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This paper is dedicated to our dear mother Dr Paula McKellar. On June 16 2019, God claimed her for himself.



A poem she loved and the creed by which she lived.

“To laugh often and much;
To win the respect of intelligent people and the affection of children;
To earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends;
To appreciate beauty, to find the best in others;
To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition;
To know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived.
This is to have succeeded.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Mayor a candidate puts his case

It is true some would say "Craig Baylis can't expect to come home from Auckland and have a say in how South Taranaki is run and marketed." That's a fair comment. Some of you know I was born in Opunake and raised and educated in Hawera, even becoming a prefect at Hawera High. I was taught how to sell cars and about the motor industry by the local Toyota dealer in Hawera. It was a down to earth training that set me up for my future work ethic. (Trust me, washing cars in Regent Street in July will do that for you).

It is true I left the region to work for larger dealerships and corporations to earn more money, but I also wanted the opportunity to learn more about the business including Sales and Marketing, Workshop and Parts departments, how to manage and encourage teams of people and what success and failure can look like.

Throughout this time my friends and colleagues referred to me as the "Naki Boy" as my regular trips home and the stories about this region and it's people kept the Aucklanders entertained.

It is true I voted for John Key to be our Prime Minister even though he had spent most of his working life overseas, especially the USA. I didn't think "who does Mr Key think he is coming back to NZ after years away now wanting to have a say?" I just thought with a global financial crisis it may be time to have less

of a politician and more fresh perspective.

It is true I don't own a farm or have Fonterra shares, but we do own several residential properties in South Taranaki and a retail outlet so it is very much in our interest for this region to prosper.

It is true that 15 years ago property prices here were higher than surrounding towns, but now your Hawera house would be worth more if it was in Stratford.

I know change can be scary but so can doing nothing.

It is true I'm not an experienced local politician but Jo and I are serious investors in South Taranaki and have a passion for what this region could be if we adopted a fresh perspective.

Thank you for your consideration,

*Craig Baylis
Hawera*

Accolade for Cottage Rest Home

After spending five days in the Taranaki Base Hospital, I decided to take ten days respite in our Opunake Cottage Resthome; what a delight that proved to be.

It is certainly a jewel amidst our Opunake Village environment. Everything ticks away very smoothly under the watchful eye of Sandra Deegan - Faculty Manager.

I'm a firm believer that the running of a good association, demands team work and that certainly came to the fore in the time I was in residence. The administration is an integral part of any Rest home and this was no exception... Sharon's phone and face-



Letters to the Editor

to-face manner, indeed, contributes and reflects to the success of a caring society.

There's a bunch of dedicated ladies who are ever present during the day and night shifts. They are the carers...a professional, friendly and knowledgeable team who go the extra mile for the residents in their quest to keep the high standards of helpfulness and comfort expected of them.

A registered nurse pops in during the week to monitor and administer advise and medicines, or drives residents in the Cottage van, to the Medical Centre for regular checkups and doctor appointments.

The entertainment was always a joy with Melanie's cheerful voice ringing out. She kept our grey matter well lubricated with early morning Word-Find and geography questions such as where towns, lakes, mountains and historic places are located. These were pinpointed on a huge, laid out map of New Zealand.

Other entertainment included singalongs, Housie and Rummy, Bowls and Petanque. Quiz Challenges are thrown out to the neighbouring Rest homes. These along with visits from and to these various area resthomes have always been a little something extra for the residents to look forward to and we have some competitive folk at the home.

Most people, when they hear the words Hospital or Rest home always seem to question the meals.

I'd like to say that the meals in the Taranaki Base Hospital were of a very high nutritional calibre and I always commented on the quality to the chefs. A little

bit of praise always goes a long way to ensuring the level of excellence is kept up, don't you think?

As it was back at the Rest home, cakes and slices were baked for morning and afternoon teas, scones both savoury and sweet and club sandwiches also appeared....piping hot flavoursome soups, together with tender meats, loads of vegetables and mashed spud, with just the right creamy consistency, and desserts were a real treat and all provided the right diet. I suppose everyone knows the Meals On Wheels comes out of the Cottage Kitchen, so these chefs aren't sitting around between meals...they are busy and well deserved of any praise showered on them.

So who looks after in-house maintenance, changes the lightbulbs, drags furniture around and keeps the outdoor areas looking like an advert for NZ Gardener Magazine? Well that's Richie-The-Fixer, the dude with the dreadlocks, a wide grin on his face and a cheery wave or word to say to everyone. He also drives the Cottage Van, ferrying residents here, there and everywhere...

We are well blessed and I feel sure the community will get behind the Rest home's new venture to extend their premises to consider providing independent suites and stand-alone villas along with updating their other existing facilities.

A huge thank you during my recent recovery to all the staff for providing outstanding assistance, and to the current residents for the many trips down memory lane.

*Heather Jensen
Opunake*

ADELPHOS

I read in an old Awatuna church cookbook that the discovery of a new recipe brings more joy to humanity than the discovery of a new solar system. I'm not sure that all astronauts would agree, but, just thinking of one's favourite dish can captivate both our salivary glands and some happy brain hormones. Families often have stowed away on the bottom of a bookshelf a collection of mum's and nanna's treasured handwritten and pasted scrapbook recipes.

Food and Hospitality

For some people, creating a tasty dish is a joy. It's done with love for the satisfaction of family and friends. For some it's a necessary task that is faithfully and dutifully carried out. And for others it seems difficult to create a meal. In the latter case there's usually another loving family member willing to help out with team spirit in the kitchen. Today with so many different diets, allergies and intolerances, due to chemical additives and insecticides, some family recipes must be

modified to accommodate these dietary needs.

There's the hospitality story of Martha hosting a meal for Jesus and his hungry crew of mostly young tradies. Martha was frantically busy preparing food and showing Jesus and His mates hospitality. She needed help. But her sister Mary was too busy keenly listening to Jesus' teachings. Both their views weren't necessarily mutually exclusive of the other, although Jesus did emphasise the importance of Mary being open to His teachings. Perhaps Mary couldn't boil an egg? Thank goodness that many New Zealand provincial schools are still offering cooking

classes as an option.

God offers everyone the ultimate act of hospitality as He invites "all" peoples to the marriage and celebration feast with Jesus in heaven (Matthew 22:1-14). The food and hospitality there will be out of this world. What if you received a royal wedding invitation from Queen Elizabeth tomorrow? Guess what? King Jesus just sent you His personal royal wedding invitation today.

Adelphos

PS. Remember to worship God this Sunday and support your ministers and priests at churches in this readership. Discover Shine TV channel 25 on Freeview.

Next issue

July 4

Tell us about your School Holiday events

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Kaponga man awarded for youth work

Neville Phillips says the award may carry his name, but is as much about START Taranaki as it is about him.

Neville received the MNZM (Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit) in the Queen's Birthday Honours list for services to youth.

He is the founder of Kaponga-based START Taranaki, a youth programme offering support for young offenders. The START Taranaki programme has three phases, ranging from a three week Isolation Phase in the bush with outdoor activities to a Transition Phase where START Taranaki continues to mentor and support young men when they return to their communities.

"Officially the Transition Phase is 12 weeks, but in reality it's for as long as they need us," says Neville.

He set up the Trust in late 2002, and took his first group of young men into the bush in 2003.

"We now have close to 20 staff. When we started off there were four of us," said Neville. "It's steadily grown as funding has come on board and the demand became greater."

They have been operating out of the same building all that time. Originally it was the Kaponga Maternity Hospital. When that closed Neville stepped in with START Taranaki.

The programme has evolved over the years, says Neville.

"The young people we have been getting have changed as much as anything," he says.

"In the earlier days it was more kids who were bored and had no strong role models. In those days you were showing them there were alternatives out there to getting bored and doing crime.

"We are now dealing with an epidemic of young people with mental health issues, most derived from alcohol



Neville Phillips.

abuse and drug abuse. A lot are born with foetal alcohol and foetal drug problems, and you add to that the trauma they have had all through their lives. There are quite a few mental health issues that need addressing, otherwise they end up locked up, without having had these mental health issues addressed."

Neville grew up in Pungarehu, where his father was a builder and his mother ran the local post office. After leaving school, he was a reporter with the Taranaki Herald, and later worked for the Bay of Plenty Times.

"I gave that up and came back to Taranaki," he says. After working in dairy factories on the coast, he lived in Northland for six years before returning to Taranaki. He worked at the Lactose Factory at Kapuni and bought a nine acre block at Kaponga. His neighbours included his parents and the youth programme Choice Taranaki where he helped out before they closed.

Five years after founding START Taranaki, Neville was feeling burned out and closed the programme. It was then that local MP Chester Borrows, with help from principal Youth Court judge Andrew Becroft

stepped into the breach and got extra funding and a contract with the Ministry of Social Development to enable START Taranaki to continue operating.

Over 350 youths from throughout the country have been through the programme. Neville says he still gets many of them dropping by to introduce their families and share their stories of what they have been doing since they were at START Taranaki.

"You do have a massive amount of stress and disappointments, but the trick is to take a lot from the successes you do

have. When the kids get it wrong you don't take it personally. It's not you they are lashing out at. It's the system that's failed them. It's about developing trust and attachment that these kids have never had with anyone."

He sees the award as being an acknowledgement of what START Taranaki has achieved over the years.

"It's not about me. It's about the organisation itself and its value to the community. Without the support of the local community we couldn't do the job we do."

He says the local community includes people from throughout the province like the farmers,

butchers, motorbike shops, café owners and others who "have put their hand up and given the kids the chance to do work experience."

"The award came to me, but I couldn't have done it without everybody else, he says."

Doctor passes

Dr. Gunatunga, a General Practitioner who happily worked with Dr. Paula McKellar in Opunake in the early 1980's passed away at 1pm on June 16 2019.



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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Celebrating volunteers

This week is National Volunteer Week and gives us the opportunity to celebrate our wonderful collection of Volunteers we are fortunate to have across our District.

The National theme is: "Whiria te tangata" – weaving people together. Volunteering, Mahi Aroha and Social

action weave people and communities together. Volunteering is an important component that helps our communities thrive and is enriched by the goodwill that volunteers contribute. Whatever organisation, sports club or community group that you belong to, know that our Council

values your importance and we recognise the huge impact that you all bring into our lives. It is through your generosity of volunteering your own time that a lot of contributions to our communities are made.

The South Taranaki District Council Volunteer Day will be held at the Aotea Utanganui Museum in Patea on Wednesday 19th June, with two sessions, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. This is our way of celebrating and thanking all of our Volunteers for all the work they do within our District.

Also I would like to give a Special mention to our Volunteer Emergency Services, whether it's through the Ambulance or Fire Brigade Services, you



CR STEFFY MACKAY

are true heroes. We are so fortunate to have Volunteer Fire Emergency Stations in all our towns across our District. These volunteers are on call 24/7, 52 weeks, 356 days a year. They often put their own lives at risk to save others and that is to be highly commended.

I would also like to acknowledge the partners

and immediate families of all of our volunteers. It has probably been due to a number of sacrifices made from them that has enabled our volunteers to carry out their roles. So please accept our heartfelt thanks and gratitude for all of you who play a part in making a difference for us all.

On a different note our Mayor Ross Dunlop announced to us at the Council that he will not be standing for Mayor at this year's upcoming Local elections. I was personally saddened to hear this news as I feel Ross has done an outstanding job in this role. He is a true leader and through his leadership has created a very functional Council team. I have appreciated all the guidance

he has given me over the last three years, alongside the confidence he has shown in my personal abilities, which has only enriched my role.

