



Dr Paula (ne Angelo) McKellar, QSM sadly passed away on June 16 2019 at the age of 101.
The following article was written by her about her childhood. It was previously printed in the Opunake & Coastal News on December 18 2008.
We reproduce it as a tribute.

A glimpse of life 90 years ago

The 1920s seem a long time ago, well before many people were born. Yet there are some of us who cherish vivid memories of pre-school days, and family life as it was lived then.

One of my earliest memories is that of walking ever so carefully from the old family home in Roslyn to the new house, just around the corner, my little hand clutching the neck of a vase. I even remember the colour of this vase. It was a kind of powder-blue, with red dots all over it. I must have been told that I had to be very careful - for though the shift occurred when I was about two, the incident has been recorded in my mind so vividly.

Another less vivid memory relates to the visit of an uncle, who was, at the time, the mayor of Sydney. He and his wife were visiting us in New Zealand, and for some reason they took off my shoes to look at my tiny toes.

The new house was an ordinary five-roomed villa and there was a large garden. We were shortly joined by sisters Anne and Mena, whose mother had died in Arrowtown, where my parents had lived with their three young boys. My parents had become aware of the dangers of boys becoming addicted to alcohol and ruining their young lives. The shift to Dunedin was, they thought - an answer to this problem. I was a late arrival and a very welcome one.

As a family of eight, counting Mum (Nancy) and Dad (Rolland), we settled down. The girls got work and the

boys, shortly to leave school, began their various apprenticeships. I was much too young for this - thirteen years younger than the youngest son. In those days women seldom went to work and housekeeping became a full-time job. My father was up at five or six in the morning, and his first job was to feed the horses - Dan and Bob, who were stabled in the Kaikorai Valley. One of my earliest memories relates to these horses. A ten minutes run would take me down to their stables and I would crawl all over them, knowing that they were more interested in their breakfast. I just loved these horses and upon returning home, my father and I sat down to a good breakfast. In these days there were not many cars around. My parents never owned one, and we used to occasionally go for a buggy-ride with farmer friends - me sitting delightfully next to the friend who held the reins - what a thrill this was.

Our house had gas lighting, although some houses in the area had electricity. As twilight approached, it was interesting to watch men with ladders lighting the gas street lights in the neighbourhood.

Red Indian motor bikes were all the rage, and my brother Harry owned one. I was always pestering him for a ride and he frequently gave in. I remember very well hanging onto him for dear life - as we sped around some of the steep streets, in the vicinity. I must have been seven or eight.



Paula McKellar.

It was a very happy household, for the evening meal was always promptly on the table at five o'clock. I can remember there not being room for me at the table until Arnold, the eldest boy got married - up until then I sat in a highchair. Dad sat at the head of the table and I can see him yet, carving up meat or dishing up stew, while at the other end of the table the dishes were dispensed. Nobody left the table until the meal was finished. I think we were all too hungry to start a discussion.

Monday and Tuesday were always busy. Monday was the day the copper was lit with tyres chopped up. There was a garage next door and there always seemed to be a few motorists getting punctures and discarding the tyres. Anyway, there was never any shortage of fuel, and the wash house copper, with its full complement of sheets, shirts and tablecloths, got a great boil-up.

Monday night was spent folding the clothes and ironing them - one girl at each end of the table brandishing a hot iron, heated on the range. Mum would usually be taking it easy and I would be cuddled-up in Dad's arms listening to him spin stories. On Friday night many of the local lads would visit. My brothers had a workshop and my brother Maurice, who was learning to be a cabinet

maker, had a variety of tools. Somewhere during the evening I would be given a few shillings and be asked to go across to the Salvation Army to buy a supper of whatever was in vogue. Sometimes it was oysters. They were a penny each if we shelled them ourselves, and when they were in season, Dad would bring them home by the sugar sack. It all depended on what was in season.

The Salvation Army always sold hot green peas, and mint sauce. I suppose I would be

in and look and handle each new batch of bantams that would show up under the carrot bushes.

By this time my brother Maurice had built me a play house with one of these motor car cases. He had painted it red and Mum had supplied all the furnishings. I loved my little house and when kids called to play my mother would suddenly appear with afternoon tea. Little tea-sets were all the rage at the time.

I have not said much about school. I enjoyed school and spent a lot of time with the girls I sat next to. My last two teachers were men and their way of controlling us was to use the strap. I often got the strap for talking, and I don't think it did me any harm. It probably shut me up a bit.

I remember going through a great tree-climbing phase, and taking many of my mates with me. They became life-long friends and all our lives we remember each other's birthdays and visited each other's homes. My chief friend was Connie and she became dux and I became runner-up.

I think I was moderately keen on school, but other interests were of more importance. By this time I was a moderately good pianist, my parents having bought a piano for me when I was showing so much interest in music.

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Paula and her father Rolland Angelo.

Paula McKellar : A tribute

At her 90th birthday, addressing those gathered Paula's daughter Bernice commented "While so many, as they get older retreat from life, I'm proud to say my mother has continued as she has all her life to confront life front on with courage and humour. Remarking on the various causes her mother continued to champion she concluded her address by stating, "The courage with which you have lived your 90 years continues to be an inspiration to all who know you."

At Paula's 100th birthday Bernice conceded her mother still made only a nodding reference to her advancing years and continued to be engaged with life despite the

challenges that inevitably accompany advancing years.

Paula was born in Dunedin on December 13, 1917.

Adopted as a baby, she was brought up in a loving working class family, that of Rolland and Anne (Nancy) Angelo.

She remembered being introduced as a young child to, she later realized as an adult, was her birth mother Mary (Molly) nee Gallaher. She also met her birth father who had the surname Pedersen. According to her beloved half-sister Gwendoline Hardman (nee Valentine) who she was to meet as a young adult (they shared the same birth mother), he was a fairly ordinary man.

She initially trained as a primary school teacher. Then, a trail blazer in so many ways and inspired by Dr Gervan McMillan in Dunedin, she decided to study medicine. Noting that most of the medical places at Otago Medical School went to returned servicemen, she took herself off to the UK to see if she could gain entry to medical school there.

"They admired my persistence," she would say afterwards. She was accepted into Queen's University, Belfast where she boarded with the parents of Errol Flynn. She would speak of them very fondly and of course met the swashbuckling actor on a number of occasions who she described as "a terrible tease and great fun to be around."

"Mmm, not bad at all," said Errol as he walked in a circle around Paula.

"Errol," scolded Marelle (Errol's mother) in rebuke.

Always interested in racial harmony, as an undergraduate at Belfast she founded the International Relations Society and was its first president.

Paula married a fellow New Zealander in the UK Dr Peter McKellar and, with two children and a third on the way graduated with a medical degree from Aberdeen University, Scotland.

They were later to separate (and divorce) and we returned to New Zealand, our elder sister Sonya, Rolland and Bernice. Our mother paid for our passage as a ship's surgeon.

Initially we lived in Dunedin where Mum became a general practitioner.

She went on to practise in various places in New Zealand before moving to Australia to train in psychiatry.

We later returned to New Zealand to Cheviot, a small country town 70 miles from Christchurch where Mum was the sole doctor.

She practised from the doctor's house with attached surgery, a four bed maternity hospital across the road.

The Hong Kong flu broke out around then and we used to get very tired of answering the phone. It was a party line and no doubt everyone knew everyone's business.

We later moved to the North Island where our mother practised psychiatry at Oakley Hospital, Auckland. She was also a GP in various locations in Northland.

In the 1980s she joined the medical practice in Opunake with Dr Tony Ruakere and Dr Sarath Gunatunga, both of whom were at her 100th birthday.

These three doctors who were all resident in Opunake worked together "very happily and successfully," my mother would recall. Grant Cavaney, a great friend, was the pharmacist at the time.

Mum was a doctor of the old school who believed in visiting patients in their home.

She always described medicine as an art and, was regarded as a clever diagnostician. I lost count of the times people would come up to me and tell me how my mother had diagnosed something or other when no other doctors had. (One of the employees at the Opunake & Coastal News will testify to that). She diagnosed her own breast cancer about 40 years ago and took immediate action. (A mastectomy followed. As part of the treatment she also had lymph nodes removed which left her with a swollen right arm. I never heard her complain once, describing it as a small price to pay for her life.)

Just a few weeks ago we were in a café before going to a movie in New Plymouth and a woman seeing my mother said at the top of her voice: "Dr Paula. You were my doctor and you were so good." She then proceeded to shower my mother with kisses.

Her birth mother's early death from alcoholism triggered a lifelong interest in the disease and for this and other humanitarian work in 2007 she was awarded a Queen's Service Medal (QSM).

"I could see that when people become alcoholics they forfeited their freedom. It was painful to see people start off well and then go down the drain. It was a poison to some people," she once stated.

As a person, what can I say. She had a wonderful sense of humour. She knew how to laugh and most importantly could laugh at herself.

She exposed us to much. To nature, to tramping, mountain huts, ice skating, to art, to music, to humour and to those less fortunate, society's rejects. It was a wide if unconventional education.

She was never great with money and would often not charge patients.

She also had a temper when roused as the unfortunate guy who thought he could quietly repossess our car in which payments had lapsed discovered. I can still see Mum grabbing him by the shirt and literally tearing it off his back. We used to laugh about it for years. Should he

have been asked whether he would like to have his shirt torn off or would he prefer to be strangled by his neck tie.

Like all parents she could embarrass her children. She loved swimming and would tend to strip off into her bathing costume at the beach without paying too much attention to whoever was around.

A life-long pacifist, she joined the Society of Friends (Quakers). She was a great admirer of the prophet Te Whiti of Parihaka and his practice of non-violent protest.

A talented pianist, Paula was also, when younger given the option of making music a career. We grew up to Mum playing classical pieces from Beethoven (her favourite composer), Brahms, Chopin and others. Her desire to help others, however, won out and

she recognised medicine, which she described as an art, as her true calling.

In the early days of the Opunake & Coastal News she wrote a column called Food for Thought based on her own experiences.

In later years when she grew older we spent a lot of time together which I now so cherish.

Fun, intelligent, talented and kind, you were unique.

How privileged I was to call you my mother.

Bernice

Paula leaves three children, Sonya (Australia), Bernice, and Rolland, daughter-in-law Stephanie, three grandchildren – Gavin (Australia), Rachael (UK) and Carol (Australia) and two great grandchildren Isaac and Lucas in the UK.

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Paula McKellar taken at Opunake's St Paul's Co-operating church a bit over a year ago.

A glimpse of life 90 years ago

Continued from page 1

Of paramount importance to me in the school days was the little Church of Christ - it was just across the road and I attended Sunday School regularly. My teacher was a lovely woman called Miss Billing Her whole personality was consistent with her life and I owe her a lot.

There were two red-letter days in my young life that I will always remember. The butchers and groceries had separate yearly picnics and to get to the spot where the picnic was held, trains were laid on. The picnic spots were in the north and beside the sea. It took half to three-quarters of an hour to get there. We all took rugs to sit on and piles of food. I don't quite remember now, but I don't think the trains waited for us but re-appeared at the end of the day. The time was spent meeting old friends and having all kinds of races. I remember the egg and spoon race among others. It was jolly hard to keep the egg in the spoon when you were racing.

At the age of ten I had a pleasant surprise - I became an aunty to Shelley, daughter of my brother Arnold. (She was a special guest at my 90th birthday celebration last year).

When I was eleven years old I was judged capable of going by train and boat to Queenstown. Here I was welcomed by the Angelo family and the Buckhams. In Queenstown I was known as Rolland's girl. My father had worked as a mate on the Earnslaw when he was a young man. I really had the run-of-the-boat, and when they took sheep over in boats in some of the Stations - I was allowed to sit on their backs, and I just loved this! This yearly holiday went on for years and I loved every minute of it. There was a lot of coming and going from Queenstown to Dunedin. The lake was a bit too cold to permit much swimming, but us kids didn't seem to mind

the cold and were always in and out of the water.

Swimming was taught at school, at weekly visits to the Public Baths. Some of us did the half-mile stint and proudly came away with a certificate to this effect.

The Depression still looms large in my memory. So many people were without jobs, and my father's garden was a godsend for these people. We, as early teenagers were well aware of the suffering and did our best to save the pennies. By this time the family was down to just Mum, Dad and me - but my mother agreed to look after children for the Child Welfare and Enid, a girl of my age, came to stay.

They became totally devoted to one, Donald - who was a fretful baby and whom I spent hours wheeling all-over the place. He grew up with us.

At this stage of my life I was getting to be very useful, and one of my jobs was to polish the brass step at the front door. I was always visiting my now-married brothers, their wives and their babies, who had in me a devoted aunt.

But all good things, as well as bad do come to an end, and the end came for me with the death of my mother from cancer. This disease was fairly common and usually fatal. At eighteen I was a young adult, but will never forget and always be grateful for the stable home I had for so long and the love of so many people.



Paula (right) with from left Jack Soutter, Maurie (her brother), Maurie's wife Mena in Maurie Angelo's 1927 Chev.



Paula (at back) with her parents Anne and Rolland Angelo holding respectively Paula's nieces Joyce and Shelley.



Paula the Viking.

I Love all Beauteous Things

By Robert Bridges

I love all beauteous things,
I seek and adore them;

God hath no better praise,
And man in his hasty days

Is honoured for them.
I too will something make

And joy in the making;
Altho' to-morrow it seem

Like the empty words of a dream

Remembered on waking.

Above:
Inscribed by Paula in an art book she gave to her son Rolland.



The doctor she was to become. Newly graduated with eldest daughter Sonya..

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

A time for remembering

These past few weeks have been very interesting and sad for some families.

We have lost some elderly and not so elderly. I reflect on the passing of Mrs Morris, who was such a kindly and supportive lady who did a lot for her family and the community.

I would like the Lions club to consider adding her name to Dudley's Bridge so it can more truly reflect the role she played in the community. Dudley and Fay's Bridge has



CLEM COXHEAD

a nice ring to it. Russell Simpson was a guy who was always up for a chat and I will always remember

men like him, who were happy to talk to a young man like me. I thought it was a very special thing and is always at the back of my mind when I see young people to talk to.

Can you imagine anywhere other than Opunake where two very well-known doctors, who we all loved, passed away within an hour of each other?

We gave Dr McKellar a nice send off the other day and it was nice to share that time with Bernice and Rolland and family who could not be there. Lots of stories, and some mighty fine music was created and played by Bernice. It struck home to me the reality of living such a long and interesting life that a large number of people who would have been there have passed such as our parents Doug and Bev.

