



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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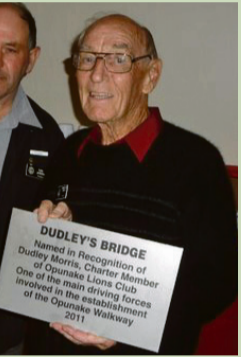
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## Inside...



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Dudley Morris - you will be missed. Page 5.



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Singer songwriter formerly from Rahunu entertains page 22.

Finding on man's death involving a police car. See page 6.

# Board recommends South Taranaki be frack free

The Egmont Community Board is to recommend to the South Taranaki District Council that the South Taranaki District become a frack-free zone.

"If something's not done we could be seeing farming as a non option in Taranaki," said Councillor Michael Self who addressed the Egmont Plains Community Board's last meeting on March 7 outlining his concerns about the process, which he felt could have widespread environmental implications. He mentioned other local bodies such as the Spreydon Community Board that has recommended there be a frack-free zone in Christchurch.

"The Hawkes Bay Regional Council has voted for an independent enquiry into fracking," he said. Rather than being cautious about the increasingly controversial process Cr Self accused the Taranaki Regional Council however of putting out a document promoting fracking.

In his impassioned address he went on to describe the process of fracking. "When an oil well is drilled a horizontal shaft is drilled. A whole lot of chemicals are shoved down, which causes fissures

and the oil bubbles up." Cr Self said that in Kapuni some testing of ground water had been done and found to be contaminated with benzene, toluene and xylene. "Five (samples) were tested and sent away," for analysis.

He described somewhat humorously, Taranaki Regional Council's "scientific" test: "Fred McLay went out and drank the water and said it was OK."

Mr Self went on to state that under Kapuni there was ground water "that is not even suitable for irrigation purposes due to the way Shell have been pumping

chemicals into the ground."

He added that many of the Kapuni oil sites are unlined and the oil washes into waterways.

Though the Regional Council test for nitrates and other compounds "The Regional Council do no testing for the materials used in fracking," he warned adding that they can be radioactive. He said there are also reports of animals absorbing carcinogens and passing them on.

"The Taranaki Regional Council is answerable to nobody."

The Taranaki Regional Council is giving unfettered

rights to the oil companies.

There is some evidence that fracking can also trigger earthquakes.

Seven out of 10 countries worldwide, in which fracking had been used, had elected to have a moratorium into the practice.

A public meeting recently at Stratford about fracking had attracted around 120 people clearly concerned about the practice.

Community Board member Brian Vincent commented after Cr Self's address that he felt there needed to be

*Continued page 3*

# Storms continue

A furious storm has lashed Taranaki in the last few days. There has been some rain, but the storm has been characterised by high winds. The coastal area had taken quite a hiding, with large branches fallen, powerlines down, and

everything not secured likely to take off in the high winds - like the trampoline which ended up in the main street in Okato. As one person drove past the displaced trampoline he commented, "Luckily, I tied my one down last night". There were some interesting sights for those who dared to travel over the coastal road, such as the blue plastic water trough wrapped around a power pole as though it was made of cotton.

One resident in Okato had problem getting to work on Tuesday. Not only did he encounter a large tree semi-uprooted and poised to come crashing down on his car, but powerlines were draped over his car. Were they live? The Okato resident wasn't interested in finding out and found other means of reaching his job in Opunake.

With power out to many homes, linesmen were to be seen in numerous places trying to remedy the problems where they arose in different locations. Some traffic signs have taken a hammering. There were some signs to be seen at most interesting angles. 'Give Way' was not meant to be taken literally! No doubt there will be much activity over the next few days as the debris is cleared and disrupted services are re-established.



Water trough wrapped around a powerpole.



Double jeopardy - a semi-uprooted tree poised to fall and a selection of powerlines draped over Roland McKellar's car. The Opunake & Coastal News journalist had to start hitching to work.

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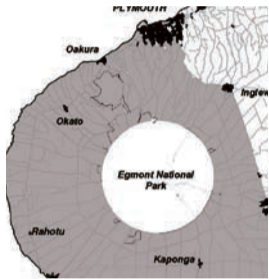
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# Everybody's Theatre closed



Everybody's Theatre closed.

Due to concerns for public safety, Everybody's Theatre in Opunake has been closed for the foreseeable future at the request of South Taranaki District Council.

Last year, when the committee looked at upgrading the building, they commissioned an Engineer's Report. The report came back stating the building is unsafe and should not be open to the public unless \$250,000 worth of structural strengthening work is carried out on the Theatre.

South Taranaki District Council environmental services group manager John McKenzie says the Building Act requires the Council to take this action in order to protect the health and safety of theatre goers. South Taranaki District Council is expecting that there will be changes to legislation around earthquake prone buildings as a result of the

Royal Commission Enquiry at Christchurch. So it could be possible that a new smaller building could replace the original Auditorium.

"Of course we are disappointed, but the safety of the public is paramount and our number one concern in this matter," says committee chairman Phil Smith. "We are working closely with the Council to find solutions to the current problem in terms of safety, support for planning ahead and funding advice to kick start the fundraising."

"We're taking this in a positive light and will be doing all we can to raise the funds needed for the building work and come out of this even stronger."

Everybody's Theatre Committee and a group of dedicated volunteers have been working extremely hard on the theatre to get the facility to where it is today with new initiatives like the

Boutique Theatre and have been proactive in upgrading the facility and cementing their place in the community. They are the first commercial building in Opunake to present the council with an Engineer's report and are seen by the council as being forward thinking and mindful of their community.

The two shops who lease

the space at the front of the theatre (Penny's Coastal Café) and Dave's Barber Shop) will continue operating as the structural problems only affect the back section of the building.

The committee is eager to start fund-raising to get the facility up and running again.

# Opunake Weightloss Challenge

By one of the two leaders

The Opunake Weightloss Challenge group is in its seventh week and we have covered the topics, Nutritional Labels (Week five), Digestive Health (Week 6) and this week the topic is Dining Out.

My group (Claire's) to date has lost a total of 47.6kgs - a body percentage of 2.886%. Sharron's group has lost 62.2kgs with a body percentage, 3.964%. Total weight loss of the Opunake group to date is 109.8kgs. The Okato weight loss challenge, by comparison, after 6 weeks had lost 137.4kg.

For me this is my first challenge as a coach and I have learnt a lot by helping people to look at this Challenge as a healthy lifestyle choice.

As we are reaching the end of the challenge, we are

all starting to feel the pressure of not having to eat the same foods that we were so used to! I am trying to remind our participants it's not a race and the little changes that we are making now is an awesome start to making changes for the rest of our lives. I think we are all worth it - to be as healthy as we can be and that any exercising - whether it be just walking around the block with the dog or taking the kids to the park is good. And for those that live in Opunake there are a lot of classes and clubs to join like Karate, step up classes and of course the gym at Sandford's Events Centre. For me I have been at the local Boxing club in Pungarehu which has been awesome and for you ladies out there, our ladies only class is at 6.30pm on Fridays.

Cheers Claire Mclean

## (Bible Believers Corner)

### The Ark

Noah's Ark was made of wood, gopher wood. This is a soft spongy wood, a little bit like balsa. Noah's Ark was big, 150 metres or about 450 feet long and 25 metres wide.

It would take a very tall and a very large tree to supply all that was required for such a

ship. The tree would have to be cut down. Once down it would have to be cut into usable lengths. It would have to be shaped and formed to come together as a complete place of safety.

When the King James Bible was being prepared the word gopher meant laminate. It wasn't solid timber but rather like ply type timber, the various layers having their grain go in different directions.

Noah's Ark was also to be pitched inside and out with pitch. But the original Hebrew word, translated in English as pitch, was gopher. The pitch came from the same tree, a tree that had been beaten, crushed, so that the sap, the resin the life would flow out. This gopher tree was indeed a special tree.

There were two special trees in the Garden of Eden. One of them, the tree of knowledge of good and evil was Satan. If one tree is a person then so is the other. The tree of life is the Lord Jesus Christ.

He was cut down at Calvary. He was broken into many parts, at first 120 in an upper room but then 3,120 when

the first Christian sermon was preached.

Each part of this new body of Christ was shaped and formed to fit together. And each part was pitched inside and outside with the resin, the sap, the very life that had been beaten, whipped and stripped from Christ.

The Holy Ghost with all its gifts was not just on the outside of the ark. That isn't enough for an end of the world message. The Holy

Ghost had to be on the inside too. Holy Ghost gifts do not mean a Holy Ghost life inside a person. The Ark and its modern version, the True Believers, must have the very life of Christ in them as their Lord and Master. Genesis 6 v7-8 & 13-18, Acts 2 v1-12 & 36-41 I Corinthians 12 v11-28.

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Councillor Michael Self (right) addressing the Egmont Plains Community Board.

# Board recommends South Taranaki be frack free

Continued from page 1

Brian Vincent moved an investigation into the safety of fracking. South Taranaki District become a fracking free zone. This was seconded by Michael Self. Tests show nothing wrong with Ngaere water page 4.

# Funding grants from Community Board

An application for funding of \$1000 towards the Scenic City Rod and Custom Club's annual Coastal Weekend Car Run in Opunake was approved by the Egmont Plains Community Board at their last meeting on Wednesday March 7 at Sandfords Event Centre in Opunake. The hot rod Car Club spent the Taranaki Anniversary Weekend from March 9-12 camped at Opunake Beach. Mary Miles from Okato, one of the organisers, addressed the Board outlining the positive aspects of the car club being in Opunake and the various activities organised for the club members and also for the public's entertainment. Their stay would be of benefit to the business community also she stated.

This year is the seventh successive year the club has come to Opunake. The total cost of the event was projected to be \$15,170 with \$12,000 of this being met by members. Most of the remainder of the amount was raised by sponsorship and fundraising. The Egmont Plains Community Board's Discretionary Fund prior to the granting of this request was \$13,832.35.

The Community Board in addition approved an application for \$1000 towards the purchase of a mirror previously in the Brian Des Forges Barber Shop in Opunake for Everyoods Theatre in Opunake.

Everybody's Theatre has been a cinema for over 90 years and in 1980 was bought by the community to save the community asset. The theatre is run by volunteers and movies screen on Fridays and Saturdays and sometimes on Sundays. In 2011 it was adapted so live shows could be held there. Des Forges Barber Shop operated for 50 years in Opunake and closed in 1994. Dudley Morris, who sadly died recently, bought the mirror and has restored it. It is hoped to keep the mirror as an historical item. With the passing of Dudley Morris, who has done so much voluntary work at the theatre, its purchase has an added poignancy and would also be a fitting memorial to Mr Morris, the Community Board felt.

In other funding requests, the Egmont Plains Community Board agreed to underwrite up to \$1000 for Fiona Pears and band to perform at Opunake High School on March 21. Jean Roach represented the Community Arts Council and said that the children were to bring a gold coin as a donation to help subsidise the cost. The violinist and composer was to perform for an hour in the Opunake

High School Hall at the concert which was open to Opunake school students. Councillor Michael Self asked whether there had been an attempt to include other schools in South Taranaki, such as Manaia - there hadn't. He felt that a rider should be attached that "all the schools in our area get involved in some way." He was supported in this by Community Board member Ben Julian.

The decision on another request for funds of \$4000 for the painting of the exterior of the Pihama Cricket Clubrooms from the discretionary fund, was deferred. The Pihama Cricket Club which has 50 affiliated members and was described as a "hub for a number of community events" has recently upgraded its facilities which has included the construction of a closed-in verandah extension and an observation deck. The final stage in the upgrade to which the Egmont Plains Community Boards has already allocated \$5000 was the painting for which they had had a quote of \$6325.

Councillor Self felt they needed more information. After some discussion Community Board member Craig Dingle moved that the Club get three quotes and that the labour and paint components be indicated in each quote. The motion was carried. It was also felt that the

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# Councillor's Comment



**Bonita Bigham**

There are lots of things I could comment on in this column relating to Council and its activities. Tree removal, water retention pond, mowing of berms, council-funded or supported events, among other things have all been issues I have been approached about recently, and rightly so. Now that I've been on Council for nearly 18 months I have far more insight and understanding about how things work - or don't in some cases.

So I'm making myself even more accessible to you, members of our communities, by spending time in the

Manaia and Opunake libraries every second Tuesday morning. I'd love to hear your feedback, suggestions and compliments about how you feel things are going in our area. Fortnightly from Tuesday 27 March I'll be at the Manaia from 9am-10.30am and at Opunake from 11am-12.30pm so pop in for a chat or just to say hello, I'd love to see you.

But the real issue I'd like to highlight today is something that has impacted hugely on my own life and has claimed the lives of three of my friends in the past year or so - the dark, overpowering, incessant demon called depression.

Depression is not ageist, sexist or racist. It doesn't care where you live, how much money you have, how successful you are or what plans you may have once had for the future. It has no regard for those around around you who love you, need you and want to help you, in fact it can even make you believe that those people would be better off if you just got out of their way.

It's impossible to understand if you've never had it and impossible to forget if you have. It's something that can be as mild as having Monday-itis blues or have such a tight and unrelenting grip that it can lead to suicide. I can literally rattle off the names of eight or nine people I have personally known who have taken their own lives. I can't condemn them for their choice, I can't be angry with them because I understand the process that took them to that horrible place.

Nearly eight years ago I had a major episode of depression and it wasn't until I got some help that I realised I have actually suffered from it throughout my life at different times, right from when I was back in high school to the present day. Sometimes the triggers are easily identifiable (eg. my sister's death), while others seem to just descend on me for no apparent reason like it did when I was still at school.