Anyone who is considering standing for Mayor is going to have big shoes to fill. I believe that to be able to carry out the Mayor's role you will need to have experience in leading a governing team, knowledge of local government roles and how the system works. And most importantly you would need to have a real connection to all of our communities across our District.

Until next time, stay safe out there on our roads, so we can try and not keep our Emergency Services busy.

Councillor Steffy Mackay

Services to RDA recognised



Ryan Griffin on Lucy - Left side Mary Elliot, Right side Marilyn Surgenor and Chris Oliver holding Lucy.

On May 25, Marilyn Surgenor received an Honorary Life Membership to New Zealand Riding for Disabled(RDA) for her

contribution over many years at both local and national levels.

On August 12 1981, she attended a committee

meeting and offered to organise horses for the first RDA rally at the Egmont A&P Showgrounds'.

When trying to list the many roles Marilyn has played in RDA over the past 36 years it becomes a little blurred as she held more than one position at the same time. She has been Chief Riding Instructor as well as 'horse person', also Vice President, followed by five years as

president. In 1993 Marilyn was given a 10 year award for service to Hawera RDA"

In 2006 Marilyn joined the NZRDA Training Team as a coach. This was the same year that Hawera RDA awarded Marilyn a Life Membership for her services to that group.

Over the course of 27 years she has been a special needs

Continued page 5

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Popular priest says goodbye to Opunake

In the five years he has been in Opunake, Vijay Dung Dung (Father Vijay) has been a well known figure around town.

Now the popular smiling priest of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church is moving on. He will be going on sabbatical which will include spending time with his parents back in India and time in Canada. After that he is unsure what the future holds.

He says his door has always been open to anyone regardless of their faith or worldview, and he hopes that many of the people he has got to know in his time at Opunake will be able to make it to his farewell on June 22, where a Thanksgiving Holy Mass at 11am will be followed by lunch at the Opunake Bowling Hall.

He says that his shift to New Zealand nine years ago had been a calling, after his superior had asked him if he would be interested in

servicing the church overseas. He said he would, and after some time he was told he would be going to New Zealand.

Until then, apart from the occasional reference to cricket, he knew very little about this country.

"To come to New Zealand and work here as a missionary is challenging. You have to be strong in your faithfulness and commitment to God and his people. If you are not strong, then it's not easy, and you can be taken up by the world's things," he says.

With the Cricket World Cup in progress, he deftly deflects the question of which side does he back, India or New Zealand?

"I back whatever country I happen to be living in," he says.

Vijay grew up in a Catholic family in the Northern Indian state of Jharkhand (population 33 million). He has six siblings, and he is the only priest in the family.



Father Vijay Dung Dung at Our Lady Star of the Sea.

On arriving in New Zealand he was assigned to the Palmerston North diocese and ended up in New Plymouth, where he assisted Father Craig Butler at St Joseph's. Four years later he took over Our Lady Star of the Sea, where he has been since May 2014.

As well as his involvement in the church, he says he has also enjoyed his association with St Joseph's School. While in Opunake, he has learned about a number of new things including milking cows, hunting, fishing and the finer points of golf.

He has also enjoyed living in a community where it seems everybody knows

each other. "People say to me this place is isolated. How can you live on your own here? But I say I never feel alone," he says.

He will always have fond memories of his time spent in Opunake and the people he has got to know.

"I have really loved all the support I have received from this community. Whenever I saw you in the streets or around town your smile and your greetings always kept me going.

"You will be in my thoughts and prayers all through my life," he says. "Please do keep me in your prayers."

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Remembering consultant and columnist

It is with great sadness that the Opunake and Coastal News notes the passing of Pat Poletti who has been a columnist in our paper.

Patrick Graeme (Pat) Poletti passed away on June 10 at Te Rangimarie Hospice, with family at his side. He was 57.

As technical consultant for Mineral Systems, Pat has long pushed the

message that on a farm it is the animals that earn the money, and farmers need to take a cow-centred approach to their farming and manage their systems so that cows are producing longer.

Mineral Systems has campaigned for ridding Taranaki of milk fever, which has been in the province since the 1880s.

A graduate of Massey University, Pat has worked as a rural vet in both England and New Zealand. He has also been a farmer and worked for MAF and MPI.

The Opunake and Coastal News extend their sympathies to Cynthia and the other members of their family.



Pat Poletti

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Services to RDA recognised

Continued from page 4

teacher at Hawera Primary, Hawera Intermediate then the Endeavour Centre at Hawera High School, as well as being a RTLB for many schools in the surrounding area. This involvement has also meant Marilyn being able to recommend RDA and then liaising between them and the schools as needed. The years she has been involved in the education system and RDA has meant Marilyn is recognised throughout the community.

Within the Taranaki region Marilyn has organised speakers for

regional meetings and also run workshops. Her knowledge imparted to volunteers throughout the Taranaki region has been beneficial, giving a greater understanding of clients' needs, both physical and behavioural.

Marilyn has also been invited many times to speak at local community groups (e.g. Rural Womens), and been involved with fundraising.

In recent years Marilyn has been an Operational Certificate reviewer, and in 2018 stepped in as coach to enable Central Taranaki

RDA to continue to operate within NZRDA guidelines, when there was no other qualified coach available.

Her wealth of knowledge relating to special needs teaching, RTLB special needs, the education system, personal experience of disabilities, horse experience and years of NZRDA involvement make her uniquely qualified within the sphere of NZRDA.

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Mark Utting on Thursdays for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills, Estates and refinancing matters.

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COASTAL COPS

Behaviour that is never OK

Greetings to you all... We continue to find ourselves busy chasing our tails attending a number of Family Harm incidents.

A 28-year-old female has been arrested recently as a result a Family Harm incident where she had threatened her ex-partner with a loaded firearm. She is currently before the Courts for Firearms and Threatens to Kill charges.

A 32-year-old local male is also before the Courts after assaulting his partner and mother of his young children. He was also arrested for breaching his bail after returning to her address. Enquiries are continuing in regards to possible other and continued Intimidation charges.

We continue to stress that any behaviour that makes



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

someone else feel controlled and fearful is never OK. Everyone in a family or in a relationship should feel safe and nurtured. No one should be frightened of their partner or someone in their family. If you are frightened and fear for your safety, call 111 for immediate help.

Rural property owners please be aware there has been some activity that is of concern to us. There have

been a number of reported rural burglaries in our area over the recent weeks where ride-on mowers, quad and 2 wheeler farm bikes, along with petrol and various small items, have been stolen. We ask that you be vigilant and if you notice anything out of the ordinary note it down, including suspicious people or vehicles. No information is too small.

With the onset of the wet weather we are seeing an increased amount of mud being dragged on to the roads, particularly in rural farming areas. Commonsense would tell you that this mud is a danger to traffic, particularly if it is in a large volume and certainly if it becomes wet with rain. The onus is on those responsible to ensure that this is removed and not for us to deal with at a later

time. I would also stress to all road users, remember to drive to the conditions. We haven't had too many accidents on our roads of late and we would like to keep it that way. Remember to wear your seatbelt. Still a few of you are out there throwing it on when you see us. No good I'm sorry. Put it on when you get in the car. If we see you reaching for it, just because you see the Police car, expect to get a ticket.

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

Constable Kylie Brophy

OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Vacant house goes up in flames

This Saturday is the shortest day for 2019 so the amount of daylight hours will thankfully start to increase again. One of the problems the Opunake brigade experiences attending incidents during the hours of darkness is locating the exact address especially in the rural areas. While most properties have a rapid number on a blue marker post I have noticed on my travels around the area that very few have the road number on the letter box. Numbers on the letter box are far easier to see both day and night. Unfortunately GPS mapping on our appliances is still some time away. In the meantime if you can put your road number on your letter box it would be

greatly appreciated by us all. We have been experiencing a number of cold wet days recently which makes it hard to get the washing dry. Many households dry the washing in front of the fire or heater. Fire and Emergency NZ recommend that if you do this you adopt the heater metre rule. This means that any clothes that are placed near a heat source for drying should be at least one metre away from the heat source. While on the subject of housework, when vacuuming it is a good idea to run the cleaner past your smoke alarm to clean away any dust or insects. This will help reduce the incidents of false activation of your alarm.

Now we have all the

housekeeping sorted onto other matters

During the early hours of the morning on Thursday 6th June a crew from Opunake along with one from Rahotu and one from Okato responded to a house fire on Bayly Road Warea. The Rahotu brigade arrived first and found the house totally involved in fire. While the brigades did a fantastic job stopping the fire spreading the house was damaged beyond repair. A specialist fire investigator was called out due to the house being vacant at the time of the fire. He has put the cause of the fire down to an electrical fault. The only other call out the brigade has had was to a medical event in Opunake last week, however they

were stood down before leaving the station.

As mentioned in previous articles both the Opunake and Rahotu brigades are still experiencing problems recruiting new members. The Fire Brigade is a great community organisation to belong to. You learn heaps of new skills, meet lots of new people, while giving back to the community that you live in. Both brigades train on a Monday night so why not go and see what it's all about.

That's all from me now. Keep yourself wrapped up nice and warm as it looks like winter is really going to make its presence felt over the next few weeks.

Stay safe

VSO John

Kaponga WI

The regional waste Officer, Harriet Lock-Ingham, talked about recycling to the members of Kaponga WI when they met at the New Plymouth home of Carolyn Nicholas for the June meeting. Harriet told us what can be recycled in our bins, and what cannot. It was most interesting and everyone learned a lot.

After a shared lunch, Dorothy Hughes opened the meeting and thanked the hostess Carolyn, also helps Diane West and Margaret Arbuckle. We commenced with reciting the Aspirations, and answering the Roll Call: "since joining the WI, is there something you have learned and used often?" This was replied to by everyone, and showed how much our members

have enjoyed belonging to Kaponga WI.

Members had a bit of a chuckle over the Thought for the Month "I talk to myself because sometimes I need advice"

Some beautiful baby knitting for Plunket from Carolyn and Rosalie were displayed. Several members will attend the Craft and Information Day at Kapuni on June 17, Secret Friends were thanked,

and the very lively meeting closed at 2pm.

Competition results: Something made from newspaper: 1. Carolyn Nicholas. 2. Diane West. 3. Joy Eliason. A small clock: 1. Joy Eliason. 2. Diane West. 3. Dorothy Hughes. A decorative candle. 1. Dorothy Hughes (a mushroom). 2. Joy Eliason (Christmas). 3. Carolyn Nicholas (candle in a tin).

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Kevin's 38 years service to Okato



Karen and Kevin Smith at their New Plymouth home.

After 38 years servicing vehicles in Okato Kevin Smith recently retired, as has his wife Karen who tending to the office. He and Karen are enjoying their retirement in New Plymouth where they have lived for many years. It is relaxing for them to find time to do the crossword puzzles and some caravanning is planned in the near future. "The years have just flown by, it doesn't seem that long," said Kevin.

Kevin served his motor mechanic apprenticeship in Okato under local identity Ray Rook. He worked for Ray Rook for eight years.

Ray had two garages at the time. The familiar service station and garage at the south end of Okato was known as Dixons Garage back in 1954 and it had originated as early as 1926. In 1981 Kevin and Karen bought the enterprise. The couple's son Chris has been an important part of the business and has worked alongside his parents for many years.

Sadly their son Darren died in a tragic accident six and a half years ago. "It was devastation for us," says Karen.

Kevin looks back over the years with satisfaction. "For

me it's been pretty damn good. We've treated our customers like family and friends. The locals have been marvellous to us."

There have been the occasional challenges. One man set up a garage in competition and warned Kevin, "You'll never survive. I'll give you a couple of months (before you go under)." There must have been quiet satisfaction when this man went bust and a later business he set up in New Plymouth suffered the same fate.

