



Inside

Dawn of a new day for Opunake

Coastal Care, Opunake's new health and community centre was blessed early Tuesday morning just over a week ago.

Around a hundred turned up at 6:30am to witness the solemn ceremony held in the new facility in Napier Street. It is five years since the proposal was first mooted for such a facility.

Johnathan Murray who conducted the karakia said the blessing was to cleanse the building of any prior conflicts prior to the establishment of the building.

South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop, who spoke to those gathered, paid tribute to the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust who has been "the driving force" behind the new complex. Unfortunately the Chairperson of the Trust Dan Holmes was not able to be present to see the fruition of the project he spearheaded.

The Coastal Taranaki Health Trust has been fortunate in purchasing a lot of equipment from SouthCare, commented Treasurer Steve Corkill. They bought the equipment for a "fire sale price" of \$90,000 and had on-sold about half of it. "It wasn't needed by them," he commented adding



The people who helped make it happen photographed in front of the reception area of Coastal Care. From left, Coastal Taranaki Health Trust trustees David Lusk, Mary Lawn, Steve Corkill (Treasurer), South Taranaki District Mayor Ross Dunlop, CTHT trustee David Tamatea, Hayden Wano, Chair of the TSB Community Trust, CTHT trustees Adrienne Hickey (Secretary), trustees Lynda Corkill and Julie Morgan. Absent: CTHT Chair Dan Holmes and trustee Paul Bourke.

that they had acquired a lot of equipment which they would not otherwise have, such as the slit eye machine for looking into eyes for foreign bodies, which would save people traveling to Hawera or

New Plymouth. "I was very, very pleased to get so much equipment."

A relieved Steve admitted though that it had been "a nightmare getting the project to this stage" and that getting

power to the site had been a problem. "It's a long story," he said with a grin adding that they only got the power on at 4.00pm the previous day. "It went down to the wire." "The next stage is the outfitting of

the building," he added.

Adrienne Hickey, Secretary of the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust, commented that the new facility is "not

Continued page 4

Lahar has impressive new premises. Pages 12 and 13.



German national involved in Opunake car accident. Turn to page 5.



Gym getting back on its feet after theft. See page 7.



Opunake School wins sports cup. See page 18.



Relay for Life. Page 24 has the story.

Postal services reduced in Opunake

People will no longer be able to pay bills over the counter or register their cars in Opunake following New Zealand Post's decision to axe this service.

The reduced postal service will be run by Opunake business Pastimes.

It means people will have to go to New Plymouth, Stratford or Hawera to pay

their bills and register their vehicles.

The change to the postal service in Opunake follows the decision of Chorus to not renew the lease on the building from which the postal service has operated for over 50 years. Graeme and Judy Dodd who have run Opunake Post & Lotto from the building for 30 years have decided to retire.

New Plymouth Member of Parliament Jonathan Young, who had an "unsatisfactory" meeting with New Zealand Post to complain about the withdrawal of the service and their lack of consultation with the community, has followed it up with a letter of complaint to the Chief Executive of New Zealand Post Brian Roach.

"One of our concerns is that some people pay their registrations month by month because they can't afford to pay it all at once. This removes this possibility," said Jonathan Young.

A concern is that people forced to go out of town to access the bill paying service and register their vehicles will also shop out of town.

"We're disappointed New Zealand Post is not considering what small rural communities are facing and we want our rural communities to have services that allow them to remain vibrant," said Jonathan.

New Zealand Post has acknowledged, in response to questions from the Opunake & Coastal News, that the removal of the bill service is a loss, but have said that "the service is not finan-

cially viable for us or the new franchisee to continue the service, based on falling transaction numbers and the cost of transferring and maintaining the required specialised infrastructure."

In other earlier communication, however, they have said the decision was based on the

fact they could get IT into another business within the timeframe initially given by Chorus for the end of the lease, which was February 28, but it has since been extended another month. They state that, therefore, New Zealand Post has decided to provide only postal services in Opunake.



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e-mail: Advertising ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
Editorial editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
Accounts accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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The letter Mr Stevenson doubted would ever be written

I recently had a conversation with the CEO of the South Taranaki District Council regarding issues I have concerning the resource consents process and their district plan. He was informed of my intention to fight for what I consider are an exercise of my rights in terms of what I consider lawful, reasonable and just. An open letter to a newspaper being the first step. Mr Stevenson's response was as follows. "If I received a dollar for every person who has threatened to go to the press, I would be a millionaire."

What does that really mean? He has a tendency to exaggerate? He really does have a million unhappy ratepayers who are mostly unable to follow through on their word? Or, are we so powerful we just do not care? For the record, Mr Stevenson struck me as a very pleasant man, as are many of the staff I have dealt with.

I am a financial nonentity whose sense of wealth is an old fashioned endeavour to keep my word in which I am by no means perfect.

My objective for the last year and a half has been to subdivide a 2200 metre section purchased before the infamous 2008 financial crisis in which a predatory banking system, aided by governments stole trillions of dollars which subsequently disappeared and continues to do so as a result of an erroneous quasi-religious doctrine based on profits. We are not talking about Jesus here. People lose their jobs and sometimes their lives in daring to have the wrong attitude with regard to the

sacred cow. The subsequent devastation this belief system causes is experienced according to which strata of the socio economic ladder one belongs; and people respond in different ways. Some take on two jobs and nobly work hard, as do others with study and education. One can also attribute unemployment, high crime rates and suicide as examples of an inability to function in the stressful environment economic uncertainty creates. This is as verifiable as oxygen is necessary for life.

The Roman statesman Cicero wrote "The good of the people is the chief law." By implication, this suggests that our law does not serve the interests of the people. Cicero also wrote. "Wise men are instructed by reason, men of less understanding by experience, ignorant men by necessity, and beasts by nature."

The District Plan is a vague document completely open to interpretation, full of high sounding concepts with stern and foreboding legalese and constant reminders of the council's discretionary powers. It's a money maker paying council salaries, survey companies, the legal profession, other governmental bureaucracies (unelected state officials) and so on. The other thing that is made very difficult is actually talking to the people in charge of the District Plan. The mayor was sympathetic and kindly asked for something in writing. The top management at the council feign helplessness and invite you to spend large sums of money while

warning it maybe wasted. The National MP's office expressed a reluctance to tread on toes. Local council representatives will not listen, citing powerlessness or conflict of interest as their reason. It is a joke. The invitation to waste time, energy and money with no guarantee of a positive outcome is a cynical hint to hopefully disappear.

