



Labour leader visits Okato

Inside...



Excellent information evening at Coastal Taranaki School. From left Jack Luke, Jurnee Brown and India Ralph. See page 9.



Anne Davies cuts the ribbon, while Head Teacher Sarah MacGregor watches. Stepping Stones in Okato is launched in style. Turn to page 12.



We bid a sad farewell to the buildings of closed schools - soon to be demolished. See page 7.



Historic Cape Light & Museum. Amazing. Page 14 tells the story.

Leader of the Labour Party, David Shearer visited Okato on June 7. His visit centred on a local industry – Raw Surf at 12 Kaihihi Road, which manufactures surf boards. He was accompanied by List MP Andrew Little, Chief Press Secretary Fran Mold and Secretary of the New Plymouth branch of the Labour Party Renee van de Weert.

Raw Surf's owner James Dinnis said many of his boards, especially his Carbon Art brand are sold overseas via the internet. Sweden is one of the firm's chief markets. Olivier Perkins, - who designed the other main brand Raw Surf- handles the graphic design and marketing side of the business. The Raw Surf brand is mostly sold in New Zealand.

David Shearer, a keen surfer himself, was very interested in all aspects of the manufacture of the boards and asked many questions.

Mr Shearer said he is enjoying his new role as Labour leader and found it quite a thrill.

He said he is heartened by the recent poll, which suggests a resurgence of support for his party and their closest ally (and poten-



From left, Labour leader David Shearer with Andrew Little MP and surfboard designer Olivier Perkins being shown the Raw Surf factory by owner James Dinnis (right). Renee van de Weert is mostly obscured (Sorry Renee).

tial coalition partner) the Greens. "We were happy", he said. However, he cautioned, "You can't pay too much attention to polling", but concluded "The good thing is the trend". He said he detected a defi-

nite "gradual disillusionment" with the government, as he travelled around the country. He mentioned the issue of increasing class sizes, but said there had been a change of heart. "It is yet another policy they

are backtracking on". He continued, "In education they've lost the confidence of parents. It was obvious that bigger class sizes are a bad idea". He concluded, "If they'd campaigned on putting up

class sizes, they would not have won the election".

Mr Shearer concluded his visit to Raw Surf by commenting, "The one part of my job I really like is getting around and meeting people".

Foreign forestry firm approved to purchase Taranaki land

The Overseas Investment Office (OIO) has approved the sale of four Taranaki farms to Kingheim Limited, a registered company in the UK and owned by United Kingdom Public (50%) and

Austrian Public (50%)
The freehold land sales are made up of four separate adjoining properties in the Mangamomona Stratford area comprising 428.5465 hectares of land at Mangapapa Road Stratford; 745.6159 hectares of land at Tahora Road Stratford; 676.7772 hectares of land at 123 Prospect Road Stratford and 154.2929 hectares of land at 7710 Ohura Road

Stratford. The total is just over 2005 hectares and the price paid is \$5,695,000.

The four neighbouring properties acquired are to be established as a forestry block using a variety of different exotic species of trees including Walnut and Californian Redwood. It is planned for the area to be also opened up for recreational tracks under the trees.

The OIO stated they

were satisfied there was 'substantial and identifiable benefit to New Zealand' as required under section 16 and 17 of the Overseas Investment Act 2005 which included the creation and

retention of jobs, new technology or business skills, additional investment for development purposes, protection of indigenous vegetation and fauna and walking access to the public.

Theatre receives huge grant

Opunake's Everybody's Theatre has just received a whopping \$221,000 grant. Announced on Friday the 8th of June by Pub Charity, this considerable sum will allow the necessary structural strengthening of theatre to proceed and draws the date closer that the theatre can be reopened.

Due to concerns for public safety, Everybody's Theatre in Opunake had been closed for the foreseeable future at the request of South Taranaki District Council last year. This decision had arisen from when the Everybody's Theatre committee were considering upgrading the building, and so

commissioned an Engineer's Report. The report came back stating the building was unsafe and should not be open to the public unless \$250,000 worth of structural strengthening work was carried out.

This enormous sum needed followed on from the Committee and a group of dedicated volunteers having worked extremely hard to get the facility to where it is today, including establishing the Boutique Theatre and being proactive in upgrading the facility and cementing the Theatre's profile and place in the community.

Continued page 3

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EDITORIAL: Hekia Parata and the backtrack

It is good that the proposal to increase class sizes in schools has been scrapped. However, aren't commentators being a bit hard on new Education Minister the Hon Hekia Parata?

It is obvious that the unfortunate plans to increase class sizes didn't come from her - but from elsewhere.

No new Education minister who valued their reputation would come up with such an idea - especially not at the start of their new position. Give her a break.

It would seem, however, that she was not well briefed, as she suggested - when the new proposals were muted - that the intended changes

were backed by research. Extending back to Dame Marie Clay, the bulk of research suggests no such thing. In fact the opposite is true.

In many ways the backtrack is heartening. It is good to know that public displeasure can lead to a rethink. Also, the Government and Education Minister deserve some credit

for having the flexibility and nous to be prepared to rethink a legislative plan that feedback indicated was not wise or educationally sound, to say nothing of unpopular.

Perhaps the same could occur in the case of performance pay for teachers - another proposal that merits reconsideration.

Letters to the Editor

Everybody's Theatre not declined funding - decision deferred

I am writing to inform you that the article in the last paper that stated that 'Opunake Picture Theatre had been declined funding by Egmont Plains Community Board' is incorrect. We have not been declined funding by the EPCB. We received this letter from the board on 31 May (see below) stating that due to a number of reasons they would defer their decision.

Application to the Egmont Plains Local Discretionary Fund

"The Egmont Plains Community Board considered your request for financial assistance

for architectural services to assist with the interior refurbishment of the theatre and resolved to defer a decision until its July funding round to be held Wednesday 11 July 2012. You will be advised of the Board's decision as soon as practical following its July meeting. The Board did suggest that the Theatre considering using local architect Clive Cullen from Hawera who has an active interest in theatre and the arts."

*Debbie Campbell
Everybody's Theatre
Chairperson*

Research on Les Mackie

Some of your older readers may remember Les Mackie who was the factory manager at the Otakeho Dairy Factory from 1911 to 1943. He was keenly interested in botany, establishing a well known garden featuring, among other things, an impressive collection of ferns. Les was also interested in Maori culture and collected a number of Maori artefacts which, after his death, were transferred to the Dominion Museum, now Te Papa, in Wellington. He was also known to have carved a number of items, usually with Maori patterns, but also other items which featured plants, such as roses. There are also references to

his having carved walking sticks. In the Puke Ariki collection there are some examples of his carvings, most notably a set of bed ends and a model Maori war canoe.

As part of my research into Les Mackie I would be interested to hear from anyone who may have examples of his carvings so that I can get a better understanding of what he produced. On most of the pieces I have seen he has signed them 'Les Mac' with the date.

I can be contacted at Puke Ariki 06 759-0864 or dayk@npdc.govt.nz.

*Kelvin Day
Manager
Heritage Collections
Puke Ariki*

Bible Believers Corner

If you died right now would you go to heaven or hell? Most religions and cultures have a belief in a life after death. While atheists tend to think that our bodies are all there is most people are aware of a spiritual dimension, even if it only happened fleetingly once or twice in their life.

Religions differ over what that afterlife is. For the Red Indian it was a happy hunting ground, for Buddhists and Hindus it is reincarnation up to a state of Nirvana, for Christians and Muslims it is heaven.

The methods for attaining that highest of spiritual places is basically the same worldwide.

Karma is the Indian name for it, but the principle is that each life is weighed in the balance. If you have done more good than bad

then you go to heaven, or are reincarnated in a higher life form or caste. But if the bad outweighs the good then it is hell or a lower level of reincarnation. Most good people do not know for certain if they are good enough to make it to heaven.

The Bible basically says that this law of karma is not true; it will not work.

The real Christian message is that no one can ever live a life good enough to gain automatic right to heaven. We all deserve to go to hell. However, God has provided a substitute that went to hell for us so that we do not have to go.

No other religion has this free offer, no other religion, has a sacrificial substitute that guarantees you go to heaven.

It's all through the Bible. Adam and Eve sinned and

were kicked out of Eden, but God gave them skins of animals as a covering. Abraham was to sacrifice Isaac, his son but God sent a ram to die in Isaac's place. Boaz paid the redemption price for Ruth. The sacrifice took the place of the sinner. The price for all mankind was high. So God Himself became a perfect man to die and go to hell instead of us. All we have to do is believe and live in that faith.

If we truly believe that then we know beyond all doubt that we will go to heaven. For the Just (innocent) shall live by faith.

Refs: John 3 v14-17, John 14 v6, Genesis 3 v21, & 22 v1-13, Romans 1 v17, Romans 5 v12-19, John 14 v2-3.

*Richard Oliver
Pastor Eltham Message
Church*

Re: Editorial on Fracking

I was interested to read your support for Cr Self's views on fracking and the damage it is doing to our environment. I too have heard Cr Self speak at length on the issue at a STDC meeting. At this meeting he made various claims, amongst them being that the water supplied to residents in various areas of South Taranaki was polluted and poisonous due to fracking. He also alluded to the fact that this was the reason for the high rates of cancer in certain areas.

To my knowledge he is yet

Continued page 3

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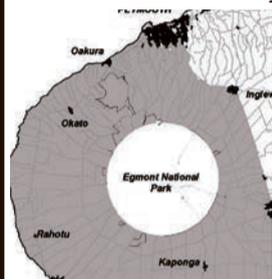
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Letters to the Editor Cont..

Editorial on fracking

Continued from page 2

to provide any facts or scientific evidence to support his claims. I presume that in taking the stance that you have you are in possession of such documentation. I would be grateful if you could print it in your paper to better inform us all of the serious risks we are exposed to. If you haven't then you are in danger of following Cr Self's example of not letting the facts get in the way of a good headline. If this is the case then I would support Basil Chamberlain's view that not only is Cr Self, a publicly elected representative, a disgrace for unsubstantiated scare mongering but you can add yourself to the list as well.

