terms as their original agreement, drafted several decades ago. The paperwork for this would require changing or drafting new laws via Parliament.

Another option is to grant a short-term lease under the Reserves Act.

It comes as the Government is looking at racing reforms across New Zealand which could result in the amalgamation of racing clubs around the country.

Sport Taranaki, supported by TRI, has suggested a multi-purpose sports hub could be housed at the raceway in the future.

The Mayor and councillors are asking for their views on the future of the Raceway. Feedback closes 5pm, Friday July 10.



The public is being asked for their views on lease options for the Pukekura Raceway.

Taranaki get first crack at the shield

Despite COVID-19 delaying the start of the Mitre 10 Cup, the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls' opponents are unchanged in a revised draw released by New

Zealand Rugby. The competition was due to kick off in early August but due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 restrictions, it was pushed out by a month.

Now as restrictions have lapsed, the competition will kick off on Friday September 11.

The Yarrows Taranaki Bulls have retained their Saturday and Sunday afternoon time slot for home games at Inglewood's TET Stadium & Events Centre, with four out of the five games kicking off at 2:05pm, the other will start at 4:45pm. The new venue will provide a family-friendly boutique atmosphere.

Taranaki will continue to play in four cross-over matches where they will play Premiership teams and the remaining games will be against Championship sides.

Taranaki will start their campaign at home against Championship winners, now Premiership team, Bay of Plenty in the opening round on Sunday September 13.

The Yarrows Taranaki

Bulls will then travel south to compete for the Ranfurly Shield against Canterbury in Christchurch, the first challenge of the season on Saturday September 19.

The remaining home games will be against Otago, in a potential Ranfurly Shield challenge, on Sunday September 27, Auckland two weeks later on Saturday October 10, Counties Manukau on Saturday October 31 and Hawkes Bay in the final round on Sunday November 15.

Semi-finals weekend will be played on the weekend of November 20, with finals played on Friday 27 November for the Championship and Saturday 28 November for the Premiership final.

Yarrows Taranaki Bulls Chief Executive Officer Laurence Corlett says he is pleased with the draw.

"I think there is real excitement in the community about playing at Inglewood this year at family friendly kick off times. Our fans are important to us and provide great support that really lifts the team."

Yarrows Taranaki Bulls captain and Inglewood local Mitch Brown said, at the time games were announced at TET Stadium & Events Centre, the venue will have a community feel.

"I think the atmosphere will be outstanding with a smaller, more intimate stadium. I love to play at TET Stadium & Events Centre, in front of my family and friends and a community that is very passionate about their rugby. I can't wait to play at a ground I grew up playing at."



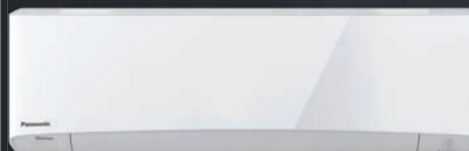
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Premiers unbeaten after two rounds



Promising number 8 Rawiri Naniseni charges hard as the Prem's hold off Clifton.

The 2020 CMK Club rugby season kicked off on Saturday June 20. Coastal hosted Clifton at Rahotu in round 1. The game was very physical, with both teams throwing everything they had at each other. Clifton did all the scoring in the first half, scoring a try and two penalties to rake a 11-0 lead into the break. In the second half Coastal took advantage of the tail wind and camped for long periods in Clifton territory.

Patience was rewarded with two second half tries by Jacob Gopperth and Troy Stevenson, both converted by Rick McKenna. Coastal took the match 14 - 11. Man of the match was Josh Thomson. It was great to see a good crowd at Rahotu supporting both teams. It has been a long wait for the season to get started, but it is here now. On Saturday June 27 Coastal travelled to Hawera

to take on Southern. Both teams had come from wins in round 1. Coastal hit the ground with all guns blazing and scored three tries to one in the first half. Scorers were Scott Meekins, Beauden Fleming and Rawiri Naniseni (tries), and three conversions and a penalty to Rick McKenna. The lead was 24 - 5 at the break. Southern scored five minutes into the second half to get back into the match. Coastal responded 10

minutes later with a try by Jordy Fleming. Two further tries by Southern kept them in the game, but Coastal took the match 29 - 24. Man of the match was Chis Gawler. Next week will see Coastal take on NPOBs at Rahotu. Come out and support the boys. Only three home games remaining in this shortened season. See you there.
Brian Olliver



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Coastal Women – Rounds 1 and 2