So what is this all about? An analogy might help. Let's say the consent application is an expensive pumpkin seed which I am asked to pay for after experts have verified that is what it is. Next, take it to the council, or in this case a gardener to see whether or not it is going to produce a pumpkin, which is a successful outcome. If the gardener threw the seed on concrete or forgot to water the seed, who would pay him or her as the case may be?

Five elected councillors sit on some sort of board and make decisions with regard to situations like my own. One of the funny parts of this arrangement is that if you speak to them, they are no longer eligible to participate in a decision. It is like going to a GP with a problem, and expecting a remedy whilst being mute as to communicating the problem. One of these councillors graciously listened, thereby excluding himself from the team.

The question then becomes this. Does reason exist? Not one of the men I have dealt with so far seem able to exercise this quality. As for conveying my experience, I might get more understanding speaking English to an

eskimo. Then, if Cicero is right, and my experience says he is, who am I left to deal with? We shall see.

David Auld
Opunake

STDC Planning Manager Blair Sutherland responds.

Mr Auld's property is very close to the coast. To reflect the importance of the coast to our community it is subject to a higher level of control than many other areas (called the Coastal Protection Area). This is to protect the coast from inappropriate development. Due to its location Mr Auld's proposed subdivision requires a more complex resource consent than would be needed for a more straight forward development. No other similar applications have been received by the Council and so we don't have an established precedent to follow, which is why the outcome of an application would be uncertain.

It is important that Councillors involved in environmental hearings do not predetermine applications by becoming involved before a hearing situation. That is why members of the Council's Environment and Hearings Committee would have been reluctant to comment.

I would recommend that before purchasing a property, people obtain a Land Information Memorandum from the Council. Such a report can provide a significant amount of information relating to a property. Mr Auld did not get a LIM in this case and therefore could not be forewarned about the very issues that he now has concerns over.

BBC: Substitute

When Adam and Eve had to leave Eden, God covered their sin with skins, animal skins. Something had to die to cover their sin.

When Cain offered his sacrifice of apples, pears, grapes, anything in fact that grew on a tree, that sacrifice was not accepted.

But when his twin brother Abel sacrificed a lamb, that was accepted. A live animal had to die. That was the only acceptable sacrifice.

After a twenty five year wait Abraham was so thrilled to have, at last, the promised son. The question was, as Abraham and Sarah now had

their son, was God put on the back-burner? God decided to test Abraham. God told him to sacrifice his son Isaac, and Abraham obeyed, travelling to Mount Moriah. But, just when the knife was to fall and slay Isaac, God stopped Abraham and provided a ram in Isaac's place.

And when a prophet came with a message that judgment was coming once again, it was a lamb that had to be sacrificed. Instructed by Moses the Israelites were to sacrifice a lamb, cook it, eat it and sprinkle its blood on their doorposts and lintel of their homes. The blood marking was proof that they had identified with the substitute lamb. The judgment would then "Passover" them.

When John the Baptist pointed to Jesus and said, "Look, there's the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" two of John's disciples left him and followed Jesus. But

they never clicked to the full implication of what that meant.

Jesus knew.

Three years later Jesus stood on Mount Moriah and was condemned. He was taken from there, over mount Zion to a place just outside the city wall where two roads met. There, exactly as described in Psalm 22, Jesus was crucified. But this lamb, Jesus Christ, covered your sin and my sin. And just as those Israelites in Egypt had to mark their doorways with the blood of the lamb, so believers today are to display that they believe Christ's death on the cross is their substitute for their sin.

And it is no good thinking any other sacrifice will do the job. Cain has already tried that and failed. The Lamb of God, Jesus, is our only acceptable substitute.

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Opunake churches join together for Good Friday Walk

This is a walk which has become a tradition in Opunake and towns all over New Zealand where Christians from all denominations show their oneness in Christ through the cross and what it means.

It symbolises a death, yet a victory through His death, setting people free from sin and addiction, giving people hope sometimes where there is only despair. We have spoken to the Spiritual Leaders of Opunake to give an overview of their thoughts, especially during a time that we are all worried about drugs and the effect it has on our young. Here is what they have to say:



Last year people from Opunake's churches joined together in the Good Friday Walk of Witness(left).

Celebrating the Jesus Way

Mankind spends much time and effort searching for the meaning of life.

Why are we here and to what purpose? Who am I?

Down through the ages people who demonstrate great peace in the midst of difficulty and turmoil are people who are convinced that faith in God gives meaning and purpose to their lives. The various writers of the Psalms are able to articulate in poetic form their experience of the

God who listens, guides and helps in often very trying situations.

God wants all people to experience this inner peace for themselves. He sent His Son, Jesus the Christ, to show us the way. He sent His Holy Spirit to live in us, to communicate with us moment by moment.

The Jesus way, of love and self sacrifice upset those with a more aggressive agenda and still does. The way of darkness, the ISIS way, the

Roman way, the Zealot way, the Intolerant Religious way, the Philosophical way, the Jihadist way, can neither understand nor tolerate the Jesus way. The Jesus way, took Jesus to crucifixion by being nailed to a Roman Cross at Golgotha.

The Dark forces thought they had won the contest on crucifixion day but Love and light can never be defeated. Goodness and purity won the battle. The Kingdom of God, the Kingdom of Goodness,

Love and Light broke into our frail and fragile world. We look forward to that day when the Kingdom of God fully arrives. When King Jesus returns and every knee will bend and every tongue confess Jesus as He is. The King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Will you be there and join the celebration?

Rev'd Ian Sargent St Barnabas Anglican Parish Opunake

The Victory is won

It has been said that for evil to prosper good men only have to do nothing." It appears as though our world is in the terrible grip of evil, with it seemingly having the upper hand at the moment. There is among some folk that hopeless feeling of what can we do?

In W.W.2 it was said that the professional army generals of the German army claimed that if the Allies got a foothold on French soil then the war was lost. But did they simply lay

down their arms in surrender when the Allies did get that foothold? Of course not. They fought on right up to the fall of Berlin and defeat.

We are about to celebrate what is clearly the most important event in human history. We call it Easter. God calls it victory over evil, and the once for all defeat of the power and curse of death over mankind. Sadly for far too many, even some within the church, it is no more than another holiday.

