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Taranaki led the pack in share farmer awards

There was a lot of history on show when the winners of the Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards were announced last week.

The theme for the awards dinner held at the Hub in Hawera was Dairying through the Ages.

In 1975 Taranaki was first in New Zealand to have a Sharemilker of the Year competition. Other regions followed suit, but it wasn't until 1989 that there would be a national winner. In the years since then, the Sharemilker of the Year title has become Sharefarmer of the Year and is part of the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards, along with the titles of Dairy Manager and Dairy Trainee of the Year.

This year Taranaki was the second of the 11 regions to announce their winners who will be taking part in the national final to be held in Wellington on May 11.

This year marks 30 years since the national title was first contested for, so it was perhaps appropriate that previous national finalists are now employing some of this year's contestants. The winner of the Dairy Manager title, Kenneth Harrison works on Ian and Judith Armstrong's Te Kiri farm for Charlie and Jodie McCaig who were New Zealand Sharefarmers of the



Sharefarmers of the Year Leah and Jacob Prankerd.

Year in 2014. Marshall Jane who works for Rob and Mel Van den Brand on Christine Good's farm at Oeo was Dairy Trainee of the Year. The Van den Brands had

at the title. Two years ago when working near Normanby, he had finished second. "I always wanted to enter again and try my luck," he said. Matthias Hipp finished third in the dairy manager category. Matthew Moffitt who said it was his first year out of university finished second. Winner Kenneth Harrison grew up in Manaia and took a break from farming when

at the title. Two years ago when working near Normanby, he had finished second.

"I always wanted to enter again and try my luck," he said.

Matthias Hipp finished third in the dairy manager category. Matthew Moffitt who said it was his first year out of university finished second. Winner Kenneth Harrison grew up in Manaia and took a break from farming when

he left to go drilling in Australia in 2005. He has been on the Armstrong farm since returning to New Zealand in 2017, starting there as farm assistant, and moving up the ranks in the time since. The 300 ha Te Kiri farm carries a herd of 1000 cows. He said Charlie and Jody McCaig had encouraged him to enter this year.

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A slide presentation at the Awards night. Dairying still very much the core of New Zealand's economy.

been Taranaki Sharefarmers of the Year in 2015 and then gone on to finish third in the national final.

Taking out the Share Farmer of the Year Award were Leah and Jacob Prankerd of Stratford.

The MC for the evening was Rob Reid who has been fronting regional finals around the country for the last nine years. He said he would be at the national awards, not as an MC, but as a fan.

"When I started off it was quite run down, and we've built it up to where it is now," she said. "It started off with just me, and we now have six staff."

She has enjoyed her time working with the dairy industry.

"I've learned a lot," she said. "I love the industry, and I've worked with some amazing people," she says.

In between courses the various merit awards were announced and after dinner it was time to announce the placings and who would be representing the region in Wellington.

Sam Dodd finished third in the Dairy Trainee category with Beauden Fleming second. For winner Marshall Jane it was his second crack

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www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor: Bernice McKellar

Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith

Production/IT: Shane Butler

Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly

Registered as a newspaper.

Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand



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



Letters to the Editor

Burnouts and donuts

Seemingly it seems that in the last six months or more there's been a band of stupid individuals who have been doing burnouts and donuts on the intersection at Heaphy Road, Whitcombe Road, Gisborne Terrace and Longfellow Road, near Opunake Primary School, especially on Saturday nights, and early in the mornings.

It really stands to reason that these young individuals don't really care about anything or anyone else, thinking they are having fun, while the residents of Opunake have had enough of their carrying on for too long.

Now what happens if someone gets seriously injured or killed? Who's going to take

the blame? The 1500 people of Opunake or its three enforcement officers? If the police don't do anything I believe a group will be formed and they will take matters into their own hands, then we will see how these young stupid individuals really feel.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Playing rugby against Mac Sole

Well, it's really good to see that Gordon 'Mac' Sole is still very much alive and looking well, although in his photograph he looks like he's put on a bit of weight and like me gone grey on top. I first met Mac when I played

tribal Maori rugby meaning by in which flourished many years ago flourished as I played for Te Atiawa Senior Maori rugby team while still playing junior grade rugby for Clifton which has now merged with Tikorangi.

Te Atiawa covered a large area starting from Uruti, Urenui, Waitara, Inglewood, Bell Block and New Plymouth, while the other Maori rugby teams came from Manawapou, Ngati Ruahine, Ngati Rauru and Taranaki Coastal Maori.

Every year there was always a Maori rugby Tournament in Hawera for the James Manu White Shield. I also remember Te Atiawa defeated a full blooded King country team which harboured many All

Blacks by 29 points to nil as they challenged us for the Rimu Waka Ruru Shield.

Well, playing against Mac was always a hard fought tussle in which we both gave no quarter, but afterwards we were all good friends and had many upon many brown lemonades. Mac also represented the Taranaki Maori Rugby Committee on the Taranaki Rugby Union Board for quite some time.

It's pleasing to see he's Chairperson of the Wharepuni Marae on Fraser Road and the Ngati Tupaia hapu as he'd have plenty of good experience behind him, so kia kaha, Mac.

Tom Stephens,
New Plymouth

ADELPHOS

"Throw'em to the lions," bellowed emperor Caligula. First century Christianity wasn't popular with Roman emperors, Greek philosophers and intellectuals. In fact, emperors demanded that Christians worship them and the gods and make public sacrifices, or be thrown to the lions. Christians in the Western world today aren't being executed or tortured as they are in the Middle East, but, expressing a "biblical" Christian belief on a controversial social issue has been labeled hate speech, unscientific or politically incorrect by the intelligentsia of atheists, philosophers and liberal church clergy.

In the apostle Paul's day, the intellectuals and philosophers were also trying to marginalise and eradicate Christianity. These Greek intelligentsia were inquisitive and popular as the apostle Paul writes, "...they were forever learning and never arriving at a knowledge of the truth" (2Timothy 3:7). These captivating and "best-selling" intellectuals asked

What do ya reckon?

Paul to describe his new found religion. He does so in Acts chapter 17, commends their religiosity and devotion to their many gods and then clearly explains the Christian faith to them.

Dr. Yuval Noah Harrari is one of the world's best-selling authors. Much like the learned intellectual style of first century Greeks who worshipped their pantheon of gods, Harrari denies the basic truths of Christianity and Judaism with a vivid, readable and often entertaining style. His writings reflect his personal beliefs regarding Darwinian evolution, atheism, molecular biology, feminism, Judaism, gay and gender issues and his solely materialistic view of the universe. He is a Jesus College, Oxford graduate and world history Israeli scholar at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Harari's best-selling books *Sapiens: A Brief history of Humankind* and *Homo Deus: A Brief History of Tomorrow* (2015) have sold over 13 million copies in 45 languages. *Sapiens* traces back

in time how the Darwinian subspecies of humans survived and then evolved into modern humans. He claims modern man's last land mass to be migrated to and occupied was New Zealand in around 1200 AD. These Polynesians arrived and began slaughtering the vast majority of large animals and birds in Aotearoa. As a Kiwi who enjoyed *The Lord of the Rings* I found it interesting that Harrari mentions elsewhere the controversially extinct *Homo Floresiensis* (just 1.1 metre tall) nicknamed "Hobbit". Archeologists now believe hobbits became extinct on the Indonesian island of Flores.

In *Homo Deus* (2015) Harrari claims that anthropological studies prove that an animistic Stone Age subspecies of humans saw no distinction between themselves and animals and writes, "... people talked with animals, trees, stones as well as with fairies, demons and ghosts." Harrari suggests that in the Genesis 3 account it was natural for Eve to speak with a snake. He reasons that be-

cause a less evolved animistic Stone Age human subspecies spoke to animals and trees, it was natural that a more evolved Eve was casually chatting with a snake in the Garden of Eden.

In Harrari's, *21 Lessons for the 21st century* (2018) he proposes a likely apocalyptic future of Darwin's survival of the strongest as new biochemical intelligences will out reason humans but eventually result in their mutual destruction and extinction. He may be right with this one. I enjoyed keeping up-to-date with his highly influential books, borrowed from a relative. In his Godless chance universe life seems meaningless. Humans are just a bunch of materialistic molecules in motion.

I reckon Jesus' promise of resurrection offers a lot brighter future for believers in His promised and eternal new heaven and new earth. "Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13).

What do ya reckon?

Adelphos

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Opunake Lake ain't much good at the moment

The Opunake and District Business Association have the town's lake in its sights.

"Opunake has it all. It has the beach, the mountain and the lake, but the lake ain't much good at the moment," Opunake and District Business Association chairman Bob Clarke told the Egmont Plains Community Board last week. "We used to have a pristine lake, but I'm told you now can't take a kayak out there, because there's so much weed."

The resource consent to take water for hydro power had expired on June 1 last year and there had been no significant water intake since then. In the meantime the state of the lake had degraded, he told the Community Board. After the Association had met with



Opunake's Lake is not at its best.

Taranaki Regional Council resource management direc-

tor Fred McLay, some water had been allowed into the lake, and this had helped the water quality to some degree.

The Business Association, however still wanted to see a regular flow of water through the lake.

Community Board deputy chairman Andy Whitehead said an argument could be made that in its present state, the lake could still be an attraction as a wetland attracting wildlife to the area, and that it was a question of whether the lake would be better for boat racing or as a wetland.

The Business Association had discussed the state of the lake at their monthly meeting two days earlier, and they had decided that reinstating the lake to its pristine state was a priority, so the silt had to be taken out. Even without the hydro scheme operating, the lake still had to be flushed out.

It was commented that if Opunake wanted to project a clean, green image improving the lake is in keeping with that goal. The lake is an important part of the town's walkway with access to historic sites.

The Association was also concerned about fallen trees which obstructed the edge of the lake.

Fred McLay had agreed to organise a meeting of interested parties due to take place this week.

Fred McLay says Taranaki Regional Council is working with locals, South Taranaki District Council, the hydro-electric consent holder, iwi, DOC and Fish and Game to identify and resolve environmental issues with the river and lake.

Yellow bristle grass a problem on the coast

Oaonui farmer Chris Harvey says somebody should take responsibility for dealing with the incursion of Yellow Bristle Grass on the Taranaki coast.

The invasive plant is not currently included in the Taranaki Regional Council's Pest Management Plan.

"The horse has probably bolted this year," he told the Egmont Plains Community Board last week. "It's growing and growing and I don't think the council cares."

Chris has been farming on the Kina Road for the last 20 years. He says this is the first year he has had any problems with Yellow Bristle Grass, a plant increasingly seen growing along country roadsides.

"If it gets into the pastures, the cows won't eat it, so it affects production," he says. "Being an annual plant it grows prolifically and it's aggressive."

The plant reproduces only by seed, which can be dispersed by water, soil movement, animals, machinery and as contaminants of crop

seed and hay. A single plant can have up to 60 seed heads.

Early seed heads appear in late December, but mostly in January and February.

Chris says the TRC has been prepared to get tough with farmers on pest plants like gunnera but has appeared slow to act on Yellow Bristle Grass.

At last week's Community Board meeting, board deputy chairman and Oaonui farmer Andy Whitehead said Yellow Bristle Grass is fast becoming a problem.

"It's very relevant for us as farmers who are responsible for weed management. In the Waikato, this is a massive issue," he said.

South Taranaki District deputy mayor Phil Nixon, himself an Inaha farmer said they had been talking about it to the Taranaki Regional Council.

"We all need to be in this together," he said. "Someone has to take responsibility as it's pressuring all of us as farmers."

Chris says the Taranaki Regional Council should take



Immature Yellow Bristle Grass. Photo DairyNZ

more responsibility for the plant, but he is also critical of the way the South Taranaki District Council has been carrying out their roadside spraying and mowing programmes, particularly mowing at a time when the plant is already in full flower. This only disperses the seeds further afield.

"If they were doing this when it's not in flower it wouldn't be so much of an issue," he says.

"We are in the middle of the third biggest dry spell ever.

So why mow it now? It's just brainless."

He says that as the seeds flourish on bare ground, scraping the edge of the roadside is similarly counterproductive.

He also sees farmer apathy as a problem in not reporting sightings of the plant.

"They should be making a big deal about it to the council. If people see any of it, they should just take five minutes and phone the council, or better still send an email, as this leaves a paper trail."

"Before it gets to be a big problem, it would be really good for a few people to take responsibility for it and manage it."

TRC environment services manager Steve Ellis says in drawing up the Pest Management Plan they had consulted with farmers, the community, district councils, the NZTA and other groups.

"Control of yellow bristle grass is costly and difficult, as many normal methods are

ineffective and can worsen the problem," he said. "A regulatory approach would not be appropriate or practical, and would be hard to enforce. Also, it could require large areas of a farm to be out of production for long periods of time. Industry representatives understood that a non-regulatory approach is appropriate."

"The Council is working with the New Zealand Transport Agency, district councils and Federated Farmers to promote best practice for farmers, roading authorities and contractors.

"Farmers who see yellow bristle grass on their property or adjoining road or rail reserves should notify the Taranaki Regional Council on 0800 736 222."