Both the TRC and STDC have run tests to check the quality of our rivers and found nothing to validate Cr Self's claims. Apart from holding his finger in the wind to ascertain his next statement I am unaware of any tests done by Cr Self and his followers.

When the next local body elections take place in 2013 the voters of the Egmont Plains will be well advised to seek guidance from the Republic of

Whangamoana as to their voting strategies at their last Presidential elections.

*Peter Johnson
South Taranaki District
Councillor*

Editorial on Mr Michael Self and fracking

Dear Editor,

In response to the editorial in your newspaper on 17 May 2012 regarding fracking and Mr Michael Self's criticism of the Taranaki Regional Council, I suggest that your editorial role carries with it a responsibility to make an effort to understand the issues, and to accurately portray the nature of Mr Self's presentation to the Council.

An informed and considered public discussion of the pros and cons of hydraulic fracturing deserves better than your editorial. And the public has the right to expect integrity in such discussions.

For the record:

In regard to your call for an examination of the links between hydraulic fracturing and groundwater con-

tamination or earthquakes, the Council has already undertaken and publicised the results of an assessment of the hydrogeologic risks associated with hydraulic fracturing, in collaboration with the Crown research institute, GNS Science. The report finds there is little risk to groundwater from properly conducted hydraulic fracturing.

Likewise, the Council has commissioned and published a report by GNS Science which finds no evidence of any observable effect of hydraulic fracturing on natural earthquake activity in Taranaki. This thorough report includes expert scientific analysis of more than 3,000 seismic events that occurred in Taranaki over a 10-year period.

Both reports provide the Council's position on these questions and are available on the Council's website.

It is important to note that these reports focus on hydraulic fracturing as it occurs in Taranaki conditions. While a wealth of information, speculation and allegations about the technique

are readily accessible on the internet, very little of this is relevant to its practice in Taranaki.

Mr Self has consistently failed to provide a single shred of evidence to support the public statements he made against this Council's performance at the hearing of submissions on the Long-Term Plan on May 2012.

At the meeting, he expressed criticism of councillors, executive management and Council staff, and made allegations of corrupt behaviour that were disgracefully inaccurate and slanderous. I take the reputation of our Council and staff seriously and do not like our integrity to be falsely impugned when the charges are so patently unfounded.

The statements made regarding Mr Self's behaviour at the public meeting were entirely appropriate and endorsed unanimously by all councillors.

Contrary to your editorial, Mr Self is not being denigrated for taking a stance against fracking. He is being challenged for his offensive and unfounded com-

ments about councillors and Council staff.

Individuals are entitled to hold opinions on matters and express them in public. It is my view, however, that people in editorial roles and local authority councillors

have a duty to maintain an appropriate standard in public debate.

*Yours faithfully
BG Chamberlain
Chief Executive*

Points noted. Editor

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Shocked at condition of dog after being in pound

An Opunake resident was shocked at the condition of their dog after 17 days in the Hawera Dog Pound. One of her four pups who the bitch was nursing died at the pound.

Julia Anderson who lives in Dorset Street said a dog ranger picked up her dog Missy and four pups "because she scared a lady out on the street".

A second dog also on the premises, a Huntaway, had "raced out and barked and frightened the lady." He was protecting Missy believes Julia who followed him "to protect her pups".

The woman complained and the dog ranger picked her up along with the four pups having twice visited



Missy and her puppies.

the premises at the somewhat unusual times of 4am in the first visit and 10pm several days later. A week later the dog ranger from Hawera took both dogs and the pups.

While Julia said she didn't "have an issue with the dog being taken" she felt she wasn't properly looked after. This was despite Julia supplying food for the dog

while she raised the cash to pay the \$200 fine to get the dog and puppies back.

When she finally picked her up she was shocked by her condition.

"She was malnourished and the pups were all wet", said Julia adding they wash the kennels with hoses with the dogs in the cages.

All the pups were soaking wet when she picked them up and one died there, she said. "He was the biggest," Julia added.

Julia said she was concerned for the other animals in the pound.

"Someone is not looking after the animals properly."

The sweet natured Missy is part pitball, who Julia says she found "at a party in Waitara" being mistreated.



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Theatre receives huge grant

Continued from page 1

The structural strengthening of the theatre is Stage 1 of a safety and upgrade plan. This security of funding not only allows the committee complete the initial essential work but also to start

planning for Stage 2 of the upgrade including internal refurbishment of the building and the necessary upgrade of the toilet areas. It could cost another \$100,000 - \$150,000.

This confidence to be able to proceed follows the recent de-

cision to by The Egmont Plains Community Board, as part of the South Taranaki District Council's 2012- 21022 long term plan submission process, to defer a decision until its Wednesday the 11th of July 2012 meeting. This was stated

by the council to be due to a number of reasons that required more consideration.

It was incorrectly stated by this paper that the funding application for the Everybody's Theatre of Opunake had been declined.

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Councillor's Comment

I am constantly in awe of the rural towns and communities in our district. They are full of focussed, committed go-getters who believe in their community and work their butts off to make things happen. They work long hard hours on a voluntary basis to create and maintain facilities for all ages and to encourage participation in a diverse range of activities.

Without these people the fabric and fibre of our rural communities would be bland, boring and totally uninteresting. There would be a lack of the many important services and amenities contributed by so many selfless volunteers.

It was no surprise then that there was a huge list of submissions to the recent Long Term Plan from community groups and their supporters, each wanting support from Council to continue doing what they do for the communities they serve.

It's a really different experience, being in the 'deciding seat' as opposed to the 'asking seat.' How does one judge

that a certain project deserves more support (money) than the other? Who is really able to elevate one group's value to a community above another group in another community - or across the whole district? What really makes a difference and who benefits most - a specific user group, a particular township or the South Taranaki district at large?

Despite what some people may think, the coffers at Council are not bottomless and nor do we as councillors flippantly make our decisions about what to do with ratepayers' monies. Sitting in the 'deciding seat' means that while we may be able to call on our own local knowledge and experience, we really must rely on information that you, the people across the district, make available to us to.

After all, none of us will be able to claim to have the full picture of what the Waitotara community considers a priority and conversely have the total handle on what's

happening in Pungarehu and up in Eltham. Only you, the people who live, love, work and play in those areas can tell us what you want for your communities for the years to come.

This year, based on cases made to us, the Council decided to up the level of support for the Sandfords Event Centre from \$25k to \$40k per year for the next three years and is also supporting the iconic Taranaki National Art Awards for the amount of \$10k per year over the same timeframe. Re-roofing the Opunake Community Baths is on the staff's radar for urgent attention and the funding already tagged for new public toilets is going to be directed towards the Coastal Care facility - with public toilets included.

For the major stuff, community consultation is crucial to this process. Last year it was about Hawera's Cinema2. This year the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust, the group that created and manages the inland island pest-

free sanctuary around Lake Rotokare near Eltham, also put their significant application (\$600k over 10 years) out to the community for feedback.

The result? An avalanche of support that made up more than 60% of the submissions to the Long Term Plan - that's more than 500 of the 800 submissions we received. That's 'a heck of a lot of reading' for councillors - but the message was clear and is one we listened to.

The same process has been suggested for the committed, community-minded bunch heading the drive to restore Everybody's Theatre. If this or any other group asks for community feedback please give it. Your Council is committed to considering all your comments and where there's obvious and overwhelming support... or not... for something from the very people whose money we are allocating - then who are we to argue?

New graduate

RIGHT:

Nikki Morgan, daughter of Nelson (Foxy) and Ruth Morgan from Rahotu who has graduated with a Bachelor of Communications Degree from Massey University in Palmerston North. Nikki attended Rahotu Primary and Opunake High School.



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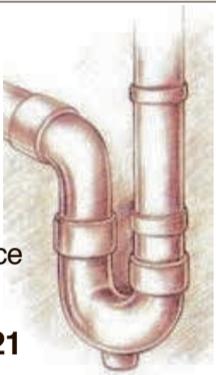
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Hair on Main - New look, New Stylist



From left, Yvonne Huxtable (owner), Angie Sturzaker and Nicole Anderson.

community.

Yvonne points out that there is a 20% discount if you book with Nicole during this month.

New look

Yvonne, her partner Stacey, and her father Kevin, had a busy Queen's Birthday weekend. The interior of the salon was modified, to allow more styling bays to be established, as well as extra seating. The renovation included the building of an internal wooden wall – attractively wall papered, which completed the renovations. Last week was the first with the new look salon.

"It's good, it's refreshing", enthused Yvonne. She added, "They say a change is as good as a holiday".

One loyal client, who travels all the way from Inglewood, was most impressed. "Fantastic", was Kerry Chard's to-the-point comment.

Yvonne and her two staff members Nicole and An-

gie are looking forward to working together in their revamped premises.

"We'd like to welcome all new and existing clients", says Yvonne. They will ap-

preciate Hair on Main's extended hours; Wednesday and Thursday 9.30am to 7pm, Friday 9.30am to 5pm and Saturdays 9am to 12 midday.

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Ralph joins Don Oakes Motors

There is a new face at Don Oakes Motors, 146 Broadway Stratford. The second hand car yard will be well served by Ralph Wicks, who has extensive experience in the trade.

Ralph was working until recently for a Hawera car firm, for five years and his new position means he'll be closer to where he lives.

"I'll offer good old fashioned friendly service", says Ralph with a smile.

Ralph has trade experience in other centres, such as Wellington where he was born and bred. He completed his trade certificate in panelbeating in the capital.

Cars aren't only his profession, it is also his hobby. His entry in Americarna, a Trans-am vehicle is well known. "Everyone knows it", he comments.

All the best in your new position, Ralph.



Ralph Wicks of Don Oakes Motors

with Lotteries Board which has to be completed in early July, they are also working on several other fronts to secure funds from other sources. In the meantime there is a concept floor plan of the new building on display in the Opunake Library, as well as some leaflets for those who

have mislaid them Cull cows donations can be made by contacting either: Riverlands: Bruce Thompson 06 278 7432 or 027 445 5285 or Silver Fern Farms: Dex Newland 06 758 0760 or 027 666 0264

Publicity officer

Coastal Care Update

The big news is we can now confirm that St John has gifted their land to the Coastal Care Trust and submissions are under way to the South Taranaki District Council requesting the gifting of their two adjoining properties on the corner of Napier and King Streets. At the Council's 30th May deliberation meeting, councilors were very supportive of our requests and have asked staff to work through the legal issues required to gift the two adjoining properties to the Trust and bring all three properties under one title. They also agreed to incorporate the new public toilets they were going to build in town within the Coastal Care facility. Mayor Ross Dunlop, said the Coastal Care facility was a fantastic community project and that the Council should do whatever it could to support the Trust.