I have seen the events of

Easter in the light of those supposed words of the German generals. I see the events of Calvary in similar light to the landing of the Allies on French soil.

What God did at Calvary was He took a foothold in human history. With WW2 there were still battles to be fought after the landing even if the war was in fact lost for Germany. At Calvary, God placed in the hearts of all who believe in Jesus as Lord and Saviour a Hope that nothing has the power to

remove. Yes we still have, like those generals, some battles to face, but we must never lose sight of the truth that the war was won at the resurrection of Jesus. Hope that God has given to all the true followers of Jesus is like a banner that God set up at Calvary.

It is there to carry us through when the going gets rough, so lift high the banner of Hope and watch God roll back the forces of evil.

Easter = Victory and Hope.

Blessings in Him,

Rev Arthur Barnfather

Bad things happen when good people do nothing

There's an insurance advert on TV "Bad's not going anywhere, and neither are we." Here's a better quote "This towns not big enough for the two of us - Bad, you're gone."

Jesus' death paid the price for our Bad.

His resurrection conquered the power of Bad.

No one has to live under the bondage of Bad.

We have the power to pray, speak life, stand firm, and overcome. This Easter Friday walk with us, as a march for Good. That's why we call it Good Friday. A Good man, Jesus, did something.

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Dawn of a new day for Opunake

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just a medical centre, it's a hub for the gamut of social and health services." The Opunake Medical Centre will occupy around a third of the facility and other services the remainder. No one seemed to know how many rooms there were in the complex. Adrienne though added she had counted 59 doors.

It is set up to add a dentist though this may not happen for a while. It is also hoped to add a x-ray facility in the future.

Harry Bayliss, a trustee from the TSB Community Trust who had donated a considerable amount of money, remarked on how the community got right behind it the project.

It was a "real honour and privilege to be here", he said, and remarked that it was a credit to all those who'd put the time and effort into being there.

Dr Brent Anderson described Coastal Care as "a fantastic facility" and a "significant improvement" on the facility from which he's operated his medical practice over the last 25 years. "It's been land banked for so long, we haven't been able to develop it," he said adding there's little point in putting money into a building you don't own.

Coastal Care will be officially opened on April 2 at 11am by the Minister of Health Dr Jonathan Coleman.

On this month in history America's Cup retained

On March 2, 2000 Team New Zealand, led by Peter (later Sir) Blake retained the America's Cup by beating the Italian challenger Luna Rossa. Skipper Russell (later Sir) was at the helm for the first four races but yielded the held to Dean Barker for the fifth and final race.

Recently, after about 15 years as helmsman, Dean Barker lost his job as skipper and was very bitter about the demotion, although he was offered another job with Team NZ.



Dr Brent Anderson (left), who has run his Opunake Medical Practice from Havelock Street with pharmacist Ben Naba who will be moving his pharmacy into the new facility. Dr Anderson commented that it would be handy to have the pharmacy, which will be near the front door so close to the doctors. "I can't wait to move in."

Helping to deliver their dream

Graeme Champion from Arthur Brown Construction, who was at the blessing, said he was "very pleased and proud" to be associated with the project. "We've got quite a long association with the area with the dairy industry," he said. He was particularly proud of this one as it's a community project and they were "helping to deliver their dream."

Architect Jenny Goddard said it was "great to see it just about complete. It's a real credit to your trustees and volunteers."

It is three years since she became involved in the project. She was at the first planning meeting.

The architect also felt it was "the right location" in the centre of town.

Coastal Care has been built on land previously owned by the South Taranaki District Council and St Johns at the corner of Napier and King Streets on which formerly stood St John Hall and ambulance shed, the Opunake Plunket rooms and public toilets. The buildings were

either moved off or demolished by the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust in several working bees. Other volunteers donated plant and machinery as well as the hard fill. The complex is debt free.

The land is now owned by Coastal Care. "We bought it for a dollar," said Adrienne.

Opunake Plunket will occupy rooms in the new facility while St John will have

the use of a double bay garage as well as a sleep over room with an ensuite plus an office area. New public toilets with 24 hour access have been incorporated in the complex and will be available to the public after the official opening.

Coastal Care is next door to the fire station and has been built as a Level Four building to withstand earthquakes.

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Long Term Plan up for consultation

South Taranaki District Councillors have approved their Proposed Long Term Plan 2015 – 2025 Consultation Document for public feedback.

The Consultation Document, which will be delivered to South Taranaki households in early April, is a summary of the Council's Proposed Long Term Plan and outlines the key issues, projects and services the Council intends on carrying out over the next ten years – along with the impact on rates.

In the Plan Council is proposing a modest 2.5 per cent average annual rate increase over the next ten years, which is less than the Local Government rate of inflation.

South Taranaki District

Mayor, Ross Dunlop says the proposed Plan reflects Council's approach to building a strong and vibrant district.

"Previously, Council's focus has been on upgrading our water and wastewater infrastructure and key community facilities. We are now in the enviable position of having completed most of the costly upgrades that many Councils are still facing," says Mr Dunlop. "The focus for the next ten years is on maintaining our current assets and core services as well as implementing projects to retain and grow our population."

"One of the key challenges we face, as for most rural council's in New Zealand, is how to retain and grow our

population (and ratepayer) base. If South Taranaki is to achieve its potential we must not only retain existing residents but attract new skilled workers and their families to the District," says Mayor Dunlop.

"A second key challenge is how we respond to the upcoming changes in the government's earthquake prone buildings legislation. To respond to these challenges Council has proposed a number of projects such as the Hawera Town Centre Development, the District Walkways and Cycleways Project and the Earthquake Prone Buildings Assistance Package designed to make South Taranaki an attractive and desirable place to live and

do business," he says.

"At the same time Council is very conscious of the need to keep rates at an affordable level. Consequently we are proposing to fund our key projects with existing reserves and earnings from the Council's Long Term Investment Fund, rather than through rates," says Mr Dunlop.

"With an average total rate increase of 2.5% per year over the next ten years, we believe our proposed Long Term Plan strikes the right balance between progress and affordability, but now Council wants to know what our residents think."

Public consultation on the Council's proposed Long Term Plan starts on 30 March

and runs till 6 May.