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Water water but not everywhere

We are facing water issues from far and wide now and into the future. You may have seen me driving around Opunake over recent days. I have been on the lookout for water leaks. We are experiencing a major loss of water overnight which could indicate a fairly large leak in our water system or some illegal draining of the water. Either way this is something we can ill afford and will not help improve the taste of the Opunake water.



CLEM COXHEAD

I believe we should have started reducing the draw off of water from rivers some ten years ago and organised some bore water. However ten years ago we were not looking at a world wide change in climate and water, so it is understandable that we don't see the future too clearly when there is not an obvious issue.

I get concerned when I hear from councillors at Havelock North who say they have rushed off and spent \$45 million on water treatment that still does not work when there are systems that are a fraction of the price that kill every bug and use common old salt as the basic ingredient.

Council staff have flagged the need for alternate water sources for Opunake and other small towns for some time in the future. I think that this year's foul tasting water means we have to bring this forward to now, and indeed I can see it being an issue at this year's council elections. I get very concerned about some of our residents getting sick from drinking the water.

How can you help? Keep submitting complaints through the council website and keep calling me. We have seen from the ratepayers and citizens over the Earth quake prone buildings situation that your input into local government is vitally important.

The artificial reef is now

back in the news after local and concerned residents have observed that our worst nightmare is occurring. After all these years of paying for the installation failure, the time has now come to remove the bags as they are breaking up and we are heading towards an environmental disaster that will affect our local fishing and beach use. This is now the responsibility of the Taranaki Regional Council financially but we all need to take an interest as we look to our future.

Opunake Lake : We recently met with Regional council staff and concerned residents about the lake and its survival. We had an update on how the resource consent was going regarding

the power station. There is little we can do about that, but it became clear that we need some input from local citizens to improve the lake and its surrounds. For many years now Rex Langton has given his time and a fairly sizable amount of his income to be a guardian of the lake as have a couple of others like Brian Vincent. The time has come for us to maybe form a Friends of the Lake to take over.

We have gone from a society that thought the lake should be cleaned out for speedboats to now where we are enjoying the bird life and fish. We are also now in a stage where we are looking for new ways to control weeds etc.

We heard how the lake does

not have to be cleaned out to generate electricity as long as a certain amount of water is in the lake. We do have to remove some old trees that have fallen in the lake and started to create a build up of silt and vegetation that is making the lake smaller and growing unwanted weeds. This will take a little thought as to how we do that.

Opunake and surrounding communities future : We held a meeting in Opunake last week to get us thinking about where we want our community to be in the future. We have buildings and infrastructure (water sewage etc) that is over 100 years old in some parts, and we no longer see us having 73 shops as we did in the sixties and seventies. We do

however see the area starting to move forward with a new found confidence that you can almost smell.

What are our assets and how do we use them for a greater return?

What other assets do we need to help our current assets give and even greater return over the next 100 years?

How many towns have: two swimmable and safe beaches, one fantastic lake, a world class campsite, a very good Art and cultural base that would be the envy of many, a world class movie theatre, a world class medical centre and Sports complex to name a few.

Cr Clem Coxhead

Council team answers call for help

It starts with a phone call. You pack a small bag, say goodbye to your children and your partner and head off into the heart of a major emergency.

New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) Civil Defence lead Ben Ingram had been celebrating a friend's wedding the day before he was called to help in the emergency response to the Nelson-Tasman fires – but he'd kept a wary eye on the news.

"You know from experience that you might get called up to help," said Mr Ingram, who also took part in the response to the 2016 Kaikoura earthquake and the 2017 Edgecumbe floods.

His wife and two young sons also knew the drill.

"They know it's part of my job, and they're very supportive, but it's still tough having to take off like that."

In Nelson, he worked up to 12-hour days for seven straight days on the welfare



NPDC's Ben Ingram helping out during the recent emergency response in the Nelson-Tasman region.

desk and assessing which community might be told to evacuate their homes next. Mr Ingram was part of a team of four from NPDC who helped out during the emergency.

"It was pretty full on, working with people you don't know, in an area you're not familiar with. I only took the bare essentials with me and I slept at a local motel

at the end of each shift," said Mr Ingram.

"The good thing is that so many affected people were prepared and ready to go. We also had the benefit of standard national training, which meant the CDEM staff all worked to the same system."

He said the NPDC team – including Planning Adviser Jo Ritchie, CDEM Resilience

Adviser Salevi Tiatia and Senior GIS Analyst Jake Hechter – could be proud of the contribution.

"It's a fast-paced, often uncomfortable environment where you feel you don't know enough, but you have to make big decisions. We've done a pretty good job in helping our neighbours and we learned a lot too."

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Taranaki Harvest Feast celebrated in style

Festivities were in full swing at Okato's Stony River Boutique Hotel on Sunday March 10 (from 11am to 6pm) as people celebrated with a Taranaki Harvest Feast. The popular event was organised by the hotel's Heimo and Renate Staudinger in conjunction with Ringcraft Moana's Belinda Lubkoll-Young and Rob Wright. "This is a traditional European event. At the end of the harvest the village would celebrate with roast pig-on-a-spit, beer and dancing," explained Belinda. She is originally from Germany, but has lived in New Zealand for the last ten years.

Belinda and Rob's stall had a wonderful selection of earrings, necklaces and pendants, which featured their Taranaki Wave designs. Enjoying the glorious weather was Renate who said, "There is more food on offer this time, accompanied by good fun and family enjoyment."

Cheerful live music was provided by Aaron Bösch and Bernhard Schmid playing guitar and accordion. These two talented musicians often perform at the Stony River Boutique Hotel as patrons enjoy their hearty meals.

There was a great selection of produce on hand at the various stalls. For example displayed at one stall, there were handmade quality children's clothes such as slippers, bibs, harem pants and rompers. The lady said, "I've been doing this for four years and I find it very rewarding."

Sharyn Smart's 'Smart Writing and Smart Shots' stall had a wonderful selection of her photography made into all kinds of attractive items such as placemats, calendars, coasters, notepads, greeting cards and canvasses. She is a trained journalist who is best described as a freelance photojournalist and inspiring real life writer.

The Madam Butterfly stall had a wide selection



Aaron Bösch (left) and Bernhard Schmid entertain the crowd.

of goods including scary spiders, hand tied anklets, pencil cases, wallets, and wishing stones. The stall attendant said she had been creating for 20 years. "I used to make American stadium jackets," she said.

For lolly lovers there was the New Generation Liquorice stall which had an amazing selection of liquorice treats and other confectionary. "I'm at most events, such as Americarna," explained the stall holder. Ice cream fans had a delicious range of gluten free cold delights from Bebez who use real fruit.

Another stall had cushion covers, wheat bags and ouchie pouches, as well as and children's soft toys, which were made from recycled candlewick bedspreads and NZ woollen blankets.

A highlight was the alphorn playing contest, which had one participant as young as four. Young Liam Bennett from Oakura had his audience beaming at his great effort with the Swiss musical instrument.

Perhaps the busiest person was Heimo who was hard at work nonstop carving up the pig-on-a-spit, which was used to make hamburgers



Liam Bennett (4) plays the Alphorn watched by Belinda and Renate.

which were reputedly very delicious. "I've been up since 4am," he commented. We'll give Heimo the last happy word: "There were 120 cars parked here and 500-600 people who came. The evening meal was fully booked."

Congratulations to all involved in the organisation of this successful event, including Heimo, Renate, Belinda and Rob, but not forgetting the Maori Wardens and Okato Lions, who ensured optimal safety as cars and people arrived in great numbers.



Heimo Staudinger was kept very busy carving pig-on-a-spit.



The Ringcraft Moana stall with Belinda Lubkoll-Young and Rob Wright pictured.

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Know your neighbours

Greetings and apologies for not keeping you informed in recent Coastal News issues. It has been some time since we have put pen to paper and this we must apologize, for it is with your help that we keep our community safe.

We have been kept on our toes lately with a number of reported burglaries in our area including both urban and rural properties. As I have alerted to in previous columns, Rural New Zealand has a reputation for tightknit, supportive communities. You can help us by knowing your neighbours, exchanging

contact phone numbers and keeping those numbers handy. If you live rurally and need to leave the property to investigate something untoward ensure someone knows where you are going, as much as possible about what you're checking, and how long you expect to take. Reduce the risk and opportunity by taking notice of who is out and about. Keep all your property secure including your houses, outbuildings and farm equipment. Remove keys from tractors and bikes. Keep a detailed inventory of



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

all your property including marking to easily identify your property if it does get stolen.

We continue to have the usual problems with idiotic drivers leaving their trade

mark rubber deposits on our roads with notably the worst outside an address next to one of our local schools, along Whitcombe Road and near the intersection of Tasman Street and Ihaia Road. While to some this may be no more than an annoyance it is of real concern and only a matter of time until someone is badly hurt.

If you see or hear something going on that shouldn't be, call 111 and give us a fighting chance to catch them in the act. All too often recently we have heard two or three days later about incidents where

someone has seen something happening and not called 111 as they did not think it was serious enough. Please call and report what you have seen. I know that we are not always able to attend immediately but if you don't call, these people just get to cruise around town and cause havoc as they please. The second matter is a delicate one. We all live in a small community where most people know each other or know of each other; the problem with this is that some people are reluctant to talk with us when they know someone has been doing

something illegal. However you must consider that by not coming forward you are only allowing the behaviour to continue and as with most things, the more they get away with the more they do. Next time it might be your car that is kicked in.

That's about it for now. Remember, if you have any information for us give us a call. We are more than happy to help. Alternatively you can call Crimestoppers at 0800 555111 with all anonymous information

Constable Kylie Brophy

OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Fire ban and dry conditions continue

As our dry spell continues the Opunake brigade has only attended one call due to the dry conditions. On Wednesday afternoon February 27 the brigade along with the Manaia brigade attended a small fire in scrub and a few tyres on Oeo Road. Both brigades responded as neither brigade had sufficient numbers to fully man their respective fire appliances. The brigades were involved for approximately one and a half hours putting the fire out.

Later that day the Opunake brigade was called out to provide scene protection at

a motor vehicle accident on the corner of Eltham Rd and SH 45. No one was seriously hurt and the occupant of the vehicle was dealt with by the local constabulary. Sunday March 3 saw the brigade responding to another reported motor vehicle accident on Tasman St Opunake. This turned out to be a very minor incident and the brigade was stood down upon arrival at the scene.

On Sunday morning March 10 the brigade was called to assist a local resident in King St who had reported that the roof of their conservatory was lifting. Repairs were made to secure the roof and a

Tarp was left placed over the roof to ensure it remained watertight.

The brigade trainings are in full swing on Monday nights. On Monday night February 25 the members carried out a training session using ladders. It is really important that the members are continually using the equipment as it keeps them familiar with how it all

operates and the correct procedures for its use. While on the subject of ladders we have just been advised that by the end of the year all our wooden ladders will be replaced, as part of a modernisation programme with new alloy ladders. This is a huge relief as many of the wooden ladders are fast reaching their use by date. The alloy ladders are a lot

lighter and far easier to use so it's a win / win situation all the way round.

Last week the crew went for a familiarisation visit to the Oaonui production Station. It is important that we remain familiar with the layout of these larger premises, and in particular the location and operational procedures related to the use of in-built fire protection

systems on these sites. Just a reminder that a total fire ban remains in place, for more information go to www.checkitsalright.nz for the latest updates on the Fire Season.

Take Care out there and "if in doubt give us a shout"

VSO John

Lions ride draws record numbers

The Opunake Lions Mountain to Sea Bike Ride was held on Sunday March 10. There were 305 entries which was the highest we have had. The weather at the start at the top of the Arawhata Road was damp, windy and cold, but it improved as they got closer to the Opunake Beach. The first man home on a non e-bike was Ernest Blom from the Paitiki Road Opunake in a time of 1 hour 27 minutes and the first woman was Kara Northcott from New Plymouth in a time of 1 hour 28 minutes. For the first time an e-bike rider crossed the line first - Craig Ansley, in a time of 1 hour 24 minutes. This year there was an explosion in numbers of e-bikes, well up on any other year.

Ian Armstrong
Opunake Lions President



A cold day failed to deter a record number of competitors.

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Opunake LibraryPlus book review

The House of Second Chances by Esther Campion.

If you like authors Maeve Binchy and Monica McInerney then I suspect you will enjoy books by Esther Campion. The House of Second Chances is the sequel to her first book Leaving Ocean Road

and we rejoin Gerry and Ellen as Ellen moves back to South Australia and leaves the renovation of her grandmother's house in the capable hands of her brother Aidan. The lovely old home is in West Cork, Ireland and

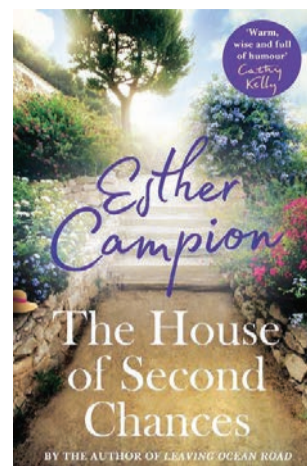
needs a lot of work. Aidan isn't convinced the house is worth it and is less than happy when Ellen requests her best friend Collette Barry to help with the interior design.