Of equal importance is we have received \$358,685.64 from our community and on a daily basis donations and pledges are still coming in following the door to door collections that were held

in March. This means the community has reached almost 90% of the public fundraising total, an amazing community achievement and one to be proud of. We have more fundraising projects in the pipeline to be run through to end 2013 including tournaments, social functions, and dinners. If anyone has other suggestions for these or would like to help, we would love to hear from you.

To date we have received 312 letters of support, and when donation and pledge letters are included a total of 418 households or 30% of all householders in the Coastal area have shown their support for Coastal Care. If you want to boost this number and have one of the leaflets sitting on your table, it's not too late to send it back to the Trust. We also have letters of support from Midlands Health Network, Taranaki Iwi Trust, Taranaki District Health Board, St John, Plunket and the Egmont Plains Community Board. The Trust is talking with the TSB Community Trust and also finalising our application

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David Lindsay

A burglary has occurred on Castle Street around the 3rd of June 2012 and a large flat screen TV in their house that they got from 'a mate', you should let Police know. There may be a legitimate reason for it, but if it's too good to be true...there's a reason for it!

Burglars are scum. They don't understand the effect it has on families whose house get burgled. The invasion of privacy is probably the biggest effect it has on people, particularly women and children who often feel

little to no income has suddenly got a large flat screen TV in their house that they got from 'a mate', you should let Police know. There may be a legitimate reason for it, but if it's too good to be true...there's a reason for it!

Burglars are scum. They don't understand the effect it has on families whose house get burgled. The invasion of privacy is probably the biggest effect it has on people, particularly women and children who often feel

vulnerable enough and the only place they feel really safe is the home - and that sanctity is taken away from them. They don't want to be left home alone anymore because they are scared that the burglar may return and the effects of this can go on for years.

So let's start dealing to these 'scumbags' and give Police the information needed to lock them up. Burglary can carry a 10 year jail term, and we are all for taking away their liberty if it means people are getting a good nights sleep after watching their large flat screen TV, which they have paid for with their own hard earned money.

On a good note however a 16 year old Eltham male is being dealt with by Youth Aid for his involvement in the burglary of the Antique shop across from the Police Sta-

tion a few weeks back. No property has been recovered and another male is still wanted by Police so if you have any information get on the 'old dog and bone'.

The cold weather has hit tonight as I write this, so be careful on the roads out there and drive to the conditions and keep speeds down in the wet and when frosty. It's better to be late than never arrive at all.

I am off to Auckland to watch the All Blacks play Ireland this weekend so I will be living the dream. When I saw Dougal the other day he had 'man-flu' which has been scientifically proven to be equal to if not worse than giving birth so hopefully he is back on deck soon and looking for lots of sympathy.

Be good!

Coal seam gas nightmare

"Do we really want Eastern Taranaki to turn into an industrial wasteland?" asks Climate Justice Taranaki spokesperson Teresa Goodin in response to Solid Energy's announcement to focus on coal seam gas in Taranaki.

The state owned enterprise (SOE) announced recently they are applying to New Zealand Petroleum and Minerals for a five-year extension of its permits in eastern Taranaki to allow their coal

seam gas project to move to an appraisal/discovery phase.

"Solid Energy's announcement is particularly ironic, because just a few weeks ago at a screening of the documentary 'Gasrush' in New Plymouth about the Australian CSG industry, we had guys from the oil and gas industry there telling the audience afterwards that the documentary wasn't relevant in Taranaki because it is mostly about CSG. Well,

that documentary and the situation in Australia has become very relevant now, and I think it's time for farmers and landowners in the back blocks of Eastern Taranaki to look into this issue, because you don't have to dig too far to find how CSG has affected the farmers and the environment in Aussie. I would expect organisations like Federated Farmers and the Taranaki Rural Support Trust to investigate this issue and assess the potential impacts on their members and the future of food production in our region", said Teresa Goodin. "The Coal Seam Gas (CSG) industry in Australia has severely affected ground water aquifers. Water levels have dropped significantly in some areas, putting farming operations at great risk. Huge areas are condemned for storage of highly saline, toxic waste fluids as a result of this industry. We now see Australian farmers (graziers, wine growers), landowners, environmentalists

and politicians organising en masse against the oil and gas industry as part of the 'Lock the Gate' campaign denying the gas companies access to their land."

PEPANZ CEO David Robinson himself acknowledged the danger, "Coal seam gas is extracted using a pressure change within the structure created by extracting water from within the coal seam. Water management is a challenge for this industry. By comparison, conventional and tight gas resources are typically found at significantly greater depths."

Teresa Goodin emphasized, "Solid Energy is a SOE owned by all New Zealanders. We find it deeply worrying that a company owned by all of us is engaging in such life-threatening activities in our region. Solid Energy's environmental track-record is far from rosy. Solid Energy has severely polluted the Ngakawau River from their West Coast Stockton Mine, driven the Mt Augustus native snail into extinction and are threatening rare abundant kiwi habitat in Happy Valley."

"We will keep on organising resistance against oil, gas, coal and especially fracking in our communities. Although not all CSG wells require fracking, many do. This extraction technique is dangerous as it can have disastrous effects on ground water aquifers, requires toxic wastes to be disposed and stops us once again from moving towards renewable energy sources instead of burning fossil fuels" said Teresa Goodin.

Teresa Goodin can be contacted on 06 763 8889 or 027 454 3585.

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Bitter farewell to closed Te Kiri School buildings



A solemn farewell to the buildings that were Te Kiri School - soon to be demolished. On the far right is Vern Coxhead a former BOT Chairperson. Sixth from right is the last Chairperson Neville Ardern.

“Bitterly disappointed”, was the comment of Neville Ardern (Last BOT chairperson) at a meeting to farewell the closed Te Kiri School buildings on June 7, which was attended by Treaty Office officials, such as Wayne O’Styke, Asset Manager OTS Landbank and Allison Carr, Landbank Associate Manager OTS Landbank, as well as people closely associated with the school, which was closed by the ministry of Education in 2003.

The meeting was initially held on the roadside just outside the main entrance gates. After a while the group, numbering about twenty, took a stroll through the grounds. What was to be seen was a sorry sight as vandalism and minimal maintenance has taken its toll.

“We live here and drive past seeing it vandalised, gates stolen, windows smashed, with the knowledge we were helpless to

do anything about it”, complained Neville Ardern.

Also present was another Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Vern Coxhead. There were also people who had served on the Board of Trustees, in other capacities, such as Judith Armstrong. Lorraine Williamson, who was principal for seven years and the Principal at the time of closure Jill Danson were also at the meeting.

Ironically, it is a former student of the school Darcy Keene of Darcy Keene Earthmoving Ltd, who will be carrying out the demolition. He listened carefully to speakers requesting which features should be kept, such as the tarsealed court, as the community intend using the site as public facility – possibly a caravan park.

Neville Ardern outlined the frustration of dealing with the Ministry of Education who made assurances – such as “tidying the place up within six months”, but did not. He also pointed out that

the community wanted to buy the site as a public facility, but were not allowed to. “Now money is being used to smash it up – it’s a little bit bizarre”, he remarked.



Wayne O’Styke (left) and Neville Ardern listen to Allison Carr speaking.

Considerable ground was covered during the lively discussion, such as the occupation by squatters at one point. Again intervention was discouraged. “The police told us to back off”, explained Neville Ardern.

The extent of reported consultation was another contentious point – the lo-

cal iwi were consulted adequately, but the local community seemingly less so. Vern Coxhead pointed out that there were no local iwi living in the vicinity at the time of closure. “The ones here were from the Hawkes Bay”. He added, “It’s just nonsense”.

He also said that four generations of his family had attended the Te Kiri School. His late father Doug Coxhead as a ten-year-old planted trees on the west end of the property.

Lorraine Williamson asked if special trees and features of historical significance could be saved. “Quite a few historical things were put in by the community,” she explained.

Opinion seemed divided as to whether the demolition was even needed. Vern Coxhead felt it was now necessary as the buildings were in such a parlous state. However, Jill Danson felt that “the bones of the buildings are still sound”.

Allison Carr perhaps summed up the feelings of the meeting when she concluded, “There are no winners here”. Neville Ardern added another pertinent point. “This (sorry) situation is not totally unsatisfactory if something can be learned from it”.

Cr Ian Armstrong, whose wife Judith was on the Board of Trustees commented, “It’s sad and unnecessary the whole closure process”.

When the Te Kiri School was closed, “The soul was ripped out of the community and it was left to rot”, concluded Neville Ardern.

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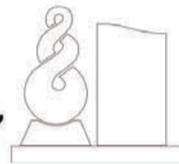
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Education backdown shows bigger problems afoot



Andrew Little, List MP

Last week's back down on class sizes has brought to light some serious shortcomings in how this government operates.

We have been softened up for months over changes to education. When the Treasury Secretary feels the need to give extended interviews on education funding and to talk specifically about class sizes, as he did back in Feb-

ruary this year, it's a safe bet something is up. It's clear the government has been working on the education plan for months.

The political spin since the beginning of the year has been about raising teacher quality and raising class sizes to do so. Few of us accepted the logic. We just could not see how in an age of individualised goal-setting and study plans, even for primary school kids, adding more kids to the classroom for the teacher to get around was going to improve quality.

I suspect we thought (I know I did) that if the change was no more than one or two extra children to a classroom, most teachers would probably cope and there wouldn't be too great a degradation of teaching quality.

When the Budget announcement came, it sounded benign. Most schools would lose no more than one teach-

er. Some would even gain a teacher or two.

But looked at more closely, the reality was far from a modest change. It was radical. The separate funding for specialist teachers at intermediate schools was going. Schools talked of losing not one or two teachers but their entire technology departments of five or seven teachers.