Once diagnosed, It took me a while to understand that depression is an illness, it's

NOT a weakness. It was a huge relief to know that the darkness had a name and that there was light at the end of the long tunnel, even if I couldn't see it right then.

But the pervading feelings of failure, guilt, confusion, lethargy, helplessness and overwhelming sense of sadness are incredibly difficult to overcome and can be nearly impossible for friends and family to interpret, let alone help with. There is no perfect checklist and no perfect remedy, just choices along the way that people with depression will have to make that can't be made for them.

If you think you or someone you know may have depression please don't ignore it, get help, get support and just get through every day until things start to get better and the darkness starts to be replaced by light. I promise you it will! I dedicate this column to all those whose battle with depression has been lost or is still continuing - arohanui, much love to you all.

## Crossings a problem

The difficulty of navigating pedestrian crossings in walkers and mobility scooters in Opunake was highlighted in an address to the Egmont Plains Community Board by resident Tup Kettlewell from Opunake at the last meeting.

The crossings are bumpy. As well the gratings are difficult to negotiate, she said. Community Board member

Brian Vincent in response and, perhaps not entirely seriously, laid the blame in part on the drivers, stating raising a laugh when he commented he thought some of the mobility scooters "go a bit fast" and that he once "almost got bowled". He queried were they sometimes having a race. Another member of the public at the meeting said

she had had her feet run over. Wondered another, maybe we needed a mobility scooter racetrack in Opunake.

Opunake resident Anne Sansom who uses a mobility scooter and is partially sighted and insists she doesn't speed said she thought it was "just the guys!"

Anne spoke in support of the woman who'd raised

the issue of the difficulty in crossing from the pavement onto the pedestrian crossing in places. "It's not a smooth transition," she said. Also "Most places the pavement adjoins the road, but there were places like in King Street where they didn't. Mobility Scooters don't like grass," she said. The complaints were noted.

## Tests show nothing wrong with Ngaere water

Comprehensive analysis of water samples has revealed no contamination of spring-water and groundwater surrounding Tag Oil (NZ) Ltd's Cheal sites at Ngaere.

The analysis covered almost 50 parameters, including all the compounds associated with hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") and other processes used in oil and gas exploration and well development.

The Taranaki Regional Council says water from two deep bores, two shallow bores and one spring has been analysed, and found to be of high quality - without a single trace of compounds of interest.

"This was an extremely comprehensive suite of tests, taken from sites that were carefully chosen to give us an accurate and representative picture of the freshwater resource at Ngaere," says the Council's Director-Environment Quality, Gary Bedford. Analysis was carried out at Hill Laboratories, Hamilton.

The testing followed concern expressed by some

members of the public about the perceived effects of activities at the Cheal site. "We're very pleased with the results and we trust it will allay any fears," says Mr Bedford.

Testing parameters included:

- The "BTEX" range of compounds - benzene, toluene, ethyl benzene and xylene
- Methanol
- Dissolved natural gas
- Aldehydes, used as biocides (disinfectants)
- Glycols
- Total petroleum hydrocarbons

"In all cases, no contamination was detected," says Mr Bedford. "We even tested for compounds which we know aren't used by the industry in New Zealand, but which are the subject of concern overseas."

Mr Bedford says a second round of sampling is being carried out this week, covering additional sites, and results of laboratory testing will be known within

a fortnight.

The Council's Chief Executive, Basil Chamberlain, says that while public discussion on environmental quality is healthy and welcome, the debate around hydraulic fracturing has often been more emotional than factual.

"These water sample analyses, along with the

seismic review done by GNS Science and the Council's own hydrogeological assessment, bring rational and robust science to the discussion. The Council will continue to periodically sample water quality within a risk assessment framework as a component of its compliance monitoring programmes."

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# Large turnout for respected community stalwart

The large number of people that turned out to honour and pay their last respects to Dudley Morris who passed away Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> March was a measure of the high regard felt for him by the Opunake community. A local business figure, Dudley was known his helpful positive attitude and as being a true gentleman. Dudley is survived by his wife Fay their six children, 12 grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Born in Auckland in 1927, Dudley Morris's family eventually settled in Opunake after numerous shifts throughout New Zealand. This came about when Dudley's brother, Russ Morris, was drafted to war in 1942 and asked his father Tom to look after his building business while he was away. Dudley left Opunake High School to become the driver for his Dad and from there he learnt about the building business to later become a painter and wallpaper hanger.

Dudley opened his own business, Dudley Morris Painting Ltd, and a couple of years later, combined with Bob Ockhuysen to form Morris and Ockhuysen Ltd. This business is operated today by Bob's sons Ronald and Bart.

Dudley was also well known in the community for his helpfulness, positive attitude and willingness to pitch in. The two main bar tops in the Sandfords Event Centre have been made, installed and finished by Dudley along with the restored ornate mirror from Brian Des Forges Barber Shop. These items are but a few of the permanent reminder of Dudley's generosity and life-time love that he had for Opunake.

More recently, the Opunake Lions decided to name the bridge over the Hihiwera Stream on the Opunake walkway (which he had always promoted and been involved with) after him. A stainless steel plaque was purchased and presented to Dudley and later we mounted it on a large



**Dudley Morris (right) with Eric Ardern, President of the Opunake Lions Club.**

stone. It reads:

**DUDLEY'S BRIDGE**  
*Named in Recognition of Dudley Morris, Charter Member of Opunake Lions Club. One of the main driving forces involved in the establishment of the Opunake Walkway 2011.*

Dudley's commitment and his achievements, both within Lions and the wider community were huge. In 1991 - 92 he was awarded South Taranaki District Council Citizens Award.

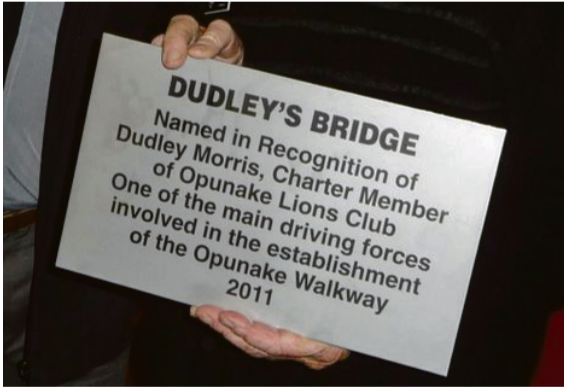
A foundation member of the Opunake Lions Club, Dudley was also the last remaining charter member.

This commitment saw him attend the first meeting on the 10/10/1968, then the Charter Roster meeting on the 17/10/68 and become elected to the Programme Committee and as a Lion Tamer. In 1969 he was 2nd Vice President, then 1st V.P. in 1970. He became the President in 1971, as well as Membership Chairman. In 1972 as Past President, he was 73 Zone Secretary as well as Project Committee and Greeter within his own Club. From 1974 - 76 Dudley was heavily involved with the Recreation Ground, being Chairman of this Committee in

1975. Through 1980 - 81 his versatility saw him become the Club Photographer and Publicity Officer, then from 1991 - 93 the Bulletin Editor - an extremely important job within the Club. During his time he sponsored five new members to the Lions Club of Opunake.

In 1998, under Hugh Mills as President, 30 years of active Opunake Lions membership was honoured when Dudley was presented with his Melvin Jones Fellowship Award, the highest award that can be bestowed on any Lion by their own Club. He was further recognised with Life Membership of Lloyd Morgan Lions Club Charitable Trust and in Life Membership of Lions Club International Association. According to Eric Ardern, President of the Opunake Lions Club, Dudley was involved in some sort of role every year of his Lions Membership and "He was never one to sit on the fence. He exemplified the Lion's motto 'We Serve'. Even recently, Mr Ardern recalled that when someone said to Dudley (at this year's Christmas Lunch provided by Lions for the Friendship Club), "You don't have to help Dudley", Dudley's reply was: "I am doing it because I want to." Mr Ardern added that "In my role as President of Opunake Lions, we take this opportunity to remember Dudley fondly, and thank his family for sharing him with Opunake Lions for 44 years of dedicated service."

Dudley will be dearly missed by his family and the Opunake Community.



**The plaque mounted on a stone near Dudley's Bridge, a fitting memorial to a man who has done so much in the community.**



**Honouring a true community man. Lions Club members presenting Dudley with the award for his work on the Walkway.**

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## Coastal Cops Eltham



Andrew Russ

Things have been pretty good in the Eltham district of late. The weather bomb that hit early March kept all emergency services in South Taranaki busy. I was called out to Kaponga at 5am to a roof caught in power lines on Egmont Street and I pretty much went from job to job from there as trees took out power lines and blocked roads all over the Eltham and Kaponga areas.

I sat on SH3 just south of Eltham with my red and blue lights flashing as a tree had taken down power lines onto the road, which in turn had bent a power pole over. As I sat there trees continued to fall down nearby so I decided that best course of action was to get the hell out of

there and hope drivers drove to the conditions. Credit to everyone that they did and there were no crashes to attend despite the horrendous driving conditions.

I would think a few farmers might be purchasing a generator for next season as having no power to milk the cows can cause a fair bit of financial loss if it carries on for too long, but hopefully things were not too bad this time round. The ones that already had a generator it would have been business as usual and it would have justified their financial outlay.

Pretty soon the new give-way rules come into play and the advertising blitz is in full swing. Overseas studies show that motorists show a

fair bit of caution when intersection rules change and everyone is a little bit more careful in case the other person or themselves are not 100% sure of the correct rules. Hopefully this is the case here in Taranaki and it is just people's horns taking a bashing and not their panel work.

Club rugby soon to get underway around the province so just a reminder to all that we will target Rugby clubs for drink drivers so make sure your walking or getting a ride home. This goes for both Kaponga and Eltham rugby clubs. Rugby clubs need their players remembered for their on field performances and not being remembered by wearing a

black arm band on game day because of a wrong decision to drive drunk.

Also I would like to thank Shannon who is the Bar Manager at the Coronation Pub in Eltham who managed to secure my notebook and look after my patrol car recently when I had to chase a drunk driver on foot who attempted to evade me.

Not ideal dropping a notebook on footpath or leaving a patrol car running with door open outside a pub, but Shannon had it all under control and the patrons also offered me their support during the chase so thank you to all. And yes I did catch him!

Constable Andrew Russ and  
Constable David Lindsay

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## Investigation of fatal Taranaki crash following collision with police car

The investigation of a fatal crash in Taranaki has found the driver may have collided deliberately with a parked Police car shortly before the crash, to attract Police attention.

The Independent Police Conduct Authority has completed its investigation into the death of 36 year old Robert Seifert, who suffered acute head injuries and died after crashing his Toyota MR2 into a concrete power pole near Manaia on 9 Oc-

tober 2011.

The Authority has concluded that Mr Seifert deliberately drove his Toyota into a marked Police car that was legally parked on the main street (Surf Highway) in Opunake. Following the collision, Mr Seifert drove for approximately 14 minutes, covering 30 kilometres at an average speed of 132 kph, before crashing near Manaia.

Eyewitnesses who observed his driving at various times following the initial

collision reported that he travelled at excessive speed, but that twice he also appeared to slow down and look for following vehicles.

The Police officer whose car was involved in the collision in Opunake did not undertake a pursuit because by the time he returned to his vehicle he had lost sight of the Toyota. He radioed colleagues for assistance and three Hawera-based officers responded, in two marked Police cars.

One Police car reached speeds of 140kph in a 100 kph speed zone during the pursuit, but its driver lost sight of Mr Seifert and he abandoned the pursuit. The two officers in the second Police car also reached high speeds during a second pursuit, which lasted about two and a half minutes. They did not have time to consider abandoning the pursuit before they found Mr Seifert's vehicle had crashed. Eye witnesses report that both Police

cars slowed down when they travelled through the more built-up area around Manaia.

A pathologist's report found Mr Seifert had no alcohol in his system, and a Police crash investigator found there were no environmental factors or faults with his vehicle that may have contributed to the crash. Mr Seifert was not wearing a seatbelt and although driving at dusk, he had not turned on his headlights.

The Authority has found

that the Police officers who responded to the incident all complied with legislation and policy, and were justified in either pursuing Mr Seifert or undertaking urgent duty driving after his initial collision with the Police car. Mr Seifert's actions drew Police attention to his driving and the full circumstances of his death will be determined by the Coroner.

The Authority makes no recommendations.

## Dairy NZ on the hunt for New Zealand's prize effluent

DairyNZ is searching for prize dairy effluent storage ponds in the first ever New Zealand Prize Pond 2012 Awards.

Farmers, who are keeping their effluent storage ponds as low as possible, are being asked to send DairyNZ a photo of the pond to be in to win one of two DairyNZ Prize Pond 2012 Awards.

DairyNZ project manager for effluent Dr Theresa Wilson says low ponds have storage capacity which reduces the risk of running into problems when the seasons change.

"We're after the two best operational dairy effluent storage ponds that meet relevant consents and the requirements of your farm. And

we want to see that you are keeping it low."

"When the wet weather starts, it's good to know you've got as much free storage as possible in your effluent storage pond."

Enter the competition to be in to win:

- a catered barbecue

for you and 10 of your mates with former All Black prop, TV sport commentator, radio personality and farmer, Richard Loe

- a polo shirt with Keep it Low! cartoons on it

- a magnetic fridge pond gauge.