An alarming incident occurred quite recently. Chris was seriously considering taking over the business when a carload of aggressive men arrived toting shotguns. Understandably, it unnerved Chris and he abandoned the idea. He now works as a mechanic for a firm in New Plymouth.

A financial challenge was being coerced to replace the tanks at a six figure cost at the behest of one of the major oil companies - supposedly for environmental reasons, but Kevin suspects more ulterior reasons. Once uplifted, in 2003, the old tanks were found to be in

perfectly good order and of no danger whatsoever to the environment. "There was nothing wrong with them," comments Karen.

It would be fair to say that the garage that can be viewed in earlier photographs, bear little resemblance to the current structure we see today. Kevin and Karen have virtually rebuilt the entire building with the aim of coping with bigger

vehicles, such as trucks, and modernisation. "We used to have a breakdown truck," comments Kevin. Most of the rebuilding occurred around 1989.

"We had to have bigger doors for (the entry of) cattle trucks," explained Karen. One thing the couples will not miss is all the new official demands imposed, especially those relating to Health & Safety.

Kevin and Karen were touched by the reaction of their customers as they prepared to leave. "Quite a few customers came in with tears in their eyes," said Karen. They got many phone calls and people calling in to shake their hands in gratitude.

Karen and Kevin, "We'd like to thank all our customers for their loyalty."

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An old aerial view of the Okato Service Station.wws

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The backbone of our economy

At Fieldays last week, National launched the third in our line of Discussion Documents, this time focused on the Primary Sector. While sector returns look strong, farmers at Fieldays were worried about the conversion of pastoral farm land to forestry, excessive red tape, workforce issues and environmental taxes. The document showcases our positive and innovative approach to what is the backbone of our economy and highlights areas that we are looking to make changes in.

The New Zealand primary sector contributes over \$45 billion and employs over 350,000 people. We produce enough food to feed about 40 million people around the globe. And our reputation as a safe producer of food underpinned by sustainable farming practises is paramount to international consumers. That's why it's important we continue to support the sector's growth and ensure our policy is fit for purpose. As our global population grows we need to produce more food, so



JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

it's important that we have the workforce to manage, develop and maintain New Zealand's agricultural and horticultural businesses. National are proposing a Primary Sector Visa to address this important issue. The visa would act as an avenue for skilled and experienced migrants to help get residence and build their futures here. National are aware we need to be providing pathways for young New Zealanders to enter the primary sector as well. Last year the Coalition Government announced the closure of Taratahi, the leading vocational training establishment. We will work hard to support vocational education and agricultural training and ensure young

New Zealanders have the skills to succeed in the primary sector. We've also outlined in the document the importance of biosecurity and protection from devastating incursions. Our frontline is under immense pressure with 5.5million people crossing our shores each year and more items flowing through our mail pathways. National are proposing to strengthen biosecurity penalties to deter people from taking unnecessary risks that could have big consequences. This means giving biosecurity officers the power to deport those knowingly bringing in high risk items, ensuring importers are held accountable for signing off Import Health Standards on goods that aren't free of biosecurity risk items, and increasing fines from the current \$400 to \$1000 for those found to have risk materials. Rural health is also a big focus, and we're committed to ensuring that rural communities have access to core services that meet their needs. The Coalition Government have been

letting these communities down, with revoking the maternity status of Lumsden Maternity Centre due to funding cuts a prime example of this. We've already seen mothers having to give birth on the side of the road as a result of this decision and National have promised to reinstate the maternity status. National have also proposed a mobile health clinic serviced by a health practitioner that travels to remote rural communities on a regular basis. This will provide a 'warrant of fitness' health check for patients who may struggle to get into town to see their doctor. These are just some of the many topics covered in the discussion document. We also want to hear your thoughts on Landcorp, climate change, food safety, RMA, water storage and the expansion of plantation forestry on hill country. To read the document head to https://www.national.org.nz/primary_sector and have your say on our policy leading into 2020.

*Jonathan Young
New Plymouth MP*

Independent panel's report on Family Justice system welcomed

Justice Minister Andrew Little has welcomed the release of the Independent Panel's review of the 2014 family justice system reforms. "It's clear that the National Party's 2014 reforms haven't worked as intended. The recommendations provided by this report are extensive and require a meaningful response from the Government in due course," said Andrew Little. "I thank the Panel for their considered recommendations and have tasked officials with developing a workable programme for change. I expect to receive advice from them by the end of the



ANDREW LITTLE MP

year." The National Party's 2014 reforms made significant changes to the family justice system, including introducing Family Dispute Resolution and removing lawyers from the early stages of some Family Court proceedings.

"These changes were meant to make things easier for families at a difficult time, but they have had the opposite effect. Cases are taking longer to resolve and many family members involved in the court processes say they are not well-supported. "I am also keen to give close consideration to the recommendations about the need for more culturally sensitive approaches," said Andrew Little. The Panel completed an initial round of consultation

between September and November last year – over 100 meetings were held in 15 locations around the country – and a second round between January and March this year. In total the Panel received over 500 submissions. The 142-page report makes 70 recommendations, which propose wide-ranging changes to the family justice system. The principal recommendation calls for the development of a joined-up family justice service – Te Korowai Ture ā-Whānau.

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News is on July 4.

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Campaigning comes to the coast

The National Party want to be match fit for next year's election says one of their former cabinet ministers.

Their discussion document on the Primary Sector had been released at the Fielddays at Mystery Creek and last week their agriculture spokesman was in Taranaki speaking to farmers meetings at Tarata and Oaonui.

Nathan Guy who had been agriculture minister in the John Key and Bill English governments arrived at the Oaonui Hall after speaking to a meeting at Tarata. About 30 had turned up to the earlier meeting, mainly sheep and beef farmers. With Oaonui being in dairy farming country, he expected different matters would be brought up.

The discussion document is a "living document" and not yet National Party policy, so he was going around the country talking to farmers and seeing what were the issues that most concerned them.

"We want to be match fit by 2020," he said.

Farmers he had spoken to thought the government is out of touch with the needs of the farming sector, he said.

"You don't get dairying talked about positively in parliament. It doesn't roll off any minister's tongue."

Also there were National MPs Jonathan Young (New Plymouth) and Barbara Kuriger (Taranaki-King Country).

"I was in Bangkok talking about the green economy.



From left. Barbara Kuriger MP, Nathan Guy MP and Jonathan Young MP.

You look out the window there and there's the green economy," said Jonathan pointing to lush coastal Taranaki farmland.

He said he had been "singing the praises of Taranaki farmers" in Bangkok, noting that they had been involved in riparian planting for 25 years, without having to be prodded into doing so by government legislation.

About 20 people were at the Oaonui meeting. The subjects that came up for discussion included biosecurity, gene editing, the Dairy Industry Restructuring Act(DIRA), a Primary Sector Visa, services for rural communities, the spread of mycoplasma bovis and the incursion of Yellow Bristle Grass.

The National Party are looking at giving MPI border officials the kind of powers that immigration officials have to deport incoming visitors who knowingly import biosecurity risks.

With a demand for labour in the farming sector, they are also looking at a Primary Sector Visa to make residence easier for skilled and experienced workers. Nathan Guy said farmers have taken too much of the blame for the spread of mycoplasma bovis.

"It's not just the farmers, it's the truckies, it's the stock agents, it's the processors. Everyone needs to pull their socks up. The farm to farm process is woeful. I think we should iron out the wrinkles and get it working better than it is."

Barbara Kuriger agreed. "Don't blame the farmers until you get the systems right," she said.

The Dairy Industry Restructuring Act attracted a good deal of discussion.

"The government are trying to even the playing field, but what they are doing now is tipping the balance against Fonterra," said one questioner. Another said that National had had the chance to do something about it when they were in office, but appear to have shelved it.

Nathan Guy said they had

run out of time before they left office, and he conceded that when he had spoken to a similar meeting at Opunake some years before as minister of agriculture, the feedback he had received was that the government had been moving too slowly on this issue. Nevertheless he said things had changed a lot since the 2015 review.

"There's a hell of a lot more competition than there was 3-4 years ago. We need a very strong dairy company in New Zealand. It's really important for Brand New Zealand and it's really important for the New Zealand economy," he said. Although not in the discussion document, the incursion of Yellow Bristle Grass had come up for discussion.

South Taranaki District councillor Clem Coxhead noted that having affected farmers in coastal areas like Oaonui, it had made its way inland and had been discussed at the meeting at Tarata.

"It's found its way to the hills. You wouldn't think it would be anywhere near these places," he said.

Looking towards the election Nathan Guy said he "firmly

believes" National could win next year. With the economy slowing, the government is vulnerable and the campaign would be fought on broken promises, he said.



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Nathan Guy outlines the finer points of the National Party discussion document on the Primary Sector.

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Mac Sole Episode 7

In the early 1950s I bought my first car. This speed machine a sight to behold and a threat to all V8s in Hawera and all cars parked outside the Black Cat Café. This was the place to be seen by the youth of the day. This Hot Rod was a late 1930s Austin Seven, which, if you put your foot to the boards, could attain the speed of 45

MPH, but what a fun car it was. I could sit on the edge of the back seat and drive this machine. Of course, one has to slide out the driver's seat to do this.

While on the subject of Austin Seven cars my stepbrother Huia Bennett has a mid 1930s Austin Big 7 (red), which we took down to Waihi Beach (Hawera)



Austin Big 7 (1935).

and it was the first car to ever do so.

On reaching the beach

Huia drove out onto the sand and turned around to head up

the rough track, but fortune

deserted him and the car became stuck in the sand.

With the tide coming in

Huia started to panic. I then got him to be calm and help me get small rocks to put under the back wheels. We did this by hand as we had no tools to make a track in the sand. I got him to drive slowly forward and I helped to lift the car onto the rocks. Fortune returned and the car was able to reach the rock area base of the cliff, so it was a successful enterprise.

At the time my brother Les had the sand contract for that beach and was taking trucks and machinery down to the beach, but our venture in the old Austin Seven was the first time for a car and may still be the only one to this day.

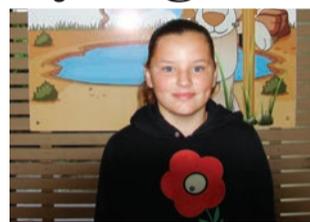
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The Thundery Night

This exciting, well-written story was written by Kiya Tito (aged 10) who is in Room 4 of Opunake Primary School. Her teacher is Mr Sefton.

CABOOM! A crash of lightning struck through the sky. It was so loud it grumbled and howled the night sky. The wind was so strong the roots were pulled out of the ground. I could see a black shadow appearing and muddy footprints in the pouring rain.



Kiya Tito.

A bloody trail led to a bloody disaster it was a bloody wounded and stabbed couple, two people were murdered. The story led to a mystery. The next morning there were blood stains everywhere. The scene had turned into a crime scene, police were everywhere.

The story had led to the 1980s when a couple had died in the same spot. The case was getting deeper and deeper. Instead of a crime scene it had turned into a cold case. Later on that night the police were looking at the abandoned hospital. The lights were flickering, in the nurse's office there were drug jabs everywhere.

"It looks like they've already been and gone," said the police officer.

"Let's head back to the

station," the officer said again. The phone rang and the officer picked it up. "I'll ring the team then we'll head out," he said. Some of them already had guns so they all headed out.

"Let's search the place," another officer whispered. "I'll head to the daughter's house."

The officer hopped in the car and drove off. Once he had got to the house, he had rung the doorbell. A teenager boy had answered the door.

"Could I speak to your mum please?" the officer asked.

"She's in the kitchen," the boy said, "Hi, I'm PC Duncan. I would just like to ask you a few questions. "Where were you the night on the second of June?"