And when the Education Minister Hekia Parata was asked how many schools were losing teacher funding, she would not say. When she was asked which schools were gaining extra teachers, as she claimed, she could not say.

It soon became clear that the questions that should have been asked early in the development of the policy and then around the Cabinet table simply were not asked. Either officials did not do their job properly or Cabinet Ministers

did not do theirs. Or perhaps both failed.

The government's view is still that there is nothing wrong with the policy. It explains the backdown by saying the public isn't ready for the trade-off. This is political speak for "parents don't appreciate how good this is for them and they are just being emotional".

The real question is how a policy like this got so far without any consultation with those affected by it, including our teaching professionals. School heads were told on the day of the Budget what was happening.

We should all continue to scrutinise education policy. It's too important to the future of the nation. The next big thing seems to be performance pay for teachers. In my next column I will explain why I think this is another madness that should be soundly opposed.



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Steady hands on the wheel



Jonathan Young, New Plymouth MP

Budget 2012 aims to get the Government's books back into shape, and does so in a way that continues to support New Zealanders, maintain public services and protect the most vulnerable in our society. It is a responsible and sensible budget, given the world economic climate, and it addresses some of the major issues that we're facing as a country.

Our focus is fourfold. It is to responsibly manage the government's finances; building a more competitive and productive economy; deliver better public services and rebuild Christchurch.

At the same time, the Gov-

ernment is investing in the future. We're continuing to spend money in priority areas like health and education, and in areas that will help build a more competitive economy, such as infrastructure and innovation. It does what governments around the world are striving to achieve.

The headline story of our financial management is that we are on track to post an operating surplus in 2014/15. True, it's not the world's biggest surplus at around \$200 million, but it's a very important milestone. Getting our books back to surplus helps keep mortgage rates lower for longer - which affects nearly every household and business in the country. It also helps take the pressure off the exchange rate which helps exporters, and it will help to insulate our economy against any future economic shocks, which is important in a world that remains economically unstable.

When we come back into surplus, it will be the first time in a number of years the Government will be raising enough revenue to meet its commitments without having to increase debt, and that is critically important.

Looking back from where we've come from - the New Zealand economy lost competitiveness in the 2000s because growth was built on all the wrong things - debt, consumption and a huge increase in government spending. The difficult economic conditions we are in come from a combination of a deep on-going global recession coinciding with a protracted difficult economic times which started in the last term of the previous Labour gov-

ernment. And the internationally competitive parts of the New Zealand economy, which should be the engine of economic growth, were going backwards - they were effectively in recession from 2004 onwards.

When Bill English gave his first Budget in 2009, the economy had shrunk two-and-a-half per cent over the previous year, from the first quarter of 2008 to the first quarter of 2009. That was the largest annual percentage fall in GDP since the early 1980s.

Looking forward, growth across the developed world will now have to be earned the hard way. It can't be stoked along by government spending and it won't be fed by a big increase in borrowing. Households, businesses and governments are having to reduce the debt they built up over the 2000s, and they are saving rather than spending.

Looking forward, we're focused on creating the right conditions to help Kiwi businesses grow and compete on the world stage. The Budget includes \$326 million of operating and capital funding for science and innovation over four years, including \$166 million for the Advanced Technology Institute to help high-tech firms get their best ideas out of the lab and into the marketplace faster. To complement this, we are also investing in training more engineers and scientists.

As we become more innovative and productive, our economic growth will create more jobs and higher paying jobs. Growth in New Zealand over the next three years is forecast to be higher than in

Europe, UK, Japan, USA and Canada and about the same as Australia.

That's because growth in New Zealand will be based on strong fundamentals. We are producing the sorts of products, and providing the sorts of services, that will be in demand over coming decades.

Sixty per cent of our exports now go to Australia, East Asia or Southeast Asia. East and Southeast Asia, in particular, are the most vibrant and thriving regions in the world. Also the rebuilding of Christchurch is effectively a massive stimulus programme funded to a significant degree through insurance pay-outs from overseas.

So New Zealand faces a relatively favourable set of circumstances and opportunities over coming years. However, we have to make the most of the opportunities while at the same time recognising that we are not immune to global risks. Surplus is not just achieved through keeping a lid on excessive spending; it is more positively achieved through growing the economy which creates more jobs and greater wealth for New Zealanders. From this the tax base grows and the government's income can meet its expenses and then start reducing the debt that has built up over time.

The government has a strong plan well underway to build growth in our economy so New Zealanders can have the life they deserve in this country of natural abundance and opportunity. I will talk more about these in my next column here in the Opunake and Coastal News.

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Impressive information evening at Coastal Taranaki School

There was a huge turnout of people at CTS's information evening on June 6, where the focus was on the educational programmes of students Years 5-8. The event started in the hall, with a talk and PowerPoint presentation. Principal Allan Miles, Margaret Normanton and Nichola Lash were involved here. The main focus was on Year 5 and 6.

Underpinning the evening was ensuring enough well-presented information and scholastic samples were presented so that the community was made fully aware of the diverse, rich seamless programmes that are available at CTS, as well as the excellent teaching of the curriculum. Also, an integral part of the process is the use of professionals in different vocations, such as award-winning artist Sandi Hickey and jeweller Sally Laing, to act as both as source of knowledge and inspiration in a mentoring capacity.

After the introduction, visitors were directed to different parts of the school to hear more about different aspects of the curriculum and out-of-classroom programmes. The Middle School (Years 7-10) programme was presented by Hamish Hislop, Sharleen Valentine and Rowan Oldfield. The Art, Music and Performing Arts were presented by Sandi Hickey, John Riccitelli and Brigitte Luke. Marian Richardson and Sally Laing presented the Technology and ICT programme. The Physical Education, Sports Academy and Te Reo Maori programmes were presented by Karla Ralph, Ray Hay-

ward and Chris Luke. There was a brief Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) presentation.

Input was also provided by Rae Dalgleish (Science), Joel Dodd (Maths/VC), Ben Naughton (English), and Judi Miles (Literacy support).

An important part of the process of explaining the school's programmes and educational philosophy is the brand new, attractively presented prospectus. *"By fully involving parents in student learning a holistic understanding of the young person is enhanced. A long-term relationship with students is uniquely possible at our Year 1-13 Area school. A seamless education helps us work together to guide the student to become a lifelong learner. In this way CTS students leave fully equipped with a kete of talents ready to take on the 21st century"*.

The prospectus goes on to explain such innovations as the CTS School Sports Academy, where students showing promise in particular sports are targeted and provided with expert coaching/mentoring by well-performed sportspeople. An example is Zak Hetherington, who was mentored by Shane King. The results are outstanding; Zak went on to win the NZ Motocross Grand Prix. Well worth a look is the great photograph of Zak.

Board of Trustees Chairperson Steve Ralph was enthusiastic about the evening. *"It's a fantastic exhibition of what's on offer here"*.

A huge amount of work must have gone into the event, as there was so much



Qualified jeweller Sally Laing with a selection of the student creations she has helped to inspire by her mentoring and expertise.

to hear and see. Much of the credit must go to Brigitte Luke and Ben Naughton, according to Principal Allan Miles. "Lots of work has gone into getting ready for the evening. We want the community to know what we are offering here", he commented.

A feature of the evening was the courteous students who acted as hosts and information providers, such as Ethan Wooldridge, who certainly impressed.

The staff and BOT members circulated and were more than ready to answer questions and explain curriculum matters and procedures. Assistant Principal Ben Naughton explained that the evening was designed to integrate the community's involvement into the school to a greater degree than is currently the case.

Apart from the excellent classroom/curriculum programmes, a strength of the school is what happens *outside* the classroom, such as education for sustainability programmes, such as dune

reclamation at Waikirikiri Lagoon, and the 600 trees planted in the Stent Road vicinity, vegetable gardens (e.g. garlic crops), orchards, camps and many diverse sporting opportunities.

The evening concluded with a delicious supper in the Food Technology room.

BOT Chairperson Steve Ralph summed up what many visitors must have been thinking. "Wow - what an amazing evening". He went on to conclude, "We want CTS to be the school of choice in Taranaki".

However, he pointed out that constructive feedback may help this process and asked that visitors fill out the feedback forms, which were readily available. "If there is something we can do better, we need to know about it", he explained. It would be appreciated if feedback could reach the school by June 29 (Week 10, Term 2).

What an impressive evening. One student summed it all up on one of the films shown, "It's a really awesome school. There's heaps of things to do".

Congratulations Coastal Taranaki School, who plan another evening on June 26, with the focus on Years 8 to 13.



Ella Beaumont (aged 15) shows her beautiful art work at the CTS Information evening.



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Recently married

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The couple who own Creative Stone in New Plymouth live at Okato.

Parents and babies growing together



Two mothers and their curiously active babies

Do you sing to your baby? Do you pull funny faces and tell them stories or even let them know what you're doing and where you are going? All these interactions and conversations are important in those first months and will later develop into longer conversations, and the singing nursery rhymes and favourite songs. The skills and development we see in older children stem from the early interactions created during infancy.

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ents Alongside Children's Education) is a programme in Taranaki that offers parents the opportunity to meet other parents and children in their community. At SPACE we discuss relevant child development and parenting topics and babies get to explore age-appropriate toys in a safe, friendly environment.

Becoming a parent is an important role that is rewarding and challenging. SPACE offers parents a place to meet once a week for support and encouragement as they share the journey through their children's early months.

As the first and best educators of their babies, parents

get to learn and grow along with their babies. A parent will experience the smiles and baby talk, and to observe and understand more as the baby explores and responds to singing and interactions with other babies.

Some comments from parents who have been to SPACE are:

"SPACE gave me play ideas for me and my baby. It also gave me a better understanding as to why my baby was doing certain things."

"My baby has been able to socialise with babies a similar age and have opportunities I wouldn't have thought of."

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"I'm afraid I can't; it was really traumatising; I was horrified; I'm sick and tired of" ... the little things we say on a regular basis that we think nothing of. It's just our way of talking, no big deal right?

Well what if it was a big deal? What if your subconscious acted just a like a recording device, recording everything you think and say as fact?