Dr Gunatunga passed away with family in Christchurch and we await the return of family to share our grief.

I have often reflected when talking to Mrs Gunatunga on the street as to what a remarkable woman she has been. To come to a small town so many years ago and with a small family, not knowing a soul and having

her husband out all times of the day and night tending to our medical needs. It takes a special woman to do that.

Yellow Bristle Grass is not going away any time soon. This conversation started at a community board meeting in Oaonui.

This weed is one very clever and dangerous weed that we cannot kill at this point in time without making things worse.

Yellow Bristle Grass has been around for over one hundred years starting in Northland and moving south. The Waikato farming industry has almost been destroyed by this weed and Taranaki is not far behind. When I first became involved it was thought to be a coastal problem, but it is now clear that it is growing with gusto all over the province including our hill country.

We have to accept that we could lose up to a third of our production to this weed.

Just divide \$300,000,000 by the total population of Taranaki and who will see that the total cost will be in excess of \$60,000 per man woman and child.

I have been talking to farmers close to 80 years of age who are with their wives

on hands and knees pulling this weed out by hand whilst neighbours are oblivious to the problem. We have urban folk who enjoy a nice walk or bike ride in the country who will unknowingly pick up the seeds and move them down the road.

I have heard the story of an Auckland family who bought a lifestyle block and mowed one Yellow Bristle Grass plant spreading the seeds onto the road in a very rural area. The end result was that cars going down the road that day picked up the seeds and now the entire road side is covered in Yellow Bristle Grass.

What can we do?

The first thing we have to do is to stop mowing and spraying the sides of our roads. I have asked our Members of Parliament to put pressure on NZTA as they have the most roads that have trucks and tractors moving hay and silage around the province.

I and my fellow councillors must stop our local councils doing the same because spraying and cutting are the most effective ways to spread this weed. The worst problem is that we are allowing roading contractors to spray up to two metres on

each side of marker posts so they can save wear and tear on mowers. This opens up the ground and the mowers then have a good two metres of Yellow Bristle Grass to spread further along the road and over farms.

If we can get the grass to regrow then it will not have the same opportunity to grow and spread. You will notice that farmers who mow and care for their roadsides do not and will not get Yellow Bristle Grass growing.

The next stage is to have better control of the spread from say maize and hay crops. The outside round very often has Yellow Bristle Grass that grows along the ground into the maize crop. This then gets transported and seeds spread through cows and onto farms.

Smart and concerned farmers should check any maize or hay crop they wish to buy for Yellow Bristle Grass. They may also refuse to buy the first two rounds as a precaution.

The use of weed killers is unfortunately a catalyst for more regrowth in many cases and I feel for those who are trying really hard to get rid of this pest. It is time for all of us to take this threat seriously.

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One hundred year restoration

It seems quite fitting that one hundred years after the end of World War 1, that a German field gun gifted to the township of Eltham, is about to undergo restoration.

So, if you notice it is missing from its site on Bridge Street, don't worry, it will return.

The Eltham Community Board has an agreement with the New Zealand Antique & Historical Arms Association (NZAHAA), giving that group authority to do the restoration. It will be taken off site for the work to be carried out, and many hours will be put in to stripping, cleaning and refurbishing before final presentation

back to the Eltham Community. An important part of the agreement is the degree of restoration. So, this will apply to general rust and aging, but any 'battle scars' will remain visible.

The following is a brief history of the Krupp Field Gun 105mm WW1 trophy, from the book 'Great Guns - The Artillery Heritage of NZ' by Peter Cook & Ian Maxwell:

A German WW1 trophy was gifted to the Eltham Borough Council in 1920. It has had an interesting journey.

The trophy was a Krupp 10.5cm leFH16, a light field howitzer with the ordnance serial number 'Nr.7279' on carriage s/n '4820'.

This gun was issued from

Pool 2, but its capture is credited to the NZ Division on 5 Nov 1918. It travelled here with returning troops on HMNZT 293, the Arawa, leaving London docks on 5 October 1919. In Eltham it was sited at Taumata Park next to the grandstand. It has been claimed to have been buried before WW11, in 1938 or 1939 but if it was done by the Home Guard as one source suggests (in order to keep it from Japanese hands), then it would have been 1941 or 42, as were some others. Mark Vickers took a photo of his three boys clambering over it at the park, in around 1939.

The gun was exhumed on 14 October 1983 and is now on display again. The woodwork has been nicely

replaced, and the gun still has the distinctive hole in the top right of its shield. Since being restored it has been on display at Beck Helicopters, then on the main road in the middle of town. It seems now to have found a permanent home on Bridge Street, the main road to Opunake, a few metres down from SH3.

It is worth remembering that this Krupp Field Gun was given to the Eltham Community in recognition for the services given by our soldiers.

We wish NZAHAA well with the project and look forward to the return of the trophy.

Maree Liddington
Eltham Community Board

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Generous donation of ball gowns to Opunake High School

Opunake High School has received a donation of about 150 beautiful ball gowns from Hellen and James Burley. Hellen and James are parents of Daniel at the school and their kind gesture is prompted by gratitude as to how well their son has prospered during his time here. "Opunake High School is the most amazing school I have known and surpasses Auckland schools," said Hellen. She pointed out that she and James had four children. "I can't speak highly enough about the fantastic job they've done with Daniel."

The couple have special praise for Mr Phillip Hooper, "He is the most amazing teacher," Hellen comments. Next year Daniel is off to university to study Mechanical Engineering, thanks to Mr Hooper's influence." One of the issues at Daniel's Auckland school was bullying, making him reluctant to attend classes, but that has been reversed at Opunake High School.



From left, Raven Minhinnik (18), Shavorn Johnson (17), Aaliyah Clement (18), Lucille Ward (17), Tanisha Kahukahu-Snowden (18), Saisha Padayachi (18) and Hellen Burley.

Originally, Hellen and James had a shop in Newmarket, Auckland called Affordaball, which specialised in ball gowns. This shop was sold in 2015 prior to the family moving to Taranaki. The family

currently live in Eltham. Tutor Kerry Walsh, who is staff member in charge of the school Ball (to be held on August 10), said, "The donation of the ball gowns is just fantastic, and a kind gesture so everyone has the

opportunity to attend the ball. We are just so grateful for Hellen's generosity." The couple are also kindly paying for the make-up and hair styling outlay.

Also delighted is student Tanisha Kahukaka-Snowden (18), who is a member of the Academy and, as part of that, the Ball Committee. "I'm extremely grateful that parents of a student at our school would do something like this for us."

There was no mistaking the enthusiasm of the various

students trying on the various ball gowns, which were aesthetically eye-catching in their myriad of colours – red, purple, green, blue, silver and often with a sparkly and a glittery finish.

Hellen and James generous donation will be a testament to their gratitude to Opunake High School and Mr Hooper in particular.

Our next issue will be published on Thursday July 18. Phone us on 06 761 7016 if you want to be in it in some way.

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The ball gowns on a rack with Hellen Burley, who has kindly donated them to the Opunake High School.

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A couple of weeks ago it was National Volunteer Week. This was the week in which we took the time to recognise all the great work Volunteers do in the community. Although a little late I would like to acknowledge the work that volunteer groups do in our community, which in a lot of cases does not receive much publicity. I believe these groups help

build resilience within the community, which in turn, makes it a better place to live for us all. Having spent the majority of my working life in an organisation that receives its fair share of community support, it's easy to forget those organisations that do not have such a high profile, but nevertheless are an integral part of what makes our community function.

During the National Volunteer Week the government announced that it was going to pay every volunteer \$300 per year as a recognition for the amount of time they spend attending Fire and Emergency NZ activities, which includes call outs, trainings, meetings etc. While the intent of the payment is recognised and appreciated it is interesting to note that, since this was announced, I have yet to come across a single volunteer who believes the payment is necessary or a good idea. The most common feedback I get is that they belong to this organisation to help the community. This to me underpins what being a volunteer is about.

While on the subject of recognising volunteers the Opunake Brigade held its Annual General Meeting on the 8th June. At this meeting a number of members were awarded life Honorary Membership medals in recognition of their service to the Opunake Brigade. Those receiving medals were Rodney Woods, Kevin Joyce, and Ian Brimlow. Brian Vincent was awarded a two year Bar for 56 years' service. Congratulations to the recipients. The Rahotu Brigade held their AGM recently and awarded Gordy Wells a life Honorary Membership Medal for his service to the Rahotu Brigade. Gordy has moved to Opunake and is currently

serving in the local brigade. On the 19th June appliances from Manania, Opunake and Okaiawa were responded to a power point on fire inside a house. By the time the brigade arrived the occupant had put the fire out himself with no structural damage being caused. A number of brigades had to be responded due to insufficient crew numbers. On Friday morning 26th June the Opunake brigade responded to reports of a car rolled on State Highway 45 at Pihama. Upon arrival the brigade found a vehicle in a ditch with the driver having decamped and being unable to be located. This incident was left in the hands of the Police.

Later that same day the brigade responded to assist the Ambulance crew with a Cardiac Arrest. Sadly the patient was unable to be resuscitated and passed away. On Saturday afternoon 22nd June the brigade was called to a house full of smoke on Hone Rd, Pihama. The occupant of the house had noticed the house filling with smoke and that the chimney on the free standing fire had started to glow red hot so put the fire out themselves. No damage was done to the house. It is thought a blocked chimney was the probable cause of this fire..

Take Care out there. Be Safe

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Life Membership for Coastal firefighter

Gordy Wells, who now lives in Opunake, has been awarded Life Membership of the Rahotu Volunteer Fire Brigade. He received the award from Kent Helms, Deputy CFO of the Rahotu Brigade on Friday June 21 at their AGM. Although Gordy is now a member of the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade, he spent 20 years with the Rahotu Brigade. His total years as a firefighter now total 26 years. "It's very special really to be awarded Life Membership."

He recalls joining the Rahotu Brigade in 1993, when a vacancy came up.

Over the years he says he has "met some great people" and has been pleased to serve "two special communities" as a firefighter.

He admits there have been some "bad call-outs" where there has been a fatality. He mentions MVAs (Motor

Vehicle Accidents) and cardiac arrests in this regard, but not fire-related deaths, although admits "there have been some close calls."

Gordy is pleased his wife Raechell is also a firefighter and has been one for about eleven years. "I've been lucky to have a wife involved because with the bad call-outs you can talk and get it out of your system and move on."

Gordy works as a forklift operator at Fonterra in Hawera. For relaxation he enjoys time on his boat and some fishing.

However, above all, he remains proud of spending time to help the communities as a firefighter. "I have just got a lot of satisfaction out of serving two great communities." He adds, "I've had really good support from my family. That's a big part of being in the fire service."



Gordy Wells (left) receives his Life Membership award from Kent Helms Deputy CFO of Rahotu Volunteer Fire Brigade on June 21 at their AGM.

Call Crimestoppers

Opunake area has been subject to a number of rural burglaries in the past month. Two motor cross bikes were taken from Kina Road addresses in separate incidents as pictured below. Two quad bikes were also taken from a

golf club earlier this month; one was a 300cc Honda Big Red and the other a 2015 Yamaha YFM350FAF.

If you have any information regarding these bikes please contact the non-emergency phone line 105 or go to your

local station.

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

Our next issue is out on Thursday July 18. We need advertisements and editorial by Monday 15 at the very latest.

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COASTAL COPS

Kia Ora people of South Taranaki,

Welcome to another edition as we slowly move through winter. As you may have noticed the Opunake Police station received a new roof late in 2018 and it has just been repainted, so is looking pretty nice at the moment.

It's been cold and wet lately and driving conditions have not been the best, but we have still been catching people travelling well over the posted speed limits

out on State Highway 45. Recently I apprehended a female traveling at over 140 km/h while disqualified from driving and having an alcohol reading over three times the legal limit. There were three other people in the vehicle at the time. The driver told me she drove as she was the most sober!

Remember to wear your safety belts, don't drive impaired, don't use mobile phones while driving, drive at or below the posted

speed limits and drive to the conditions in order to stay safe on our roads.

Some of you may have seen the new phone number for **NON URGENT** matters launched by the *New Zealand Police* recently. The number is **105** (Said as TEN-FIVE) and can be used to report the following: Theft in a public place, Theft from a car, Intentional property damage, Shoplifting, Lost property, or you can get an update on a report already made or add

to an existing report. This is not an exhaustive list so please use common sense. If there is an urgent need for Police where there is risk to life or property then please phone 111.

There's been a several burglaries lately particularly on rural farms, farm sheds and houses. Who are these offenders? They are taking expensive items which will be to on-sold to pay their drug debts. We need your help. If you know what's

going on, who these people are or have been offered some stolen property, then phone the Police on 111. If the crime is happening or has just happened or on **105** if it's historic or Crime Stoppers on 08000-555 111. Crime Stoppers is completely anonymous, in case if you are worried about any repercussions from the information you provide.

To deter thieves please lock your houses, sheds and garages. Lock your cars, 4x4, Utes, motorbikes and quad bikes. When I drive around in the evening I see garages open, motorbikes sitting outside and farm sheds open. This is an open invitation for these thieves to come onto your properties and help themselves. Have you considered putting in some exterior sensor lights, CCTV or an alarm system? The more difficult you can make it to deter thieves the safer your property will be.

As some of you are aware Police Officers have

personally issued iPhones which we use as part of our job. They have several different uses and of course you can phone or text us. If you have our numbers and you want to talk to us for a follow up call or to make an enquiry then that is fine. But please do not phone or text us when you should be using the 111 emergency system. We don't work 24/7 so if you phone or text us we may be off duty so we won't always have access to our phones and can't return your calls.

If you are unsure then phone 111. You can then let the Police Communications Centre Call-Taker make the decision as to where to send your call and what priority they will give it in relation to what you are reporting.

Well that it about it from me. Stay safe and remember spring is only 2 months away. Nga Mihi,

Senior Constable Bryce Allison, Opunake Police.

Bikes stolen

The Opunake area has been subject to a number of rural burglaries in the past month. Two motor cross bikes were taken from Kina Road addresses in separate incidents (pictured below). Two quad bikes were also taken from a golf club earlier this month, a 300cc Honda Big Red and a 2015 Yamaha YFM350FAF.

If you have any information regarding these bikes please contact the non-emergency phone line 105 or go to your local station.

