



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

## We must look to the future



The Prime Minister launching the new energy development centre Ara Ake in New Plymouth.

This region is at the forefront of New Zealand's future said the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern launching Venture Taranaki's National New Energy Development Centre with Dr Megan Woods, Minister for Energy and Resources in New Plymouth on Thursday July 23.

The Prime Minister began her address by mentioning she was in New Plymouth a year ago when the Mosque shootings occurred.

In the midst of another momentous event, the COVID-19 crisis, we've seen the oil industry collapse she said.

"Taranaki will still continue to be important in the oil and gas industry she said but we must plan for the future."

The new future development company will be known as Ara Ake. Based in Taranaki, the aim of the new project is to explore alternative energy sources bringing together scientists, industry and business and make them a commercial reality.

Chaired by Justine Guilliand, Chief Executive of Venture Taranaki, a large number of dignitaries and community leaders and others were present to witness the launch. They included the Mayor of

New Plymouth Neil Holdom, the Honorable Andrew Little, Jonathan Young MP New Plymouth, members of the Taranaki Regional Council and the local iwi. David Seymour, the leader of ACT, was also present.

Members of Ara Ake's Board Directors were also introduced by Megan Woods at the opening including Rob Campbell, Chair, Elena Trout, Dr Will Edwards, Rick Shera and Lovina McMurchy. They bring a broad spectrum of knowledge and governance experience across the business, energy, infrastructure, education,

legal and technology sectors.

"We can face the future with confidence," she said.

"The change we're faced with is significant. There is no precedent," the Minister for Energy and Resources said adding that we need to put together a stable, carbon reducing emissions environment, a new way of doing things."

She went on to cite hydrogen technology as being "just one technology."

Research is needed if Taranaki is to lead the world, she said. "Our focus must be on the way we do not compromise our planet."

Rob Campbell commented on the Board's range of experience. "Ara Ake's Board of Directors are here to work with, assist and in due course, guide participants in the energy sector as our role evolves. We will be open and accountable and judged by our actions and their value."

The packed hall then watched

a short video on energy with the message: "Where energy comes from must be said to protect our planet."

Rob then announced Ara Ake's Chief Executive "highly experienced energy executive from the UK" Dr Cristiano Marantes. Resident in New Zealand for five years and with an extensive engineering background, Dr Marantes has an informed worldview on the potential of technologies and business opportunities that will likely emerge in a low-emissions energy future, said Rob.

Dr Marantes who has moved from Vector, where he held several positions including GM Technology and Innovation, and Head of Engineering. He focussed on the design and development of new technology and commercial low-emissions

Continued page 3

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## Letters to the Editor

### Think twice about the end of life

This election we will be voting on two very important issues for our country. One being the End of Life Choice Referendum.

Government information on this tends to make it look very straightforward and beneficial however I believe this referendum if successful has the potential to have significant negative effects on our society.

The terminally ill and those living with life-limiting illnesses are often vulnerable. And not all families, whose interests are at stake, have the right motives and concern. They could coerce a parent into requesting euthanasia, perhaps to get an inheritance sooner or to save themselves the 'burden' of caring for them.

The End of Life Choice Act is seriously deficient in so far as it only requires doctors to 'do their best' to ensure that the person is free from pressure which is a pretty vague and unrealistic expectation.

Moreover it fails to outline any process for ensuring patients are free from coercion. The risk of abuse cannot be eliminated.

Also diagnosis and prognosis is not a perfect science. The act we are voting on relies on a diagnosis that a person suffers from a terminal illness is 'likely' to end his or her life within six months. There are many examples of individuals who have outlived their prognoses, sometimes for months, even years.

Another area is that the first medical practitioner [in the proposed two practitioner process] need not have met the patient previously. Further they can also determine a person is eligible for assisted dying without having talked to the person face to face. A medical practitioner with concerns could be blocked by

the patient from talking to the family to check for coercion. This is especially problematic where a doctor has no former knowledge of the patient.

There is no requirement that the person discuss his or her assisted suicide or euthanasia wishes with another person. These are serious flaws in the act.

The reality is that terminally ill people are vulnerable to direct and indirect pressure from family, caregivers and medical professionals, as well as self-imposed pressure. They may come to feel euthanasia would be the 'right thing to do,' 'they've had a good innings' and do not want to be a 'burden' to their nearest and dearest. It is virtually impossible to detect subtle emotional coercion, let alone overt coercion at the best of times.

Virtually all patients who are facing death or battling an irreversible, debilitating disease are depressed at some point. However, many people with depression who request euthanasia overseas revoke their request if their depression and pain are successfully treated. If euthanasia or assisted suicide is allowed, many patients who would have otherwise traversed this dark, difficult phase and gone on to find meaning in life will die prematurely.

Finally there is concrete evidence from the countries which have introduced euthanasia that the availability and application of euthanasia expands to situations not initially envisaged.

When a newly-permitted activity is characterised as a 'human right,' the overseas experience is that there is an inevitable push to extend such a 'right' to a greater number of people, such as those with chronic conditions, disabilities, mental illness, those simply 'tired of life', or even children.

Murray Baylis, Opunake

With info supplied by

Family First New Zealand.

Send your views to:

Letters to the Editor

23 Napier Street, Opunake.

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You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

### Ocean continues to be dumping ground

Over the last 150 years our oceans and waterways have been used as convenient rubbish tips and sadly this continues to be the case.

With TTR(Trans-Tasman Resources) going back to court to appeal the decision to halt their proposal to mine iron sand and dump their tailings off the South Taranaki coast, and now Taranaki Regional Council stating that they have less than \$50,000 to do at least a \$200,000 job to remove the failed artificial plastic reef in the Opunake Bay, you have to ask when will this stop, and when will government and councils take proper responsibility for the protection of a key and major part of our ecosystem.

You only have to walk along our coast and you will see plastic waste spread along the tide, sadly the lion's share of this waste is coming from fishing boats and farms. Discarded crates and nets, and rubbish comes down the streams and rivers from the increased use of plastic within our farming sector, while the rest of society is no less to blame with everyday items such as plastic bottles and shoes strewn amongst the seaweed.

The artificial reef off Opunake main beach has basically become an issue in the "too hard basket" with the TRC contractor paid to remove it only turning up twice in the last year and a half, once to survey it, and then to cut the bags, with geotextile material being found on our coast not long after they left. Who knows where the rest of the pieces and particles are ending up? These bags need to be emptied and lifted out properly.

Maybe it's time for the original decision makers in this saga to front back up and help fund the removal of this environmental problem. If Mary Bourke and co from the old STDC and the locals from the Artificial Reef Committee have any ideas how to fund the \$200,000 we would love to hear from them. That is what it is going to cost to do this removal properly and to stop further harm and pollution from the torn bags.

The ocean has always been a convenient waste site because of the so-called "out of sight, out of mind" mentality. Just because it's out of sight, it doesn't mean it's going away, and just because you have changed your job title doesn't mean you have re-

moved responsibility.

OK. So a hui is being organised to offer solutions and ways to generate resources and money to remove the reef properly. If you want to be involved please come along. We will advertise it in this paper.

It's time to work together and protect our waterways and seas once and forever.

Chris Fuller

Youth worker and surfer  
Opunake.

### Media bias

New Zealand's news bulletins on television, once upon a time, could be reasonably relied upon for lack of bias. Unfortunately this has changed over time.

You would not think, given the slavish cow-towing to American media reports, that NZ's largest trading partner is in fact China.

China entered its first ever Free Trade Agreement with New Zealand back in 2008, and since then two way trade has increased to \$30 Billion per annum.

In a time when people are sourcing their news from media other than television, you would think TV NZ would be encouraged to provide a broad range of news from around the world, rather than airing whatever nonsense they can source from the good ol' USA.

They should simply know better.

R. Herdson  
Manaia

### Flax art at Te Papa

It seems former Opunake High School student Purewa MacGregor after three years of flax weaving is now going to showcase her weaving designs and works at Te Papa Museum's Te Whare Pora section as part of the Maori Indigenous Response to Covid-19 Exhibition.

Her latest design is a flax face mask, custom-made, which has already attracted interest around the country.

Purewa, as a young girl living in Opunake, flax weaving had always been part of her life, as her mother Tracey MacGregor, sister Nina Brightwell and aunty Pare Bennett were all weavers themselves. Her sister set the foundations of her work, and she credits Hawke's Bay master weaver Fiona Jones as the one who developed it.

Look, it's always good to see any former pupil, male or female from any high school in Taranaki doing well in their chosen interests, whatever they may be, even if it is also in a sporting code.

Tom Stephens  
New Plymouth

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# We must look to the future

Continued from Page 1

energy solutions. "I have a life-long passion for enabling a low-emissions future through strong leadership, innovation and knowledge of new energy solutions," he said. "I'm incredibly excited about this opportunity."

Also announced at the launch were Ara Ake's three initial shareholders, The McDiarmid Institute for Advanced Materials and Nanotechnology, The Independent Electricity Generators Association (IEGA) and The Taranaki Chamber of Commerce. Further shareholders are to come on board over the coming months.

The chair of Venture Taranaki Jamie Tuuta who next spoke echoed the

necessity for transitioning to a low-emissions future which he interspersed with Maori quotes. "Regionally, locally and nationally we

must change," he said quoting his uncle "nothing worthwhile is easy." He acknowledged the work of Venture Taranaki

of over a decade beginning with the initial thinking and concepts.

"Venture Taranaki's journey establishing an entirely new organisation like Ara Ake has no means been straightforward. Add a lockdown into the mix, and you might assume project milestones would slip. This is not the case, with the Venture Taranaki team successfully delivering this nationally significant project on time and to budget."



Rob Campbell, Chair of the Ara Ake Board of Directors who spoke at the launch.



Labour candidate for New Plymouth Glen Bennett with the Prime Minister at a Labour Party function in New Plymouth later in the day where she was mobbed by well wishers, many wanting selfies.

"It's good to see a new energy initiative in Taranaki in the development of new energy sources in a changing world," commented Neil Walker from the Taranaki Regional Council who was in the audience. He mentioned hydrogen and the development of wind power as possibilities.

## ADELPHOS

### Oh Mary, Mary, Mary!

The role of women in Jesus' ministry has been historically downplayed. For example, the real Mary Magdalene has been greatly maligned. This partially stemmed from confusion over the common name of Mary in the New Testament, but also from the Jewish patriarchy diminishing the importance of women in the early church's leadership and ministry.

The most widespread damage to Mary Magdalene's reputation began with Pope Gregory at the end of the sixth century; he claimed that the seven demons Jesus delivered Mary Magdalene from (Luke 8:2-3) were "the seven deadly sins" prohibited by the Catholic Church (anger, pride, envy, gluttony, lust, sloth and greed). To Gregory this meant Mary was the epitome of sinfulness, even though Jesus forgave, healed and freed her. Gregory created further confusion and sully of Mary's reputation in 591 AD by claiming in an Easter sermon that three different Marys were all the same person: 1.) Mary of Bethany (Luke 10:39), 2.) the unnamed sinful woman anointing Jesus' feet (Luke

7: 36-50) and 3.) Mary Magdalene (Luke 8:2-3): an extraordinarily erroneous claim. Although considered an excellent Pope, most scholars today agree that Gregory patriarchally imposed his own arbitrary meaning on these Scriptures, depriving Mary Magdalene of the respect she deserved as an influential female in Jesus' ministry.

Throughout the centuries Mary Magdalene continually gained the salacious reputation as an unworthy and sinful woman, if not a prostitute. She was portrayed as a sexual temptress in the musical, Jesus Christ Superstar. However, more recent popes have apologised for the historically libelous and unbiblical misrepresentations of Mary's character. In 2016 Pope Francis declared June 22 a major feast day to rehabilitate Mary Magdalene's sullied and sexualised image. Oh Mary, Mary, Mary!

In Scripture Mary Magdalene was a devoted follower of Jesus after He healed her from demonic possession and disease (Luke 8:2). She was present with Him at the foot of the cross along with His mother Mary and her sister

Mary of Clopas. Whereas the male disciples fearfully cowered behind locked doors during and after the crucifixion.

Mary Magdalene's name was mentioned twelve times in all the gospels, more than most apostles. And she was the first person to meet the resurrected Jesus and proclaim the greatest banner headline in the history of the world: "JESUS IS RESURRECTED FROM THE DEAD!"

Scripture tells us that some women who were healed by Jesus travelled with Him and financially supported His ministry out of their own pockets (Luke 8:3). Other rabbis considered it scandalous for women and men to travel in mixed company. Mary Magdalene and other women disciples had a vital role in supporting Jesus, the apostles and their ministry.

*Adelphos, M.Div., M.A. Biblical Studies, M.A. Counselling (University of Auckland, 2000).*

*PS. The most significant of all the New Testament Marys will be looked at in a future article: Mary the mother of Jesus.*

## School boy robbers target elderly Opunake man

Two school aged juveniles robbed an elderly man in Opunake on Wednesday 15 July around 3pm. The man does not want to be named or the location of the incident revealed. We will respect that.

The younger of the two boys "aged about 10 to 12" knocked on the door and when the man appeared asked for money, in a pleasant manner. "He was a nice looking boy," commented the man. The man initially thought it must be some kind of school raffle and produced a \$5 and \$20 note from his pockets, but then got a bit suspicious.

"What do you want the money for?" he asked.

"The boy looked puzzled" turned on heel and walked to the rear of the property. "The bigger boy aged 15 or 16" must have been waiting there. Moments later the two boys approached the door. The smaller boy now had a weapon "about a foot long. I'm not sure what it was and pushed it into my neck. He reached out and grabbed the \$5 note and said 'You'd better give me the \$20 too'."

"So I slammed the door on them and said, "you'd better piss off or I'll call the police." However, the man

explains that he had no intention of calling the police. "They were only kids."

The man said he was not injured. "It didn't worry me at all" but added, "If I'd been steadier on my feet I'd have grabbed him and kicked his behind."

Although the man did not contact the police he did mention the incident to a friend and someone must have done so. A few minutes later I was surprised when the police arrived."

The two boys have been apprehended and the case is in the hands of the police.

