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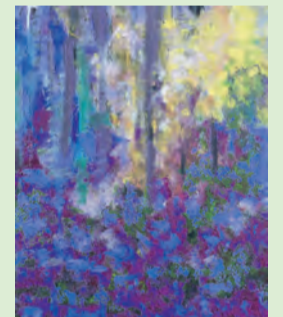
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# Solution to hall dilemma

The South Taranaki District Council and Te Korowai o Ngaruahine joining forces could be a solution to Manaia's multi-purpose facility dilemma.

This idea was discussed at a community hui held at the Robert Gibson Hall in Manaia on Monday night.

The Manaia District War Memorial Hall was closed in 2015 after failing to meet the required earthquake standards and has remained closed ever since. The South Taranaki District Council had initially allocated a million dollars to earthquake strengthen or replace the building, but in the meantime the town's community sports facility had also failed the meet earthquake building standards. The question then arose of whether to spend the money on fixing up only one of these, or both, or possibly starting from scratch with a combined facility.

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon told the hui, which was attended by about 50 people that a previous hui held at the Manaia Golf Club had shown a 50:50 split among those attending, with a slight majority favouring a combined facility. Last year there had been a strong local turnout at the open forum when the Taranaki Coastal Community Board held their meeting at the Waiokura Marae at Manaia. A strong majority of those at the open forum favoured fixing up both the hall and the sports facility.

"The people who came to the Golf Club and the people who came to the Waiokura Marae were different people," said Mayor Nixon. Since then the Council had gone back to the drawing board to get costings on how much it would take to get the hall and sports facility fixed up.

In the meantime Te Korowai o Ngaruahine had been looking at moving back to their rohe and setting up a facility of their own. Te Korowai has links with Te Wananga o Aotearoa and with WITT and there was interest in holding more NZQA classes. The suggestion was made that the South Taranaki District Council and Te Korowai should work together to set something up.

At Monday night's hui which was led by the council and Te Korowai, Mayor Nixon said nothing had been decided and consultation would be ongoing.



**About 50 people attended a hui at the Robert Gibson Hall to discuss the possibility of a multi-purpose facility in Manaia.**

Meanwhile Te Korowai would be consulting with its members as to whether they wanted to go down this path. "We don't want you to think this is the only hui," Mayor Nixon said. "We're not wanting to limit this to just the people who made it to a hui at 5.30pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> of July."

Towards the end of the hui he faced a grilling as to why it had taken so long to do something about the continued closure of the hall. "Will you complete this before I retire?" asked one woman. "Is it the next election? The next five years? Do you have a time frame?"

Another speaker said the million dollars originally promised would have accrued interest since then and would now be closer to \$1.48 million.

Mayor Nixon said the Council in the Long Term Plan had allocated \$2 million to each of the towns in the district, and putting some of this money towards the multi-use facility might be something the people of Manaia might consider.

Patricia Green said the Council had taken services away from Manaia.

"We want to know why these people have taken it away when we fundraised for it. I cannot see what the holdup is, except that the Council doesn't want to hand the keys back."

She said the million dollars



**The Manaia District War Memorial Hall has been closed since 2015.**

should be handed to the people of Manaia so they can fix up the hall and sports complex themselves.

Earlier in the meeting a series of questions were put up for the people attending the hui to discuss in groups. These covered among other things people's impressions of Manaia, and their own memories of the Manaia Hall. One man said the hall had been built as a war memorial hall in memory of those who had served in the world wars for the use of the whole community.

"It's not just a hall. It's got special connotations, and all those names represent part of this hall."

Others spoke of various celebrations that had been held in the hall. Te Oti Katene said the hall had been used

for various sports including volleyball and badminton and harked back to a time when sporting occasions had brought the community together.

"It was quite a sporty town," he said. "There would be sport every week, and when Waimate had a home game the community would be there."

Mayor Nixon said the hall and sports facility had been closed for too long. If the Council and Te Korowai went ahead with the combined facility the Council would also look at doing some work to fix up the sports facility.

He said that anybody with any ideas or questions could contact the Council or Te Korowai.

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

## Middletons Bay

Recently the STDC sent out a questionnaire on what should be done at Middletons Bay. The timeframe between the questionnaire being sent out and submissions closing was too short. On the other hand, two years ago we had a meeting at the clubrooms at Middletons Bay to determine what people wanted done there. At the end of the night the consensus was that erosion and the consolidation of the rocks at the south-eastern end were the problems. It was also determined that the construction of the steps down onto the beach was needed. This has been completed and substantial

improvements have been made to the rock wall. Sadly, since the submissions have come in, the focal point seems to have changed, and is now centred on the shifting of existing buildings at the Bay. To me and other people, this is a very short-sighted viewpoint. This is a problem that can be dealt with at a later date. It is getting away from the main focus, which is erosion. By leaving the work at the north-western end undone we are creating a huge problem as the sea is coming in causing erosion to the road running along the beach front past the bach. If it is left to continue it will not only take the bach out of existence but also undermine the road that is going up the hill. And then the problem

## ADELPHOS

Summer days are now a memory. Some of us probably have photos of the past one, to provide us with a visual memory of the things we did, places we went to and people we hung out with. And what a great way to raise the serotonin levels in your body. In these short days of winter, serotonin becomes like our best friend ever. We are cheered up when it's with us and the more of it we have the better off our mental health and wellbeing is.

So, what is serotonin? As scientists have identified more chemicals made by our bodies, we have learnt how complex they are, but we have also learnt ways to stimulate the production of them. A chemical messenger

## Serotonin

(a neurotransmitter), serotonin acts on the brain but is thought to act on all systems of the human body as well. Amongst other things, it affects feelings of wellbeing, our moods and our sleep patterns and quality. So, at this time of the year, with the long nights and short days, it's a pretty important body chemical.

Some of the symptoms of low serotonin levels include feeling unusually irritable, down for no apparent reason, depression, stress and anxiety. Chronic pain, memory or learning difficulties might also be an indication. You may recognise some of these symptoms in yourself or other people you know. The difficulty is that there are

will be absolutely huge. The washout in front of the bach at the moment is no worse than the washout where the steps have been built so the same remedy that was used when building the steps and the rock wall can be applied to that area. If this work was done now, the continuation of the rock wall is going to be far less costly than replacing the road coming down the hill and the road along the beach front. Also, it would keep the access to the land beyond the bach open for future development such as a carpark or picnic area. What I would like to see the council do is to carry on with the great consolidation work that has been done, to keep this going, and to keep its focus on erosion as being the major issue to overcome as was acknowledged at the meeting two years ago.

Ron Brewer  
Opunake

## All Blacks coach

This is my second letter to the Opunake and Coastal News on the subject of Foster, the so-called coach of the All Blacks.

My background in the rugby world, having played rep rugby, coached, plus years on the TRU, plus managed Taranaki with J.J.Stewart.

My first letter was about the All Blacks selector who seemed to be a nice fellow, but not qualified in his position.

I now change my opinion of him, and that is that he is Foster the Imposter.

And as told to Neville Chamberlain in 1940 when Prime minister of England by his own party "go leave," which he did. So please tread the same path.

Continued page 3

many other causes for those symptoms, so the picture may be a bit confusing.

While it is thought that some people have genetically influenced low serotonin levels, there are other factors that affect them. So, for some good news: increasing levels of serotonin can be done naturally. Getting sun on your body (without catching pneumonia) or taking vitamin D supplements, can increase serotonin levels. Exercising, adaptogens (herbal medicines that help our body adapt to stress such as ashwagandha), and other ways of managing stress such as yoga, meditation, crafts and prayer may also help. Serotonin can also be increased by the use of antidepressants.

Prayer? What does prayer have to do with increasing

serotonin? Well, the answer is – a lot. You may find that hard to believe, or you may have experienced it for yourself. Prayer has been proven to increase positive brain chemicals like serotonin and dopamine. Sceptical? I suggest you explore the topic yourself. Don't know how to pray? Well, you might like to explore that topic too (books, the internet, people who may know about prayer). And if you do already pray, I encourage you to continue, knowing that it not only draws you closer to God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit: but that it is also good for your wellbeing and mental health.

Keep warm and happy serotonin raising.

Noho ora mai (stay well)  
Adelphos

## Deadlines for copy

We find we are working very late on a Tuesday night to put the paper together for it to be at the printers first thing Wednesday morning.

Our deadline for copy is Monday 10am.

This gives us an opportunity to proofread the copy.

We continue to receive a lot of material on Tuesday and are struggling to process it all as well as put together the paper.

If you have trouble meeting this deadline can you let us know.

This deadline does not apply to the Cops and Fire Service columns where incidents can occur on the Monday and Tuesday.

We do appreciate your contributions, so thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Editor

## Opunake & Coastal News Paste Up Night



## More Opunake & Coastal News' out

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

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## EDITORIAL

# Curbing rampant inflation by domestic measures

With official inflation now exceeding 7%, a figure not seen for over thirty years in New Zealand, it is important that the Government do all it can to curb it, lest it go even higher. As Mr Robertson, the Finance Minister, says, some inflation is due to overseas factors, but that should not be an excuse for not trying to do what can be done on the domestic front.

It is good that the fuel tax relief is being extended until January 2023. However, as fuel prices

underpin virtually all goods and services, how about removing the fuel excise for the whole of next year?

New Zealand must be the only nation where people are obliged to pay a tax (GST) on unavoidable taxes, such as in the case of fuel prices and property rates.

This unfair anomaly arose from the monetary reforms of the Lange/Douglas Government of the 1980s, which surprisingly have not been reversed by later administrations. If GST

was removed from such existing (double) taxes this would provide some relief to stretched budgets and concomitantly undercut inflation.

Mr Waititi, the Maori Party co-leader, recently suggested a good reform; the removal of GST on all basic food items, which would also help to undermine inflation.

Originally, GST was set at 10%, then increased to 12.5%. Former prime minister John Key said it would not be raised – then

did so – up to 15%. How about returning GST to 10%, the original figure that an expensive media programme promised? This would also have a positive effect on reducing inflation.

However, where will the shortfall come from if revenue is lost by such measures? Well, one glaring example is superannuation paid to those who do not need it – it is a benefit after all. Surely, superannuation should not be paid for those whose income is,

for example, in seven figures (\$1,000,000 plus). Superannuation should be means tested, which would save a considerable amount of misdirected revenue.

Frivolous spending of taxpayers hard earned money should be stopped, such as the over \$100,000,000 of taxes wasted on the likes of the (somewhat tarnished) America's Cup, which has much more to do with the assets of already wealthy individuals than anything much to do with sport.

Mr Dalton, for example, was reportedly paid over a million dollars about a decade ago (How much more will that salary be now?).

Of course there will always be the unavoidable impact of overseas factors, such as the war in Ukraine, but whatever can be done here in New Zealand should be tried.

The first step should be to get the figure under 7%, in the first instance.



## Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 2.