After a delayed start to the rugby season the Coastal women kicked off their competition on July 20 in Rahotu. The girls were looking forward to rugby starting as much as the boys, and turned up to play. The weather even turned up to play ball and it was a beaut day for footy. From the kick off it was going to be a tough fought game between defending champions Coastal and last year's beaten finalists Clifton. Paige Neilson from Clifton drew first blood with some hard straight running to break the line, but fortunately for Coastal they could not convert from in front of the posts. Coastal then struck back with a nicely worked lineout drive with Victoria McCullough the lucky benefactor. Neilson then read the play to get an intercept try. Coastal then struck back with two nicely worked tries to forwards Jalana Smith and Chenae Lowry. High schooler Danielle Muggeridge on her debut managed to slot one of the conversions to give Coastal a 17-10 led heading into the break. The second half was mainly played in the middle of the field with both teams defending well. Clifton managed to sneak over to make it 17-15 and set up an interesting finish. Coastal played with 14 players for the last 10



Tyla Henderson bolts downfield trying to avoid tackler Paige Neilson during the Women's last minute loss to Clifton.

minutes due to injuries. As time seemed to slow and an extra man Clifton managed to score the winning try in the 83rd minute. The final score ended up 22-17 to Clifton.

Hoping to build on the previous week Coastal took on Southern on June 27. After a slow start and a few mistakes which Southern punished Coastal for, they regrouped and showed great defence to keep Southern out for the remainder of the half to go into the break 10-0 down. Lack of ball and time on defence started to show with Southern running in four unanswered second half tries to make the final score 34-0. The score didn't reflect the game, with Coastal making Southern work hard

for all their points, showing great heart on defence.

Coastal look forward to having a week off to recover.

They play a game of three halves and then away to Clifton on July 18.



Colts Prop Harry Foreman is pleased with himself as he dot's down after a 50m (so the story goes) run.



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Coastal Colts

After a long wait, finally the rugby season is under way. Coastal Colts' first game was a home game against Spotswood, traditionally a powerhouse in the Colts grade. This was our first home game and the boys were stoked to be playing on the main field as curtain raiser for the Prem. At times, particularly in the first half the game was a little scrappy but the boys settled down and played

some great rugby and scored some epic long range tries to eventually take the win 63 - 14. Superior fitness was a big part of the win, and with the boys enjoying the bronco so much it might become a weekly thing. Last week's game against Stratford at Stratford was another outstanding game by the boys. In the first half the boys played well as a team with everyone gelling well and were 31 - 0 at half

time. In the second half, Stratford came out firing and put pressure on the boys, with the boys having to do a lot of defence work. A lot of that defence was very robust with some huge hits. Stratford managed to sneak in a couple of quick tries which saw the boys step up a gear and eventually take the win 45 - 17. The boys displayed outstanding skills with some long range team tries, and the fact they put

45 points on a team that beat them pre-season shows how far they have come. The great thing is they can get better still. Try scorers. Luka Cassidy (2), Harry Remnant (3), Callum Grayling (1), Jono Butler (1). This week's game is against last year's champions NPOB at Rahotu at 1pm. Get along and support these boys. You will not be disappointed. Deb Davies.

Div 1

After COVID lockdown the Coast FBT Div 1 team were itching to rub shoulders, fill their lungs with some fresh air, finally get to test out their fitness and see what effects their lockdown treats really had on them.

With numbers low, a few new faces adding to the team, and a shorter season, we all knew we had a new challenge on our hands this year.

Hosting the first game against Clifton, we were not disappointed. The Clifton side were big in stature and numbers and they were ready to play. Clifton came out firing and scored the first try of the game. Coastal reset, took the blows, and made their tackles. Coastal were able to make some

really good plays and were able to claw back a try to fall even with Clifton. The battle was endless and Clifton were not ready to be pushed over lightly. Coastal fought their hardest, but were unable to secure the win, going down to Clifton in the season opener 15-17. Trent Brophy earned himself the Man of the Match.

Round 2. Southern hosted Coastal at the Hub, Hawera. Southern is Coastal's biggest rival in the competition, a fair team but definitely not a team to turn your back on. Coastal Div 1 knew that they meant business. An early try to Southern put Coastal on the back foot early. Coastal knew this was not going to be a walk in the park.



Veteran Dave Hughes shows he's still got the goods

for Div 1 against Clifton. Coastal fought with all they could, but were just not able to execute major plays. They unleashed the bench in the second half to try and get closer to a hefty score Southern had put on Coastal in the first half. Some great

tries were provided by the forward pack. With the final whistle blown Coastal were beaten by the Southern team 31-17. Next week's game is at Rahotu hosting NPOB.

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Young basketballers wait on COVID developments

Opunake now has four players on basketball scholarships with colleges in the United States. The latest of these is Isabelle Cook, who is due to take up a scholarship at Western Nebraska Community College. The other Opunake players are Joellen How, Eva Langton and Nico Hill.