The words you use not only have impact on the people around you, but these words also impact your inner reality and thus the way you perceive the world. The words you use are recorded by your subconscious as reality which

then influences your feelings, actions, even your physical health.

So is there really a problem with a few negative words here and there, or the odd negative phrase that you don't really mean as literally as it sounds? Well, if we think of a leaking pipe, where a few drips of water may not cause a problem, dripping water continuing over weeks, months, and years causes extensive damage to your house.

The language you use is actually very powerful in shaping your inner and outer reality. Furthermore it's a power you can master.

Try it out...choose a phrase that you regularly use that contains a negative or limiting word/s. Examine this phrase, what if those specific negative words you regularly say actually impacted your feelings and actions? For example "I'm afraid"; imagine how many times a day your subconscious records the "fact" that you are "afraid".

You might choose to al-

"I liked the warm, friendly and open atmosphere."

SPACE has programmes running in New Plymouth, Inglewood, Stratford and Hawera and now there is an opportunity for SPACE to hold a programme in Opunake. Sessions are once a week for 2.5 hours at a Playcentre. A session consists of a welcome song then a discussion on a topic, ranging from 'sleeping' to 'what do I see'. A break for coffee allows a chance to chat to other parents followed by an activity creating a resource for the baby to take home. After this a book may be read or relaxed fun singing to the babies. Sessions normally run alongside a school term and go for approx 9 months.

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Do you have a baby under 8 months, or know anyone who may be interested in attending a SPACE session please contact either Celia Howatson (06) 762 2788 or Paula Finderup (06) 7535925. Or email spacetaranaki@gmail.com or text the word BABY to 407. To obtain more information about SPACE nationally take a look at the website www.SPACE.org.nz.

ter a common phrase, "I'm afraid ..." by dropping the word "afraid" from your vocabulary unless of course it's absolutely fitting to use it.

Commit to changing your chosen phrase or dropping your frequently used negative word for a period of weeks. Notice how it feels to change your choice of words in this way, if feels awkward or difficult at first, persevere until it feels more natural.

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St John volunteers needed in South Taranaki

St John needs new volunteers to support its ambulance services in South Taranaki communities. The call for additional volunteers comes only seven months after its last recruitment campaign in Taranaki.

“St John urgently needs people in South Taranaki communities to step up and support the work we do in their districts,” St John Taranaki District Operations Manager Ian May says. He attributes reduced number of volunteers in South Taranaki to people with changing circumstances, people moving out of the district and increased work and family commitments.

“People’s circumstances change; they move away or have other commitments that take priority in their lives. These factors have led to reduced numbers of St John volunteers,” he says.

While the shortage is urgent and he encourages local people to volunteer and support St John and their

communities, he is quick to point out that an emergency ambulance will always be sent when a call is received.

“St John has a comprehensive network of volunteers and paid staff throughout Taranaki who ensure that cover is provided at all times. The shortage highlights a need to recruit and train people in South Taranaki where our volunteer numbers have reduced so that the towns and rural areas are armed with local resources,” he says.

Volunteering with St John is a commitment that many people find rewarding as they learn new skills and gain qualifications.

“As a volunteer you directly contribute to the welfare of your community. We need volunteers in Patea, Waverley, and Opunake in particular, people who can commit time once a week to be a St John volunteer,” he says.

Volunteers receive comprehensive training to prepare them for their roles and are encouraged to commit to regular shifts so that they

are able to hone their skills and gain qualifications. Ambulance volunteers are involved in a variety of work ranging from emergency life and death scenarios to assisting with patient transfers to and from hospital.

“St John volunteers enjoy the support, friendship and a sense of belonging and achievement that comes with belonging to our organisation. They need to be committed to their role and giving something back to their community but in return St John is committed to them,” Mr May says.

Prospective volunteers need to have a current driver’s licence and first aid certificate. Volunteers receive St John driver and pre-hospital emergency care training and success in these courses can lead to further training as an Ambulance Officer funded by St John.

“People in South Taranaki towns and rural areas need to step up and support St John so we can support their communities. St John is a great opportunity to give something back to your

community, learn new skills and be part of an organisation that makes a difference.” he says.

During the New Zealand Volunteer Awareness week, on the 17th to the 23rd of June, meetings will be held in Waverley, Patea and Opunake where local people will have the opportunity to talk to local St John volunteers and discover what the role of volunteer Ambulance officer involves and find out how they can support St John in their community.

In Opunake the meeting will be at 7pm on Monday the 18th of June at the Stevenson’s Sports Lounge, Sandfords Events Centre.

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Stepping Stones open day a real success



Anne Davies cuts the ribbon while Head Teacher Sarah MacGregor happily looks on.

Many people turned up to the Stepping Stones Open Day, held on Monday June 11. The event commenced with a short speech by Head Teacher Sarah MacGregor, when she thanked various people, such as her sister Katie and mother Anne Davies for their support.

She also introduced the other teacher Carolyn Primrose and Centre Administrator Michaela Taankink. This was followed by the official cutting of the ribbon by Anne.

Next, Rev Alby Martin blessed the premises and,

provided for the visitors, with a wide variety of finger food, as well as drinks.

There was a lot of information on hand including enrolment information, useful pamphlets, such as 'Immunising Your Child' and 'Eating for Health' for ages 2-12' and official documents.

The teachers are well qualified and their qualifications were displayed as well as their philosophy of teaching and child care.

"Stepping Stones Early Childhood Centre's teaching philosophy involves a respectful, interactive ap-

proach, containing flexibility and adaptability in a fun, warm, caring environment where we can develop trusting bonds with individual children that encourage them to explore, engage and achieve".

There are many activity areas and the numerous children were soon absorbed in a wide variety of endeavours. There is a library corner, waves slide, costume and hat area, maths table, doll's house, fish tank – you name it.

A multitude of books were everywhere you looked. One had a good message "Don't



Visitors mingle looking at the interesting arrangement of activity centres and displays.

with the help of students from Coastal Taranaki School, sprinkled holy water throughout the premises.

A sumptuous spread was

eat the Teacher" by Nick Ward. It was very near the spacious fish tank; I wonder what kind of fish are in there?

Commented Kelly Kahui, who was accompanied by her child Jesse, "It's beautiful. It's emotional too to see so many people here". Kelly will be keeping the premises spick and span. as the cleaning person.

The Open Day was obviously very well planned and a resounding success, as reflected by the comments of many people. "Love it" and "Fantastic, well done"

Anne-Maree Harris (13) a Year 9 student of Coastal Taranaki School was certainly impressed. "It's a pretty good set up". She added, "I really like that marae bunk house", which was pictured in the May 31 issue of this newspaper (page 24).

The first day that Stepping Stones will be open is expected to be Monday June 18. Feel free to call round at 2502 State Highway 45, RD 37, Okato. Alternatively, you are welcome to phone 06 752 4289 or try the cell-phone 027 322 3318.

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RD1 moves into new premises into the old Taranaki Farmers Building, corner of Napier and Tasman Streets



Above: Farewelling The old premises the Staff at RD 1 look forward to seeing everyone at their Gand Relocation Celebration Thursday 21 June 6pm-9pm
 Back row: Jaana Miller Peter Burnnand , Paddy Deegan, Carol Dodunski Front row Stacey Shearer ,Janice Burnnand and Belinda Wilson

RD1 Opunake Store Manager Carol Dodunski started work at RD1 Opunake in 1994, and has not moved too far away since.

"I started out at Opunake in 1994 at the old factory site. There was only Harry Gorton, and store manager, the late Robert Fisher, and I in the store, and things have changed a lot since then."

Carol moved to RD1 Stratford in 2006, and four years later moved down the road to RD1 Hawera. From there it was back to Opunake

where she is now the recently appointed Store Manager.

Carol says she enjoys the customers and making sure they are well looked after. "I try to help them as much as I can by providing the support and advice they need, and if they need someone on farm, I make sure that happens."

Dairying is in Carol's blood. She currently lives in Hawera but was born and bred in Opunake, and raised on the family farm there.

She enjoys watching sport, especially the

V8 supercars and is a regular at the speedway. Movies and concerts come a close second.

Belinda Wilson – technical sales representative

Belinda Wilson is another recent arrival at RD1 Opunake. She is the technical sales and says she loves working with the farming community – "I enjoy working with farmers to move their business forward. It's especially pleasing to help them access new information and product so they are able to make the right decisions."

She says dairying is in my blood. "I've been a farm owner, 50/50 sharemilker, lower order sharemilker, and a relief milker. My job here at RD1 Opunake is an extension of the hands on dairy experience I already have clocked up.

Belinda lives locally with her four children Chanelle 18, Kyle 16, Brodie 14, and Kade 12. She also enjoys stock cars, and motocross and doing family things together. In her 'spare time' she coaches netball and is the manager of a local basketball team, helping out where ever she can.

Peter Burnnand – Sales Assistant RD1 Opunake

Peter joined RD1 Opunake on 20th Feb this year. He has lived in Opunake all his life and has always enjoyed his involvement with the farming sector.

"I worked in the local dairy factory for 15 years and my wife and I ran a seven day dairy grocery business in Opunake. I then spent 22 years with LIC as a herd tester before joining RD1 earlier this year." He says he enjoys talking to customers

and being able to discuss their needs. "My main area is the deliveries which need to be done accurately and promptly."

Peter says his intimate knowledge of the area, plus knowing most of the clients by name is a bonus in his role.

Outside work Peter is the third team member to say they enjoy motorsports. He also gets along to rugby and is the Chairman of the local rugby club and original trustee of the Opunake Sport and Recreation Centre.

Historic Cape Light and Museum - Amazing!

The project to build a replica of the Cape Egmont lighthouse has been a long time in coming and at some cost - \$250,000 and climbing. "Too long", commented Len Pentelow, Foundation Trustee.

"Way too long", agreed Chris Aylward - also a Foundation Trustee.

However, the final result is remarkable, with special emphasis on the information and photographs regarding Lord Ernest Rutherford. The Rutherford family - flaxmillers and farmers - lived in

Lower Parāhaka Road and the Cape Egmont Lighthouse was one of young Ernest's favourite places to visit. Puke Ariki's Catherine Bielawski conducted much of the research on the Rutherford family.