Proposed projects in the Long Term Plan include upgrades to the Eltham, Rawhitiroa and Manaia Town pools, as well as the Opunake and Manaia Libraries. Others set to benefit are the

Eltham Municipal Building and Town Hall, the Lake Rotokare to Patea Dam mountain bike trail, Victoria Park, Kaponga, Opunake Beach Holiday Park, Te Namu Pa Bridge, Opunake and the Manaia Walkway



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The crash scene on May 12 near the Waiaua Bridge.

Two vehicle accident on outskirts of Opunake

The police and fire brigade were called to a two vehicle accident near the Waiaua Bridge on Surf Highway 45 on May 12.

The accident which happened at around 3.15 pm west of the Waiaua Bridge involved a southbound car and a northbound four wheel drive vehicle. The sole occupant of the southbound

car, a Kaponga woman suffered cuts and bruises, and was taken by ambulance to Hawera Hospital where she had her injuries treated, and was discharged later that night.

Her vehicle was pushed to the side with extensive damage to the side and was written off.

It had been raining, and the

road was fairly slippery, Constable Craig Longworth of the Hawera police said.

The two male occupants were German nationals, and although the driver had been in the country for six months, this was his first time on the road in this country, Mr Longworth said.

Neither of the two men suffered any injuries.

"It looks like there could have been some aquaplaning because of the wet road. Speed wasn't a factor. Possibly weather conditions, and unfamiliarity with the road," Mr Longworth said.

Alcohol wasn't a factor, and at the time of going to press, it was still being decided whether any prosecutions would be laid.



The vehicle suffered extensive side damage.

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Phone us 06 761 7016. Our next issue is April 10 and we look forward to your contributions by Monday April 6.

Okato: Glad to be back on the Coast

I'm glad to be back on the coast. Hello Everyone. I have to say it is nice being back on the Coast and that my family and I are settling in well. It's been nearly 10 years since my wife Shelley and I were farming here with our three children and have to say the landscape hasn't changed that much.



Constable Rhys Connell

Congratulations to the Okato 150th committee who ran a very well organised event. The only thing that they couldn't organise was the weather unfortunately, but it didn't seem to dampen many peoples enthusiasm. Every person I have spoken to that attended the event had a great time, so well done to all that were involved. One event that did happen on the Sunday night of the Jubilee, which was far from pleasing, was the amount of

damage done to property up at the old Quarry on Saunders Road. Steve Gibson Contracting use the quarry, and had all of the tyres slashed on the trailer parked up there, as well as the window smashed, and the electrics cut on the Bobcat. The amount of damage was quite staggering. If anyone has any idea who was responsible I would definitely like to know, and people who want to have a quiet word in

my ear can do so. I also attended an accident at the Katikara Stream Bridge that week as well. Thankfully no one was seriously hurt, but it was really only a bit of luck which stopped this accident from being more severe. I don't have to tell the locals how dangerous this bridge is, but as the weather deteriorates over the next few weeks, please slow down on approach and be careful when crossing the bridge.

Many of you would have seen the Air Force Iroquois in the sky the last few weeks as well. It was extremely disappointing how many cannabis plants were pulled out around the Coast, and it would be fair to say that the Coast had the highest representation of any District in Taranaki. As a community we can't turn a blind eye to those who want to use our land to grow

drugs. It's time to get tough on these people, and to put our foot down. I don't want cannabis to start to invade our schools, and won't hear the old "what's the problem, it's harmless" garbage that I hear from the growers that I deal with. When we are pulling out cannabis in plots of 50 - 100 plants then you know that person has the intent of selling and distributing this drug in our community. Ask yourself; Is that acceptable?

That's all for now, don't forget to call in if you want to have a chat about anything and if you have any information on some of the things I have discussed above then you can call me on 021 1914920. All information will be treated as confidential.

Have a good week
Rhys

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Adventurous drive to Te Kiri WI's birthday lunch

We had quite an adventure driving to our birthday luncheon and Institute meeting in Hawera, with rain pouring down and thunder and lightning. This didn't dampen our enthusiasm or interfere with our sense of humour. Over a delicious luncheon and a small social time, we

discussed what we would like to do to celebrate our coming 80th birthday.

It had stopped raining when we set off for Kath Perret's new home, and were welcomed by Kath and Sue.. Institute business was discussed. Sue and ita had enjoyed a wonderful day at Patea, celebrating Founders Day. We are helping Pihama WI with luncheon for their Cancner Walk.

We are hostessing and entertaining the Friendship Club this month, and were busy planning fr the day. It was Merle Clement's first meeting as our new secretary. Congratulations Merle. Well done.

Sue asked us where we would like to go for our

Christmas lunch. Several ideas were put forward, and we will discuss this again nearer Christmas.

Competition results. First Merle Clement. Handwork. First Mavis West. Second Joy Collins.

Competition results end of year 2014. Bloom. Bennett Plate. First Judith Armstrong. Second. Gwen Flavell and Raima Karam. Third Merle Clement and Joy Collins. Shrub. Golden Jubilee Vase. First Merle Clement. Second Judith Armstrong. Third Joy Collins and Heather Radford.

Handcraft. Langlands Vase. First Joy Collins. Second Kath Perrett. Third Heather Radford.

Floral. Silver Vase. First Raima Karam. Second Sue

Muggeridge. Third Joy Collins.

Cooking Opunake Cup. First Joy Collins. Second Heather Radford. Third Judith Armstrong.

Silver Tray. Display Table. First Joy Collins and Mavis West. Second Gwen Flavell and Kath Perrett. Third Heather Radford.

We were all presented with a tin of fruit. Kath had made a delicious birthday cake, and Pauline helped Kath with serving afternoon tea. Kath was thanked for the use of her home and was presented with a gift of appreciation.

A very happy meeting enjoyed by us all, and we are all looking forward tgo another successful year together.

Mavis West

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Safety with firearms

MSC urges a focus on firearms safety following tragic start to the roar

Mountain Safety Council (MSC) Firearms and Hunter Safety Programme Manager, Nicole McKee, says the death of Invercargill man Samuel Phillip Long (24) on Stewart Island recently is a tragic reminder for hunters to make firearms safety an absolute priority at all times.

Nicole McKee says hunters need to understand, and comply with, the seven basic rules of firearms safety that make up the Firearms Safety Code, to ensure the safety of themselves and others.