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

*Carly Tairaoa
Prevention Officer
Hawera Police*



Keep an eye out for these stolen bikes.

New citizens

Rachel Barrett and her two sons Arron and Joshua became New Zealand citizens last week.

Rachel and her sons moved to New Zealand when the boys were eight and six. Arron is serving an apprenticeship under Steve Corkill in Opunake and Joshua is a prefect at Opunake High School.

Joshua was recently asked

to represent a team of Secondary school students who questioned the Prime Minister about the future, especially around "Transition 2050" held in New Plymouth.

Grandparents Mike and Colleen Smit made the journey despite Colleen's recent spell of ill health. Steven Barrett also made the trip down to share this time with his sons.



Mayor Ross Dunlop celebrates with our new New Zealand citizens.

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Try adding up all the taxes

The number of taxes this Government is heaping onto Kiwis flies in the face of its claim to be the most kind and caring yet.

increase the wellbeing of an average family.

New Zealand households will be \$1,750 a year worse off on average, just because of the taxes being piled on.

When you add up all of the new taxes, and take into consideration the cancelled tax relief, Kiwi families are looking at \$7,000 out of their pockets over four years. That does nothing to

The Government has increased fuel taxes three times since it came into power, it's added on a regional fuel tax in Auckland, introduced ring fencing of losses on rental



JONATHAN YOUNG MP
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

planned tax cuts. Our tax cuts would have removed some of the burden Kiwis are now facing, and meant they had a bit more in their wallets at the end of the week.

The economy is continuing to weaken because of this Government's poor policy decisions. But it's a strong economy that pays for wellbeing. A weaker economy means the Government has less for health, education and infrastructure.

Electricity prices will rise as a result of the Government's renewable electricity policy, Kiwis could have to pay an extra \$300 a year to heat

their home. This is going to hit low income households and vulnerable families in poor quality housing, the ones who are least able to afford this increase. This is just as we start to hit the worst of winter.

Despite the evidence showing this is exactly what Kiwi families are facing this winter, the Government continues to forge ahead with this policy.

It is very clear that New Zealanders cannot afford this Government.

The Government is taking more and money, but isn't spending it wisely. Taxpayers are forking out more than \$2 billion for

fees-free, which has resulted in fewer students, \$3 billion for Shane Jones' slush fund, and \$2 billion on KiwiBuild.

National has announced we will index tax thresholds to the cost of living. This means income taxes would be adjusted every three years in line with the cost of living.

The Government clearly doesn't have New Zealanders' wellbeing at heart given the number of taxes it is piling on. New Zealanders work hard to get ahead, and they deserve to keep more of what they earn.

Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth

properties, Amazon Tax, GST on overseas roaming, extended the bright-line test and increased Worksafe levies.

All this, and the Government cancelled the previous National Government's

Delivering certainty for Community Law Centres

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Justice Minister Andrew Little have announced last year's significant increase to Community Law Centres' funding has been made permanent in the Wellbeing Budget. This was the first increase since the previous National Government froze core funding seven years ago.

"Community Law Centres play a vital role in ensuring access to justice for all New Zealanders, and especially for people on low incomes. That's why the Wellbeing



ANDREW LITTLE MP

Budget secures the future of Community Law Centres'," Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said.

"Demand for Community Law Centres' services has

been growing. The 24 centres and their lawyers provide outreach from 120 locations, complete up to 50,000 cases each year, and provide law-related education to around 25,000 people annually," Justice Minister Andrew Little said.

"These services are crucial to ensuring New Zealanders receive what they are legally entitled to, and that their legal rights are upheld.

"The Labour-New Zealand First Coalition Agreement committed to increased funding for Community Law Centres, and this is the

second year in a row where we have delivered on that commitment," Andrew Little said.

Last year the Coalition Government boosted core Community Law Centres funding by \$2.2 million - a 20% increase.

The latest announcement locks in further funding of \$8.72 million over the next four years, bringing the total annual funding to Community Law Centres to \$13.26 million.

On this month in history Sir Apirana Ngata dies

On July 14, 1950 Sir Apirana Ngata died in Waiomatatira aged 76. He was a university graduate (Ernest Rutherford was a fellow student at Canterbury

University), lawyer, activist and parliamentarian.

Initially, he advocated the Europeanisation of the Maori race, but after he became an Member of Parliament

and Cabinet Minister he sought to preserve the Maori language, traditions and culture.

He was one of the founders of the Young Maori Party

- along with Sir Peter Buck, Maui Pomare (the first Maori physician) and Frederick Bennett who was a clergyman.

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Kindergarten for under twos opens in Okato

A new kindergarten for children up to the age of two will soon open at Stepping Stones in Okato.

Rev Albie Martin, who officially blessed the kindergarten, charmingly involved the “innocent” children as he sprinkled water into each of the rooms inviting the young children to do likewise.

“If we go on a strange marae we watch the children and as they play together oblivious to protocol,” said Rev Albie stating that it boded well for a peaceful, safe marae. “We learn a lot from our children,” he said noting their freedom of self-expression with the sprinkling of the water. “It’s the children that have led us through this new beginning.”

He then lead the group of parents and others in The Lord’s Prayer ending with a plea for love and the



Reverend Albie Martin with young children before the blessing.

fellowship of one another to be with us now and forever more.

The brand new kindergarten

is part of Stepping Stones founded in the former Stoney River Hotel is a 3 bedroom stand-alone building.

Commented owners, Peter and Anne Davis, whose late daughter Sarah McGregor established Stepping Stones

seven years ago, at the time we felt that mothers should be at home with their under twos. “Times have changed,” said Anne - adding that there’s such a demand for under twos. “Often mothers have to go back to work,” she continued, adding she hoped the kindergarten would be a second home for young children.

A tribute to Sarah, who sadly passed away in 2017, paid homage to the trained early childhood teacher who also had a degree in Food Technology.

The kindergarten will be staffed by Maria Terrill, an early childhood teacher and Amy Barron, also an early childhood teacher.

Anne and Peter’s daughter Katie, who is currently doing a post graduate diploma in early childhood education, will also be involved in the future.

The new building has two bedrooms equipped with beds, an office, a kitchen and general playroom.

Afterwards those gathered enjoyed refreshments as the young children enjoyed themselves with the play equipment, which included a sand pit and some interesting mud pies in the making.

“We want to thank everyone who have had such input into it and acknowledge the husbands who have been very involved in the new project,” said Anne. She also said she would like to acknowledge her husband Peter who was unable to be there as he is currently “in plaster” and said she was grateful for his assistance.

The new kindergarten, which will be officially opened on July 15, is open to new entrants at the beginning of term 3.

Donation put to good use

It was smiles all around for the OMV J Team who met Opunake Primary School teacher, Cherie Hill.

Mrs Lorraine Williamson, an inspirational principal of this school, greeted the visitors. This occasion took place on Monday June 24, 2019.

OMV donated a generous sum of approximately \$572 to CAG member, Mrs Kathryn Stanley who gladly forwarded this to the Opunake Primary School.

The money was put to good use when Cherie Hill chose colourful computer mats and outsize “mice”. These are used to teach the young pupils how to upskill their computer learning.

Georgia Fisher and Mike O’Donnell were delighted with the newly finished “Club Village.”

This innovative project is like a number of outdoor classrooms. It features wooden houses which have been designed to suit the



Photographed visiting the Opunake Primary School are OMV visitors Georgia Fisher and Mike O’Donnell. They are with the teacher Cherie Hill (left) who created much of this project.

height of the young pupils. The Maori cultural house is outstanding with its traditional designs.

“Awesome” and “really educational” were words of high praise the OMV visitors gave.

Congratulations to everyone involved.

Kathy Stanley

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Mac Sole Episode 8

During a visit to Canada I visited The Chateau on Lake Louise. It is a lovely multi-storey tourist Chateau – a great place to visit. In another location I caught a bus from Vancouver to Seattle. At the border as number of gentlemen with guns rushed onto the bus, grabbed a fellow, took a gun from this person and

rushed him off the bus. It all happened so fast I hardly had time to think. It was good to know it was not me they wanted.

Thinking back, Alcatraz was one of the highlights of my USA trips plus I was always happy. On one trip I took Troy my grandson while visiting USA, Hawaii and Mexico.

While travelling in China I visited the home of Dr Sun Yat-Sen (1867 – 1925) the Chinese statesman and ‘surprise’ a Christian. He



Dr Sun Yat Sen (1867 - 1925).

proclaimed his three Peoples Principles:

“We devote ourselves to the salvation of our country with one heart and one mind. We can certainly turn China from weakness to strength and from poverty to richness. She will then keep up with the Big Powers in the world today.”

This speech was made by Sun Yat-Sen in Guangzhou on May 30, 1924. How prophetic. There was a birth of national importance exactly to the day 10 years

later at Fraser Road, Hawera. I can read Chinese because of my Fraser Road Primary School education.

Although I will not divulge the association I had with Sir Robert Muldoon, He always posted his books signed and included a note to me. The first one to me was when I was a manager at the Charles Hotel, Sydney in about 1978 or 1979. I also received Christmas cards every year, at times with family photos which I still have.

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Food poisoning associated with the consumption of raw mussels

New Zealand Food Safety is urging people to ensure they cook raw mussels thoroughly after an increase in cases of food poisoning associated with commercially grown New Zealand mussels.

Over the past six weeks, there has been an increase in cases of people with food poisoning caused by Vibrio parahaemolyticus.

Vibrio parahaemolyticus is a marine microorganism that occurs naturally throughout the world. Not all Vibrio parahaemolyticus strains cause illness in humans and surveys to date of New Zealand shellfish have found very low levels and incidence of disease-causing strains.

However, some strains do cause illness in

humans. Symptoms are predominantly stomach cramps and watery diarrhoea and sometimes nausea, vomiting and fever. Generally people who are sick recover without hospital treatment, however in severe cases hospitalisation is required.

New Zealand Food Safety’s Director of Food Regulation Paul Dansted says the majority of people, who have become sick, have bought commercially grown New Zealand mussels harvested from a single growing area in the Coromandel and these were eaten raw or partially cooked. This growing area has been closed by New Zealand Food Safety while further investigations continue.

“Additional testing is being

done to confirm the type of Vibrio parahaemolyticus that has caused this illness. It is possible that the strain of Vibrio parahaemolyticus is unusually aggressive which may mean that even low numbers could cause illness.

“Additional testing of mussels and the waters that they are being grown in is also underway to help us understand why this has happened.

“The mussels at the centre of the outbreak were all bought in their raw state, in the shell. They are not the mussels that can be bought in plastic pottles. Those mussels are cooked and marinated and are not affected.

“Until we have more information, New Zealand Food Safety is reminding people to take care when handling, preparing and consuming mussels.”

Cooking temperatures for mussels should be above

65 degrees celsius. This will ensure that any Vibrio parahaemolyticus that is present in mussels will be destroyed.

- Don’t eat raw or undercooked mussels or other shellfish. Cook them before eating.
- Always wash your hands with soap and water after handling raw shellfish.
- Avoid contaminating cooked shellfish with raw shellfish and its juices.

New Zealand Food Safety’s advice to consumers, who are pregnant or have low immunity, is to avoid eating raw shellfish.

For information on the cases of food poisoning caused by Vibrio parahaemolyticus, please contact media@moh.govt.nz

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Progressive Fencing constructs a strong quality fence in vicinity of intersection

The intersection of Ohangai and Turuturu Roads certainly has a different look this month. Steven Fowler CEO of Progressive Fencing has installed almost 200 metres of quality fencing on the adjacent land, behind which a number of lifestyle blocks will emerge. With work underway around the middle of June, about 150 posts were established and the railings added to complete the fencing. Steven reckons the project took about 150 hours.

Steven swears by his up-to-date quality post 'Revolution' rammer (180 rev). He's owned it for over ten years and said the original design won Tony White an award at the Mystery Creek Fieldays. The design has since been patented.

Although a couple of lifestyle blocks are already spoken for, another five are yet to be readied for sale. These blocks (when available) will range in size from 3208 m2 down to 2,400 m2.

Steven admits that the whole process wasn't



Steven Fowler of Progressive Fencing pictured with a section of sturdy, quality fencing he has constructed.

straightforward because he had to reckon with water pipes, electricity cables and computer cables in close proximity to contend with. "It was bloody complicated," he explains. However, he says, as he surveys his completed project, "I'm very satisfied."

He was pleased he had good quality materials to work with, such as treated timber (pine) posts from PGG Wrightsons (Hawera) and the railings from Stratford ITM, which are also treated pine. Also very helpful was Matthews Engineering, who

designed some useful fence clips.

Steven is a member of the fencing professional body (FCANZ) and takes great professional pride in completing projects to his client's satisfaction.

"I always have. If I ever get

it wrong, I fix it at no extra charge." He is concerned that there are many operators who do not adhere to his high standards. "There are so many cowboys out there," he laments.

Steven is happy to provide no obligation free quotes for any potential customer, as far south as Alton and as far north as New Plymouth, as well as Stratford and its environs. He is equally

prepared to work on hills or the flat, with farms a specialty (he is a former dairy farmer), as well as residential work. As well as fencing (agricultural or electric), he can build retaining walls and prepare shelter belts to the specifications of his clients.

You can contact Steven of Progressive Fencing on 021 298 5106 or 06 278 5949.

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Steven Fowler has every reason to smile as this fencing is very sturdy and constructed of quality timber.

LEFT: Steven Fowler is justifiably proud of his solid fencing. This latest project is adjacent to the intersection of Ohangai and Turuturu Roads. Lifestyle blocks will eventually be on offer at this location.

Pleased to have been involved with Progressive Fencing in their project

MATTHEWS ENGINEERING
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Huatoki Plaza to go green

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) is to give the Huatoki Plaza a green makeover in the first step towards creating a sustainable and more welcoming CBD.

The move follows the two mayoral forums, the CBD 2050 Forum in October last year and the CBD 2050 Summit in May, when stakeholders met to discuss the city centre's future.

Out will go much of the concrete on the top level of the plaza and the tarmac in James Lane. In will come lawn and native plants such as nikau to soften the

concrete edges and help filter the breeze through the plaza.

Other changes include: new seats with USB charging ports, new lighting in the plaza and James Lane, a pathway connecting Devon and Ariki Streets, and removing the big yellow roof that currently forms a wind tunnel through the plaza. NPDC intends to reuse it at The Junction, the community's Zero Waste centre that is being developed on Colson Road.

NPDC is also working with the owners of buildings next to James Lane about opening into the laneway and creating

more vibrancy.