"She was here, we had a movie marathon, "the boy interrupted.

"It's ok Ben, you don't need to protect me," the mother said quietly.

"I was at work. I had to work late down the alleyway, but I finished early because

there were lots of police cars and I thought someone was following me," the mum said nervously.

"Could you please tell me what time that was?"

"It was around 11.00. "Could I please say something. While you were gone mum, a man kept knocking on the door so I opened up the door and he fell and hit his head."

"Could you please tell me where his body is now please."

"It's in our garden shed," "What the heck is wrong with you?" the mum said angrily. Then she took off in a grump and walked upstairs.

"Ok, I'm gonna need you to come down to the station with me please," PC Duncan said. So they headed down to the station. Back at the hospital, while they are looking in the nurse's office, all they find is a thermometer. They put it in a plastic bag and trace it back to the DNA.

Kiya Tito

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Magnificent production of Annie

Hawera Repertory Society must be highly commended for their outstanding production of 'Annie'. The season ran from June 7 to June 15 at Hawera Memorial Theatre. This review is based on a matinee performance on Saturday June 8, which was very well attended.

The musical is based on a book by Thomas Meehan, with music by Charles Strouse and lyrics by Martin Charnin. The story line follows the trials and tribulations of 'Little Orphan Annie' in the Depression era of 1933 New York. The show is ably

directed by Shaun Campbell backed by a capable team including Michelle Glover (Choreographer), Charles Pittams (Musical Director), Shane Burgess (Vocal Assistant) and Sandra Richards (Stage Manager).

The sets and costuming are eye-catchingly breathtaking. Well done Kevin Cameron, Miranda Cullen and their teams. Hal Leonard Australia has also made a significant contribution to this aspect.

A feature of the show is that the actors/actresses playing their parts are so well suited to their various

roles. At this performance Annie was expertly played by Brenna Johnson, who has been involved in many productions. She played her part with a modicum of appealing cheekiness and panache. (Niamh O'Sullivan is the alternate actress who plays Annie in other performances).

The self-serving orphanage boss Miss Hannigan is played by Debbie Clancy and she is outstanding in the role with cheerful brassiness. Richard Bayliss mixes hard-headedness with soft sentimentality in his excellent performance as

the millionaire businessman Warbucks.

Grayson Richards is great as the comical crook Rooster with his amusing southern accent.

Grace Farrell (played by Emily Davidson), Lily (played by Deb Thomas) and Bert Healy (played by Shane Burgess) are all excellent and believable in their respective roles. The orphans play their parts with appealing warmth - a wealth of talent which we'll doubtless see in future productions. Even a dog makes an appearance and his tail wagging suggested he was enjoying himself (?herself). President

Roosevelt, the great leader whose 'New Deal' helped the United States on the road to economic recovery is ably played by Andrew Beale.

What an outstanding performance with contributions from a huge number of people from the stage, backstage and all other positions. Sponsors, such as Ben Thomas Panelbeating, Zodiac Signs and Headstone Warehouse, have also made an important contribution to the production. Make sure you see this first class musical.

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Literary workshops impress

Judges for this year's Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards, Dame Fiona Kidman and James Brown, held workshops in Hawera on Saturday June 15. The venue was the Hawera and Districts War Memorial Hall. Twenty five aspiring writers attended each session. Dame Fiona's workshop (short stories) ran from 9am until midday while James Brown's workshop (poetry) went from 1pm until 4pm.

The event was organised by Pam Jones (Children's and Young Adults Librarian) who is organising the event for the last time after 20 years. Pam's input will be greatly missed.

In her introduction Pam Jones referred to Fiona as "a New Zealand literary icon" and that she had won the current Fiction category (Ockham Award) for the NZ Book Awards for 'This Mortal Boy', as well as many other awards. She said this year entry into the competition (Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards)



Dame Fiona Kidman at the short story workshop.

is online and referred the participants to the updated website for further information.

Fiona said she was born (1940) in Hawera. She is not sure exactly where the family home was, although knows it was somewhere in Mountain View Road. However, her family left when she was just nine months old. "Hawera is where my roots are so this

is a kind of homecoming." With her mother (born in Western Australia) a librarian, books were always part of her upbringing.

Fiona has written over 30 books including novels, poetry, nonfiction and plays. She has won many awards. Overseas awards include the Chevalier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres and Chevalier of the French

Legion of Honour. Apart from being an author, her jobs have included librarian, radio producer, critic and scriptwriter (radio, television and film). She was made a dame in 1998 by Queen Elizabeth for her contribution to literature.

Continued on page 12.

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Literary workshops impress

continued from page 11.

Firstly, participants of the workshop were asked to introduce themselves and mention a writer who had inspired them. "If you are going to write short stories you need to read short stories," she explained. Some of the authors mentioned included Patricia Grace, Janet Frame, Katherine Mansfield, John Cranna, Owen Marshall, Maurice Gee, O Henry, Barry Crump, Jacki Sturm (born in Opunake), Kerri Hulme and Roald Dahl. Fiona said Katherine Mansfield's 'Miss Brill' was a short story she

loved. She mentioned some possible outlets for getting stories published that participants could try, including the Internet. Fiona asked the participants to choose 'triggers' to underpin a short story. Triggers suggested included such things as your first day at school and a piece of jewellery. In pairs participants had to tell each other the story they came up with. Fiona covered a huge amount including the importance of choosing a



James Brown at his poetry workshop.

viable, believable character, the importance of a strong opening to the story, a suitable point of view (eg first person, second person, third person), dialogue ("Keep it tight") and endings, which she considered to be more important than anything else. Worthwhile accompanying hand-outs were distributed, which dealt with character, dialogue and engaging with the senses in an interesting way. Fiona is a famous, award-winning writer, yet at first she was greatly criticized.

"The critics were hell. I got it in the neck well and truly." Her routine as a writer includes being at her computer by 9am. She sets a goal of writing 1,000 words a day. She is quite capable of producing 3,000 to 4,000 words, but finds this leaves her tired, "so I pace myself." As part of the process of writing a book "I do a lot of research." For 'This Mortal Boy' the research continued for 18 months. Fiona continues to live her dream. "I always wanted to write fiction. That was my dream."

James Brown, who was born in Palmerston North in 1966, also conducted an interesting and engaging workshop. The Wellington-based writer also writes short stories (published in Landfall, The Listener and Sport) as well as poems. His anthology 'Round Power Please' won the Jessie MacKay Best First Book of Poetry Award. He has been a finalist in the Montana NZ Book Awards three times. He was the 2000 Buddle Findlay Sargeson Fellow and the Canterbury Writer in Residence in 2001. Currently, he is part of the Writing team at the Museum of NZ Te Papa Tongarewa. He also teaches Poetry Workshop at Victoria University. James read his colourful poem about his birth town Palmerston North. Written in 2003 it is published in The Year of the Bicycle (2006). With a poem (?) of sorts on the whiteboard he discussed what exactly makes a poem a poem. He then went on to outline line breaks, rhyme and rhythm sounds and rhyming as important

elements. He talked about the distinction between prose poems and listening poems "These are the two most common poetry forms," he explained. Important poets such as Hone Tuwhare were mentioned. However, he admitted to one prejudice; he wasn't keen on anything approaching Shakespearian sonnets. He said that modern poems now more closely resemble how people talk than used to be the case in the past. "It's good to read poems out loud," he commented. He was very definite about one thing - it was crucial not to "over write" making them too "florid." Poems should show, not merely tell, he said. Good poems should include action, imagery, emotion - but not too many descriptive words (adjectives and adverbs). The participants of both workshops all benefited greatly from the shared skills of these two outstanding writers.

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Hebes over Middleton



Members of Opunake High School's Sustainability Academy were planting hebes near the cliff top

overlooking Middleton Bay last week.

The hebes had been propagated by the school's horticulture class last year and were being planted to tie in with World Environment Day.

ABOVE: From left, Ashleigh George, Jamiee Siciliano, and Jessica Turner.

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Volunteers needed for emergency events

A public meeting is being held at the Sandford's Event Centre, on Tuesday 2 July at 7 pm for anyone interested in developing with maintaining the Town's civil defence Emergency Management Plan.

South Taranaki District Council community development advisor Glenn Hansen says that in early 2015 a series of public meetings were held in Opunake to work towards developing an Emergency Management Plan (EMP) which would be activated in the event of a Civil Defence event occurring in Opunake or the surrounding area.

"Following the meeting it was decided that once the EMP was developed, the main role of the group would be to gather information as to where problems were, what they were, their severity, what assistance was needed and relay that information back to the appropriate authorities. In the event that the authorities weren't in a position to be able to help, then the group would try and co-ordinate local assistance."

Hansen says the rural area from Omuturangi Road in the south to Turu Road in the north was split into areas with two people per

area asked to contact their neighbours in the event of them receiving a text from the Taranaki Emergency Management Office, then relay the information gathered back to the Civil Defence Centre in Opunake. The Opunake township area was also split into smaller areas and a list of people held who would be contacted to canvas the township for problems to be passed to the Opunake Centre. This system has been partially activated twice since 2015.

"The Opunake Civil Defence Centre (based in Sandford's Event Centre) has been co-ordinated by a

small group of volunteers. But over the last couple of years a number of these volunteers have left the area and the EMP has become dependent on people not living in Opunake," says Glenn. "This is not ideal. For the system to be able to operate with some degree of certainty it needs people living in the Opunake township or surrounding area."

If you think having an Emergency Plan for Opunake and the surrounding area is important and you might be able to help please come along to the meeting at Sandford's Event Centre

on Tuesday 2 July at 7 pm. Taranaki Emergency Management Staff will be present to explain what may be required and what training they can give to volunteers. If you have any questions prior to this time, or would like to be involved but can't

make the meeting, please contact Glenn Hansen 0279652712, Brian Roach 0274457888, Sasanka Gunatunga 0211331441, Nigel Robinson 0274756073 or Ian Armstrong 0272313216.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS

We need community volunteers to help support our Civil Defence Emergency Plan for Opunake and the surrounding area. If you can help, please come along to our public meeting at

Sandford's Event Centre, Tuesday 2 July at 7 pm

If you have any questions, or would like to be involved but can't make the meeting, please contact Glenn Hansen on 027 965 2712 or 0800 111 323



Joel off to Australia for a science FEAST

FEAST is a five-day residential programme for high achieving high school students from New Zealand and Australia and is designed to inspire and inform them on the spectrum of science careers in the agriculture, animal, plant and food sectors. It is solely for students who aim to study in specific sciences.

Opunake High School Head Boy Joel Clement has won a place from the Royal Society Te Apārangi to attend this event.

The FEAST (Future Experiences in Agriculture, Science and Technology) is held in Brisbane at the University of Queensland, and takes place from June 30-July 4.

Joel received one of six places to attend FEAST,



Joel Clement (standing) is Head Boy at Opunake High School.

and joins students from Southland Girls High College, and Wakatipu High School, Auckland, Rotorua, School, Queen Charlotte School.

Maata WI ladies visit alpacas

Ten Maata Womens' Institute members recently visited Moonacre Stud owned by the mother and daughter partnership of Ruth Prankerd and Amanda Bethune.

The stud is five kilometres from Eltham along the Rawhitiroa Road and has several alpacas, some llamas and two donkeys.

Ruth and Amanda have a shop attached to the stud in which the members were able to purchase many wool and craft items, along with games and colouring-in items for children.



Alpacas meet the Maata WI ladies.

Afterwards the ladies visited a restaurant in Eltham to have a leisurely meeting. Items for 'Foodbank' were

donated, along with toilet bags, with several bathroom items inside. The toilet bags are to be

donated to Women's Refuge along with games for the children.