"Even the most experienced hunters cannot afford to become complacent, even for a moment. If there is a firearms incident, chances are that one or more of the seven rules have not been followed."

"Hunters need to ensure they identify their target beyond all doubt, before pulling the trigger. Movement,

colour, sound and shape can all deceive you. Once the trigger has been pulled and a projectile leaves the barrel, there is no bringing it back."

Simple actions, such as wearing colours that contrast with your environment so you can be seen by other hunters and immediately stopping hunting if you lose sight of anyone in your hunting party until you have found them again, can help to ensure that your entire hunting party returns safely, Nicole says.

MSC Chief Executive Mike Daisley said the MSC is absolutely committed to ensuring people have the right information and resources to make sensible, safe decisions that can save lives.

"The Firearms Safety Code, tips, advice and resources can be found on the MSC website, as well as information about how to book a Firearms Safety Course. I encourage people to take the time to visit the website and

get informed."

The Firearms Safety Code: Seven basic rules of firearms safety:

1. Treat every firearm as loaded
 - Check every firearm yourself.
 - Pass or accept only an open or unloaded firearm.
2. Always point firearms in a safe direction
 - Loaded or unloaded, always point the muzzle in a safe direction.
3. Load a firearm only when you are ready to fire
 - Load the magazine only after you reach your shooting area.
 - Load the chamber only when ready to shoot.
 - Completely unload before leaving the shooting area.

Continued on page 7

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Safety with firearms

- 4. Identity your target beyond all doubt
 - Movement, colour, sound and shape can all deceive you.
- 5. Check your firing zone
 - Assume colour, shape, sound, and shape to be human until proven otherwise.
 - Think! What may happen if you miss your target? What might you hit between you and the target or beyond?
 - Do not fire if you know others are in your firing zone.
- 6. Store firearms and ammunition safely
 - When not in use, lock away the bolt, firearm and ammunition separately.
 - Never leave firearms in a vehicle that is unattended.
- 7. Avoid alcohol when handling firearms
 - Good judgement is the key to safe use of firearms.

Trust punches on resolutely after break in



START CEO with punching bag, which was donated after the break in.

A trust dealing with youth offenders has not let the theft of gym gear deter them. START Taranaki has been based in Kaponga since 2003. They are a charitable trust financed by the Ministry of Social Development, and work with high-risk youth offenders. They take 15-17 year-olds who would otherwise be sent to detention centres and give them a programme aimed at transitioning them back into the community. The programme includes time spent learning survival skills on nearby Mt Taranaki, as well as canoeing, beach and marae experiences, in addition to a nine week

residency in Kaponga, and counselling before being transitioned back into the community they came from. In the time START has been going, they have had dealings with youths from as far afield as the far north and the South Island. When some of their gym gear was stolen late last year by two youths who could otherwise come under the trust's ambit, the irony was not lost on the trust's CEO Neville Phillips. "The ones that ripped us off are the very nature of the young people we are here to help," he said. Two youths have since been

arrested for the theft and one is serving a jail term. The stolen gear has long since disappeared. Neither of the two arrested had been associated with the trust. The thieves had smashed through the wall of the building being used as a gym. At the time the windows had been secured and the trust was waiting on a grant to upgrade the building. The outer walls comprised only fibrolite and the interior walls were hard board, making it easy for the thieves to smash their way in and open the door from the inside. Among the items stolen were punching bags,

boxing gloves, kicking pads, and hand weights and bars. "It was gear that had been accumulated, stuff that had been bought through funding applications and donated over the years," Neville said. "Fitness and general health are important factors in raising a person's self esteem. Having our own gym is a huge advantage, as the people we deal with are not always welcome at other gyms." The grant the trust had been waiting on later came through, and they have since made the building more secure. Neville said he is pleased with the response from the community since then, with equipment donated to replace what had been stolen.

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Nasty mean society who only feeds hungry kids

Last week the government voted against a Bill that would provide lunches free for all kids in low decile schools. Since then my inbox has been flooded with emails telling what a nasty, mean, fat-cat I am. Most follow exactly the same format and have been merely cut and pasted from a template. This was confirmed by one correspondent. They all read "You voted so that children in need will not be fed. I am not mad, I am very disappointed, actually I am mad too." My response was to comment that they were so outraged that they couldn't bother to construct their own two line email to describe just how outraged they actually were. Then I went on to articulate what the government had done to feed kids who were hungry at school, but I have to admit, after about twenty or thirty genuine replies, I got too busy to respond.

The taxpayer currently pays for every school that wants to provide breakfasts to hungry kids the ability to get in on the Fonterra, Sanitarium and government sponsored breakfasts in schools campaign.



Hon Chester Borrows MP

Most schools don't avail themselves of the opportunity because they believe that families have the first responsibility for feeding their kids. But schools do provide breakfasts and lunches free of charge to hungry kids on a case by case basis. It also supports Kids Can which provides raincoats and meals at lunch time. It provides free fruit to low decile schools and social workers in schools to look after the welfare of poorer kids in our neighbourhoods. The taxpayer pays for the working for families scheme to substantially subsidise lower to middle income families and has insulated about 180,000 homes so that kids keep in better health, but

also their parents don't spend so much money on power bills and doctors visits. The taxpayer gives free doctors visits up to the age of 13 and Accommodation Supplements are available for low income families who need to pay the rent or mortgage if these are too big a proportion of their wages.

An article sent to me by a local doctor quoted the following "...I costed three healthy breakfasts: two free range scrambled eggs on lightly buttered wholegrain toast with salt and pepper cost \$1.39 and took five minutes to prepare; quick-cook porridge with a banana and a sprinkling of brown sugar cost 94c and four minutes time. And three Weet-Bix and milk with a sprinkling of sugar cost 55c and took two minutes." The article was written by the sibling of an All Black and acknowledged the assistance of the state and the local church in their upbringing.

It also made the point about the relative costs of a single cigarette at nearly \$1 each. The debate can be seen as quite simplistic because it

doesn't take into account the other costs of pre-existing conditions that may impact on families struggling to make ends meet. But the proposition that all kids in low decile schools require feeding does exactly the same in reverse. Some poor kids attend high decile kids. The reasons why some kids don't eat breakfast may have nothing to do with the food available at home. Just like the emails which assumed all MP's were always well paid, rich as hell and don't care about poor people.