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**MAYOR'S COLUMN**

# A sustainable lifestyle capital

Over the next 12 months, your Council has to make decisions on the allocation of more than \$2 billion of public funds over the next decade covering everything from roads to rubbish, drinking water to sewage, parks, playgrounds, pools, economic development, carparks, libraries, galleries, a museum and an airport. There are a whole lot of things we simply deliver year on year which form the core of our services. Our goal for these services is to drive increasing efficiency in our procurement and delivery of



**Neil Holdom**  
New Plymouth District Mayor.

services. The things we expect our community to be most interested in relate more to the challenges ahead where

we have discretion to choose from a range of options. Decisions like: How much to spend on our Three Waters maintenance, upgrades and water conservation Is it time for a multi-sport facility in New Plymouth What are the next steps in our quests for Zero Waste How much do we spend on our Zero Waste goal and protecting our environment How much to spend on our climate change response How much to spend on tracks and trails connecting our communities The economic development of Breakwater Bay and the possibility of a marina. Over the next few months we will be profiling these choices, ensuring everyone in our community knows what the big issues are going to be as we build our plan. By the time we get to Christmas 2020 we expect our community to

be well briefed on the issues listed above along with a few others. To help educate our community and facilitate informed decision making Councillors have formed a number of teams to focus on these issues. These Councillors are our subject matter champions and will be working in our community to stimulate an informed and diverse debate on each issue. Rather than advising the community of a percentage rate required to deliver these services to a level the regulators require and the community will accept, we will endeavour to make these services more individually transparent as in their requirements, costs and needs. We will work to profile each issue and the range of options ahead of us before seeking feedback and polling our people scientifically to

determine our community preferences. By the New Year of 2021 we will prepare a draft 10 Year Plan and a document outlining the key issues we need to make decisions on as part of a formal public consultation process. Our goal is to ensure people are well informed on all the issues and we then aim to generate more submissions and public feedback than our last plan three years ago. Many of these issues will be challenging and controversial and our goal is to run New Zealand's most successful community consultation process, generating a wide diversity of thought to inform the decisions that have to be made by June 2021. Taranaki is an amazing region. New Plymouth is a fantastic district to live with a rich diversity of both landscapes and people. Our shared vision is a

Sustainable Lifestyle Capital. A place where people of all ages can live, work, learn and play in a progressive and inclusive community, sustainably. Lifestyle means different things to different people and our goal is for Taranaki to be a place where our people have choices and a good standard of living with time to pursue their passions and enjoy an incredible environment. We are excited about the challenge ahead and look forward to collaborating with our community to generate a plan which sets the trajectory for our district and our region for the next decade. The first up issue for this week will be water. We look forward to continuing this conversation.

*Neil Holdom*  
New Plymouth District Mayor

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## COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

### Back to a relative normal

It's been two months since our lockdown finished. How is everyone's new normal? Everything appears to be relatively back to normal with me, with zoom meetings returning to face to face meetings.



**CR AARUN LANGTON**

At Council we are in the process of reviewing and creating new policy, with the Environmental and Sustainability workshop being one of the areas. This policy has a framework around the Emissions Trading Schemes (ETS). I find it interesting that forestry credits have been separated from agriculture emissions but urban businesses can purchase planted trees to mitigate their carbon footprint. Currently, it seems this has not been offered to agricultural businesses to offset their carbon emissions. Should we be questioning the narrative of the ETS policy? We are also reviewing our Iwi Terms of Reference. Covid-19 has illustrated the strength of our local iwi and

hapū and their importance in our communities, through the support they provided for our vulnerable people and whānau. Reviewing these terms of reference gives us a good opportunity to continue to grow on the current progress we are making. In my sporting world, golf

around Taranaki has seen a surge in the number of players since coming out of the lockdown, where nearly all clubs are experiencing numbers they haven't seen for many years. The Opunake Club is no exception to this with up to 30 players attending each club day. Congratulations to the Manaia Golf Club for winning the Taranaki Men's Senior Pennant Competition. This is the first time a South Taranaki club has won this competition in many years. Basketball is in the process of setting up a new RSO board which will be the governing body for basketball in all of Taranaki. The first

constitution documents have been sent out to the Associations and I hope this will be a positive way forward for all our young aspiring players, while taking the pressure off the volunteers around the province. The end goal is to be able to employ people to help grow the sport. I hope the winter is treating everyone well and are looking forward to the warmer months ahead. Thank you for your continued support.

*Aaron Langton*  
South Taranaki District Councillor  
Taranaki Coastal Ward

## On this month in history

### First Olympic medal by a New Zealander

On July 14, 1908 Harry Kerr from Wanganui finished third in the 3,500 metres walk at the London Olympic Games to win a bronze medal. He was the very first New Zealander to win an Olympic medal.

Harry was born in Inglewood Taranaki.. Albert Rowland an optician from Wellington came fifth in the same race. At this time New Zealand athletes competed as part of the Australasian team and

wore green vests and caps. The other New Zealander competing was Harry Murray, a hurdler from Christchurch, but he did not win a medal.

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# Coastal Taranaki School Enthusiastic grand opening for Pump Track

There was a special event at Coastal Taranaki School on Sunday July 26, the grand opening of the new Pump Track. The event was hosted by Sylvia Howieson, Deputy Principal of CTS.

A highlight was the unveiling of the plaque attached to a rock adjacent to the new facility. The unveiling was completed by New Plymouth mayor Neil Holdom and student Thomas Moffitt who conceived the project.

The plaque reads: *This Pump Track was opened 26/07/2020. It was built by the community for the community and was proudly sponsored by FOCTS.*

FOCTS stands for Friends of Coastal Taranaki School and is chaired by Andrew MacLean who gave the keynote speech. He pointed out that the idea of the track had its genesis in the suggestion of student Andrew Moffitt, which he made to Principal Scott Walden.

Mayor Holdom commented, "The Pump Track is really good. We don't need another generation of cotton wool kids. There will be lots of cuts and bruises and that's



With the plaque are, from left, Glenn Bennett (Labour candidate), Mayor Neil Holdom, Nathaniel Benefield (Sustainable Transport Advisor, NPDC), Deputy Principal Sylvia Howieson and Thomas Moffitt who came up with the Pump Track proposal. Stone Creations NZ prepared and mounted the plaque.

what it's all about." "It's come a long way," said Thomas Moffitt. "Hopefully, it'll get more kids into a great sport like mountain biking."

Scott encountered Nathaniel Benefield at a meeting. "Nathaniel liases with the schools and the rest is history," said Andrew. Nathaniel's position is

Sustainable Transport Adviser for the New Plymouth District Council. "It's a big win for the school and a big win for the community," commented Nathaniel later on.

Andrew said FOCTS had partially funded the track (about \$20,000). "We must acknowledge the past and present members for their

awesome commitment to fundraising." He went on to name individuals and local businesses who have helped in some way, with either their time or materials.

Andrew also expressed gratitude to the Okato Lions for planting, as well as two barbecue tables they donated.

The project cost about \$86,000 all up. The Bike On Trust contributed a significant amount and other contributors were New Plymouth District Council, ACC, and the New Zealand Transport Association.

One of those present was

Glenn Bennett, who is the Labour candidate for the New Plymouth electorate. "It's fabulous, it's great to see what young people can do," he enthused.

The large crowd had a

great time with even Mayor Holdom having a ride. There was a sausage sizzle for those who felt hungry and barista coffee provided by Young Enterprise Scheme students.

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### OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

# Lightning strike may have caused fire

There have only been two call outs in the past two weeks. One was to an oven fire. The Rahotu Brigade arrived first to find the owners had extinguished it. Opunake was turned back before arriving. The other was to a house fire on the main road between Opunake and Rahotu. Fire Safety think the cause was a lightning strike. The smoke alarm woke the family to find their sleep-out and garage well ablaze. Rahotu, Opunake, Okato and New Plymouth brigades worked together to extinguish the fire. Thankfully everyone was OK - unfortunately



CFO CRAIG DINGLE

nearly everything inside was destroyed by smoke or heat. The Opunake Brigade had their AGM and Honours night on Saturday July 25. Photos are of Suzzie Pentelow receiving her five year medal and Andrew



Suzzie Pentelow receiving her five year medal



Andrew Pentelow receiving his 15 year bar.

Pentelow receiving his 15 year bar. Congratulations to all receivers of awards. Others receiving awards were Chris Harvey (nine

years' service), Ryan Moss (11 years), Jozien Hannah (13 years), Scott Gulliver (13 years), Sam Heemi (17 years), Kevin Corrigan (19

years), Colin Andrews (19 years), Rodney Woods (27 years), Craig Dingle (27 years).

Craig Dingle  
Chief Fire Officer  
Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade.



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## Family escape house fire

Fire gutted a house in Manaia earlier this month. Fire and Emergency New Zealand are investigating the cause of the blaze. Fire appliances from Manaia, Okaiawa and Hawera, as well as two from New Plymouth attended. At the peak there would have been around 16-18 firefighters on the ground, says Manaia chief fire officer Shane Taylor.

The Manaia Brigade responded to the Tauhuri Street fire at 6.40am on Thursday July 16, and the family of eight who occupied the house were all outside at the gate when they got there, says Shane. "They were very very lucky to get out," says Shane. "It was well involved when we got there, and it took us around 30 minutes to get it under control." About 80 per cent of the house was destroyed. Shane says there were no smoke alarms in the house.



Fire and Emergency NZ are investigating the cause of a house fire in Manaia..

"We can't emphasise enough the need to have working smoke alarms, particularly with all this cold weather. A lot of people get blasé and think they don't need them, but early detection of fire is

quite critical. They don't realise that when you are asleep you lose your sense of smell."

Last week the Manaia Brigade were called to a rubbish fire in Manaia after

a local resident had been burning a bit of greenery. "Be aware when you are burning fires in your backyard to do it at least five metres away from any structures and to have a hose nearby," he said.

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# There's something in the water

Louise Field says she has had enough of the state of the water in Opunake.

Louise, who lives in King Street shows a photo on her mobile of a jug half full of an amber soupy-looking liquid. She says this came out of her kitchen tap, even after she had it running for half an hour.

"It's not just the colour, it stinks," she says.

The state of the local water is something she and her family have been aware of for as long as they have been in Opunake.

"We had E-grade water when we arrived here from Gisborne 20 years ago," she says. "Not even third world countries have E grade water."

"If you have a professional job and you have to wear a white shirt you can't get them clean. You can't brush your teeth and the bottom of your shower looks as though you've bled to death."

Her husband runs the local karate club and getting the white garments or gis worn in karate to stay white has been another problem.

"Those gis are not cheap. They come out brown, no matter how much bleach you use. You still can't get it out."

She says people don't realise that as well as the immediate problems resulting from bad water, there are longer term effects, like the need to flush out the hot water cylinder every year because of problems caused by sediment buildup. The August 2015 flood



Opunake water from Louise Field's kitchen tap.

Photo Louise Field.

which inundated much of the town hit them hard. The nearby retention pond overflowed leading to knee-deep flooding in their King Street home. They lost everything. They put their house on the market for a time but fears of a nearby creek overflowing put potential buyers off, even though the LIM report indicated the flooding had come from the retention pond not the creek.

Since the floods, work has been done to divert stormwater into the Waiaua and Otahi rivers, but still problems with the quality of the local water have persisted.

Louise says they have been to the Council and someone would be sent to flush out the water, but the problems have continued.

"You would think that after so long a time it must be something other than what they think it is," says Louise.

She says she is tired of being fobbed off with people saying "it's just Opunake water," or "it only happens after the rain."

"As a community we need to have a voice about this," she says. "They have got to be reminded that we are not country bumpkins who are going to settle for less."

South Taranaki District

Council's works delivery manager Herbert Denton acknowledges that there can be issues with discoloured water, due to the nature of where Opunake's water is sourced, but says there is a plan in place to manage this which is working.

"The head waters of the Waiaua Stream are high up in the exposed scree slopes of Maunga Taranaki/Mount Taranaki which experiences frequent erosion and flooding. The material from the mountain also carries a lot of naturally occurring iron which flows down to the catchment, where we take our water for treatment.

The treatment plant has a clarifier, membrane filters and the water is treated with chlorine, which ensures it is safe to drink. Unfortunately, the chlorine oxidises the iron, some of which gets into the town's reticulation network and builds up on the pipe walls. During times of severe flow changes, the iron can come off and discolour the water," says Mr Denton.

"To manage this we flush the town's dead end pipes monthly and last year we introduced a comprehensive programme to flush the town's whole pipe network for a week in August/September. We

will be doing this again this August/September. Despite the challenges, this programme seems to be working and in the last 12 months we've only received nine complaints about water quality. I'd encourage anyone experiencing water quality issues to ring the Council (on 0800 111 323) so we know where the problem areas are and can arrange localised flushing."

Mr Denton says along with the flushing programme, Council is also investigating further improvements to the Opunake Water Treatment Plant to reduce the amount of iron entering the network.

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# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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Friday, 28 August - 8.00pm The Slacks - Tickets \$25.00 or online at [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz)

Saturday, 5 September - 8.00pm - CCR Tribute Band - Tickets \$25.00 or online at [www.eventfinda.co.nz](http://www.eventfinda.co.nz)

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# Local expertise should be used

Congratulations to all involved for the official launch of Ara Ake, the new energy development centre based here in Taranaki. It is positive to see progress with energy advancement in our country while recognising



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP**  
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

the experience and capacity of Taranaki companies.

If a National-led government was formed, I would be supportive of the continued role the Ara Ake can play in our future. Working with the current energy sector would also be a priority to assist them to transition to a lower emissions future. Looking at such technologies as carbon

capture, utilisation and storage needs to be part of its brief going forward, alongside other potential sources of extra renewable energy.

It is important to recognise, support and build on the capability Taranaki has to offer the country.

As such, the Tui Field is the first offshore field to undergo decommissioning and offers an opportunity for Taranaki engineering and service industries. Having significant contracts for this work awarded to Taranaki firms would not only support our local economy, but would also develop an important part of our regional capability. This would enable the engineering sector in Taranaki to build on their specialisation and expertise and compete for similar projects throughout

the Asia/Pacific region.

However, the first two contracts were awarded to offshore companies. The Government did not offer those contracts in an open bid process to get the best technical advice. I suggest that capability for both these areas of work exist in Taranaki, and Taranaki companies should at least be given the opportunity to bid for them.