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Rosie Rocks with the PM

The Rankin dairy farming family from Taranaki rocks, so the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Jacinda Arden found out at Fielddays.

Trish Rankin, recently named Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year, and her four sons took advantage of the Prime Minister's walkabout at Fielddays to present her with some Rosie Rocks.

The boys fell in love with the brightly painted Rosie Rocks when they discovered them at Fielddays and thought Jacinda Arden and partner Clarke Gayford's daughter Neve would like some too.

Trish Rankin and husband

Glen farm near Manaia in Taranaki.

The painted rock hide-and-seek craze that has taken the world by storm over the past couple of years has popped up at National Fielddays.

Prompted by the popularity of painting smooth pebbles and then hiding them for people to find, Rosie, the 'cowbassador' for New Zealand dairy farmers, has been busy in recent weeks decorating rocks that are hidden around the Heritage Village for children, in particular, to find.

The Rosie Rocks feature colourful dairy related images that are hand-painted



The Prime Minister, holding some painted Rosie Rocks, is pictured with (from left) Harry (12), Trish, Patrick (6), Tom (8) and Charlie (14).



Painted rocks were a Fielddays hit.

– or is that hoof-painted?

Finders can be keepers, but Rosie urges children discovering a colourful rock to hide it again for others to discover, taking a photo of themselves with it first. Or they can bring the Rosie Rock to the Old Schoolroom at the Heritage Village and hand them over in return for a small gift pack.

The global painted rock craze is said to have been started by people who wanted to make connections with others, which they do with special Facebook pages devoted to their particular rock, and via other forms of social media – and to get people into the outdoors.

Rosie said she wants her rocks to be a random act of kindness that would bring a smile to the faces of children attending Fielddays this year.

And she admits she hoped the rocks would also help draw attention to the Fielddays show she stars in at the Village Green, and

to the fun-filled Old School Classroom at the Heritage Village where she would be hanging out with the kids in between performances.

Painted rocks are popular in many communities internationally and around New Zealand.

Help stamp out Moth Plants

Taranaki people are being urged to be on the lookout for the pest 'moth plant' which is spreading throughout New Plymouth and warmer parts of Taranaki.

The Taranaki Regional Council wants to know where it is growing so they can get rid of it and stop it spreading.

"The Council will carry out and pay to have moth plant destroyed wherever it is found growing in the region," says the Council's

Environment Services Manager, Steve Ellis. "Moth plant poses a significant threat if left untouched. It grows at a rapid rate, and can smother or collapse existing native vegetation and trees."

"It will invade almost any frost-free habitat including stream margins, coastline, cliffs, gardens, untended sections and offshore islands," says Mr Ellis.

Moth plant (*Araucaria horticola* or *A. sericifera*) is included in the Taranaki

Regional Council's Pest Management Plan. It is an evergreen vine with twining, flexible stems, dark greyish-green, long triangular shaped leaves. In summer it has clusters of bell-shaped white to pink flowers then large autumn seed pods, thick skinned, leathery, pear-shaped containing kapok-like pulp. Ripe pods split open, releasing hundreds of black, thistle-down-like seeds which can drift many kilometres on air currents.

Praise for farm mediation bill

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) say they are pleased to hear progress has been made on farm debt mediation with legislation about to come before Parliament.

"RWNZ has been working with the Ministry of Primary Industries and others to progress this much needed service since our submission on the Farm Debt Mediation Bill originally proposed by Mark Patterson MP," says National President, Fiona Gower.

"Rural communities are adversely affected by the imbalance of power between banks and farmers and this bill will hopefully establish a standard process that will bring clarity and ensure farmers are treated fairly by financial institutions.

"Financial control is not black and white for farmers due to circumstances beyond their control and due to this complexity, creating a stand-alone bill for farmers will provide fair treatment to all involved.

"Mediation between farmers, their families and banks will only be good for rural communities - the cultivators of an industry core to New Zealand and focused on the well-being of consumers.



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Help stamp out MOTH PLANT

Moth plant is a fast-growing vine that can smother or collapse existing native vegetation or trees.



If you see any moth plants please contact the Taranaki Regional Council

The Council will carry out and pay to destroy moth plant wherever it is found in Taranaki.

Moth plant is an evergreen vine with long triangular-shaped leaves, white/pink bell-shaped flowers in summer and large leathery, pear-shaped seed pods in autumn. It is spreading throughout New Plymouth and warmer parts of Taranaki.

Contact: **Taranaki Regional Council, 0800 763 222**

More information on Taranaki pest management requirements: www.trc.govt.nz/pest-plants



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TRC programme in running for top honour

Taranaki Regional Council's Riparian Management Programme, a long-running and successful collaboration with local farmers, is a finalist in the 2019 Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Excellence Awards.

The awards, now in their sixth year, recognise and celebrate the key leadership role local government plays within communities around the country.

Enthusiastic buy-in from farmers is a key feature of Taranaki's riparian management programme, one of the world's largest restorative freshwater programmes supporting native habitats and improved ecological health.

The \$100 million programme is largely land-owner funded. The council has been working with farmers, rural residents and community groups



Vicki Jagersma loads a riparian plant order at the Stratford depot.

to transform the Taranaki landscape since the early 1990s. Through this collaboration, the council has developed individualised riparian management plans and has supplied up to

500,000 native plants to plan-holders at cost each year.

More than 15,400 kilometres of streambanks are covered by the voluntary programme.

The council is a finalist in the Excellence Award for Environmental Well-being for the Riparian Management Programme.

The award criteria is for a project that enhances the

environmental well-being of its community; demonstrates a sustainable process, with durable results; and/or makes significant improvements in health and safety.

The judges praised the programme as "a long-standing initiative with proven success".

LGNZ President Dave Cull said being named as a finalist is a significant achievement and reflects strong leadership and the innovative work being delivered by councils across the country.

"These Excellence Awards demonstrate the value local government provides to community, economic development, infrastructure and the environment," said Mr Cull.

"The sector should be incredibly proud of its achievements as we celebrate these outstanding projects. The finalist projects

are real examples of how local government delivers exemplary value and services to New Zealanders in a collaborative and inclusive way."

The other environmental category finalists are Hamilton City Council for installing 13,000 customised LED street lights, and Thames-Coromandel District Council for its network of fast-charging stations that puts the entire district within range of electric vehicles.

Judges for the awards are former Wellington Mayor Dame Kerry Prendergast, diplomat and public servant Sir Maarten Wevers, and Executive Director of the New Zealand Initiative, Dr Oliver Hartwich.

Category winners will be announced at a gala dinner during the LGNZ Conference in Wellington on July 8.

Feds finds useful ideas in National's primary sector paper

Federated Farmers say they are heartened that workforce issues are identified as a hot topic in the National Party's Primary Sector Discussion Document.

National is proposing better promotion of primary sector careers and increased vocational training opportunities. It is also floating the idea of an Agriculture Visa for migrant workers and nine-month dairy farm placements under an

expanded RSE (Recognised Seasonal Employer) scheme.

"Picking up on serious and persistent sector concerns, National also says it wants feedback on how to make Immigration NZ more responsive and accessible to employers facing labour shortages," Federated Farmers Dairy chair and immigration spokesperson Chris Lewis says.

"For example, complaints about the delays in processing visas for migrant

workers desperately needed in our primary industries aren't being addressed with sufficient vigour. It also seems clear that the student education, hospitality, retail and rest home care sectors are feeling similarly frustrated."

Federated Farmers' biggest issue is that almost all dairy farm worker visas are now only for 12 months.

"We see longer visas of two or three years as far less bureaucratic and costly at a time of worker shortages. If we moved to this, it would be a reduced workload for Immigration NZ, which would help with their backlog."

Lewis says the first priority

of the primary industries is always training New Zealanders with the right attitude to work on our farms.

"But with worker shortages in some regions, migrant workers are also vital to productivity and progress. Whatever government is in power needs to give Immigration NZ the policy settings and resources to meet industry and exporter needs," Chris says.

Federated Farmers is pleased National's discussion paper recognises the important part the primary sector plays in the New Zealand economy - particularly the social and economic prosperity of

provincial New Zealand.

"It's good to see that biosecurity is another key plank of the document and that tougher penalties are

proposed for visitors and importers who bring in items that are a threat to our crops and biodiversity," Lewis says.

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Farm investors and managers urged to heed fines

Fines totalling \$204,000 imposed by the Environment Court send a strong message to anyone who has invested in dairy farms, as well as their operators/managers, says the Taranaki Regional Council.

The fines were handed down to Blue Rata

Investments Ltd (\$86,250), Farm Ventures Ltd (\$75,000) and the sharemilker's company Khloby Dairy Ltd (\$42,750) after the Council took them to court over discharges of dairy effluent and silage leachate into a tributary of the Mangatete Stream at Ōkato in April, May and June last year.

Blue Rata owns the farm and Farm Ventures manages it. All parties pleaded guilty.

The Council's Director-Resource Management, Fred McLay says the discharges arose from substantial carelessness in the way the effluent treatment system and the silage pit were managed and operated.

Various parties, including Blue Rata, have been the target of enforcement action for previous non-compliances at the farm on a number of occasions since 2008.

The discharges last year resulted in green discoloration of the stream for up to 100m and

other downstream effects including the growth of sewage fungus up to 140m from the discharge. Maize silage leachate in particular is highly toxic to stream life and this discharge would have overwhelmed the stream's natural processes and functions.

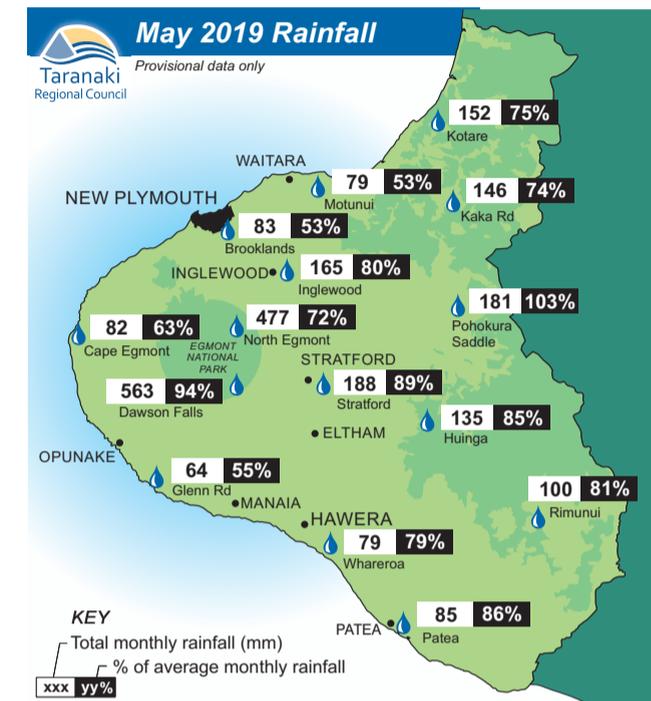
"The case highlights the fact that all parties involved in a dairy farm – including any passive investors not normally involved in day-to-day operations – have a duty of care to ensure environmental and legal obligations are met," he says.

"You can't just say it's up to the manager or operator or staff. You need to know when things are going wrong, and you need to

be proactive and check compliance and ensure any faults are addressed with fit-for-purpose equipment."

He says all dairy farm investors, managers and operators need to be aware of the conditions on their resource consents, be proactive and make regular checks to ensure resource consent and regional plan requirements are being met. It's not good enough to rely on the Council compliance inspection to identify any compliance issues. They must ensure that any improvements to waste treatment systems are robust, effective and will work, and ensure that waste holding ponds are properly managed so they don't overflow.

A drier May for most



Rainfall in Taranaki for May was between 50 % and 103 % of normal with an average for the month of 74 %, according to Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) figures.