Most of us accept there are folk who struggle to make ends meet. Most of us accept that some are genuine cases of need, some are their own worst enemy and sadly their kids are lumped in there too. But all agree that the first responsibility with feeding kids lies with their parents, and where that can't be done, need should be met on a case by case basis.

Chester Borrows

MP for Whanganui

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Don't forget provinces

A lot of attention is given by politicians to the big cities. Auckland rates especially highly. It's hardly surprising when a third of the nation's population lives there.

One of the growing issues for New Zealand is how much of the economy is centred on our largest city.

That Auckland is the country's largest manufacturing

base, and acts as a strategic transport and distribution hub, isn't disputed. But with increasing numbers of people and an expanding economy comes a growing demand for everything else – infrastructure, roads, houses, jobs.

Certainly there are similar issues south of the Bombays, but regions like Taranaki are perfectly placed to lead the 'backblocks' into a new era.

It may, as Venture Taranaki points out in its "Wealth beneath our feet" report, take a change in attitude for some of us, but that change can only benefit us all.

Our region is blessed with an abundance of natural riches, not the least being the drawcard that is Mt Taranaki. There's also our black sands, long the bane of many out-of-towners who don't



Andrew Little MP

quite get how you can never, ever shake it out of your towel; there's our amazing and jealously-guarded arts scene, and then there's the oil and gas.

As diverse as they may seem, they are what drives our economy. Unlike Auckland, which sucks up Government cash like an empty petrol tank, Taranaki has

pretty much fuelled its own fortunes.

That's an intended pun. Like 20,000 others I spent a weekend earlier this month at WOMAD, an amazingly successful annual event that probably wouldn't happen if not for the partnership of two of our big energy companies.

It's partnerships that help a region grow. Auckland knows that. It's why it relies so heavily on its partnership with the Government.

Taranaki is strategically important for as many reasons as Auckland is. Its retail, visitor and cultural sectors add value to our communities far beyond the income they generate.

It's time the policies of the Government reflected that and partnered with the region to give it a fair go.

On this month in history David Lange debates Rev Falwell

On March 1, 1985 David Lange, prime minister of NZ took part in the Oxford Union debate with the American evangelist Rev Jerry Falwell. The topic was that nuclear weapons are morally indefensible, which Lange argued in support of, while Rev Falwell took the counter view. When an in-tecjector demanded to know

why NZ hadn't pulled out of ANZUS. "That's the question with which we would like an answer." Lange replied, "And I'm going to give you an answer if you hold your breath for moment ... I can smell the uranium on it as you lean forward."

RIGHT: David Lange.



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Locks shorn for Relay

A cancer scare last year prompted Kara Redin to have her locks shorn off to raise money for Relay for Life.

"I've had somebody close to me die of cancer, and I have friends with cancer. When I was going through my cancer scare, I said I would shear my hair. I would do anything, so long as I don't get cancer," she said.

What looked like cancer turned out to be only a lump. She kept the promise she made. As part of the fundraising for her Get Fit 45 team, she held a raffle which raised over \$500, the prize being a Hair Razor voucher, and the



Before. Kara (left) with raffle winner Faye Brown.

honour of shearing her hair. The winner was Faye Brown, who nominated her son James to do the honours.

For Faye, the issue was per-

sonal, having lost three of her own children to cancer.

So, late on Friday afternoon, it was off to Surf Inn to watch Kara lose her hair,



Getting shorn...

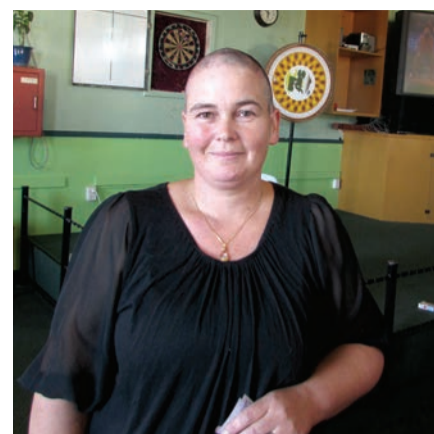
in front of an audience, with Faye's husband Phil as MC.

"We've got the shearer, now we need the ewe," Phil said.

Up stepped Kara and the

deed was done. She seemed happy with the result.

"I'm glad I've done it, but I don't think I'll be keeping it like this," she said. Mean-



...and after.

while she had the next item on her agenda to consider, taking part in Relay for Life in New Plymouth that week-end.

Local input sought to bring Ultra-fast Broadband to Whanganui

Whanganui MP Chester Borrows wants local authorities to make their case to bring Ultra-Fast Broadband (UFB) to Whanganui.

The Government has launched the next step in its \$2 billion fibre investment with a Registration of Interest document seeking input from local councils and technology providers on why their town should get UFB

and RBI (Rural Broadband Initiative).

"Better access to faster broadband is something that's raised with me often as the local MP. This is our chance to get directly involved and show why we need UFB in Whanganui and how we would support broadband extensions in our community," says Mr Borrows.

"Over the coming weeks I want to hear from council and local providers about their ideas on how we could support the roll out and uptake of better services in our district,"

Mr Borrows said the benefits of bringing UFB/RBI to Whanganui were exponential.

"Digital connectivity is a key part of growing our local

economy. Ensuring our local businesses, schools, homes and health care providers have access to fast and reliable broadband means more opportunities for our community."

The Government is investing an additional \$152 million to \$210 million to lift the Ultra-Fast Broadband programme coverage from 75 per cent to 80 per cent of

New Zealanders. It is also investing \$100 million to expand the Rural Broadband programme, and \$50 million to improve mo-

bile coverage in black spot areas along main highways and in popular tourist destinations.

Kaponga WI looks back on successful year

The Kaponga WI met at the Shakee Pear Cafe at Pioneer Village for their AGM. The President welcomed Rosemary Price a visitor from the Gold Coast who has been staying with her family the Frandsens. The Annual Report showed an interesting year with a variety of activities, and membership staying stable. Meetings have been held at cafes, mem-

bers' homes, and the TET Plunket Rooms, Kaponga. Competitions have been popular, with the winners being: Diane West (Gardening Cup and Morrisey Cup for overall runner-up), Joy Eliason (Cup for Miscellaneous Items), and Dorothy Hughes (Handcraft Cup and Jubilee Cup for overall winner). It was decided that each member will choose a month to be

hostess, and these hostesses will plan the programmes for the year's activities.