While Nico is still in the United States, the others are in New Zealand, with their plans thrown into some uncertainty, thanks to the vagaries of COVID-19.

Isabelle has a solid basketball background behind her, having represented Taranaki, and been a New Zealand age group representative from 2016-18. She was a member of the Opunake High School Girls Basketball team that won back to back national titles before she finished her schooling at Sacred Heart College.

Earlier this year she moved to Melbourne to play in the Coburg Division 2 Women's Basketball team. She intended to stay until August, but COVID-19 meant the cancellation of the season.

"I played three practice games and never got to start a season," says Isabelle.

Two months ago she got



Eva Langton, Joellen How and Isabelle Cook at the Sandfords Event Centre helping younger local players.

an offer "out of the blue" from the coach at Western Nebraska Community College where Eva Langton had been on a basketball scholarship before shifting to Texas A & M International. "I thought this is a once in a lifetime opportunity so I

had better take it," she says. "Before I signed, I spoke with Eva about the whole process and what Nebraska is like."

Isabelle says all she had previously known about Nebraska is that it is somewhere in the middle

of the United States. At the moment she is unsure what exactly she wants to study. In the meantime she has been training with Eva and Joellen every day.

"I'm meant to go in mid-August if flights allow me to," she says.

Eva had completed two years at Western Nebraska before doing her junior year at Texas A & M, a D2 school in Laredo, Texas. She has a year and a half left there where she is studying kinesiology, or the study of the principles of mechanics and anatomy in relationship to human body movement. She plays in the Lone Star Conference, which is one of the biggest D2 conferences.

"It was a tough, but definitely a good year for the team," she says.

She arrived back in New Zealand a day before the country went into lockdown and went into quarantine with her sister before joining the rest of her family.

Normally she would not have got back to New Zealand until the middle of May.

She continued her studies online, which meant some problems with time differences, including having to sit exams at 4am NZT.

Joellen has one more year left on her scholarship at Wagner College in Staten Island, New York and is due to graduate in December. Normally she would have been expecting to go back in mid-July, but with New York state having been an epicentre for the coronavirus this hasn't been possible.

"Our school is hoping to open at the end of August, but that's not set in stone. They have still got to get approval from the state," she says.

She arrived back in New Zealand two days before this country went into lockdown. After doing her 14 days quarantine she

returned to Opunake.

Under normal circumstances she would have come back to New Zealand in the middle of May.

"Originally I wanted to stay over the summer and do an internship, then things got bad and as international students we were told we could go home and carry on studying online, and then the campus closed down."

Back in New Zealand she finished her semester online, which like Eva, meant problems with the time differences, having some classes at 2am.

While at home, she has also worked for Pickerings Motors, and for the Opunake Medical Centre as a COVID tester. In the meantime she has been doing basketball training, working out at the gym, going on runs, and building up her fitness so she can get more game time when she returns to the United States.

Junior Rugby League kicks off this month



Coastal Cobras Junior Rugby League players.

Just an update on our Coastal Cobras Junior Rugby League Season for 2020.

Although Covid19 has impacted our player numbers, we will still be fielding teams in the following Age Groups for U6s and U12s.

Our season will also be slightly shorter beginning on July 26 and running for approximately six weeks.

Nevertheless we are looking forward to participating and competing with training getting underway.

There is still more room within our teams for new

players and we would welcome any new boys and girls who might be keen to give League a go.

Both teams will be training from this Wednesday July 1 at 3:30pm at the Events Centre.

Mouthguards and Water bottles are required but players can opt for bare feet or sneakers for now.

The new dispensation rule allows for players to be either age 6 or 12 as of September 1 so this gives players a little more leeway to be included in these age

groups.

Our U12s, the core of whom have been together since ages 6 and 7 enjoy the competitiveness, and are being coached by Pelo Rangi this season.

The U6s are a new age group and the emphasis will be on fun, participation and learning a few basic skills of the game and this team is being coached by Phil Hales

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Perera's Paper Power to close soon

After 30 years in business Raymond and Pam Perera are soon to close down their business. The shop at 234A Broadway, Stratford has been an important part of the Stratford business scene for three decades, with their amazing array of magazines an important feature. "Magazines and stationery have been our mainstay," says Pam.

At one time they displayed about 2,000 different magazines, which has been rarely matched elsewhere. At present they still stock about 1,000 magazines titles and a number of these are posted to such places as New Plymouth, Palmerston North, Hamilton, Wellington and Auckland. This friendly obliging couple were always happy to source any other magazines or book titles upon request.