Please, Foster the Imposter, and if the hierarchy of New Zealand rugby keep Foster in his position before New Zealand play South Africa, they also should be shown the door.

I congratulate Ireland on their series win, with the help of Foster seemingly unable to coach New Zealand, and he seems unable to settle on a team, players taken from the field for in most cases I do understand, and it was beyond belief when Savea was taken from the field, and in his after game interview, Savea seemed bewildered. To me he is one of the best players in the team, so to Foster the Imposter a very large red card. His replacement could well be the Canterbury coach Robertson, as his record with Canterbury is impressive.

Finally, I do not point a finger at players chosen. So, in the name of peace, "Foster Go."

Gordon(Mac)Sole.  
Hawera.

## Open dialogue

Paul Butler used two words absolutely vital to any functioning democracy. "...open dialogue...". Right now New Zealand does not have 'open dialogue' going on with regards to our society and its governance, it has PR spin and outright censorship.

Taking two issues Paul raised. Back in 2017 when this government started pushing EVs, dissent or inconvenient facts were shut out of the 'debate.' A venue of annoying direct censorship by this government is Facebook which needs to be viewed now as the 21st century 'town hall' meeting for political parties and the

individual MPs. For pointing out that the UN had concerns with cobalt mining and its association with human rights abuses including child labour, my access to the Labour party FB page was blocked, as it remains.

With regards to Marsden Point, also missing in action is an actual public service information media. At a time of severe and worsening 'supply chain' problems, this government has not only shut the refinery it has made sure the plant cannot restart. Where is the widespread media debate or criticism around making this country even more vulnerable to global supply chain problems? The matter of poor quality coal imports just adds to the absurdity of claims to concerns for the environment and steady real employment in New Zealand.

What New Zealand has is ideological agendas being allowed to trump practical life for New Zealand citizens. At stake is how many Kiwis get to experience a poorer standard of living as this ideological process plays out.

Essential to things that do not make sense being perpetuated is media silence and censorship of 'open dialogue.' Mainstream media becomes merely a press release service gate-keeping information for the plebs. It then layers that by denigrating anyone of 'us' ordinary folk seeking information elsewhere. 'We' become purveyors of 'disinformation.' 'We' are labelled by the PM as not representative of Kiwis going to Parliament to object to coerced/forced medical procedures. 'We' are called racist by the government TV channel interviewing a government financed 'think' tank who decided such because some Kiwis have pointed out dividing New Zealand along race lines

might be racist or at least not likely to achieve harmony in society or better outcomes.

We have New Zealand farmers objecting to the pace of new environmental 'benchmarks' being imposed. Yet in a similar high agriculture western country, the Netherlands, they are already at the stage of dealing with land confiscation for not meeting imposed benchmarks.

A whole book could be written on the level of censorship by this government and its MP's (including our local) and the media on other science backed health advice beyond the Pfizer sales drive during the covid era.

This self-claimed 'most open and transparent' government is actually only interested in being the 'single source of truth,' with thousands of Kiwis shut out of any 21st century communications that would contribute to 'open dialogue' and a functioning democracy!

Max Thomas  
Awatuna

## Complete medical mystery

I see that now in many places anyone under 40 is being advised to get their hearts checked because of a newly discovered "illness" they're calling Sudden Adult Death Syndrome, which, as the name suggests means unusual numbers of previously healthy people are dropping dead for no apparent reason. It's also said to be a complete medical mystery as to why so many are suddenly experiencing life threatening blood clots, heart inflammation, menstrual changes, lost pregnancies, reduced fertility, neurological problems and the now very apparent to us all increased susceptibility to infection. An obvious sign of a compromised immune system.

Tell you what, if you

need help solving this seemingly baffling medical conundrum simply ask one of the unvaccinated. I'm sure they'll be more than happy to point out the obvious.

A Concerned Kiwi  
Eltham.

## Mandates

The big news at present is how the health sector is desperately short of staff which is putting a huge strain on the system. People with serious illness are having operations delayed, while doctors and nurses are becoming stretched to the limit. Schools are facing similar staff shortages. Why has this recently become such a problem? The answer is government mandates. Thousands of health workers, including nurses, doctors and teachers were mandated when they refused to have the Pfizer "vaccination." The mainstream media must know this, but refuse to acknowledge this in their reporting.

The Pfizer vaccine was put on the market with only two months of human trials, and no animal trials. There was no safety testing and countries that wanted it were told by Pfizer that they would take no liability for adverse effects, and yet we signed up for millions of doses. It is little wonder that many refused to take this

untested injection. There are many though who through pressures of having to pay mortgages and the ultimatum of losing their income and the job they loved with great reluctance got jabbed.

We were told right from the start that the 'vax' is 'safe and effective,' so many trusted the government and got it.

On the safe: I'm sure everyone must know at least a couple of people that have suffered serious adverse reactions. I know of many, through family and friends that have suffered myocarditis, shingles, stroke and blood clots within hours or days of receiving one of the doses. The mainstream media refuse to acknowledge this, which is huge, since many lives have been seriously affected. I only hope that one day this will all come out.

On the effective: We were told originally you need two shots, then a booster, then another etc. I remember stuff like "two shots will keep you out of ICU, and one shot out of hospital." Then "the shots won't stop you getting it but it won't be as bad." Also "Covid will seek out the unvaxed."

.Has any of this been true? Not in my experience. As far as getting it and spreading it, the virus makes no difference if you are jabbed or not, and with vaxed or unvaxed it seems to range from a mild cold to a reasonable flu (and

around 500 people die of the flu each year in New Zealand). This whole thing has been driven by fear and control.

Back to the health system and the teachers. The simple answer to alleviating the extreme staff shortages is to allow the mandated back to do the work they are trained in and the jobs they love.

Truth Seeker  
Opunake.

## Russian invasion of the Ukraine

Since February 2014; the Russian people of East Ukraine (Donbas) have endured continual shelling and fear as their daily lot.

This is not a war but a Special Military Operation; to clean out the Neo Nazi element.

Since February 2022, the Russians have moved in slowly and with as much care as possible, not to kill civilians, or take out residential buildings; but alas people have to be killed and buildings damaged. This is a tragedy, and most unfortunately it is inevitable. The peace talks scheduled for March were forestalled by the UK and the US, as this did not meet

Continued page 4

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## Letters to the Editor

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### Russian invasion of the Ukraine

their agenda or line their pockets. This is a tragedy for the people of Ukraine, as this proxy war is being played out by the west by

sending in more weapons (which will only prolong the operation), and more soldiers and civilians will be killed or wounded.

Ukraine ran a TV series about a school teacher who became president. This was extremely popular, guess who played the school teacher. This became reality/or was used. So you see you have a drag queen with high heels pretending to run a country/war.

The Ukraine puppet, actor Zelensky, has to toe the line, especially being surrounded by neo-nazis', who are more ruthless than their forebears. Plus he has to consider his pay cheque, to keep his mansions in London and Italy and fund his addiction.

Ukraine uses its own people as human shields and places them in harm's way on purpose. Their propaganda is extremely good, including using videos from previous places and actors daubed with red paint. Zelensky and his close team of actors are good at this type of propaganda.

Mr Vladimir Putin is possibly one of the best and most patient leaders this world has currently.

He is surrounded by a sound team, especially foreign minister Sergey

Lavrov.

EU, UK and US politicians are ineffectual; and do as dictated by The New World Order. They are not of the calibre of past politicians, with the exception of one or two that get taken down. Nothing is thought through to its conclusion, as you can tell by the sanctions, against Russia. They are hurting the West more than Russia. Currently the West faces a cold, bleak winter caused by their own stupidity.

To restore gas and oil, all the West needs to do is to lift the sanctions. Canada has been holding a turbine - to delay the maintenance of the Nord Stream 1 gas pipe line by Puppet Trudeau, on orders from the White House.

The Russian navy has made safe corridors for shipping from Mariupol, and offered safe passage with the aid of Turkey, if the Ukraine Navy remove their mines; placed in the Black Sea near Crimea. This would allow grain to be shipped

As with the health service (our doctors and nurses), MSM has been bought by governments on instructions from the NWO. The radio and TV news is complete propaganda and is shameful. Narrative non MSM

This is a general outline only, but be careful what you believe and listen to.

Maureen Martins  
Opunake.

### Ukraine

Rolland McKellar's recent letter concerning the Ukraine situation could hardly be regarded as informative because it was merely just a repetition of the various wild claims and assertions made by the media over recent months, with the same hysterical us-vs-them slant.

No mention was made of the fact that Ukraine's last democratically elected neutralist government was in 2014 overthrown by America/EU. Or that their new "leaders" were then handpicked and installed by the US State Department. Also now, under the guise of "emergency powers" not only have all Ukrainian TV stations been fused into one, but all political opposition in the country has effectively been banned as well, which sounds more like a fascist dictatorship than the bastion of democracy it's being portrayed as. Plus too, and most importantly, is NATO's continued aggressive

military expansion along Russia's borders of which Ukraine is obviously playing a geopolitical part. Putin has repeatedly warned he would no longer tolerate this, so how many smarts does it take to realise that if you keep poking a sleeping Russian bear it'll eventually wake up? Or was that the plan all along? Very possibly, but we can't know because Russian information sources are being deliberately censored to us.

I'm making no excuses whatsoever for Putin's actions because war is an undeniably despicable act of barbarity. But clearly though, from the very start President Zelensky knew damned well that this proxy American conflict was both unwinnable and completely avoidable yet, in exchange for basking in the fawning adulation we're seeing from world leaders everywhere, he has and is literally sacrificing the lives of his own countrymen and women. Not the actions of someone I'd call "inspirational" Mr McKellar.

A Concerned Kiwi  
Eltham

## Opunake as remembered by parish priest

The following poem was written by the Rev Dr. James Kelly on his departure as parish priest at Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church in Opunake.

The controversial clergyman was born on 11 November 1887 in New Ross, County Wexford, Ireland. He was sent to Rome for seminary training where he excelled, staying to complete a doctorate in philosophy. Rev Dr Kelly PHD moved to New Zealand in 1913 and among his first appointments was as parish priest at Opunake.

The presbytery was an Academia for priests to visit for learned discussions.

In February 1917 he was appointed editor of the weekly Catholic newspaper, *The New Zealand Tablet*. This gave the outspoken academic and passionate Irish nationalist the opportunity to promote his strong anti-British opinions that were notably controversial in early 20th century New Zealand.

Rev James Kelly resigned from *The Tablet* in 1931 and returned to Taranaki. He spent the final years of his life as the parish priest at Pungarehu; he died on 1 February 1939 in Hawera Hospital. His funeral service was held at St Martin de Tours in Pungarehu. The concelebrated Memorial Mass was the largest gathering of clergy in the history of the Taranaki coast. Dr James Kelly was buried near his 'beloved Mountain', in the historic Okato cemetery.



LEFT:  
Rev Dr James Kelly.