For decades, our local firms have built and serviced the offshore industry. These service companies also have experience and understanding of the challenging seascape that comes from the southern oceans, something completely different from oceans of northern Europe.

Taranaki people and companies have international experience and linkages,

which offer not only local knowledge, but world's best practice in their engineering, safety and solution-finding capability.

We need a company from Taranaki to oversee the project. Let them bring in offshore expertise, if necessary, rather than the other way around.

Taranaki has a great skill base and a great future ahead of it as the energy centre of the country. Let's bring what we already have, forward into the future together.

*Jonathan Young  
MP for New Plymouth  
National Party Spokesperson: Energy & Resources  
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**Steph Lewis**  
for Whanganui

**Labour**

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**Let's keep moving >**

Authorised by Dianna Lacy, 160 Willis Street, Wellington.

## Labour's Steph Lewis backs the potential of our primary industries

Seen frequently in her white and red car in the streets of South Taranaki, at markets and visiting community agencies, Steph Lewis, Labour Party candidate for the Whanganui Electorate, is spending quality time with people in both rural and urban areas.

Ms Lewis said that a recent meeting with the Whanganui Rural Community Board brought home to her how effectively the rural and urban communities complement each other and the importance of the Whanganui Electorate working together to rebuild the economy after

COVID-19.

"The meeting was an excellent opportunity to talk with the Board about issues concerning the rural sector, including forestry, roading, water, our dairy industry, and diversification of our primary industries," Ms Lewis said.

"The importance of our primary industries is reflected in a major Government initiative. On 7 July, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern released a 10-year plan to unlock greater value for a sector vital to New Zealand's economic recovery."

She said the government's Fit for a Better World Action Plan centres on three themes:



**Whanganui Labour Party candidate Steph Lewis.**

Productivity: adding an additional \$44 billion in export earnings over the next decade through a focus on

creating value.

Inclusiveness: employing 10 per cent more New Zealanders from all walks of life in the food and fibre sector by 2030, and 10,000 more New Zealanders in the primary sector workforce over the next four years.

Sustainability: reducing our biogenic methane emissions to 10 per cent below 2017 levels by 2030, and to 2447 per cent below by 2050. Plus restoring New Zealand's freshwater environments to a healthy state within a generation.

New Zealand's and Whanganui Electorate's primary sector is a hugely important part of the economy. Ms Lewis reminded people that Prime Minister Ardern has complimented the primary sector on its commitment to the environment as well as the economy and well-being of the country.

"They've made significant strides to improve the sustainability of our products and practices. Fit for a Better World builds on that, and the potential that exists for us to go even further," Jacinda Ardern said. "The Government is already backing parts of the roadmap with more than \$1.5 billion invested in freshwater quality, water storage, supporting exporters, reducing agriculture emissions, assisting farmer catchment groups, the One Billion Trees scheme, getting people into sector jobs, rural sector resilience and developing new high-value crops," Jacinda Ardern said.

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**JONATHAN YOUNG**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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# Community connectors across New Zealand to support recovery

Social Development minister Carmel Sepuloni has announced 125 Community Connector positions are being established within the community and throughout the country to focus on helping people connect with the services they need to support recovery post COVID-19. "Some New Zealanders have multiple needs – for example unemployment as

well as other psycho-social needs such as health-related issues, housing issues, job-training and crisis support that have been compounded due to COVID-19. "Community Connectors will assist people to get the information and access they need from multiple government agencies and service providers, with a wide geographical reach, particularly in those areas not already serviced by

Whānau Ora Commissioning agencies. "The Community Connection Service will also work with diverse populations, such as Māori, Pacific and ethnic groups, seniors and people with disabilities or significant health conditions. Supporting people who may be rurally or socially isolated is also a major focus for the service." Carmel Sepuloni said the

positions will be based within existing NGOs who are already working to provide social services to vulnerable communities, and the model is a holistic, strengths-based initiative that builds on already successful navigator models in the social services sector. "As a Government we aim to lift people out of vulnerable situations by focusing on an individual or family's specific needs, with a view

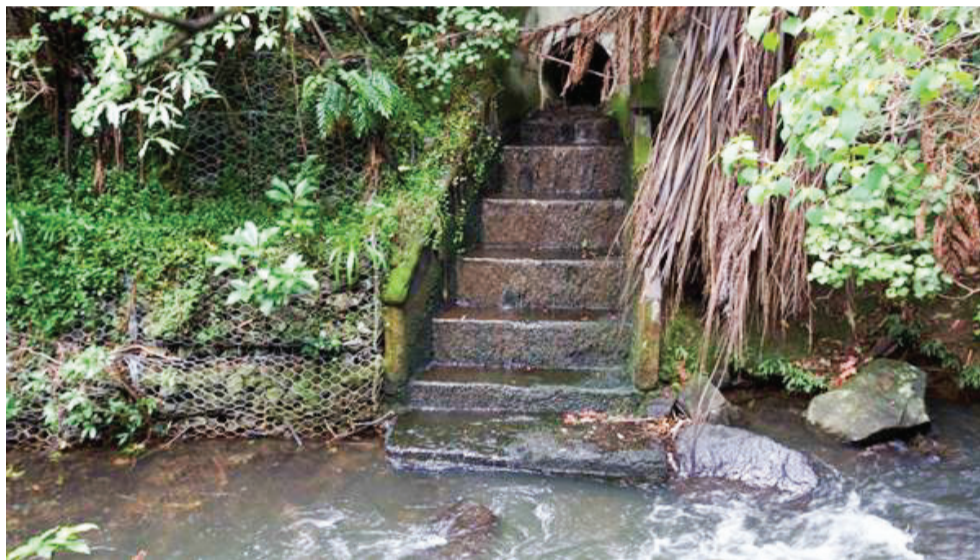
to support them back into employment," she said. MSD intends to work with existing contracted service providers to establish these positions with a focus on providers that have the existing capability to set up the service quickly and in line with how they currently operate. "The Government investment in the Community

Connectors Service is \$41.25 million over two years and creates 125 new positions. It's part of a Community Wellbeing package that supports the sustainability and effectiveness of social services delivered by non government organisations to vulnerable New Zealanders,"

Carmel Sepuloni.

## Culvert needs repair job

Culvert needs repair job A \$2.5 million repair job has been recommended by independent engineers to bring a 40 year old stormwater culvert near State Highway 3, at the Mangorei road intersection, up to scratch. The repairs would fix a 60-metre stretch of stormwater (rainwater which flushes out into rivers, lakes and the sea) pipe on Waiwaka Terrace and a decision on the project will be made by the Mayor and Councillors at a meeting on September 1. This one-off and unbudgeted piece of work highlights the precarious state of the District's water network which was highlighted during ex-Cyclone Gita, with \$44 million immediately set aside for short term upgrades while further independent reviews of the



The build up of water in the vicinity of the Mangorei Road intersection.

whole network were carried out. "We treasure our water here in New Plymouth District, and living in a lifestyle capital with such high rainfall, we need a stormwater system that flushes out residual

water efficiently. This culvert is a risk to public safety and private property. The problem section runs beneath a private driveway and it'll be a tricky job due to a number of factors, including the depth and

the need to keep services operating while we work. But it's critical the work gets done as quickly as possible and we've been talking with neighbours," says NPDC Infrastructure Manager David Langford.

## On this month in history New Zealand's first General Election

On July 14, 1853 voting began in New Zealand's first General Election.

This was made possible by the New Zealand Constitution Act passed in the British Parliament the year before. This provided for a General Assembly

comprising a Legislative Council and a House of Representatives.

Voting ended on October 1 yielding 37 MPs.

To be entitled to vote a person had to be a male British subject, 21 years old or older and own a freehold property worth 50 pounds

or more or pay at least 10 pounds a year to lease a property, or live in a house with an annual rental value of at least 10 pounds in a town or 5 pounds in a rural area.

Underneath the national Parliament was a kind of federal system with six one-chamber provincial councils,

under the jurisdiction of the Parliament. Provincial government was abolished in 1876.

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# Mac Sole Episode 23: Painting at Hawera Hospital

Financially, at the time, things for me were fairly tough. After paying the little I could to my mother, and she deserved more, my social life was virtually non-existent. That's life.

So on to my next venture in the world of employment – off to Hawera Hospital and the trade of painting. The only painter at the hospital was Arthur whose surname I've forgotten, but happy to say we worked well together. The other establishment that the Hawera Hospital ran was the Kaponga Hospital on Gladstone Street and later was to become Ngahuru Retirement Home.

After some time I moved to live in a cottage referred to as the Porters Cottage. The residents besides myself were three ambulance drivers and one porter. We had our meals in the staff dining room next to the hospital kitchens.



The painting of a building underway.

At that time when the ambulance went on a call

only the driver normally would go, so at night the driver would ask me or wake me up to go with him to pick up a patient and help me to

carry the stretcher. This help was given as a volunteer and not paid.

The year 1952 brought another painter to the

hospital. He came from England and his name was Ernest Victor Brown and within a short period disagreements between

Erny and Arthur led to Arthur leaving. However, my association with Erny was excellent and by 1954 I was accepted and given the status of tradesman. When notified, the Board Chairman was happy for me, but having to pay me a tradesman salary he frowned somewhat. I, of course, felt that things were turning in my favour. Shortly after this and still in the year 1954, I saw an advertisement in The Dominion asking for a tradesman painter to apply for a position at the Porirua Mental hospital.

I applied and seeing only one person was needed from all of New Zealand, I did not think I had much of a chance, but what a big surprise, my application was accepted and Erny, who by this time became more of a friend, then a boss, wished me well. So off I went to Porirua in my late 1930s Austin 7.

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## Milk bottle tops can be recycled

Milk bottle tops are recyclable, Raymond Buckland owner of Egmont Refuse and Recycling at 12 Scott Street, Hawera has recently started a scheme to ensure milk bottle tops are recycled. In fact, he has already introduced such a scheme into several schools, with more schools soon to be approached. So far, St Joseph's School (Hawera), Tawhiti Primary School, and Hawera Intermediate are underway with the recycling scheme.

Raymond is working on developing collection points around Taranaki aimed at householders and businesses. One has already been set up in New Plymouth



Raymond Buckland owner of Egmont Refuse and Recycling demonstrating his message that milk bottle tops can be recycled. He must be commended for his initiative.

at the Junction.

The milk bottle tops are chipped until they resemble a kind of multi coloured plastic confetti. Once the recycling process is completed, they end up, as either rubbish bags or underground pipes.

Raymond admits he has put a lot of effort into this recycling project, but is convinced it is worthwhile. "Just think how many of these milk bottle tops are chucked away on a daily basis."

There are many materials that other recycling venues claim to not be recyclable, such as plastic bags and polystyrene foam, which Raymond is happy to accept for recycling at his Scott Street, Hawera depot.

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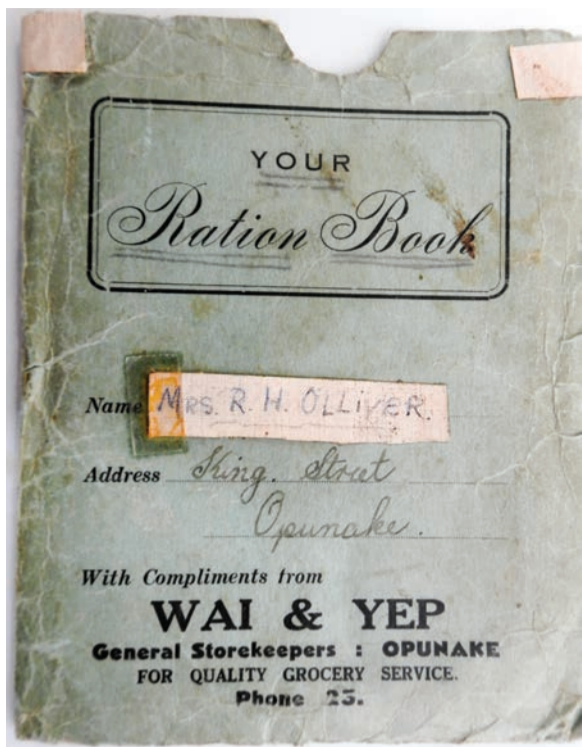
# A souvenir of when New Zealand rationed for Britain

Seventy five years ago at a time when the world was ravaged by global conflict, New Zealanders faced rationing of food and other products.

Last week Joan Perrett brought in a ration book from that time into the Opunake and Coastal News. The book, which had coupons for meat, wool, clothing, linen, butter and sugar from Wai & Yep General Storekeepers had been issued to Mrs Roy Olliver (nee June.M.Crofskey ) on October 17, 1944.

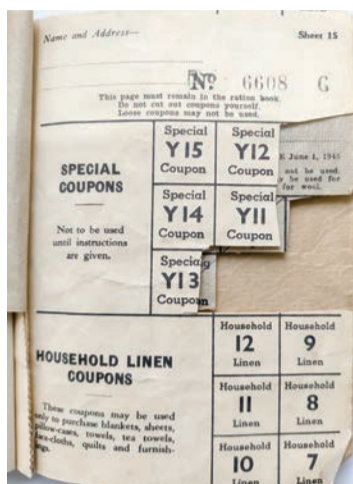
Wai & Yep was once a familiar name around Opunake. Their general store was at the southeast corner of the intersection of Tasman and Napier streets where the TSB Bank is now based.

Rationing had been brought in when New Zealand goods were being



A ration book for goods at iconic Opunake general store Wai & Yep.

shipped to Britain, which was under blockade from German U-Boats. The tenor of the times was evident in the message emblazoned on



Coupons used for buying goods in wartime.

the back cover. "Destroy all unused meat and butter coupons. Every coupon saved means more

food for Britain," the message read.

Joan says the ration book was going to be shown at the Olliver family reunion which had been scheduled for Easter, but had to be postponed due to the COVID-19 lockdown.

In 1921 World War I veteran Skelly Olliver and his wife Mabel moved to Opunake for a short break before heading off to a new job in Pungarehu, but Skelly broke his leg, lost his new position, and the family

ended up at the beach, living in a converted boat shed for the next 20 years.