The Mangati rainfall site recorded the least amount of rainfall (50%) with 78.6 mm. Pohokura Saddle recorded 181.0 mm which was 103 % of normal for the site. The majority of the rainfall fell between May 9-12 and also May 30-1.

Year to date rainfalls are between 75 % and 128 % of normal with an average of 93 %. There are currently five sites that are sitting above normal to date and these sites are: Motunui (110

%), Te Kiri (103 %), Manaia (102 %), Whareroa (near Hawera) (128 %), and Patea (112 %).

Autumn rainfall which consists of the three months March to May, was between 88 % and 148 % of normal. The average for the month was 112 %. There were six sites that recorded below normal for this period and these sites were: North Egmont (92 %), Kahui Hut (99 %), Mangati (89 %), Egmont Village (94 %), Charlies Clearing (88 %) and Omahine at Moana Trig (96 %).

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On this month in history Antarctic treaty established

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that Antarctica was to be a scientific preserve. The treaty established freedom of scientific investigation, but banned military activity.

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Mixed fortunes for Premiers



Thys Van Der Poel gets around the Tukapa defence as the FBT Div 1 bounce back from a rare loss with a good win over Tukapa.

On Saturday May 8, New Plymouth Old Boys travelled to Rahunu to take on the Farmsource Coastal Premiers. A strong start had Coastal leading at the break 17-0, but this year's competition has been so close, that the game isn't won until the final whistle has been blown. Old Boys came back strongly in the second half and camped in Coastal

territory. Outstanding defence held the visitors out for 25 minutes before NPOB crossed the line to make the score 17-7 with 15 minutes to play. Coastal bounced straight back to score two tries in the last 10 minutes to take the game 27-7. Try scorers were Tevita Fa'ukafa (2) and Sam Lawn (2). The remaining points

game from the boot of Rick McKenna. Man of the match was Tevita Fa'ukafa. On Saturday May 15 Coastal were on the road again to New Plymouth to take on Tukapa. The hosts had a strong first half and Coastal found themselves 7-27 down at half time. Things tightened up in the second half, but the damage

had been done. A high error rate cost Coastal throughout the match, and Tukapa took the game 30-14. Point scorers were Jared Davey (try) Jacob Gopperth (conversion) plus a penalty try. Man of the match was Troy Stevenson. We all wish Jordy Fleming a speedy recovery from his injury suffered during the match.

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Above: Kelvin Weir featuring for the undefeated Goodin Ag Div 2 team. The first of three teams Kelvin played for that day.



The CMK Club Rugby Finals Day will be played at Yarrow Stadium on Saturday July 13 with eight division finals held across the day with the CMK premier finale kicking off at 3:00pm. Semi-finals of all senior club competitions will be held on Saturday July 6 at the respective clubs.

Left: Sam Lawn is flanked by his front row mates Chris Gawlyer and Andrew Trolove, as he charges the ball up.



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Back to back for Coastal women



Brooke (Chooke) Sim puts in a nice fend as the Corkill Woman's team win the Taranaki Championship in a fantastic game against Clifton. Well done girls!!

Friday June 7 was a typical cold windy winter's night round the coast but the Coastal Corkill Women's Rugby Team were ready to bring the heat. The scene was set for a repeat of the women's final from the previous year against

Clifton but this time Coastal had earned home advantage. The Coastal team were hoping for back to back titles in front of a big crowd. It was good to see some of the Senior Coastal Boys there showing their support. Coastal started the first

half playing into the wind and were determined to keep ball in hand to make life easier. They had some good possession and territory early on but couldn't capitalise because of good defence from Clifton. Clifton managed

to strike first through a well worked backs move. Coastal struck back quickly through a nifty chip kick by Brooke Sim who got the bounce and scored in the corner. Coastal then struck again through Iritana Hohaia but were unable to convert. The scores were locked at 10 all going into half time to set up an interesting last 40 mins.

Coastal used the wind to their advantage in the second half through some good tactical kicking by Badinlee Munro-Smith to play the territory game and pressure the Clifton lineout. Victoria McCullough caught the Clifton defence napping when she took a quick tap and scored close to the posts. It was déjà vu with Alesha Williams finishing the season as she started, getting a double in the final. The scored finished up 25-10.

Much to the delight of the Coastal crowd the girls managed to retain the women's title and set the bar for the boys. The girls have loved representing the Coast and would like to thank everyone that has supported them this season. Ride the wave.

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Club finals day returns to Yarrow Stadium

The biggest day on the Taranaki Rugby Football Union's calendar will return to Yarrow Stadium after a year's absence.

The CMK Club Rugby Finals Day will be played at the venue on Saturday July 13 with eight division finals held across the day with the CMK premier finale kicking off at 3:00pm.

Last year's finals day was held at Inglewood's TET Stadium due to earthquake concerns at Yarrow Stadium preventing the full use of facilities.

However, with proven temporary infrastructure in place, Community Rugby Manager Cole Brown is confident Yarrow Stadium will be able to handle the influx of teams.

"The changing rooms in the southern compound, used for Mitre 10 Cup matches, will be able to accommodate a handful of teams along with the temporary facilities at Spotswood United Rugby Club.

"We are proud to have the finals day held at the stadium, which is the home of Taranaki Rugby".

Brown said that temporary sideline seating, that will be built for this year's Mitre 10 Cup, will be available for 1,684 club fans close to the field creating a unique atmosphere.

"We have the aim of building a boutique venue within Yarrow Stadium and clubs will be able to set up marquees at the southern end of the ground.

"This will create an amazing atmosphere where everyone can celebrate a year's worth of rugby", he said.

"Players have the dream of playing on Yarrow Stadium,



Coastal supporters at Yarrow Stadium 2014.

it has the best surface in the province and home to some of Taranaki Rugby's most memorable moments".

While Taranaki Rugby

Chief Executive Jeremy Parkinson is thrilled finals day is back at the home of Taranaki Rugby, he thanked the stadium operators the

New Plymouth District Council and the Spotswood United Rugby Football Club for assisting in making the day possible.

Last year's club finals day at Inglewood's TET Stadium attracted over 4,000 spectators with the stadium still able to hold 12,000

people. Semi-finals of all senior club competitions will be held on Saturday July 6 at the respective clubs.

Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

The top score of the night on June 3 went to Clare Bramley, with an almost perfect 100.9, followed by 98.7. Paul Tidswell shot a consistent 99.6, 99.7 while Garry Rowlands also had a consistent night with 98.5, 98.7, 99.7. Fellow 98 shooters were Alex Sadovnikova 98.4, 95.4, 92.3; Alan Drake 94.4, 98.2. Junior shooter Boston Taylor had a very good night

with 97.3, 90.1.

Murray Chinery 94.5, 91.2; Bjorn Fowler 92.2, 96.1; Brian Hicks 92.1, 93.3; Don Litchfield 91.3, 94.4; Henry Armond 94.3, 93.2; Michelle Hofmans 92.3, 93.3, 87.0; Craig McGill 92.2, 92.1, 91.0; Matt Vaughan 60.1.

New shooters on groups cards did very well Michael Stratton had three 100 group cards, Kelsi Bayly two 100 cards and 99, while Jordej Russell shot two 100 cards and a 97.

On Friday June 7,

congratulations go to Stephen Hicks on shooting a personal best 97.5 followed by a 93.2. Garry Rowlands had another very consistent night 99.5, 99.4, 99.6, 99.6; Paul Tidswell 99.4, 98.6; Alan Drake 95.3, 98.5, 96.3; Bob Bramley 95.2, 98.5, 94.4; Clare Bramley 98.4, 94.4; Murray Chinery 96.3, 92.1; Boston Taylor 91.1, 95.2; Brian Hicks 95.5, 94.0; Craig McGill 87.0, 94.3, 92.0; Michelle Hofmans 91.2, 93.2. Off the rest shooter John McGill shot

a 95 group card followed by 69.1 and visitor Glenn Taylor shot a 74.0.

As most of the Club were at an inter-club in Inglewood, it was a small gathering at the range in Eltham on Monday June 10. Don Litchfield shot 95.4 and 94.2 while Michelle Hoffmans shot 88.0. The inter-club was won by Hawera, congratulations to the shooters from Hawera Club.

Clare Bramley

Mania Golf results

Saturday June 8. Men. 1. Rod Le Fleming. 2. Denis Hurcomb. 3. Gary Couper. 4. John Oliver..Juniors. Senior Juniors. Putting. 1. Ashton Sharp. 2. Joe Gibson and Jade Siciliano. Pee Wees. 1. Chantelle Wong. 2. Payton Siciliano. 3. Liam Campbell.

Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre

Three teams took part in the Mixed Fours event played on Saturday May 11. The overall winner was the team of Karl Hughes (skip) Andrea Berry, Ella Smailes and Nigel Berry. This team will now go on to contest the zone final in Wanganui in early July.

At the Mixed Pairs event played on Saturday 18th May three teams took part with the overall winner being Karl Hughes (Skip) and Andrea Berry. They will also contest the zone final in Wanganui the same weekend.

At the Champion of Champion Fours, seven teams, each of whom won their club Fours event competed with two teams

having three wins from five rounds, Otakeho and Turi (Patea). The overall winner was the Otakeho Team of Paul Midgely (skip) Jane Augustine, Ross Rodgers and Jamie Taylor, who defeated the Turi team of Ray Finlay(skip) Dave Gullery, Bridget Dwyer and Tom Wisnewski.

In the Champion of Champion Singles, six players competed, with only two players (Cardiff and Pihama) winning three games, so a playoff was needed to find a winner. The eventual winner was Sue Bourne from the Cardiff Club, who defeated Scott Dymock from the Pihama club.

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Taranaki Surf Life Saving NZ Awards

The Opunake Surf Life Saving Club took out two of the overall awards at this year's Taranaki Surf Life Saving Awards of Excellence.

The Volunteer of the Year Award went to Trent Oliver,

president of Opunake SLSC. Oliver contributed considerable time to beach patrols, coaching junior surf competitors, and seniors for beach events, recruiting junior members, working on funding for the club

and overseeing earthquake strengthening of the club, and as a member of the Opunake rescue call out squad.

Michael Debique, also from Opunake SLSC was named Lifeguard of the Year.

Throughout the season he has taught beach education in the community, has helped with search and rescue, was in charge of the Opunake rescue squad, was in charge of refreshing all lifeguards' qualifications for his club, coached the younger Opunake lifeguards for competitions, and represented his club on the Taranaki lifeguard committee. "Michael often participates in junior surf sessions, and is always keen to teach our children new skills and demonstrate his passion for surf lifesaving," says Opunake junior surf coordinator Claire Hunn.

The awards top off "a fantastic season", where Taranaki lifeguards have proved their value on our beaches, and have shown their athletic abilities in international and national sports, says SLSNZ Central Region club support officer Joel Meuli.

"We had a really good summer, with lots of people out in the water enjoying the good weather, our lifeguards putting in a lot of work to keep them safe, and many, many people in all sorts of roles working hard behind the scenes so our clubs can operate. So a big thank you

to everyone," he says.

East End Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) lifeguard Claudia Kelly had a stellar year, reflected in her trophy haul.

She was awarded Sportsperson of the Year, Senior Sportswoman of the Year and Junior Sportswoman of the Year (as she competed in opens and junior classes in events this season), and was one half of the Junior Team of the Year, in the East End u19 female double ski team, with Hannah Baker. She was also presented awards for the top u19 woman athlete and top open woman athlete at the SLSNZ Taranaki Championships.

Kelly, 17, represented New Zealand at the 2018 Sanyo International Lifesaving Cup in Japan, in June 2018, and brought back two silvers and two bronzes in her own events, with the team ultimately placing second.