*Opunake*  
The moon looks down on  
the mountain  
Silent over the sea.  
And a host of faint, far  
voice  
Seen whispering to me.  
Somewhere in the bygone  
ages  
The heart of the mountain  
broke,  
And the face of the moon  
was hidden  
In a veil of fire and smoke.  
A hundred rivers murmuring  
Go down to their ocean  
graves,  
On beds that were

*ploughed by the lava  
Long cooled by the rest-  
less waves.  
The ghost of primeval  
forests  
Keep guard above the  
plain,  
And the night winds pass-  
ing through them  
Are tremulous with pain.  
The moon looks down on  
the mountain  
Now clad in a shroud of  
snow,  
For the fires of the dead  
volcano  
Have long since cease to  
glow.*

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# From Head Boy to Debating Chamber

After hobnobbing with the country's parliamentarians, Tom Tito-Greene thinks he might like to be one.

The Opunake High School Head Boy attended the Youth Parliament in Wellington on July 18-20 as New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett's Youth MP.

"It was a once in a lifetime experience," he said. "Originally I was not really into the political scene, but since being down there and looking at the processes of parliament, I may look to pursue a political career later on." At the moment he says he doesn't support any political party and describes himself as "politically neutral."

Tom has iwi links to Nga Ruahine and Taranaki and says he would like to see more young Maori involved in big leadership decisions.

Before going to the Youth Parliament he had been looking at studying anthropology next year, but now thinks he will study law, probably at Otago University.

In the leadup to the Youth Parliament, Youth MPs spent time seeing their MPs close hand and spent a day with Social development minister Carmel Sepuloni.

He was one of the three Youth MPS chosen to speak at the powhiri before the opening of the Youth Parliament.

"I said that despite us coming from different peoples and different parties we represent the youth of tomorrow," he said.

From there it was on to the official opening complete with the Black Rod leading them into the debating chamber.



**With the Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro.**

The Youth MPs sat in the seats where their MPS sit, which Tom says were "quite comfortable." They did the things the elected legislators do, like sit on select committees and take part in a general debate.

Hot topics included whether to abolish the starting out minimum wage. He recalls a speech by Youth MP Kate Tipler calling for the voting age to be lowered to 16,

speech, misogyny, sexism and racism shouldn't be accepted. The other asked the house to acknowledge and commemorate Parihaka, and for November 5 to be a day set aside to commemorate Parihaka and the prophets Te Whiti and Tohu.

It is a theme he returned to in the speech he gave to the Youth Parliament asking that Guy Fawkes Day be changed to a day that

"I believe that in order for us to move on we need to understand our history so it's not forgotten and we don't make the same mistakes again," he said.

He enjoyed his time on the Justice Select Committee looking at the Treaty of Waitangi when considering policy or legislation.

Glen Bennett was at there for the entire time of the Youth Parliament. Among the people Tom saw were the Governor-General Dame Cindy Kiro, former National Party leader Judith Collins and Prime minister Jacinda Ardern, with whom he chatted briefly.

"It was weird meeting them personally. Just to see them walking in the hallway was quite a reality check," he said.



**With the Prime Minister.**

which he says received a standing ovation. It is a cause Tom says he also supports.

Tom moved two motions in the house, both of which passed without any objections. One asked the Youth Parliament to acknowledge that hate

commemorates unification and peace in connection with the legacy of Parihaka. As somebody with links to Parihaka, it is something of special significance for him.



**In the Speaker's Chair.**

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## OKATO COPS

# Getting caught should be least of your worries

I trust everyone is coping with the damp, cold weather we are having of late. It certainly has been extreme. As always I just encourage everyone to be patient on the roads and drive to the conditions. Better to get somewhere late rather than not at all.

On the driving theme, I ask that if we are drinking, that we have pre-arranged plan to get home safely. It's too easy to just think of yourself when you are intoxicated, you are tired, and you just want to get home. Ultimately, we only think about getting home without being caught by Police. This should be the least of your worries.



CONSTABLE MATT STONE

It's more likely that you will injure or kill yourself or someone else. Being a close knit community, the someone else is likely to be someone you know. This will tear apart a community. Please don't be foolish and selfish and drive after drinking.

Just a reminder about our

security. Burglars love to roam under the coverage of wet, stormy nights. After reading this, take the time to ensure you lock doors, windows, take keys out of all vehicles, including farm vehicles, lock trailers, hide valuable tools such as chainsaws and electric tools. Roaming dogs are the best security tool.

With respect to Online Fraud Scams, I just encourage everyone to be vigilant. If the deal is too good to be true, then it is just that. I suggest you don't buy anything off Facebook without paying cash upon pick up. If you are looking to buy from Facebook, check

the person's profile. If it's a new account, with few posts, it will be a false account. I also recommend lowering your credit card limits to reduce the loss should you be scammed by overseas offenders, where often you cannot retrieve the money back.

Lastly, I would like to remind everyone of the reporting number to Police. Ring 105 if you wish to report something that is not happening now. Ring 111 for emergencies happening now.

Until next time.

Nga Mihi  
Matt

*Matthew Stone  
Sole Charge  
Okato*

## OPUNAKE COPS

# The end of an era

To start I would like to thank Kylie for his many years looking after Opunake. When I started to look at my position here one of the big selling points was a local lad who really cared about the community. I'm sure everyone will agree he is leaving behind big boots to fill, all the best with your new role and thanks for all your help.

Well winter is here, and the weather is certainly hitting.

When on the roads please keep this in mind, slowing down that little bit may give you the time to stop when you come across surface flooding, a slip, a wash out, a downed tree or of course stock on the road.

Potholes are costing people a lot of money and causing



CONSTABLE MATT GOODMAN

people to run late and miss events.

When the guys and girls

are out fixing these potholes please obey the temporary speed limit through the road works.

The school holidays have finished so please slow down and take care around drop off and pick up times.

Remember the speed limit when passing a stationary school bus (20km) in either direction.

Dishonestly offences are up, with community assets being targeted over the last

weekend.

With calving kicking into full swing please take the time to secure your property. The thieves know our farmers are running on fumes and each year they target farm equipment left insecure.

Please take the time to shed the quads and remove the keys. two minutes before the shower could save walking the farm the next day.

*Cheers  
Matt*

# Call for NAWAC to recommend ban on colony cages

The National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) has said that the poultry codes of welfare will be reviewed. This includes the codes of welfare for layer hens, chickens bred for their meat, and breeder birds.

Animal advocacy group SAFE say they have been calling for an urgent review of the layer hens code of welfare as it currently allows

for the use of colony cages.

They say colony cages breach the Animal Welfare Act 1999, which states animals must have the ability to perform normal patterns of behaviour. One cage can house up to 80 hens, where the space allowed for each hen is no larger than a piece of A4 paper.

SAFE Campaigns Manager Jessica Chambers said NAWAC's reputation is at stake.

"If NAWAC does not recommend banning colony cages, it calls into question its authority as an animal welfare body," said Chambers.

"Recommending a ban on colony cages is NAWAC's opportunity to demonstrate its commitment to their role, which is to prioritise animal

welfare and to honour the Animal Welfare Act."

"With 76% of kiwis opposed to the caging of hens and leading supermarkets removing cage eggs from their supply chains, legislation in Aotearoa is falling behind."

International trends show colony cages are either already banned or are being actively phased out across large parts of Europe and the USA.

"Millions of hens are suffering in colony cages that should never have been legal in the first place."

"SAFE will continue to campaign for the freedom of these birds and ask that the public sign our petition calling for a total ban on the cruel caging of hens in Aotearoa."



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# Conversations may spread COVID-19 more than previously thought

Speaking only four words over the course of an hour creates almost 10 times more aerosols than just regular breathing, which has implications for the spread of COVID-19, new research has found. Scientists measured the amount of potentially contagious aerosol particles expelled when speaking, finding most prior research failed to detect many intermediate-sized particles that could cause infection through the upper respiratory tract. Speaking only four words over the course of an hour creates almost 10 times more aerosols than just regular breathing, which has implications for the spread of COVID-19, new research has found. In a peer reviewed observational study in PNAS, scientists measured the amount of potentially contagious aerosol particles expelled when speaking, finding most prior research failed to detect many intermediate-sized particles that could cause infection through the upper respiratory tract. Researchers used laser light scattering and an optical particle counter to measure the size of potentially contagious aerosols expelled when speaking and found that most prior reports failed to detect the dominant portion of speech-generated aerosols with diameters between 5 and 20 microns; the findings indicate that many SARS-CoV-2 aerosols remain airborne for minutes rather than hours, and, if inhaled, such intermediate-size particles may deposit in the upper respiratory tract rather than reaching the lungs, and, thus, even in the absence of symptoms such as coughing and sneezing, particles spread through speaking may play a key role in the transmission of diseases such as COVID-19, according to the authors. Dr Joel Rindelaub, Aerosol Chemist, University of Auckland comments



**Vaccinating against Covid 19.**

“Every time someone with COVID-19 breathes, talks or coughs, they are emitting thousands of virus-laden aerosol particles into the air that others can inhale and then become infected. This study concluded that the amount of aerosols produced from talking has been previously underreported, meaning that activities that promote conversation should have an increased focus when trying to reduce COVID-19 transmission. The authors found that speaking only four words over the course of an hour led to almost 10 times more particle mass than just regular breathing over the same time. With the large amount of aerosol particles that can be exhaled during conversations, it should be no surprise that most of the reported superspreader events have occurred at social locations, such as bars, restaurants, conferences, and church gatherings. This study also supports the theory that COVID-19 infections begin in the upper airways. The authors found

that larger particle sizes (> 5 µm) were produced during speech. At these sizes, the airborne particles wouldn't be capable of reaching the lungs during inhalation and would instead settle in the nose and throat. Overall, the results of this paper further highlight the importance of proper mask use. When engaging in conversation, you are shooting a stream of dirty particles directly at someone's face. Sometimes you'll see people lower their mask when talking to others but really the opposite should be happening. Conversations are high risk and a high quality N95 mask can keep you and social acquaintances safe. Additionally, if you're trying to protect yourself from COVID-19, wearing a mask over the mouth but not the nose is a complete fail because the nose is where COVID infection is probably happening. It is important to note that only one healthy individual was tested in this study, meaning that the particle size distributions observed may not be representative of

a wider population or that of a COVID-19 infected patient. This also means that no data on the amount of virus within each respiratory particle size was produced from this study.”

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# We can all do our bit

An estimated 40% of food produced globally each year is wasted — totalling 2.5 billion tonnes.

New Zealand households account for more than 157,000 tonnes of it.

July 8 marked the release of Food Waste: A Global and Local Problem, a report by the Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor.

The first in a series of reports the OPMCSA will produce as part of a food waste project, it describes NZ's wastage as 'avoidable' and explains why it's such a huge problem — environmentally, socially and economically.