All entrants who meet the

requirements will receive a prize pond pack.

To enter, send a photo of your pond to [keepitlow@dairynz.co.nz](mailto:keepitlow@dairynz.co.nz) by March 30

2012. Visit [dairynz.co.nz/prizepond](http://dairynz.co.nz/prizepond) for competition details.

Winners will be announced in April.

## Airborne UFT lands in Okato



After the big storm this UFT was discovered in Carthew Street, Okato. UFT, of course, stands for Unidentified Flying Trampoline. Where it came from and who owns it is a mystery. More seriously, there are still people in the township who are without electricity. There are fallen powerlines on some properties.

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# Roman captivates his audience



Acclaimed pianist Roman Rudnytsky playing recently at Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford.

“Flawless technique” and “Wonderful – the best pianist I’ve ever heard” were just two of the comments at a concert by well-known pianist Roman Rudnytsky on Friday March 15 at the Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford. The event was organised by Curator sue Morton. For myself, I was so pleased that I was there to hear this remarkable performance by a brilliant pianist.

Roman is American born of Ukrainian heritage. His musical training started at the age of four in his musical family. His mother was an opera singer and his father a composer – in fact Roman played one of his father’s compositions during the

evening. Roman has won many competition accolades and attended the famous Juilliard School in New York. He is currently an Associate Professor of Music at a US university and conducts master classes and workshops.

Roman opened with Beethoven (1770-1827)’s Sonata in F, op10, number 2, which was well received.

He followed this with Chopin (1810-1849)’s Nocturne in F, op 15 number 1 – he wrote 21 of these - as well as a selection of other works by the composer. “For Chopin the piano was his whole world”, commented Roman.

Roman spoke about his father Antin, who experimented with the new harmonies,

which were in vogue, but also maintained the traditional ones. The sonata he played was one of his father’s earlier compositions – 1931. “He was a fine pianist himself,” Roman said, “and often accompanied my mother as she sang”.

Roman completed the first half with a composition by the modern composer Percy Grainger (1882-1961) – ‘Molly on the Shore’, which has an Irish flavour “Appropriate as its St Patrick’s Day tomorrow, isn’t it?” said Roman with a smile.

After the intermission Roman started the second half with music from Mozart’s rival Muzio Clementi (1752-1832), “An undeservedly

neglected composer”. He played Sonata in B Flat. Op 24 number 2. “A very important composer”, concluded Roman.

One of the anecdotes Roman told was about Clementi and his rival Amadeus Mozart. The Emperor of Austria arranged for the two composers to have a kind of musical competition in 1781, playing their own and other’s compositions. He had a special guest at his Vienna palace – the Emperor of Russia. Perhaps diplomacy was to the fore – the Emperor declared the musical contest a draw.

Next was one of the “most frequently played pieces” ‘Venus, the Bringer of Peace’ from ‘The Planets’ composed by Gustav Holst (1874-1934).

This was followed by a transcription by Katsuma Nakajima of ‘Estampes’ by Claude Debussy (1862-1918). “Very evocative. The wonderful mixing of harmonies – iridescent”, enthused Roman of this piece.

Penultimately, he played ‘Soiree dans Grenade Jardins sous la pluie’ by Pagodes.

Finally, he played a piece by “Probably the greatest pianist ever” – Franz Liszt (1811-1886). The musician was prolific – over 1000 works were composed and he was “a showman – like Paganini”, said Roman. His playing of The Hungarian Rhapsody Number 6 brought the musical evening to a rousing end, accompanied by prolonged applause.

*Rolland McKellar*

# Angie joins Yvonne at Hair On Main



Yvonne Huxtable of Hair On Main with her new assistant Angie Sturzaker

Hair On Main in Manaia has a new hairdresser Angie Sturzaker, to help Principal Yvonne Huxtable. It’s early days but Angie is positive about her (fairly) new position. She started at the salon in December of last year.

“I love it,” she says with a smile. She adds, “I love

the friendly environment and happy clients”. She has a special interest in the colouring side of the profession.

Angie is mid-way through a WITT hairdressing qualification. Currently she is in her second year of the course and is engaged in an apprenticeship at Hair On Main. “The

WITT course has given me a head start,” she asserts – no pun intended, I’m sure. Next year will be the final one when Angie graduates.

When she’s not working or studying, Angie enjoys a bit of shopping. When the weather’s inviting she likes to surf. Opunake Beach is a

favourite spot.

Yvonne is impressed with her new assistant. “Yes, she’s fantastic and keen to learn”, she explains.

Yvonne says that volunteers are needed – male and female - to act as models for Angie. Any offers? - please contact Yvonne on 06 274 9090.

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# People are better off in work



**Jonathan Young,  
New Plymouth MP**

Welfare will always be there to support people in our community who genuinely need it but long-term welfare dependency can become a trap leading to a life of limited outcomes and limited choices.

The current welfare system is not working. 350,000 people are on some kind of benefit – that's one in eight

New Zealanders of working age, as well as 220,000 children growing up in benefit dependent homes. This costs \$7 billion a year – more than \$20 million a day. Getting off welfare and into work means a better life, better opportunities, and a brighter future for people and their families. Work is the path to higher incomes and better living standards.

National's comprehensive reform of the welfare system will bring it into the 21st Century.

We've already made big changes. We asked people on the Unemployment Benefit to reapply after 12 months, rather than receive the benefit indefinitely. Through this one change, we have saved taxpayers \$17 million, with thousands cancelling their benefit, some in work already. We also introduced a part-time work test for those on a Domestic Purposes Benefit. This led to a 16 per

cent increase in those taking up work.

The reforms we announced in February will fundamentally alter the welfare system with a new work-focused benefit, greater work expectations, and a focus on the long-term cost of welfare dependency.

These changes will be introduced in two stages.

We are targeting support to help young people make better choices and require them to be actively in education or training. We also require young people on a benefit to budget their weekly income. Their benefit will be managed and we will give them a Payment Card to cover essential items such as food, while excluding alcohol and cigarettes. There will be financial incentives for their participation in budgeting, parenting or other training courses. This investment will save the taxpayer and our community large costs in the

longer term.

We will require sole parents to look for part-time work when their youngest child is five, and full-time work when their youngest child is 14. We'll also place greater obligations on those on the Widow's and Women Alone benefits. The National-led Government expects people to be ready for work. If there isn't a job available their entitlement won't change

The second stage of reforms will simplify the benefit system and clamp down on fraud. Further legislation will be introduced later this year.

National is ensuring the government works more closely with people on welfare to help them into jobs. By supporting more beneficiaries into work we will help them achieve their potential and build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

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# Asset sales not a good sell job



**Andrew Little, List MP**

The government's case to partly privatise our publically-owned energy companies, along with a further stake in Air New Zealand - is looking less and less like a good idea.

Their case for selling these important businesses is that the money can be used to repay debt (government debt has increased from around \$20 billion to \$50 billion over the last three years). They are not quite sure what they will get by selling these companies, and their estimates (or "guesses" as they've called them) vary. It could be \$2 bil-

lion, or it could be \$7 billion.

But apparently, as well as repaying debt, the proceeds of any sale will also go towards building more schools and more roads, not to mention more broadband network. All this is expected to cost about \$2 billion, so debt might be repaid, or it might not. Or, maybe the new schools won't actually be built.

Treasury in one of its recent reports cast real doubt about the economics of the sale. It said "the forecast finance cost savings (i.e. the future cost of debt) are less

than the forecast forgone profits". The message is clear: we would be better off keeping these companies in public ownership because the income we receive from them is greater than the interest the government is incurring with its borrowing.

The government says it will ensure "mums and dads" will be able to buy shares in the companies, but there is nothing to stop any purchaser from selling their shares overseas.

There are plenty of good reasons to retain our energy companies in government

ownership so that they benefit all New Zealanders. We not only all share in the income they generate but we get to control, how they are run and in whose interests they act. An overseas owner will not do that.

Many New Zealanders, including groups like Grey Power and the Council of Trade Unions, are starting to get behind a citizens' initiated referendum to test how much support there really is for selling these vital companies. Look out for a form near you and sign up. It could save us all a bundle.

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# Mountain to Sea Bike Event



Bike riders at stream crossing near start of Upper Arawhata Road. Photo Alan Love.

This event was run last Sunday March 18, starting at the very top of Arawhata Road. The course was 35kms in length – mostly along farm tracks. There were 92 participants – ranging in age from seven-year-olds up to those in their sixties. The number of participants was

approximately three times last year's number.

Whilst final accounts have not been received, a little under \$900 will be the net profit, which will be going to the Opunake Cottage Rest Home. One of the organisers (and participants), Cr Ian Armstrong said he was,

"Delighted" at the amount raised. He commented that the total raised compared very favourably with the amount raised in previous events. He also said there was, "Lots of positive feedback", as well as promises to be back again next year.



# 'Fill a Gap Party' a blooming success

"It was absolutely fantastic," said Daphne Holley, Manager of the Opunake Cottage Rest Home, commenting on the success of their first 'Fill a Gap Party'.

The public were recently invited to come along to the rest home and bring a plant to fill a gap in the garden. "It was lovely to see the residents socialising, offering advice, sharing their knowledge of plants and gardening to those who came along," added Daphne.

"We then all enjoyed morning tea afterwards and it was so successful that we're planning to have another 'Fill a Gap Party' in the spring."



Some of the participants at the inaugural Fill a Gap Party, held recently at the Opunake Cottage Rest Home.

From left to right: Margaret Holmes, Kathy Ardern, Alison Hayward, Edna Deegan, Jan Deegan, Bill Hayward.



Another addition to the gardens is a new vegetable garden kindly put in by Opunake's Lions Clubs.

"We have just lifted 150kg of Rua potatoes, which is just wonderful as we go through over 100kg of potatoes a month here at the rest home. We really appreciate all their hard work," concluded Daphne.

**LEFT:**  
Back row: Edna Deegan, Edna Osman, Tony Gibbs, Bob Ockhuysen, Front Row: Doreen Young, Elsie Phillips.

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# Successful year for Manaia Women's Institute

The Manaia WI recently held their AGM where Secretary Clea Clark presented the Annual Report, which acknowledges the work done through the year. Donations had been made to Barbara Wood Memorial Trust, which offers scholarships

to provide assistance with education to New Zealand or Pacific Island Students, Institute members in Christchurch who had been affected by the quakes, the 'Mallowpuff Trust', Relay for Life with two members also being in our team, sponsorship for training of a Guide Dog, toys and knitting had been sent to Otaki Health Camp, Hawera Safe House, and the local mid wife also received knitting for local babies. Speaking to the report President Daphne Ashley thanked all members for their ongoing support, which had contributed to a very successful year.

Gifts were presented to outgoing President Daphne Ashley for the great service she had given to the Institute over the last 4 years and to committee members May Mulholland and Anne Megaw for the service they had also given.

were:  
Shrub: 1st Phyllis Malcolm  
2nd equal - Ann Chisnall & Daphne Ashley  
3rd May Mulholland.

Bloom: 1st Phyllis Malcolm  
2nd equal - Daphne Ashley & Ann Chisnall  
3rd Joy Brogden.

Vegetable/Fruit: 1st Ann Chisnall  
2nd Daphne Ashley  
3rd Ruth Binns.

Handcraft: 1st Ann Chisnall  
2nd Marion Smith  
3rd equal Ruth Binns & Dianne Winerra.

Overall winner: 1st Ann Chisnall  
2nd Daphne Ashley  
3rd Phyllis Malcolm.

Points prizes for the year

The committee for the coming year is President

Ann Chisnall, Vice President Jenny Hamley, Secretary Clea Clark, Treasurer Meg Kelly and Rona Butler, Freda Hill and Marion Smith.

Jenny Hamley  
Vice President

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## The Amazing Race

The entire school of 200 students from Opunake Primary School raced through selected Opunake businesses as part of The Amazing Race as part of their school camp.

The students, in small groups, were each given a variety of different challenges and then had to report back to the finish line.

The winning team was headed by Willow Wright.

Above is a group of children who made themselves useful by sticking stamps onto envelopes at the Opunake & Coastal News.

They were quite a help. Thank you all 200 students.

## Te Kiri WI's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebrations

Our big day had arrived at last. Finally, we were celebrating our 75<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The hall was decorated with yellow flower arrangements and looked so sunny and cheerful. Gave us all such a happy feeling we forgot the gale that was blowing outside.

We were greeted by Judith Armstrong and Dianne Bright and given a lucky number and then we were all greeting friends we hadn't seen for a long time. Just great. I was thrilled as my schoolmate and I had a wonderful time talking about old times. We've kept in touch over the years and on birthdays - the phone calls are fun.

A beautiful display of handwork was very much admired. Shirley Langlands hardanger embroidery was just beautiful, Joy Collins had made some beautiful cushions and her lovely bags. Very interesting and all different.

Kath Perrett had some beautiful and colourful embroidery. Kath had also embroidered a spray of Kowhai



Te Kiri Women's Institute hosted a lunch to celebrate their 75th birthday. Pictured are the two eldest and long serving members Mavis West and Elsie Phillips cutting our birthday cake.

flowers and had the flowers raised up. This was framed and placed on the table with our cake. The flowers looked so real you would have thought they had been freshly picked.

Lunch time was approaching. Our president, Sue Mugeridge, welcomed all present. Phyllis Malcolm our South Taranaki President was presented with a shoulder spray and wished us all a happy day with more to enjoy. Jenny Hamley also spoke and she too was given a shoulder spray, as was Val Eliason. Sue gave a short talk on our institute and what we had achieved over the years.