Activities have included garden and art gallery visits, taking part in skits and readings, knitting Anzac Poppies, a quiz, a talk by a Librarian, a wood turning display, a cooking demonstration, and learning about Trade Aid. Officers elected: President: Fiona Collins,

Secretary: Gillian Frandsen, Treasurer: Rayleen McDonald, Vice President: Margaret Broomhall, Publicity/Link: F Collins, Secret Friend/Historian: M Broomhall,

Competition Steward: Dorothy Hughes, Committee: Jo Jones, Mollie Nicholas, Diane West.

A world without tobacco?

Health experts led by New Zealand researchers have laid down the challenge of a tobacco-free world by 2040, but it won't be easy.

Writing in a major new series in *The Lancet*, the experts led by University of Auckland Professors Robert Beaglehole and Ruth Bonita, call on the United Nations to lead a "turbo-charged" effort against the sale and consumption of tobacco.

Beaglehole, Bonita and their colleagues are calling for the sale of tobacco to be phased out by 2040, showing that with sufficient political support and stronger evidence-based action against the tobacco industry, a tobacco-free world - where less



than five per cent of adults use tobacco - could be possible in less than three decades.

"The time has come for the world to acknowledge the unacceptability of the damage being done by the tobacco industry, and work towards a world essentially free from the legal and il-

legal sale of tobacco products," said Prof Beaglehole. The authors of the *Lancet* article say that amending the WHO's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control, and accelerating its implementation, would make the goal realistically achievable. Prof Richard Edwards from the University of Otago welcomed the "visionary and ambitious" goal, telling the SMC that New Zealand could be a leader in the initiative.

"The paper sets out a vision, which if achieved would be one of the great public health triumphs of the 21st century," Prof Edwards said. "New Zealand has an opportunity to provide leadership and inspiration. The question is will we do so?"

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Sylvia's Column: Your own worst enemy

Last edition's column about bullying is still on my mind. Recently I had the very strange experience of having to tell a client off for bullying himself. We'll call him Frank. According to the client, Frank was hopeless, nasty, and not good for anything, no-one liked him and probably thought he was pretty much a useless waste of space. It was this point I had to object about the self-bullying of Frank. How dare he pick on Frank like that? Does he judge others in the same way as he judged Frank? No, I didn't



Sylvia Huitson

think so. What he is doing is self-bullying. He is his own worst enemy (instead of his own best friend), and of course he's going to feel

bad, he's slugging himself off all the time. Right. We are going to put a stop to this self-bullying.

Often people do this. They have a very distorted view of themselves. They think people think all sorts of bad things about them. For my clients, the rule is you are not allowed to put yourself down – not ever. You are not allowed to think you can read others minds and invent what this person thinks about you. We can't read others' thoughts. Don't even try. You are bound to make up something bad because it is

more common for most of us to think bad things about ourselves than good things.

Having a good self esteem is really, really important. If we think we are no good and not worth anything, then that can be damaging to us. Others often do not put a value on us if we don't put a value on ourselves.

People in our lives can let us down. When we need them the most it can seem like they don't have time for us. One of life's lessons, I think, is that if you can become your own best friend/supporter/back-up – then you always

have someone on your team. Yes – one person (yourself) who believes in you and is there for you. This may seem weird – but it isn't really and it does work. So no put-downs or beating yourself up over something you wish you hadn't said that you are still stewing on. Instead – tell yourself off once if you need to, apologise if you need to – and then get over it. That's it. Don't wallow in it or fester over it. Move on. Self praise when you do something good or right, or you are proud of. It's a bit like being your own mother. Praise is good. If

you don't get praise in your workplace then tell yourself when you have done a good job. Same at home if you don't get any praise. Be your own best friend instead of your own worst enemy. Then you have at least one friend who won't ever let you down, ever. It takes time to make it a habit, but you can do it. See what difference it makes in your life. Your relationship with yourself can dictate how successful, how happy, or how long, your life is.

Try it and see. It certainly can't do any harm.

Importers say laboratories advised of extra 1080 controls

Importers, laboratories and other workplaces holding 1080 are being advised by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) on how to comply with extra controls introduced by the Government.

Tighter controls on the high purity forms of sodium fluoroacetate (1080) have been introduced in response to the criminal threat to use 1080 to contaminate infant and other

formula. The new controls apply to all workplaces and all laboratories, including those operating under the Hazardous Substances Exempt Laboratories Regulations.

After 10 April 2015 it will be unlawful for any laboratory or place of work to hold 1080 without having notified the EPA (for current stocks), or having requested an import certificate (for each new im-

port of 1080). This information will enable the EPA to better track the importation, distribution and use of high purity 1080, and to ensure it is always securely contained.

The extra requirements are: all laboratories and places of work holding 1080 as at 12 March 2015 are required to notify the EPA of the quantity held and the supplier of the 1080. This notification must be made by 10 April 2015.

Any new imports of 1080 must be notified to the EPA and an import certificate must be obtained and provided to the New Zealand Customs Service before the imported 1080 can be uplifted. This requirement is effective immediately.

All laboratories and places of work holding stocks of 1080 at any time in a calendar year, must provide an annual report to the EPA by 31

March of the following year. The annual report for the 2015 calendar year must be provided by 31 March 2016, and must cover the period from 12 March to 31 December 2015. Users of 1080 are urged to review their tracking and recording procedures now to ensure being able to meet the annual reporting requirements.

Additional storage requirements apply to laboratories

operating under the Exempt Laboratories regulations. The laboratory manager must ensure that any 1080 held in the laboratory must be securely locked up when not in use.

This requirement already applies to laboratories and other places of work operating under the HSNO Act and Regulations.

Report slams homeopathy as being an ineffective treatment

Australian health authorities have rejected homeopathy as a medical treatment following a review that found no evidence for the alternative therapy.

This week the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) released an extensive review

on the efficacy of homeopathy. "Based on the assessment of the evidence of effectiveness of homeopathy, NHMRC concludes that there are no health conditions for which there is reliable evidence that homeopathy is effective," they said. The conclusion is based on

the findings of a rigorous assessment of more than 1800 papers. Of these, 225 studies met the criteria to be included in NHMRC's examination of the effectiveness of homeopathy, an alternative therapy based on treating a wide range of illnesses with highly diluted solutions.