She also co-captained the national Junior Black Fins team to the Lifesaving World Championships in Adelaide in November, where she won gold in the World Junior Ironwoman, and the female 4 x 25m manikin relay.

Kelly's competition

success means she currently holds national Surf Life Saving NZ titles for the u19 female 200m Super Lifesaver swim, u19 female double ski, u19 female ski relay, the u19 taplin relay, and the National Representative Challenge open ironwoman title.

Innovation of the Year went to the Taranaki On-Call Rescue Squad, who fundraised fiercely to raise enough money to purchase the area's first Rescue Water Craft, worth more than \$50,000.

"Within its first week it completed two rescues out off back beach," says the Call-Out Squad's manager David Bentley.

"It's speed to get to victims has seen praise by the Police Search and Rescue, and is a game changer for the region."

The Taranaki Service Award and Distinguished Service Award, were both made to Anthony North, of East End SLSC

The annual Awards of Excellence are held in Surf Life Saving NZ areas throughout the country, leading up to the National Awards of Excellence, later in the year.

Opunake Surf Life Saving News



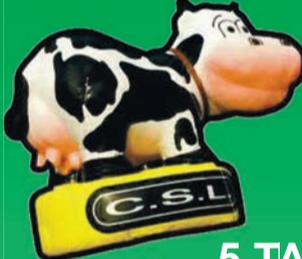
Michael DeBique, Renee Fleming and Trent Olliver with their awards.

We congratulate Michael and Trent Olliver for DeBique, Renee Fleming receiving awards at the

recent Taranaki Surf Life Saving Awards. Michael (known as Speed) received LifeGuard of the Year, Renee won Under 9 first place and Trent won the Taranaki Volunteer of the Year. Our club is very proud of these award winners and appreciate the work that goes into our club by volunteers.

Our AGM is coming up on Sunday July 14 at 1pm. All welcome. Our current committee are all seeking re-election which is great to see, but we are able to have an election if others are keen to come on. We elect three office holders and five other people. We also need people for sub-committees like building, junior surf, fund raising and life guards. If you are keen, please get in touch with opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com.

Trish Rankin



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HCL BUILDERS for building decks. Ph 027 236 7129.

COASTAL GIB STOPPERS. Phone Glenn 027 524 5745

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish
CHURCH SERVICES

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

Opunake Catholic Church

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

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

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Come along or contact
Murray Baylis
027 218 3377

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

Okato Community Church

Meets 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall.
Everyone welcome

FAMILY NOTICES

Dr Paula McKellar MB
Ch B (Aberdeen) QSM



Dr Paula Marjorie McKellar (nee Angelo), formerly medical practitioner in Opunake, passed away midday at Taranaki Base Hospital, New Plymouth on Sunday 16 June. She was 101 years old. Mother of Sonya (Australia), Rolland and Bernice, and mother-in-law of Stephanie.

Sister of Gwendoline Hardman (nee Valentine), Arnold Angelo, Maurice Angelo and Henry (Harry) Angelo.

Grandmother of Gavin, Rachael and Carol, and grandmother-in-law to Paul. Great grandmother of Isaac and Lucas. (Rachael, Paul and their sons live in England).

Celebration of Paula's amazing life will be held on Saturday 22 June (10am) at St Paul's Church, Opunake. As in line with Paula's wishes a burial will follow.

Instead of flowers we prefer donations to charities relating to drug addiction and alcoholism (issues dear to Paula's heart).

Paula McKellar, MB ChB, QSM

My dear lovely Mum, the best mother in the world. So much more than just a mother.

On June 16 2019, God claimed you for himself.

You have been so much part of my life these last years. I was in your corner right to the end. Till we meet again.

Your devoted daughter,
Bernice.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Opunake Surf
Life Saving
Club

NOTICE of AGM

Sunday 14 July
1pm

Opunake SLS Clubhouse

All Welcome

Contact Trish
opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com

Okato and District
Historical Society

The Annual Meeting will be held at the
Okato Community Hall,
Cumming Street, Okato
on Wednesday 26th June
2019 at 9am

New members welcome

Anne Bolton,
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SITUATIONS VACANT



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Tamarongo
Board of Trustees Election Results 2019

Staff Reps

Gabrielle Whitu
Tapakione Skinner

Parent Reps

Adam Whitu
Puna Wharehoka
Robyn Davey
Te Uatorikiriki Solomon
Grace Cribb

Ngapera Parata, Returning Officer

Next issue due out July 4
Contact us now on 06 761 7016 or email
us to be in it!

PUBLIC NOTICES

OPUNAKE
HIGH SCHOOLBoard of Trustees Election
Declaration of Parent and Staff Election Results

Parent representative votes

Brophy, Kylie 88	Smith, John R 6
Gasson, Liz 54	Smith, Vanessa 38
Hooker, John 33	Symons, Megan 70
McCarthy, Vincent 38	Whitehead, Andy 79
Pivac, Steve 51	Invalid 0

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Kylie Brophy, Liz Gasson, Steve Pivac, Megan Symons,
Andy Whitehead.

Staff Election Results

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Davey, Robyn

Signed:

Lynette Collins, Returning Officer

St Joseph's Primary School

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St Joseph's Primary School Opunake
School Board of trustees' Election 2019
Declaration of Parent and Staff
Election Results

Parent representative votes:

Aldridge, Bianca 27	Lynskey, Craig 36
Bourke, Claire 35	Pulukuttiarachchi,
Coogan, Gregory 33	Marian 14
Guthrie, Hayley 19	Stevenson, Jemma 24
Lark, Linley 32	Invalid 05
Le Prou, Jacques 10	

I hereby declare the following duly elected

Claire Bourke, Gregory Coogan, Linley Lark, Craig
Lynskey

Staff Election results:

At the close of nominations, as there was only one valid nomination received, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Danson, Gillian

Signed:

Stephenie Langton, Returning Officer

COASTAL TARANAKI
SCHOOLBoard of Trustees Election
Declaration of Parent Election Results

Parent representative votes

Burmeister, Deborah 32	O'Sullivan, Liam 33
MacLean, Gaylene 47	White, Miriam Lisa 23
Mason, Renata 21	Invalid votes 6
Moorby, Matthew 35	

I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Burmeister, Deborah; MacLean, Gaylene; Moorby,
Matthew; O'Sullivan, Liam; White, Miriam Lisa.

Board of Trustees Election
Declaration of Staff Election Results

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Taylor, Craig

Signed:

Kirsty Koboski, Returning Officer

PUBLIC NOTICES

Friends and Interested parties of the:

'LIZZIE BELL' CEMETERY, PIHAMA,

**The NEW ZEALAND MERCHANT NAVY
will be placing a wreath to
commemorate the anniversary of the
sinking of the "Lizzie Bell"**

To be held at the Cemetery
Puketapu Road
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24th July, 11:00am

If you wish to attend

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

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

WANTED

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

What's On Listings



ONGOING

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

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

SUNDAYS

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

MONDAYS

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

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

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

TUESDAYS

Club Hotel Pool: Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

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

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

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

FRIDAYS

Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

WEEKENDS

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

APRIL 6 TO OCTOBER 6

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

JUNE 8 TO 22

Opunake Players presents 'Fleeced': 7.30pm start. Tickets available from Sinclair Electrical, Opunake. \$25. Refer advert from previous issue of OCN.

JUNE 20

Planting of Sand Binder plants at Sandy Bay, Oaonui: 10am. (Reserve day June 27). Refer advert from previous issue of OCN.

JUNE 21 TO JULY 14

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

JUNE 26

Okato and Districts Historical Society AGM: 9am in the Okato Community Hall. Refer advert.

JUNE 27

Back Dune planting at Sandy Bay, Oaonui: 10am. (Reserve day July 4). Refer advert from previous issue of OCN

JULY 8

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

JULY 14

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

JULY 15

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

JULY 22

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

JULY 24

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

SEPTEMBER 14

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

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

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

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

Applications close 31st July 2019. Forms available from:

The Secretary

PO Box 117

Opunake 4616

Phone: 021 729 471

Email: ORVTrust@gmail.com



Coastal Taranaki Health Trust
A.G.M.

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

"LIZZIE BELL" PIHAMA CEMETERY BOARD AGM

Monday 8 July, 7.00pm

At B & D Campbell's
90 Puketapu Road
Pihama

Diane Campbell, Secretary
Ph 027 444 6934

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT 5.30PM

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the
Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake
(opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)

Next issue due out July 4
Contact us on 06 761 7016

Yarrow Stadium

Questions and answers

The information below addresses a number of questions that have been raised in public discussion following the Council's decisions on Yarrow Stadium last month.

Why not just fix the grandstands for \$36 million and leave the refurbishments?

- Fixing the stands and doing nothing else is not an option because the Stadium would still not be fit for purpose:
- The refurbishments are essential for the Stadium to host the sort of events the region wants to attract. Replacing end-of-life lighting with up-to-date LED fittings is but one leading example. There are also things like extra toilets and space for more food options, which users tell us have long been needed.
- This work simply continues a programme developed in consultation with the wider sporting community before the earthquake-prone issue arose. Nothing has changed – apart from an opportunity to get work done cost-efficiently and more easily while repairs are under way.
- The refurbishment programme was being funded from the previous Yarrow Stadium rate, which is now replaced by the new rating arrangement that also covers the cost of grandstand repairs.

Why spend so much on a facility that's only for rugby?

It's understandable that people associate the Stadium with rugby but:

- The Stadium has been the venue for other top-level sport including NRL league games, FIFA Under-20 World Cup games, Phoenix soccer fixtures, T20 cricket fixtures and extreme motorsport exhibition events. These have had a total estimated attendance of 130,000 people, a Business & Economic Research Ltd (BERL) analysis shows.
- Attendance at non-sport events – conferences, exhibitions, trade shows, conventions, corporate functions, weddings and community events – rose from 16,397 in 2014/15 to 33,310 in 2016/17. There were 51 functions, conferences, expos and community events in 2014/15 and the number more than doubled to 128 in 2016/17. This growth is expected to continue.
- In any case, rugby remains important to Taranaki people – the BERL analysis also notes that the region has the nation's highest rugby engagement rate of any region in New Zealand.
- Rugby is the Stadium's major paying tenant. Without it, the region would struggle to establish and maintain a facility like this. The Stadium can't succeed without rugby.
- Most rugby facilities will be destroyed as part of the repair project – these will be replaced in a way that allows users to make the best use of space in the grandstands.

What about other sports? They're becoming more popular and are desperate for better facilities.

- The Taranaki Regional Council funds Yarrow Stadium as the region's platform for national and international events. As already noted, the Stadium has been used by a variety of codes. They've all indicated they want to return.
- Soccer is developing its own regional facility near New Plymouth airport. It envisages continuing to use Yarrow Stadium for the sort of top-class fixtures already seen there.

Chairman's chat

Getting Yarrow Stadium back to work



Ka mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, greetings to you all. After a busy and tough few months, I'm delighted that Taranaki has taken the first step to restore Yarrow Stadium to its rightful place as New Zealand's leading regional venue for national and international events.

Weighing up everything we've seen, heard and read, all of us at the Council table are confident the community largely shares our vision for Yarrow Stadium: The best non-metro stadium in the country for national and international sports, entertainment and community events, offering a quality experience for all who use it.

And I'd like to thank the many people whose research, expertise and informed insight fed into what has been one of the Council's most momentous decisions in recent history.

We heard from a lot of different people with a lot of different views, some of them more informed than others.

It's always challenging to assess a large number of opinions and suggestions, but I was glad so many people took the opportunity to participate. And we made significant changes to the original proposal as a result of what we'd been told.