For example, if food waste had been a country in 2011,



**BARBARA KURIGER MP**  
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

it would have been the third biggest emitter behind China and the United States.

While more data is needed to know how big the problem is in New Zealand, a national definition of just what food waste is, is being developed, along with a whole-of-life' approach to take into account

for the environmental impacts from production, processing, manufacturing, packing, transportation and storage to eventual cooking. The OPMCSA says it will also apply circular economy thinking to guide its project. This means moving away from the current take-make-use-waste approach to a system where products and materials are kept in use for as long as possible and natural systems are regenerated.

Future reports will also look at the diverse range of crucial stakeholders which have a role to play in combatting food waste as well as the government and inter-governmental initiatives already underway.

The OPMCSA report follows on the heels of Rabobank's Kantar NZ Food Waste Survey of 1502 people conducted in April. It revealed 53% of those surveyed had thrown away unopened food in the past 12 months — up 42% on last year. Eight percent said they do so every week, while 36% threw away unopened food every fortnight or monthly. The three most frequently wasted foods were vegetables, bread and fruit. Key trends from the survey showed that while Gen Z participants wasted the most food, they were also the most concerned about climate change and dealing with waste. More than half of the

respondents — 52% — wanted to learn more about reducing waste.

That's good given 60% of food dumped at NZ's landfills is 'perfectly edible'. Our national Love Food Hate Waste campaigners will tell you that the 157,389 tonnes of food Kiwis waste each year is the equivalent of 271 jumbo jets of food which has to go somewhere to rot. Worth about \$1.17 billion annually that amount could feed the population of Dunedin for almost three years.

Like many of my generation, I grew up in a 'waste not, want not' household and we need to bring that mindset back. Experts believe the average

Kiwi household could save \$644 a year by eliminating food waste.

I've spent a fair amount of time in past weeks talking to people across the spectrum from farmers and growers to processors and consumers about food production and emissions.

When food is thrown out, the good environmental work of its producers goes with it.. Getting food waste under control in New Zealand is going to be a huge task, but a necessary one, if we are to reduce our greenhouse gases.

And we all need to do our bit.

Authorised by B Kuriger, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

# Tackling crime and gangs in Taranaki

The Government has announced further measures to tackle crime and gangs, as part of our work to keep Taranaki, and communities across New Zealand safe.

We've already delivered New Zealand's largest ever Police service, removed more than 60,000 illegal guns from circulation, and provided Police with more resources to combat gangs and drugs. But the recent brazen gang activities that we've seen are completely unacceptable, and we've responded quickly with practical measures that build on our strong law and order record.

To crack down on violent offending and other criminal activity, we're introducing new targeted Police warrant and additional search powers to find and seize weapons

from gang members during gang conflict. These changes will help Police to do their job and protect New Zealanders.

We're also continuing to hit gangs and other offenders where it hurts by taking their guns, cars and motorbikes and making it harder to launder money. The changes we're making will see items such as watches, jewellery and vehicles added to the list of high value goods that can't be sold for cash over certain amounts.

We're also enabling Police to seize cash over \$10,000 when found in suspicious circumstances, as well as expanding the range of offences that can lead to Police impounding cars, motorbikes and other vehicles.

There's no place for gun violence and intimidation



**GLEN BENNETT**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

on Taranaki streets or in our homes, and we're establishing a new offence for firing a gun with the purpose of intimidation, which could see someone in prison for up to five years. This new offence will help to put an end to unacceptable drive-by shootings and the like, and builds on the work we've done since taking office to tackle gun violence.

This includes banning military-style semi-automatic weapons, increasing sentences and penalties for firearms crimes, introducing a firearms registry, and more.

To keep people here in Taranaki and across the country safe, we've already delivered the country's largest ever Police service, and we're on track to achieve our goal of an extra 1800 Police officers this year. When we reach this, we will make sure that Police numbers don't fall away, like they did under the previous National-led Government, by maintaining an ongoing ratio of one Police officer to every 480 Kiwis.

I've seen first-hand the challenges that gangs bring to communities, working for many years with young

people, many of who were on a pathway to joining a gang. Their life circumstances put many of these young people in a place where it seemed like their only option and value was found in getting patched up. But I saw many young people reject this path through the support of a teacher who took an interest in them, a youth worker who spoke their language and share tools for life, or in my mahi, providing a foster home, a safe shelter for them to be themselves and experience another pathway to adulthood, where they could see many more options other than joining a gang. This is why we're also working hard to address the drivers of crime, reduce offending and stop young

people becoming gang members in the first place. We will continue to do more on intervention and prevention, and we're undertaking further work focusing on the youth justice system.

As a Government, we've been working alongside Police, listening to what they believe will help them to better do their job and have made these practical changes as a result.

Glen Bennett, MP for New Plymouth



Authorised by Glen Bennett MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand



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## On this month in history Bleriot flies the English Channel

On July 25 1901 Lois Bleriot flew an aeroplane across the English Channel from Calais to Northfall Meadow (close to Dover Castle). The flight took just 36 minutes and 30 seconds.

Apart from Bleriot, aboard were two mechanics and his friend Alfred Leblanc. The men set off at 4.41am reached a speed of 45 mph (72kph) at an altitude of 250 yards (76m). He won a prize

of one thousand pounds donated by the Daily Mail.

The aeroplane is now in Paris in the Musee des Arts et Metiers.

Bleriot died on August 1, 1936 aged 64.

## Steph Lewis

MP for Whanganui

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Authorised by Steph Lewis MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington





# ED wait times soaring in Taranaki

Emergency Department wait times are soaring in Taranaki, with more than one in five people waiting at least six hours for treatment, National's MP for Taranaki-King Country Barbara Kuriger says.

"Data obtained by the Parliamentary Library shows that since Labour came into Government, there has been a marked decline in the proportion of people who go to Emergency Departments being seen within six hours. "In the three months to the

end of March, the proportion of people admitted, discharged or transferred from the Emergency Department within six hours of arriving fell to 78.5 per cent – down from 92.2 per cent in the three months to September 2017.

"Wait times are up in every region across the country, but the data shows that the Taranaki region is among the worst performing in the country, compared to the reporting from 2017.

"If more than one in

five people going to the Emergency Department has to wait at least six hours for treatment, that is a sure sign that the system is not coping.

"When ED waiting times are unbearable, people simply leave – sometimes with tragic consequences.

"The full extent of the tragic ED wait time figures are only now laid bare on the Ministry of Health website after National pressured Andrew Little to reveal figures that were no longer being published.

"Exhausted, hard-working ED staff see no support, hope, or plans in Andrew Little's public statements. The Minister of Health urgently needs to refocus the \$486 million being spent on health reforms towards relieving pressure in EDs."

*Barbara Kuriger  
MP Taranaki King Country*

*Authorised by B Kuriger,  
Parliament Buildings,  
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## Rubbish idea brightens up Onaero campground

If a tidy camper is a happy camper, then two Waitara boys have been spreading the joy around the NPDC-owned Onaero campground. Layne Russ (6) and his cousin Jack Melville (10) collected three big bags of rubbish during a sweep around the campsite, down the Onaero River and around the beach during a rainy day over the long Matariki weekend – and they're keen to keep the ground tidy during their regular holidays there.

"I thought it would be a good idea to pick up the rubbish because then the animals wouldn't die from eating the rubbish," said Layne, who plays for Clifton Junior Rugby.

Layne's parents, Lisa Melville and Michael Russ, have been caravanning at the Onaero Bay Holiday Park regularly over the last 12 years and they love its classic friendly Kiwi campground feel.

"We took Layne for his first camping trip at Onaero at six weeks old. It's so peaceful and even when it's packed out, there is a really good vibe," said Lisa.

"After being stuck in the caravan for a couple of hours due to the rain I told the boys to put their gumboots on and we would go for a walk to the river. Sadly, we spent over an hour picking up rubbish. We ended up with three bags full, a piece of large rope and a sheet of polythene.

"The rubbish was a huge mixture of plastics - plant pots, bits of ice cream containers, bottles and lids, pegs, a really old piece of Lego, a camera lens cap, balls, straws, lollipop sticks."

Both boys said they'd do it again.

"I was so proud of these two boys. It wasn't a chore as they knew it was so important to look after the river and beach," said Lisa. The boys are role models for everyone who visited



**Layne Ross and Jack Melville with the haul of rubbish collected from around Onaero Beach and Campground.**

the campground, which is on NPDC's Onaero Domain, said Michelle Kennard, Manager of Onaero Bay Holiday Park, which is leased by Belgarvia NZ. "At Onaero Bay Holiday Park it's great to see our regular Taranaki family of campers taking time and pride to clean our beach for everyone to enjoy," said Ms Kennard. NPDC Resource Recovery Manager Kimberley Hope said everyone has a role in keeping our Sustainable Lifestyle Capital clean and

green as a taonga for future generations. "Layne and Jack set an awesome example for all of us, especially the grown-ups. "Taranaki has a Zero Waste goal, so it's important to reuse, recycle and repurpose where we can and to make sure our rubbish goes in the bin when we are out and about. NPDC's six coastal campgrounds are Taranaki gems for locals and visitors so let's clean up after ourselves," she said.

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# Sound reasons to buy an electric vehicle – part 2

This is the second in a three part series of articles that sets out some sound reasons to consider an electric vehicle (EV) for your next car. Written by Mike Procter, he comments he has offered the articles “to provide factual information and to dispel some of the misinformation about EVs in an article published in the 16 June issue of this newspaper”.

## Driving an EV

Is driving an EV different? There is a yes/no answer to this question. That’s because all the principles of driving an EV are exactly the same as any other car. However, there are differences in the way power is delivered to the wheels and some features that enable them to be driven more efficiently.

One of the biggest differences you’ll experience the first time you get behind the wheel of an EV is that there’s virtually no engine noise. With no internal combustion taking place in the engine and no exhaust being emitted, the only sound an EV makes is from the wind passing over it and its wheels on the road.

Driving an EV is very similar to driving any automatic car. However, an automatic transmission works its way up and down the gears trying to balance the torque given the constraints of the internal combustion engine.

Most EVs only have one

gear which means that maximum torque is available immediately. As a result, the acceleration from a standing start can be very rapid.

Two features of EVs that are not possible in petrol/diesel vehicles are regenerative braking and one pedal driving.

Regenerative braking, commonly referred to as regen, is similar in principle to the engine brakes used on heavy trucks where the power of the engine is used to rapidly slow the vehicle down. On trucks this is always accompanied by a very loud noise. Regen braking not only slows the vehicle down rapidly but can bring it to a complete stop, without any additional noise whatsoever. During regen braking the electric motor becomes a generator which slows the wheels down and additionally produces electrical energy which goes back into the battery to add to the vehicle range.

One pedal driving is where the driver only needs



Charging an electric car.

to use the accelerator to; go forwards/reverse, slow down and stop. It only takes a few kilometres of driving to become proficient with one pedal driving. This technique provides a more relaxed travel experience for both driver and passengers due to the vehicle’s smooth change in momentum. It also means that the brake pedal does not need to be used, therefore no wear on the brake pads which reduces maintenance costs.