On June 14 the press received a special invitation from the Foundation Trustees to meet with them, see some attractive new signage and have a look through the lighthouse/museum. I could have spent the whole day inside - there was just such a plethora of information to



Inside the lighthouse/museum this part had information and pictures about Lord Ernest Rutherford.

absorb and photographs to see, as well as interesting technology to wonder at - such as the original (Cape Egmont Lighthouse) light mechanism, which has been painstakingly restored by Len Pentelow.

There are three of the Foundation Trustees still involved - Len Pentelow, Chris 'Crusty' Aylward and Ron Thompson. (The fourth original member Frank Williams now lives elsewhere).

The museum will be opened to the public later this year - there are a few finishing touches to be completed. The idea is for the museum to be

open on a donation basis - run by volunteers. The trustees need more volunteers, so if you can help, can you phone Chris on 06 763 8507.

What is there to see - apart from the amazing view from the top? Although information about Lord Rutherford is to the fore, there is also material on ship wrecks, Maori history, the history of lighthouses in NZ, the closure of Warea School, as well as information on major sponsors and the many companies and people involved in the project.

There is even a log book for visitors to inscribe their names and write a comment. One entry was from Graham and Catherine Carter "Proud descendants of Lord Rutherford". Another entry wrote "A magnificent work from conception to completion".

Another entry perhaps sums it all up. "A beautiful and inspiring place to be and see".



Holding the brand new sign are three of the Foundation Trustees (from left) Len Pentelow, Ron Thompson and Chris 'Crusty' Aylward.



Nearly ready for the public, the virtually completed Historic Cape Light and Museum.

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Please join me and Mark Hughson of Hughson and Associates Chartered Accountants at The Club Hotel, Opunake on Tuesday 19 June at 1.30pm to discuss Family Farm Trusts and how we can help save you money! (Lunch snacks available) Please Phone Peter on 022 624 3014 to register your attendance.

Paper for native trees - kiwi kids recycle

Paper4trees is a nationwide programme that provides schools and preschools with resources to set up a paper and cardboard recycling system, such as green classroom recycling bins and posters - all for free! South Taranaki Schools have notably maintained a magnificent effort.

There are 34 South Taranaki Schools (all schools in the area) and one preschool who participate in Paper4trees. In 2011 these schools/preschools diverted over 125 tonnes of paper and cardboard from landfill, saving over 1000 cubic metres of landfill space. For this amazing effort they were rewarded

with 504 native plants.

This effort is on top of that sustained between 2008 and 2011. Over 417 tonnes of paper and cardboard have been diverted from landfill, saving 3338 cubic metres of space. Schools have been rewarded with 1669 trees.

To take part schools in Paper4trees schools need to use the green bins provided and organise the collection of their recycling through kerbside, local contractors, or their nearest recycling centre. The students learn of the need to replenish resources and to put into practice recycling and tree planting within their school grounds, also supporting the curriculum content.

Paper4trees gives schools and preschools an incentive to either start or to increase their recycling rates - with native plants! The more they recycle the more trees they earn! It is predicted that NZ schools/preschools will earn over 30,000 native plants for their 2011 recycling efforts

alone.

Paper4trees was established in 2001, by the Environmental Education for Resource Sustainability Trust (EERST), a not for profit organisation. There are now over 3,720 schools and preschools participating throughout NZ. The growth and continuation of Paper4trees throughout NZ has been thanks to the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Levy Fund and local sponsors.

Shell Todd Oil Services has been a continuous sponsor of Paper4trees in the Taranaki Region. This sponsorship has gone towards the trees and delivery, the replacement resources and EERST's time to run and manage Paper4trees. Shell have committed to sponsoring Paper4trees for another two years!

If you or our business would like to contribute to Paper4trees, please call EERST on 0800 727 4873.

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Top student in dairy science examinations



At a special presentation are, from left, Neil Walker, outstanding student Danny Garrett and Carlos Kumeroa.

A special presentation was made at the Fonterra plant at Eltham on June 5. Danny Garrett, who has been with Fonterra for eight years, and has been engaged in studies at Massey University, was presented with several prestigious awards by Cr Neil Walker in his role as National Chair of the Dairy

Sector of the Institute of Food Science and Technology (NZIFST). Also present at the ceremony was Carlos Kumeroa, Production Manager Process Cheese.

Firstly, Mr Walker presented Danny with the Tetra Pak William Riddet Memorial Prize as the Top Student in Dairy Chemistry

and Dairy Microbiology at Massey University. "It's very important for Taranaki that we have such accomplished people, which Danny is a good example of", said Mr Walker.

"I was very surprised - I didn't know of (such) awards to be won. I was quietly chuffed", Danny commented.

Danny also received the Cryovac Gold Medal Award, whereby he is entitled to a \$2,000 Travel and/or Study Voucher.

In addition Danny received a book - the 'Dairy Processing Handbook'.

Mr Walker said, to his knowledge, Danny is the first Eltham man to have been so acknowledged.

Danny was formerly trained as a chef. However, he felt the hours a chef has to keep were not conducive to quality family life. He is married to Shona and has

two children.

He was born and bred in Hawera and did quite well at school. "I got my School Cert", he commented.

Although his family keeps him busy, he is a "voracious" reader. He enjoys fiction - Wilbur Smith is his favourite writer. He also enjoys a round of golf.

He mentioned three well known figures who have inspired him; ex-All Black Michael Jones, motorcycle inventor John Britten and scientist Einstein "because of what he had to say of life in general".

For the future, in perhaps ten year's time, he hopes a managerial position beckons.

Finally, Danny pays tribute to his wife Shona - the academic honour is "Not only mine, but hers too", mentioning the sacrifices she made to enable him to go off and study.

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Fencing and planting to the fore - 430,000 plants

The importance of stream-side fencing and planting to Taranaki's dairy industry has been highlighted with four farmers being rewarded for their commitment to the work. Industry leaders were on hand to endorse and promote the Taranaki Regional Council's Riparian Management Scheme, under which 430,000 plants are being distributed - a significant increase on last year's 350,000 as implementation is ramped up. The scheme is one the nation's largest water and soil conservation projects and participants who were early with their plant orders went into the draw for \$10,000 worth of prizes.

the programme is transforming Taranaki and Fonterra has long supported it as a major sponsor of the prize draw.

"Now they are telling suppliers that stock must be excluded from waterways, so the message is loud and clear: Now is the time to be getting the fencing and planting completed," he says.

"The Council's Regional Fresh Water Plan is up for review and we will be looking long and hard at whether regulation is needed around riparian protection. If farmers don't demonstrate leadership and get their riparian fencing and planting completed in the next few years, they may well find themselves being led."

Research in NZ and overseas has confirmed that riparian management is an effective means of protecting freshwater quality. Fences prevent stock from fouling waterways and vegetation filters run-off, reduces nutrients entering waterways, provides shade, lowers water temperatures and enhances biodiversity.

A presentation took place at the Council's plant nursery at Lepperton recently. Major winners and their prizes

are: DJ Mathieson Trading Trust (Okato) - 700 riparian plants, preparation, planting and maintenance valued at \$3,500 (sponsored by Fonterra). The Trust has 4km of existing fencing and 3km of proposed fencing remaining. Over the past two years the trust has fenced and planted 1km, using more than 1,900 plants. Allan and Jennifer Hughes (Auroa) - goods to the value of \$2,500 from RD1 (sponsored by Fonterra). The Hughes have completed almost all of the fencing and 42% of the planting along 3km of streambank identified in the riparian plan for their 84.3ha property.

BMW Farms - Mark and Anne Bridges, Darrel and Amy Weston, and Graham Mourie (Te Kiri) - riparian plants worth \$1,000 and Revital fertiliser worth \$2000 (sponsored by Revital Fertilisers). The BMW Farm partners have achieved strong results in a short timeframe by programming their riparian work into farm budgets and engaging a contractor to do the work. All 8km of the farm's streambank are fenced and they have completed 83% of the planting.

Brian and Beverley Broadmore (Warea) - lime and

slurry spreading worth \$1,000 (sponsored by Spray It). The Broadmores began riparian planting in 2009 and have so far completed a third of the 13.5km of planting required. About 8km of fencing will be completed in the next two to three years.

"More and more farmers now recognise riparian fencing and planting as part of their day-to-day business. We've made good progress so far but it's vital that the momentum keeps building," says the Council Chairman, David MacLeod.

The Council has prepared almost 2,400 individual riparian management plans, covering 96% of the region's dairy farms and approximately 12,500km of streambank. In total, 7,358 km (72%) of streambank is protected by fencing and 4,517 km (58%) is protected by planting and vegetation. Mr MacLeod says

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Guinness World Record in Opunake



Celebrating 40 years since they set a Guinness world record, from left, Brian Collins, Rajan Babu, Brian Whelan and Greg Roach.

A Badminton marathon 40 years ago set a new world record in Opunake.

At 11pm on the 27th of May 1972 Opunake JP, Mr

Alf McCall, walked out onto the badminton court at the Opunake High School to announce a New World record had just been established.

What an explosion of joy! Five local Opunake guys had played continuously for eleven and a half days, 280 hours, to break the Guinness

World Book of Records - and helped raise funds to complete the new Opunake High School gymnasium.

Egmont County Council chairman at the time Mr Bill Allen, plus 200 members of the public, congratulated the team members. Members of the team were Brian Collins, Brian Whelan, Rajan Babu, Greg Roach, and the late Lionel Wasley. Players on the court at record time were Brian Whelan and Rajan Babu. The umpire was Jenny Whelan. Each game had to be recorded, with score and signature and checked every day by Mr McCall.

TV1 was present at the record break, and Whelan and Babu were featured on TV1 as a starter for the Sports News for a few weeks. It was a very proud moment replayed for a very proud

time.

The team was very appreciative of the magnificent effort of the cooks and umpires, who worked tirelessly for the whole event. Only two players were on the court at a time rotating at regular hours, so hot meals and 'cuppas' were available at changeovers. People who assisted in the kitchen, were, D Fisher, M Ashley, F Clay, V Dudley, J Reanu, J Whelan, C Coulton, S Roach, and L Drought. (Collins). Umpires who attended were M Dudley, Con Coulton, G Moratti, G Webby, and J Whelan. Some umpires and cooks were unable to be contacted so if you were one of these, please contact celebration organizer Brian Whelan.