Both Aidan and Collette

are fighting heartache and memories from the past, and each of them have trouble letting go. Aidan's memories are tied up between the house and a past relationship that started in romantic Paris and Collette is divorced, living at home with her mother and trying to get past reminders of her bad marriage. When Aidan and Collette meet, they hit a brick wall with each other and it takes a lot

of soul searching, loving interference from other people and the disappearance of a little girl named Molly to clear the way for them to let go of the past and move on. It's a happy ending book filled with warmth, wise words and humour.

Maria Brewerton RLIANZA
Branch Librarian Opunake
& Manaia LibraryPlus | South
Taranaki District Council



New graduate breathes new life into the world of death



Jacqueline Cox

They say there is nothing more certain in life than death and taxes and while we know the taxman is working hard to get our dollar, we must take some comfort in the new wave of funeral directors (and embalmers) being upskilled to offer peace of mind with the process of death.

Taranaki resident and employee at Vospers in New Plymouth – Jacqueline Cox has graduated from the Wellington Institute of Technology (WelTec), the only provider nationally of the New Zealand Diploma in Funeral Directing *and Embalming. Jacqueline is Taranaki born and bred. She returned to New Plymouth in 1984 af-

ter having 10 years in sunny Nelson. Jacqueline is married to Peter and they have two teenage daughters, Victoria and Lydia, and a much spoilt cat 'Morrie'. Previously Jacqueline had an extensive career in the travel industry and now brings those people skills to the funeral industry. Outside of work Jacqueline enjoys following the girls' sports and is an avid netball fan; having coached, managed and played herself. She keeps fit at the gym, enjoys walks with friends, is involved in her Catholic Church and treasures spending time together as a family.

"The Diplomas accept up to twenty-four students from all over New Zealand. They

all must currently work in the funeral industry as Funeral Directors. It is fantastic to see people wanting to gain professional qualifications and that so many new people of varying ages and stages are entering the funeral industry," says Pierre Erasmus, Head of the Funeral Directing and Embalming Programmes at WelTec.

Mike Aro from Vospers comments, "We are thrilled to celebrate the graduation of Jacqueline. She brings an enormous amount of personality and experience to her role and this qualification just adds a new layer of expertise to the families she looks after during a difficult period."

Biggest ever bee study concludes

Biosecurity New Zealand has completed sampling for the largest and most detailed study of honey bee health ever undertaken in New Zealand.

More than 60 beekeepers have participated in the Bee Pathogen Programme and had their hives tested every six months for two and half years.

Biosecurity New Zealand senior scientist, Dr Richard Hall, says the research will provide a wealth of valuable information to the beekeeping industry.

"The Bee Pathogen Programme will help us better understand the effect that diseases, climate and apiary management practices have on colony losses and productivity," he says.

"We have completed sampling and our experts have begun carefully evaluating the huge amount of data that has been collected.

"This includes studying more than 130,000 honey bees from 300 samples taken throughout the country that are now archived in Biosecurity New Zealand's freezers.

"Once the data has been carefully evaluated it will be available to the beekeeping industry and to researchers for further analysis."

Biosecurity New Zealand is aiming to release its conclusions from the Bee Pathogen Programme in late

2019.

Dr Hall says Biosecurity New Zealand is grateful to the beekeepers and trained apiculture inspectors who participated in the research programme and the inspectors who conducted the field work.

"We are very thankful to all of the beekeepers who have participated in the programme and allowed us access to their hives for sampling."

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Education spokesperson to visit Taranaki

I'm hoping for some good engaging discussion when I host National Party Education Spokesperson Nikki Kaye at a public meeting in a couple of weeks.

The meeting is 5.30pm Monday the 25th at the Plymouth Hotel New Plymouth and I'd encourage Opunake & Coastal News readers to make the trip, or attend one at Hawera High School at 1.15pm that day.

Nikki Kaye wants to hear the concerns and views of



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

parents, teachers, students and anyone with an interest in education. She'll be sending feedback to the Tomorrow's

Schools Taskforce.

The Taskforce is suggesting changes that will potentially impact the entire education system right through from governance, to teaching, learning support and enrolment processes.

National has serious concerns that parents could become disempowered through proposals like the creation of Education Hubs, which would reduce the amount of say that Boards of Trustees have in things like property management and

health and safety.

As a former teacher myself, I am concerned that there may be an element of 'change for the sake of change', especially as local NCEA academic results over the last five years indicate high levels of success in our schools.

I also have reservations about transferring responsibilities to a hub, and the consequent loss of local knowledge that Board members are able to use in their schools' best interest.

However, there are some positive ideas in areas such as learning support and we acknowledge there is always a need to improve governance and collaboration in our education system.

This is a once in a generation chance to make some significant changes to our education system. The proposals are far reaching and I hope local people will consider them carefully to help ensure that everyone is well served.

National's Education Public

Meetings

Hawera, 1.15pm Monday 25 March, Hawera High School 13 Camberwell Rd New Plymouth, 5.30pm Monday 25 March, Plymouth Hotel 220 Courtenay St

Jonathan Young | MP for New Plymouth

National Party Spokesperson | Energy and Resources | Regional Economic Development (NI) Chair | Economic Development, Science and Innovation Select Committee

Making sure multinationals pay their fair share

New Zealand is to consult on the design of changes to tax rules which currently allow multinational companies in the digital services field to do business here without paying income tax.

Finance minister Grant Robertson and Revenue minister Stuart Nash say Cabinet has agreed to issue a discussion document about how to update our tax framework to ensure multinational companies pay their fair share of tax in this country.

"Highly digitalised companies, such as those offering social media networks, trading platforms and online advertising, currently earn a significant income from New Zealand consumers without being

liable for income tax. That is not fair, and we are determined to do something about it," grant Robertson said.

"International tax rules have not kept up with modern business developments. In the longer term this threatens the sustainability of our revenue base and the fairness of the tax system.

"The current tax rules also provide a competitive advantage to foreign companies in the digital services field compared to local companies who offer e-commerce, online advertising and social networking services.

"The value of cross-border digital services in New Zealand is estimated to be around \$2.7 billion. We are



STUART NASH - REVENUE MINISTER

determined to ensure that multinational companies involved in this sector of the

economy pay their fair share of tax. Our revenue estimate for a digital services tax is between \$30 million and \$80 million, which depends on how it is designed," Grant Robertson said.

"New Zealand is currently working at the OECD to find an internationally agreed solution for including the digital economy within tax frameworks," Stuart Nash said.

"Our preference is to

continue working within the OECD, which was also recommended last year by the interim report of the Tax Working Group. However, we believe we need to move ahead with our own work so that we can proceed with our own form of digital services tax, as an interim measure, until the OECD reaches agreement.

"This is the same approach being considered by Australian authorities, who released a discussion document late last year. The

OECD has also released a discussion document on its proposals. Officials will now finalise the New Zealand document which is likely to be publicly released by May 2019.

"The document will make it clear we are determined that multinational companies pay their fair share of tax. We are committed to finding an international solution within the OECD but would also consider an interim option till the OECD finalises a position, Stuart Nash said.

This rodeo season must be the last one says SAFE

A horse has been killed at the Rodeo National Finals in North Canterbury renewing demands from animal advocacy group SAFE for the Government to urgently ban rodeo cruelty.

The incident happened after the 'bronc' riding event when the horse was killed after running into a fence. The horse is the fourth animal to be killed this rodeo season.

SAFE spokesperson Will Appelbe says, despite the increased scrutiny of rodeo, animals continue to

suffer and be killed, and the Government needs to intervene.

"Rodeo causes significant distress to animals, and the cruelty that rodeo cowboys inflict upon animals, has killed a horse in the bronc riding event," says Mr Appelbe.

"To force horses and bulls to wildly buck, the animals have a 'flank strap' wrapped tight around their sensitive hindquarters. This is wrenched tight as they are forced into the ring. A flank strap makes

the vulnerable animal feel like they're being attacked by a predator jumping on their back. It's brutal and distressing, and done purely for entertainment."

The incident that killed the horse follows three other deaths this season. A horse was killed at the Methven rodeo in November, and a horse and a bull were both killed at the Gisborne rodeo in December.

"If the Labour Party had fulfilled their pre-election promise to ban the worst parts of rodeo, they would

have prevented these deaths, as well as preventing the routine bullying that takes place every time a rodeo takes place," says Mr Appelbe.

"Green MP Gareth Hughes is introducing a Member's Bill to Parliament that will ban calf rope & tie, steer wrestling and flanks straps. We are urging the Government to bring this Bill to the House as a Government-sponsored Bill, and finally ban rodeo cruelty."

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Future of Education
Public meeting



Hon Nikki Kaye
MP for Auckland Central and Opposition
Spokesperson for Education and
Sport and Recreation



Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth

Monday 25 March, 5:30pm

Plymouth Hotel,
220 Courtenay St, New Plymouth

Come discuss the future of our education system. You'll be able to raise general education issues with a focus on proposals from the Government's "Tomorrow's Schools Review Taskforce". We've raised some serious concerns about the proposals which, in our view, could transfer power away from parents to officials. We want everyone to have access to information about the proposals. It's an opportunity for us to hear from you and ensure your views are shared.

National

Authorised by Jonathan Young MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

New Plymouth brothers in Antarctica operation



Royal New Zealand Air Force Corporal Sam Fahy and his brother, New Zealand Army Corporal Matt Fahy were deployed to Antarctica together over the summer.

Two Taranaki brothers have been lucky enough to tackle together the New Zealand Defence Force's (NZDF) biggest operation over summer, its challenging work at Antarctica.

Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF) Corporal Sam Fahy is an aviation technician with No. 40 Squadron at Base Auckland

and his brother, New Zealand Army Corporal Matt Fahy is based at Christchurch's Burnham Army Camp as an electrical fitter.

They were among about 220 NZDF personnel from all three Services who made significant contributions helping deliver supplies during the busy summer season in Antarctica. Scott Base, New Zealand's permanent research support

station on the continent, accommodates about 85 scientists and support staff, while McMurdo Station is the hub of United States scientific activity in Antarctica and home to more than 900 scientists and support people during the summer.

The brothers from New Plymouth stayed at McMurdo Station during the deployment and, even though they were kept busy with different roles, they found the time to catch up occasionally.

"Mum thought it was pretty cool, because there are four kids in our family and she thought having half of them on the ice, on a continent that hardly anyone goes to, was pretty awesome," Corporal

Matt Fahy said. He was working as a driver at the station, helping to transport about 3000 tonnes of cargo to McMurdo and Scott Base, which was brought in by American cargo ship Ocean Giant.

His brother was based about 20 minutes' drive away from the station at the Williamsfield runway, working as a maintainer with the New York Air National Guard on Lockheed LC-130 ski planes.

"We didn't get much of a chance to catch up - Sam was always down on the flight line and I was driving around McMurdo. But we were both working 12-hour nightshifts, so sometimes we caught up over dinner," Corporal Matt Fahy said. "Antarctica was an epic

experience," he said. "Hardly anyone goes down there and it's just so secluded - it was awesome having the opportunity to go down." The extreme cold weather meant the drivers had to be creative to keep the oil warm in the trucks. Whenever the vehicles were not being used they were plugged in to a power supply, which enabled the heater elements in the engine to operate. "It's like an electric blanket for the engines."

Meanwhile, at the runway, his brother got to use a "large hairdryer" to warm up the aircraft's propellers and engine - as well as himself. "In these conditions the planes can't really start properly if it's too cold," Corporal Sam Fahy said. "They have heater carts that

you hook up to the engine with hoses - basically you blast hot air in there, like a big hairdryer, and you can warm your hands up then too."

Even with cold weather gloves on, the icy conditions made work difficult, he said. "You need to have a break and warm your hands up or you can't even use them. Once you've got all your cold weather gear on it's not too bad though, but the ground can freeze and you need to watch out for slips and trips."

The brothers had never deployed together before and it was great seeing his sibling around McMurdo, Corporal Sam Fahy said. "There's no rivalry between us - he likes the Air Force."

Kaponga WI

The AGM was held recently with the following officers elected. President: Dorothy Hughes

Secretary: Fiona Collins. Treasurer: Sharyn Hurley. Vice President: Jo Jones. Competition Steward: Joy Eliason. Secret friend Convenor: Diane West. U.K. Link: Fiona Collins. Publicity: Jo Ellis. Scrap Book History: Margaret

Broomhall

Nan Stokes has kindly offered to print this year's programme. Members have chosen a month to host, and submitted a programme. Secret friends were thanked by Joy Eliason, Jo Ellis, Mollie Nicholas, and Fiona Collins.

Fiona Collins

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Mac Sole looks back

Crikey! I wish I could remember me having happy times on the farm, particularly from a certain relative, but they were rare instances so let me try to recollect them. One which comes to mind was a visit to the farm by my dear sister Edna. She gave me a glass pen which had layers of coloured sand. It was great. Edna may have bought it in Rotorua for the hell of it. I can't remember anything else, no birthday celebrations or gifts. The only thing that borders on my being given something was when, at the age of about 14, I was allowed to ride a white pony to school. Being cynical, I suppose this meant I was able to get home quicker for work. Now, for all my whingeing, personal care like food, clothing and footwear on the farm I have no reason to complain and while mentioning footwear kids at Fraser Road School, like myself, never wore shoes. It was just the way at that time. In fact I can only remember one kid who always wore shoes – Peter Robertson, who lived on Austin Road.