"Imagine coming to meet friends for lunch or sit and have a coffee in a green space bang in the middle of town. Our community has told us they want a CBD that welcomes families and puts pedestrians first, a place people want to visit and hang out," said NPDC regulatory solutions manager Katrina Brunton.

"The CBD is the business centre of our district as well as the cultural and social hub. We all have a stake in success. NPDC is listening to our community and we'll be working together for its sustainable future."

PLEASED TO HAVE PROVIDED THE TIMBER FOR PROGRESSIVE FENCING'S PROJECT

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Through collaboration, our learners will thrive.

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Through collaboration, our learners will thrive

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YOUR SCHOOL OF CHOICE FOR A SEAMLESS EDUCATION

Coastal Taranaki School is a vibrant area school situated in Okato, only thirty kilometers from Taranaki's main city New Plymouth. The school caters for students from Years 0–13 (5 to 18 years old) and offers a variety of learning experiences alongside the core subjects required by the New Zealand government.

PUANGA / MATARIKI PANCAKE BREAKFAST



Students and families joined to celebrate Puanga/Matariki (Māori New Year) on the morning of Friday 21st June, while it was still dark everyone came together to see the stars and hear about the story of Matariki and Puanga. We also heard about the schools re-erected door panels, designed to signify Kotahitanga – unity of all people, color and race. All people who walk under the pou pou (panels) are welcome in peace. Following the Karakia, welcome and the story of Matariki, everyone enjoyed the lighting of lanterns and then a pancake breakfast.

Thanks to all the families and staff who arrived early and pitched in to make the event successful.

NYLD - NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

In May a group of primary and intermediate students travelled to Palmerston North to attend the National Young Leaders Day conference. NYLD is a leadership conference which is held annually to inspire our future leaders.

Motivational speakers from all aspects and walks of life from cultural, professional, medical and entertainment backgrounds told their stories of leadership to a sold out audience of future leaders. Students were extra excited about the closing speaker and musical performance by the artist KINGS.

The theme of this years event was
HE AHA TE KAI A TE RANGATIRA? HE KŌRERO, HE KŌRERO, HE KŌRERO

What is the food of a leader? It is conversations. Leadership is not about being the most popular or having the loudest voices, it's about being someone who takes the time to listen to and learn from others. When we kōrero we listen, when we kōrero we learn, and when we kōrero we can lead.



PARIHAKA

Students went to visit Parihaka to learn about its history and significance in our community. This falls within our Community-Tūrangawaewae (sense of belonging) inquiry. The big idea is: History starts locally, exploring the features of the land of hapū and iwi, tupuna, stories, protocols, and taonga.

The students enjoyed their visit and were able to relate what they had learned previously during Puna Wharehoka's visit which also included the Parihaka movie.

We would like to thank Parihaka for their manaakitanga (hospitality and kindness).



Farmlands opening real estate branches

Farmlands looking to open real estate branches around Taranaki and are looking for people to join them says Paddy Bolger who is Branch manager of the newly established Farmlands Real Estate.

Based in Bell Block in New Plymouth at Farmlands, Paddy says they will focus more on farms and lifestyle properties though will also sell houses.

Paddy who grew up in Rahotu has been selling real estate for 42 years.

Paddy says he's hoping to establish five branches in Taranaki, with two people in New Plymouth, one in Hawera, one in Stratford and one in Opunake and is on the hunt for suitable people to join him in the new venture.

"We have just appointed Mark Nicholas in Hawera but are still looking for people in Stratford, New Plymouth and Opunake."

Farmlands is a co-operative with 4400 clients in Taranaki explains Paddy. Roughly a quarter of their clients are sheep and beef farmers, a quarter dairy farmers, a quarter lifestyle and a quarter other farming enterprises like horses or bee keeping.

For Paddy farming is very much in his blood.

His first job was milking his neighbour's cows when they lived on Kahui Road Rahotu. Their name was Dawson and "Their son was in the war," recalls Paddy. He was just nine and earned a pound a week. "The Dawsons were very early settlers in the region. Also the Flemings," he says adding he was contacted recently by a Quintin Green who was doing a book on the region keen to get information about the early pioneers.

It was a walk through shed with 40 cows to milk. They



Paddy Bolger, 42 years selling real estate and Branch Manager of Farmlands Real Estate Taranaki.

had pigs too, he recalls.

Paddy went on to own three farms in Kahui Road. He sold the one they were living on intending to buy a farm in the Waikato. Struggling to sell the second farm, he was advised by agents to "go and do real estate and get yourself a good farm." He never did get to buy another farm but instead selling farms became a new career. He started out working for a company called Hodder & Tolley, similar to Farmlands. He reckons he's sold in excess of 2000 properties over the years and the odd residential house. He is still a man of the land at heart, he insists.

Having grown up on farms, Paddy says "I know the value of them," and keeps up to date looking at farm sales. He likes working with farmers who he finds "down to earth people - rail, hail or shine they're on the job." He also enjoys lifestyle

people who he says are often "fulfilling dreams".

He says he's got all the statistics relating to what a property's worth. "You will generally get what its worth," he says though acknowledges that that can change from year to year.

"Good sheep and cattle units, they're selling quite freely". Dairy farms however have been quite slow. "Farmers have been semi depressed," of recent times he says. "Banks have tightened up - prices eased back." Foreign investors can't now buy sheep or dairy farms". Paddy adds, there used to be a big trend with equity partnerships but not so much now.

"I don't believe anyone could buy a farm cheaper than they can at the present time but I believe they'll go up again," says Paddy. The world needs food, he says adding that Fonterra's shares dropped but that "Fonterra's

coming right under the new management". He's predicting a \$7 pay out next year.

And the advantage of using a real estate agent when selling property?

Paddy says we have the sales stats on all the sales and can give you a very accurate price range. "GV is a rateable valuation, set for rateable purposes only."

In terms of pricing a property, you don't price it so the first person buys it. "Price it at a price that a person who likes it will buy it," says Paddy.

He has an amusing tale of selling his own house to a person who was in a hurry to catch a plane and didn't have time to look through the house. He advised the woman to just drive up the driveway and decide if she wanted it. She did. "First impressions are so important."

Another story is of a lawyer who liked a house Paddy had just bought. The lawyer asked him to buy a similar house sight unseen for him which Paddy did. The lawyer was very happy with his choice.



Mark Nicholas will staff the Hawera real estate branch of Farmlands.

When he's not working Paddy's ten grandchildren keep him fit he says. Paddy can be contacted

at 027 434 4464 or at home 06 757 2018 or by email on paddy.bolger@farmlands.co.nz

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Welcome

Farmlands Real Estate

Farmlands Real Estate has appointed Paddy Bolger to their Bell Block Branch and Mark Nicholas to their Hawera Branch.

Paddy has 42 years experience and has sold over 2,000 properties New Zealand wide. He leads the team as Branch Manager.

Mark is primarily associated with the Hawera branch over South Taranaki and Whanganui. The Nicholas family have farmed in Hawera since 1874 and he has extensive business and community involvements over the past 40 years throughout the regions.

Together, Paddy and Mark will specialise in rural and lifestyle property and will cater to residential clients as well.

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Farmlands Real Estate are also seeking sales people who are looking for a change or are considering a career in real estate. Call Paddy for a confidential discussion if you're interested in learning more.

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OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Celebrating cultural success and

from the Principals desk...

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

We are now at the end of Term 2. It has been another action-packed term with students taking advantage of the diverse and eclectic opportunities available to them. We are constantly looking at improving our lines of communication with students, whanau and the wider school community. The Opunake High School app will enable you to get information from the school as soon as it is available, the app is available to download from the school website to your mobile phone.

Hosting the Nga Manu Korero competition and the Pae Rangatahi competitions last week was a highlight of our Term. The Nga Manu Korero competition shows the future speakers of our region are confident and able to articulate their thoughts clearly. Thomas Tito-Green represented Opunake High School and was warmly received. He showed mana and poise while delivering his speech. The Pae Rangatahi competition is a kapahaka showcase with secondary school kapahaka groups presenting their brackets to the community. The competition was a resounding success drawing large numbers of people into Opunake from throughout the region to watch and judge our future kapahaka leaders. A big thank you to Matua Rangiroa, Matua Louie, Whaea Robyn and Whaea Vicki for their amazing energy in organising the events.

The MADD showcase (Music, Art, Dance & Drama) demonstrates that our students continue to raise their level of skill and talent. It is amazing to see students passionate with their artistic pursuits. A big thank you to Mrs Dingle, Mr Bedford and Mrs Watson for all of their hard work in organising the showcase and also thank you to the community for supporting our school.

Finally, it is with sadness that we farewell Lyn Collins from Opunake High School. After 19 years of outstanding service, Lyn is retiring to spend more time with whanau. We wish Lyn all the very best in her next ventures and she will be missed by students, staff and the wider school community.



If you have any questions, concerns or feedback do not hesitate to get in touch.

Noho ora mai ano
Peter O'Leary - Principal

OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL 2019 MADD SHOWCASE



Drama) growing from a vision to provide an opportunity for students to perform in a professional setting, where they learn to prepare and develop the level of commitment required in all areas of performance.

Our MC's - Ariana Dingle and Meg Gibson got us underway promising a big night of entertainment. Both girls performed this role with confidence and poise, well done girls.

The night started with a guitar group playing a Spanish piece - *Maleguena*, with costumes to add to the flair. The group included Sinead Heaps, Rueben Kuriger, Josh Allen, Dan Marks and myself.

Following is a list of performers and their item:

Sam McNeil & Madeline Symes performing two quality songs by Creedence Clearwater Revival and Hozier.

Ariana Dingle, solo, *Memory* from the musical, *Cats*.

Te Arikini Herewini sparkled with her ukulele and smile performing *Japanese Denim*.

Jaunte Churchill, Teague Mullin, Willow Wright and Seneth Serensinhe performing *Boys will be Bugs*.

Elizabeth Anderson-Gardiner & Ella Griggs, a lyrical dance duet, choreographed by themselves.

Sykonea Bishop & Joseph Masters-Peita, duet performing *Say Something*.

Bethamie Abad & Shyla Tocino performed two Filipino duets.

Sam McNeil, rocking Elton John glasses, and Ariana performed *Love of my Life*

An outstanding and highly entertaining night of music and dance is the only way to describe MADD Showcase 2019.

Showcase is a community event, combining the talent from the four academies that make up MADD (Music, Artist Toolbox, Dance &

35 Below were the last act before intermission and were just incredible with their stage presence and music to lift the show.

After the break, we bid farewell to our long serving music tutor Dan Marks and together with his replacement Derin Thompson, they performed an original. Madeline Symes performed an ABBA classic, followed by Lorin Symons, accompanied by her brother and former student Jacob.

Rounding out the evening were our two bands, first up, The Jet Set, looking stunning in formal attire. Consisting of Kobyin Baldwin (drums), Johann Guttenbeil-Smith (keys), Richard Hewitt (bass), Declan Mullin and Rueben Kuriger (guitars) and Michael McCarty with lead vocals and an outstanding air guitar solo during their song *Muffin Man*.

The last act for the night was Nemesis (Richard, Johann, Sam & Ariana), this quartet competed at Rockquest placing fourth, treating us to their original number - a tight polished act.

Thank you to all our amazing performers, and we would also like to acknowledge the following groups and people:

TSH Audio and Video for graciously supplying our sound equipment, taking the show to a new level.

Kim Gatenby and our Eyes of Enterprise leadership group in the kitchen, serving the VIP's, door and kitchen duties and cleaning up.

Kereama Ryland, our dance tutor for his efforts with 35 Below.

Rachel Taylor, Megan Symons, Dawn Colless, Aileen Watson and Noelene Joyce as staff running the Art, Dance & Hospitality academies accordingly. Hospitality students supplied the exquisite finger food for the VIP section.

A special mention of the Wright family for transporting gear until very late and Harry James the following day.

Soul Kitchen for their delicious food served in the foyer.

We are already excited about next year's event and hope to see you all there. Thank you to the community for your support.

Andrea Dingle



HIDDEN TALENT

Showcase was a blast this year! It has been great to see so much talent on show for the Opunake community to enjoy.

Our MAD Academy (Music, Art and Dance) has worked very hard for the show to be such the success it was.

Showcase in 2016 when I was in Year 10. Since then it has grown to be a big event in the Opunake

community and I hope that such an event will continue to do so.

Showcase is a great opportunity for students to not only show their talent but express who they are as a person. For me it helped me show my talent in acting and drama that otherwise would have been kept under wraps. If you have a hidden talent I strongly suggest you get stuck into Opunake High's Showcase!

A big thank you should go to Mr Bedford, Mrs Dingle, Miss Colless, Dan & Derin, the parents and caregivers who provided transport for performers and their equipment and the students and volunteers who helped cater for the event. Your time and effort put into this event is very much appreciated!

Michael McCarty



To Download our app: Go to the App Store on your Apple or Play Store on your Android device and search 'SchoolAppsNZ'. Open the application and then search for 'Opunake High School' to find us.

GROWING GOOD PEOPLE FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT OPUNAKE HIGH?

Term 2 was busy and Term 3 is pretty action-packed as well, here are some key dates:

- Wanganui City College Exchange - July 31st
- Senior History Trip - Aug. 5th & 6th
- Snow Camp - Aug. 13th - 16th
- Kuranui Sports Exchange - Aug. 14th & 15th
- Pop Up Globe Trip - Sept. 12th

- Year 9 Enrolments for 2020 - Aug. 5th - 14th
- Winter Tournament Week - Sept. 2nd - 6th
- Benchmark Exams - Sept. 9th - 13th
- Year 13 REC Tramp - Sept. 18th - 20th

OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL | CONTACT DETAILS

P: 06 761 8723
Tasman Street, Opunake 4616
www.opunake.school.nz

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SPECIAL EDITION

outstanding rangatahi



ART EXHIBITION

As part of the MADD Showcase, the students who make up the Artist Toolbox exhibited art projects that they had been working on since the beginning of the year.

Students found inspiration from a variety of different sources, artists, styles and media. There was photography, watercolour, paint, canvas and glow-in-the-dark to name a few.

Students were able to explore the art world in a way that excited them, and subsequently, create individual pieces that they were all very proud to present to the public.

Some students decided to make their pieces available for purchase on the night and several were successful in finding buyers for their art. They were all very proud of what they accomplished.