After we'd heard from everyone, we asked ourselves again what we need to achieve. After a lot of discussion and deliberation, we concluded that the vision adopted in 2015 still applies. That vision is:

- The best regional stadium in New Zealand that regularly hosts national and international sports and entertainment events.
- A stadium for both major events and community events and the premier outdoor field for team sports codes.
- A stadium that is loved by sports fans and the local community.
- A stadium that is a quality experience for event promoters, participants and spectators, which is achieved through superior event facilities, presentation and management and through the early adoption and smart use of technology.

So it was clear to us that we must reinstate Yarrow Stadium to what it was, with refurbishments that are necessary to meet current and foreseeable requirements for such venues.

Not everyone agrees, of course. That's part of being in a democracy. But as discussion continues, it's important that we all respect the facts and respect each other. And I invite you to read and consider the Yarrow Stadium questions and answers in this newsletter.

It's been a tough decision – one of the toughest the Council's faced. But I'm confident it's the right decision. I look forward to the first big event at the repaired and refurbished Yarrow Stadium, as do thousands of others in Taranaki.

David MacLeod, Chair



Top-grade football at Yarrow Stadium. Non-rugby fixtures have attracted an estimated 130,000 fans.

- As the options analysis revealed, it would be prohibitively expensive to develop the Stadium as a venue also suitable for codes with specialised playing-area requirements.
- Community sport has valid wants and needs, in terms of infrastructure and facilities, that they tell us are unsatisfied. These issues need to be addressed at the local level, not the Regional Council level.
- Because no actual material damage has been sustained, there is nothing to claim insurance on. The situation is the same in similar situations elsewhere, for example Wellington Public Library.
- The Stadium has had and will continue to have insurance coverage for any actual damage that occurs in an earthquake or in other circumstances.

Liability:

What about insurance? What about liability? Surely someone must be held to account.

Insurance:

- The grandstands were NOT closed because they had sustained damage. They were closed because they were found to be earthquake-prone, exposing staff and/or spectators to an unacceptable risk of death or serious injury should they be on-site when a quake occurs.

- The law imposes a 10-year limitation on liability claims – this is, you can't seek damages if 10 years or more have gone by. The Stadium was built almost 20 years ago.
- The Council continues to investigate whether any options remain for a lawful claim. But it would be unwise to expect this to result in any financial compensation.

More information: www.trc.govt.nz/yarrow-stadium



The Tukutuku Blessing

On June 3 at 9.30am a long-awaited event occurred. The Tukutuku Panels at Everybody's Theatre were blessed in a ceremony. Quietly a small team of dedicated people from Everybody's Theatre and the Opunake Arts Council, as well as a number of Tukutuku Panel creators gathered together with Nicola Wright leading the ceremony and group into Everybody's Theatre.

Tukutuku tell a story of Whakapapa, the land, the sea, the wildlife, the people their surroundings, their origins and beliefs. The Egmont Community Arts Council initiated and supported this project to coincide with the 2015 Opunake Sesquicentennial

celebrations. Nick was a member of the Council at that time and led the project. It is a relief and overwhelming to have completed the Tukutuku journey and seen it through to completion, Nick said.

The project was designed to give locals past and present the opportunity to weave their story of origin or identity to Opunake by way of a tukutuku panel. Each panel holds its own story and interpretation. Each person has either a long or short term connection within the community. Ethnicity is gently interwoven between the lives. Several of the Tukutuku creators were there. All acknowledged and thanked the support and effort of Nick to assist with

completing their works, and told their stories as part of the ceremony, Martha explained hers is about the seven steps to heaven, and the journey of her mum and her step father. Robyn's represents the old manual block, the Idea Services and the colours of the uniforms of each school in Opunake, encompassing education, training and life skills. Pamela's represent the gathering and providing of food. The patiki pattern known as the flounder relates to her father's origins where flounder was plentiful.

Acknowledgements to the late Kui Mrs Wai Uatuku for imparting her invaluable knowledge, materials and blessings to a community of which she served dearly for most of her life.

To Mr Bruce Hardwidge formerly of Opunake, we acknowledge his family, the late Mrs Lyn Hardwidge and their daughters Jo, Shar and the late Steph. As a family they all had a passionate input on their tukutuku panels and without them, this project would not have eventuated.

Congratulations to everyone for the wonderful and colourful stories you have shared about yourselves respectively. Kim Gatenby, Chairperson of the Everybody's Theatre, expressed her joy and honour to be housing these wonderful pieces of work within the Theatre, where all the community are welcome to visit and view.

Aretha Lemon



The Tukutuku Panels at Everybody's Theatre.

Environmental doers sought for awards

Nominations have opened for this year's Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Awards, which celebrate efforts across all community sectors to protect and improve the environment.

The annual awards have been running 26 years, with 279 individuals, groups and organisations being

honoured in that time.

"These awards celebrate the fact that Taranaki people are not only more aware of the importance of the environment, but they are taking action to keep it safe and make it better," says the Council Chair, David MacLeod.

"Thanks to the efforts of individuals, schools, iwi and

hapū, businesses, community groups and others, Taranaki's made great progress on the environmental front. The challenges won't go away and there's still a lot more to achieve. But because we're a region of doers, not just talkers, we can face the future with hope and optimism. That's what these awards celebrate."

The awards will be presented in September and cover five categories: business, community, education, dairy farming and land management. Nominations close on 19 July. See www.trc.govt.nz/awards for criteria and to make an online nomination.



Environmental Awards

Taranaki has a great environment

Let's celebrate the efforts of the individuals, community groups, iwi, businesses, farmers, educators, and organisations that are supporting and improving our environment.

Nominations are now open

Categories

Environmental action in education

Environmental leadership in business

Environmental action in the community

Environmental leadership in dairy farming

Environmental leadership in land management

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Nominations close 5pm Friday 19 July 2019

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

Or contact: Rusty Ritchie
Communications Manager
Taranaki Regional Council

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

Some of our 2018 Environmental Award winners



Working with people | caring for Taranaki

Moments

Winter is upon us, but this upcoming exhibition will warm the cockles of your heart. MOMENTS is an exhibition by Taranaki artists Michelle Rowland (Stratford) and Susie Harrop (Rahotu);

a charming and beautifully-executed exhibition with quintessential kiwi content, humour and the odd dab of pathos.

There is a strong storytelling element in the Susie Harrop's

work. She paints what she knows, often depicting everyday scenes and subjects, often with a rural flavour, with is not surprising as she lived most of her life close to the land. Susie is

a retired coastal Taranaki farmer, whose studio is a redundant cowshed. She is a realist painter, meticulously capturing, in oil and acrylic, moments in time of people and places — showing everyday NZ life as it is and was, as well as portraying Maori legends painted from the heart.

Michelle Rowland is an accomplished Stratford artist with pastel as her preferred medium. There is great depth to her work, bold colours and with articulate play of

light and dark. Michelle is fascinated with colour and texture and also paints in a realistic style. Her work is mainly focused on the birds and animals in nature as well as portraits and landscapes reflecting her rural Taranaki home and surroundings. Michelle finds endless inspiration from her large well-established garden.

Michelle has been commissioned to paint many beloved pet portraits. Her ability to bring out the essence or special personality

of animals is impressive.

These two artists are good friends (they've had the odd roadie with head-banging music) and love to utilize their art practice to capture a moment in time,—a face, a scene or a feeling that captures the essence of the person, the animal or landscape.

The exhibition is open to the public from Saturday June 22 and closes Sunday 14 July at 3pm.

Rhonda Bunyan



Susie Harrop unwrapping her work ready to exhibit at Percy Thomson.



The Haircut by Susie Harrop.



MOMENTS

Susie Harrop and Michelle Rowland

Quintessential moments of everyday life



Opening event
Friday 21 June at
7pm. All welcome

June 22 -
July 14

Top: The Farrier, oil, Susie Harrop (detail)
Left: Violet, pastel, Michelle Rowland

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The Carnivorous Plant Society tour comes to Opunake

Expect a multi media production. Band leader/multi-instrumentalist/genius Finn Scholes has penned custom-made animation as a backdrop to this highly acclaimed band's performance of Mexican fantasy music. Yes, Mexican fantasy music, performed on a plethora of instruments by Finn and Tam Scholes, Alistair Deverick and Oliver Emmitt.

Band-leader Finn Scholes plays almost every instrument under the sun. He has performed with countless top acts including Neil Finn, Katchafire, Avalanche City, Tiny Ruins

and Hopetoun Brown. His compositions have been used in settings such as the NZ International Film Festival and his animations have been used by bands such as Hopetoun Brown.

Tam Scholes is widely considered one of NZ's most original guitar players. Drawing influence from guitarists such as Bill Frisell and Tommy Emmanuel, Tam is also the frontman of his own country-calypto trio: Archie.

Multi-talented Alistair Deverick has produced the band's recordings and performs with bands such as Neil Finn, Lawrence Arabia and Anika Moa.



Live show at Everybodys Theatre.

Oliver Emmitt currently lives in Amsterdam, but has been shipped over expressly for this show. He plays trombone, bass and sings professionally with a number of groups. His own band <Our Blessed Gertrude> displays his amazing musicianship and personality.

Tuesday 9 July 7:00pm Opunake. Everybody's Theatre, Doors open at 6.30pm - show starts at 7.00pm. \$10 Adults, \$5 kids/students (under 18) Book: Opunake Library Plus OR South Taranaki i-SITE (phone credit card bookings only).

creative nz
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JUNE/JULY

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale	No Eft-Pos	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8.
8yr and under must be supervised by 14 yr or older		ID required for all R movies
	JOHN WICK CHAPTER 3 Action, Thriller 2hr 10mins R16: Graphic Violence and language Super-assassin John Wick is on the run after killing a member of the international assassin's guild, and with a \$14 million price tag on his head - he is the target of hit men and women Fri 28 th Jun 7pm Sat 6 th Jul 7pm	
	BREAKING HABITS Documentary 1hrs 27mins M: Drug Use A commune of activist nuns run a cannabis farm. They use it to make medicine for everything from epilepsy to cancer, fighting against the authorities, the sheriff and local cartels. This is the story of Sister Kate Sat 29 th Jun 7pm Wed 3 rd Jul 7pm Fri 12 th Jul 7pm	
	X MEN DARK PHOENIX Action, Sci Fi 1hrs 34mins PG The X men face their most formidable and powerful foe: one of their own, Jean Grey. With Jean spiraling out of control, and hurting the ones she loves most, she begins to unravel the very fabric that holds the X-Men together Fri 5 th Jul 7pm Sun 14 th Jul 7pm Fri 19 th Jul 7pm	
	POKEMON: DETECTIVE PIKACHU Action, Adventure, Comedy 1hr 44mins PG In a world where people collect Pokémon to do battle, a boy comes across an intelligent talking Pikachu who seeks to be a detective. Sat 29 th Jun 1pm Sat 13 th Jul 1pm	
	WONDER PARK Fantasy, Family 1hr 26mins PG One magical day, Jun is running through the woods to find her way home where she discovers an old rollercoaster car and climbs inside. She suddenly finds herself in Wonderland Sat 22 nd Jun 1pm	

Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun
19 The Hustle 1pm The Aftermath 7pm	21 Book week 7pm	22 Wonder Park 1pm Aftermath 7pm	23 The Hustle 7pm
26 !!Arthouse!! Aftermath 1pm Merata 7pm	28 John Wick 7pm	29 Pokemon 1pm Breaking Habits 7pm	30 Merata 7pm
3 Merata 1pm Breaking Habits 7pm	5 X Men Dark Phoenix 7pm	6 Aladdin 1pm John Wick 7pm	7 ** BOUTIQUE** Rocketman 7pm

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