Later Skelly worked for the Power Board while Mabel raised the family of 12 children..

The hundred plus members of the Olliver family from New Zealand and overseas expected to be coming to the Easter reunion at Opunake Beach will now have to wait until the rescheduled reunion in Easter next year.

# Multimillion dollar green hydrogen wastewater network a big win

The Government's announcement of a \$37 million investment in a new and greener Thermal Dryer for the district's wastewater treatment plant will be a shot in the arm for the local engineering sector in Taranaki and a long term asset for the community, says New Plymouth Mayor Neil Holdom.

Infrastructure Minister Hon Shane Jones announced the hi-tech investment which will see New Plymouth-based Hiringa Energy supply hydrogen so the Thermal Dryer runs on a hydrogen/natural gas blend, servicing some 27,000 properties across the District. The

new Thermal Dryer will significantly reduce the carbon footprint of running the facility by between 25% to 40%, cutting emissions.

"New Plymouth is the only council that produces and sells fertiliser as a by-product from treating our wastewater, avoiding the sludge going to landfill, protecting our stunning natural environment and generating some revenue from what would otherwise be a cost," says Mayor Holdom.

"We welcome the investment in a critical and ageing piece of infrastructure which will create a significant number of jobs for the very talented

engineering sector in Taranaki who have time and time again proved our local expertise is on a par with anywhere in the world."

"We welcome the Coalition Government's investment in our community in an initiative which is good for the environment, good for the engineering sector and just what our local economy needs right now as we recover from Covid-19."

"NPDC appreciates the support of Infrastructure Minister Hon Shane Jones, Economic Development Minister Phil Twyford and Minister Hon Andrew Little who we know have all been instrumental in delivering this investment for the people

of North Taranaki."

The thermal dryer serves approximately 61,946 residents or 76% of the district's total population.

It treats between 7.9 and 10.8 million cubic meters of wastewater per year, up to 4,300 Olympic sized swimming pools.

New Plymouth District is the only wastewater operator in New Zealand that produces fertilizer and sells it commercially. Others who have Thermal Dryers either put the dried product in the landfill or use it on their own parks.

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# Amanda Moxey certified Havening Wellness Practitioner

“We come into this world in our natural state. Negative memories can build up like layers, yet thankfully they can be removed to leave space for more positive ones.

Havening Techniques is an established therapy using touch, that works every session to neutralise the negative memories impacting our daily lives. The process happens within the magic of our innate

healing wisdom. I am merely a facilitator to help you access this in the most gentle way. My role as Certified Havening Techniques practitioner is to guide you to ‘redirect traffic’ from negative neural pathways, to positive ones.

Since neural pathways are created from our experiences, and encoded if the experience is negative; we work together at a subconscious level to create experiential change that is lasting. Havening Techniques is also highly effective at creating new neural pathways that serve us and not self-sabotage us.



**Amanda Moxey, Certified Havening Wellness Practitioner.**

I trained in Havening Techniques to help anyone struggling with ‘feeling stuck’, emotional distress, anxiety, phobias and in some cases, chronic pain. Why? Because I have had many of these feelings, and live free from feeling stuck and held back by impacts of some of my own negative memories.

I was inspired to others after more than a decade of my personal journey of growth and metamorphosis. In my heart I realised I wasn’t happy working in a corporate role, in an area that for me held no purpose. So I moved from Hamilton to Raglan and to end up volunteering

and working for community organisations and a community social enterprise, while I retrained.

Finally I followed my heart to Opunake after meeting my partner the modern way (online). I feel blessed to live here now with my partner and our dog. Opunake for me is filled with lovely open, warm genuine people a very special place in New Zealand.”

*Amanda Moxey*

*Certified Havening  
Wellness Practitioner*

+64 21 195 4448 | What’s App



*Amanda Moxey*  
Certified Havening  
Practitioner

021 195 4448

amandamoxeyhaven@gmail.com  
www.moxeyhavening.com

## New library, arts and cultural centre gets consent approval

Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga, South Taranaki’s new Library,

Culture and Arts Centre has taken a major step closer with consent being granted for the project.

The decision follows a Resource Consent Hearing held on June 30 by Independent Commissioner, Alan Withy. Because the Council is both the applicant and the consenting authority, an independent commissioner was engaged to make the decision.

South Taranaki Mayor, Phil Nixon, says the decision meant work could start on the new centre within the next few months.

“The next step is to put tenders out for the demolition and construction work, and subject to the appeal period, we are ready to go.”

Mayor Nixon says Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga is a key anchor project in the Hāwera town centre redevelopment which will also be a big boost to the District’s post COVID-19 recovery.



Artist’s impression of the proposed library, arts and cultural centre.

“It will bring more foot traffic, visitors and vibrancy to the CBD, provide enhanced community services, create jobs and economic stimulus at this crucial time and improve connectivity for both the South Taranaki community and for visitors to the District,” says Mayor Nixon.

Located on the corner of High and Regent Streets, the new 1605m2 building combines a number of facilities onto one site, including a bigger library,

meeting rooms, public toilets, an art gallery and heritage exhibition space, i-SITE visitor centre and café.

“Te Ramanui won’t just be a community and visitor hub, it will be a catalyst for driving change and increasing investment which we believe will transform the town centre,” he says.

The building takes environmental sustainability into account wherever possible, which helps keep ongoing operational costs to a minimum.

Mayor Nixon says the Council is contributing \$4.8 million towards the facility, with \$3.2 million being sought from

external funding. The TSB Community Trust has granted \$2.8 million towards the project. The Council’s contribution is being loan-funded. Earnings from the Council’s Long Term Investment Fund (LTIF) will be used to repay the loan over a number of years so there is no impact on rates to fund this development.

Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga means the beacon or signal fire of Ruapūtahanga, a famous Taranaki Māori ancestress. Ruapūtahanga would light the beacon as a signal for Iwi to meet so they could talk, share ideas and knowledge.

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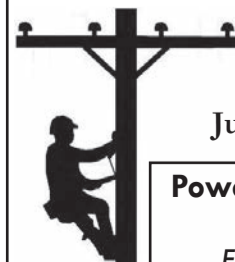
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# A unique hair salon with a great view

A hair salon with panoramic views of the coast is a unique place to get your hair done, and de-stress while admiring the beautiful views.

Called The Chop Shop Hair Salon, the attractive specially equipped salon is in Dover Road Okato, off the Surf Highway. The salon is separate but near to the house where Hayley Julian and her husband farm. They have three children.

Hayley, a registered hair dresser, trained both at WITT in 2008 and

at a Stratford salon. She has previously worked in Stratford, New Plymouth and Oakura.

The advantage of setting up her own salon which is open four days a week with two late nights, means she can work around her family, says Hayley. It also means there's more flexibility.

"People can make appointments outside their usual opening hours." She also does weddings, which usually means Saturday mornings. Hayley also has an assistant Alysha Short who works from the



Chop Shop Salon owner Hayley Julian.

two tone effect. She also does pulpriot block or splashes of fashion colours. Mostly people though want the "Keune colour" natural looks she says. She also does perms and curls.

A keen walker, Hayley is training to take part in a 100 kilometre walk for Oxfam in March next year. There are four off them she says adding that they are raising money for alleviating poverty in the Pacific Islands.

"I try and make people feel comfortable. It's a relaxed environment," says Hayley.

"People don't feel they have to dress up – though they can if they want to."

And there no problems with parking!



A great salon with a great view.

premises.

The salon has been open almost two years. The majority of her clients are local people and neighbours, says Hayley. She's quite keen to expand the business now that her children are getting older.

Hayley says she has been particularly busy since COVID. "A lot of people took to the shears with varying results," she laughs.

She does everything from men's hair and women's hair including colouring, smoothing - a process

which "defrizzes hair" and gradually washes out. Layer colour is quite popular these days which Hayley explains is a soft colour combined with darker roots giving a

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## Taranaki sees rise in retail spending

A campaign to Go Local appears to be working according to the latest Taranaki regional spending figures.

"We're continuing to see increased retail spend across Taranaki when compared to this time last year, as we continue to go local and support Taranaki enterprises through conscious local spending," says Anne Probert, General Manager Regional Strategy and Sales with "Venture Taranaki."

"Taranaki remains above the national average, up 6.2% when compared to a national average of 3.4%."

"Taranaki has been consistently above the national average since lockdown restrictions lifted, which has served our economy well in the immediate aftermath of COVID-19, however we are by no means out of the woods yet and we still have a way to go as a region to ensure we're prepared for what's to come."

"It's pleasing to see Hospitality and Accommodation up 6.3% on this time last year too, as this category has taken a little longer to pick up after the huge impacts caused from lockdown and the

inability to trade for many, as well as loss of customer confidence.

"Although these figures are positive from a spend perspective, it's important to consider the enormous effect this pandemic has had on our economy, and the effect it

will continue to have as the wage subsidy is lifted later in the year, and we begin to understand the mid-long term economic impacts this will have on us as a region."



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## EMERGING ARTISTS

The TSB Community Trust EMERGENCE Award for Young Taranaki Artists aims to empower and encourage the creative talents of young, aspiring and emerging artists from Taranaki, whilst providing a showcase for their works.

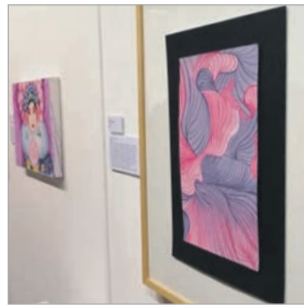
Fifty-nine aspiring artists entered the 2020 version of the event including seven of our senior Art students. The prize for the overall winner was \$2000, with winners of student sections also being given cash prizes.

To enter EMERGENCE the young artist must be born in Taranaki, live in Taranaki, or have attended secondary school in Taranaki and be aged between 14 and 26.

Held at Percy Thomson Gallery in Stratford all the finalists can be found on display from now until 16th August



*Kaiah Bloor with a piece from her 2019 Excellence art portfolio*



*Caitlin Manley's piece "Woman" (R) was named a finalist in the painting section.*

Unfortunately, while our students weren't named as winners in any one category, all seven were named as finalists.

Congratulations to the following students for their achievements in the following sections:

**2D (Non-Painting)**

Tamara Turnbull

**Photography**

Ashleigh George

Caitlin Bennett

Jamiee Siciliano

**Painting**

Kaiah Bloor

Caitlin Manley

Xzealeah Eustace

*from the Principal...*



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

Welcome to Term 3.

It is the start of a busy term for our senior students as they continue with their focus on NCEA in gaining their respective credits at each level. With this in mind we continue to adapt our academy day with senior students, to ensure they have every opportunity to achieve to their potential. Congratulations to those students who have gained their NCEA level this year. Bench mark exams are in week 8 and they enable students to prepare for the NCEA end of year exams.

Junior students are continuing with their Trimester 2 classes and will start their Trimester 3 classes at the start of week 7. We are currently reviewing our Junior Curriculum so that we continue to be future focused while growing good people for a rapidly changing world.

I have had the absolute pleasure of visiting our contributing schools with students to inform them about our open days. This year the open days are on Wednesday 12th and Thursday 13th August. The open evening will be on Wednesday 12th August 5:30-7pm.

**FUTURE FOCUSED:** Every student has a digital device, so that they can access their learning and embed anytime anywhere learning. To be successful in developing their skills and managing their own learning. We want our students to be respectful and live our DREAM values, wearing the correct uniform, being positive and engaging in all that we offer as a school.

**SPORT:** Rugby, football, Netball, Debating, Basketball, Bowls, Chess and over 60 different sports. All these activities make a huge impact on our students learning, respect and positivity. Matches and Tournaments are all happening with success and good experiences.

**CULTURE:** The arts is going to be a wonderful evening of entertainment. The cast have worked with great energy and commitment. We look forward to the success of this exciting show, which has a wealth of powerful learning for our young people.

**LEARNING EXPERIENCES:** Our learning outside the classroom continues. The academy day enables students to experience a variety of learning activities linked with their passion. The Gateway programme has some senior students experiencing work placements linked to their career choice. Our Year 13 students are looking to the future, for their tertiary programmes and employment opportunities through the Dean and Careers Advisor.

Finally, positive teachers and staff, with their mahi and caring nature. They champion our students and work diligently to support and motivate our students to be the success they are.

All in all, it is a term that will demand energy, enthusiasm and commitment so that 2020 is another successful year at Opunake High School.

Noho ora mai ano

Peter O'Leary - Principal

## SCAFFOLD LEARNING

At Opunake High, scaffolding the learning of our students leads to a stronger understanding and, ultimately, greater independence in the learning process.

With assistance from Cunningham Construction, our Tiny Homes Builders were able to do some actual scaffolding as part of our on-going Tiny Home construction.

Despite the COVID break, and some inclement weather, the team are making some great progress towards completing the project.

Keep it up lads!



## GETTING SPORTY



*Jack McLean and Noah Matthews compete for the ball during a lunch.*



*Chaeden Ngaia (White bib, Hapu Awhina) with some major hops, intercepts a ball meant for Hayley Quinnell (Blue bib, Karo).*

The start of Term 3 has seen secondary school sport get going again after the impact of COVID earlier in the year. Although a number of competitions have had their format abbreviated or are running differently than in the past, the most important thing is that our students are able to get out and kick, pass, hit, shoot or bowl a ball again.

We are fortunate that the long-running sporting exchange with Manawatu College will be able to go ahead again this year. Our new Sports Co-ordinator, Merv Dudley, has been busy working on this event with his counterpart from Manawatu. It is once again our turn to play host, they will be visiting on the 3rd and 4th of September.

Outside of organised sport, it's been great to have a bit of sunshine this week for some Inter-Hapu competitions, and for our students to play socially. Awhina came out on top of the Hapu netball tournament - they may have had the advantage of also playing as a team in the Hawera social netball leagues. Congratulations Awhina.

### UPCOMING EVENTS OPUNAKE HIGH

School Ball - August 8th

Open Days - August 12/13th

Y12 Topec - Aug. 17-21st

Manawatu Exchange - Sept. 3/4th

Benchmark Exams - Sept. 9-11th

End of Term 3 - Sept. 25th



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Te Kura Tuarua o Opunake

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## ENVIROSCHOOLS - ZERO WASTE

Our internal evaluation topic this year is based around Enviroschools – Zero Waste and it is proving to be an exciting learning journey for us all as we strengthen our knowledge and move to become a silver Enviroschool.