For most, it was the first experience they had at exhibiting their art works. Being able to talk about what they had created with others was inspiring for many. The fire of creativity has definitely been sparked for our artists in the Art Toolbox at Opunake High School.

Rachel Taylor



Saisha Padayachi and Chloe Terrill with Dame Fiona Kidman

LITERARY EXCELLENCE

On the 10th and 13th of June the annual Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Writers Workshops were held in our Library with judges giving their time to come and talk to our students and visitors from Spotswood College, Girls' High and Boys' High. This years judges are Matt Rilko, researcher and Editor of the Taranaki Daily news, New Zealand Poet James Brown and Author Dame Fiona Kidman.

They each spent an hour and a half discussing their respective subjects, answering questions and offering advice for our budding researchers, authors and poets.

Fiona donated her latest signed novel The Mortal Boy and also signed the few copies that we have in the Library.

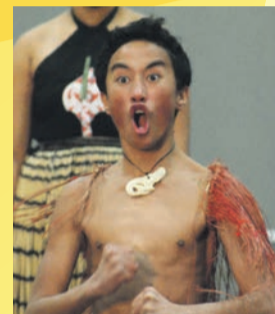
Thank you to all students for their participation over the two days, especially the judges and teachers from NPGHS, NPBHS and Spotswood. Also a big thanks to Pamela and Tyla from South Taranaki District Library for driving our speakers around and allowing us to host this event. A special thanks to Lexi and Sinead for thanking our guest judges and visitors. Comments from students were that the writers workshops were very helpful.

NGA MANU KORERO & PAE RANGATAHI

Opunake High School, together with Sandfords Event Centre was privileged to host the 2019 Nga Manu Korero and Pae Rangatahi speech and kapa haka regional competitions at the end of June.

For our rangatahi this was a fantastic opportunity to stand in front of their peers and represent their culture. For Thomas Tito-Green, his opportunity to speak in the junior section was the culmination of several months preparation (Tom's account is to the right). In the Pae Rangatahi section, the members of our own Te RooPu Kapa haka o Te Haumoana joined with students from Stratford High as one group - Te Puku ki Tai, unfortunately, illness in the week leading up to the competition left us light on numbers, however those who were able to perform delivered a mighty account of themselves, and should feel full of pride in their achievement.

The images below consist of Te Puku ki Tai and some of the more memorable kapa haka groups from Taranaki and Wanganui. For more images, check out the albums on our Facebook page.



A CHANGE FOR A BETTER FUTURE

"We have to teach them now and let them lead the way"

These words were spoken into life on-stage at the Nga Manu Korero Speech Competition, held at Sandford Events Centre on the 27th June, by Opunake High student, Thomas Tito.



Thomas, grandson of the late Paramount Chief for Taranaki George Tito and Mary Tito, says Nga Manu Korero was an opportunity for him to speak his truth of what he has seen or wants to see in our environment and country - in his own words from taking the time out of class, from the happy to slightly annoying practices it all paid off in the end.

"Even waiting for my name to be called in those few seconds just thinking about the journey I had tried to form the speech from an idea at Nga Manu Korero Nationals in Gisborne, until being on the stage to experience it first-hand."

"Special thanks to Marama Mohi, Leilani Leatherby, Keesha Craig and Waimirirangi Thomas-Wikaira who put up with me talking about the same thing over and over again and to my great inspirations my grandparents (George Te ara marama Tito and Mary Merekingi (nee Davey) Tito this was an opportunity for me to carry on their legacy and to pay homage to all the work they have done for me."

"So let me finish off with a whakatauki that I finished my speech off -
E hoa ma, ina te ora o te tangata,
My friends, this is the essence of life"

Thomas Tito-Green

Thomas represented Opunake High School in the Sir Turi Carroll, Junior English section of Nga Manu Korero.

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



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Dune ecosystem at Sandy Bay is unique

By Mike Shaw

The blend of sand, sea and sky at Ngati Tara o Oaonui Sandy Bay Historic Reserve could be viewed as sparse, barren even. It's not. It harbours a unique South Taranaki coastal ecosystem that's alive and well - as is the effort that is going on, to keep it that way.

There's more life in Sandy Bay than you realise at first glance. Rare shore birds nest here among the driftwood and dunes, at-risk gecko species breed in the reserve flaxes, and a chronically threatened day-flying moth makes its home in one of the reserve's low-growing coastal plants. The reserve also contains historic sites that are culturally treasured by Taranaki iwi and the local Ngati Tara Hapu.

The health and vitality of the more than 35 hectares of dune and beach environment at Tai Road, Oaonui, is due to a combination of community, council and corporate efforts, which will be emphasised during the annual planting programmes in June and July. More than 30 volunteers are expected to be involved in planting sand-dune-binding and habitat-enhancing plant species.

The Ngati Tara o Oaonui



Sandy Bay dunes and a dotterel. Mount Taranaki is in the background.

Sandy Bay Conservation Society organisers welcome any extra interest or offer of assistance, from the upcoming planting programmes to herb-field weeding and ongoing predator-trapping efforts.

Nurturing life here among the sand dunes, especially the rare shore birds that call Sandy Bay home, is vital, according to society treasurer Cynthia Mooney

and Taranaki Regional Council education officer and Dotterel Defender, Dr Emily Roberts. Without protection and encouragement, the birds will lose their nesting grounds and Taranaki's biodiversity will be the poorer for it.

Society members are justifiably proud that, this past 2019 summer, three fledged northern New Zealand Dotterel and two

Variable Oystercatcher chicks survived, Cynthia says. "That's an outstanding result. We are inwardly humming."

Both Northern New Zealand Dotterel and Variable Oystercatchers breed at Sandy Bay, says Emily. Banded Dotterel also visit Sandy Bay after breeding season and can be seen in large flocks of up to 100 birds.

"Large numbers of white-fronted tern, up to 150, can often be seen feeding out to sea and resting on the beach on a nice sunny day. The mums come in to feed the juveniles fish; it's an amazing sight to see."

Emily also monitors and photographs other feathered visitors that spend time at Sandy Bay, including the South Island Pied Oystercatcher and

Caspian Tern. There's even one Ruddy Turnstone, she adds, which comes in every summer. "They breed in the Arctic/sub-Arctic tundra and between 1000 and 3000 visit New Zealand during our summer."

Conservation and restoration began in the late 1970s, with sand stabilisation work after the pipeline linking the offshore Maui gas-condensate field and the Oaonui Production Station was laid through the reserve. In 2000, then field-manager Shell Todd Oil Services (now OMV) initiated a new Sandy Bay restoration project with funding and technical expertise. In 2002, the Taranaki Regional Council implemented a reserve management plan, which has been administered by the Department of Conservation.

That management responsibility is in the process of changing to local iwi in coming years.

The reserve is owned in part and administered by a group of organisations and individuals. They include South Taranaki District Council, DOC, and the neighbouring Whitehead and Johnston families. A portion of the land has been gifted to the QE II Trust.

Take care on the beach



By Mike Shaw

Planting is just one aspect of the care needed for the Sandy Bay reserve, says Cynthia.

Success of chick survival depends on human activities, as well as predator control.

While it is out of the way to a certain extent, people do use the beach and the sea. Not usually for swimming though, as it's quite rocky, with rips and rogue waves common.

There are surfers with boards and kites who relish the beach break along the predominantly rocky coastline, surfcasters who traverse the beach looking for a fresh-fish feed, and walkers who enjoy a break from suburbia.

Beach use though, can have an adverse impact on the ecosystem here.

In early years, dogs, bikes and vehicles had a disruptive and damaging effect on wildlife at Sandy Bay. That's been limited of late by increased STDC signage advising visitors that dogs are prohibited.

Bikes and vehicles are banned also. Awareness of the bylaws still has to be reinforced. There is a \$300 fine for taking a dog (leashed or unleashed) onto the beach reserve area.

If a dog injured a shorebird or damaged a nest, that penalty could rise to \$100,000 or jail time, if other conservation authorities are involved.

When people find that out,

they usually get off the beach pretty quickly, says Cynthia.

People themselves can unwittingly do damage, she adds. Kite surfers laying out their gear on the beach have to take special care they are not disturbing a Dotterel nest.

The removal of driftwood to build structures on the beach also vandalises the birds' nesting areas. "Shifting and stacking of stones or rocks in this culturally and historically sensitive area, is also vandalism."

A number of sites in the reserve are considered sacred and vulnerable by Ngati Tara Hapu, including at least one Urupa, but none are marked with headstones or signs.

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Taking care of predators

By Mike Shaw

Trapping of introduced predators is providing a safer setting for the endangered native residents. Ferrets, stoats, weasels, possums, hedgehogs, feral cats, rats and mice are all threats and, in the past couple of years, they have been targeted with a variety of more than 40 traps. Volunteers have caught hundreds of these predators in that time. The traps include DOC

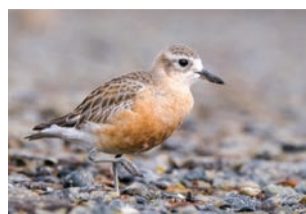
200 double and single set traps, SA feral traps and the Good Nature A24 rat and stoat self-setting traps. Both the TRC and OMV have helped by donating the GN traps for Sandy Bay. All are NAWAC-accredited.

Cynthia lives in the area and is one of a few volunteers who regularly check, clear and reset the traps. "I've always done predator control, wherever I have been, since I was a child."

Regular control at Cynthia's property, and the future aim of the society, is to encourage and include other neighbours and farmers to become more proactive with predator trapping. This will provide and extend the buffer zone, helping create a 'halo' so introduced predators don't get into the reserve. This year has been a 'mast' year with plentiful food supplies boosting predator populations, in all regions.

Sandy Bay's special native residents and plants

By Mike Shaw



Northern New Zealand dotterel - a diminutive wading bird that nests along the foreshore, with its habitat in the debris carried in by the tides. These dotterel, about the size of a plump blackbird, can be observed darting around on the sand. Their eggs can be confused with small stones, so care is needed when walking through the reserve.

Pairs can often be seen busily probing for shellfish along the beach.



Goldstripe gecko - this little beauty, found only in the North Island and an at-risk species, is a distinctive yellow-brown to olive with alternate light and dark stripes running the length of its back. Its belly is pale. It usually grows to 140mm from its nose to the tip of its tail. Flax is a particular habitat, although it can also be found in forest, scrub, farmland and urban gardens.

and north-west Nelson. It has distinctive orange-and-black striped wings with a span of just 20-26mm. It is restricted to coastal herb-field habitats where its host plant, *Pimelea carnos* grows.



Pimelea carnos - a low-growing, sprawling coastal plant that grows well along the cliff top at the most southern end of Sandy Bay. It is a specific food for the Notoreas moth caterpillar, similar to the swan plant needed by Monarch butterflies. Like herb fields along the coast, it is under threat from trampling, grazing, erosion and invasion by exotic weeds and pasture grasses. DOC and volunteers undertake meticulous hand weeding at each site and work with Bill Clarkson and Moturoa School who grow *Pimelea carnos* to be planted out later.



Variable oystercatcher - a larger, solidly built shorebird with black plumage above and underparts that range from black through mottled to white. It is distinctive with its long bright-orange bill and coral-pink legs and is very vocal when alarmed.



Notoreas 'Taranaki Coast' - this is a small day-flying moth that is only found in New Zealand and in just a few coastal sites in Taranaki

Sand a moving surface



Planting of Sand Binders at Sandy Bay in June 2019.

By Mike Shaw

The Sandy Bay reserve is far from static, Cynthia emphasises. It's a dynamic system that changes regularly, with sand moving all the time as weather and winds take effect.

"It's a key native ecosystem and a significant sand dune system in the Taranaki region. It's not just the sand-dune surface that moves."

That's why planting is important, to stabilise sand movement and enhance the environment for the creatures living here. Early programmes put in marram grass to control the sand but

that was found to be less than effective and not endemic to the area. Sand-binding plants such as Spinifex and Pingao are now preferred and more successful. Harakeke (flax), Coprosma Taupata and Repens, toe toe and cabbage trees are also planted in the back dunes.


On a fine day, the beach and dunes can be a warm, peaceful and serene setting. Add weather to the picture and the moving sand can create a hostile environment. "At times, I've wanted a camel to get me through the dunes," Cynthia jokes. "You need goggles and a bandana for the sand in your face."

A walk in such conditions might be a cheap option for a face peel.

Beach cleaning is another necessary maintenance activity, prior to the shorebird nesting season from August to March. This year on Sunday, June 9, and in recognition of World Oceans Day, 18 volunteers helped collect, sort and weigh 23 kilos of rubbish from the nesting/beach areas at Sandy Bay. Thousands of pieces of plastics and vast quantities of rope, fishing net and lines, which are lethal to both shorebird and marine life, was removed.

Supporting and protecting Sandy Bay's environment

Ngati Tara o Oaonui Sandy Bay Conservation Society Inc.
 OMV - new owners of the Maui Production Plant, following Shell Todd Oil Services which kick-started the Sandy Bay Restoration Project in 2000 with funding and technical expertise.
 Taranaki Regional Council - implemented a reserve management plan in 2002.
 Department of Conservation - Biodiversity ranger Jo Carson actively manages a number of coastal *Pimelea* herb field sites, including a portion at Sandy Bay.
 DOC and TRC staff help with scrub-cutting tracks for volunteer trappers to access, within the reserve and for annual planting sites.
 Neighbouring landowners - Andy Whitehead (Society chairman) and Peter Johnston (Society president).
 Dotterel Defenders
 Wild for Taranaki
 Towards Predator Free 2050
 Volunteers within and outside the Oaonui community. Auroa School pupils Wyatt, 9, and sister Siobhan, 11, are stand-out examples. They often check traps for predators at Sandy Bay, along with grandparents Murray and Cindy Dobbin, who also support dune planting and events. Other conservation group members also often bring their children along to days when beach clean-ups are held at Sandy Bay.
 Schools in the region have also helped with dune planting over time. Digging plants in is easy and the students' energy and enthusiasm is always welcomed by the Society.
 Follow the society on Facebook: facebook.com/Ngati-Tara-Oaonui-Sandy-Bay-Conservation-Society-Incorporated-1757720147811464/
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Billion trees can work in with farming

Recently, there has been a lot of discussion around the One Billion Trees Programme – particularly in relation to farming and forestry.

Firstly, I think it's important to highlight that farming and forestry are not mutually exclusive, quite the opposite in fact.