All EVs on sale in New Zealand can quite comfortably cruise at the legal speed limit, despite misinformation to the contrary.

## Environmental issues

There are a multitude of false statements made about EVs not being environmentally friendly and many scientific papers written debunking all of them. There are also authoritative sources

such as the New Zealand Government’s [www.genless.govt.nz](http://www.genless.govt.nz).

The most common false claim about EVs is that the battery will only last a few years then have to go to landfill because they are not recyclable. This is totally untrue.

Firstly, a modern EV battery is temperature controlled, unlike a smartphone battery. Each manufacturer provides battery warranties which can range from 7-10 years. When the warranty expires the battery will not stop, but just like a car engine it may not have the same pep it did when new.

When an EV battery has reached a stage where it does not suit the use the car is being put to, then the battery can be reused in a stationary situation e.g. house or business.

After that second life the battery can then be recycled to extract the base materials for making new batteries, just the same as has been

done for decades with standard lead acid batteries used in vehicles.

Panasonic in the USA are receiving recycled base metals from batteries previously used in smartphones, laptops, cordless tools, etc. The metals will then be used to make new batteries for Tesla. Source; Forbes 4 January 2022.

There is no method of recycling a single litre of petrol/diesel once it has been used in an internal combustion engine.

Another area for which EVs receive unreasonable criticism is in the mining of cobalt. There are many articles and pseudo documentaries stating that cobalt used in EV batteries is mined using child labour in the Democratic Republic of Congo. D.R.Congo is the largest source for the world’s cobalt. That used by reputable battery manufacturers, e.g. Panasonic, Samsung, LG, etc is sourced from major mining companies who use massive machinery to mine cobalt. Tens of thousands of tons of cobalt are needed every year for many purposes, not just batteries. Child labour or even adults could not produce the quantities needed simply with the use of hand tools.

Cobalt is also used in inks, dyes, tools, jet engines, healthcare as well as batteries for laptops, cordless power tools, EVs and in our mobile phones that most people

have these days. Whilst the oil industry has for decades used cobalt to reduce the sulphur in petrol/diesel.

Over the past couple of years some EV manufacturers have started moving to alternative chemistries that do not use cobalt. There have been no similar announcements from oil companies that they will cease using cobalt.

It is often said that the electricity used in EVs comes from nuclear or fossil fuel power stations. New Zealand does not have any nuclear power stations and we produce over 80% of our electricity from renewable sources. Those homes and businesses that have solar PV panels on their roof can top up their EV virtually free.

The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> produced during production of an EV is slightly more than that for petrol/diesel vehicles due to making the battery. But that is a one-off increase compared to the ongoing CO<sub>2</sub> and other gases that are poisonous to human health produced by burning petrol/diesel.

A recent scientific report for various New Zealand government ministries found that 3000 people were dying yearly in New Zealand as a result of air pollution, and it was mostly because of cars. Source: all major news media 5/6 July 2022. Worldwide it is approximately 9 million premature deaths, Source: The Lancet June 2022.

A local example from the New Zealand report shows that in 2016 for the South Taranaki District there were 14 premature deaths due to air pollution.

Consider this. Look at any school when it is due to finish and you will see cars idling outside waiting for the kids to come out. Those petrol/diesel cars are pumping invisible noxious gases into the air that the kids will breathe in as they walk by. An EV does not do this.

In the final part of this article we will consider aspects of the Costs associated with EVs.

Mike Procter

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# Magical Moments Music (MMM) Amira Willighagen

Arguably one of the outstanding sopranos in classical music today is an eighteen-year-old named Amira Willighagen, who was born in Nijmegen, the Netherlands on March 27, 2004.

Amira was part of a very musical family with her Dutch father Gerrit playing the piano, her mother Frieda playing the violin and brother Vincent also the violin. It was as a seven-year-old on vacation in England that she heard Luciano Pavarotti sing the aria *Nessun Dorma* (from Puccini's opera *Turandot*) which inspired her to sing opera. How did she learn to sing Opera? She listened to opera arias on YouTube tutorials.

Amira first came to international notice at the 2013 Holland's Got Talent (sixth season), as just a little girl aged just nine. At the audition she sang *O Mio Babbino Caro* (from



**Amira Willighagen**

Puccini's opera *Gianni Schicchi*) and the judges just could barely believe what they were hearing. One said she sounded like opera great Maria Callas.

In the semi-finals she sang Gounod's *Ave Maria* and was propelled into the final.

In the final she sang *Nessun Dorma* and won first place with over 50% of the vote (television viewers and audience). Listening to her performance it is very hard to believe that it's just a child singing with such force and soulful musicality,

altogether a remarkable performance which compares well with that of any established opera singer. It's well worth a watch on the internet.

Just four years later, aged thirteen (but looking more like someone in their late teens), she again sang *O Mio Babbino Caro* (as well as *Your Love*) to a huge audience at the Max Proms Concert. This is a superb, outstanding performance which is well worth a look. She is well represented on the internet with viewing 'hits' numbering in the millions (eg 42 million for her Holland's Got Talent

winning performance of *Nessun Dorma*).

Amira's first album (February 2014) was entitled simply *Amira* and she is backed by the City of Prague Philharmonic Orchestra. Among the ten songs are *Pie Jesu* (from Lloyd Webber's Requiem), *Nella Fantasia* and *Song to the Moon*. Sales gained the album Gold status within a fortnight of its release. Since then she has released five other albums.

The quality of her singing was been recognised by such awards as the International Mediterranean Best Female Opera Star, 2019. She has performed in many places around the world including London, Malta, Madrid and Naples.

A feature of her life is the fact she donates much of her income (reportedly about 50%) to charity, such as her Lucky Children Foundation (Stichting Gelukskinders) where she funds the setting up of playgrounds in poorer areas of South Africa (where she now lives). So far thirteen playgrounds have been set up, but she also donates to many other worthy causes.

Hopefully, Amira will eventually tour here and, if so, it will be a musical treat too good to miss. In the meantime try her website Amira-online.com

*Rolland McKellar*

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**Above: Plum 'Hawera' and Apricot 'Fitzroy'**

and produces consistent crops of sweet, juicy, golden fruit that ripen around February. All apricots are self-fertile. Winter is the optimum time to plant your stone fruit trees as they are dormant during winter. Fruit trees are happiest when planted in free-draining soil, in a sunny spot where they are protected from strong winds. When planting, dig a hole big enough for all the

roots, making sure the graft is above the ground. A large handful of sheep pellets in the hole as you plant your fruit tree will give it a good start. Stake your tree at the time of planting to ensure it grows straight. Firm the soil around the tree with your feet and water in well. Visit Palmers now for the very best selection of new season fruit trees.

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## DESTINATION PLAY BY VIRGINIA WINDER

**When Bryce Barnett saw a wildly creative, independently made playground by the beach at Takapuna, Auckland, his mind turned to New Plymouth's foreshore. "Effectively, I saw this opportunity in Taranaki because we have got a fantastic foreshore," says the businessman and philanthropist.**

This seed of an idea kickstarted the thinking behind Destination Play, a \$5.5 million project that involves a creative, interactive, intergenerational space filled with fun and steeped in stories at Kāwaroa Park in New Plymouth.

At 22,000 square metres, the new development will be about nine times larger than the playground now on the site beside the squash club overlooking the sea and Coastal Walkway.

There will be an area for waterplay, including an octopus spurting water and a sensory stimulation space with a giant textured whale and artificial reef.

There will also be stone-carved sea creatures, a pump track, exercise pods, a flying fox, warrior course, large slide on the slope, an area for an outdoor classroom, a space for playing chess or other board games, a newly built access to the rock pools and many places to sit to enjoy the sea view and activities.

The community project is being led by the Taranaki Foundation, of which Bryce is the chair. The organisation is a charitable trust for Taranaki people wanting to leave a legacy through donations.

The Foundation, in partnership with local hapū Ngāti Te Whiti, NP Partners and the New Plymouth District Council planning and design team have been working together since early 2021 to develop all the creative and cultural elements of Destination Play.

The playspace will be created next year and is designed as a legacy for future generations.

Funding efforts are being supported by the Toi Foundation, NP Partners, Taranaki Foundation, NPDC, New Zealand Community Trust and other Taranaki philanthropists.

Movement on the Destination Play project idea began when Bryce spoke to the Council and the Mayor a couple of years ago, saying the Barnett family would put some money towards the project to get it going.

The Council offered the opportunity to enhance the current playground on the foreshore, and Bryce was delighted with the choice because of his strong affiliation with Kāwaroa - he was behind developing a subdivision there in the early 1990s.

Construction of Destination Play will begin in February 2023.

"Like everything that's good, the right opportunity appears at the right time."

Bryce says the expansive playspace will be a place of education and culture as well as play.

"There will be areas for outdoor education under appropriate shade," he says.

"Because of its cultural influence, could this be our Puke Ariki outdoors?"

Ngāti Te Whiti spokesperson Julie Healey is proud of the cultural narrative woven through Destination Play at Kāwaroa.

"Destination Play will celebrate and bring to the forefront elements of our rich Ngāti Te Whiti history," she says.

"Through the use of inclusive storytelling, Destination Play will facilitate a more in-depth appreciation of the whenua (land), moana (sea), and te taiao (the environment) for all generations within the wider Taranaki community."

Taranaki Foundation Chief Executive Josh Hickford says Destination Play will be an experiential place of fun, designed through a creative collaboration.

TOIFOUNDATION.ORG.NZ



"One thing about this project, it's uncovered a lot of talent," he says. "We have got smart, creative, talented people across the board that's led to an arguably world-class playspace. We are making the best of New Zealand here, in Ngāmotu, New Plymouth." Josh says Bryce has a burning desire to make a multi-faceted playground for people of all cultures, abilities and ages, from a one-year-old to someone in their 90s. "Every element of this could be engaged and used by anybody. There will be minimal barriers for people so they can enjoy it at their comfort level."

Renee Davies, NPDC Planning and Design Lead, has been co-ordinating the collaborative design team that's included Ngāti Te Whiti and the Council. "We are always tapping into ideas and feeding off each other and generating new ways to think about things."

That's led to the cultural narratives from hapū being embedded in and driving the design. "It's generated a much deeper, beautiful, meaningful design opportunity for us to explore," Renee says.

When they found the strength of the cultural narrative around Puanga and Maramataka (the lunar calendar) and its links to wellbeing and the ocean they knew they had got it right.

"One of the other key parts of the design was making sure that everything was unique and specific to Ngāmotu."

An example of that is the inclusion of local andesite rock, a key element of our volcanic landscape and reflective of the Kāwaroa reef.

Te Kupenga Stone Sculpture Society are using their talents to sculpt local rock into a range of sea creatures for visitors to interact with at Destination Play.