40 year celebration meal

A wonderful 40 year 'get together' luncheon and

drinks was held at Surf Inn Hotel, Opunake. Greg Roach brought along a racket he broke during the attempt. His dad modified it to hold a shuttle and a wine glass, which we all had a celebration drink from on the night. Some team members still have a signed shuttle that we used at the time.

Hopefully those who attended will all make it to the 50th. It was sad that Lionel could not be with us. Many thanks to all and to Jason McLachan and his team at Opunake Surf Inn.

Brian Whelan posed the question *What happens next?*

Five students in England broke the 1972 record a few weeks later. Records are made to be broken so...

Why not break it again? How about it Opunake?

Local netballers make reps



Pipar Awahou GA (right) is tightly defended by Rebecca Livingston playing in the Opunake Netball satellite Year 7 and 8 competition.

Local success runs high in netball as the reps are announced for playing at provincial level.

Pipar Awahou, from Opunake Primary School has been selected to play in the Taranaki Year Seven netball team. Also selected as Taranaki representatives are Liarna Waiwiri, also Year Seven, while Jackie Lawn of St Joseph's Opunake and Olivia Bright of Rahoitu Primary are selected for the Taranaki Year Eight team.

Jenna Barrett and Katie Walsh of Sacred Heart Girls College are selected for the Under 15 and Anna Young of Opunake High School for the Under17 Taranaki teams.



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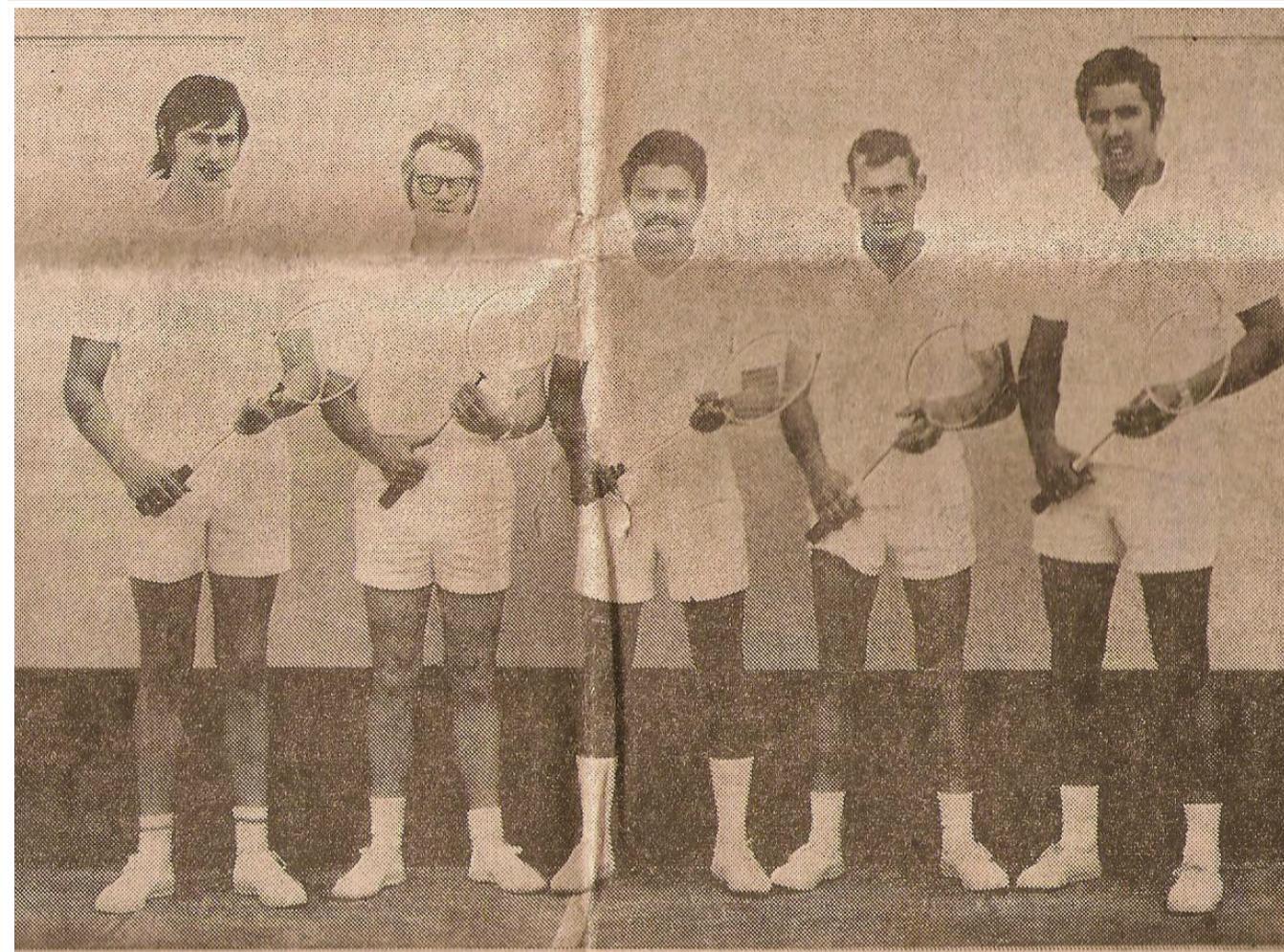
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The record setting team in 1972 Brian Collins, Lionel Wasley, Rajan Babu, Brian Whelan and Greg Roach.

St Joseph's Clash



Kiannai Mayy Thomas Moore fires off her shot in a top of the table Year 7 & 8 grade match. This game was drawn but going to press this evening these two sides Opunake St Josephs Eagles and Opunake St Josephs Falcons faced off again with the Eagles winning 20-32 in a tussle of a game.

Opunake Senior League Basketball

Results
 Tuesday 5th June
 Opunake Junior Girls 31 - Wahine Toa 27
 OHH A Girls 69 - Classics 6
 Nomads W 84 - Allsorts 18
 Nomads B M 51 - Nek Minnit 21
 Friday 8th June
 Rebels 44 - EFS 13
 Cross ova 46 - Blitz 48
 OHS all Stars 67 - OHS Junior Boys 31
 Nomads A Men 44 - Matts Team 37
 OHS A M 36 - FACT 36
 Some Quick reminders. NO outdoor shoes are to be worn on court at all!
 And any senior players interested in playing against rep Stratford mens and womens teams teams, please contact Hadyn Langton.

Thumbs up

To Beauden Barrett for making the All Black squad for Ireland's Tour of New Zealand. Good Luck from all your supporters on the coast.



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Coastal player Steve Barron looks for support from players John Julian and Kane Barrett.

Altum Coastal returned to Opunake to host Hawera based club Southern at the Sandford Evnet Centre's Opunake Domain on the second of June. A good crowd had gathered to see if the competition leaders could keep their unbeaten record clean against a team that were becoming the high flyers of the competition. Both teams played highly competitive football from the first whistle with promising attacks being nullified by equally determined defence with forwards M. Campbell and K. Weir showing out for the Coast on defence. Coastal went out to an early lead through penalties

to Steve Barron with winger Gareth Goodin and Rhys Morgan prominent. Southern closed the gap back to even until Barron again pushed Coastal out to a 9-3 lead. His last kick hit high up on the uprights to bounce back in. As in many of Coastal's recent games, mistakes let them down and Southern closed the game to 9-6 through their five eighth Brooks.

Altum Coastal vs. Clifton

From the kick off Coastal

showed the skill level they have and 2nd 5/8th Mariekura went over to score the first try of the game after excellent Coastal pressure where the passes stuck. H. Lawn, Morgan and Goodin were again prominent and Coastal went to the break 14-6 up.

Turning into the wind Coastal went onto the attack with nice touches to fullback Barron, who was

unlucky not to benefit from a kick and chase opportunity and Gareth Goodin showed determination on the wing. In the forwards K.Barrett, J.Newell and D.Fitzharris were claiming their fair share of the ball at the lineout, but Coastal were guilty of pushing a pass or going that metre too far. Southern were penalized and the Coast went out to a 17-6 lead through substitute 5/8th Rick McKenna's boot. This is when it all went wrong for Coastal. An infringement saw Brooks add 3 more to Southern's total and a well taken intercept try against the run of play saw Southern close the gap to 17-16 and Coastal were under the hammer. Though Coastal tried to dig themselves out of the hole they had created it wasn't to be. A Southern penalty late in the game took them to the front 19-17 and as the whistle blew with Coastal on attack. The competition leaders had lost their first game this season. **Point Scorers:** Steven Barron, 3 penalties. Rick McKenna, 1 penalty. Te Whaiti Mareikura, try. MVP, Gareth Goodin. "Support Local, Support Coastal" Rua Ngaitahu Over the Hill.

some missed tackles but Coastal then settled after some good counter rucking, which saw Clifton penalized. 1st 5/8th Rick McKenna added the three. Shortly afterwards winger Gareth Goodin scored a classy try on his

Continued next page

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Coastal First XV dominated Inglewood last weekend at Opunake winning convincingly 37-0. Fullback Nathan Potter stood out - scoring three tries *Photo generously supplied by Sandra Baker, Inglewood.*

Continued from previous page take Coastal to a 16-7 lead. Clifton got a penalty, but 16-10 saw Coastal in front. Steve Barron at fullback scored a well-rehearsed back line try with McKenna's boot again finding the target. The half ended with Clifton getting another penalty bringing the scores to Coastal 23 Clifton 13. The second half saw Coastal turn into the wind, the pack maintaining better control of the ball and beginning to assert dominance at the ruck and lineout. Coastal mounted attack after attack only to be thwarted by penalties against them. A long-range penalty from McKenna saw the Coast extend their lead and go out to a 26-13 lead.