Trees on farms can create wide benefits including diversifying income, improving land productivity, addressing environmental issues like erosion, water quality and climate change, increasing habitats for a range of native species and enhancing our natural landscapes. It will

also support New Zealand to move towards a low-emissions economy – which the government is committed to achieving.

With this in mind, the One Billion Trees Programme is aiming to plant between 230,000 and 430,000 hectares over the next ten years. If all this new planting occurred by integrating trees on farmland, that would equate to just over 3% of all farmland (currently 12.6 million hectares) across the country.

That does not suggest a major conversion of farms to forests, and that is not what we are aiming for.

We know how important farming is to our economy, and will continue to be. We do need to work together to address wider environmental issues and improve land-use to support a balance between volume and value and reinforce our reputation as a world leader in sustainable grown, low emissions, high value natural products.

That is why there is \$118 million in the One Billion Trees Fund supporting farmers to integrate trees on their land. This Fund is explicit in its approach – it does not subsidise whole farm conversion. Rather, it is supporting landowners – particularly farmers – to get

the best out of their land.

The One Billion Trees Fund has a target of planting two-thirds natives, a maximum hectare limit unless in exceptional circumstances, and higher payments for the most erodible land. To date, all of the grants approved are for planting projects under 140 hectares.

At the same time, it's important to note that land-use change is variable because it is primarily driven by the aspirations of individual landowners, sector innovation and market drivers.

Yes, we are seeing high log and carbon prices which means forestry is an attractive investment right now. This affords farmers the opportunity to turn unproductive land into an asset. This isn't new for many farmers though, with 1700 of the 2100 participants in the Emissions

Trading Scheme being farm foresters.

All this needs to be looked at in context; as markets change, so too does land-use. Take for instance the last decade or so where more forestry was converted to farmland at over 7000 hectares per year. Or the fact that the long term trend is a reduction in the total number of farms due to things like farm amalgamation and an ageing population.

Even so, we will continue to monitor changes to land-use and how market drivers are influencing this. Interestingly, statistics from REINZ suggest that there were 56 fewer farm sales for the 3 months ending April 2019, in comparison to the same period last year.

We will also continue to look at overseas investment as a result of streamlining this process. Currently though, this process has seen

just seven sales approved by the Overseas Investment Office. Four are sales of forests, and three involve farms, with a total of 2300ha of land to be planted and a further 1200ha to remain in current land-use.

At the end of the day, the government is committed to supporting communities to embrace the opportunities in front of us that have arisen from global and local drivers. Achieving our goals is an ongoing and evolving process and we all have an important role to play. That is why Te Uru Rakau is increasing its regional presence to build even closer relationships with landowners and ensure long term, sustainable land-use that supports our goals as a country.

The key takeaway here is – we have an opportunity to see farming and forestry work together to get the best outcomes for New Zealand.



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Digital Hub puts farmers in the know



The new digital hub gives farmers and rural operators an easy way to find the information they need.

Farmers, foresters and other land-based operators in Taranaki have a new digital tool to help them meet environmental requirements and expectations while still maintaining production targets.

The 'land and farm hub' (www.trc.govt.nz/farmhub) brings together information from a variety of sources.

The hub is hosted on the Taranaki Regional Council website, with links to the websites of an extensive range of other organisations as well as well as the

Council's own information and guidance.

The new digital portal covers a range of topics including: good farm practice, sector-based farm environmental plans and the region's own sustainability-focused farm and property plans, regulatory requirements for farmers and farm contractors, forestry operators, site-works contractors and others involved in land-based activities in Taranaki, and how rural landholders and others can do their bit to

protect and improve native biodiversity.

"We've developed this hub drawing on material developed by key players in the rural sector regionally and nationally," says the Council's Director-Operations, Stephen Hall.

"The majority of farmers and others working on the land understand they need to do the right thing, particularly from an environmental perspective.

"A lot of work has been done on these aspects right across the sector, and a lot of information and guidance is available," he says. "So the idea is to provide an easy way to hone in on the specific information you need rather than being bewildered by the sheer volume of material available."

Mr Hall says the hub aims to give farmers and others easy access to tools that help them to identify the environmental risks of their activities, and to address those risks.

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Sustainability Chronicles: Getting Technical

In the last two instalments of the Sustainability Chronicles we looked at how sustainability within a farming organisation can be developed by taking an Animal-Centred Approach. It's all well and good having an idea but the next question should be; how do we make it work? We have to embrace the technicality of the system and learn the science behind the Animal Centred Approach.

Take a professional rugby player for example. These men and women don't just make it to the big leagues from pure talent, they have a whole team of nutritionists, trainers, doctors and physiotherapists behind them, studying the science of what can transform a regular human being into a dynamic, fast, strong and powerful piece of athleticism. I don't know if you've stood next to one of the Crusaders or South African Sharks before, but I can attest to these men being accurately compared to mountains.

Now, we aren't exactly trying to build god-like muscles onto our dairy cows, but we are looking to achieve the same goal, get the most of out what the body can produce. It's

not enough to just hand out grass willy-nilly however, we must figure out the finer details. This means looking at fertiliser, supplement balances and feed quantities with a determined scrutiny. It can get intimidating; there's a tonne of information out there and it's a huge task wading it through it all.

The beauty of the Animal Centred Approach is that it gives us a direction that allows us to slice through the waffle. With each decision being made with the animal as priority, a pathway can be paved that aligns the numbers and allows the technical to become slightly less scary. With a clear goal in mind we don't have to work off assumptions, we can pick and choose the tools that will be the most beneficial to our situation.

An example of this is fertiliser recommendations. Time and time again we see animal health and production challenges that can be traced back to fertiliser practice. But if we remember to consider what is good for our animals as well as the plant when we choose our fertilisers, we can manage disease risk and improve animal health and production on our farms.



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Your average fertiliser recommendation rarely considers the animal health effects of too much nutrient. Nor does it consider the minerals and levels that the animal may require irrespective of what the plant needs. For example excessive phosphorus fertiliser use (particularly superphosphate) will lead

to high plant levels which then presents a milk fever risk for calving cows grazing the stuff. To manage this risk, we often need to throw in a whole lot of calcium(limeflour) supplementation and while this might seem like a perfectly reasonable solution, it introduces

“supplementation risk.” That is, the more calcium we need to supplement with, the higher the chances of it failing to do its job.

It is encouraging having a a direction or pathway that leads us to a more

sustainable outcome while making the decisions much easier along the way. As Shakespeare wrote, “though this be madness, yet there is method in't”(Hamlet). An Animal Centred Approach can methodize the madness.

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Buy-back scheme must work for rural firearms owners

The firearms buy-back process for what are now prohibited semi-automatic firearms must work for rural firearms owners, Federated Farmers says.

The process will require farmers to travel to collection points to hand over firearms and agree on the value of the surrendered firearm. A member survey showed that at least 20% of Feds members had a firearm impacted by the new regulations, and these owners will be looking for good access and a smooth process for the hand-over of firearms and payment of fair compensation.

“The sooner the details of the process, including the

number and geographical spread of collection points/events, are clear the better,” Federated Farmers Rural Security Spokesperson Miles Anderson says.

“We hope that it will recognise the needs of those who live in our more remote rural locations. The buy-back is likely to be underway at the busiest time of year for farmers. With calving and lambing approaching, the last thing they need at that time of year is a lengthy trip to a major centre to dispose of a firearm.”

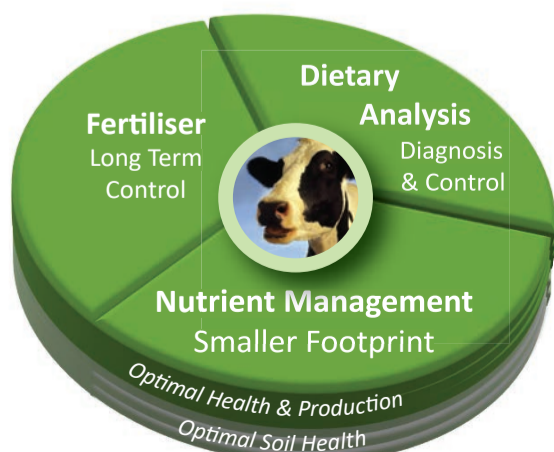
Farmers still need firearms suitable to undertake pest control. “Many have indicated that they are waiting for compensation

to purchase a replacement firearm that is within the new rules,” says Miles Anderson.

“Farmers always look to have the most efficient tool for the job. They will be expecting fair compensation to purchase a replacement that is still suitable to control the pest animals on their farm.”

Federated Farmers is pleased to see there will be compensation up to a \$300 limit for modifications to some firearms to bring them within the legal requirements. “This will address the concerns of some of our members,” Mr Anderson says.

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Mycoplasma Bovis has been a wakeup call for the farming sector says the man in charge of tracing stock movements around the country.

“It’s identified where the traceability systems haven’t been working where they should,” Kevin Forward, head of National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) told a meeting at the Cape Egmont Boat Club organised by Rural Support Taranaki last week. “Farmers really need to think about biosecurity on the farm.”

Around 50 people turned up to hear and ask questions of representatives of OSPRI and MPI about Mycoplasma Bovis and NAIT tagging.

Phil Irvine from MPI said “another 18 months of heavy lifting” still had to be done, but he believed the decision to look at eradicating M.Bovis had been the right one.

“I think we are heading in the right direction,” he said. “We are the only country to have had a go at eradicating it. The Irish had it in the early 90s and they are beginning to wish they had tried to eradicate it.”

He said Taranaki had the lowest incidence of M.Bovis of any region in the



NAIT head Kevin Forward with Rural Support co-ordinator Marcia Paurini.

country. There are currently no farms in Taranaki under Notices of Direction (NOD). Seven which had been under Notices had since been cleared, while another had been depopulated and cleansed and was back up and operating.

Phil and other MPI representatives at the meeting said there are a lot of myths about the disease and how it is spread which has led to cases of individual farmers being ostracised.

Typically M.Bovis is spread through intimate contact between stock rather than through factors, such as vehicle movements or walking across property where the disease may or may not be.

Kevin Forward said in the nine months he had been doing the job he had found many farmers are still unaware of exactly what is required of them. He had taken his message to the Fieldays and was told his

stand was one of the busiest at Mystery Creek.

“What we are dealing with is lots of farmers who have never dealt with NAIT before,” he said.

Farmers need to have a lifetime traceability of their stock without any breaks in the chain. Any stock leaving or coming on to their property must be registered within 48 hours. Failure to do so can result in a fine of \$150 per animal. Proposed amendments to the NAIT

Act are looking at pushing these up to \$400 per animal.

Kevin said it’s an offence to transport untagged stock and farmers receiving them are perfectly entitled to send them back.

“Why would you accept these animals on to your farm? You are putting your farm and the whole industry at risk.”

He said ultimately the responsibility lay with the farmers themselves. Rather than seeing it as another

regulatory measure they had to follow, farmers should see NAIT tagging as a biosecurity measure that’s in their own best interests.

One man questioned the powers of NAIT inspectors to enter a farm at any time.

“I don’t rock up to an accountant. I expect him to give me an appointment. If they just rock on in and say I’m busy I have a cow to calve, you’re going to hold that against me.”

Kevin said MPI’s approach would be to say to the farmers that they wanted to assist them and the powers of the inspectors to enter property are like those of the police who would only enter if they had reasonable grounds to do so.

Kevin said there have been problems along the way which are being worked through including connectivity in some areas. He also acknowledged there had been problems in handling the large number of queries from farmers, particularly in the leadup to Moving Day.

Kevin said traceability would continue to be a big issue for the farming sector.

“Our major markets all require us to have a traceability scheme. Consumers are increasingly applying pressure to know where the animal came from.”

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Coastal Premiers make Semi Final



Prem's Beauden Fleming hits the ball up hard as the Farm Source prems wear down Stratford/Eltham.

Game 11 of the 2019 season was hosted by Coastal at Okato Domain. The game was against Inglewood, and a win would guarantee a semi final for Coastal.

The 1st half was totally dominated by Coastal and the home team took a 29-0 lead into the break. Inglewood scored 5 tries to Coastal's 2 in the 2nd half, and the final score was 41-

31. Try scorers for Coastal were Troy Stevenson, Arepa Bishop (2), Sam Lawn (2), Liam Hurley and Blake Barrett. The remaining 6 points came from the boot of Rick McKenna.

Man of the match was Alex Ka'uvalu.

The last round robin game was at home in Rahotu against Stratford/Eltham. Although a home semi-final was already guaranteed, it

was important to maintain the team momentum.

The visitors had the better start and jumped out to a 12-0 lead after 9 minutes. Coastal fought their way back into the game, but still trailed at half time 15-19. A much better second half saw the hosts score 3 converted tries to 1, and the final score was 36-24.

Try scorers were Liam Parker, Troy Stevenson (2),

Rick McKenna (2) and Jacob Gopperth. Rick McKenna also kicked 3 conversions.

Man of the match was Beauden Fleming.

Coastal cemented their spot at the top of the table, and will take on NPOBs on Saturday July 6 in a semi-final. Come along to Rahotu and cheer on the boys and help them into the 2019 final to be played on July 13th at Yarrows Stadium.

Brian Olliver

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Joel Chard finds himself in space for FBT Div 1 as they weather an early storm to get up over Stratford/Eltham.

After a long season the Coastal Farm Source Prem's and FBT Div 1 finished top of the table and Goodin Ag Div 2 finished second.

This means they all have a home semifinal at Rahotu this weekend. Win and they will be in the final at Rugby Park the following week. Support this year has been great and the boys would love to see you there to cheer them on this week.

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Chris "Chrispy" Barron can't break the tackle of an Okaiawa tackler and the Goodin Ag Div 2 couldn't break Okaiawa as they experienced their first loss of the season.



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Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

Paul Tidswell had an almost perfect when he shot 100.9 on Friday June 14. He followed that with a 98.2 and 97.7. Garry Rowlands also shot well scoring 100.2, 97.4, 99.3. Paul Longstaff 98.4, 93.3; Bob Bramley 97.5, 97.4; Boston Taylor 97.1, 90.1; Clare Bramley 96.4; Murray Chinery 92.3, 93.2, 94.2; Craig McGill 94.2, 92.1, 92.2; Keely Burnell 91.3, 92.1, 87.1; Alex Sadovnikova 91.2; Henry Armond 89.1, 87.0, 88.1. Junior shooter John McGill is showing steady improvement scoring 83.1, 84.2, 84.1.