Gordon 'Mac' Sole

I remember, with some clarity a particular job which every year needed to be done. This was the docking of lambs which necessitated the cutting off of their tails with a hot iron which was sharpened at one end. The iron was about two or three inches wide. This was heated in a fire nearby the place where the docking took place. There were two irons so one was heated

to red hot while the other was being used. The work needed one person to hold the lamb, which would be placed on a board nailed on top of the yard fence post. The other person would then burn through the tail with the said red hot iron and if the tail skin bled one touched the spot with the iron and singed the bleeding spot. This action stopped the bleeding. The work usually meant that I was the one who held the lamb and my father carried out the docking. The castration of the male lambs with a clamp was also carried out. The tails could be eaten. This process meant one would place the tails on the fire which was heating the irons and after wiping off the burnt wool, the meat was ready to eat. Although there was little meat it was fairly sweet.

This work for me at the age of 13 – 14 was normal, but now at my advanced age, it would cause me some hesitation to carry out such activity.

Historic Waitara Lands Act ceremony at Owae Marae

A side agreement to the Waitara Lands Act passed by Parliament in December last year has been signed at Owae Marae in Waitara. The Act opens up leasehold land for purchase at 770 Waitara properties valued at about \$90 million. Leaseholders will be able to buy their leased land when the Act comes into effect on 17 March.

The side agreement to the Act sets a framework for how the New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) and Te Kōwhiri Tū Moana (TKTM) Trust, consisting of Manukorihi and Otaraua hapū, will work together. The proceeds from the land sales will be divided into three funds for the benefit of Waitara.

A ring-fenced Hapū Land Fund. TKTM will decide how this fund will be distributed. The Waitara Perpetual Community Fund will be set up to help support

community projects in Waitara. TKTM and NPDC will each appoint three of the six members of the board.

A fund to support the Waitara River and environmental projects, managed by iwi and hapū with interests in the river and the Taranaki Regional Council.

New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom and Councillor Colin Johnston signed the agreement at Owae Marae on Saturday March 9 on behalf of NPDC.

“This agreement will be part of the engine that drives the implementation of the Waitara Lands Act; the way NPDC and the hapū will work together. Hapū leaders have worked tirelessly for their people over many decades to address this historic grievance which is a stain on New Zealand's history. The Act isn't perfect but it's the best solution while ensuring NPDC meets its financial obligations to

all of its 80,000 residents and at the same time laying a platform for the Waitara township to really thrive. It's my view that Waitara is going to take off over the next decade with the walkway and infrastructure improvements we have planned, the positive impacts of the Act and the stronger relationships we have built through this process,” says Mayor Holdom.

The agreement marks an important step in the journey for Manukorihi and Otaraua hapū, said TKTM Chair Jamie Tuuta.

“Te Kōwhiri Tū Moana trust on behalf of the hapū is looking forward to working with NPDC over the coming months to realise the potential of the Act for the two hapū and the broader Waitara community. We have much work before us and are excited by the opportunity for Manukorihi and Otaraua.”

Mangatoki WI hold AGM at scenic Dawson Falls

The Mangatoki WI had their 88th AGM at Dawson Falls on February 13. President - Sandra Scherrer. Secretary - Helen Whyte. Treasurer - Cathy White. Committee- Judy Barr, Lucy Moger, Olwyn Duthie, Karen Joblin. Competition Steward - Bev Marx. Link - Cathy White

Competition Results over the year. 1. Cathy White. 2. Lucy Moger. 3. Karen Joblin. On February 28, seven

members attended the West Coast WI Regional Day morning tea at Hollard Gardens, then on to the Swiss Club at Kaponga for a lovely lunch catered for by Federation members and entertainment by the Swiss Club.

On Friday March 8, a family potluck barbecue tea

was held at the home of our president, Sandra Scherrer and her husband Alfred. After it being a very wet day, a good attendance of members' families, enjoyed the evening.

Lucy Moger

Mangatoki WI Reporter

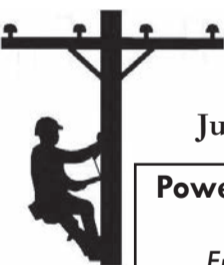
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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Doctor Cory Palmer, chiropractor

Dr Cory Palmer, who originally hails from Kansas in the United States has recently joined Stratford Chiropractic at 89 Regan Street. He replaces Dr Peter Scott who recently retired from the Stratford practice.

Dr Palmer gained his qualification at the New Zealand School of Chiropractors, which is based in Auckland. Dr Palmer explains why he chose New Zealand. "The New Zealand College has a reputation of being one of the best in the world." And why Taranaki? "Taranaki is the surfing capital of New Zealand." He is a very keen surfer.

What is chiropractic? *Chiropractic is a natural approach to health and well-being. It is based on the knowledge that all your bodily functions are ultimately controlled by your nervous system. Millions of instructions flow from your brain, down your spinal cord and out to every organ and tissue in your body. Signals are also sent back to the brain in order to 'sense' if your body is working correctly. You digest food, heal wounds, fight infections and breathe without having*



Dr Cory Palmer.

to think about these essential functions.

Meeting Dr Palmer it is readily apparent that he is very knowledgeable and passionate about his calling. His pleasant relaxed manner is important is gaining the trust of his clients. "My focus is mostly on the very young and the very old." However, he is skilled in dealing with any chiropractic needs of anyone, whatever their age or situation. "My basic philosophy is to help clients become the best version of themselves, by uniting the brain and body."

Dr Palmer was especially inspired by the work of

American Reggie Gold who was "a very famous chiropractor." Sadly, Dr Gold died in 2003. "His philosophy was for clients to be enabled to help themselves, not to merely fix problems." A special moment for Dr Palmer was meeting Dr Gold's wife Irene.

Here in New Zealand Dr Greg Miles, who practices in Whanganui, impresses Dr Palmer. "He's a champion."

Dr Palmer is heartened and uplifted by the positive feedback he gets from his clients. "It is a tremendously satisfying job. It is one of the most fulfilling things I have ever done." For example, he

has managed to help clients with Huntington's Disease so effectively that they stop shaking.

One of Dr Palmer's most satisfying successes was a child who was a bedwetter and no longer has this problem as a result of his professional intervention. "That was my most satisfying case ever." He explains that this was a problem he also had as a child and which continued into his adolescence, but was eventually helped successfully by a skilled chiropractor.

Dr Palmer is available for Stratford clients Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am to 5.30pm and Fridays 9am to midday. At other times he is working in New Plymouth at the clinic at 77 Eliot Street, New Plymouth, where he works with Dr Marie Brunsart, who is also his life partner. You can make an appointment by phoning 06 765 5354 or emailing stratford@gmchiro.nz. If you prefer you can simply call at 89 Regan Street. Stratford Chiropractic has an excellent booklet which explain chiropractic care in an easy to understand fashion. It is entitled 'How

to get faster relief and better results.' The earlier quote in italics is from this informative booklet.

If you have a concern,

Dr Palmer urges positive action: "You just have to be ready to make a change. It's never too late."



Dr Cory Palmer with a model of a crucial part of the skeletal system.

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“BEST GALA EVER”

LEXI McQUAIG

There aren't many people who would disagree when someone talks about how great the Opunake High School annual gala is, and this year's Gala held on the 7th of March was surely one of the best yet.

For me personally, it was my first time attending this event and after hearing so many amazing tales, I was excited to see what this year would bring. Thanks to the efforts of the students, staff and volunteering parents of Opunake High School, the gala offered a wide range of activities and stalls for all ages. The dreaded, Truck-Jail was a hit as many ran from the arms of the officers in attempt to flee the cattle trailer. The Haunted House left anyone who entered terrified but with an urge to go in for more. People of all ages banged and bounced their way around in the Zorb balls

once again and as well as the white elephant, sausage sizzles, raffles and craft stalls.

This year saw the introduction of a 'Silent Disco' which proved to be a roaring success for all. Held in the centre of all the activities, the Silent Disco allowed anyone to chuck on a pair of headphones and dance as their heart desired.

It was awesome to see such a huge amount of people taking time to come and support our school as well as to spend time with friends and family.

Between all of the raffles, craft stalls, addictive games of hoopla and golf, bouncy castle, go-karts, zorb balls, photo-booth, Truck Jail, Silent Disco, food stalls and the hangi, it is fair to say that my first but definitely not last Gala was an night to remember and with the money raised, the future at Opunake High looks bright.



FROM HEAD BOY - JOEL CLEMENT

Overall the 2019 Opunake High School Gala was a great night for the community to come together to eat some good food, have some good times and spend it with some good people. It was all-round a large success with many people from the community getting together to enjoy a variety of stalls and activities, many of which being previously unseen new additions to the event.

Some of the new activities included paintball, a silent disco and even a haunted room. This was one of the most action-packed galas Opunake High has seen, and from my perspective it was definitely the most enjoyable for the community so far.



Head Boy, Joel Clement (R) breaks out his moves along with Maddy Henare for an appreciative crowd at the Silent Disco. Thanks to TSH Audio & Video for supplying the equipment.

from the Principals desk...



Nga mihi o te wa ki a koe me to whanau

Greetings to you and your family

We are well and truly immersed in teaching and learning at Opunake High School as we approach the midpoint of term 1. Some significant milestones of the term so far include swimming sports, athletic sports and of course we cannot forget the gala. WOW, never have I experienced such community spirit and community support coupled with a huge amount of enthusiasm for a school event.

Swimming sports had a new format this year with competitive swimming completed before the Hapu points events. The noise in the pool area was deafening as each of our houses (Karo, Awhina, Rimu and Totara) cheered their competitors on to do their best and have fun. Pohutukawa Trophy points were awarded to each competitor. Athletic sports was another example of how students can perform to the best of their ability and compete against each other for hapu points. I saw a number of records broken over the course of the day including the teachers that were just beaten in the relay races and we are still waiting on the final points tally after the 1500m and 3000m events.

I enjoyed the opportunity to meet the community in a social setting at the gala. It was great to see so many members of our school community enjoying themselves at the many different student operated stalls, at the paintball, at the cake stall and the various different types of food (the hangi was delicious and succulent). Watching the students (past and present) catching up and enjoying themselves outside of the classroom was one of the highlights of the gala for me. My son said to me "he wished that the gala was on every week dad" as he and his friends had fun and won a number of prizes.

A big thank you to each and everyone of the Home and School committee for all of the many hours involved in organising such a successful event. To all of the students and volunteers who also contributed to a successful 2019 Opunake High School gala we thank you.

Lastly, a huge thank you to you the community, the money raised at the gala will be used to fund a number of Opunake High School projects in 2019.

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

Noho ora mai ano

Peter O'Leary - Principal

WHATS HAPPENING AT OPUNAKE HIGH?

Term One is absolutely action-packed with events:

- Year 12 Health & Safety - March 12th-13th
- Polyfest - March 13th-15th
- Academy - First Day for 2019 - March 14th
- TSSSA Athletics - March 14th
- TSSSA Orienteering - March 18th
- TSSSA Senior Rugby - March 19th
- Year 13 Rec Overnight Tramp - March 20th - 22nd
- Year 12 Rec Tramp & Camp - March 26th - 27th
- Awhina Noho - March 28th - 29th



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Opunake High School
Te Kura Tuarua o Opunake

A day of family fun at Hollard Gardens

March 3 was International Children's Day, and the Taranaki Regional Council again marked the occasion with a Family Fun Day at Hollards Gardens near Kaponga,

Hollard Gardens is one of three gardens run by the Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) on behalf of the people of Taranaki. The others are Pukeiti and Tupare.

This is the second year in a row the TRC have held a Family Fun Day on International Children's Day. Before then the gardens had hosted a Country Fair every year based on the age-old tradition of autumn



Four-year-old Dwayne Tirol of Mahoe having fun at the Family Fun Day with mother Terri-Lee Bishop-Wiperi.



Lisa Bartley of Little Pony Parties with Kayla Malone of New Plymouth and Puffin.

celebrations to mark the end of the growing season. This year a fine summer's

day drew a good-sized crowd to enjoy the various attractions on offer, whether

they be pony rides, face painting, or enjoying the Gardens' own inimitable

playground.

"It's good to see the kids in the garden soaking up the atmosphere," said TRC events facilitator Zoe Harris. "It's a nice place to get the kids outdoors. Even the playground here is amazing."

It had been particularly busy between 10-12 that morning, she said.

In charge of the pony rides was Lisa Bartley of Little Pony Parties who was leading Kayla Malone of New Plymouth around on Puffin.

"It's been really good," she said. "I've had some really good helpers and I've brought along my bigger horse, Shade as well, who is 15. She's been a really big hit with the bigger kids."



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Great news that electric locomotives are being kept by KiwiRail

Climate Justice Taranaki congratulates the government on its decision to force KiwiRail to keep its electric locomotives.