### Let's talk about waste!

Waste is a term applied to things we no longer want, which then require disposal. We, humans are the only species on Earth producing waste that does not readily return to nature. There is no waste in nature and there was very little waste in early societies. As our society has developed, we have created sophisticated processes and products to service our needs and wants. The more we consume, the more waste we produce. Through the Zero Waste focus, we are encouraged to take a closer look at, and indeed to challenge the whole concept of 'waste'.

Everyone in our community produces waste and everyone has a part to play in reducing it. While it's easy to throw things away as we clean up, in reality there is no 'away' on this small planet we call home. All of our products originate from somewhere in nature, and all of our waste also ends up back in nature – in our soil, water or air.

### Let's ask ourselves:

We say we throw things away but where is away?

If some of our waste products will last thousands of years in our environment, and we keep on throwing them away, what will eventually happen?

What can we do to make a difference (or to reduce our waste) and to look after Papatūānuku?



Above: Our Enviroschools – Zero Waste board

Left: Craig, Jess and Natalie (4) use waste from lunchboxes to decorate the heading for our Zero Waste focus.

## PUANGA AND MATARIKI

We are learning about and celebrating the Māori New Year at Kindy. We learned that Matariki is the Māori name for the star cluster known as Pleiades. The full name is "Ngā mata a te Ariki Tawhirimātea – the eyes of the God Tawhirimātea". It is also the name for the Māori New Year celebration. This is the time for people to gather and give thanks for the many blessings they had, while remembering those that had gone before them. Traditionally, Matariki was a time to finish storing food for the winter, weave new clothing and baskets, listen to stories of the ancestors, and learn about the natural world.

In Taranaki, Matariki is very low in the eastern sky. Therefore, Puanga (Rigel) is the primary New Year star of Taranaki. Puanga is the first star to appear of the New Year and when Puanga rises on the horizon during colder month, Matariki would rise not long after. Puanga also coincide with the end of harvest, so food is plentiful as in the whakatauki (saying) 'Puanga kai rau – Puanga of plentiful food'.

Ian Cooper explains that a 'quirk of latitude' has led to Puanga being recognised by some iwi as the harbinger of the Māori New Year instead of Matariki. In the far north, Matariki and Puanga rise at the same time. 'However, because Puanga is a star of the first magnitude and Matariki is a cluster of stars of the sixth magnitude and fainter, it's far easier to see Puanga in bright twilight than Matariki,' he says. 'Because Puanga is clearer in the north, this must be why iwi chose to use this star to celebrate the arrival of the New Year. As we travel ever further southwards Puanga rises earlier and earlier than Matariki. By the time you get to Southland, Puanga rises 45 minutes before Matariki does.'

We will be learning more about both Puanga and Matariki. Happy Puanga Taranaki.



Above left: Parent volunteer helped planting our plum tree while the teacher(s) and children are saying the karakia.  
 Above right: Children dancing on our Matariki Stage.



Sources:  
[www.tepapa.govt.nz](http://www.tepapa.govt.nz); [www.puanga.org.nz](http://www.puanga.org.nz) : Opunake Kindy Newsletter - June

## “OUR GREEN ŌPUNAKĒ JOURNEY” - CURIOUS MINDS PROJECT

We are part of a Curious Minds Project and we are delighted to start working on "Our Green Ōpunakē Journey" - an approach to driving better recycling. Together with Sustainable Taranaki, we will explore the impacts of point of purchase information on recycling behaviour. This project is one of the four initiatives from the Curious Minds fund supported by Venture Taranaki. Curious Minds works with school and community groups who have questions or ideas that can be explored or tested with science.

The project will collect a baseline of what people say they are doing versus what they actually do when it comes to recycling, and then test the impacts of presenting shoppers with recycling information and calls to action on improving recycling behaviour, culminating in a comparison looking to positively shift recycling habits.

Recycling contamination is currently a big concern in the community, as it involved high costs and an increase in waste going to landfill. It is estimated that around 40% of plastic bottles are currently not being recycled due to contamination.

"Our Green Ōpunakē Journey" seeks to promote better recycling habits in the Ōpunakē community while measuring the impact of different approaches to helping people reduce contaminated (dirty) recyclables.

Kindy staff and families will, through this project, become researchers and community ambassadors. The science, education and psychology experts at Sustainable Taranaki will support and guide us to understand and contribute to the experimental design, method execution, and result analysis.

The main goal for the community is to not only reduce the contamination of recycling bins but to also raise awareness on the importance of recycling correctly and in reducing waste in general. For our Curious Minds sponsors, the goal is equipping the community with skills and techniques to purposefully understand the environment around us and the impacts we can make.



Above left: Suzie, Nat (4), and Tamzin (4).  
 Above right: Jess, Oisin (3) and Daynah (4).  
 These tamariki thought and said that the waste goes to rubbish bin. They looked at the picture of a landfill and also learned that most of our rubbish end up in landfill.

Source:  
<https://www.sustainabletaranaki.org.nz/communitystories/2020/6/14/curious-minds-project>



# Upside Down Eatery has new menu and new chef

With Heimo and Renate Staudinger recently taking over the Black and White Restaurant at 54 Fantham Street, Hawera and renaming it the Upside Down Eatery, many positive changes are planned.

They have a new chef in Patrick Ikinofu, who was recently working in Dubai. The Auckland born and bred chef arrived in Hawera just a fortnight ago with excellent credentials and Heimo and Renate are delighted in the new culinary vision he brings.

A date to mark on your calendar is Saturday August 15 when there will be a Grand Opening featuring the new Degustative menu. On offer will be a sumptuous six course meal. However, there will be a limit of just 40 people so don't delay in making your booking (\$150 per person). The meal will start promptly at 6pm.

Most people will be well aware of the quality service and meals served at the Stony River Boutique Hotel, Okato which featured cuisine with an Austrian flavour. Heimo and Renate won many awards in the seven years they were in Okato for both their meals and accommodation.. They are determined to bring this quality service to the Upside



Front, from left: Miracle Dodd, Yelizaveta (Liza Li), Rachael King, Kyo Torrey. Back, from left: Alasdair Wilson, Renate Staudinger, Heimo Staudinger.

Down Eatery.

Heimo explains that the healthy traditional cuisine that won so many awards will continue, but anticipated that Patrick will bring a "fresh and crisp meal

with a more modern" aspect. The food will stress a more local input with the "farm to plate" ideal.

Another change will be an upgraded wine cabinet with the stress on New Zealand wines, gin and rum. "We want to really showcase New Zealand." Of course their own Weissbier (wheat beer) is on offer. This is made by Forgotten Highway43 in Stratford to Heimo and Renate's specifications.

The couple have various plans for the future including a Takeaway service .whereby a special custom built kitchen were to be established near the kitchen.

Heimo and Renate are impressed with their staff. "They are high quality and very well trained." "They are also very friendly and obliging." One recent diner had this to say: "It was lovely. Very nice. The service was good and it had a nice atmosphere."

The interior has been attractively upgraded and the Rinnai gas fire is most welcome on cold winter days. There are baby chairs and even toys to keep the youngsters occupied. The clean and tidy bathrooms are wheelchair friendly.

Their Special blackboard has such delicious food as Austrian Winter stew with sourdough bread. Their food cabinet is well-stocked with cakes, bagels, muffins with gluten free preferences catered for.

Outside has newly planted shrubs with an extensive deck and brick barbecue. It will be a most inviting area as we head into Summer.

Although the couple, and staff, are very busy,

*Continued page 17.*



Patrons enjoying their meals in the pleasant ambiance of the Upside Down Eatery.



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# Upside Down Eatery has new menu and new chef Kaponga WI



Margaret Broomhall doing club sandwiches.

The July meeting was held at the Plunket Rooms in Kaponga.

Jo Ellis and Margaret Broomhall started off the meeting by doing a presentation of club sandwiches and a dessert using the Tupperware jelly mould. These were set aside for the members to sample at lunch time.

This was our first meeting since lockdown, so there was lots of catching up to do amongst the members.

The competitions on the day were: Handmade flower – 1. Dorothy Hughes. 2. Jo Ellis. 3. Fiona Collins.

Gingerbread loaf – 1. Diane West. 2. Dene Lines. 3. Nan Stokes. Cup with writing on it – 1. Joy Eliason. 2. Dorothy Hughes. 3. Dene Lines.

Belated and present birthday gifts were handed out to members from their secret friends and thank yous were given.

Lots of childhood memories were shared from members, and these memories set off discussions amongst the ladies. Some of the memories included waiting at the bus stops, and school bus rides to school, truck drive between Dipton and Belford, climbing up

the North Taranaki side of the mountain in June 1953 where 130 people started the climb and only 30 finished, trying to get out of doing dishes, and play with neighbours only ended with having to wash and dry, doing embroidery in pjs and accidentally sewing onto the leg of pj pants, falling off the lawn mower and cutting of finger, and was told that she wouldn't be able to play the piano, but did, and mum cooking on the coal range, having to shift all the time.

A shared lunch was enjoyed by all members.

Jo Ellis

The exterior of the Upside Down Eatery.

Continued from page 16.

all the signs are positive. "The support of the locals is tremendous," Renate says. Support goes beyond local to diners as far afield as

Auckland and Wellington, as well as many from New Plymouth.

Upside Down Eatery is open from Tuesday to Sundays from 9am until late. You can book by phoning 06 278 8318 or just call by.

Learn more by accessing their website [www.upsidedown.kiwi](http://www.upsidedown.kiwi) Friendly service and delicious healthy food guaranteed. Their motto says it all "Make every day delicious."



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# Pandemics are not new....

We've been through it before – but just a little before the living memory of any of us.

That was in November 1918 when New Zealand suffered a serious influenza epidemic – thought to have been brought back to the country by troops returning from the First World War.

Even if presently-living people don't remember what happened, there are good records in contemporary newspapers, such as *The Akaroa Mail*.

In those days the newspaper was published twice a week, and included national and overseas news as well as the local stuff.

The first mentions of the flu in *The Akaroa Mail* are short, but as the epidemic spread across the Peninsula they became more extensive.

On November 15 1918 this item appeared:



A memorial at Ngamotu Beach commemorates those who died in the 1918 influenza epidemic.

## Meetings banned

No meetings will be allowed in a closed space, so that churches are temporarily closed. The Akaroa Borough Council cannot meet at present, and the meeting to have been held on Wednesday has been postponed indefinitely.

And advice at the time seems remarkably similar to that given today. This is a Page 1 editorial from November 19 1918:

The Peninsula local authorities are doing their best to cope with the influenza epidemic, and it is hoped that with our natural hygienic conditions the district will escape lightly. The authorities are wise to take every care before the epidemic assumes larger proportions. In the meantime the public can help most considerably by keeping away from others while any member of their household is affected. As long as people just recovering from the trouble mix freely with the outside public the trouble will continue. It requires a little self-denial, but it would be a distinct benefit if people recovering from the complaint would keep

in isolation for a short time, and also people should not travel about more than they can possibly help, as it is noticeable that all the worst local cases are those who have contracted the trouble from a visit to Christchurch. There does not seem to be any fear of a violent outbreak in this district or any heavy mortality as matters have been taken in hand at once, but every care by the public at large will be a help towards stamping out the pest.

Further on in the paper many more details are given.

The Akaroa Borough Council decided to set up a special committee which initially consisted of the Mayor, the Town Clerk, and the Reverends A H Julius and J W Hayward. They were later joined by J D Bruce, C W Leete and A Rhodes.

On the previous Saturday the Akaroa County Council had obtained supplies of an inhalation mixture from Christchurch, and sent some of it to each local Post Office. The Council also had leaflets printed giving directions for its use, and sent one of these to each household.

The local doctor, Dr Cantrell, was said to be very busy.

"He would be called out to a bay to attend one case and find he had to make ten visits.... The doctor was making visits to all the bays and really has had a very hard time."

"The Wairewa County Council secured the services of Nurses A C Jacobson and Herring, who are stationed in Little River and patrol the county district by car, making house to house visits, cooking and nursing where required.

"The natives (sic) at Little River are very bad and there have been some other serious cases. One case was brought into the Akaroa hospital on Saturday to be under the supervision of a doctor.

"Another case was brought in from Little River on Sunday night, the eight year old daughter of Mr G Columbus, who is progressing well."

In Akaroa itself a number of fresh cases were reported, some of which were serious enough to cause relatives anxiety.

"The hospital has six influenza cases. In view

of the fact that the nurse in charge was very short of help Misses Palmer and B Jacobson volunteered their services on Saturday and are helping at the institution."

An 'inhalation chamber' was set up in the Red Cross shop opposite the Akaroa Post Office, and was for people free of the disease to use in an attempt to keep the germs away.

In addition the Borough Council had rooms at the Technical school (the cooking, carpentry etc facility for local schools) which was at the lower end of what is now called Rue Balguerie, where the childrens' playground now is) cleared out for use as an additional hospital space.

"It is to be hoped that the trouble will not be so widespread in Akaroa and to need all these preparations; but the authorities do not want to be caught unprepared."

The newspaper says that there is plenty of fresh air obtainable in Akaroa, and little crowding.

"The epidemic should not reach large proportions."

The writer (the story is unsigned, but was likely

then-editor Ethel Jacobsen) suggested that people should keep away from large gatherings.

"People who are well should keep at home as much as possible and people who are ill or have relatives down with the trouble should be still more careful."

Cases of influenza were reported in Barrys Bay, Duvauchelle and the other bays, and in Akaroa where an entire household was down and outsiders had to go to the rescue.

In Pigeon Bay a death was reported "under tragic conditions" – that of a boy of 18, Watson, who had been working at the local dairy factory.

He had been living in a hut by himself, but when he fell ill had been taken through to Christchurch where his people lived.

"He died shortly after reaching his home" *The Akaroa Mail* reports.

"There is no doubt that lonely people are likely to be stranded if they get the complaint, and in these times neighbours should keep a look out to see that all is well with people in out of the way places or living by themselves."

There was an appeal for stretchers for use at the Akaroa hospital, and streets were all swept and cleaned.