On Monday June 17, Clare Bramley top scored for the evening with

100.6. Meanwhile Alex Sadovnikova shot a personal best with 99.5! Bjorn Fowler also had a good evening shooting consistently with 97.3 and 97.6. Paul Tidswell 99.7, 94.2, 97.5; Garry Rowlands 96.4, 95.5, 99.6; Paul Longstaff 97.1; Alan Drake 95.2; Bob Bramley 95.3, double 94.3/96.2; Murray Chinery 93.3, 95.1; Craig McGill 92.1, 90.4; Don Litchfield 91.3, 88.0. New shooters came and had a go with Jack McGill shooting three 100 group cards; Laura McGill 98 and 99 group cards; Dean McGill 100 and 98 group cards. While junior John McGill shot a 100 group card followed by 77.1 and 81.0.

On Friday June 21, Alex Sadovnikova shot exceptionally well scoring 98.3, 98.3, 97.3. Henry Armond also scored very well with a personal best 98.6 as well as 94.3, 95.4, as did Craig McGill with 96.2 followed by 90.1, 94.3, 94.2. Paul Tidswell 99.7; Garry Rowlands 99.7, 97.6; Paul Longstaff 96.4; Keely Burnell 91.2, 93.2; Murray Chinery 93.0, 92.1; Stephen Hicks 95.2, 93.1; Boston Taylor 92.1, 91.3, 89.1.

Several guests came for a shoot as well. Katie Taylor 100 group, 81.0, 96.4; Lexie Bell two 100 groups, 88.0; Toby Crawford 100 group, 96 group, 87.1; Bailey Feek three group cards 98, 99, 97; Dean McGill 97 group card.

Monday 24 June

Paul Tidswell well and truly took top score of the night with a 100.8 as well as two 97.4 scores. Michelle Hofmans scored an extremely good 98.5 and 91.1; Garry Rowlands also shot well, recording scores of 98.6, 97.4, 99.5; Clare Bramley 96.4, 98.7; Bob Bramley 96.5, double 97.4/96.4; Alan Drake 97.2, 96.3; Craig McGill 95.4, 88.1; Murray Chinery 95.2, 91.2, 92.3; Don Litchfield 88.3, 91.2; Bjorn Fowler 90.2; Matt Vaughan 86.1, 68.1. Junior shooter John McGill 100 group, 80.1, 65.0

Pressure is coming on from new shooters as well with Alex Sadovnikova shooting 97.3, while even newer



Alex Sadovnikova and Bob Bramley have had recent success at shooting competitions representing the Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club.

shooters Michael Stratton and Kelsi Bayly each scored a 100 group score followed by 95.4 and 94.2 respectively.

Friday 28 June

A smaller group gathered for the evening shoot and supper and top score was taken out by Alan Drake shooting 99.7 and 96.4, almost made the 100! Henry Armond had a night of two halves scoring 90.0 followed by 97.5. Clare Bramley 96.5; Craig McGill 94.3, 88.1, 94.2; Murray Chinery

91.1; John McGill 100 group, 84.0, 78.0; Marcus Ranford two 97 group cards.

On Saturday 29 June the Wanganui Open shoot was held and Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club managed some excellent results. New shooter, Alex Sadovnikova, emphatically won D-grade with a score of 294.15, her nearest rival only managed 282.09. On her way to achieving her win, she also shot a personal best and first ever 100.5!

Bob Bramley also won his

B-grade with a personal best total of 297.17, also including a 100.6. Bob, Alex and fellow member Clare Bramley all made the final 8 (of those shooters present) of the competition too, meaning Eltham had 50% of their attending shooters reach the final shoot. Clare, having come 5th in A-grade, then went on to shoot 195.08, Alex 189.05 and Bob scored 188.04.

All in all a fantastic day for Eltham shooters

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Veteran coach imparts his knowledge



Jim Foster telling it as it is.

In recent years Jim Foster has been a regular visitor to our shores. The American basketball coach first came here in 2014, and has been back in all but one of the years since then.

He maybe 70 years old and officially retired from coaching, but that doesn't stop him imparting his wisdom to younger devotees of the game. This is exactly what he was doing when he took a recent coaching

session for young up and coming basketballers at the Opunake Event Centre.

"Often people don't practice shooting at game speed," he could be heard saying in the middle of court. "I'm going to show you what game speed is."

His own playing days may have been cut short by serving in the Vietnam War, but in the years since he has more than made up for it with a lifetime of coaching. Born and raised in

Pennsylvania, he now lives in Georgia. He has coached at St Joseph's University, Vanderbilt, Ohio State and the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. He has also selected and coached teams at national level.

He was first invited here by Mel Young from Hamilton, and in more recent years by Mark Rodgers. He has usually been here around Easter and has become a familiar face at the Easter Tournament at Tauranga.

This year he is taking the message to places like Taranaki he hasn't been before.

He says things have changed since he first came to New Zealand.

"There's been a lot of improvement. The coaching is better and more consistent," he says.

Why does he keep coming back here?

"I love the country," he says.

Scholarship takes Nico to Missouri

Nico Hill says he was playing basketball as soon as he could walk. Now his basketball journey will take him across the Pacific to a scholarship at Missouri State at West Point where he will play for the Missouri State Grizzlies while studying for an associate's degree in teaching.

The son of Angelo and Michelle Hill is no stranger to the United States, having moved over there with his family when he was six months old and returned to New Zealand at the age of eight. His last year there was spent at high school in his father Angelo's home town of Casper, Wyoming.

He has been back in Opunake for nine and a half years.

At the end of last year he finished his schooling at Opunake High School where he was an integral part of the Boys Basketball team.

Both the Boys and Girls teams have enjoyed success in recent years, with the Girls being back to back national champions. The Boys team hasn't quite matched this, although the team of which Nico was a part finished third at the nationals last year.

"We kind of under achieved," says Nico. "I think we could have won last year, but it wasn't meant to be."

Nico has played in Taranaki representative teams since he was 11, and been in New Zealand



Nico Hill is about to go from the red white and blue of New Zealand to the red white and blue of the United States.

Development teams when he was 13 and 15.

He leaves for the United States on July 25 and knows much is expected of him.

"I'm going to have to perform on court and help the team win as much as I can, and I'm expected to average certain grades in school," he says.

Although Missouri State didn't make it to the national tournament this year, they have won their conference a number of times and are ranked number 16 in the country.

He is going from a New Zealand winter to a Missouri summer where temperatures range from 24-32 degrees, not unlike New Zealand in summer time, although it's probably a bit more humid says Nico.

He won't be too far from family. His brother Corban who had gone to the United States on a golf scholarship five years before is only four hours away at Fort Smith Arkansas.

His longer term ambition is to play professional basketball, whether in New Zealand in the NBL or with the Breakers, or elsewhere.

Manaia Golf results

Saturday June 15. Men.1. Bruce Duffus. 2. Jim Ngere. 3. Denis Hurcomb. 4. John Oliver. 5. Trevor Larsen.

Juniors. Seven players played in Inglewood Junior Golf Tournament with very pleasing results. Nine short holes. 2. Jayden Poole. 3. Jude Poole. 5. Hannah Symes. Nine full holes. 4. Carter Symes. 6. Liam Campbell. 18 holes.

Joe Gibson had his best round ever, winning the J Thomson Memorial Trophy with nett 57. Team mate Jaden Siciliano came second with nett 66.

Saturday June 22. Men. Bogey Round. 1. Denis Hurcomb. 2. John Oliver. 3. Trevor Larsen. 4. Bruce Duffus. 5. Jim Ngere, Greg Elliott, Gary Couper.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Taranaki Indoor Bowls

On Sunday June 23 the Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre held their Open Triples event, sponsored by UNKAS Jewellers and Kamlas Gifts Hawera. Eleven teams competed with 7 qualifying for post section play, after the next game the final 4 team were playing off, Karl Hughes team, played Dennis Behrent team, Ali Wilson Team, played Gordon Hamley Team, with Gordon Hamley and Dennis Behrent playing off in the final. Dennis

Behrent, Ross Wright and Paul Eastman (NT) defeated Gordon Hamley, Jenny Hamley and Jane Augustine, with the teams of Karl Hughes, Andrea Berry, Steven Vince and Ali Wilson, Ivan Phipps Paul Wilson obtaining third equal.

The Taranaki Centre have a senior development and Junior Rep fixture being played on Sunday July 7 at the Kapuni Hall against North Taranaki.

Trevor Bourne, the senior selector, has named the

following players: Chris Reed, Ella Smailes, Winnie Finlay, Steven Vince Noleen Picard, Kim Mahupuku, Jo Bloor Kaye Bird Wayne Cameron, Raewyn Fredrickson, Ray Finlay and Bruce Chapman.

Lesley Landers, the Junior selector, has named the following players:

Sam Landers, Rebecca Schrader, Luke Barnett and one other, Brittany Simpson, Luca Dobson, Emma Muggerridge and Bela Baldwin.

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WORK WANTED

DRIVING JOB WANTED. 56 year old male wanting to get into the HT industry. Class 1,2,3,4,5 licenses. Mature C1 driver, no HT experience, self employed in the motor industry for the past 20 years, just need a go. Would eventually like to get into long distance driving. Text or phone Stu on 027 487 7746, or 06 763 8462. Email studadog@gmail.com.

GARDENING - Experienced (18 yrs) weeding, pruning etc. Ph Eden 06 763 8634 or 027 464 4896.

HANDYMAN. Past 3.5 years employed as a maintenance person on a coastal Taranaki dairy farm but redundancy has forced me to seek alternative employment. I am now looking for handyman work throughout Taranaki. I am familiar with both rural and residential maintenance. I have previously run my own property maintenance business in Australia where I was contracted by state funded organisations, real estate companies and others to undertake a wide variety of house and property maintenance. Have class 1,2,3,4,5,6 licenses with F/R/T/W endorsements. Phone Dave 027 399 7802 or email davnleo45@gmail.com.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Coastal Community Transport AGM

8th July 2019
10am CoastalCare Community Lounge

All welcome, tea and coffee provided, volunteers always needed



Opunake-Rahotu Veterinary Trust

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

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

Financial assistance is available to students to undergo tertiary education relating preferably to agricultural or horticultural studies although consideration will be given to other applicants.

Applications close 31st July 2019. Forms available from:

The Secretary
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Opunake 4616

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SITUATIONS VACANT

TRACTOR DRIVER wanted for upcoming season. Contracting work in Coastal Taranaki. Experience would be an advantage. Grass baling, wrapping, cultivation and precision planting. Clean full Drivers License. Must be honest and reliable. Apply to PG O'Rorke, ororkefamily@xtra.co.nz.

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WANTED TO BUY

SCRAP METAL - for all scrap metal Taranaki wide, give us a call. Molten Metals (06) 751 5367. www.moltenmetals.co.nz

WANTED

WANTED - OLD WOOL Carpet for the Opunake Lions Club to be used as weed control around new plantings on the Opunake Walkway/Trail Extension. Please phone Ian Armstrong 027 231 3216.



Coastal Taranaki Health Trust

A.G.M.

CoastalCare Health and Community Centre
15 July 2019, 6.30pm in the
Community Lounge



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT 5.30PM

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Next issue due out July 18

Contact us now on 06 761 7016 or email us to be in it!

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St 9.30am every Sunday and the Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Opunake Catholic Church

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea) Other areas

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)

Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am All welcome

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake Sunday Services 10.30am

Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday

Men's Group 7pm Wednesday

Come along or contact

Murray Baylis
027 218 3377

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

141 Tasman St, Opunake Sunday Services 10am Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday

Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

Okato Community Church

Meets 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome



What's On Listings

LOOKING FOR WORK

LOOKING FOR WORK?

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

Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



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- Challenge Spotswood Petrol Station, New Plymouth
- The Health Shop, Centre City, New Plymouth
- Westside Grille, Tukapa St, Westown
- The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd, Westown (By the Locals Café)
- Nth Taranaki Community House, 67 McLean St, Waitara
- Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St, Inglewood

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

ONGOING

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

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

SUNDAYS

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

MONDAYS

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

Club Hotel Pool: Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

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

WEEKENDS

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

APRIL 6 TO OCTOBER 6

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

JUNE 21 TO JULY 14

'Moments' Exhibition: Quintessential moments of everyday life. At Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford. Opening event on Friday June 21 at 7pm. Exhibition on from June 22- July 14. Refer advert from previous issue of OCN.

JULY 6-7, 13-14, 20-21, 27-28

Mid Winter Magic: At the Christmas Village, New Plymouth. Refer advert.

JULY 8

Coastal Community Transport AGM: 10am at CoastalCare Community Lounge. Refer advert..

Lizzie Bell Pihama Cemetery Board AGM: 7pm at 90 Puketapu Rd, Pihama.

JULY 9

Coach Touring and River Cruising Information evening: At Travelsmart, Stratford. Starts at 7pm. Refer advert.

Arts on Tour NZ presents Carnivorous Plant Society: At Everybodys Theatre, Opunake. 7pm. Refer advert.

JULY 14

Opunake Surf life Saving Club AGM: 1 pm at the Clubrooms.

JULY 15

Coastal Taranaki Health Trust AGM: In the Community Lounge of Coastal Care Health and Community Centre at 6.30pm. Refer advert.

JULY 19

Midwinter Hobby Craft Expo Market: At Eltham, 10am-3pm. Refer advert.

JULY 20

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

Midwinter Hobby Craft Expo Market: At Eltham, 10am-3pm. Refer advert.

JULY 22

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

JULY 24

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

SEPTEMBER 14

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

Pukeiti much more than just a pretty face

Pukeiti's unique qualities, and the experience and expertise behind them have a pivotal national role in a global effort to save threatened rhododendron species from extinction.

The heritage property on Mt Taranaki's western flank is well known as an increasingly popular visitor attraction. But it also a centre

of research and propagation in a conservation project led by Massey University and supported by Pukeiti's owner, the Taranaki Regional Council, as well as the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust and the NZ Rhododendron Association.

"Pukeiti's rhododendron collection is of global significance and when you



Rhododendron cuttings propagated at Pukeiti as part of the conservation project.

also consider those at other gardens, New Zealand has about 500 species, sub-species and varieties of rhodo, out of the 1300 that exist in total. We're an important player," the Council's Regional Gardens Manager, Greg Rine says.

"Many of these face extinction in their native habitats, so there's a co-ordinated international effort to conserve these at other locations – 'ex situ' is the botanists' term – to ensure they're not lost."