Grace was said and we sat down to a delicious roast meal just like our mums cooked on Sundays. Yummy. A short interval in which Mavis West told members some of the humorous and sad things that had happened over her 50 odd

years as a member.

Our dessert was then served. Just so nice, especially the Christmas pudding. A small social time and then we were entertained by Nancy Muller with a bracket of country and western songs. Her lovely voice filled the hall. Very relaxing. Afternoon tea time and the cutting of the cake. Elsie Phillips and Mavis West shared this honour. Our cake was made by our member Pauline Clough and iced by Marion Woller. A spray of Kowhai looked lovely with the yellow flowers on the white icing. Sandwiches, savouries and a piece of birthday cake made a perfect afternoon tea.

Many of our members who had left the district were very impressed with the improvements of the hall and reminisced about the many dances they had enjoyed there. Lee Ross told us she had several small kowhai trees growing

in New Plymouth. There was a kowhai tree growing in the school grounds and Dossie Couple suggested that it could be our emblem. It is still growing and flowering.

Our happy wonderful day came to an end and many friendships renewed. Just great. Our lucky numbers were drawn out of a hat with most prizes going to our visitors, which was just the way it should have been.

Thanks to Sue and our wonderful busy committee and all members for their help. To Pauline for baking our cake and to Marion for icing it, many thanks. To Elsie for lending us her beautiful crocheted table cloth for the cake table, thanks also. This has been in her family for three generations and is beautiful and very much treasured.

Yes, we had a great time and a day full of friendship and laughter.

# Gumboots at the door and fresh baked scones with clotted cream!

## Designing the perfect NZ Farmstead



### Charming and functional.

I am often asked to design a country style house or more accurately a house that is in the country. Does this mean that the house will be different from a city house? More often than not it is a style built upon more than a century of Kiwi families living in the country.

Style is dependent on so many factors, but today the trend is toward homes with lots of glass - double glazed, an open living plan that is comfy and a plan that connects well with the bedroom areas.

The countryside itself, the resident family and my own experiences of farm life provide ideas for the design of a perfect farmstead.

Space and wide sweeping vistas over the surrounding farmlands recall the smells of haymaking and also cold, drizzly, foggy mornings when stock have to be checked. (Note to myself: the home should have good insulation and either a roaring fire - or adequate heating - to come home to and read the Farming News or stock sales reports in front of a cosy fire.)

I remember many a meal slow-cooked on top of the wood burner and the smell of baking wafting through the house. (Note: allow room for a large cooker.)

The shelter belt of trees

planted twenty years ago around the homestead is vital for shielding from that icy wind from the south that gets colder it seems every year! (Note: make sure I orientate the home away from the cold prevailing winds.)

As I look back at our heritage of fine country farmsteads they all suit their locations and climate. I think of the famous and beautiful Oruawharo Homestead in Havelock

North or the Greenway Homestead in Rongatea or the Highden Manor Homestead in Palmerston North, all with their own idiosyncrasies but nevertheless places to come home to and many family Christmases and summers spent lazing on the wide verandas. (Note: provide a veranda or outdoor living space preferably with views out far, but sheltered too. Orientate the rooms to have a view if possible as well.)

Whole generations have been brought up in these homes often with large families and a daily routine. Like making sure that the school bus is caught on time and meals are on the table when hubby comes in wet and tired

(Note: provide a large kitchen and walk-in pantry and a window to see which stock agent is coming up the driveway and to check if the bus is on time.)

Indeed the kitchen is the hub of the house, the place where all the important stuff takes place like food preparation, planning the day and making the 'award winning' fresh scones for the neighbour or agent coming in for smoko. (Note: Make sure that the dining table will be in the morning sun and also in a good spot for the kids to do their homework or projects. Also the family bathroom should be large and convenient for the morning rush and definitely have a bath.)

Memories of home cooking and preserves in season often gathered from the orchard over the next paddock where apples, pears, nectarines, mandarins, plums, feijoas, persimmons, tamarillos, peaches and macadamias flourish. (Note: Make sure there is plenty of storage for preserves, produce and supplies bought in bulk...allow for the chest freezer to keep



the home kill meat frozen until ready for the Sunday roast.

Also talking of storage, we must not forget the shed for him as well, tractors, farm bikes, quads, implements and, the realisation of last year's fancy dream, his new fishing boat. Should it be attached to the house or separate?)

Seasonal changes bring their own challenges from wet muddy paddocks and boots at the back door in winter to near drought conditions in summer with water in the tank being a precious commodity where the weather forecast is religiously checked every night after the 6pm news. (Note: Make sure the back porch is sheltered and has lots of places to hang up wet and dirty coats.)

Spring brings the daffodils picked from down the driveway or from under the orchard trees freshening up the dining room table, and also lambing or calving and the planting of the vege garden. Pet Days follow and stock sales, repairing the yards and the weekly trip into town to shop

Yes, the farm homestead is a special creature bred from years of experience and tradition, a place that is called home for generations, a place that is comfortable, well designed and is fit for its purpose but most of all the farmstead should be a place of warmth, welcome and fond memories.

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# Hot Rods great fun



A 1936 Chev belonging to Carl Bennett who has owned the car for 11 years. Carl's father Graham Bennett has owned his 1938 Ford barrel-nose for "13-15 years". A 1952 Dodge.

The Scenic City Hod Rod Club from New Plymouth spent an enjoyable Taranaki Anniversary weekend in Opunake.

Though based in New Plymouth members came from all over New Zealand to take part in the annual Coastal run. In total there were 80 people in the rally and 36 cars. It is the seventh successive year the group have come to Opunake.

The group camped at Opunake Beach and hired out the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Clubrooms. Members enjoyed a weekend of activities with locals getting numerous chances to view the old cars the earliest of which dated back to the early 1920s through to the 1960s. There was a rally down the

main street of Opunake on Saturday morning and in the evening a band playing at Opunake Beach. On the Sunday the cars were on display for a "show and shine" at Opunake Beach for gold coin donation.

On the Monday morning they held a Grasskarna at 10am at Opunake Beach to "show off their driving skills" to which the public were invited. A car supplied by Ihaia Motors in Opunake that drives the wrong way caused much hilarity.

The display included a variety of manoeuvres which included shooting while you're driving - and picking up bales of hay.

The group also visited local attracts including Ta Whiti Museum and Actionaki.



Garry Miles and Actionaki Staff Mark Walsh and David Loveridge at the Scenic City Coastal Hot Rod events held recently.

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The Chevy ladies pulling their weight in the Chevy v Ford Tug Of War competition at Actionaki - FORD WINS.

## Hot Shine!



# Opunake High School Gala



Opunake High School held its Annual Gala recently and the evening kicked off with some of the students taking part in tabloid games. There was plenty of entertainment and activities including Drown the Clown, Totara jail (Sandfords

truck), Guess the balloon, BBQ, Hangi, Auctions, Raffles, and various stalls. Some of the money raised will be put toward gazebos and signage to use when students are attending events and activities outside the school.

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Jurnee Corrigan at 'Drown the Clown' during the Opunake High School Gala.

## Stalls



Face-painted students Caitlin Lane and Katie Potier with William Andersen-Gardiner discovering book bargains at one of the Gala stalls.

## Activities



Natalie Tatham and Kyra Corrigan compete for Karo in the Whanau games.

## Auction and Raffles



Murray Weir and his efficient team of salespeople raced through the Gala auction and raffles the items on offer, which were generously donated by local businesses and families in the community. There were even some with some really magnificent cakes up for grabs.

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# Special Limousine Services

Stratford's Mobility and More had something special at the time of Americarna. Proprietor Kevin had constructed a scale model Cadillac, using the real thing in his garage – a 1983 Cadillac. He'd even included the fluffy dice in the front window of the real thing. The model car is currently displayed in his shop window at 279 Broadway and is well worth a look.

Kevin build the car from plywood and mounted it on a scooter frame. "I just wanted to show that scooters can be built to something a bit different".

He said during Americarna the model car caused quite a stir. "Lots stopped and took pictures and seemed quite impressed". He said it especially appealed to children. He continued, "It does work – it's completely workable and drivable. It operates with a foot pedal and steering system." The steering system was taken



Kevin, proprietor of Mobility and More with the model Cadillac he built for Americarna.

from a drive on lawnmower. The car even has a LED lighting system, which "looks

nice at night". Not only that, but the lights change colours. And what's the future

of the car? "I'll use it at Christmas parties and things like that".

## This month in history

**Richard Pearse** (1877-1953) was a farmer and inspired inventor. He was born at Waitohi, about 30km north-west of Timaru. It is likely he made the first aeroplane flight in March 1904, beating the Wright Brothers by about three months. Some claim he had an earlier flight - March 31, 1902. Auckland's Museum of Transport and Technology has some exhibits of his.

## This month in history

On March 26, 1896 at the **Brunner Coalmine**, occurred New Zealand's worst mining tragedy - 67 miners were killed by an explosion and release of gas. An Inquiry discovered that the tragedy was caused by the unauthorised firing of a shot in a disused part of the mine where no such activity should have been carried out. This mine is 13kms east of Greymouth. It is fairly close to the Pike River Coal Mine where 29 men lost their lives in recent times.

## Fufu the special cat who loves vegetables



Rongomaihenga Hohaia with her special cat Fufu.

On the 21<sup>st</sup> of September I got my cat Fufu. You may be wondering why her name's Fufu. It's because I'm part Maori, part Greek. I think my cat Fufu is a smart cat. She isn't just a cat, she's a beautiful cat. Her eyes are greener than a nice green dark apple. She has three colours on her; black, white and ginger. She knows how to open her cat food. She plays with our pretty chickens. She lays on her back and throws them up in the air. It's funny to watch. She can sometimes be annoying, especially when

she sleeps on my bed. She scratches me and bites my toes. Sometimes I think she thinks my toes are worms. She is a weird cat because she doesn't like eating fish. She loves eating veges from our garden. She sneaks in and eats all our veges from out of the garden. You'd think the chickens would eat them, but they don't. She can pounce from tree to tree. It's amazing, it's like she's a Supercat. She's the most playful cat in the world.

Rongomaihenga Hohaia,  
Rahotu School (Room 5).

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# WOMAD in schools

School students at Rahotu School were in for a treat last week. On Wednesday March 14 one of the WOMAD artists Dobet Gnahore of the Ivory Coast, Africa visited Rahotu School to conduct a workshop on percussion and dance, as well as singing. Apart from the students of Rahotu School, there was also a group from two Opunake schools - St Joseph's School and Te Kura Kaupapa Maori O Tamarongo.

At the start of the session the students – about 30 of them, sat in a circle as they were instructed by Dobet. They seemed quite enthralled by the workshop, as were the parents and teachers who were also present.

Later on the students were asked to stand to take part in the movement activities. The participants would have to agree – it had been a unique and rewarding experience.



WOMAD artist Dobet Gnahore and the dance and percussion workshop at Rahotu School.

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## People in Farming



Stacey Managh

New Zealand Farmers Livestock rep Stacey Managh has been appointed company Dairy Livestock Co-ordinator for Taranaki.

Stacey, who came to the company from a banking background, said the loyalty from local farmers toward the new livestock entity was appreciated.

“We have a lot of experience and the company is completely re-focused and is a key part of our growing NZ wide livestock network.

“Working on the Coast is great and my main goal is to make sure that we provide an excellent service to back up our strength in dairy livestock sales.”

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## Opunake District RSA Inc

District RSA 80<sup>th</sup> AGM was held on Friday, March 16. There was a reasonable turnout of members. President Colin Butler welcomed members and District President Glover Anderson to this meeting.

### Roll of honour:

Sturgeon R B - CMT, 206248 King C D - K Force, 41844 Hoogenburg R 46967 Lewis D G - J Force, James S - Women's Section.

Minutes and Statement of Accounts were approved.

(Poppy Day Collections down on last year).

### Election of Officers:

President - C H Butler, Vice President - ?

R J Morris, M M Murray, I J Smith, B W Vincent, L R Robinson - Executive.

Women's Section to be advised.

RSA Support Advisors: R J Bingham, C H Butler.

Auditor - I L Baker.

Secretary/Treasurer - Rev G M Williams.

### General Business:

Opunake District Emergency Committee has been disbanded and all monies held have been transferred back to Taranaki Provincial Patriotic Council Trust.

RSA Trustees R J Bingham, T J Wylde, Rev D Self.

Rust, a curse of the coast has waylaid the flagpole at the Services Cemetery, one donated by the STDC. Looking to see if it can be replaced.

Poppy Day - 20<sup>th</sup> April.  
Anzac Day - 25<sup>th</sup> April,

Wednesday.

Members - mark this day down and make it a special day, being the 80<sup>th</sup> year.

Reminder: your annual subscription for 2012 - 13 is now due. Please pay ASAP to Pastimes/PO Box 56, Opunake 4645.

Is there anywhere out there who has served in NZ/ Commonwealth Services. Big changes are happening within the RSA - not only for Returned, but also for service members. See the President or Secretary to become a member.

Social Club with the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade Rooms. Contact Secretary/ President.

Rev Geoff Williams  
Secretary

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# Opunake Board Riders Surf Classic

The Opunake Board Riders Dream Time Surf Classic was held at Arawhata Road Opunake on Saturday 10 March in clean 2' to 3' foot wave conditions.

The comp was put on hold for 2 hours waiting for the tide to bring the swell; we got underway at 9.30am.