Although the couple do not own the building itself they are endeavouring to sell the lease with the excellent goodwill that goes with it.

They have enjoyed the social side of the enterprise and are thankful to their loyal customers for their support over the years. "I've loved every moment of it," comments Pam.



Raymond and Pam Perera.

"I like to help people," says Raymond. "I like to engage with people and talk."

They explain that online selling has had an impact and has meant they have had to work harder to maintain their operation. Two dollars shops haven't helped either.

At times they've had staff. At one time they had four permanent staff, but explained it was some years ago.

The couple have made an important contribution to Stratford in other ways, such

as involvement in Rotary projects. The promotion of the Shakespeare aspect of Stratford has been an important feature.

Raymond and Pam say there have been some health issues implicated in their decision to retire. However, they look forward to being able to travel together to such places as Sri Lanka (where Raymond was born), rather than only one being able to go because of the commitment to the business.

Raymond and Pam have both travelled extensively while living in England for eleven years where they worked as an accountant and teacher. During this time in England their two sons were born, David in London and Jonathan in Kent.

We wish you both all the best for the future and urge many people to take advantage of the Retirement Sale as there are so many bargains to be had.

Taranaki National Art Awards 2020

Despite the challenges faced during this pandemic, determination, encouragement from the community, and the generous support of sponsors and local businesses have ensured a premium event for South Taranaki will go ahead.

Once again Opunake is staging what has become a fixture on the national arts calendar. Entries in the Taranaki National Art Awards, now in its 19th year, will be filling the Sandfords Event Centre from October 31. This ever growing exhibition of art works from across New Zealand presents high quality entries, most for sale, displayed in seven categories: Painting, Taranaki Artists, 3D, Works on Paper, Fibre Art, Tō Taranakitanga and Photography. Entry is \$20 per artwork. Artists can



Winner of 2019 TSB Community Trust Painting Award, Modern Love by Matt Dowman'

only enter each category once, but can enter multiple categories, each offering cash prizes, and blind-judged by

notable art authorities.

All entries received are displayed in the exhibition, and visitors are offered the unique opportunity to purchase those original artworks for sale. The exhibition coincides with the region's garden festivals, the Yarn Bomb, the Taranaki Arts Trail and Arts Fest South Taranaki.

Entries are open now and artists can enter online.

Check for updates and news on Facebook. Facebook: Taranaki National Art Awards. Please visit the website to find out more and enter: www.taranakiartawards.co.nz

Sandfords Events Centre, Tasman Street, Ōpunakē. Entries open June 15. Close September 18. Awards Ceremony: Friday October 30. 7.00pm. Exhibition: October 31 - November 7. 10.00 am - 4.00 pm

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Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511

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TARANAKI CATTLE FAIR

Wednesday 15th July

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Contact:

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Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511

30 Devon Street East, New Plymouth
Email: janesgallery@xtra.co.nz

Phone 06 7588746
Fax 06 7588275

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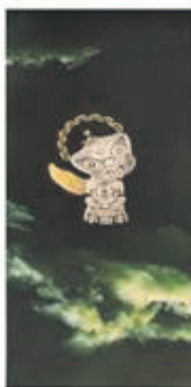
Ph; 06 765 6567 • Fax: 06 765 6358

Email: rayperera20@gmail.com



Taranaki National Art Awards

AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED



PO Box 11, Opunake. 4616
06 7617 534 027 249 162
contact@taranakiartawards.co.nz
www.taranakiartawards.co.nz



Taranaki National Art Awards



Weir Bros Tours



Dont miss out, reserve your place today. Once you have decided which of our tours you are keen to travel on get in touch, or if you have any tour ideas or places you would like to see, get in touch and let us help make your bucket list a reality.



TOURS & SHOWS



**MID WINTER GETAWAY:
11TH - 14TH AUGUST 2020**

Rather than stay home this winter, why not travel with us to the Central Plateau for a Mid Winter Getaway. During this fabulous four day tour we spend two nights at the Chateau Tongariro staying in the heart of the Tongariro National Park. \$995.00pp twin share. Limited seats left.

**FORGOTTEN WORLD ADVENTURE
17TH - 18TH OCTOBER 2020**

Looking for something different and off the beaten track to do??? Why not jump on board where we experience a journey on the Forgotten World Highway and in to the Forgotten World. Join us for this overnight adventure. \$630.00pp twin share. Limited seats available (includes morning tea, accommodation, dinner, breakfast & rail carts).



**DISCOVER NORTHLAND TAKE 2
5TH - 13TH NOVEMBER 2020**

Journey with us to discover spectacular yet diverse coastlines, majestic Kauri forests, and two oceans that come together that make Northland an unforgettable destination you simply cannot miss. \$2495.00pp twin share. Contact us for more details.