"This is great news. Finally, the government is making a decision based

on environmental benefits rather than commercial profits. Electric rail for freight and passengers, along with well-designed local and regional public transport systems, will contribute a great deal to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions

and spending on oil imports.

One has to remember also that commonly argued business cases nearly always ignore the economic costs of environmental damage.

The government's promise of \$35 million to refurbish the electric locomotives is

a great start and we look forward to further investment in all low emissions transport systems," says Catherine Cheung who is the spokesperson of Climate Justice Taranaki.

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Vegan café opens in Oakura

I want to bring back that exciting vibe says Barbara Olsen-Henderson who has bought the café in Oakura referring to when it first began life as the Burnt Toast over 20 years ago. Since then the café has undergone several changes of name and ownership - including Wonderbar, The Village café and

most recently, Mantra, an Indian restaurant. Now christened Lemonwood, the café in the main street of Oakura is a vegan cafe which Barbara explains is a plant based eatery. She chose the name Lemonwood, a native tree, because its "woody, warm and unpretentious" and

"I like the sound of it". Barbara has lot of experience in the eatery business and indeed is something of an icon in the competitive café industry. She founded New Plymouth's popular Bach on Breakwater - which she has just sold - 12 years ago and has also owned other cafes including The Yello Café (now Lush) in Centre City for 13 years. "The average age of a café eatery in New Zealand is about 14 months before it closes down or gets on sold" Barbara who lives "a minute's bike ride away" from the café says she wants to recreate the atmosphere of the Burnt Toast. "It was great, full of personality. I want to bring back that exciting vibe."

And it seems she's succeeding. The café which has had a major revamp, exudes a bohemian, eclectic look with untreated recycled wood features throughout and some novel recycling ideas such as lights made from steamed pudding basins. "I love recycling" says Barbara. She's also made some structural changes to the inside installing partitions along with more private booths.



The sheltered courtyard.

"It gives an intimate cosy setting," says Barbara "and gives people a choice of where to sit". She's also revamped the outdoor seating now in a sheltered courtyard with an attractive beach scene mural as a backdrop. The exterior of the café facing the main street has also been altered. A semi sheltered pergola has been erected adding street appeal and also providing another option for patrons.

The décor certainly has Barbara's unmistakable stamp on it, from the specially commissioned floral murals in the eating areas through to the purple and paisley wallpaper in the bathroom, the design of which she saw a long time ago in an ad for Jetstar and cut out and kept. She got Graphic Explosion to replicate the design in wallpaper. Though it may not be to everyone's taste admits Barbara. A sales rep

she was proudly showing round commented when they got to the bathroom area," I suppose you'll be painting over this". There's lots of little curiosities including some vintage inspired aprons which, along with some produce like damson plum jam set in sherry glasses, are for sale. A charcoal portrait on the wall dated 1912 by Colleen Wood is an intriguing piece

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Congratulations to Barb and the team at Lemonwood. We are proud to have worked on the upgrade at the restaurant

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Above: The interior of the café.

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One of two gas fires that back onto each other, with recycled wood surround.

Delicious food and lots to interest

of art. "I bought it in a second hand shop in Murchison for \$60," says Barbara. She comments her vision was for an interesting environment so that "wherever you look there's something interesting and each time you come you notice something else."

No animal products

The food on offer contains no animal products. A vegan herself for health reasons she says their wide range of delicious food shows what's possible for those scratching their head to work out what exactly vegans eat. "A lot of people don't know," says Barbara. She says they're always experimenting with recipe development. Their most popular fare is the burger. Their triple cooked fries, chocolate cake and caramel cashew fudge also rate highly however. Food displayed in the cabinet changes in rotation. They make all their own bread which is also for sale. "It's becoming very popular with some people coming from New Plymouth for it," says Barbara. They also use a lot of local



Barbara (right) with the staff from left Linda Zimdahl, Fran Cruden, Charmaine Kelly, Victor Higgins, Wanda Nicolson and Melissa Bean.

produce in their recipes. Most of the staff have worked for Barbara in the past. This includes Wanda Nicolson who was very keen to be involved in the new venture. She has worked previously for Barbara as baker and manager and was very keen to again be

employed in her "dream" job. Overall Café manager is UK born Victor Higgins who has a background in hospitality and managing events in the UK. "He's a delight, lovely on every level, he's taken so much work off my shoulders," comments Barbara. Charmaine Kelly is kitchen manager and main chef and Fran Cruden is front of house. Other staff includes a Swedish girl on a working holiday, Linda Zimdahl and Melissa Bean who has just started.

Barbara whose enthusiasm is infectious has also involved her family including her retired dairy farm husband Alan who "loves helping people," and does all the "interesting metal work". Granddaughters Ashlee and Danielle and also 8 year

old Ella, not as skilled as her older sisters but also "a big help", also work part time on weekends as school and sports allow.

The café is licensed. "All our wines and beers are vegan," says Barbara adding they use a number of local craft beers such as Three Sisters and Blue Mountain.

For tea and coffee they do offer dairy milk in addition to almond and soya milk. "Soya milk is the closest to dairy milk in flavour and fat content."

Barbara who says she just loves creating things is obviously pleased with the result. And so are the customers. "What I find quite rewarding is other places compliment me on the décor and food, here I'm thanked for giving them this café in Oakura".

Lemonwood is open Wednesday to Sunday from 9am till 4 or 5pm.



Barbara with her trusty – and rusty – bike which belonged to her mother. No, she says, she has no plans to upgrade to an ebike.



The exterior of the café which faces Oakura's main street.

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Taranaki led the pack



The winners from left. Marshall Jane (Dairy Trainee of the Year), Leah and Jacob Prankerd (Sharefarmers of the Year) and Kenneth Harrison (Dairy Manager of the Year).

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Continued from page 1

Oakura couple Matthew Thomas and Sophie Parker who finished second in the Sharefarmer category. Matthew said getting the Farm Environment Award was particularly important for him.

“We put a lot of emphasis on the environment with three or four rivers running through our farm,” he said. Judges had commented on the work they had done putting in riparian plantings and wetlands.

Ryan Goble from Whanganui took out the Pasture Performance and the Recording and Productivity Award. In both cases the judges commented on the work he had done managing a transition from spring to

autumn calving.

“I want to thank my workers who unfortunately still have to be up early for calving,” said Ryan in accepting the recording award.

Former Taranaki/Manawatu Young Farmer of the Year James Lawn from Okato received the Dairy Hygiene Award, while eventual winners Leah and Jacob Prankerd received the Business Performance award.

The Prankerds are in their first season 50/50 sharemilking 194 cows on Jill and Andrew Adlam’s 71 ha farm. Andrew Adlam said he is not surprised the Prankerds decided to enter the competition.

“They are very dedicated farmers and I thought they would do well,” he said.

Leah did not come from a farming background and says the first time she milked a cow was when she went farming with Jacob. Jacob comes from a Tariki farming family and had entered the Dairy Industry awards once before, when he finished second in the Dairy Trainee category. He says he and Leah make a good team.

“We have been learning the whole way and try to find a silver lining in every situation,” he says. “We enjoy farming and love our cows.”

For anybody wanting to see how they got there, as well as meet Marshall Jane and Kenneth Harrison, the Prankerds will be hosting a Field Day at 116A Croydon Road, Midhurst from 10.30am on March 27.

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in share farmer awards

Pasture is fundamental

Ravensdown's involvement with the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards goes back over a decade. As a national sponsor they enjoy getting behind the country's future industry champions and sharing in their successes.

Ravensdown regional manager for the Western North Island Mike Davey says the awards are important to Ravensdown, as they foster the personal, practical and business skills needed within the industry.

"The awards give the young stars of dairy farming the chance to learn, develop and grow into the smarter farmers New Zealand needs," says Mike. "They are a great way for those who are starting out to learn and gain confidence, helping with motivation and preparation for industry progression. At the Share Farmer of the Year level, the insight they gain into their own businesses and on-farm performance is particularly important."

Ravensdown offer a merit prize known as the Pasture Performance award at both regional and national level. They also sponsor a Feed Management award at national level in the

Dairy Manager of the Year category. In addition to these awards Ravensdown offer the \$1000 Relief Milking Fund to each of the national finalists in the Share Farmer of the Year. This prize is designed to help take some pressure off as finalists prepare for the national awards in May.

Ravensdown regional manager for the Western North Island Mike Davey was there to present the Ravensdown Pasture Performance Award to Whanganui share farmer Ryan Goble. As the winner, he receives a \$1500 credit for an animal health, agronomy, environmental

or personal development package, the latter of which includes the option to attend agriculturally-focused training courses held at both Lincoln and Massey Universities.

Ravensdown's relationship with the Goble family goes back 25 years. Ryan's parents Diane and Kevin

were the winners of Taranaki Sharemilker of the Year in the 90s, and then went on to win the nationals.

Mike says Ryan has the solid pasture management skills needed in the industry. "Pasture is fundamental

to any dairy farm operation, which is why this award holds significant weighting in the Share Farmer competition. Ryan has demonstrated his aptitude in this area and has a bright future ahead of him," Mike said. "A chip off the old Block."



Ravensdown regional manager Mike Davey with Ravensdown Pasture Performance award winner Ryan Goble.

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Mycoplasma bovis – we can all help get Taranaki through

As you may have heard, Mycoplasma bovis has made its way to a farm in Taranaki. This will bring some challenges to the region's rural community.

Right now, one Taranaki property is identified as a Restricted Place after test results and tracing of animal movements showed the herd was a risk of spreading M. bovis. The cattle on the farm have been culled and the property cleaned and disinfected. No cattle can come onto the property for another 60 days to stop any new infections.

Another four Taranaki farms are under legal controls – called Notices of Direction. This is a very effective way to stop any possible spread of the disease by restricting the movement of cattle off the farm while all necessary checks and tests are under way. Until that's done, these farms do

not have confirmed cases of M. bovis and are able to carry on farming around the movement restrictions. We will work with these farms so they can farm as close to normal as possible.

Nationwide, there are currently 67 Restricted Places and 166 properties under Notices of Direction (at 1 March 2019).

The effect on people

The eradication process is effective, but can also be time-consuming, frustrating and stressful for farmers and their workers. The investigation process disrupts and restricts normal farming activity. Incomes are lost (and later compensated) and in many situations, herds representing years of work are culled for certainty that the spread of disease is stopped.

While effective for removing traces of the



Geoff Gwynn

disease, we know that many people are starting to feel the strain, so we are working to minimise disruption to farming businesses as much as possible, and working together with other organisations to make sure the right support is available to affected farmers.

We are improving our communication and processes, particularly the compensation application process, and listening to feedback to make the long road to eradication is easier for everyone from here on in.

Because it's not just a cattle disease. It's about the future and wellbeing of farming families and communities.

What to expect from the eradication programme

New Zealand is the first country to attempt eradication of M. bovis, and it's the largest biosecurity response we've ever undertaken. This means that there is a lot for us and our industry partners, DairyNZ and Beef+Lamb NZ, to learn and develop as we go.

Already, more than 80,000 cattle have been culled. I think we have another two years of heavy lifting to do before we can confidently say that we have got on top of the spread of M. bovis. There will also be several years of ongoing surveillance. International experts tell us that eradication will take five to ten years.

So far, it's tracking well but it's going to be a long haul. Some aspects of farming and agribusiness will need

to adapt. Thousands of rural businesses will be affected. The social and financial pressure felt by farming families, including their kids, will be high. Whatever happens, we can't let it break us.

What you can do to help pull Taranaki through

We all have a part to help everyone get through this disease. Knowing and understanding what's happening and how you can help will go a long way.

We are aware of some inaccurate rumours on the grapevine about M. bovis and the complications of its testing process, so here's five important facts to help set the record straight.

1. M. bovis is not spread by air or water, including effluent

It's spread through close contact between cattle.

2. M. bovis doesn't live in soil for long. After culling and disinfection, a farm can be restocked after 60 days.

3. Testing is tricky – and infection is detected by herd, rather than single animal

M. bovis can lie dormant showing no symptoms at all, or infect a single part of the cattle's body. We test different samples over time to work out the likelihood that a herd is infected, because it is very difficult to detect on an individual level, and in some cases, impossible to detect without culling the animal. This is why it can take up to four months before we can say if a herd is likely to be

infected. M. bovis spreads very easily between cattle in a herd, so when it is detected the whole herd is deemed to be infected.

If you'd like to know more, there's heaps of information and advice on the MPI website and it's sorted by group to make it easy to find what is relevant to you, whether you're a farm service provider, calf rearer, transporter, grazer, or part of an emergency service.

Information, support and advice is also available from Rural Support Trusts, DairyNZ, Beef+Lamb NZ, Rural Women New Zealand, Federated Farmers, Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand, the New Zealand Veterinary Association, and Meat Industry New Zealand.

Late last year we met with Taranaki affected farmers and their vets, and will be returning in the next few months to hold public meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend.

You can also join the mailing list to receive our weekly updates: mbovis2017_liaison@mpi.govt.nz

Geoff Gwynn - Mycoplasma bovis Programme Director, Ministry for Primary Industries

Last chance for Taranaki dairy farmer

A Taranaki dairy farmer is facing fierce competition in his bid to claim the FMG Young Farmer of the Year title.