Thirty six competitors took part in 6 divisions. Entrants were from across Taranaki and one was from the Far North.

All competitors received great prizes thanks to the very generous sponsors and also to the Stanley Brothers Farm for access to the site.

The results are as follows:

## Open Men's

- 1 J Hancox
- 2 B Tipene
- 3 C Andrews
- 4 C Aldridge

## Open Woman

- 1 T Tipene
- 2 H Janaway Davis
- 3 E Crotton
- 4 M Bannic

## Under 18's

- 1 R Andrews
- 2 B Durham
- 3 H Janaway Davis
- 4 A Corrigan

## Over 45's

- 1 M Brewer
- 2 S Field
- 3 M Baylis
- 4 H James

## Open Knee Board

- 1 C Andrews
- 2 C Dingle
- 3 M Skelton
- 4 K Weir

## Open Body Board

- 1 B Farrell
- 2 M Skelton
- 3 C Dingle
- 4 T Bigham Dudley.



Winner of the open woman's Thandi Tipene, who is currently the NZ National Open Woman Champion. We wish her well for the up and coming woman's Dream Tour events.

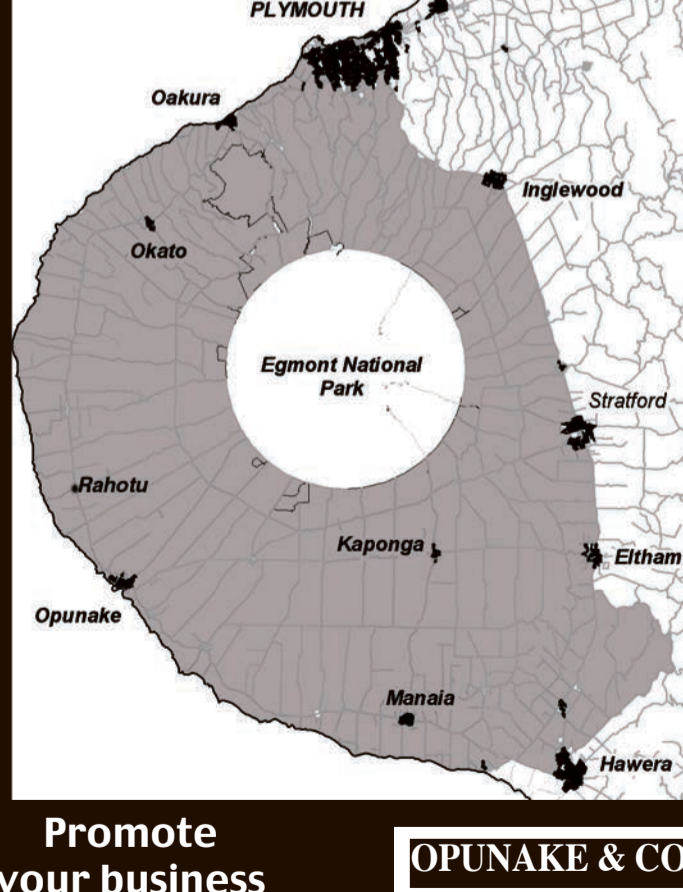


Local girl Hine Janaway Davis in the Open Women's.



Local surfboard shaper, Cain Aldridge from ASA Surfboards in the semi final.

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## Altum Coastal Senior A vs. Spotswood United, Raho Domain

17 March 2012.

James Murphy playing his 200<sup>th</sup> game, led Altum Coastal out onto a sun drenched Raho Domain for the start of the 2012 club competition and St Patrick's Day.

Coastal went onto the attack from the first whistle putting pressure on Spotswood. An early infringement saw Altum Coastal 1<sup>st</sup> 5/8<sup>th</sup> Brent Stevenson slot a penalty goal and Coastal went out to an early lead 3-0. Spotswood hit back from the kick off and were awarded a penalty, which levelled the scores 3 all.

Spotswood applied pressure, but Coastal's defence held with Mitchell Campbell showing the way with solid tackling. A period of play saw both sides trying to gain ascendancy. From a penalty and ensuring lineout the ball was spun wide and Gareth Goodin scored in a handy position. The kick went wide but Coastal were ahead 8-3.

With Altum Coastal's forward pack beginning to dominate, youngster Andrew Trollove, in his first senior game, showed out with good scrummaging and hit ups. Winger Gareth Goodin also was staunch on defence, stopping an enterprising attack by the Spotswood backs.

Steve Barron brought the small but vocal crowd to their

feet with a gliding run through the Spotswood defence from a kick return to score close to the posts. Stevenson added the extra two from the conversion and Altum Coastal went out to a 15-3 lead. The first half ended with Spotswood on the attack, but resolute Coastal defence kept them out.

The second half saw the return of Kane Barrett into the Coastal pack after spending much of 2011 on the sidelines injured. Spotswood felt his presence around the rucks and mauls with some aggressive running with the ball in hand.

Coastal was penalised early on, and from kickable position, Spotswood added 3 to their tally. Altum Coastal 15, Spotswood United 6.

This sparked Coastal into life and after mounting attack after attack; they were rewarded with Number 8 Kelvin Weir (back from playing rugby in England) score a well worked try in the corner. Altum Coastal 20, Spotswood United 6.

Soon after Kane Barrett swooped on the loose ball from a ruck broke, through Spotswood's defensive line, outsped the defensive cover to score under the posts. The kick was made and the Coastal lads went out to a 27-6 lead. Spotswood hit back and was only thwarted by the experi-

ence of half Brent Goodin whose deft kicking kept them at bay. Double centurion James Murphy led the subs onto the field in hot conditions, which saw Coastal begin to take control.

A serious leg injury saw the loss of Coastal's talented scrum half Brent Goodin midway through the 2<sup>nd</sup> half as Coastal's defensive line was put to the test. Spotswood were rewarded for their efforts and scored a converted try closing the gap to 27-13.

With the game coming to an end substitute winger John Julian fielded a ball on the Spotswood ten metre line and showed speed and elusiveness to score an excellent individual try, taking Coastal out to a 32-13 lead.

**Point Scorers:** Tries to, Gareth Goodin, Steve Barron, Kelvin Weir, Kane Barrett, John Julian. Brent Stevenson, 2 conversions and 1 penalty.

**Final score:** Altum Coastal Senior A 32 Spotswood United 13.

Player of the Day: Andrew Trollove.

In closing we wish Brent Goodin all the best and a speedy recovery.

Next week 24 March Eltham Kaponga away.

“Support Local Support Coastal”

Later,  
Rua Ngai Tahu on the Hill



# Junior rugby 2012

There was a lot of activity last Friday night (March 9) at Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake. It was Registration Night for Coastal Junior Rugby. That is rugby union players aged from the Under 5s division, up to thirteen-year-olds. Junior Rugby Convenor Susan French said she hopes that at least the same number of players as 2011 enrol – last year 109 boys and girls took part.

There was an extra treat in store – the Ranfurly Shield was on display in Stevenson's Lounge and several young players were proud to be photographed with the famous 'log of wood', which dates back to 1902 when Captain Scott was on his first expedition to Antarctica.

There were a few other things on display. Socks – green, black and white – were on sale for just \$10 and a raffle (just \$2) for a stylish hooded sweatshirt.

The Taranaki Rugby Community Trust Farm has helped with the financial outlay for some smart track suits for the Under 13 team to wear, as well as jackets

for the coaching staff. They are green with white writing (B12 Collection). Money was raised through bull calf sales, as well as Motorcross Days – the next one is Friday March 23 (3.30pm to about 8.30pm). They have also issued all grassroots player with Club tops. These all came from Karams Clothes on the Coast.

Thursday night practices have now started, so Sue and her organising team look forward to seeing lots of players turn up.

One parent who is impressed with the Junior Rugby programme provided by Susan and her Committee (Mike Grayling, Kelly Young, and Dave Cathie) is Kay McNutt. "I think it's great – really good", she enthused. Of her son Tyler she said, "He really enjoyed it last season." This season he plays in the Under 9s division.

"We can always do with more help", comments Mike Grayling. Therefore, if you can help in any way please contact Susan on 06 274 5668 or Mike on 06 274 5884.



Several Junior rugby players and organiser Susan French with the Ranfurly Shield, which was donated by Governor-General Lord Ranfurly back in 1902.

## Trophy comes home

The biannual showdown between Opunake Surf Inn and the Waimate Hotel for the Big Mike Trophy was played on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March in loving memory of the man himself.

The mob from Manaia won the first challenge in 2009 and had not to this date been defeated in any of the subsequent six challenges on their home tables.

But, on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March, the Opunake Surf Inn team and their supporters descended on the Waimate Hotel to compete in good spirits and bring the trophy home for the first time since its inception.

Congratulations to everyone involved for making it a great day.

Photographs can be viewed on the Opunake Surf Inn facebook page.

TO ADVERTISE  
PH (06) 761-7017

# Opunake Bowling Club

Our ladies won the Southern Division of Shield Bowls at Fitzroy, playing against Vogeltown who won the Northern Division. Three teams competed and we won two games to one.

Club Fours were won by E Rothwell, R Johns, V Wallace and V Langton. Peg Barrett Memorial was won by W Crawford, H Radford and E Clegg: the only ones with three wins.

The Women's Classic was held on 9<sup>th</sup> January. This is our most popular event, and 16 teams took part. We had a wonderful afternoon tea, and a big multi draw raffle: this year with 42 prizes.

1<sup>st</sup> V Keightley, Paritutu, 2<sup>nd</sup> F Parkes, Hawera, 3<sup>rd</sup> D Turner.

The men's main competition – the Cucumber Stakes was held with 28 teams. Cucumbers, tomatoes, onions and bread and butter are beside the two greens all day, and they also have a ham salad lunch with peas and potatoes.



Opunake Womens Champion of Champions Triples tea. Joy Collins, (skip), Nell L'Ami (second) and Kay Fleming (lead). These three go on to contest the Taranaki finals on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

# Smallbore Rifle Club Active in Oaonui

The Oaonui Smallbore rifle club has started its first practice nights for the season. The shooting season runs from March to November each year.

The club shoots in the Oaonui Hall every Wednesday night at 7.30pm and long

standing club members Doug Gibson and David Fake are off to a good start with both of them shooting 100s on the first night.

The Oaonui rifle club is always looking for new members or just people wanting to have a go. Club rifles are available so there is no

need to have your own to try the sport, and with a minimal cost of \$2.50 per card shot, this has got to be one of the cheapest sports around. Anyone interested, or for any further information please phone Paul Kuriger 761 8663.

Publicity Officer

Certainly no-one should go hungry.

- 1<sup>st</sup> M Hayman – West End,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> W Collins – Kaponga,
- 3<sup>rd</sup> B Moeller,
- 4<sup>th</sup> J Sexton.

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> – RD1 Mixed Triples. This was an enjoyable day with bowlers and non-bowlers drawn to play together.

1<sup>st</sup> B Rothwell, N L'Ami and E Clegg.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> March we played a friendly reciprocal visit between Opunake and Paritutu ladies. Lots of fun and laughs. This was the 25<sup>th</sup> time that this has been played.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> March, the final of the Championship Triples were played.

Won by J Collins, N L'Ami and K Fleming.

R/Up A Nathan, V Langton and K Perrett.

**Jonathan Young**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

---

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## WHAT'S ON

### MOBILITY SCOOTER USERS MEETING?

Would you like to come to a monthly get-together, over a cuppa and chat, in Opunake? Refer public notice.

### POKER NITE

Wednesdays at the Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.

### COASTAL COBRAS JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE

Training on Wednesdays.

### SCRAP & CHAT / CARD MAKERS EVENING

Mondays at Pastimes, Tasman Street, Opunake from 7-9pm. Beginners and new people welcome.

### 'SOUTH OF THE MOUNTAIN' EXHIBITION

Artworks by the Hawera Art Club at the Village Gallery from March 19 until April 13. Refer advert.

### "THE GREAT GATSBY"

From March 20-31<sup>st</sup> March at the TET Cue Theatre, Matai St, Inglewood at 7.30pm.

### OPUNAKE SPORTING SHOOTERS (Incorporated) AGM

Thursday, March 22 at the Opunake Surf Inn, Maui Bar at 7pm.

### ROSE OF TRALEE ENTRANTS REQUIRED

Entrants Required for 2012 Rose of Tralee contest - entries close March 23.

### 'HIGHWAY 45'

March 24 at the Opunake Surf Inn.

### FREE WORKSHOP – MAINTAINING HEALTHY PLANTS AND MANAGING PESTS & DISEASES

Sunday, March 25, Tupare. Refer article.

### 'PAUL SYMONS' AND HIS "SHOOTING STARS BAND"

Sunday, March 25 at the Rahotu Tavern, 7.30pm. Refer advert and article.

### OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION'S AGM

Monday, March 26 at the Opunake Surf Inn. Social at 6pm, meal at 6.30pm and meeting to follow with guest speaker, Chester Borrows. Refer public notice.

### RAHOTU HOME & SCHOOL AGM

Monday, March 26 at the Rahotu School Staffroom at 7pm.

### FUNDING APPLICATION WORKSHOP

Tuesday, March 27, Council Chambers, Albion Street, Hawera from 5.15-6.15pm. Refer public notice.

### CLOSING DATE FOR TANGATA WHENUA LIAISON FUND APPLICATIONS

Wednesday, March 28 at 4.30pm.