Subs brought fresh legs and both backs and forwards were staunch on defence as Clifton threw everything at the competition leaders. Coastal enthusiasm, saw them penalized and the hosts capitalized by adding a further two penalties, with McKenna adding also to his total for the day. Coastal backs attacked well with McKenna making one superb break only to be caught near the line with Mareikura and Barron showing their experience in defence. They were supported by a tireless effort of the forwards with Murphy, Barrett, Weir and captain N Lawn standing out. Coastal remained composed and ran out the winners 29-19, an improved effort on last week, much to

the delight of that solid core of Coastal supporters. Points: Tries: G Goodin, S Barron; McKenna, 2 conversions, dropped goal, 4 penalties. Final Score: Altum Coastal 29 Clifton 19. MVP: C Barron (1) R. McKenna (2) Player of the Day: Kelvin Weir (3). Next week, 'the biggy against the chooks' at Tukapa. We need plenty of green, black and white at Tukapa next week. "Support Local, Support Coastal."

Later
 Rua Ngaitahu Over the Hill

Congratulations to Beauden Barrett Coastal's latest All Black.

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June 23 at the Rahotu Tavern at 8pm.

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Wednesday 27th June at the Club Hotel, Opunake

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Friday June 15, Lingerie and Linen at the Club Hotel, Opunake.

DAVE UPFOLD

The Hilarious Hypnotist - Saturday 16 June 2012 - 7pm Opunake High School Hall
Refer Advert for further details. A Opunake High School Fundraiser.

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Thursday 14 JUNE 2012, 1-3pm & 7-9pm, In the school hall, Refer advert further details.

CUE THEATRE - AUDITIONS

"Entertaining Angels" 11am Sunday 17th June 2012 @ TET Cue Theatre Inglewood

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EXHIBITION - STRATFORD ART SOCIETY

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Percy Thomson Gallery and being the first exhibits in the Gallery. Free Entry. May 25 - June 17. Percy Thomson Gallery Miranda Street, Stratford.

LIVE BANDS

Saturday 16 June 2 bands, one nite - Unique and Samsara Circle, Saturday 30 June 2 DJs one nite - LAST SHOW DJ Tatz & DJ Swaa

MID WINTER RAGE

Coastal Rugby, 23 June 2012, Rugby Club Rooms, Rahotu. Refer advert further details

"THE SLACKS"

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Rembrandt at Percy Thomson Gallery



Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669). Woman bathing her feet in a brook. 1658 etching. Gift of Sir John Ilo.

The Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford, is thrilled to be holding two prestigious exhibitions from June 25 - July 26. They are Te Papa’s ‘Dutch Etchers in a Golden Age; Rembrandt and his Peers’ and a selection of works from this country’s premier portraiture competition, the Adam Portraiture Awards, toured by the New Zealand Portrait Gallery.

Rembrandt, the undisputed master of etching, stands at the centre of the exhibition of 17th-century Dutch etchings from Te Papa’s collection. Also on display are works

by other experts in this demanding medium.

The works range from sensitive portraits to sweeping landscapes, from Biblical stories to everyday scenes. Together, they give insights into the artists’ lives, and the ideas and attitudes of the time.

The 17th century was the golden age of art in the Netherlands. Commerce had created enormous wealth, and the country had the highest living standards, and probably the best education, in Europe.

This environment prompted

a proliferation of paintings, drawings, and prints for a public eager to buy. Portraits, landscapes, and scenes of daily life appeared everywhere – in butchers’ and bakers’ shops and in ordinary houses. People could buy artworks at public sales and fairs, and win them in lotteries. They could even use them to pay bills.

Etching became a major medium for picture-making, and Rembrandt (1606–69) was the undoubted master. In his hands, etching became a fully-fledged art form. Many other artists also produced etched versions of popular images of the time.

A self-portrait titled ‘3 Nights, A Mirror and Loads of Coffee’ by Auckland-based artist Stephen Martyn Welch was selected for the \$15,000 Adam Portraiture Award by Dr Christopher Chapman, senior curator of the Australian National Portrait Gallery in Canberra.

Dr Chapman, selecting the portrait from the 86 final entries, said the winning portrait displays ‘a sense of mystery and psychological depth’.

‘It is a highly accomplished and compelling self-portrait of a man reflecting on his sense of being.’

Director of the NZ Portrait Gallery, Avenal McKinnon, and Curator of the European Collection (Te Papa), Vicki Robson, will be guest speakers at the opening function for the exhibitions on Monday June 25 at 7.30pm. Vicki will also host an in-depth floor talk Tuesday 26 June between 12 - 1.00pm, focusing on Rembrandt and his peers, free entry and all welcome.

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As seen on TV3's 'Campbell Live' programme, Dave Upfold is known for his energetic, engaging and enthralling live show involving audience participation and utilising the power of the mind. With no two

shows ever being the same, Upfold has been entertaining audiences around the globe with his "live hypnosis comedy show" for over 15 successful years.

Part of Upfold's success actually stems from his gen-

erosity, having personally raised over \$1 million for various charitable causes. He donates a portion of each ticket sale to charity, which then directly helps the local communities in which he performs.

A South African native, the Auckland-based performer has a rich history in comedy, magic, hypnosis and other forms of performance-based entertainment. Upfold's 'Hilarious Hypnotist' show involves crowd participation (volunteers only, of course) to create a unique, exciting and unforgettable performance that has jaws hitting the floor and typically leaves audience members rethinking their stance on "the power of persuasion".

With a strong background in hypnotherapy, Dave Upfold is sure to instil an uplifting positive message into all who attend. In turn, the participants benefit the most and wind up being the true "stars" of the show as well. However, all who witness the show may walk away with a renewed sense of humanity, and generally a sore stomach from so much laughter!

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APPLY NOW!

Rahotu Tavern now doing takeaways

The Rahotu Tavern is now selling takeaway meals filling a niche in the district when the standalone Rahotu Takeaways closed some time ago.

The pub is also sporting a most attractive new bar. Hewn out of native Rata, proprietor Jackie Broad had the novel idea as a focal point, of inseting native insects in resin in the timber. Unfortunately the hot resin "fried" most of the insects confessed Jackie. Pat Brophy's spider however survived!

On a more poignant note, the Rata came from John Thomas' farm who sadly passed away recently.

They hope to put a plaque somewhere as a memorial to him, said Jackie.

Builder Phil Brophy did all the cutting and measuring, and sanding of the new bar, she said. Also the laquering.



The new bar. Proprietor Jackie Broad serving patrons.

The bar has also had new taps installed and has been generally modernised with the beer lines being replaced.

Jackie said the takeaways which she described as "the

usual takeaway fare" were "going really well." They had been "flat out" on Friday, she added.

People have the option of eating in the tables in the bar.

They can also book by phone.

The takeaways are available Thursday to Sunday from 5pm to 8pm.



'Our Mountain'

A hand carved urn in Elm by Tony Waterson at

The Village Gallery in Eltham.



LEFT:

Legacy, one of Stoney Oakes Highland cows enjoying her hay at Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park at Inglewood against the back drop of the Mountain.



Danielle and Rick Torpey and daughter Aaliylh enjoying a sit down takeaway at the Rahotu Tavern.

The family who had just that day moved from Taupo to Rahotu and hadn't "unpacked yet". They were sharemilking for a local farmers Paddy and Philly Mullin.

Rick was a former pupil of Opunake High School and said in the time he's been away Rahotu had "changed a bit" and was "looking a bit flasher."

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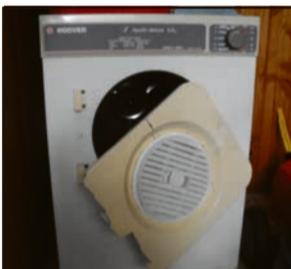
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Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu 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 8.30 am at Pungarehu (St Martins), **10am** at Opunake (Our Lady Star Of The Sea).

Other areas

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs). Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

ALL WELCOME

Opunake Business Association ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

July 2 Opunake Surf Inn

5:30 Social

6.00 pm Meeting

We welcome any member of the community to our meetings, you don't have to have a business.

Te Kiri WI

Visitors from the Idea Services along with members were welcomes to our Mothers Day meeting and luncheon by our president Mrs Sue Muggeridge.

After a delicious luncheon Robin showed us her beautiful tapestry. She had been on a cruise on the Pacific Pearl and had bought a small model of the ship and embroidered the ship onto the tapestry. Every little detail was shown and so cleverly worked. It was just great. Robin passed her photo album around so we all enjoyed her cruise with her.

I must apologise to this young lady as I didn't get her name. She is a big Elvis Presley fan and has embroidered this face and is going to make a duvet with Elvis on it.

Congratulations to these very clever young ladies on their beautiful handwork. We were thanked and had a song from this young lady. Her beautiful voice was a pleasure to listen to. We were

also thanked by the caregivers for the produce and lunch. We're looking forward to our next visit.

Meeting time and we were all given a small buttonhole in honour of our mothers. Sue was congratulated on being elected onto the Federation committee.

Nita Kaiser reported on the co-ord bus trip and the council meeting held at Normanby. Te Kiri won second place for the table runner and the casserole cover both made by Joy Collins.

A meeting on improving our institute was attended by Dianne Bright which was very interesting and informative.

Judith Armstrong reported on the meeting about food safety. This was interesting, mostly common sense and attention to cleanliness with attention drawn to care when handling pork, chicken, fish and rice and washing our hands which we all do.

We are looking forward to

our progressive dinner and our hosts and helpers were busy preparing our menu.

Competition results

Bloom

1st Judith Armstrong, 2nd Merle Clement, 3rd Sue Muggeridge

Shrub

1st Sue Muggeridge, 2nd Judith Armstrong, 3rd Merle Clement

Home Craft

1st Judith Armstrong, 2nd Kath Perrett, 3rd Sue Muggeridge

Handcraft

1st Kath Perrett, 2nd Mavis West

Floral

1st Sue Muggeridge
Thanks to the committee for serving afternoon tea. Also thank you to Kath and Joy for their help with the lovely flowers and pins and the basket and the soup makers. It was another happy meeting enjoyed by us all.

Mavis West
Publicity Officer

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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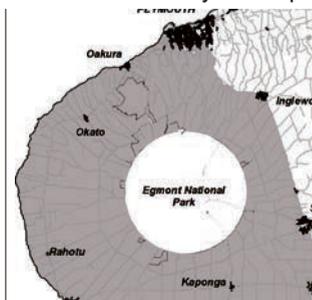
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