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Artists Corner

"I am a Kiwi and have spent 27 years living overseas in various countries. This experience has influenced my work. The enjoyment of other cultures and alternative artistic interpretation has had a particular influence on my use of light and shade and also my interpretation of colour.

I am an artist and a gardener, so much of my inspiration comes from nature, particularly botanica. My preferred media are oils and pastels. I do enjoy sculpture as well. My works are available for purchase at Pihama Lavender and on the website for Opunake Open Artists.

Liz Sinclair, Pihama.

Giving a helping hand



Giving a helping hand. As reported in our last issue Aviagen presented a cheque for \$750 to the Opunake Foodbank. From left Abbey Mathew (Aviagen operations manager), Russelle Thompson (Aviagen operations administrator), Sheryl Campbell (Opunake Foodbank treasurer). Aretha Lemon (Opunake Foodbank secretary).



Short Notice Dispersal Sale

of the long established Dornview herd of G & J Dorn, Pihama
For convenience. To be held at Carrfields Sale Yards - Murray Brothers, Duthie Road, Kaponga
Friday 17 July 2020 at 11:30am

Due to health reasons the difficult decision to disperse the herd has now been made.

COMPRISING APPROXIMATELY:
90 Friesian and Freisian X cows
30 in-calf heifers
Due from 15 July 2020

The herd was mated to Holstein Friesian 6 weeks AB and then run with Hereford bulls till 5 January 2020. Heifers run with Jersey bulls from 8 October to 31 December. The Dorn herd was established in 1974.

In recent years the herd has averaged in excess of 500kg ms/cow with in-shed feeding and some proliq in dry summers. Cows are medium sized friesian, very well uddered and will be offered in very good condition. Herd has always been mated to nominated sires.

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***** DUE 20TH OCTOBER 2020 *****

Contact Carrfields - Sheldon Keech 027 222 7920
or
Mark Rowland 027 495 7728

One Wicked Ride

The New Plymouth Operatic Society rode the Covid wave feeling even more miserable than the *Wizard of Oz*. Lion was without a heart. Smash musical *WICKED* was a Covid victim.

Cast and crew were left with heavy hearts as their efforts over several months of rehearsals had the curtain fall before it had lifted.

But at the 2020 Opening Night Party, where cast, crew, management and the board of the society met to remember what could have been, it was revealed that the show must go on as the New

Plymouth Operatic Society Board's efforts to secure the rights, set and costumes had been confirmed to allow local audiences to enjoy this multi award winning musical in 2021. Rehearsals will recommence early in the New Year and tickets will go back sale in July.

Board member Mark Leuthard had the pleasure of revealing to around 100 people in attendance that *WICKED* had flight once more. "We were thrilled to be able to have the cast and crews meet on what would have been opening night and share with them our exciting

news that the show will proceed."

WICKED tells the story of the land of Oz before Dorothy dropped in; meeting at University, the young Elphaba and Glinda spark an unlikely friendship. Through the trials and tribulations of friendship, love and rivalry, *WICKED* is bound to appeal to those young and old. Winning over 90 awards internationally, the *WICKED* musical cast its spell over audiences worldwide and is certainly an unforgettable, enchanting experience not to be missed.

The musical is told from the

perspective of the witches of the Land of Oz; its plot begins before and continues after Dorothy Gale arrives in Oz from Kansas, and includes several references to the 1939 film and Frank Baum's novel.

Wicked tells the story of two unlikely friends, Elphaba (the Wicked Witch of the West) and Glinda (whose name later changes to Glinda the Good Witch), who struggle through opposing personalities and viewpoints.

WICKED flies into Taranaki on June 17 2021.



Wicked the Musical will be coming to Taranaki in 2021.

The Assistant

Starring: Julia Garner, Owen Holland, Jon Orsini. Director/Writer: Kitty Green. Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Sunday 5th and Saturday 18th July at 7 pm.

Film Noir comes to mind when viewing a day in the life of junior assistant Jane, played by the talented Julia Garner. It took me a while to realise that this is the same actress who portrayed an equally tormented character in *Ozarks* (a Netflix series). Garner does the staunch close to tears on the brink of losing it completely look with the superiority of a well-seasoned Shakespearean actor. It works well for her in this role. Employed in close personal proximity to an all-powerful executive, her day holds such delights as scheduling, emailing, booking, sorting, delivering, blending, organising, cleaning, and digging syringes out of his rubbish bin. Her wardrobe suggests that her origin is not rooted in the fashion industry, but stems from a quiet background somewhere on the outskirts of the large city she now resides in. As we get to know her, we do find Jane is a hard-working, ethical person, raised well

by loving parents. Her goal is real, and valid. The dilemma and her decisions are valid too. In the end she wins us over; she is likable. In her situation, what would you do?