### "2-A-TARA" & LAST HANDLE CLUB NIGHT

Wednesday, March 28 from 5.30pm onwards at the Stony River Hotel. Refer advert.

### "BRUTAL UPLOAD"

Friday, March 30 from 8pm onwards at the Stony River Hotel. Refer advert.

### 10TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION - EXHIBITION

March 30 at the gallery at 7.30pm. Refer advert and article.

### PERFORMING ARTS GRANTS – DAME MALVINA MAJOR FOUNDATION

First annual funding round – applications close Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2012. Refer public notice.

### "ROXANNE'S KARAOKE"

Saturday, March 31 from 8pm onwards at the Stony River Hotel. Refer advert.

### TE NAMU ITI AHUWHENUA AGM

Saturday, March 31 at Headlands Conference Room, Opunake at 10am. Refer public notice.

### PUKEITI PUFFER – AUTUMN FUN DAY

Sunday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at Pukeiti, 2290 Carrington Road, New Plymouth. From 10.30am-2pm. Under 12s – 5km at 10.30am, Big Kids and Adults – 6.5km at 11.15am and The Challenge – 13km, at 11.15am. Refer advert for further details.

### MEET THE ROSE OF TRALEE ENTRANTS

Sunday 1st April, 2012, Headlands, Opunake 11-3pm. Refer article and advert.

### LAST DAY TRADING AT THE STONY RIVER HOTEL "RICK COPLESTONE"

Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> April from 12noon onwards at the Stony River Hotel. Refer advert.

### 2012 TARANAKI ROSE FINAL

Friday, 13th April, 2012, Plymouth Hotel, NP 6.30pm dinner and entertainment. Entry forms, bookings, tickets available form Louise 06 274 8494 p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz

### 2012/2022 LONG TERM PLAN – TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL – STATEMENT OF PROPOSAL AND DRAFTING REGIONAL LAND TRANSPORT PROGRAMME FOR TARANAKI

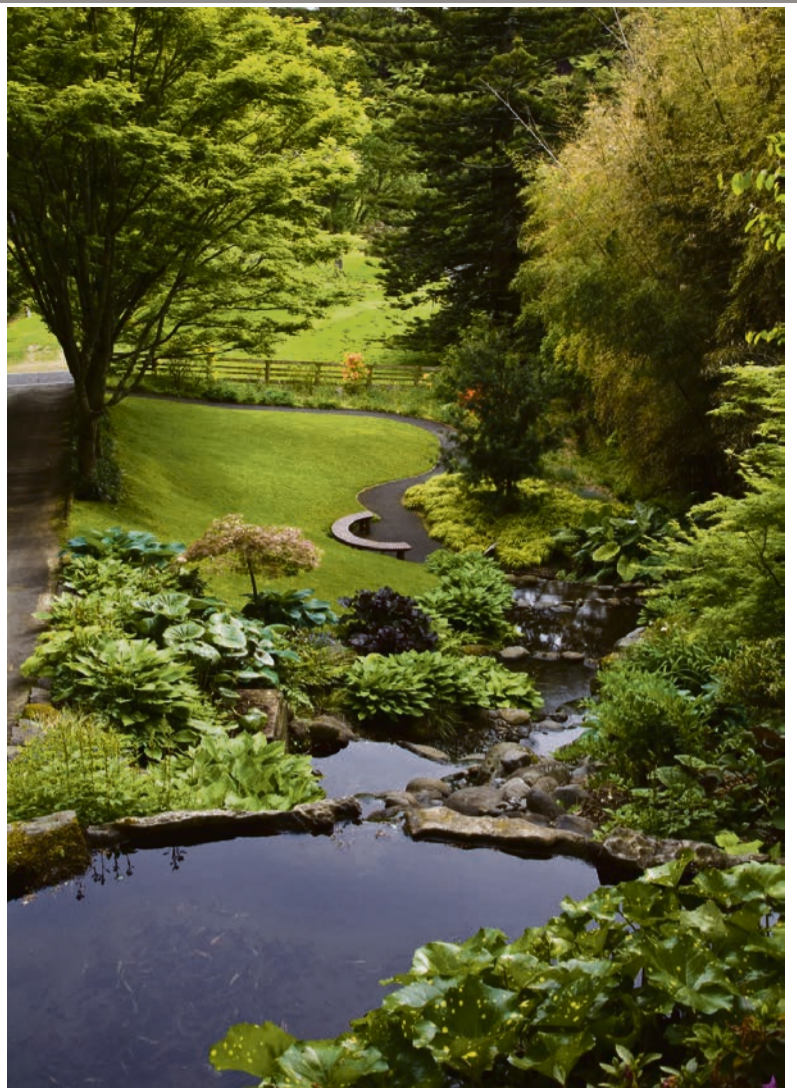
Submissions close 4pm, Friday, 13 April, 2012. Refer public notice.

### MAJOR PROJECTS FUNDING – GRANTS OVER \$50,000 – TSB COMMUNITY TRUST

Expressions of interest form must be submitted by 15<sup>th</sup> April.

### CREATIVE COMMUNITIES FUNDING GRANTS

Applications close April 27 at 4.30pm. Refer public notice.



## Savvy gardeners think before they plant

Home gardeners can attend a free workshop at New Plymouth's Tupare on Sunday (25 March), focussing on maintaining healthy plants and managing pests and diseases. Refer article on page 23.

## On 30 March 2012 Percy Thomson Gallery celebrates 10 years!

The gallery has developed and grown over the years now receiving national recognition as a thriving and diverse exhibition space catering for all age groups and interests and involving the Community at large. Our success would not have been possible without the support from TET, Creative Communities and groups and artists who have exhibited in the gallery over this time.

In recognition of the support from the various

groups, Percy Thomson Gallery has allocated a space to each and invited them to display their members work.

The groups include; Stratford Art Society, Stratford Camera Club, Stratford Village Quilters, Taranaki Regional Embroiderers, New Plymouth Potters, Stratford Floral Artists, Artizone, Littoral Drift, Creative Fibre Taranaki, Shed Sheilas, Garage Group (Pastel artists), Tuesday Painters Group.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration will be a full and varied show with amazing diversity and interest crossing all mediums and overlapping in many cases. Some of the groups have encompassed the birthday theme, while others have produced individual or shared works.

Join us at the official opening – 7.30pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012 a fun party with cake cutting, balloons and party hats (maybe) celebrating the great milestone of 10 years and the successes of our developing years. A plate for supper would be gratefully received.

Also opening earlier at 6.00 pm Friday 30<sup>th</sup> March, PTO Gallery (Eltham) shows Roger Morris; 'Mirror Script' – paintings and sculptures.

'This strong exhibition includes paintings, sculpture, assemblages and photomontages from Roger Morris. Skillfully executed this exhibition heralds both Roger Morris's return to Taranaki and his ability as a contemporary artist to visually communicate social commentary' Roger is an exciting, provocative artist who has featured frequently in the Percy Thomson Gallery so make a night of it and have a gallery crawl, Eltham at 6.00pm – Stratford 7.30pm – what a great way to spend a Friday night.

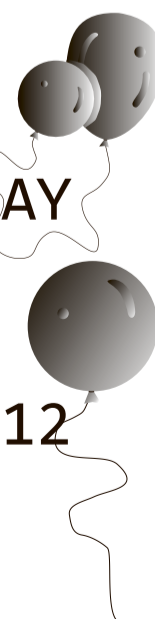
### PERCY THOMSON GALLERY STRATFORD

invites you to the

10th BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION  
7.30 pm  
30 March 2012

An exhibition  
featuring thirteen  
different groups

www.percythomsongallery.org.nz  
067650917



# Extra bus connection to New Plymouth

Pickerings Motors of Opunake now have a bus service to New Plymouth - twice weekly - Mondays and Fridays. (See the March 8 issue, page 7 for details).



# Coastal Care Urban Road Show coming to the Opunake township

The recent amazing Coastal Care Charity Auction was a huge success thanks to the generosity of the Taranaki and local businesses and individuals who donated items As well as the 330 people from near, far and wide who came along on the night to bid for them.

Now is another opportunity for everyone living within the Coastal Taranaki area to show their support for the building of this multi-purpose health and wellbeing centre. If you live in the area from the mountain to the sea between Oeo Road and Bayly Road you will receive a leaflet from the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust in your letterbox from the 21 March. This leaflet has more information about the Coastal Care proposal to enable you to decide whether or not you

wish to support this initiative and how you can do this.

The Trust is seeking donations, pledges, and letters of support. The more successful the fundraising through grants, donations and sponsorships the less the Trust will have to rely on obtaining a commercial loan for any shortfall of funds. Donations prior to the commencement of construction are vital to the success of this project and pledges indicate your promise of financial support once construction commences. Letters of support are just as important as they will convince funding organisations that there is community support for the services the centre will provide. The back page of the leaflet provides an easy way for you to do this.

March 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>

are dates set for the urban 'road show' in Opunake. Two collectors from the Opunake Lakeside Lions Club and members of other community organisations will be knocking on your door during early evening, and will be happy to receive your donation, pledges and/or letters of support, so have them ready when they call. If you require a receipt for your donation, please put it with name and address in an envelope and give to the collectors. Collectors will be easily identified by badges and an identifiable pack.

The Opunake Fire brigade are helping out and will be patrolling the streets with sirens blaring to announce collectors are in your vicinity, so listen out for them and be prepared. We hope the fire brigade don't get called away on any emergencies during this street by

street house by house appeal.

The rural areas will also be canvassed by the Rahotu & Pungarehu Lions Club, Opunake Lions Club and Pihama Women's Institute, without the Fire Brigade, so watch out for the collectors in your area.

Let's make another almighty effort to support the building of our new coastal health centre.

More information about Coastal Care is available at the Library or can be found on the website [www.coastalcare.co.nz](http://www.coastalcare.co.nz), or by contacting Chairperson Dan Holmes 06 757 5448, emailing [info@coastalcare.co.nz](mailto:info@coastalcare.co.nz), or going to the Trust facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Coastal-Care/159738157469005?sk=wall>

# Book Club for adults

Opunake LibraryPlus now has a brand new book club for adults.

Find new authors, new books and be the first to review what is hot on the shelves. Be prepared to step out the square with interesting activities that will jazz up your reading life! Tea, Coffee and fun provided free!"

Held on the first Wednesday of every month between 6-7pm at the library, the book club is all about you! No 'set' book each month so you can read and review the books you like and share with other club members.

Maria Brewerton,  
Customer Services Librarian



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**LAST DAYS AT THE STONY RIVER HOTEL**

**Wed 28<sup>th</sup> March - "2-A-TARA" & "Last Handle Club Night" from 5.30pm**

**Fri, 30<sup>th</sup> March - "BRUTAL UPLOAD" from 8pm**

**Sat, 31<sup>st</sup> March - "ROXANNE'S KARAOKE" from 8pm**

**LAST DAY OF TRADING**

**Sun, 1<sup>st</sup> April - "RICK COPLESTONE" from 12 noon onwards.**

**COURTESY VAN INQUIRIES ph (06) 752-4253.**

**See our website**  
**[www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](http://www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)**  
**for all our new email address or refer page 2.**

# Public invited to discover kiwi protection project

On Saturday 24 March everyone is invited to discover firsthand the incredible work being done to protect Kiwi and other rare native birds right here in Taranaki.

Located at Purangi, 36km east of Inglewood, the East Taranaki Environment Trust is a charitable trust dedicated to enhancing the habitat for kiwi in Taranaki.

The Trust's work spans 13,000 hectares and has recently developed a public walk that showcases the kiwi protection project, along with an information shelter to educate visitors on the project and the walk.

"Support from the TSB Community Trust has enabled us to complete the track and the shelter, offering a fantastic way for people to encounter the "scenic reserve," says ETET chairperson Karen Schumacher.

"It's a beautiful walk, through varied terrain high above the upper Waitara River," Karen says.

it's a way for us to introduce people to the work we're doing in the project area, providing a safe environment for kiwi to breed and grow."

The Trust is succeeding too, with about 500 kiwi pair estimated to be in this habitat.

The public are invited to join trustees from both ETET and the TSB Community Trust to view the track, encounter sleeping kiwi via telemetry, and learn more about the exciting project.

The walk will take around 2.5 hours, and visitors are encouraged to wear sturdy footwear and bring a drink and packed lunch. Light refreshments will be provided at the end of the walk. A gold coin donation to help the Trust's kiwi protection work would be appreciated.

*When: Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March at 10am. The walk will depart at Aukawa Road, Purangi. (about 1 km past the Purangi bridge over the Waitara River).*

## OPUNAKE TO NEW PLYMOUTH

### Timetable and fares one way

*A prepay ticket is available for travel from Opunake/Okato to NP for \$150.00 for 10 trip. Other fares no discounts available. Please note: children under 5 are free of charge.*

**Bookings essential, 0800 22 11 20.**

### PICKERING MOTORS

Please note that bus doesn't run during school vacations or public holidays.