"We worked with Moturoa School for ideas, and they propagate threatened coastal plants that inspired the planting and will be used in the space."

"There will be a shared social space where you can come and look over the reef, sit with family on a long table and have a BBQ. That's the important thing about the design, it's for all age groups and abilities to have a space to come to be in."

Toi Foundation Chair Chris Ussher says the philanthropic organisation has granted \$1 million towards Destination Play, which aligns with the Foundation's aims.

"One of the Foundation's strategies is about children and young people; it's about recognising the importance that play makes in terms of child development," Chris says.

"This project is creating a beautiful space in New Plymouth where kids can go and explore their boundaries."

Toi Foundation Chief Executive Maria Ramsay says the Kāwaroa project will be a fantastic asset, not just for New Plymouth but for all of Taranaki. It's also free to use.

"It's more than just a playground; it's an opportunity to tell the stories of Ngāti Te Whiti and the place where it's being developed.

"It's a great example of what can be achieved when philanthropists (people and organisations), the corporate sector, Council and iwi jointly work together."

Maria says Destination Play will include intergenerational components so people of all ages can enjoy it. "It will be another great asset for our community that's free to use."

New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom says Destination Play sends a message to the community from philanthropists, who care about New Plymouth and Taranaki.

"They want to do something that has an impact for people of all ages," says Neil. "I think that it's a project designed to spark the child in all of us."

He says the Council is maturing its relationship with the philanthropic community in terms of letting go of control and handing it over to the people prepared to invest their own money.

"I think that reflects the kind of civil servant leadership that has potentially been lacking in the past."

Neil says he's always known there are some incredibly successful people and organisations in Taranaki, who are committed to the place.

"Destination Play marks the first of what we hope will be a series of amazing initiatives driven by our community based on what they want to achieve. And they are in the driver's seat - that's the critical piece," he says.

"In the past, the Council would have a project, (and say) come and give us some money and we'll put your name on it. That's an old-fashioned model, now we're looking to be more collaborative.

"There is nothing like a project of your own design to keep people motivated to get it across the line," he says. "Council has supported the project with people resource and has allocated some funding that was set aside in budgets for the renewal of the older playground at Kāwaroa."

**There is still some work to do to fully fund the dream at Kāwaroa. People wanting to support the project could approach the Taranaki Foundation at [www.taranakifoundation.org.nz](http://www.taranakifoundation.org.nz)**

# Pair passionate about building homes not houses

Experienced builders and business owners Jason Reid and Tony Sarich are helping Taranaki families build quality homes with an award-winning national brand.

Jason and Tony are the licenceholders and managing directors of Fowler Homes New Plymouth.

The pair have more than 40 years' experience in the building industry and have established strong reputations as business owners throughout Taranaki.

Jason owned and operated Jason Reid Builders for 11 years, and Tony owned and operated Premium

Construction for nine years. Now they have combined their skills and experience, and are passionate about providing high-quality homes for Taranaki families.

"We both have young families and know how important it is to create a home, not just a house. One that's comfortable, warm, safe and fits a family's needs— whether that's an active, busy family of five who need space to grow, or a retired couple who need less space but still room for the grandkids to come and visit," says Jason.

"Fowler Homes is great at offering that flexibility. It



The new team at Fowler Homes look forward to creating great homes for Taranaki families.

has fantastic house design plans that can be adapted to a client's needs, a good online platform, strong group buying power and ongoing support."

Tony says utilising the pair's knowledge of the local industry and well established

contacts, complements the respected nationwide brand.

"We understand building a house is a big investment, not only financially but emotionally, so we work to take care of our clients and make sure the process is as smooth as possible," Tony says.

"We manage the entire

project process ourselves – from working on a design, through the build, to completion and handover. This approach helps build a strong and open relationship, as the client deals with only us, not multiple people along the way."

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# Nominations open for New Plymouth

The face of New Plymouth District is changing with the local elections this year and Councillor Stacey Hitchcock says it's an opportunity for the diversity of voices from across the District to have a say on the future. The first-ever Councillor representing Te Purutanga Mauri Pūmanawa (Māori ward) will take their place around the top governance table and new voting boundaries could change the mix of the 13 other councillors. And voters in Puketapu-Bell Block are looking forward to electing their first-ever community board, which will give them a more

direct say in their community and in the Council. Councillor Hitchcock, who's stepping down this election, says more diversity will mean more robust decision-making on Council and Community Boards. "I've had six amazing years helping to shape our Sustainable Lifestyle Capital, and there are still many big calls to be made. So if you think you're up to the challenge and you really want to work for a place where people want to live, work and raise their family, then now's the time to step up and take a stand," said Ms Hitchcock. "Our Council oversees a \$185 million budget, \$3.5



NPDC Council Chambers. Who will take a seat around the table next term?

## STDC says no to Three Waters



South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon.

South Taranaki District Councillors have unanimously approved a submission vigorously opposing the Government's Three Waters Reform Proposal.

The submission comes following the introduction of the Government's Water Services Entities Bill, which is currently sitting with Parliaments Finance and Expenditure Select Committee.

The bill, if enacted in its current form, will take control, management, and delivery of three waters services (water, wastewater, and storm water) away from councils and give them to four mega entities. Under the legislation all three waters staff, assets and liabilities will transfer to the new entities on 1 July 2024.

For South Taranaki this means the Council's three water assets would be taken over by the Western - Central entity, an amalgamation of 22 Councils across

the Waikato (including Hamilton), Bay of Plenty (including Tauranga and Whakatane) and Taranaki Regions and the Ruapehu, Whanganui and Rangitikei Districts.

South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon says the Council submission accepts some reform is needed in the three waters space, however not the centralised 'one size fits none' approach the government has taken.

"The Government's analysis underpinning their whole programme is totally flawed. The degree of investment claimed to be needed is considerably overstated and the supposed cost savings under the proposal are highly implausible. Critically, ownership and accountability has been taken away from the communities who actually own the assets," says Nixon. "Our Council has a good track record for delivering three waters infrastructure

for building, maintaining, and operating this infrastructure. We certainly have the financial capacity to continue to do this and under our own long-term plan we would have achieved the outcomes Government is seeking well before 2050. We simply don't see the value for our communities in the proposed reforms," he says.

Nixon says the Council has been extremely disappointed with the government's handling of this proposed reform.

"There has been no meaningful consultation with Iwi, Council or our community - the promise of opting out was taken away from us, and it's been Councils that have had to continue to engage in good faith and not the other way around. I can only hope that the Government takes our concerns seriously and listens to the wishes of the people."

billion worth of assets and 16 different business units for our residents and last year we were named the World's Most Liveable City for the second time.

"But challenges like inflation and unease on the global political front are hitting our residents' pockets at the petrol pump and the

supermarket checkout, so we need people with vision, talent and the ability to work strategically as a team, to get things done and make the best decisions

for our residents." Nominations for New Plymouth District Council and their five Community Boards are open until 12 August.

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# Do slurry tankers take a lot of time?

In considering buying a slurry tanker a common concern is around how much time and effort it will take to get the job done.

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We often get farmers comparing slurry tanker spreading to the automation of an irrigator system, but it's important to compare apples with apples. An underground system involves little to no labour, however there are

limitations over how far you can spread. Yes, a slurry tanker will involve someone driving the tractor to pull it around, however the slurry tanker can do far more than an irrigator system.

Slurry tankers can be taken just about anywhere on the farm, and with a RainWave applicator the spread per hour is much faster than the typical travelling irrigator. Not only is it faster, but the spread is more accurate and controlled with less wind



Nevada slurry tankers are very easy to pull and operate.

drift. This allows spreading into corners, irregular shaped paddocks, and closer to waterways, roads or neighbouring properties.

Having a slurry tanker means you can spread when and where you want. It allows the flexibility of spreading small amounts when time allows or doing

large amounts all at once.

Our advice is to get the biggest slurry tanker your tractor can safely pull in order to make the most of your time. The bigger the tanker, the less loads you need to make – and you don't always have to fill it.

Nevada slurry tankers are very easy to pull and operate,

and new owners are often surprised at just how fast they are. Auto-filling arms increase the speed to load the tank, and larger models can be fitted with a loading accelerator for even faster filling. All Nevada slurry tankers come fitted with RainWave applicators as a standard feature, and tridem

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# Council candidates deserve searching questions say Feds

With sweeping changes facing local government, and the very existence of some councils under threat, Federated Farmers is urging rural New Zealanders to

step up their interest in the election campaign this year.

"The Three Waters juggernaut is gathering steam despite a great deal of opposition," Feds President Andrew Hoggard said. "Unchanged, it will put control of critical infrastructure in the hands of unelected and hard to hold to account entities, likely headquartered far away from rural New Zealand."

This, plus moves for district planning functions to be regionalised, will leave some provincial councils with little left to do, "and thus ripe for forced amalgamations, given the review of the future of local government doesn't wind up until next year," Andrew said.

Local body elections happen again in September/October and Federated Farmers has just released



Andrew Hoggard.

its 2022 Local Elections Platform

"Amidst this uncertainty, communities will need sound, level-headed representation like never before, as their councils navigate this once-in-a-generation change and fight for local accountability," Andrew said.

"There are the basics too. Our need for safe and

sustainable rural roads, smart rating systems, and common-sense regulation are enduring. Such things are essential to the wellbeing of the farming community; in times of great change matters simple and important can easily be lost."

Federated Farmers asks rural leaders with commitment, practical common sense and energy to consider standing for election, and all residents to put searching questions to those who would represent them in local government.

"Be daring. Talk up core services, talk down wasteful, feel-good expenditure and big rates increases, and support our farmers in these challenging times. Most of all fight for the right of local communities to decide on how their local democracy functions, not Wellington," Andrew said.

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One region. Four farms. Four hundred-plus hectares. Nearly 1300 cows. Nineteen valued employees. Six different projects. And more than 250 paddocks...

Local on-farm research doesn't get much better than this. In fact, Dairy Trust Taranaki is the commercial testing ground for new ideas that other regions probably secretly wish they had.

It's also a unique chance for us to share, and learn, all things pasture in this amazing part of New Zealand.

Because even though grass - and clover, and herbs, and forage crops - are our speciality, farming is changing fast, and we too want to help future-proof your livelihoods.

Teamwork makes the dream work

If you've been to a Dairy Trust Taranaki field day any time over the past five years, you've walked on, looked at and discussed our pastures



Perks of the job. Getting up close and personal at Kavanagh.

and crops.

We're proud to sponsor virtually all the seed sown on Trust farms. There's no better way to help test new systems for maximising farm grown feed, or to find out what works here in Taranaki.

Seed is just part of the story, however. Important, yes, but only as good as the planning and care wrapped around it. So even before it goes in the ground, we spend a lot of time with the Trust working out how best to meet the pasture and cropping goals for each farm.