Jane's working world is weighted heavily in testosterone, which doesn't bode well in her shared office space. However, we breathe a sigh of relief as her colleagues realise her predicament, and

resilience. Their support is noticeable.

I wondered if Kitty Green (Director/Writer) had at some stage worked for Harvey Weinstein, or maybe had connections in his world. The insidious behaviour of such people has a massive ripple effect. *The Assistant* interprets this storyline with capable confidence. I also wondered how long our ripple, barely seen, sometimes heard, stuck out her position in that sea of manipulative excrement. I really hoped she realised her goal, without compromising too much of herself – in the end.

Don't expect action packed drama, it's not that sort of movie, be prepared to think. I found it relatable having been in a similar type of job for a friend some years back, so was pretty engaged all the way through. The situation is multi-faceted and takes you beyond surface explanations. *The Assistant* is a sophisticated watch. Give it a whirl.

Jane Forkert



Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Sunday 5th and Saturday 18th July at 7 pm.

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JULY 2020
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<p>LOVE SARAH Drama 1hr 37min M: Language, Sexual references, Drug use Fri 3rd July 7pm Sun 12th July 7pm</p>	<p>RED SHOES AND THE SEVEN DWARFS Family, Animated 1hr 33min G Sat 4th July 1pm Wed 15th July 1pm Sat 25th July 1pm</p>
<p>THE WRETCHED Horror 1hr 35mins R16:Violence, Horror Sat 4th July 7pm Fri 17th July 7pm</p>	<p>THE QUEENS CORGI Comedy, Family 1hr 25min PG Wed 8th July 1pm Sat 18th July 1pm</p>
<p>THE ASSISTANT Drama, Thriller 1hr 27min M: Language, Sexual Themes Sun 5th July 7pm Sat 18th July 7pm</p>	<p>THE JUNGLE BOOK Adventure, Family 1hr 46min PG Fri 10th July 1pm</p>
<p>ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW Comedy 1hr 40min M: Sex Scenes Fri 10th July 7pm</p>	<p>SAMSAM Animation, Family 1hr 20min G Sat 11th July 1pm Fri 17th July 1pm</p>
<p>DARK WATERS Drama, Thriller 2hr 6min M: Language Sat 11th July 7pm</p>	<p>THE LAST FULL MEASURE Drama, War 1hr 56min M: Violence, Offensive Language Friday 24th July 7pm Sun 26th July 1pm</p>

Save the date - 20 February 2021 - celebrate our centennial with us

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What's On Listings



ONGOING

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

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

SUNDAYS:

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600.

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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.

FRIDAYS

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

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

WEEKENDS

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

MONDAY JULY 6

Opunake & District Business Association Meeting: At Highsons & Associates Boardroom, Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake at 5.30pm.

TUESDAY JULY 7

Building Resilience into Farm Systems: 1 day interactive farming workshop with presentations. 9:30am - 4pm. Te Kiri Hall, Opunake. Contact communityeventsnz@gmail.com to enquire/register.

THURSDAY JULY 9

Building Resilience into Farm Systems: 1 day interactive farming workshop with presentations. 9:30am - 4pm. Green School, Oakura. Contact communityeventsnz@gmail.com to enquire/register.

FRIDAY JULY 10

Building Resilience into Farm Systems: 1 day interactive farming workshop with presentations. 9:30am - 4pm. Durham Hall, Inglewood. Contact communityeventsnz@gmail.com to enquire/register.

SUNDAY JULY 19

Opunake Surf Life Saving Club AGM: At the Surf Club, Opunake, 10am.

Cape Egmont Boat Club AGM: At the Club Rooms, Bayley Rd, 12pm.