Opunake					
\$ 5.00	Rahotu				
\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	Pungarehu			
\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	Okato		
\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 5.00	Oakura	
W\$20.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 15.00	\$ 5.00	New Plymouth

#### MONDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opunake to New Plymouth & return		Depart
Opunake	(Opposite P/O)	6.30am
Rahotu	(Opposite 4 Square)	6.40am
Okato	(Old Post Office)	6.50am
Belair Ave, Blagdon		7.10am
Francis Douglas Bus Stop		7.13am
Taranaki Base Hospital		7.17am
Powderham Street (round 1st set lights)		7.19am
Witt (Bell Street) Campus		7.22am
Cnr Cumberland St & Coronation Ave		7.25am
GHS Hostel, Mangorei Road		7.27am
Paynters Ave, Strandon Bus Stop		7.30am
Fitzroy Village Bus Stop (by lights)		7.35am
Centre City Gill/Ariki Street Bus Stop		7.30am
<b>Depart above for Opunake via Hospital</b>		<b>8.00am</b>
Morley Street		8.05am
TBH, David Street via Lorna Street		8.08am
Blagdon Shops		8.10am
Okato Four Square		8.30am
Rahotu Four Square		8.40am
Opunake Post Office		8.55am

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Opunake to New Plymouth & Return		Depart
Opunake	(Opposite P/O)	2.45pm
Rahotu	(Opposite 4 Square)	2.55am
Okato	(Old Post Office)	3.05pm
Belair Ave, Blagdon		3.25pm
Francis Douglas Bus Stop		3.28pm
Taranaki Base Hospital		3.32pm
Powderham Street (round 1st set lights)		3.34pm
Witt (Bell Street) Campus		3.37pm
Cnr Cumberland St & Coronation Ave		3.40pm
GHS Hostel, Mangorei Road		3.42pm
Paynters Ave, Strandon Bus Stop		3.45pm
Fitzroy Village Bus Stop (by lights)		3.50pm
Centre City Gill/Ariki Street Bus Stop		3.55pm
<b>Depart above for Opunake via Hospital</b>		<b>4.00pm</b>
Morley Street		4.05pm
TBH, David Street via Lorna Street		4.08pm
Blagdon Shops		4.10pm
Okato Four Square		4.30pm
Rahotu Four Square		4.40pm
Opunake Post Office		4.55pm



# Humphries Dance Band

Ian Smith wondered if anyone can identify the people in this photograph. It's the old Humphries Dance Band, taken in the early 1900s. Ian thinks the man, seated fourth from left, is Perc Harding who used to own a bicycle shop, around where Morris and Ockhuysen are now, and he lived in the Club Hotel. He played a G Trombone. Can anyone help?

### FOR SALE

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**BAIT** new bait in stock. Baby salmon 1 kg bags and saltwater flake ice 5kg bags available from **COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE**, Opunake Ph (06) 761-8778.

**CALM** Restore herbal drops, supports healthy nervous system, gentle calming action, relaxes muscle pain and spasm. Calms nerve agitation, restlessness, irritability, supports healthy mood, and sleep. Can be given to babies. Hardy's the Health Shop in Centre City. Ph (06) 7587553. We deliver

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### WORK WANTED

**ARCHITECT** & interior designer available for internal or external alterations. Call Mark on (06) 751 4462 or 027 507 8113.

**COASTAL STOPPERS.** GIB Phone Glenn 027 524 5745.

**PAINTER PAPERHANGER** for all your winter interior decorating and any necessary insurance work. Phone Bryan 027 465 8631.

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### TRADES & SERVICES

## PUBLIC NOTICES

**MOBILITY SCOOTER USERS**   
A monthly get-together, over a cuppa and a chat, has been suggested. Also maybe entertainment? WHAT DO YOU THINK? Phone Vicki (06) 761-8463 after 5pm.

TO GET YOUR ADVERT IN THIS SPACE  
PH (06) 761-7016



## CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME FUNDING LOCAL ARTS ACTIVITIES

Applications for funding assistance for community-based arts activities in South Taranaki are now being called for. Your application will need to meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** - A project that will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- **Diversity** - A project that will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** - A project that will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are available from all Library Plus Centres, at the Council Contact Centre in Albion Street, Hawera or the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator, or on the Council website [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com) under funding/grants.

For further information, please contact the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator at:

South Taranaki District Council  
Private Bag 902, Hawera 4640  
Phone 0800 111 323 or 2780555  
Email [maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz)

Applications close **Friday 27 April 2012 at 4.30pm.**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**2012/2022 Long-Term Plan:  
Statement of Proposal and  
Draft Regional Land Transport  
Programme for Taranaki**



**2012/2022 Long Term Plan: Statement of Proposal**

The Taranaki Regional Council is required to adopt a Long-Term Plan for the period 1 July 2012 to 30 June 2022 pursuant to section 93 of the Local Government Act 2002. The 2012/2022 Long-Term Plan Statement of Proposal includes:

- The community outcomes identified by the Taranaki community
- The intended significant policies and objectives of the Council
- The nature and scope of the activities to be undertaken
- The performance targets and other measures by which performance may be judged
- In particular terms for 2012/2022, in general terms for the following two financial years, and in indicative terms for the following seven years, the costs and sources of funds in total and for each activity.

The Taranaki Regional Council has prepared a Summary of the Long-Term Plan. The Summary presents the objectives for the ten-year span as well as key plans and programmes proposed for 2012/2022.

The Council is seeking your views on the 2012/2022 Long Term Plan: Statement of Proposal.

**Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki 2012-2015**

On behalf of the Taranaki Regional Council, the Regional Transport Committee has prepared a draft Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki 2012-2015 in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Land Transport Management Act 2003. This is a three-year (1 July 2012 to 30 June 2015) programme setting out proposed land transport activities for the Taranaki region for which the NZ Transport Agency, the three district councils in the region and the Taranaki Regional Council are seeking national funding.

This document has been developed in partnership with our regional partners with agreement on which activities we want to pursue and in what order of priority.

The Committee is now seeking your input on the strategic aspects of transport activities proposed for inclusion in the final Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki 2012-2015. Submissions should focus on:

- The transport issues and priorities for Taranaki to be addressed through this Programme
- The regional priorities for funding given to transport activities in this Programme
- Identifying any gaps or additional activities required to address the region's transport issues and priorities.

**Process for making submissions**

Copies of both the Long-Term Plan (Statement of Proposal and Summary Plan) and the Regional Land Transport Programme for Taranaki and Summary are available at no charge from:

- The Taranaki Regional Council's offices, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, or
- The Taranaki Regional Council's website: [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz); or
- Any of the region's libraries; or
- Any of the region's district councils and district council service centres.

Both the Long-Term Plan and the Regional Land Transport Programme include submission forms and an explanation of the submission process. To have your say on either document, either complete a submission form and return it to the Council or make an on-line submission at [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz)

Submissions need to be returned to:

The Chief Executive, Taranaki Regional Council, Private Bag 713, Stratford 4352

**Submissions close at 4.00 pm on Friday 13 April 2012.**

B G Chamberlain  
Chief Executive  
Taranaki Regional Council

Working with people | caring for Taranaki



**Te Namu iti Ahuwhenua  
AGM**

Venue - Headlands  
Conference Room  
Saturday, 31st March,  
10am, Opunake.

- AGENDA:
- 1) Election of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer
  - 2) 2012 Riparian Planting of Koumanua Stream
  - 3) Maintenance of Te Namu Pa.

Tracey MacGregor/Chairmaine Fowler

**TO ADVERTISE  
IN THIS SPACE  
PH (06) 761-7016**

**Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish  
CHURCH SERVICES**

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

**Opunake Catholic Church**  
SUNDAY 8.30 am at Pungarehu (St Martins),  
10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star Of The Sea).

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

**PERFORMING ARTS GRANTS**

Your invitation to share the dream!

The **Dame Malvina Major Foundation**  
is proud to provide funding opportunities to  
talented young Taranaki performing artists.

Applications are now being invited for the first annual funding  
round, closing at 5pm on Saturday 31st March 2012.

Grants are available in three categories to support the cost of  
education, training and development in the performing arts in  
New Zealand or overseas:

**Secondary:** For Taranaki secondary school students aged 12-18 years.

**Elite/Tertiary:** For performers from Taranaki pursuing a career in the  
performing arts through tertiary qualifications.

**Group:** For groups whose members are based in Taranaki to fund group  
training or development or events that provide performance  
opportunities for youth.

For an application pack and further information please contact  
Heather Cooper 06 7573155 or [dmmf@staplestaranaki.co.nz](mailto:dmmf@staplestaranaki.co.nz)  
[www.damemalvinamajorfoundation.org](http://www.damemalvinamajorfoundation.org)



**Opunake Business Association  
AGM**

**MON, 26 MARCH  
OPUNAKE SURF INN**

\$25 - 2 course buffet

**Guest speaker Chester Borrows**

Social time from 6pm, 6.30 meal, meeting to follow.

*Open to all businesses, staff and interested  
community members.*

Tickets at Pastimes and Opunake Post and Lotto

**RSVP by 22 March 761 8084 [sinclairlect@xtra.co.nz](mailto:sinclairlect@xtra.co.nz)**

**Reflections**

**Counselling Services**

89 Regan St, Stratford

Tuesday & Wednesday  
by appointment

**Ph 06 765 8280**

Faith Smith MNZAC  
Diploma in Counselling  
**WelTec**



**YES  
CHADDY'S  
CHARTERS  
ISLAND TOURS**

Free museum.  
New tandem mountain bikes  
and kayaks for hire.  
Also trips to seal colony and  
marine park.

*Also Gift Vouchers.*

**Open Daily  
Ph 06 758 9133**

**FUNDING APPLICATION WORKSHOP  
HANDY-HINTS ON APPLYING FOR FUNDS**

**A FREE one hour workshop for community groups on:**

- Understanding funding application forms
- Completing application forms correctly
- Increasing your chances of funding success
- Giving funders what they really want to know
- One-on-one advice on your funding applications.

Bring along any application you may need help with that your  
group is currently working on or considering applying to.

**Tuesday 27 March 2012 5.15pm - 6.15pm  
Council Chamber, Albion Street, Hawera**

Creative Communities Scheme opens 19 March 2012  
- this is the perfect opportunity to bring along applications  
and any questions you may have on applying to this fund.

**To register, please contact the Community Funding Advisor at:**

**Phone 0800 111 323 or 278 0555**

**Email [maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz)**



**South Taranaki**  
Alive with opportunity

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

**Raffle for Badinlee to participate in the women's rugby tour  
to Samoa Year OHS Student Year 11, Age 15.**

All Blacks Ma'a Nonu's signed playing rugby boots.  
Karams Clothing on the Coast - Coastal Rugby T-Shirt and Tea  
Towel RRP \$70.

Morris & Ockhuysen Ltd - Gift Voucher \$20.

Pastimes - Gift Voucher \$30.

Hairazor - Gift Voucher \$30.

Paintball Direct NZ - T-Shirt - RRP \$50.

Chairz Upholstery - Recover Motorbike Seat - \$150.

Force 10 Video Shop - Video Hire Voucher \$50.

Farmlands Opunake - Voucher \$150.

Gillbanks Fish Shop - Voucher \$20.

Club Hotel - Voucher \$50.

Opunake Surf Inn - 2 Pizzas & Red or White Wine RRP \$50.

Opunake Butchery Ltd - Meat Pack RRP \$40.

Turn Heads - Gift Voucher \$40.

RD1 Opunake - \$150 worth of products.

Opunake Auto Repairs - \$50 WOF check.

Lance McLachlan - Tandem Trailer Load of Wood - RRP \$200.

IHC - 1 trailer load of firewood RRP \$100.

**Drawn 8/3/12, Blair Burnett, Senior Sargeant Hawera  
- Winning ticket no 27, Jason McLachlan.**

**Transfer your  
home  
video movies  
to DVD**

**Ph 027 459 9382**

# Highway 45 band to play in Opunake



'Highway 45'.

With a large amount of airplay from local radio with tracks from their up and com-

ing album, Highway 45 are a veteran group of Taranaki musicians.

Highway 45 are New Plymouth's Premier Rocksteady Reggae Originals

Band, who is coming to Opunake to play a gig at the Opunake Surf Inn.

With most members being staff at New Zealand's most popular music teaching space 'West Coast School of Rock' you are guaranteed a night of top quality entertainment.


Highway 45 are endorsed by Ernie Ball, Jim Dunlop, Grail Custom Guitars and via WCSOR, 'Voodoo Amps' in New York.

With recent performances at the Bowl and the Hatchery Lawn, Highway 45 are getting invitations to play all over New Zealand.

Highway 45 - Taking our precious Coastal vibes to New Zealand and beyond.

Top up those glasses because you're going to be dancing up a sweat at the Opunake Surf Inn on March 24.

Note there is no cover charge on bands at the Opunake Surf Inn.