Then - thanks to the patience of Jason and the team - we hang around

all season, sampling, measuring, monitoring, and helping make decisions about grazing management.

Telling it like it is Best of all, we hear from you, about all sorts of things. Your challenges, questions and risks; what you want and need to farm well in the future; where the opportunities lie; what you think and what you know.

The beauty of collaborating like this is that everyone benefits. You get to see how different pastures and crops perform under different management strategies, right in your own back yard, so you can grow with confidence.

We get first-hand experience, feedback and insight into how farming might look in the future, and where our pastures and crops can play their part.

Already we've learned a lot, and as another season begins, we can't wait to find out more. Autumn re-grassing has occurred our diverse pasture mix is entering its second year, and our Captain plantain plus clover is about to be under sown across the 'future' farms in spring.

See you on a Trust farm, soon!

Bruce Paterson & Janelle Gillum, Barenbrug

## Foot and Mouth would devastate New Zealand

There can be no slip-ups in our actions to keep out Foot and Mouth Disease, which would have catastrophic impacts on the country, National's Agriculture spokesperson Barbara Kuriger says.

"An outbreak of Foot and Mouth would decimate trade and be a disaster for our farmers and the economy.

"All it would take is a few particles of the disease to walk into New Zealand on a pair of jandals for billions of dollars to be lost.

"News that Foot and Mouth particles were identified on meat imports to Australia are a reminder of just how close to home this issue is.

"I am questioning the Minister for Agriculture and closely following the steps the Government and MPI are taking to protect New Zealand. It is pleasing to see that MPI has stepped up the rules for those returning



Barbara Kuriger.

from countries where Foot and Mouth is present.

"Every possible avenue for the disease to enter the

country needs to be identified and on high alert. Farmers need to re-ensure their farms have stringent biosecurity measures in place, while all returning travellers must carefully declare where they have been while overseas.

"New Zealand has never had an outbreak of Foot and Mouth, but our recent brush with Mycoplasma Bovis and the subsequent eradication programme gives us some idea of the devastating effects that the disease could have.

"There are no second chances with Foot and Mouth. One misstep by the agencies charged with protecting our borders is all it would take."

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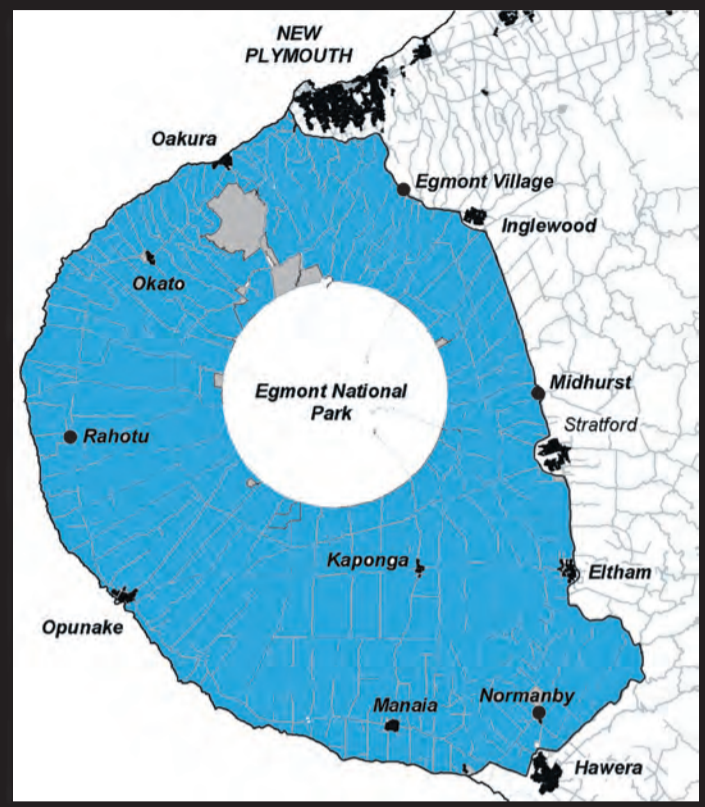
501 Chicory is very fast establishing and out-yields some other varieties. This could mean an extra 50kg MS/ha worth \$450/ha\*.

\*Based on 550kg DM/ha extra yield and \$9/kg MS milk price. Yield data based on yield info from combined trial analysis of Cambridge 11-12, and Canterbury 12-13.

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Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home and business within the rural area, bounded in the north by the New Plymouth city border, extending east to Egmont Village, and around to the edge of Stratford, south to the Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga and through Eltham.

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# More success for Manaia golfer



Sam Jones who has been selected for the New Zealand team to contest the Eisenhower Trophy has won the mid-amateur title at the 118<sup>th</sup> Trans-Mississippi Tournament at the Denver Country Club. The title is reserved for amateurs who are 25 years old or older. Jones carded a round of 66 following rounds of 69-71-70 for a final tally of 276. Jones finished in a tie for 20<sup>th</sup>, with William Mouw winning the tournament.

# Sandfords Manaia Golf results

July 16. Saturday Men. 1. Andrew Gibson. 2. Nod Symes and. Jack Hopkins. 4. Kevin Murrell.

# Taranaki Racing Opunake Cup Results



Helena Baby ridden by Darren Danis and trained by John Bell won the Opunake cup.

Race 1 24/7 Security Maiden. 1.' Leon Rouge. 2. Stevie Nix. 3. Call Me Lolly.	Race 2 Sandfords Rural Carriers SC Maiden. 1.' Turnmeon. 2. Madam Zara. 3. Wheelitin	Race 3 UBP LTD 1800. 1. The Big Boss. 2. Zeffa Zed.	Race 4 Coastal Agri/Delaval Ltd 2000m. 1. Establishment. 2. Nassak Diamond. 3. Ata-Rangi.	Race 5 Powerworx Opunake Cup. 1. Helena Baby. 2. Cork. 3. She's a Maneater.	Race 6 Revital Fertilisers 1400. 1. Holyell. 2. Lovestorm. 3. Bendermarry.	Race 7 Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration SC Maiden. 1. Stallone. 2. Cherry Rose. 3. Loox Like a Pro.	Race 8 Seaton Park 1600. 1. Magdala. 2. Run Like Boo. 3. Jakkalnuts.
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# People's player works his ass off

Adam McGrath is a folk singer stationed mostly wherever he lands, although he keeps his dog and his landlord in Christchurch, New Zealand. He travels both the state and lost highways of New Zealand, Australia, Europe and parts beyond, slinging songs and offering up yarns and low rent bar philosophy for anyone who'll spring for a ticket and wherever he can get a key. Widely known in New Zealand as lead singer and songwriter of one of the country's most beloved and mythic roots bands, The Eastern, Adam continues in the tradition of hard travelling, long touring, long shows and longer nights laid down by his day band. McGrath takes on all comers and has played everywhere from lounge rooms to bar rooms, street corners to theatres and a million and one festivals, sometimes he's even got paid. Any opportunity to play is a good one.

He hopes for the best, is always ready for the worst and believes in Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, The Clash and anyone doing the best they can. He remains happiest in front of a jukebox as the call for last drinks is given, because jukeboxes are getting harder to find, and last drinks means the lock in is ever closer.

He has been described



Adam McGrath is playing 4th Wall Theatre on the 4th of August, 7pm.

as a "National Treasure" by Radio New Zealand National and his songs have gathered more than their share of good notices at home and overseas, he's been nominated for a couple of serious music awards

(including the Apra Silver Scroll), and the NZ Herald called him "NZ's toughest minded songwriter." Barry Saunders from kiwi country legends The Warratahs simply described him as "The Truth".

With The Eastern and solo he has shared stages with and opened for Fleetwood

Mac, Steve Earle, Old Crow Medicine Show, Paul Kelly, Jimmy Barnes and many, many more. But he takes the most pride in getting up and putting it down, in towns both small and big most nights of the year, shaking hands and sharing beers wherever and whenever the road throws him up.

His song 'Hope and Wire' became the inspiration for the New Zealand TV drama series of the same name directed by Gaylene Preston, and he was noted for his community work during the Christchurch earthquake and service orientated approach to music in the years since.

Both solo and with The Eastern, Adam is renowned for his at once ferocious and tender roof raising live shows and has gathered a reputation for being among the country's hardest working musicians playing up to and beyond 200 shows a year, every year. The latest album from The Eastern 'The Territory' was described as one of the best albums of the year from any band in any country by No Depression magazine and proved a worthy follow up to 2012's Gold selling 'Hope and Wire'.

Although the gathering of such plaudits is at once

good and bad for his shaky ego, McGrath cops to being better than you thought, but not as good as he should be and yet he remains very thankful and hopes that in some way this might help him to continue paying his rent through his roundabout stories and bareknuckle approach to guitar playing. A people's player, he works his ass off for any audience he finds himself in front of. Through yarns, ballads and barnstormers, he goes looking, night after night and year after year, for all the alchemy and heart that singing for folks gets to make happen.

Described as "maybe part folk singer, part preacher, part boxer, and part rodeo clown he is however all heart." A McGrath show goes straight for the spirit level in all of us, looking deep for the good parts and hoping to reach all the thoughtful bits that matter; all the while singing and strumming his three and half chords like his life depended on it. Which of course it does and as of course it should. He remains undefeated and continues to write bios in the third person.

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# Celebrate the 20s with the Taranaki National Art Awards

The Taranaki National Art Awards Committee is progressing well with the planning stages for this year's annual art exhibition, to be held from 29th October 29–November 6 at Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Events Centre, Opunake

We've made the decision to extend the viewing timeframe for an extra day to include Sunday 6th of the second weekend. This is to better align ourselves with the Taranaki Garden and Fringe Festivals and the Arts Trail. We hope this will be helpful for all art appreciators to make the most of their time within our province. Local artists will be able to collect their works on the Sunday evening and throughout the day on Monday 7th.

The opening night and awards presentation will be held on Friday October 28, themed "The 20s" to honour the 20th Anniversary of this awesome creative spectacle. Interpret this as you will... attire yourself in the stylish garb of the 1920s, or a more contemporary take in the here and now 2020s, or perhaps a time warp throwback to you in your 20s.

We are welcoming back two fabulous judges Leafa Wilson and Karl Chitham, returning to cast their expert eyes and deliberate over the broad spectrum of nationwide entries. Both enjoy our welcoming coastal community vibe and meeting



The Taranaki National Art Awards are on again for 2022.

the locals, and value the depth and breadth of creative talent that we attract to our event. We look forward to hearing their viewpoints and sharing their perspectives on the array of art works and creative talent on offer this year.

Entries are open and tracking well. Thanks to the artists for putting yourselves out there, for having the courage and talent to share your creative inspiration and expression. Also secured is the continued support of our esteemed group of loyal sponsors. We acknowledge the value of these financial pledges, allowing us to offer substantial awards across all categories. This support also enables the

TNAA to provide a high calibre exhibition platform for creatives to proudly showcase their works of art and for appreciators to immerse themselves within the artistic realm.