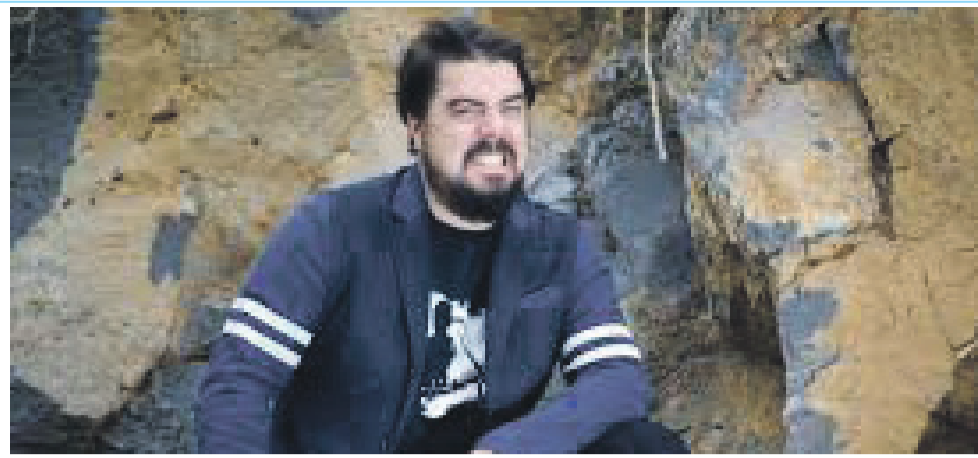
SUNDAY JULY 26

Orimupiko Reserve Trust AGM: At Te Kohanga Reo O Te Namu, Tasman St, Opunake. 10am.

Kaponga Fishing Club AGM: At the Kaponga Fire Station, Kaponga, 6pm.

THURSDAY AUGUST 6 TO SATURDAY AUGUST 8

Ben Hurley - The Straight out of Lockdown Tour: At Waverley, Pihama and Ohangai. See ad and editorial for more details.



Comedian Ben Hurley.

Straight Out of Lockdown –

Comedy series touring South Taranaki

A big name in New Zealand comedy and a former local lad, Ben Hurley, is bringing his tour 'Straight Out of Lockdown' to South Taranaki in August.

Ben Hurley has teamed up with the South Taranaki District Council to bring you a different kind of comedy night this year, and announced a tour covering many of the smaller centres around the country.

Waverley Community Centre, Pihama Lavender and Ohangai are three local venues all affected by COVID19 cancellations and all are excited to host a show each in this year's comedy series.

As these are smaller venues, tickets are strictly limited, so they are going to be in hot demand.

Of course Ben is known from his TV appearances, 7Days, The Project, The Comedy Gala and he's won all of the awards, The Fred, The Billy T, NZCG Best Male and NZCG Best MC so he definitely has the chops, and the beard, to make a great show.

South Taranaki District Council Events Coordinator Hayley Old says the three shows are a perfect way to help with the recovery efforts of these venues and is looking forward to Ben bringing along Tony Lyall as a support act.

"Tony is great on The Project and worked alongside some of New Zealand's best comedians - so he will be sure to put on a good show," says Hayley.

The comedy series will be held:

Thursday 6 August - Waverley Community Centre, Waverley.

General Admission tickets only, \$40 per person, available from Waverley LibraryPlus and South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre. R16.

Friday 7 August – Pihama Lavender, Pihama.

General Admission tickets only, \$40 per person, available from Ōpunakē LibraryPlus and South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre. R16.

Saturday 8 August – Ohangai, Hāwera.

General Admission tickets only, \$50 per person, available from South Taranaki i-SITE Visitor Centre. R16. Transport is also available \$5 extra per person.

Tickets will go on sale at the South Taranaki i-SITE Visitors Centre, Opunake LibraryPlus and Waverley LibraryPlus for their respective shows on Friday 3 July.

For more information, please contact:

Hayley Old, South Taranaki District Council Events Coordinator, phone 0800 111 323 or email events@stdc.govt.nz



BEN HURLEY

THE STRAIGHT-OUT-OF-LOCKDOWN TOUR

TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY 3 JULY

THU 6 AUG - WAVERLEY

\$40 FROM WAVERLEY LIBRARYPLUS

FRI 7 AUG - PIHAMA

\$40 FROM ŌPUNAKĒ LIBRARYPLUS

SAT 8 AUG - OHANGAI

\$50 FROM SOUTH TARANAKI I-SITE

TRANSPORT AVAILABLE FOR OHANGAI SHOW \$5 PER PERSON



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FOUND

CAR KEY outside the Opunake & Coastal News office in Opunake near the Give Way sign. Tyre treader checker disc nearby. Ph 06 761 7016.

GARAGE SALE

SATURDAY JULY 4.. 10 to 2. 75 Upper Kahui Road, Rahotu. Axes, chainsaws, garden tools etc. Household contents. Furniture on request. Everything must go.

PUBLIC NOTICES



Notice of 2020
Cape Egmont Boat Club

AGM

Sunday 19th July - 12.00 pm
At Club Rooms, Bayly Road

AGENDA:

- Apologies
- Annual Reports
- Election of Officers
- General Business

Followed by a shared lunch
All Welcome
- Please bring a plate -

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on July the 16th. Phone us to be in it.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Public Notice of application for on-license, off-license, or club license (or application for variation of conditions of on-license, off-license, or club license)

Section 40 Endorsement
Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

Calligraphy Pour Toi of 97 Ihaia Rd, Opunake has made application to the District Licensing Committee at Hawera for the issue of an Off (Remote) License in respect of the premises situated at 97 Ihaia Road, Opunake, known as Private Residence.