"In Okain's Bay the epidemic is very bad. The whole of the Okain's Bay factory is down, and Mr W Thomas (sic) with the help of the suppliers is managing the factory. The epidemic has taken a very severe form in Okain's Bay, people being struck down very suddenly and collapsing. Fortunately no death has been reported."

By the time of the November 22 edition of the newspaper two more people had died – Mr Jack

Haylock of Wainui, who died at the Akaroa Hospital on the Wednesday, and "a child of Mr S Hokianga, of Onuku (Kaik) who died on Tuesday".

In Okains Bay the situation was still dire – but none of the cases were critical – "except that of Mr John Ware, whose age was a distinct handicap."

"The factory employees were gradually coming back more or less fit for work. It is unfortunate that the epidemic should strike the Bay in the flush of the milking season. The factory is working at its full, in fact it could not take in any more milk, the supply being a record."

Most families at Okain's were reported to have one or more members down with the 'flu'... "and the great trouble has been to get the cows milked, and the milk to the factory. Neighbours have been helping one another, and where a whole family was laid by outsiders had done the milking."

At Little Akaloa there had been a number of cases, but none severe, unlike Churilton where the flu had taken a bad form, with most of the people having contracted it during a visit to Christchurch.

"So far Le Bon's Bay has got off very lightly, only nine or ten cases being reported, and all very mild.

"Every precaution was taken, all gatherings abandoned and this probably accounts for the Bay's immunity from the trouble.

"In several cases people with dairies are affected; but neighbours have come to the rescue."

The epidemic was reported to be abating in Duvauchelle, where there had not been many severe cases.

At Wainui cases were fairly mild, with the most severely affected being Mr Allan McDonald.

At French Farm Mr H H Donovan was suffering from a bad attack, and Mr James Wright and his family were all down with the epidemic.

"At Akaroa the epidemic seems to be stationary. One patient was admitted to the Hospital on Wednesday, while Nurse McDonald, temporarily in charge of the Akaroa Hospital is also down with the influenza. Yesterday Mr W Lyall of Pigeon Bay was taken to the hospital. On Tuesday Nurse Ensor came down from Christchurch and took over charge of the hospital. There are six cases now in the hospital and there is room for three more. The Peninsula Technical School has been fitted up and will be used for the convalescents if the hospital should be taxed for accommodation. All the patients were reported yesterday to be doing as well as could be expected. In Akaroa the inhalation chamber has been well

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patronised, while all the streets have been sprayed with sheep dip. There seems every prospect that the epidemic will soon be stamped out of the district.

"In Little River the district has been divided into four blocks and these are patrolled every day by a band of voluntary workers who see that each household is supplied with food and that all the milking is arranged for. The system is working well. There are a large number of cases; but none have been fatal and it is hoped that there will be none. Some of the originally bad cases are now convalescent. The epidemic has been most severe with the Maoris. Yesterday Nurse Herring, one of the trained nurses in charge, was reported to be unable to be on duty, having contracted a slight cold."

The optimism expressed on November 26 had evaporated somewhat by the time of the Akaroa Mail of November 26.

That edition reported that seven more deaths on the Peninsula.

"There is no doubt that influenza is not to be trifled with, and that the patient who does not give himself up to a complete spell while he is suffering from the complaint often pays for his neglect with his life."

Further on the paper reports that it has heard from all over the district that there are numbers of families without any material help.

"And the epidemic appears, from enquiries made, to be as bad as ever."

Another death was reported from Akaroa Hospital - that of Mrs Smith, daughter of Mrs Peni Hokianga, a Maori of Onuku.

"Two more patients were admitted making the number up to eight. Nurse Ensor has the assistance of Nurse Watson and an orderly from Christchurch; but extra nursing help would be much appreciated for outside case."

The newspaper says that the epidemic has resulted in a great number of dairy herds being left unmilked, as there was no one to milk them.

"In a number of cases cows have had to be left three days without being milked."



In New Zealand 1918 was a time of euphoria with the end of the Great War followed by tragedy as the influenza

At Little Akaloa the milk factory manager was very ill, and the factory was being run by Mr Guard Waghorn and Mr C Priest and the assistant manager.

Okain's Bay had two deaths - those of Rev H J Allen and Mr Albert Sefton.

"The epidemic is very bad in this bay" the paper said.

"As nearly every family was affected, and in many cases the whole family was down an appeal was made to Nurse Maude, who sent down six helpers, three ladies and three gentlemen.

"Unfortunately one of the helpers has fallen ill herself, but the others are doing good work."

Mrs Blair of Pigeon Bay was reported as dying at Akaroa Hospital on Friday night, and Mr Blair, the factory manager was ill all week.

"Mr Blair is again at work in the factory though it seems hardly right that he should be back at his post so soon."

Mr J J Donovan of French Farm was also reported as a death, which had cast quite a gloom over the district.

"In Little River the

epidemic is on the wane, there being only one serious case, a native Mrs Whatiri, who was reported to be very low yesterday afternoon. There has been no death so far.

"Realising that the Okain's people were in a bad way Little River people offered the services of one of the trained nurses in the district to Okain's Bay and as the offer was thankfully accepted Nurse Herring left for Okain's yesterday."

The November 26 edition also reported that there had been reports of sick people being out walking the streets.

Notice was formally given that any person suffering from influenza must not leave their house and grounds for fourteen days after being attacked, and the police were asked to help enforce this.

"The precaution is a very necessary one, and it is to be hoped that those who have already had influenza will assist the committee in stopping it spreading by staying at home."

By December 3 1918 there were eight adults and one baby at the temporary

convalescent hospital in the Technical School.

"The patients are all progressing well" the newspaper reported.

"They appreciate very much Mr L J Vangioni's throwing open his beautiful grounds behind the Technical School building to them and on Saturday which was a beautiful sunny day they made full use of the privilege.

"Mrs Wilkins has a good staff of workers, including the Boy Scouts who cannot be given too much praise for the way they have worked."

Also thanked were people who had made donations of food and produce - the list of names was "Mesdames Kerridge, W Kearney, Youngman, A Rhodes, B Henning, S Curry, Shepherd, Hahn, G Armstrong, B Mora, Buckland, A F Walker, Misses Jenkins and McGuire and Messrs A J Thacker and C B Thacker.

By December 6 things really were looking up.

"The position has improved materially on the Peninsula in the last few days and only a few fresh cases are reported and those

not of a serious nature. "The epidemic is decidedly on the wane and it should be possible to resume business in a few days time.

"The loss to business people must have been very severe and the boarding houses and hotels must have suffered through the lack of visitors at a time when there is a great deal of tourist traffic to Akaroa.

"It is to be expected that things will brighten all round and that Akaroa will be very full and busy in the coming Christmas season."

The whole epidemic was just about over by the time the December 10 edition of The Akaroa Mail came out.

The newspaper was able to report that the decision had been taken to close the auxiliary hospital in the Technical School because all the patients were fit enough to go home.

At a meeting of the Influenza Committee mention was made of the kindness of Messrs Robinson and Parkinson of the Bruce Hotel who had given wine and porter for the use of sick people.

"It was stated that Mr Wilson, of the Grand Hotel, also offered to supply any wine etc wanted by poor people."

The Mayor spoke in high terms of the work being done by Nurse Flanagan, who was patrolling the County.

Praise also went to Nurse Tipping for the very capable manner in which she had handled the epidemic amongst the natives of Onuku, some 17 of them.

*Our thanks to Michael de Hamel, publisher of the Akaroa Mail, for this article.*

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# Taranaki dairy farm doing twice the average milk production scoops national awards

A Taranaki dairy farmer who has won a raft of production awards attributes his success to having well-grown young stock.

Stefan Buhler milks 260 Holstein Friesian cows on his 80-hectare coastal farm at Manaia near Hawera.

The herd produced 202,000 kilograms of milksolids (kgMS) in the 2019-20 season.

"It was a record season for us, despite the drought. We produced 2525 kgMS per hectare, which is quite incredible," he said.

Twenty-four of Stefan's cows each produced more than 1000 kgMS during the season, up from 15 cows the previous year.

He has topped the Nutritech

Performance Awards in Taranaki, run by Holstein Friesian NZ, for the last three years in row.

This year his business, Buelin Holsteins which he owns with his partner Amanda Linders, clinched the national title.

The awards are calculated using official herd test results and based on the Fonterra milk payment system. In the 2018-19 season, the stud earned \$4722.28 per animal.

It also scooped all four categories in the World Wide Sires Protein Awards.

"The secret to having high-producing dairy cows is to ensure your young stock are well grown," said Stefan.

"My heifer calves born last spring already weigh



Stefan Buhler milks 260 Holstein Friesian cows on his 80 hectare coastal farm at Manaia.

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380 kilograms and they're all sired by the best New Zealand genetics."

"I try to ensure my heifers calve at their mature liveweight. If you want to do

serious production the work starts from the day the calf is born," he said.

Buelin Holsteins' two-year-old heifers averaged 718 kgMS in 285 days in the 2019-20 season, according to official herd test results.

A decade ago, Stefan was finding he could not achieve production of more than 500 kgMS per cow.

Things began to turn around when he bought a nearby block of land and started grazing his own heifers.

The support block is also used to grow supplementary feed, such as maize and

grass silage, which is fed on the dairy farm, in addition to a blend of soya meal, palm kernel expeller (PKE) and distillers' grains.

"Having a runoff is a lot of extra work, but the cost of the feed I produce there doesn't really ever go up, unless interest rates rise," he said.

Stefan believes there is less room for error on high-input farms and focused management is essential.

"I'm always learning and it's ok to make mistakes, but it's important to learn from your mistakes and not to repeat them," he said.

His cow Valden Danny Donna-ET S3F GP84 was the overall winner of the World Wide Sires Protein Awards as a four-year-old, producing 545 kilograms of protein and 515 kilograms of fat.

Average production in the Taranaki region is 394 kilograms of milksolids per cow, according to DairyNZ figures.

Stefan has been looking into using overseas genetics because his options with New Zealand-bred bulls "have been very limited."

Brad Markham

## Awards nominations open

Taranaki people have another opportunity to bring the region's environmental achievers into the limelight, with nominations now open for the annual Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Awards.

"It's more important than ever for the whole community to appreciate and draw inspiration from those who work tirelessly in many different ways to ensure our precious native

plants and wildlife are protected and can thrive in healthy ecosystems," says the Council Chair, David MacLeod.

"We know their efforts have been continuing even through the restrictions and difficulties thrown up by the COVID-19 pandemic. These people thoroughly deserve a pat on the back, be they marae or school students or farmers or businesses or community groups or your

energetic neighbours."

The annual awards have been running 27 years, with 296 individuals, groups and organisations being honoured in that time.

The awards will be presented in October and cover five categories: business, community, education, dairy farming and land management. Nominations close on August 21.



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# Gains made in M.bovis eradication

New Zealand's world-first effort to eradicate the cattle disease Mycoplasma bovis has made significant progress with the number of infected properties dropping to new lows, three years to the day since it was first detected in New Zealand.

"To date, 250 properties have been infected by the disease – with all but four now clear of it," Biosecurity and Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor said.

"The hard and early approach with which we responded to Covid-19 was the exact same approach we took early on in our term as a Government to eradicate M.bovis to protect our national herd, the economic base of our primary sector, and the social good of the country," Damien O'Connor said.

"Key to the success are our programme partners DairyNZ and Beef + Lamb New Zealand. They were part of the bold decision to attempt to eradicate this disease and have been part of our efforts since the very beginning.

"It was estimated that allowing the disease to spread could cause \$1.3 billion in economic losses in the first ten years alone, along with substantial animal welfare issues, and serious ongoing challenges for farmers having to manage the disease within their herds.

"One key measure of success of our 10-year eradication plan, the Estimated Dissemination Rate (EDR), shows strongly that we have M.bovis firmly in our sights. If the EDR is



**Damian O'Connor**

greater than one, then the disease is growing. If it's below one, we're shrinking

the disease. The EDR is now at 0.4, which is down from over two at the start of the outbreak, so we are looking harder to find fewer infected animals.

"We've shown, again, that we're able to do what others countries have not in terms of disease eradication efforts. That's something our farming community should be really proud of.

"Allowing the disease to spread would have caused lost productivity in our vital cattle sectors and affected the economy. Had we left M.bovis to run rampant, I'm not sure our dairy and beef sectors would have been able to weather the economic storm of COVID-19 and the challenges of drought conditions as well as they have.

"The eradication effort has not been without substantial challenges, and the impact on affected farmers can't be under-estimated. Farmers deserve a lot of credit for their efforts. We are continuing to improve processes and work hard to

support their wellbeing and recovery, including getting their compensation claims paid as quickly as possible.

"We are also changing tax law to further help farmers whose herds were culled. A significant tax bill can arise in the year they receive a compensation payment so we'll be making a change that means they may be eligible to spread their income over several years.

"There is still work to be done, and there will be more infected farms to find – but we're well and truly on track to do what no other country

in the world has done and eradicate this disease.

"The next 12 months is about ensuring that we have found all infected herds. This will involve ongoing Bulk Tank Milk Surveillance, nation-wide beef surveillance, and on-farm testing of herds that could possibly have been exposed, to ensure that they are not infected.

"We will not let up on our efforts, and will ensure that this disease is gone so that we can farm free from it in the future," Damien O'Connor said.

## On this month in history

### Upham wins second VC

On July 14 1942 Charles Upham (later Sir Charles) won his second Victoria Cross (VC and Bar), the only combat soldier to do so. He led a company of soldiers to distract German forces on Ruweisat Ridge in

North Africa. He was badly wounded and captured soon after and spent the rest of World War 2 as a prisoner of war.

In later life he was a sheep farmer in North

Canterbury when Dr Paula McKellar was a doctor and attended Charles and his family, becoming a friend. Charles was pallbearer when John, Paula's husband, died of a heart attack in the 1970s.



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# Regenerative management for farms

Next Friday in Inglewood, farmers and interested folks will be gathered to learn about Regenerative Farm Management from farmers who've put it to the test and want to help other farmers experience the benefits too.