We continue to welcome new sponsors who chose to support the regional creative community through our event, and recently joined committee members who bring fresh perspectives to our enthusiastic and eclectic group. We are looking forward to collaborating once again with all our local co-creatives and volunteers who are integral to the staging and success of the Art Awards. If you've been thinking you might like to contribute, to come along

to a meeting or volunteer in the set-up, pack-down, or during the exhibition then

please contact us. Megan (0275007722) and Natasha (0272491620)

Anticipation and excitement are building for the Taranaki National Art Awards 2022, especially as we are planning an extra special Opening and Awards Evening to commemorate our 20th Anniversary. Come along and enjoy our talented

locals providing music and entertainment, applaud all artist entrants and award winners, and share in the celebrations, bringing colour, flair and a festive air. Check out our website [www.taranakinationalartawards.co.nz](http://www.taranakinationalartawards.co.nz) and our Facebook page for updates.

Megan Symons



Above and below: Scenes from previous Taranaki National Art Awards.



## A love of the press

Apparently during July a lot of websites and ISPs went offline for assorted reasons. All fixed now, but there were big gaps in service. There has been an appreciative reaction to the current exhibition on the Virtual Tart website from those who got my note - The Love of the Press - monographs by Linda Larsen and georgie raulerson. - but some viewers have emailed to say that the news didn't get through. So, trying again, do

check out the exhibition, and let the artists know, even if it feels as though you're repeating yourself.

See it on the Virtual Tart website

And for those who've noticed that I haven't put a new work online for weeks and weeks, and have emailed to ask if I'm O.K. the reason I haven't been making things is .... Wait for it ..... I'm tidying my studio.

If you've seen the place, you'll know what a big deal

that is.

Less than a quarter of the space is done, but oh what a difference. I've put before-and-after photos of one corner onto my page in the Showcase section of the Virtual Tart site. You'll see why it's a huge job. But worth a laugh. Have a look, on my part of the Showcase section

And have a laugh with me

Cheers Dale Copeland

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# Eklectic Joy at The Village Gallery

Two Eltham artists are combining their different styles in this exhibition. Holly's paintings and drawings are very bright, quirky and imaginative, and Sara has been trying out new styles of work including mixed media to exhibit alongside her beautifully crafted woodwork. Their artworks demonstrate their great sense of fun and creativity. Holly and Sara extend an invitation to members and all interested people to attend an Opening event on Friday August 5 from 6 pm - 7.30 pm.

Gallery and staff for hosting our exhibition.

My Name is Holly Smith. I moved from the UK in 2006 and have been an Eltham resident since 2007.

I reconnected with art after many years in 2017 and have very much been drawn to bright bold colours, acrylic paint, paint pens and mixed media works. Bright colours inspire me and make me feel alive and happy. Currently I am a part time student at the Learning Connexion in Wellington via distance learning where I have been experimenting with all sorts of images and products. It has been a dream of mine to attend art school and finally I am doing it whilst I work. Art has really enabled me to connect with myself as well as give me space and freedom from my busy day job. I feel like I am finding

create. Very happy to be able to share it with you today. I hope you enjoy exploring my creations as much as I've

loved making them. Thanks for visiting. Sara



Above: This is Me, Sara.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY presents  
**EKLECTIK JOY**  
 2 - 26 August 2022  
 ELTHAM ARTISTS - PAINTINGS  
 MIXED MEDIA  
 CRAFTED WOOD

HOLLY SMITH

SARA GRIFFITHS

OPENING: 6 - 7.30PM FRIDAY 5 AUGUST  
 166 HIGH STREET/ ELTHAM  
 HOURS: TUESDAY - FRIDAY 10.30AM - 2.30PM  
 SATURDAY 10.30AM - 1.00 PM



Above: Dreaming of the Bluebell Wood.

my voice all over again when I make art and I am able to be the person I was born to be.

*I hope you enjoy  
 Much appreciated  
 Holly*

**Sara Griffiths**

Hi there. I'm Sara Griffiths a proud kiwi and long-time Eltham resident. I've never seen myself as an artist but rather a shed potterer and a maker of things.

My main interest has been turning slabs of locally sourced timber into useful wooden objects that I also find beautiful. I have recently been exploring other art forms on a journey of self-discovery. I've had fun learning how things feel and what brings me joy to

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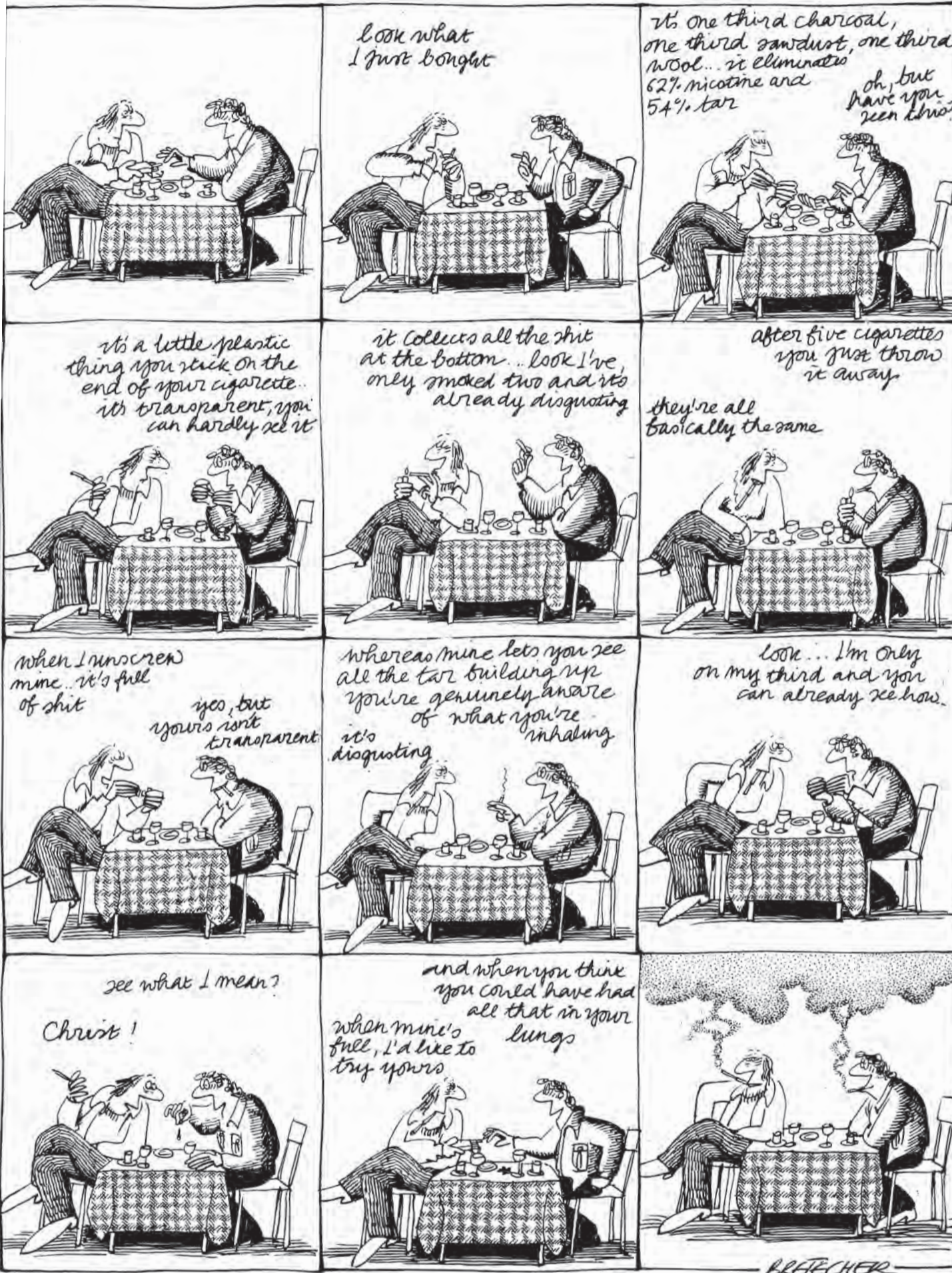
<b>PRESS PLAY</b> Romance, Musical   1hr25mins   M Thurs 28th July 7pm, Sat 30th July 7pm	<b>FROCKS &amp; DIVAS</b> Documentary   1hr 16mins   M Sun 31st July 7pm, Aug 6th 7pm
<b>THOR: LOVE &amp; THUNDER</b> Adventure, Fantasy   2hrs 13mins   M Fri 29th July 7pm, Fri 5th Aug 7pm	<b>WHERE TO CRAWDADS SING</b> Drama   2hrs 5mins   M Thurs 4th Aug 7pm
<b>MY SWEET MONSTER</b> Animated   1hr 38mins   PG Sat 30th July 1pm	<b>MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU</b> Adventure, Comedy, Family   1hr 30mins   G Sat 6th Aug 1pm

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

TUESDAYS

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

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

FRIDAYS

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

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

WEEKENDS

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

JULY 5 - 29

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

JULY 8 - AUGUST 18

**Blindspot exhibition:** Woven paintings from Francis Salole. at from out of the blue gallery, Opunake.

JULY 31

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

AUGUST 2 TO 26

**Eklectik Joy exhibition:** At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

AUGUST 23

**Opunake District Rest Home AGM:** At the Community Lounge, Coastal Care, Opunake. 7pm.

OCTOBER 28

**Taranaki National Art Awards Ceremony:** At Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Event Centre, 7pm.

OCTOBER 29 TO NOVEMBER 6

**Taranaki National Art Awards Exhibitions:** At Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Event Centre.

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Opunake District Rest Home Trustees cordially invite you to their **A.G.M.** Tuesday 23 August 2022, 7pm at Coastal Care Health and Community Centre - Community Lounge ALL WELCOME

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**SCHOLARSHIPS CLOSING SOON**

Applications close **31st July 2022**



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

**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Opunake Co-operating Parish**

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

**Okato Co-operating Parish**

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

**Opunake Catholic Church**

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

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

**The Wave**

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

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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

**Okato Community Church**

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.  
Everyone welcome

**SITUATIONS VACANT**



**DISPATCH PERSONNEL**

Job share seasonal position, work hours approximately 9am-3pm.

To complete; phone calls with clients, communication to drivers via RT's, complete job paperwork collation. The ability to plan work in advance, previous use of spreadsheets, multitasking and good time management a must.

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Ph 027 644 4008.

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**PROPERTY APPRAISAL.** Contact Tara Gibson 027 766 4456. McDonald Real Estate Ltd, Opunake.

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Contact Phill - 027 236 7129

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**COASTAL GIB STOPPERS.** Phone Glenn 027 524 5745

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### 2017 TOYOTA COROLLA GX 1.8 AUTO NZ NEW

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### 2007 SUBARU LEGACY 2.5 WAGON NZ NEW:

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