Blair Briscoe, 30, will go head-to-head with six other contestants in next month's Taranaki/Manawatu regional final in Whanganui.

The qualified builder contract milks 430 cows at Egmont Village and it's his final shot at clinching the coveted accolade.

"I turn 31 at the end of this month, so this is my last chance to qualify for the grand final before I'm too old," he said.

"I'll be going there to win. I'm really excited, but knowing that it's my final go is a major driver to take it more seriously."

It will be Blair's second attempt at winning a regional final. He last competed when the prestigious event was held in Hawera in 2017.

Prior to moving to the other side of Mt Taranaki, Blair spent three years contract milking in Okato.

During his time in the area he rebuilt Coastal Young Farmers and is serving his second stint as the club's

Continued page 19



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Taranaki digger driver to take on nation's best

New Plymouth man Callum Bamber will don his hard hat and climb into the cab of a 12-tonne digger next week when he represents Taranaki at the National Excavator Operator Competition in Feilding.

Mr Bamber is one of 10 regional champions from around New Zealand who will test their excavator skills at a series of entertaining and highly challenging tasks that won't be revealed until competition day. In the past these have ranged from tests of 'real-world' skills such as traversing a trench or lifting and relocating a manhole cover, to crowd-pleasing tests of precision such as uncorking a champagne bottle using an excavator bucket's teeth or slam dunking a basketball into a two-storey concrete pipe.

"This is my first time at the nationals so I'm not too sure what to expect, but a big part of being a digger driver is solving problems and finding ways around challenges so I'm really looking forward to it," Mr Bamber said.

The finals event will take place on March 15-16 during the Central Districts Field Days at



Taranaki champion Callum Bamber.

Manfeild Park. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the annual competition, which is organised by Civil Contractors New Zealand to raise awareness of the skill involved in excavator operation and the rewarding careers available in civil construction.

Mr Bamber qualified for the event by winning the Taranaki Regional Excavator Operator Competition in

December. The Offshore Plumbing Services employee will now drive a Hitachi Zaxis 120 excavator in front of the thousands of people attending the Central Districts Field Days as he battles for the title of New Zealand's best multi-skilled excavator operator.

Civil Contractors New Zealand Chief Executive Peter Silcock said the competition's mix of skill,

entertainment and high-tech machinery had become a highlight for the industry.

While some of the tasks performed by competitors were primarily about fun and delighting the crowd,

they showcased the level of precision top operators required to excel in their daily work, whether they were navigating drain pipes, gas pipes or electricity cables.

"Modern excavators are complex machines that take a lot of skill to operate. This competition aims to capture the public's imagination, demonstrate the talent possessed by excavator operators, and inspire people to consider a career in civil construction."

The civil construction and maintenance industry carries out more than \$12 billion of work annually, employing 60,000 workers including excavator operators. Operators are involved in many of New Zealand's most significant projects, ranging from construction of roads and highways to laying the groundwork for new buildings, parks, water and sewerage projects.

The Platinum Sponsor

for this year's National Excavator Operator Competition is CablePrice, which provides and services the excavators the competitors operate during the event. Other major competition sponsors include Attach2, BeforeUDig, CivilShare Civil Trades, Contractor Magazine, Connexis ITO, Digga NZ, Doug the Digger, FirstGas, Hirepool, Humes, and Z Energy.

In addition to the competition, Civil Contractors New Zealand will host a mini-digger experience, giving children over the age of two the chance to drive a 1.7 tonne Hitachi excavator with the help of a supervisor.

A digital excavator simulator will also be on site at the EPIC Careers in Infrastructure job marquee to give visiting school students and other members of the public a chance to test their own excavator skills

Last chance for Taranaki dairy farmer

Continued from page 18

chair.

The hotly-contested Taranaki/Manawatu regional final is being held on April 6.

Contestants will tackle a series of gruelling practical and theoretical modules at Cooks Gardens in Whanganui.

It will be followed by a dinner and fast-paced agri-knowledge quiz hosted by Te Radar at the Whanganui War Memorial Centre.

The other six regional finalists are Alex Field, Ashton Coates, Ben Orchard, James Beattie, Graham Johnson and Sarah Meurk.

Sarah is a trained beauty therapist who lives on a lifestyle block in Hunterville with her husband and their daughter. The 30-year-old juggles being a mum and working part-time on the farm operated by Feilding High School. The property



Blair Briscoe

runs sheep, beef and milks 60 cows through a robotic dairy.

"Farming is an awesome lifestyle and I'm passionate about getting others involved," said Sarah, who's also a freelance make-up artist.

Sarah was previously a tutor for a government-funded programme getting teenagers engaged in education.

The winner of the regional

final will represent the region at the FMG Young Farmer of the Year Grand Final in Hawke's Bay in July.

Whanganui will also play host to the FMG Junior Young Farmer of the Year and AgriKidsNZ regional finals.

A three-member team from Toko School near Stratford has registered to compete in the AgriKidsNZ event.

Brad Markham.

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- Pick 150 from 300 Xbred Cows – NP - Quote#102 – Price: \$1850 – Ave BW: 101 PW: 129
- 30 Young Frsn & Xbred Cows – Foxton - Quote#101 – Price: \$1550 – New Ave BW: 85 PW: 132
- 20 Young Holdover FrsnX & Xbred In calf Cows – Auroa - Quote#100 – Price: \$1785 – Ave BW: 128 PW: 232
- 176 Frsn & FRsn X In calf Herd Cows – Midhurst - Quote#199 – Price: \$1850 – Ave BW: 83 PW: 103
- 31 Frsn & Frsn X Inmilk R3 Cows – Lepperton - Quote#198 – Price: \$1780 – Ave BW: 125 PW: 151

INCALF DAIRY HEIFERS

- Complete Replacement Line of 68 Frsn & FrsnX In calf Heifers – Opunake - Quote#265 – Price: \$1850 – New Ave BW: 88 PW: 84
- 30 Frsn X & Xbred In calf Heifers – Urenui – Quote#266 – Price: \$1375 – New Ave BW: 94 PW: 114
- 16 Xbred In calf Heifers - New Plymouth - Quote#264 – Price: \$1600 – Ave BW: 123 PW: 151
- 29 Frsn & Frsn X In calf Heifers - New Plymouth - Quote#263 - Price: \$1600 – Ave BW: 143 PW: 141
- 22 Xbred In calf Heifers – Opunake - Quote#262 - Price: \$1470 - Ave BW: 110 & PW: 117
- 46 Frsn & Frsn X In calf Heifers – Midhurst - Quote#261 - Price: \$1600 - Ave BW: 128 & PW: 127
- 97 Frsn & Frsn X In calf Heifers – Urenui - Quote#260 - Price: \$1480 - Ave BW: 108 & PW: 116
- 25 Xbred In calf Heifers – Otakeho - Quote#259 - Price: NEGO - Ave BW: 120 & PW: 126

WEANERS DAIRY HEIFERS

- 22 Frsn & Frsn X Weaner Heifers – Ashhurst - Quote#390 - Price: \$850 - Ave BW: 144 & PW: 166
- 14 Xbred Weaner Heifers – Opunake - Quote#389 - Price: \$630 - Ave BW: 121 & PW: 132
- 21 Xbred Weaner Heifers – Opunake - Quote#388 - Price: \$630 - Ave BW: 132 & PW: 150
- 25 Frsn & Frsn X Weaner Heifers – Midhurst - Quote#387 - Price: \$650 - Ave BW: 149 & PW: 159
- 30 Xbred Weaner Heifers – Marton - Quote#386 - Price: \$650 - Ave BW: 138 & PW: 152

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Eltham shooters enjoy long range success



Paul Tidswell with his bronze medal.

participating, as well as individuals from other countries including New Zealand.

Paul Tidswell was selected as a member of the New Zealand Veterans team which came third overall behind Australia (first) and Great Britain (second). Paul's individual score also placed him third in the NZ Veterans team. The Palma team was then selected from all NZ shooters who had participated in the two weeks of events, and Paul was selected for the team which came fifth against some very tough competition.

The other Eltham member who participated as an individual during the events in Wellington was Alan Drake. He was presented with the NZNRA Distinguished Service Medal, which was awarded at their AGM meeting.

While Eltham is a small club, it is well represented by these two gentlemen and is very proud of their achievements.

Clare Bramley



Alan Drake (left) being awarded the NZNRA Distinguished Service medal by NZNRA president Malcolm Dodson.

The Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club would like to acknowledge the achievements of two of our members who participated in the World Long Range Champs in Trentham, Wellington, over two weeks near the start of the year. The WLRC ran from January 25-February 11. There were seven countries

National Sea Week comes to Taranaki

National Sea Week was last week (March 2-10) and hundreds of Taranaki locals celebrated our moana (ocean) by attending various events held over the week.

The week was kicked off with a Ngamotu Beach Community Snorkel Event hosted by national marine conservation education programme Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR).

Over 50 people attended the third and final community snorkel day. These were among the more than 300 people who attended Sea Week Events.

Other Sea Week celebrations included a beach clean hosted by Taranaki Conservationists, a Sea-themed Crackjacks pre-school reading session at Puke Ariki, an Author Reading by Neville Peat



Students enjoying events with Experiencing Marine Reserves (EMR).

(The Invading Sea), the Hawera Pool Snorkel Trail and a Project Hotspot Citizen Science Workshop. Many Taranaki schools also celebrated with their own beach cleans and other conservation-related activities.

For the first time, EMR brought their snorkel programme down to South Taranaki with their Hawera Pool Snorkel Trail where over 30 participants of all

ages attended and responded with overwhelmingly positive feedback. Karen Pratt, a volunteer who assisted with the event was warmed by the results.

"A number of kids were delighted when they were able to have a second go at the at the marine trail. There were two five year olds – a girl and a boy – who thrived on the experience and made incredible progress". EMR Taranaki Coordinator Elvise

Van Der Leden says that she was blown away with the positive feedback on the event facebook page that she hopes to bring the event down to Hawera again in the near future.

EMR are working with Whenuakura School in Patea, Puketapu School, Mimi School and Highlands Intermediate this year. The programme will see students research about marine reserves, implement action

projects to raise awareness about marine conservation and experience snorkelling in a marine reserve and outside a marine reserve to compare physical differences.

Elvise Van Der Leden
Taranaki Regional
Coordinator
Experiencing Marine
Reserves



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Unique sporting occasion for Taranaki

James Langton retired from his time as a boxer last year, but he is poised to make a comeback. He explains, "Since I won the New Zealand Heavyweight boxing title I've had a desire to defend it." He added, "There has never been a New Zealand heavyweight title fight held in Taranaki before."

He was obliged to defend the title within 12 months of winning it and a defence was originally scheduled for December 2018. However, an injury to his lower back put paid to that. Pro boxing New Zealand approached him recently to see if he was still interested in defending his title. James said he took about ten days to reach a decision, "And Kelly and I put a plan in place." The 10 round fight will be held

in New Plymouth at the TSB Stadium on May 24, under Sam Rapira as promoter. James' opponent will be Nikolas Charalampous (aged 27), who hails from Auckland. "He has a very good track record of 17 wins and just 2 losses. I'll make sure I weigh under 95 kg at the weigh in which is held 24 hours before the fight."

James is feeling positive about the outcome of the title defence. "Nikolas is the kind of fighter who looks after his record. I've fought some of the best in the world including two guys in the top 50 - he hasn't. It will be a big step up for him." He adds, "I've never worried about my record, it's all about the journey. I plan to be the oldest Heavyweight champion ever in New Zealand at 45."

James explains that he has



appointed a manager for his farm to allow more time for his preparation. "I've set up my own gym, at the old Scout den. The whole thing is about training, so I can put in maximum effort. As the fight gets closer, however, I'll need to go to New Plymouth or pay someone to come here."

He concludes, "I would have liked to have held the fight in Opunake, but with legal proceedings underway over the Honours Board, it wasn't a practical decision."

His final word on the outcome of the fight? "Nikolas won't have the power or the ring craft to beat me."

James Langton with Arthur (1) on his knee, Celeste(5) on the right and Annalise (4) on the left.

Manaia Golf results

End of the month. Men. 1. Nathan Ngere 46. 2. Winston Kidd 45. 3. Phil Elliott 44. 4. Grant Hastie 42. 5. Denis Hurcomb 42.

Ladies. 1. Marina Gopperth 42. 2. Margaret Putt 38. 3. Jackie Higgins 36.

February 23. Saturday Men. 1. Logan Symes. 2.

Ralph Symes. 3. Phil Elliott. 4. Shelton Symes. 5. Grant Gopperth.

Junior Champs. Putty Trophy. 1. Jaden Siciliano.

Runner-up Lucas Symes. Taunt Trophy. 1. Divan Denton. Runners-up Carter Symes and Oliva Symes.

McLean Trophy. 1. Jayda

sharp. Runner-up Zoe Reader. Bryant Trophy. 1. Ashton Clarges. Runner-up Payton Siciliano. Gibson Trophy. 1. Chantelle Wong.

Runner-up Hannah Symes. February 25. Monday Night Ambrose. 1. Manaia Hackers. 2. Winks Road. 3. Otakeho Orange.