The general nature of the business conducted (or to be conducted) under the license is to supply personalised gifting services via online store. The days on which and the hours during which liquor is (or is intended to be) sold under the license are: Proposed 24 hours, 7 days. Online only. Operation hours 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday.

The application may be inspected during the ordinary hours of the office of the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee at Albion St, Hawera.

Any person who is entitled to object and wishes to object to the issue of the license may, not later than 15 working days after the date of the publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the District Licensing Committee, South Taranaki District Council, Private Bag 902, Hawera. No objection to the issue of a license may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 105(1) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

No objection to the renewal of a license may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 131 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice.
The notice was published on July 2, 2020.

Orimupiko Reserve Trust

Annual General Meeting
26th July 2020 – 10am

Venue: Te Kohanga Reo O Te Namu
Tasman St, Opunake

Orimupiko Pt 12 (Marae), Orimupiko Pa Sec 32 Blk 1 X (Urupa)
Orimupiko 1 (Land)

AGENDA

- Mihi/Karakia
 - Apologies
 - Previous Minutes
 - Matters Arising
 - Financial report
- Chairperson's report
Urupa/Land Report
Open forum
Shared Kai

Tapakione Skinner
Chairperson ORT

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Transportation of Opunake & Coastal News
The editor of the Opunake & Coastal News would like to know of anyone - a trucking firm, etc, or individuals who would be interested in transporting the newspaper (around a pallet) from our Printer in Whakatane to New Plymouth for further distribution fortnightly.

The option of dropping bundles of papers off round the mountain could also be available for interested parties. Please phone 06 761 7016, or 06 761 8206 a/h., or email bernice@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz.

UNPACK YOUR BAGGAGE

Jane at Happily Equanimous Ltd facilitates cellular memory release along with acupulsing (acupressure and holistic pulsing). Working on a physical and emotional level to help let go old wounds/trauma/setbacks that cause discomfort and dis-ease in the body and mind. Feel lighter and happier. To find out more contact:



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or @happilyequanimous (facebook).



PUBLIC NOTICE OF APPLICATION CONCERNING RESOURCE CONSENT

Sections 2AB, 95A, 95C, 127, 136(4)(b), 137(5)(c), and 234(4),
Resource Management Act 1991

South Taranaki District Council (STDC) has received an application from Patricia and Mark Stevenson for a Land Use Resource Consent to relocate a Category 2 Heritage Building, the former St John the Divine Anglican Church in Otakeho. The deconsecrated church building would be relocated from 4 Campbell Road, Otakeho to 3500 South Road, Pihama. The relocation would trigger Rule 15.1.4 (a) (ii) of the South Taranaki Proposed District Plan and requires resource consent. The application includes an assessment of environmental effects.

The application may be inspected at www.southtaranaki.com or at the South Taranaki District Council Administration Office, 105-111 Albion Street, Hawera. If you have any questions about the application, please contact the Planning Unit at STDC on 0800 111 323 or planning@stdc.govt.nz.

Any person may make a submission on the application, but a person who is a trade competitor of the applicant may do so only if that person is directly affected by an effect of the activity to which the application relates that—

- (a) adversely affects the environment; and
- (b) does not relate to trade competition or the effects of trade competition.

You may make a submission by sending an electronic submission to the South Taranaki District Council at planning@stdc.govt.nz or by submitting a written submission to the STDC Administration Office or any of the District's LibraryPlus facilities. The submission must be in form 13. Copies of this form are available on the website or at your local LibraryPlus.

Submissions close on Friday 17 July 2020.

You must serve a copy of your submission on Patricia and Mark Stevenson (the applicants), whose address for service is C/- Landpro Limited, PO Box 8235, New Plymouth 4342 or louise@landpro.co.nz, as soon as reasonably practicable after serving your submission on STDC.



OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

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

Applications close 31st July 2020. Forms available from:
The Secretary
PO Box 117
Opunake 4616
Phone: 021 729 471 - Email: ORVTrust@gmail.com



Opunake Surf Life Saving Club AGM

Sunday 19 July at 10am
To be held at the Surf Club
Queries to
opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com

Kaponga Fishing Club AGM

To be held at
the Kaponga Fire Station
Sunday 26th July, 6pm



Next Meeting is on
Monday July 6 2020
at 5.30pm

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the
Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake
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