**PAUL SYMONS**  
-songwriter-  
with the amazing  
**shooting stars band**

*Paul Symons, ex Rahotu street kid & OHS old boy returns to present a night of great original music with his stellar 'Shooting Stars Band' for one special night at the Rahotu Tavern.*

**Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> March 7:30pm-10pm.**  
All welcome!  
**Rahotu Tavern**  
Ph: (06) 763 8787 • 5787 South Rd, Rahotu



**2012 Taranaki Rose of Tralee Contest**

**Meet the Roses - Sun 1.4.12**  
Headlands Opunake 11am - 3pm  
Family social day. Irish dancing  
Face painting  
Book in for Lunch

**Rose Final - Fri 13.4.12**  
Plymouth Int.Hotel, NP  
Tickets - \$50  
Dinner & Entertainment  
Crowning of the 2012 Taranaki Rose  
«On Yer Bike» & Irish Dancing

**LUNCH BOOKINGS & FINAL TICKETS**  
Ph Louise 06 274 8494  
[p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz](mailto:p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz)

**Transfer your home video movies to DVD**  
Phone 027 459 9382

## Paul Symons and his Shooting Stars Band

West Auckland musician Paul Symons returns to play in Rahotu and New Plymouth for the first time, presenting a night of original music with his 'Shooting Stars' band. Rahotu born and raised Paul, now 43, caught the music bug early on, with home always being filled with music, as his Mum Elva was and still is a gifted coastal piano teacher. His late father, Don Symons was a well known contractor around the coast. First learning piano at home, then guitar in lunchtimes at Rahotu School, and learning the songs of Neil Young, Paul Simon, Bob Dylan and many more in class, he went

on to write his own songs and has since recorded two well received albums of original songs. His latest, 'Shooting Stars' released in October features the stunning rhythm section of Porirua percussion legend Des Mallon, and American born NZ Double Bass guru Lott, a long time collaborator. Symons played all the guitar and pedal steel on the album, but for the tour has enlisted the services of Canadian born pedal-steel ace Yanek 'Buck' Croydon to recreate the sound of the album and lend his amazing feel to songs from the earlier

album 'Spaceman' (2005) which was a solo affair. One cut from 'Spaceman' called 'Missing You' was put under contract by a local music publishing business and taken to Nashville to be offered to recording artists there, hopefully getting a placement and stimulating interest in other songs. The group will be playing on Friday at the Wanganui Musicians club before venturing North to play two dates. Saturday Night will be at Peggy Gordon's Basement Bar and Sunday the group will be playing a special home town

concert at the Rahotu Tavern. Despite appearing at the last four 'Parihaka Peace Festivals' Paul hasn't played a public gig in Taranaki since supporting Luke Hurley at the Opunake High School in the early 90's, and is hoping to catch up with some old friends at the gigs. Guests can expect great songs and a wide variety of sounds from this group, from stripped back acoustic numbers, bluesy acoustic stomps, to high-plains ballads, and some solid blues rock'n'roll, all with classic sound and distinct kiwi attitude and reference.



Paul Symons returns to play in Rahotu.

## Outdoor First Aid course

Mountain Safety Taranaki will run a full weekend Outdoor First Aid course at Vertical Horizon Adventure Centre, Everett Road, Inglewood on March 31 to April 1.

This course is designed to equip outdoor users with the skills and knowledge necessary to manage accidents and sudden illnesses in the outdoor environment for a minimum of 24 hours.

You will complete a minimum of six hours of practical work in the outdoors, as one of a group, treating people with mock injuries and illnesses.

The course is divided into 16 modules, each with its own set of competencies. Candidates successfully completing this course may apply through New Zealand Mountain Safety Council to register the following unit standards

424, 6400, 6401, 6402.

Duration: Two days -- \$170.00 covers accommodation and meals, all course materials, a First Aid book and course Unit Standards. An Outdoor First Aid Certificate valid for two years is issued to all successful participants.

For enquires contact Phyllis, course organiser, on 06 7539256, email [taranaki@mountainsafety.org.nz](mailto:taranaki@mountainsafety.org.nz) or visit the website at [www.mountain-safety.org.nz](http://www.mountain-safety.org.nz)



**OPUNAKE Surf Inn**  
• Tasman St, Opunake  
• Ph 761-8387  
Your hosts: Jason & Carla

**THE PEOPLE'S PUB BRINGING LIVE MUSIC TO OPS.**

MON	- FREE POOL
TUES	- FREE POOL, 2 PIZZAS FOR \$20 (TIGHT ARSE TUES CONTINUE)
WED	- POKER NIGHT
THURS	- HAPPY HOUR & FREE BAR SNACKS
FRI	- FREE JUKE BOX & BAR SNACKS
SAT	- ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN!!
SUN	- FREE POOL & POOL COMP.

**BOTTLESTORE**  
NEW PRODUCTS LOWER PRICES

**RESTAURANT**  
REVAMPED MENU With extra Pizza options & Kids Menu + Kids Corner to keep them occupied.

With every main meal purchased, receive a KID'S MEAL for FREE\* (\*conditions apply)

**~ Coming Soon ~**  
'HIGHWAY 45' 24<sup>th</sup> March  
'ONE EYED JACKS' 31<sup>st</sup> March  
(No cover charge for our bands)

# 'South Of The Mountain'

This month over 50 artworks by members of the Hawera Art Club are on display at The Village Gallery, Eltham.

The display shows a wide range of subject matter from landscape to still life; animal studies to flora, in acrylic, oil, pencil and pastel.

The talents of this group are quite amazing.

Of particular note is the work of Cherol Filbee of Hawera who has entered several pieces. An oil paint-

ing titled 'What?' can't fail to catch the eye. This is a painting of a very shaggy dog. Aleisha Foster-Lynam has painted a series of cat portraits in acrylics. The animal theme follows through in farm scenes and landscapes. Joan Robinson's painting 'A Dusty trail' features a sheep droving scene in autumn colours. The frame of rustic wood compliments the 'rural' look.

One can tell when an artist is familiar with their sub-



South Island West Coast Memories by Glyn Wren.

ject matter, and Glyn Wren must really know the rural scene. Her painting of an old woolshed almost jumps off the canvas. Titled 'South Island West Coast Memories', she has painted this scene in oils, which gives great depth to the colour.

The Hawera Art Club has been in existence for over forty years now, enhancing the skills of many local artists, and presents an opportunity for fellowship with like-minded people. They encourage members to exhibit work as they gain

confidence, and are readily available with advice and instruction. Call in to the Village gallery, Eltham to see this latest show which runs till 14th April, from 10am -3pm daily except Sunday.

While at the gallery, collect more information about this talented group and contact phone numbers. They encourage new members.

**SOUTH OF THE MOUNTAIN**



Artworks by the Hawera Art Club

Artworks by the Hawera Art Club

19 March - 13 April, 2012

THE VILLAGE GALLERY 166 High St, Eltham



'What?' by Cherol Filbee.

## Eltham Cheese Day coming soon

It's just over a fortnight until Eltham's big event – the Eltham Cheese Day and Downhill Cheese Race, held on Saturday April 7 at Cheese Hill, Anderson Road. The event is organised by the Eltham Business and Professional Association.

There is still time to make stall bookings. Just telephone Peggy on 06 764-

8957. The Market Day starts at 10am and there's bound to be a huge variety of stalls, with competitive prices for quality produce.

The Downhill Cheese Race itself kicks off at 12 noon, so make sure you get your entry forms in. You can obtain these from Eltham Four Square, Stratford iSite and Hawera iSite.

If you want to know more try the website [www.eltham-village.webs.com](http://www.eltham-village.webs.com) or you can phone Raewyn on 06 765 0511.

Whether you are a participant, or an enthusiast, make sure you come along and make this event a great success. Remember Saturday April 7 – see you there.

**ELTHAM CHEESE DAY AND DOWNHILL CHEESE RACE**

**Saturday, 7th April, 2012**  
**CHEESE HILL, ANDERSON ROAD**

**Market Day 10am**  
**Races start at 12.00 noon**

**STALL BOOKINGS: TELEPHONE (06) 764-8957**

**Entry forms available from:**

- Hawera iSite
- Eltham 4Square
- Stratford iSite
- [www.elthamvillage.webs.com](http://www.elthamvillage.webs.com)

See you there!

Live it. Love it. Sing it. **MORE FM**

## Savvy gardeners think before they plant

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, the old saying goes – and it applies to gardening as much as anything else.

Home gardeners can learn more at free workshop at New Plymouth's Tupare on Sunday (25 March), when the focus will be on maintaining healthy plants and managing pests and diseases. Preventing diseases and pests is easier and cheaper than curing them, and Tupare Manager Mitch Graham

will explain how this can be achieved with good horticultural practices such as:

- Buying healthy plants.
- Avoiding the mass-planting of vulnerable species.
- Finding the right place for the right plant.

Sunday's workshop runs from 2pm to 4pm – meet at the Gatehouse by the carpark.

The workshop is part of a year-round programme of free public events at Tupare, Puke-

iti and Hollard Gardens, the three regional gardens owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.

For more information, see [www.tupare.info](http://www.tupare.info), [www.hollardgardens.info](http://www.hollardgardens.info) and [www.pukeiti.org.nz](http://www.pukeiti.org.nz). Social media users can also follow the Regional Gardens on Facebook ([TaranakiRegionalGardens](https://www.facebook.com/TaranakiRegionalGardens)) and Twitter (@[TaranakiRG](https://twitter.com/TaranakiRG)).

# Unique setting for charity fun run

A charity fun run with a difference is planned for Sunday 1 April – taking competitors deep into the Pukeiti rainforest.

'Pukeiti Puffer' is aimed at families with three courses ranging from a 2km children's fun run to a 13km challenge for adults, all organised by Smiths Sport Shoes to raise funds for the Cameron Clow Trust.

The fun runs will be held in conjunction with a Pukeiti Explorer Club fun day featuring games, bouncy castle and barbecue.

Fun run numbers are limited and registrations are required by 28 March. The 2km event is free, while 6.5 km event costs \$5 and the 13 km costs \$10.

See [www.pukeiti.org.nz](http://www.pukeiti.org.nz) for more registration details, or call into Smiths Sport Shoes, 33 Currie St, New Plymouth.

"The rainforest environment will give these fun runs a special element," says the Taranaki Regional Council's Regional Gardens Manager, Greg Rine. "The two longer events will include



An aerial shot of Pukeiti by Rob Tucker.

stream crossings and good hill climbs. The 2 km kids' event will be held on flat grass tracks.

"If Mum or Dad want to enter the 6.5 km or 13 km events, there'll be plenty of

fun activities on the main lawn to keep the children occupied.

"But it's important for people to register in advance – we need to keep tabs on numbers."

Entry to Pukeiti is free and visitors are advised to bring a picnic lunch, drinks, sunblock, hat and gummies. The event will take place regardless of the weather.

## THE ONLY THING LEFT GREEN THIS AUTUMN WILL BE YOUR NEIGHBOURS



YOU'LL ONLY NEED ONE  
**COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE**  
PH(06) 761-8778 \* TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE

**STIHL**

## Rose of Tralee 2012

Not long until the deadline for entering this year's Rose of Tralee – March 23 is the last day to get your entry in (Although Organiser Louise Buhler hinted that she may be slightly flexible!) 'Get Your Skates on' is this year's slogan.

The contest is open to young single women of Irish descent, aged 18 to 28. The 2011 winner of the Taranaki Rose of Tralee Hannah Crowley has nothing but positive memories of her year as the title holder. "It's been a really exciting year, getting to know my Irish heritage and representing Taranaki at the National Finals of Rose of Tralee" – held in Wellington.

The highlight for Hannah was the finals themselves. "I had a great time with about 40 family members and friends in support. A great experience!" The NZ Rose of Tralee in 2011 was Irish-born Ailbhe Ryan, who was born in Dublin.

For contestants and those interested in the event there are several key dates to keep in mind. The first one is at Opunake Headlands on Sunday April 1, where the public can meet the contestants in a family social event. This 'meet and greet' event starts at 11am and continues until about 3pm. The contestants will meet the judges in a short interview. There will also be an Easter raffle and face painting for the kids. You will need to contact Louise for lunch bookings (see below).

Another important date is Monday April 9 at the Hawera Harness Racing Club. Here is an opportunity for members of the public to have a chat with contestants, plus see some exciting harness racing. Free entry.

Friday April 13 is the big one. The Taranaki final will be held at Plymouth International Hotel. Here in the Grand Ballroom the 2012 Taranaki Rose



The Taranaki Rose of Tralee, 2011 was won by Hannah Crowley. Just married this month she is happily wed to Kieran.

of Tralee will be crowned. The event starts at 6.30pm. There will be a sumptuous dinner, Irish dancing and other entertainment, with the band 'On Yer Bike' whooping it up.

The winner of the Taranaki event will head to Wellington on May 25-26 to determine the New Zealand winner of the Rose of Tralee. Who knows, a Taranaki woman may contest the International event, held August 13-21 in Tralee, county Kerry, Ireland. The 2011 International Rose of Tralee was

Tara Talbot from Queensland, Australia.

Last word goes to Hannah. "I would encourage girls who are eligible to enter. It's just a fantastic time, a fun time. It's great for confidence building too". She concluded, "Thanks Louise and the Committee who've made my year very enjoyable".

Interested? Make sure you contact Organiser Louise Buhler on 06 274 8494 or 027 330 8510. Her email is p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz

# PUKEITI

Taranaki  
Regional Council

Sunday 1 April 2012

10.30-2.00pm

Pukeiti

2290 Carrington Rd  
New Plymouth

PUKEITI PUFFER

Pukeiti Explorer Club - Autumn Fun Day

10.30-2.00pm ~ free entry for all

Explore the garden with your kids, enjoy games on the lawn plus a bouncy castle and sausage sizzle

Pukeiti Puffer

Enter into an amazing off-road running event through Pukeiti

10.30am: Under 12s - 2km - free entry

11.15am: Big kids and adults - 6.5km - \$5

11.15am: The Challenge - 13km - \$10

REGISTER NOW

at Smiths Sports Shoes before Wednesday 28 March  
33 Currie Street, New Plymouth  
Ph: 06 769 9343 - Email: smithsnp@gmail.com

Fun Run proceeds to the Cameron Clow Trust

Great spot prizes from Smith Sports Shoes including sports and shoe packages from Brooks to the value of \$600

For more information:  
Email: regional.gardens@trc.govt.nz  
Ph: 0800 736 222  
www.pukeiti.org.nz

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100 East Road  
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Email: lavenderlane@clear.net.nz