March 2. Saturday Men. Nett Round. Phil Elliott 66. Trevor Larsen 66. Denis Hurcomb 67. Colin Koch 68. Ralph Symes 68.

Ambrose. 1. This & That. 2. Manaia Hackers. 3. Lions. 4. Paul's Crew. 5. Mahi.

Juniors. Putting Pere Wees. 1. Abby Marsh. 2. Jayden Marsh.

Nine full holes. Oliva Symes, Kieran Taylor, Jaden Siciliano, Lucas Symes.

Nine Short. Payton Siciliano.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS
06 761 7016

Opunake Bowling Club

10th February Cucumber Stakes

A full green of men's Fours.

We had fantastic weather and all men playing enjoyed the day.

First: Kevin Ratahi, Paddy Deegan Daryl McKenzie and Brian Brophy.

Opunake.

Second: Mike Walsh's team, Paritutu.

Third: Terry Mullins team, Pihama.

14th February: Opunake Ladies Pairs and Fours.

The green was running well and the match was played in very warm conditions.

First: Pauline Davy, Chris Commame, Eileen Rothwell and Val Langton, Opunake with four wins.

Second: Marlene Clement, Nell L'Ami, Joan Barrett and Val Coombe, three wins.

Third: Lauren Bright's team, West End.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS



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For details of work conditions and salary please phone Anne Davies on 067524383 or 0273439327.

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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Raho
Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St 9.30am every Sunday and the Raho - 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
Youth Group 7pm Friday
Come along or contact Pastor Murray 027 688 7378

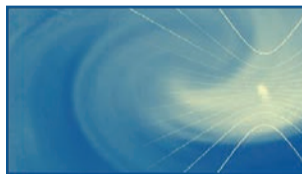
St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

PUBLIC NOTICES



You're invited to Opunake EVERYBODY'S THEATRE MOVIE

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Auroa School

734 Auroa Road, RD 28, Auroa, 4678
office@auroa.school.nz

Applications for Out of Zone Pupils

Auroa School is a decile 8 full Primary School (includes year 7/8 students) located in South Taranaki. Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

The Board has determined that there are likely to be 10 vacancies available for for Term 2, 2019. These vacancies are mostly in Year 1 and New Entrant with limited vacancies in Year's 2 to 8.

Applications can be made by applying in writing to the school by either post or email and by visiting the school office.

The deadline for applications is 3pm, Thursday 28th March. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. Ballots, if required, will be held on the 29th March.

Rodney Mullin
Board of Trustees

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PUBLIC NOTICES

What's On Listings



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)



OPUNAKE & DISTRICTS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

The Opunake & Districts Business Association wishes to advise that two security cameras have been installed in Opunake and are now operational



**HAVE YOUR SAY:
NEW SHARED PATHWAY FROM
ŌĀKURA TO PUKEITI**

A shared pathway is being planned that will connect Ōākura with Pukeiti, starting at the top of Surrey Hill Road. It will be mostly on a paper road along the Egmont National Park boundary on the flanks of the Kaitake Ranges.

Before NPDC prepares a concept plan on the design of the pathway, named Te Ara a Ruhihiwerapini, we want to hear from Ōākura residents.

What would you like to see as part of this project? What should we keep in mind?

Please share your comments with us by Wednesday 20 March by filling in the online form at newplymouthnz.com/HaveYourSay.

For more information contact
New Plymouth District Council
on Telephone: 06-759 6060, Fax: 06-759 6072 or
Email: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz

ONGOING

The Opunake Music Club - Come along every fortnight and take part or just watch. Anyone welcome. Next meeting November 27 at Coastal Care, Napier Street 7:30pm.

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.

Pregnancy Help Taranaki: Is now in OPUNAKE! Are you pregnant? Do you have a baby or young family? To hear more, like us on facebook www.facebook.com/preghelptaranaki/. Please come and meet us and find out how we may be able to help you.

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.

NOW ON

Paul Hutchinson - Backup Exhibition: At Koru on Devon

Velger Howighorst - Best Before, Reviving the useless: At Koru on Devon.

MARCH 12 TO APRIL 5

'The Art of Cheesemaking' Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, High st, Eltham. Open 10am to 3pm Mon-Sat.

MARCH 14 TO MARCH 17

Taranaki Masters Games: Lots of Sports to enter into. Refer article and ad from previous issue for details.

MARCH 17

Pihama Lavander Market Day: At the old Pihama Dairy Factory, Main Rd, Pihama. From 10am to 2pm.

MARCH 20

Agrimec Autos 2018 Ltd Grand Opening Day: At Agrimec Autos, 38 Ihaia Rd, Opunake. Ph 06 761 8999.

Taranaki Diocesan School Open Day: At the school (formerly St Mary's School), Broadway North, Stratford from 10am to 2pm.

MARCH 22

The Great Eltham Cheese Scone Bake-off: Market Day and celebrations from 9am to 3pm on Bridge St, Eltham. Public scones to be judged at the Town Hall from 4pm to 5.30pm. Guest speaker Tawera Nikau at the Eltham Town Hall from 7pm to 9.30pm.

MARCH 24

Kaponga Lions Club Cross Country Bike Ride: Starting at top of Oeo Road, briefing 9-30am. Ride starting 10am, finishing at Riverlea Hall. Approx 26km over farm land, races and river crossing. Family day out, suitable for all ages. Prize for 1st Female, and 1st Male rider home. Spot prizes and BBQ. Free transport to collect vehicles. Entry fee payable at race start, Adult \$20-00 Under 15 years \$10-00. Enquiries to C Pope 027 693 7487.

APRIL 1

New Plymouth Boys High School Boarding Open Day: At NPBHS from 11am to 3pm. Email office@npbhs.school.nz or Phone 06 757 6116 for an invitation.

APRIL 6 TO APRIL 9

Coastal Pacific / Trans Alpine 4 Day trip with Travelsmart Stratford: Refer ad from previous issue for details on this incredible package. Ph Travelsmart Stratford on 0800 00 3804.

APRIL 7

Sport Taranaki Rainbow Run: New Plymouth Coastal Walway. Refer article and advert from last issue for details



WE LOVE TO RECEIVE YOUR PHOTOS

But please check their quality before sending them to us

We love to receive your photos for inclusion in the Opunake & Coastal News BUT photos that are either fuzzy, tiny, unfocused, or thumbnail size are unusable for us.



Cheese and scones for Eltham

speaker Tawera Nikau will share his life journey and be interviewed. Entertainment will be from Studio 2 Dance troop. Winners will be announced on the night. There will be a gold coin donation, for this great Family night of entertainment. Doors open 6.30pm

Be ready and baked up for the Public Scone competition. Please bring your three best scones to the Town Hall between 4.30-5.30pm.

The Village Gallery is running an exhibition "The Art of Cheese Making" March 12-15.

To finish the celebrations, there is a Cheese Ball Saturday night, Eltham Town Hall, brought to you by the Taranaki Young Farmers with live music. Tickets available elthamcheeseball@gmail.com



All Black Great Buck Shelford Judged the Great Eltham Cheese Scone Bake off in 2013

Wow. A hundred years of Rennet in Eltham. To celebrate this there will be a street party, on Saturday March 23. A market, stall holders welcome, will be on High Street from 9.30-3pm.

The Eltham Business and Professional Assn is supporting the 100-year celebrations with their very

successful event, "The Great Cheese Scone Bake Off" to be held on Friday March 22 in the Eltham Town Hall. On the night from local schools and businesses will

be making scones. There will be a Public Scone competition for the highly sought after prize of being "the best scones for 2019." During the evening guest

PIHAMA
Lavender
Growers and Makers
MARKET DAY
SUNDAY MARCH 17TH 10am - 2pm
Band to be confirmed

THE GREAT ELTHAM Cheese Scone BAKE OFF
FRIDAY MARCH 22nd
Make Cheese The Hero
Eltham Town Hall 7pm - 9.30pm
Come and Cheer on the Scone Makers.
Businesses and Schools Competition
Guest Speaker Tawera Nikau NZ Rugby League
Public scones to be at the Town Hall for Judging 4pm - 5.30pm
Gold coin donation entry. Stratford Studio 2 Dance Entertainers
Saturday 23rd March
Market Day and Celebrations on Bridge Street. 9am - 3pm
Sponsored by the Eltham Business Association

Tawera Nikau



Tawera Nikau Cheese Scone Judge.

Tawera is one of New Zealand's most successful professional athletes. He made his name in the highly competitive world of rugby league. A veteran of 19 tests for New Zealand as a forward, Tawera went on to captain the New Zealand Maori team at the Rugby League World Cup and has been inducted into the New Zealand Legends of League.

Tawera is a highly sought after speaker as audiences find his life story truly inspiring and motivational. He is a living example of someone who refuses to quit no matter how hard he is hit. An excellent communicator, people from all walks of life appreciate his down-to-earth

presentation style. Tawera's passion and contribution to league continues as he currently sits on the NZRL Board of Directors and is a selector for the New Zealand Kiwis.

Tawera is managing director of Team One International, a training company which is dedicated to "unleashing human potential." He brings a wealth of experience in high-performance sports and effortlessly translates this knowledge into clear insights in the areas of leadership and organisational and individual behaviour.

In 2004 he had his right leg amputated due to complications from injuries suffered in a motorbike

accident. The traits that made him a sporting champion enabled him to excel in other areas. Tawera is now an ambassador for the Achilles Foundation which gives people with disabilities an opportunity to participate in mainstream events. He has completed the New York Marathon three times, and in 2010 and 2015 completed the Oxfam 100km Taupo Trail Walker which raises funds to support Oxfam New Zealand.

Tawera has been appointed a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to rugby league and the community, and in 2011 recognised as an Emerging Leader by the Sir Peter Blake Trust.

Delivered free around the Mountain every fortnight.
Ph: 06 761 7016

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Photographic coup for Patea

Aotea Utanganui-Museum of South Taranaki has scored a coup in being the first in New Zealand to show the National Geographic Society's Rarely Seen Photographs Exhibition.

Rarely Seen: Photographs of the Extraordinary opened at the South Taranaki Museum at Patea on March 1 and will be there until the end of August.

"Rarely Seen is a great example of National Geographic's rich history of sharing places, moments and objects that astonish and inspire," says Kathryn Keane, vice president for National Geographic Exhibitions. "This collection from the stables of the world's leading geography imaging organisation is truly unseen in many ways."

The exhibition is inspired by the book,

in Washington to show the photos. The Society had instructions on how the photos were to be displayed and they had to be satisfied that a smaller centre like Patea could host the exhibition, he said.

"We were looking for a show that would bring people in. We wanted to have something that balanced out good value for money with having cutting edge photography."

So far there had been a high level of interest with other museums and art galleries from other parts of the country asking about showing the exhibition.

"There has been a good level of interest in the community as well," he said. "This is a first for us. We're really punching above our weight and the work the team has



Museum volunteer Barry Marsh admires their latest exhibition.



Underwater Sculpture Garden.

National Geographic Rarely Seen: Photographs of the Extraordinary, and features 50 striking images shot by some of the world's finest photographers of places, events, natural phenomena, and man-made heirlooms seldom seen by human eyes.

done to bring this to Patea has been really remarkable."

Museum trustee Marie McKay said she was delighted to have the exhibition at Patea.

"Cameron had the contacts and the initiative to get the exhibition here, and I hope

lots of people come to see it. It's a worth a trip."

Collections assistant Luana Paamu said she was "blown away by how brilliant they are" when she first saw the photos.

"I thought it was pretty amazing what professionals can do with a photo," she says, pointing to the one titled Underwater Sculpture Garden. "With a couple of them I'm thinking, what is that?"

Longtime volunteer and Museum Trust treasurer Barry Marsh was also impressed with what he saw. Barry who turns 80 this year now lives in Wanganui, but has spent most of his life in Patea. He still comes back to help

where he can, cataloguing and indexing photos, books and maps.

"I enjoy being out with the community, keeping up with things and putting something back into the old town.

"We've had some wonderful exhibitions

over the years that I've been coming. This museum is the icon of Patea."

Other volunteer interests have included the Red Cross, Salvation Army and a Men's Grief Support Group he set up 11 years ago following the death of his youngest son in a road accident.

Patea community Board chairperson Ruth McKay said the exhibition will be something else to entice passing motorists to stop and have a look at the museum.

"We do get quite a lot of traffic, and this will be a big drawcard for people passing through," she said.



Hey that tickles by Joel Satore Nebraska A Bighorn sheep gets a cleaning.

The exhibition comes with an introduction by National Geographic photographer Stephen Alvarez, whose work has taken him from the Peruvian Andes to the deepest caves of Papua New Guinea.

District archivist Cameron Curd said Aotea Utanganui had put in a bid to the National Geographic Society

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

23 Napier St, Opunake
06 761 7016

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NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU

Boarding Open Day

Monday, 1st April 2019
11am - 3pm

For an invitation, please email office@npbhs.school.nz or phone (06) 757 6116

2019 IS FULL. BOOK NOW FOR 2020 AND BEYOND!

IMPROVING THE FUTURE SINCE 1882

Rugby for tots comes to Taranaki



Rugbytots classes are now available at Sandfords Event Centre Opunake.