The main presenter will be Hamish Bielski of Rehoboth Farm. Hamish, his wife Amy and their three children farm in a joint venture on 300ha in South Otago, between Balclutha and Clinton. It is their sixth year into the venture and 4th applying Regenerative Farm Management, with very encouraging results. The land consists of gentle rolling to steeper gullies that bound the Pomahaka

River. They have run an integrated sheep, beef and arable operation for the initial years and are on the path of using regenerative farming principles, and loving it. They have decided to run 2500 breeding sheep, 200 trading cattle and no more cropping. Using well planned high density mob grazing has allowed the increase in pasture grown, along with stocking rate and profits to increase. Hamish is well versed also regarding how this applies to dairy and will be referencing his neighbour and others who are putting this into action, as well with encouraging results.

Hamish will be sharing about his journey and get stuck into practical and inspiring ways farmers can approach and go about transition, helping to save time, energy and expense through sharing what he's learnt to be more effective. There will be an emphasis on Grazing Management as applied to sheep, beef and dairy farms. A good amount of time will be given for Q & A so we can figure this out and leave with some valuable cues on what next steps could be.

Through this change in management Hamish is: growing 30% more feed, saving approximately \$80,000/yr from reduced inputs. He is more resilient to drought, improving animal health, and is passionate to help farmers transition well.

Jodi Roebuck of Roebuck Farm in Omata, Taranaki will be sharing a presentation coming from nine years of Regeneratively Grazing sheep, along with



Hamish and Amy Bielski.

sharing helpful tips for low stress stock handling.

In 2018 Jodi, his wife Tanya and their farm with Texel-Cheviot Cross Sheep were featured on Country Calendar, along with their innovative market garden. We'll also be enjoying some of their fresh, local produce amongst the lunch provided.

Come hear from farmers having success with this

approach who are keen to help you understand regenerative management that can enhance your farm resilience, profitability and environmental outcomes. There will also be a live stream option for those who can't make it off farm.

This is will be the seventh Regenerative Farming event hosted in Taranaki by ReGenerative Solutions and Taranaki Regenerative

Agriculture since November last year. These events are and have been supported by Venture Taranaki, 5th Biz Agri and a growing number coming on board to help grow understanding and opportunity for Regenerative Agriculture to be explored, trialed and monitored in our region.

To register for next Friday's event 7th August, 11am to 2:30pm at TET Stadium & Events Centre in Inglewood, express your interest to be part of Regenerative Farming Trials/Monitoring or find out more about what's happening in the region with regards to Regen Ag, please contact Fiona Young at TaranakiRegenAg@gmail.com or 027 580 3502.

Fiona Young

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# The Regenerative Agriculture Track is Open for Exploration

In February 2020, even before COVID-19 closed New Zealand's Great Walks to the public, significant weather washed out Fiordland's Routeburn and Milford tracks. In the time available before the country went into lockdown, passionate caretakers of the tracks took on the huge resurrection task of strengthening and developing the walking routes. A priority in this restructure was to ensure the tracks are walkable for future generations, not just those using it today.

Taking time to curate the environment for future use is the basis of the regenerative agriculture movement. The track has to start somewhere but requires a

change in mindset to take the first step. The shift can be as small as "well, I may as well give it a try". Farmer-led Red Meat Profit Partnership (RMPP) groups\*, supported by Beef + Lamb NZ, create a hub of like-minded people who are open to sharing ideas and experiences. A newly formed group in eastern Taranaki is now looking at how regenerative agriculture can be applied to our hill country. The group aims to understand how regenerative agriculture practices and principles can be incorporated into farming hill country and explores land use options and potential markets. Each member of the group is at a different stage of the regenerative agriculture journey and access to the speakers and

professional guidance means that everyone can develop their skills with the support of others.

Identifying any opportunities or areas for improvement on-farm in regards to carbon, biodiversity, soil health and all-round sustainability is a key objective for the group and one that 5th Business Agri Ltd aligns with very well. 5th Business Agri began a journey 26 years ago to connect all the elements and since then we have developed this into a unique methodology. 5th Business' Animal Centred Approach measures diet with the ultimate aim of attaining balance and ensuring farmers are meeting the needs of their animals. Underpinning theory with science and

focused on ensuring the well-being of both animal and farmer, the approach has an important part to play in connecting the dots of each farmer's regenerative story.

It doesn't take much to start the exploration of soil biology and regeneration but you are not alone in the journey. Pure Advantage\* is a fascinating website of thinkers exploring NZ green growth.

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## Premiers' semifinal place on the line

Round 5 was an away trip for Coastal. A trip to Inglewood for a must win clash to stay alive in the competition. Coastal started well with a try after three minutes, but Inglewood struck back five minutes later with a try of their own. Both teams created chances during the first half, but it was Coastal that took a 15-12 lead into the break. The second half was dominated by penalties and with 18 minutes remaining, Inglewood had a 21-18 lead.

After a sustained period on attack, Coastal was awarded a penalty try to lead 25-21 with five minutes remaining. The game was far from over and Inglewood took the lead again with two minutes left on the clock. A drop goal by Rick McKenna in the last minute of the game gave Coastal the win 28-26.

Point scorers for Coastal were Jeremy Newell, Jacob Gopperth (tries), plus a penalty try. Rick McKenna (conversion, two penalties and a drop goal).

Man of the match was Rawiri Naniseni

Round 6 and Coastal had another trip away, this time to Stratford. Coastal was very slow out of the blocks and trailed 3-18 at half time. A better second half closed the gap, but the damage had already been done in the first half. Despite a strong finish, Coastal run out of time and went down 21-26. The margin earned a bonus point that may be crucial in the hunt for a semifinal spot.

Point scorers were Leon

Power and Logan Crowley (tries), Rick McKenna (two penalties), and Daniel Crowley (conversion and penalty).

Man of the match was Dylan Schuler.

Next week Coastal take on Spotswood at home in a must win clash to have any chance of making the semifinals. Come and support the boys. See you there.

Brian Oliver



Beauden Fleming makes a nice run to help the Prems set up a last minute win over Inglewood.



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Kadyn Luke looks for a gap as the Colts squeak in over NPOB.

## Colts win home and away against NPOB

On July 18 we travelled to Vogeltown to take on NPOB. A few critical turnovers after NPOB had the ascendancy turned the tide and led to Toni Tuitupou scoring a good try after some nice pick and go play. That was repeated minutes later as Uriah Terry scored from another turnover. NPOB came back strongly but with a man in the bin, Kadyn Luke did well to exploit the space down the blind and scored, and we went into the half with a handy lead. NPOB came out fizzing though and were first to score and continued to pile the pressure on, but from this point the boys started dominating all aspects

of the game. Luka Cassidy scored a typical 30 metre try from a ruck pick up, and the tries kept flowing. Excellent cohesion and accuracy from the boys saw them score another five tries with Kadyn Luke bagging a hat trick off the bench. The best performance of the year and according to the NPOB guys the first time in a decade their Colts team has had 50 points against them. Tries Toni Tuitupou, Uriah Terry, Kayden Luke (3), Luka Cassidy, Tawhia Tito, Harry Foreman and Kobe Sinclair for a satisfying 51 18 win.

The next Tuesday night saw Coastal playing a catch

up game against Stratford-Eltham. The weather was terrible and the game wasn't much better. Coastal went down 26 - 24 to a last minute penalty. The main learning from this game is that tight games can be won with improved discipline.

Saturday July 25 saw the return match against NPOB at Okato. Again NPOB started well and had early points with a penalty, but Kobe Sinclair responded with a well taken try. The boys were a bit lethargic and disjointed for the rest of the half and struggled through, just surviving, but with two tries to NPOB and one more

to us we went to the break down. Bottle the half time talk, because the boys came out with a different attitude. Playing well as a team with great continuity, Harry Remnant scored a beauty try through the middle while his English mate Arron Lewis scored out wide. NPOB never die though and responded well with a penalty try and another to keep in the hunt. Jono Butler scored a nice team try on the right flank and we showed some good ticker to hold on for a 29 - 28 well deserved win.

*Deb Davies*

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# Thousands give feedback on home of racing in New Plymouth



The survey results are in on the future of the Pukekura Raceway.

More than 2850 people gave their feedback on the future of the Pukekura Raceway and what kind of lease options should be considered for the 38-hectare central New Plymouth site.

Taranaki Racing Incorporated has asked NPDC for a 'forever' or perpetual lease for the site and the current lease arrangements are uncertain because of historic and complex reasons.

To help inform their decision-making, the New Plymouth District Council mayor and councillors voted last year to go out to the public to get their views on the various lease options. Some 2887 people took

part in the public survey from late June to 10 July. It found 51% of respondents wanted to end the lease, 25% wanted to create a

'forever' or perpetual lease, 15% opted for a 3-5 year lease, and 9% favoured a lease of up to 30 years.

The next step will involve

the Mayor and Councillors analysing the results of this survey and the Government's racing reforms in the coming months.

## Indoor bowls results

The Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre hosted the NZ 1-5 year Pairs Zone Final at Stratford on Saturday

The four teams taking part were all from the North Taranaki Indoor Bowls Association -

Teams were: Mackenzie Third (Skip) and Ashley Borck, Flynn Wilson (Skip) and Taira Stirling, Lester Barnes (Skip) and June Barnes, Hayley Ward (Skip) and Flynn Watson.

Round 1 - Wilson drew with Hayley Ward, and

Third defeated Barnes 9 -5. Round 2 - Ward defeated Barnes 6 - 5 and Mackenzie defeated Borck 9 - 5. Round 3 - Ward defeated Third 8 - 4 and Barnes defeated Wilson 9 - 5

The eventual winner with two wins and a draw was Hayley Ward and Flynn Watson who will now go on to contest the NZ Final at Upper Hutt on September 5.

The Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre also played their mixed Pairs competition with three teams taking part

Rodney Morris (Skip) and Noeleen Picard, Martin Harding (Skip) and Ella Smailes, Karl Hughes (Skip) and Andrea Berry.

Round 1 - Harding defeated Morris 8 - 7. Round 2 - Harding defeated Hughes 12 - 0

With two wins, Martin Harding and Ella Smailes were the winners and will now contest the Zone Final to be played in Stratford on August 22 at the A & P Hall at 9.30am.

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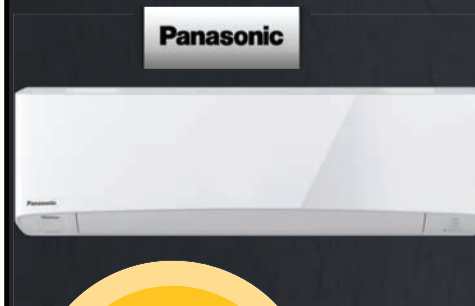


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# Manaia Golf

July 18. Saturday Men. Sowman Trophy. Fourth Round. 1. Grant Gibbs. 2. Denis Hurcomb. 3. Greg Elliott. 4. Phil Elliott. 5. Natnan Ngere.

Juniors. Blake Symes, Oliva Symes all square. 2. Joshua Symes. 3. Lucas Symes.

Jack Gargan, Jahkudna Smith all square.

July 25. Saturday Men. 1. Craig Jones. 2. Kevin Murrell. 3. Gary Dowdle. 4. Blake Symes.

Sam Jones is still in good form, coming runner-up at the Hamilton Stroke Play (70,74,66,68). His brother Ethan coming 15<sup>th</sup> with 74,73,72,71.

Juniors. Nine short holes. 1. Oliva Symes (Manaia). 2.

Shion Boyd (Westown). 3. Carter Symes (Manaia). 4. Payton Siciliano (Manaia). 5. Hadley Monk (Westown).

Pee Wee Juniors. Nine short holes. 1. Luke Norris (Manaia). 2. Abby Marsh (Manaia). 3. Hannah Symes (Manaia). 4. Tom Wilkinson (Westown).

Nine long holes. 1. Brayden Hills (Westown), 2. Corban Hill (Westown). 3. Mitchell Dower (Westown). 4. Max Jones (Westown). 5. Stirling Monk (Westown). 6. Liam Campbell (Manaia). 7. Emilee Venables-Zhou (Westown).

Five short holes. 1. Samuel Venables-Zhou. 2. Jahrell Hunn (Manaia). 3. Jayden Marsh (Manaia). 4. Jack Gargan (Manaia).



The stunning view at the Manaia Golf Course.

## Grant adds impetus to Yarrow Stadium project

The announcement of a \$20 million Government injection for Yarrow Stadium is great news for ratepayers and will allow the iconic venue to be back

in operation as soon as possible, says the Taranaki Regional Council.

“We’re extremely grateful for this ‘shovel-ready’ funding from the

Government,” says the Council Chair, David MacLeod. “It will reduce Yarrow Stadium rates by a considerable amount, and we’re aiming for work to

begin before the end of the year.”

The Stadium’s grandstands were declared earthquake-prone in 2017 and 2018, and closed to the public. In 2019 the Council decided on a \$50 million refurbishment and repair project, funded with a 25-year loan to be repaid via a targeted Yarrow Stadium rate.

The works programme is

on hold, however, pending a careful review of proposals taking into account changing circumstances arising from the impacts of COVID-19.

“The review should be complete in the next couple of months and this funding injection makes it easier to determine options,” says Mr MacLeod. “Whatever decisions arise from the review, the total budget still

won’t exceed \$50 million. Ratepayers can confidently expect a reduction of just over 40% in the Yarrow Stadium rate from July 2021 onwards.

“The funding injection also makes it realistic to expect site works to begin before the end of 2020.

“This is fantastic news for the region.”

## Boshier recommits to Taranaki Bulls

Lachlan Boshier, is back with the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls for the 2020 Mitre 10 Cup campaign. Boshier, who put pen to paper before the COVID-19 lockdown has made 38 appearances for the Amber and Blacks since making his Mitre 10 Cup debut in 2014. Since then he has become an integral part of the squad with his defensive work rate and his ability to dominate the breakdown with turnovers.

The former New Zealand Under 20 representative and older brother of Yarrows Taranaki Bulls utility forward Kaylum has been in commanding Investec Super Rugby form for the Chiefs and recently played his 50<sup>th</sup> match for the club.

Boshier is an Auroa Primary School product who captained the New Plymouth Boys’ High School 1<sup>st</sup> XV

before plying his trade at Vogeltown Park with New Plymouth Old Boys’ in the CMK Premiership. Taranaki Rugby Chief Executive Officer Laurence Corlett says he is delighted Boshier had recommitted to Taranaki Rugby.