New Zealand's Rhododendron Ex Situ Conservation Project is led by plant specialist Dr Marion MacKay of Massey University, with key groundwork centred on Pukeiti.

With funding support from the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust, an experienced and well-qualified panel of Council staff and Trust members is acting on Dr MacKay's assessments of the conservation status of the rhodo species, subspecies

and varieties at Pukeiti and elsewhere in New Zealand. Those on the extinction 'red list' are being propagated and distributed to botanic and public gardens across the country.

"If we want these plants to thrive and survive, it's vital to avoid the 'eggs in one basket' situation," says Mr Rine. "The idea is to have these beautiful plants growing at a variety of locations, given how vulnerable they are in their natural habitats."

The Trust Chairman,

Gordon Bailey, says the project adds a scientific dimension to the strong relationship between the Council as owner of Pukeiti and the Trust as a significant supporter.

"With one of the Southern Hemisphere's largest collection of rhododendrons, its unique rainforest setting, and the experience and expertise built up by Council staff and Trust members, Pukeiti is ideally placed for this work," he says.

It also reinforces Pukeiti's status as an important garden globally, and complements the work taking place there to restore and protect indigenous biodiversity. Pukeiti is literally the front line in Restore Kaitake, part of the wider Towards Predator-Free Taranaki project. A virtual barrier of 1300 traps is strung across the width of the property so that it and the area below, all the way to the sea, can become a Zero Possum Zone.

Mr Rine says the main drawcard for visitors will always be the stunning rhododendron displays against a lush rainforest backdrop, along with all-weather and family-friendly facilities. "But behind the scenes, important environmental work is taking place that has regional, national and global significance."

Coach Touring & River Cruising Information Evening

Featuring: **Globus, Cosmos, Avalon Waterways & Monograms**

Come along and relax as we take you through the highlights of river cruising and touring in 2020. Jo Ewington from the Globus family of brands will be our host. Jo has a wealth of knowledge for Coach Touring, River Cruising and Independent Travelling throughout Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Where: **Travelsmart, 260 Broadway, Stratford**
When: **Tuesday 9th July 2019**
Time: **7:00pm**

Pay your deposit on any coach tour or river cruise before 31st July 2019 and be in the draw to win a \$500.00 Travel Voucher.

Jo is coming to Stratford exclusively for this event – so we need you to please Register your interest in attending this event by 5pm on the 8th July 2019.



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Environmental leadership in dairy farming

Environmental leadership in land management

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Nominations close 5pm Friday 19 July 2019

Information and nomination forms are available at www.trc.govt.nz/environmental-awards

Or contact: Rusty Ritchie
Communications Manager
Taranaki Regional Council

☎ 0800 736 222
✉ Rusty.Ritchie@trc.govt.nz



Working with people | caring for Taranaki

Top premier thoroughbred race meeting Opunake Cup



Above: Some Opunake locals enjoy the Corporate Hospitality at Pukekura Raceway.

Right: Te Toru Pearl raced to victory at last years meeting.

The best North Island winter gallopers will compete at the Powerworx Opunake Cup Day at New Plymouth on Saturday, July 20th Carey Hobbs, CEO of Taranaki Racing at Pukekura Park, says this Premier meeting always attracts really good crowds of racing enthusiasts from all over the North Island. Serious gamblers can join



the ever-popular Punters' Club and participants must register. For more information contact the Taranaki Racing office on 06 - 7575759. The first race time is 12.25pm.

Coastal race-goers can travel in a bus from Opunake to the races in New Plymouth. Members travel is free There is a charge for for non-members \$10. Contact Don Kettlewell on 0277618362 for more information.

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06 761 8358




POWERWORX OPUNAKE CUP DAY



Sat 20 July

Gates Open 11.15 | First Race 12.15
GA \$5 | Members Stand \$20

Coastal Bus available with pick ups along the way
Contact Don Kettlewell | 027 761 8362 to book

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NEW PLYMOUTH RACEWAY | YOUR ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION

MIDWINTER HOBBY CRAFT EXPO MARKET

2 Day - Eltham Event
Friday 19th and Saturday 20th July
10am till 3pm both days

Hobby and Craft demonstrations in town businesses and in the Touchpoint Function room and restaurant.

The Eltham Village Gallery" Fibre Fantastic exhibition" is happening as well.



More Hobbyists/Crafters are needed
Contact:
Judith - jg.rodgers@xtra.co.nz or 027 416 7272
Olwyn - elthameventscentre@gmail.com



creative nz
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND / TOI AOTIAROA

SUPPORTED BY SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

ARTS ON TOUR NEW ZEALAND PRESENTS

CARNIVOROUS PLANT SOCIETY

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE, OPUNAKE
7.00PM TUESDAY 9 JULY 2019

TICKETS: \$10/\$5 FROM OPUNAKE LIBRARYPLUS
OR PHONE HAWERA I-SITE 06 278 8559. BAR & THEATRE SHOP OPEN

Brooklands Zoo



During School Holidays come along and visit the animals at Brooklands Zoo at Pukekura Park. Bring your family and friends and maybe a picnic for a great day at the zoo and say hello to the alpacas.

Advertise your event in the
Opunake & Coastal News

Call our sales team on
06 761 7016



Midwinter Christmas Market at Stony River



One of the stalls at the 2018 market at Stony River Hotel.

Stony River The Stony River and Ringcraft Moana team have planned our 3rd Midwinter Christmas market in Okato. 13th July 11am-5pm at Stony River Hotel.

With the district council allowing us to go bigger and better we have extended to

over 30 stalls this year.

Bringing a bit of Europe Christmas culture to lighten up a cold Taranaki winter's day has been a huge success for us.

We are expecting 1200+ visitors again this year.

From Christmas singers, mulled wine, a Christmas buffet with ham, Vienna Café set up with authentic goodies from Heimo and Renate's

home town. Bratwurst and lots of stalls to get inspired for Christmas will be set up in their Beergarden and along Kaihihi road.

Traffic will be looked after by the council and Maori wardens, parking is set up in a paddock on Kaihihi road by our lions club.

We already have 11,000 hits on our Facebook event page.

WIN A SANTA VALUE \$295! Christmas At The Village

Midwinter Magic
4x Weekends Only

6-7th, 13-14th, 20-21st, 27-28th JULY

\$5 - \$10 - \$15 Tables • All Purchases Go In The Draw To WIN..
One 90cm Blue Santa - Value \$295* • All Purchases Go In The Draw..

To WIN.. ONE OF FOUR \$50 Christmas Village Vouchers! • Dress Festival!

OPEN Sat, Sun & Mon 10am - 4pm ALL YEAR!

The Christmas Village (*Call The Village for more Info)
63 Egmont Rd, New Plymouth - 0272745712

Free Entry

Family Event

Taranaki Christkindl Christmas Market

13th July 11am-5pm
Midwinter Christmas

STONY RIVER Est. 1875

FIBRE FANTASTIC

FIBRE ART & WEARABLES
BY CENTRAL & SOUTH TARANAKI CREATIVE FIBRE MEMBERS

ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE ON SATURDAYS
COME AND TRY WEAVING, FELTING OR SPINNING

1 - 26 JULY 2019

creative communities nz
South Taranaki District

THE VILLAGE GALLERY 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10.00AM - 3.00PM

Supported by

Fibre Fantastic at The Village Gallery

The Village Gallery, Eltham's latest exhibition Fibre Fantastic continues until July 26. The standard of exhibits is outstanding and frankly a 'must see'.

Three groups have contributed to this excellent exhibition: these include the Creative Fibre Yarn Weaving Group, the Stratford/Eltham Creative Fibre Group and the Hawera Fibre Group.

The sheer variety of exhibits is staggering, ranging from the very useful to the purely artistic. On display are shawls, jerseys, shrugs, vests, mittens, scarves, cowls, socks, toys, hats, beanies, containers, pots, gloves, bags, slippers, cushions, wall hangings, pictures, rugs – even an intriguing Steiner doll (made of natural fibre) by Vicki Price. Many of the artists have obtained the fibre from their own animals – corriedale sheep and alpacas feature quite a bit. Most of the exhibits were on sale at very reasonable prices it has to be said.

There were so many quality exhibits to be seen that it is hard to choose which to describe, but I'll chose four which caught my admiring eye. Firstly, there was William Hunt's 'Super



Artist Margaret Springett with several exhibits including 'Felted Wall Hanging'.

Sudoku on Reflection', a crocheted woollen throw. This large multi-coloured exhibit was chosen for the National Creative Fibre Exhibition, which was held in April in Palmerston North. This exhibit was probably my personal favourite.

Secondly, and also selected for the same exhibition in Palmerston North, was Margaret Springett's 'Felted Wall hanging' which won

a Merit Award. "I was blown away and very surprised. The standard was very high," Margaret commented. One patron was highly impressed. "That's amazing, it's just so special. She's just so talented." The same patron was also greatly taken by Margaret's 'Seed Head' (Needle felted on felt). Sadly, this one was not for sale.

Thirdly, was Maree

Liddington's wall hanging entitled 'Irish Coast'. (hand woven and hand dyed). Maree explained that the highly appealing colours represented Ireland. "Blue for the sea, green for the hills and purple for the heather," she said.

Fourthly, also aesthetically eye-catching was Lorna Davis' 'Mountain Magic' (Fleece wool and textile paint).

Make sure you find time 3pm Monday to Saturday. To see this great exhibition Remember, last day is July 30. at The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Eltham. They are open 10am to

Rolland McKellar



The exhibit 'Irish Coast' (hand woven and hand dyed) is pictured with the artist Maree Liddington.

CoastalCare
Haumarū ki Tai
Health and Community Centre
Haumaia ki runga, Hauora ki raro

DID YOU KNOW?

CoastalCare offers for hire, quiet, private, well-appointed room's for meetings, training opportunities and social gatherings. This will seat up to 60 people or it has the flexibility to be divided into two smaller rooms. The facilities include a lounge area & kitchenette for self service of coffees and tea

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

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Every Tuesday
- TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE**
Offering full dental services every Thursday
- LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY**
Every Wednesday
- NEW PLYMOUTH PHYSIOTHERAPY**
Every Tuesday and Friday
- TARANAKI PODIATRY**
Every 3rd Wednesday
- BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS**
Every 2nd Thursday
- MIHI'S PLACE**
Every 4th Thursday
- COUNSELLING SERVICES**
Various providers and specialties including, anger and violence, relationships, drugs, alcohol, quit smoking.

CoastalCare
Haumarū ki Tai
Health & Community Centre
Haumaia ki runga, Hauora ki raro, Haumarū ki Tai

Services provided in this building:

- Budget Advice
- Community Corrections Services
- Dairy Training Ltd
- Lisa Keen - Audiology
- New Plymouth Physiotherapy
- Opunake and District Foodbank
- Opunake Medical Centre
- Opunake Pharmacy
- Royal NZ Plunket Society (Inc)
- Taranaki District Health Board
- Taranaki Family Works
- Taranaki Osteopath
- Taranaki Podiatry
- Taylor Dental Practice
- Tui Ora Ltd

Permanently residing in the building are:

- OPUNAKE PHARMACY,
- OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE,
- ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE,
- PLUNKET,
- HEALTH BOARD SERVICES,
- COASTAL PRINTERS

CONTACT:
ARETHA LEMON
Facility Manager on 06 761 8488

For a full list of Services and happenings here at CoastalCare

Find us on Facebook

or visit us at www.coastalcare.co.nz

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Check out our website at www.everybodystheatre.co.nz – Phone 027 3837926

JULY

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale No Eft-Pos Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. Byr and under must be supervised by 14 yr or older	ID required for all R movies																				
<p>X MEN DARK PHOENIX Action, Sci Fi 1hrs 34mins PG The X men face their most formidable and powerful foe: one of their own, Jean Grey. With Jean spiraling out of control, and hurting the ones she loves most, she begins to unravel the very fabric that holds the X-Men together. Now, with this family falling apart, they must find a way to unite. Fri 5th Jul 7pm Sun 14th Jul 7pm Fri 19th Jul 7pm</p>	<p>BREAKING HABITS Documentary 1hrs 27mins M: Drug Use A commune of activist nuns run a cannabis farm. They use it to make medicine for everything from epilepsy to cancer, fighting against the authorities, the sheriff and local cartels. This is the story of Sister Kate Wed 3rd Jul 7pm Fri 12th Jul 7pm</p>																				
<p>ALADDIN Adventure, Comedy, Family 2hr 8mins PG A street rat frees a genie from a lamp, granting all of his wishes and transforming himself into a charming prince in order to marry a beautiful princess. But soon, an evil sorcerer becomes hell-bent on securing the lamp for his own sinister purposes. Sat 6th Jul 1pm Wed 10th Jul 1pm Mon 15th Jul 1pm</p>	<p>ROCKETMAN Biography, Drama, Music 2hr 1mins M ROCKETMAN is an epic musical fantasy about the incredible human story of Elton John's breakthrough years. The film follows the fantastical journey of transformation from shy piano prodigy Reginald Dwight into international superstar Elton John Sun 7th Jul 7pm Wed 10th Jul 7pm Wed 24th Jul 1pm</p>																				
<p>POKEMON: DETECTIVE PIKACHU Action, Adventure, Comedy 1hr 44mins PG In a world where people collect Pokémon to do battle, a boy comes across an intelligent talking Pikachu who seeks to be a detective. Sat 13th Jul 1pm</p>	<p>TOY STORY 4 Animation Comedy 1hr 29mins G When a new toy called "Forky" joins Woody and the gang, a road trip alongside old and new friends reveals how big the world can be for a toy. Fri 19th Jul 1pm Sat 27th Jul 1pm</p>																				
<p>TOP END WEDDING Comedy, Romance 1hr 43mins M Engaged and in love Lauren and Ned have just 10 days to reunite her newly separated parents and pull off their dream Top End Wedding. But Lauren's mother has gone missing, experiencing a midlife crisis. In order to find her, the couple goes on a fantastic road trip across northern Australia. Sat 13th Jul 7pm Wed 17th Jul 7pm Sat 27th Jul 7pm</p>	<p>ASTERIX: The Secret of the Magic Potion - Animated, Adventure, Comedy 1hrs 25mins PG A fall during the picking of mistletoe led Druid Getafix to make a decision: he will travel through Gaul with Asterix, Obelix and Pectin in search of a young talented druide to guarantee the future of the village. Mon 8th Jul 1pm Fri 12th Jul 1pm Wed 17th Jul 1pm</p>																				
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