I am Opunake born and bred. I have returned home after 40 years to live and work in paradise, I have purchased the rugbytots franchise for Taranaki.

Since Rugbytots began in 2006 in the UK. It has grown globally with over 80,000 children in 18 countries on seven continents now part of the Rugbytots family.

Here in New Zealand, six franchisees and their coaches deliver more than 40 classes per week.

We provide structured play sessions that take children on a journey of sporting imagination whilst teaching how to catch, pass, kick, run with the ball and play as part of a team.

Our motto is simple, "make it more fun." We do this by delivering our specifically designed programmes for each age group with energy, enthusiasm and excitement. This creates an atmosphere in the class that is totally unique and engaging for parents and children alike. The three classes are for two to three and a half year-olds, three and a half to five year-

olds, and five year-olds to seven year-olds.

Our youngest classes require full parent participation and offer a fantastic opportunity to spend quality time with the child, whilst they learn new skills, meet new friends and have an exciting introduction to rugby.

It's fast-paced fun and the tots learn about shapes, colours, numbers and counting. They are encouraged to work independently as well as enjoying team games. Rugby specific skills are gently introduced and all the equipment used in these classes has been specifically designed and selected for toddlers.

We use sponge foam balls so the children can catch, pass and kick their goals with confidence. Its colourful, it's lively and it's guaranteed to brighten up their day.

The three and a half to five years classes do not require full parent participation, however, cheering and encouragement is essential! The Rugbytots are part of a dynamic session that will

develop their social and physical skills in a positive environment.

With slightly more focus on rugby specific skills, they discover a new world of sporting imagination. Finding space, looking

after the ball, scoring tries, running with the ball in two hands, and general agility and balance are just some of the things they learn.

In this class we use colourful size 2 rugby balls that are specially designed

for small hands and feet.

Our older age group classes really start to prepare children for life after Rugbytots. The same structure is followed, but these sessions involve advanced team games and we ensure that the basic

The programme for this age range focuses on fun and encouragement whilst enhancing self-esteem and confidence.

The rules of tag rugby are gently introduced and every session will include a game



Children learn new skills and confidence at Rugbytots.

skills of rugby are coached in the right way by maintaining small class numbers.

of tag rugby preparing the tots perfectly for their next adventure.

One thing I need to stress. We are not in competition with the clubs, far from it. We provide an opportunity for those children that aren't yet suited to Saturday morning team games. We can prepare them for when they start at the clubs.

The other huge benefit with Rugbytots, is that all the skills they learn and the confidence gained is transferrable to any other sport and educational development.

Classes are currently being held in New Plymouth, Stratford, Hawera and Opunake. Times and details are on our website www.rugbytots.co.nz

Any questions email merv@rugbytots.co.nz Merv Dudley

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Mountain Bike, Kayak and Paddle Board Hire

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Our dynamic weekly play sessions enable boys and girls aged 2-7 to develop their social and physical skills in a fun, positive environment. For more details, just call or email.

027 705 5166
taranaki@rugbytots.co.nz

rugby tots

rugbytots.co.nz
The world's favourite rugby play programme

Even the Fastest get Caught by Rainbow Run Colours

Taranaki's own Michaela Blyde, New Zealand Rugby Sevens Player, got caught out at the Taranaki Youth Forum when Sport Taranaki pelted her with Rainbow Run colour.

"What an awesome thing for Sport Taranaki to be doing," says Michaela after she got her breath back. "It's taste pretty gross though."

The Mitre 10 Rainbow Run is exploding back onto New Plymouth's Coastal Walkway on Sunday April 7 thanks to Sport Taranaki. Early bird family tickets will be on sale from Monday February 18 at 9am through to Sunday February 24 only.

This event is a fun, colour spectacular and fantastic way to get Taranaki families active. Sport Taranaki are

offering early bird family tickets at a discounted price to inspire more families to get active whilst enjoying the bright and brilliant party atmosphere that is the Mitre 10 Rainbow Run.

"We want to see if there are any kids out there that can run as fast as Michaela." Says Terry Long, Sport Taranaki's Event Director. "Every year the event gets bigger, the smiles broader and the laughter more contagious. We can't wait for Taranaki to run the rainbow again this April."

This year we have extra bright fluoro colours to throw at the runners. The party will be starting with music, dancing and family fun right from the beginning of the run and the fun will keep going right through to The Seaside



The Mitre 10 Rainbow Run funds Sport Taranaki's programmes throughout the Taranaki community.



Rainbow fun.

Markets at the finish line with delicious food and drink options. There will be spot prizes from Mitre 10 and the notorious mass colour throw to end the run.

There will be a bus service available for Rainbow Runners again this year from the corner of Breakwater

Rd and Pioneer Rd to take participants through to the start.

The Mitre 10 Rainbow Run funds Sport Taranaki's programmes throughout the Taranaki community. Sport Taranaki is a regional sports trust which supports and promotes sport and active

recreation in the Taranaki region.

Early bird family tickets are discounted to \$50.00 (usually \$70.00) and include two adults and two children.

General release for all tickets will be on Monday February 25. Ticket prices will be Family \$70.00 (two

adults and two children), Adult \$30.00, Student \$20.00 (13-18 years), Child \$10.00 (12 years and under). Bus tickets will be an additional \$3.00 per person.

Tickets will be on sale through www.eventfinda.co.nz

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

Haumarū ki Tai
Health and Community Centre
Delivering essential community health and social services now and into the future....

DID YOU KNOW?

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

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

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

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

Services provided in this building:

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

For a full list of Services and happenings here at CoastalCare

Find us on Facebook

or visit us at www.coastalcare.co.nz

Permanently residing in the building are:
OPUNAKE PHARMACY,
OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE,
ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE,
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MARCH 2019

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																	
 RALPH BREAKS THE INTERNET Animated, Comedy hr 52mins PG Video game bad guy Ralph and fellow misfit Vanellope travel to the World Wide Web in search of a replacement part to save Vanellope's video game, Sugar Rush. In over their heads, Ralph and Vanellope rely on the citizens of the internet - the netizens - to help find their way. Sat 16 th Mar 1pm	 BEN IS BACK Drama 1hr 43mins M; Drug use 19-year-old Ben Burns unexpectedly returns to his family's suburban home on Christmas Eve. Ben's mom, Holly, is relieved and welcoming but wary of her son's drug addiction. Over a turbulent 24 hours, new truths are revealed, and a mother's undying love gets put to the test as Holly does everything in her power to keep Ben clean. Wed 20 th Mar 1pm/Fri 29 th Mar 7pm	 COLD PURSUIT Drama, Thriller 1hr 59mins R16; Violence, suicide themes Nels Coxman's quiet life as a snowplow driver comes crashing down when his beloved son dies under mysterious circumstances. His search for the truth soon becomes a quest for revenge against a psychotic drug lord named Viking and his sleazy henchmen. Transformed from upstanding citizen to coldblooded vigilante. Sat 23 rd Mar 7pm/Sun 31 st Mar 7pm	 WHAT MEN WANT Comedy, Romance 1hr 57mins R 16; Language & Sexual Content Passed up for a well-deserved promotion, Ali Davis wonders what else she needs to do to succeed in a man's world. Hoping to find answers from a psychic, Ali drinks a weird concoction that suddenly allows her to hear what men are thinking. Fri 15 th Mar 7pm/Sun 24 th Mar 7pm																
 CELIA Documentary 1hr 40mins Exempt Celia Lashlie, an impassioned, charismatic advocate for equality of opportunity in New Zealand, is mourned and celebrated in this documentary written, directed and produced by former TV current affairs journalist Amanda Millar. When Lashlie received a terminal cancer diagnosis in late 2014, she invited Millar to film the final year of her life. Sun 17 th Mar 7pm/Wed 20 th Mar 7pm/Wed 27 th Mar 1pm	 THE MULE Drama, Crime, Thriller 1hr 56mins M; Offensive Language Earl Stone, a man in his 80s who is broke, alone, and facing foreclosure of his business when he is offered a job that simply requires him to drive. Easy enough, but, unbeknownst to Earl, he's just signed on as a drug courier. Sat 16 th Mar 7pm	 SPIDER-MAN Animated, Action 1hr 57mins PG Miles Morales is juggling life between being a high school student and being Spider-Man. When Wilson "Kingpin" Fisk uses a super collider, another Spider-Man from another dimension, Peter Parker, accidentally winds up in Miles' dimension. Sat 23 rd Mar 1pm	 EIGHTH GRADE Comedy, Drama 1hr 34mins M; Sexual references, Language Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures the tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school -- the end of her thus far disastrous eighth-grade year. Fri 22 nd Mar 7pm/Sat 30 th Mar 7pm																
<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Wed</td> <td>Fri</td> <td>Sat</td> <td>Sun</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>15 What Men Want 7pm</td> <td>16 Ralph breaks the Internet 1pm The Mule 7pm</td> <td>17 Celia 7pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 Ben is Back 1pm Celia 7pm</td> <td>22 Eighth Grade 7pm</td> <td>23 Spiderman into the SpiderVerse 1pm Cold Pursuit 7pm</td> <td>24 What Men Want 7pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>27 Celia 1pm Roma 7pm</td> <td>29 Ben is Back 7pm</td> <td>30 A Dogs Way Home 1pm Eighth Grade 7pm</td> <td>31 Cold Pursuit 7pm</td> </tr> </table>	Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun		15 What Men Want 7pm	16 Ralph breaks the Internet 1pm The Mule 7pm	17 Celia 7pm	20 Ben is Back 1pm Celia 7pm	22 Eighth Grade 7pm	23 Spiderman into the SpiderVerse 1pm Cold Pursuit 7pm	24 What Men Want 7pm	27 Celia 1pm Roma 7pm	29 Ben is Back 7pm	30 A Dogs Way Home 1pm Eighth Grade 7pm	31 Cold Pursuit 7pm			
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Taranaki Diocesan School for Girls - Stratford

- making a difference everyday



St Mary's Head Students.

Taranaki Dio - formerly St Mary's Stratford - is hosting its first Open Day for 2019 next week on Wednesday 20 March. Families considering their choices for secondary education for their daughters are warmly invited to call in anytime between 10am and 2pm. Principal Fiona Green said "At Taranaki Dio we

work with your family to support your daughter to realise her potential. We have outstanding boarding facilities that have been designed specifically for girls. Our personalised academic, cultural and sporting opportunities allow your daughter to flourish." Students from all around Taranaki and further afield

including Taumarunui and Waikato attend Taranaki Dio as day students or boarders who stay seven days, week to week, or part boarding for two or three nights. Tours of the boarding house and school will be available on Wednesday along with opportunity to meet the Taranaki Dio 2019 Student Leaders.

On the left is Deputy Head Girl Alexandra Paish, a boarder who lives in Inglewood. On the right is Claudia Taylor Head Girl for 2019, a day student who lives in New Plymouth and travels daily to Taranaki Dio. Claudia and Alex said "Our theme for the year is to make a difference every day. This is something that we plan to carry out, no matter how big or small that difference is. We hope to encourage and inspire students to make a difference to not only their own lives but to the lives of others as well."

The art of cheesemaking



Ngaere Cheese Factory.

An exhibition about cheese? Really? Yes, it's true, this month the Village Gallery in Eltham is curating an art exhibition on the theme of cheese making or more broadly, the Dairy Industry. Invited artists Margaret Scott, Tony Rumball, Andrea Nicolas, Henriette Reason, Rhonda Bunyan, Amy Taunt, and Kris White will display

new artworks on the theme. These are sure to be large and colourful if their past work is anything to go by. The Eltham & Districts Historical Society has kindly loaned memorabilia pertaining to the theme, and Eltham of old. The Society has a huge collection of photographs and albums, but not all these are suitable for display, sadly. One

interesting photo montage that is in the display is taken at Ngaere in 1913. It shows Mr George Frederick Styles and Emily Styles and their family at their farm property on the corner of Finnerty and Stuart Roads. Some of us may remember the 'walk through' dairy sheds? The milk cans on horse and cart are a far cry from our tanker collections of today.



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*Courageous
Resolute
Successful*



An old photo of the Ngaere factory.

The Art of Cheesemaking

MARGARET SCOTT
TONY RUMBALL
HENRIETTE REASON
RHONDA BUNYAN
AMY TAUNT
ANDREA NICHOLAS
KRIS WHITE

12 MARCH - 5 APRIL 2019

HISTORICAL MEMORABILIA FROM ELTHAM & DISTRICTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ARTWORKS FROM CHILDREN OF NGAERE SCHOOL
THANKS TO SOUTH TARANAKI CREATIVE COMMUNITIES

THE VILLAGE GALLERY | 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

The Cheese Exhibition is 'rounded out' by artworks from the children of Ngaere School. In a project supported by Creative Communities South Taranaki, they have decorated art boards on the dairy industry theme, for the display. The gallery appreciates the efforts of the school in supporting our exhibition. So, come and see an exhibition that is different and will interest everybody at some level. The dates are March 12 - April 5. The gallery is open Monday - Saturday 10am - 3pm. Maree Liddington Exhibition Coordinator