“Having quality loose forwards is a must in the Mitre 10 Cup, and with Lachlan we have one of

the best in New Zealand rugby for attacking the ball at the breakdown. Having him in the side, creates real competition and depth - this can only help our performance on and off the field. Lachlan is an experienced player with plenty of first class games under his belt and is a real leader within our environment.”



Lachlan Boshier.

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# Enchanted April at New Plymouth's Little Theatre is too good to miss

Feeling lost in the shadows of marriage and forgotten in the rush of 1920s post-war society, two London housewives pool their savings to rent a villa in Italy for a ladies-only holiday away, reluctantly recruiting a pair of difficult upper-class women to share the cost and the experience. Together under the Mediterranean sun, the four women clash – and then begin to bond and bloom – until men once again upset the balance

New Plymouth Little Theatre had auditions for Enchanted April in December 2019 and rehearsals were well underway ready for an April 22nd start.

Unfortunately Covid 19 changed all that so Enchanted April had to be postponed.

However the cast continued rehearsals via Zoom and returned to rehearsals in



Characters from left, Mellersh, Lottie, Rose and Frederick.

Level One. We are so pleased that theatre patrons have an opportunity to see Enchanted April in August from the 5th to 15th August, 7:30pm.

Matinee Sunday August 9th at 2pm.

Bookings can be made at the Theatre Box office Aubrey Street Mondays and

Thursdays 12-2pm or at iticket

<http://www.iticket.co.nz/events/2020/apr/enchanted-april>

## Art at Okurukuru Winery



Above: One of Margaret Scott's paintings on display at an Exhibition of local artists at Okurukuru Winery.

On this month in history

### First woman to graduate with a degree

On July 11, 1877 Kate Edger, aged 20, became the first woman in New Zealand to graduate with a university degree. The English born woman graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (BA) at the University of New Zealand in Auckland.

She later graduated with a Master of Arts (MA) at Canterbury College in 1882, as did her sister Lilian.

Kate became the first principal of Nelson College for Girls and later was employed by the Education Department in Wellington.



A glass sculpture by Richard Landers. on display at Okurukuru Winery just north of Oakura.



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# The Emporium

The Emporium on Tasman Street Opunake has had a very busy few weeks since redesigning and opening the lovely gallery space and receiving a stream of visitors from locals and also travellers from around New Zealand.

The art on display is created by such talented artists as Marianne Muggeridge, Roger Morris (Remo), Dale Copeland, Paul Hutchinson, Shawn Crawford, Kirsty Meynell, Rebecca Beyer, Fern Parmentier, Joshua Wilson, as well as Rhonda Crawford. As well as paintings, there

are sculptures, carvings, prints, rubber woodblock prints, etchings, Kiwiana art, and even a stone carving.

Rhonda Crawford's art was chosen as one of the pieces to be selected in the first series of six art cards for the Good Art Project.

A promotion by Good Joe coffee run by well known celebrity chef Al Brown which have been released recently.

Rhonda's piece Transitioning was chosen from submissions throughout the country across a wide range of mediums and styles. Congratulations Rhonda.

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## Film Review

★ DAKOTA JOHNSON ★ TRACEE ELLIS ROSS ★ KELVIN HARRISON, JR. ★ AND ICE CUBE ★

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FOCUS FEATURES

## The High Note

Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Friday July 31 and Sunday August 9 at 7 pm.

Starring: Dakota Johnson, Tracee Ellis Ross, Kelvin Harrison Jr. Director: Nisha Ganatra. Writer: Flora

Greeson Nina Samone, Sam Cooke, Aretha Franklin, Maxine Brown, just a few of the artists given airtime in this surprisingly well-made movie. Dakota Johnson is Maggie Sherwoode. There

is no question in our minds that she is anybody else. In fact, if I saw her walking down the street, I'd say... Hello Maggie. Her hair is fabulous, and passion for music enviable. Immersed in soul since birth, she has an innate feel for producing the music inside of artists. She knows who she is.

Grace Davis, played by Tracee Ellis Ross is portrayed in the vanity of stardom. Even inebriated, she still has the wherewithal to manoeuvre her way through her beauty regime. There is the opportunity to develop a slight aversion for the ego of Grace, but humour, and her voice saves her character from any hint of a bitter aftertaste. Oh, what a voice! But then she is the real-life daughter of Diana Ross. We glimpse the journey of the rich and famous, from both corners of the room. Maggie – the personal assistant and Grace – the star. Or should I say, slowly, gracefully, floating down star. Her multi-decade spanning career is about to see a bit of a low point, a Vegas residency offer is on the table. Not such a bad thing to some artists, Celine Dion had a multi-decade residency at Caesars Palace. The iconic fountains outside the Bellagio still dance to her hit "The Heart Goes On," it's quite spectacular. Probably

the only thing I'd go back to Vegas to see, though Penn and Teller were very good too.

Kelvin Harrison Jr plays the lovable rising star, David Cliff. His voice is very easy to listen to as well. The casting team struck gold with all the actors actually. Ice Cube captivates as Grace's long-serving well-meaning manager, and the lovely June Diane Raphael is Grace's house-keeper, in a manner of speaking. Raphael enjoys comedic parts, known for sitcom *Grace and Frankie* and *Unfinished Business*.

Flora Greeson has written us an entertaining movie, there's humour, there's romance, and there's surprises. I've never been overly good at solving those Agatha Christie murder mystery shows, so some of you may see what's coming, but I very much enjoyed the unpredictability of Greeson's script. Along with the intelligent editing, *The High Note* is a delectable must-see movie. I would quite happily watch it again, and maybe again. Love the music, love the cast, love the writing.

Jane Forkert.



Michaela Niederberger Emporium Owner.

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<p><b>**BOUTIQUE**</b></p> <p><b>RADIOACTIVE</b> Drama, True Story, Romance  1hr 43min  M; Sex scenes, offensive language. Sun 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug 1pm   Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm</p> <p><b>THIS TOWN</b> Comedy, Festival 1hr 31mins M, Offensive language &amp; sexual references Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm Sun 30<sup>th</sup> Aug 1.30pm</p> <p><b>THE HIGH NOTE</b> Drama, Romance 1hr 53min M; Offensive Language Fri 31<sup>st</sup> July 7pm  Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Aug 7pm</p>	<p><b>FROZEN</b> Adventure, Musical 1hr 35min  G Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm</p> <p><b>TROLLS WORLD TOUR</b> Animated, Family 1hr 31min G Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1pm  Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Aug 1pm</p> <p><b>WHITE RIOT</b> Documentary, Music 1hr 20min  Exempt Sat 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 7pm</p> <p><b>GREED</b> Comedy, Drama  1hr 44min  R13: Violence, offensive language, drug use Fri 14<sup>th</sup> 7pm  Sun 30<sup>th</sup> 7pm</p>
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Book you Boutique online or cash at Sinclair Electrical sales finish at midday Saturday

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Health and Community Centre  
Haumeia ki runga, Hauroa ki raro

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- TARANAKI PODIATRY** Every 3rd Wednesday
- BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS** Every 2nd Thursday
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Facility Manager on 06 761 8488

## DID YOU KNOW?

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# What's on at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre

Through August to November, the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre will be fully open (the first time since lockdown) with a brand new suite of exhibitions.

The opening weekend on August 8 will debut exhibitions by acclaimed

international artist Candice Lin and the first of three Govett-Brewster Artists 'In Residence' of 2020, Sorawit Songsataya.

The event will feature guest speakers from the Gallery's curatorial team and a launch demonstration of one of the most anticipated works on

show – a trebuchet.

It will also launch *The Absolute Truth of the Happiness Acid*, which celebrates Len Lye's acclaimed film-making practice, using new methods to present the artist's colourful, experimental films within the gallery environment.

## Sorawit Songsataya: Rumours (Mermaid)

A new commission by the Govett-Brewster's first Artist 'In Residence' of 2020, Sorawit Songsataya, will be on view in the street-front Open Window Gallery.

*Rumours (Mermaid)* features a digitally modelled half-human, half-fish character to examine how humans separate

themselves from the natural world, while also wanting to reconnect to the environment.

The artwork is the outcome of Songsataya's residency, which focuses on the local ecological and geographic histories of Ngāmotu; in particular, Paritutu Rock and the Sugar Loaf Islands.

The Gallery's 'In Residence' 2020 programme, supported by Creative New Zealand and NPDC, will see three New Zealand-based artists take up four-week residencies from their own studios or homes, with artworks presented on the Gallery's digital platforms during the year.

## Len Lye: The Absolute Truth of the Happiness Acid



Len Lye, *Rainbow Dance, 1936* Courtesy of the Len Lye Foundation and the British Postal Museum and Archive. From material preserved and made available by Ngā Taonga Sound & Vision

A celebration of Len Lye's filmmaking; this exhibition presents the most comprehensive survey of Len Lye's films.

Produced in collaboration with Berlin-based exhibition designers Kooperative für Darstellungspolitik, the 'happiness acid' invites us inside Lye's films and their processes, to feel the energies at play in his experimental, handmade approach to filmmaking.

Often dubbed 'the father of the music video', it was Lye's filmmaking that resulted in the most international acclaim for the artist.

Lye painted directly onto film with little to no camerawork involved. His bold, rhythmic and colourful abstract films arrived at the end of the silent era and were seen by millions in British cinemas.

Gallery visitors will also have a chance to see the very films that drew huge popularity and acclaim in its heyday, on the big screen in the Len Lye Centre Cinema.

Len Lye's Experimental Cinema will be screening between August and December, with free daily screenings of the acclaimed filmmaker's UK and US-made short films, available to watch



Sorawit Songsataya, *Rumours (Mermaid) (detail), 2020*

## Candice Lin: Pigs & Poison. August 8–November 15

Acclaimed LA-based artist Candice Lin's first solo show in New Zealand explores her own heritage; weaving together stories of Chinese migration with American and British colonial specificities to deliver stories of borders and

segregation; racial profiling and conspiracy theories; bodies and remedies; viruses and war - that have uncanny relevance today.

The opening event will include a curator tour of the new exhibition at 2pm,

offering insight behind the works in Lin's exhibition, followed by an official opening in the evening, including a pre-recorded speech from the artist, and a launch demonstration of the trebuchet artwork.

On August 28 there will be a

film screening and discussion event, with an opportunity for the audience to ask gallery curators about the exhibition. Two short films will be on view; an exclusive, inside look of Lin's artist studio in LA, followed by a digital tour

of the exhibition, narrated by Lin.

*Pigs and Poison* premieres at the Govett-Brewster on August 8 before travelling to partner institutions the Times Museum, Guangzhou, and Spike Island, Bristol

### Exhibition Opening: Sat 8 Aug

Free | All welcome  
govetttbrewster.com

Curator Tour - 2pm  
Speeches + trebuchet firing - 6-8pm



Candice Lin, *A Robot Spoke What My Father Wrote, 2019*, Courtesy the Artist and François Ghebaly, Los Angeles. Photo Ian Byers-Gamber

### Candice Lin: *Pigs and Poison*

LA-based artist Candice Lin's first solo show in New Zealand challenges notions of migration, race and border.

### Sorawit Songsataya: *Rumours (Mermaid)*

A new commission by the first of three Govett-Brewster 2020 Artists 'In Residence', Sorawit Songsataya.

### Len Lye: *The Absolute Truth of the Happiness Acid*

A celebration of Len Lye's acclaimed film-making practice, using new methods to present the artist's colourful, experimental films within the gallery.



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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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

**OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST**

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

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

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**LOST**

**KEYS,** somewhere in Opunake some weeks ago. Similar to photo. Please phone 06 761 7016 or 06 761 8206.



**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**



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Phone: 06 761 7016  
23 Napier St, Opunake

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

*What's On Listings*



**ONGOING**

**Labour Party candidate Glen Bennett:** Every second Tuesday 10am to 12 noon at Coastal Care, 26 Napier St, Opunake. Next meeting is on July 21.

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

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

**SUNDAYS:**

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

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

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

**TUESDAYS**

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

**Life Drawing Group:** Weekly at the Emporium, 86 Tasman St, Opunake at 7pm. \$10 to pay for the model.

**WEDNESDAYS**

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

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

**THURSDAYS**

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

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

**FRIDAYS**

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

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

**WEEKENDS**

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

**AUGUST 3 TO 29**

**Toi ki Tua Exhibition:** Lysaght Watt Gallery, hawera.

**MONDAY AUGUST 3**

**Opunake & District Business Association meeting:** 5.30pm at the Opunake Business Centre.

**WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5**

**Pihama Hall Society Inc AGM:** 7pm at Pihama Hall

**AUGUST 5 TO 15**

**Enchanted April - A 1920's Escapist Comedy:** At the Little Theatre, New Plymouth. Refer ad for details.

**THURSDAY AUGUST 6 TO SATURDAY AUGUST 8**

**Ben Hurley - The Straight out of Lockdown Tour:** At Waverley, Pihama and Ohangai. See ad and editorial from the last issue of OCN for more details.

**AUGUST 7**

**Regenerative Farm Management** as applied to Dairy, Sheep & Beef. 11am - 2:30pm. TET Stadium & Event Centre, Inglewood. Contact Fiona at [TaranakiRegenAg@gmail.com](mailto:TaranakiRegenAg@gmail.com) to enquire/register. Catered lunch, tea/coffee included, \$50 per person or \$80 for couples. Live Streaming Option also available.

**AUGUST 8**


**Exhibition Opeing - Candice Lin, Sorawit Songsataya and Len Lye:** At the Govett Brewster Art Gallery, New Plymouth. Refer ad for details.

**AUGUST 16**

**Pihama Lavender Market Day:** At Pihama Lavendar, Pihama. Refer ad.

**AUGUST 28**

**Mason Brothers 'Nature' NZ Tour:** At Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake.



**AGM**  
Monday August 3 2020  
at 5.30pm  
Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the  
Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake  
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**PIHAMA HALL SOCIETY INC AGM**  
Wednesday 5th August 2020,  
7pm at the Pihama Hall  
All welcome  
T. Stevenson, Secretary

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on Thursday the 13th of August 2020.

**TO LET**



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