In New Zealand, The Society for Science Based Healthcare has called on New Zealand pharmacies to "immediately stop promoting and selling homeopathic products in response to this report." "Consumers should be able to rely on pharmacists and pharmacy sales assistants to



only provide reliable healthcare advice, and to only promote reliable healthcare products. Until pharmacies

stop promoting and selling homeopathic products, this will not be the case."

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On this month in history: Poet Robert Frost was born

On March 26 American poet Robert Frost was born in San Francisco. Before he was a published poet (aged 39) he had various jobs including a farmer, cobbler and teacher. One of his poems 'Stopping By Woods On a Snowy Evening' was rated one of the

greatest poems of all time. Also well known and loved is 'The Road Not Taken'. He won the Pulitzer Prize no less than four times. In 1961 he was asked to read a specially composed poem at President John F Kennedy's inauguration.

Next issue is scheduled for April 10. Please ensure columns, editorial and advertisements reach us by Monday April 6 to prevent us tearing our hair out (Or what's left of it in some cases!).

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RELAY FOR LIFE

GALA



After a very stormy, wet, windy morning and early afternoon the skies cleared and the sun shone for our gala. Many people enjoyed the activities and the beautiful night. Thank you to the students, staff, community and sponsors for your input on making this such a profitable event with \$10,500 being made.

Hapu Raffle Results

Rimu: Chocolates Robert Crean

Awhina: Groceries 1st Nuku Whanau, 2nd Rebecca Neil

Totara: \$200 Cash Glen Frey Abad

Karo: \$200 OBA Vouchers - Lyn Collins

A busy couple of weeks at Opunake High School with the gala on the 12 March and Relay for Life Participation on the weekend of 21 and 22 March. A huge commitment from the students with the fundraising and participation for both these events. 128 Students participated in the Relay for life and raised \$7,600 from community donations to contribute towards cancer research and support, a fantastic effort by you all.



Tara Clement a member of the Young Enterprise Scheme tie dyed the Relay for Life T-shirts as part of their activity.



Photos above:

Top: Alyssia Redin with face painted.

Middle: Daisy Lash has fun on the Mitre 10 Bouncy Castle.

Bottom: Alistair Cook sells quickfire raffle tickets to Hannah Drought.

Left: A happy chappie with his posters from Karams Clothes on the Coast.

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Lahar's brand new premises



Lahar's interesting exterior looks most inviting

On Saturday March 6 Lahar's new premises in Carthew Street, Okato was first open for business. Owner Laurent Manderson admitted it was a bit of a

rush to ensure the restaurant opened for the town's 150th celebrations, but still managed it.

"It was a bit scary, but we just needed to get it open,"

what we want, paint it in our colours and make changes to suit ourselves."

The result is spectacular and the place has a lovely, welcoming feel to it. Although it is obviously new, it has an older feel to it – perhaps helped by some of the furniture which has an 'olde world' ambience to it.

At the front of the premises, the food preparation area is open plan and very well-supplied with appliances and cupboards, as well as a pizza oven. The signage is clear, bright and informative. The staff is very friendly and obliging. One staff member Ellie-May said, "I love it here – it's really cool. There's a good team to work with." She admitted, "We're flat out here." She paid tribute to the, "Nice friendly customers who have been coming in."

There is a wide selection of food, with an emphasis on

materials to be enjoyed in comfort. The chimney from the pizza oven (downstairs) provides extra warmth for when winter descends.

Down the north side of the premises (downstairs) are a series of tables, which allow a very good capacity of comfortable, non-crowded seating. At the end is a cute small lounge area, heated by a gas fire.

One of the positive features of Lahar is the attention given to ensuring lots of natural light, using skylights and enormous windows in all directions.

Plants are liberally placed – both hanging and on the floor. Gardens outside have more plants and Laurent has plans for a herb garden in the near future, as well as a determination to grow healthy food for the restaurant.

The bar at the back is interesting in a number of ways. The bar has a very attrac-



Ellie-May one of the friendly staff at Lahar.

he explained.

He pays tribute to a number of people who have supported him from the planning stage, such as Kate, Eddie, Tom and Jess. "I wouldn't even have contemplated this without them," he comments.

The original premises, just a few doors away, had served Lahar well for about seven years, but Laurent said, "We needed a change."

As to why the new premises were built, Laurent continues, "We needed our own building, so we could do

health. For example, Laurent insists on using low-cholesterol rice bran oil for cooking, despite its extra cost. Vegetarians will enjoy the 'roast vegetable salad in marinated feta'. The evening menu will change fortnightly, so plenty of variety should cater to all tastes.

There is a huge variety of drinks on offer, hot and cold, alcoholic and non-alcoholic.

I especially liked the mezzanine floor, which is accessed by a handsome wooden staircase. The dining area has a good number of tables, all interestingly different. An adjoined lounge with a view has a coffee tables, couches and comfy chairs with a good selection of reading

materials to be enjoyed in comfort. Various animals gaze down on the patrons, courtesy of a taxidermist. Comfortable couches intermingle with bar stools. Skye Sport will be installed so you can (hopefully) watch New Zealand win the Cricket World Cup over a cool beer or wine. The garden outside the bar will be a great place to sit and enjoy your drink while the weather remains settled.

The floors throughout are bare wood, mostly painted black but 'ethnic' carpets are placed throughout. Various paintings also adorn the premises, by well-known artists such as Peter Lambert.

Outside there is a well-

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The upstairs dining area has a serene atmosphere.

appointed children's area, complete with play hut. It is very secure looking. There is a sandpit with a good number of toys to keep children occupied and contented.

At the back there is an extensive deck area and beyond that plenty of seating for those hot days.

Laurent has plenty of plans for the future including a shop, which Jessie will be responsible for – selling vinyl, jewellery, plants - and even a small brewery. He's like to have drama and poetry readings also. Structurally, he'd like to see some landings (upstairs) so people can really have a greater view of the landscape and sea.

Lahar is open Wednesday and Thursday 8.30am to 4pm, as well as Friday to Sunday 8.30am to about 11pm, although the restaurant will stop taking orders around 9pm. Sunday is pizza night from 5.30pm to late, with a 'special' which changes every week. Lahar is also available for private functions.



The upstairs lounge is a peaceful place to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea.

Congratulations to Laurent, Jess and all the other enthusiastic supporters who have helped create a unique restaurant, which will be an asset to Okato.

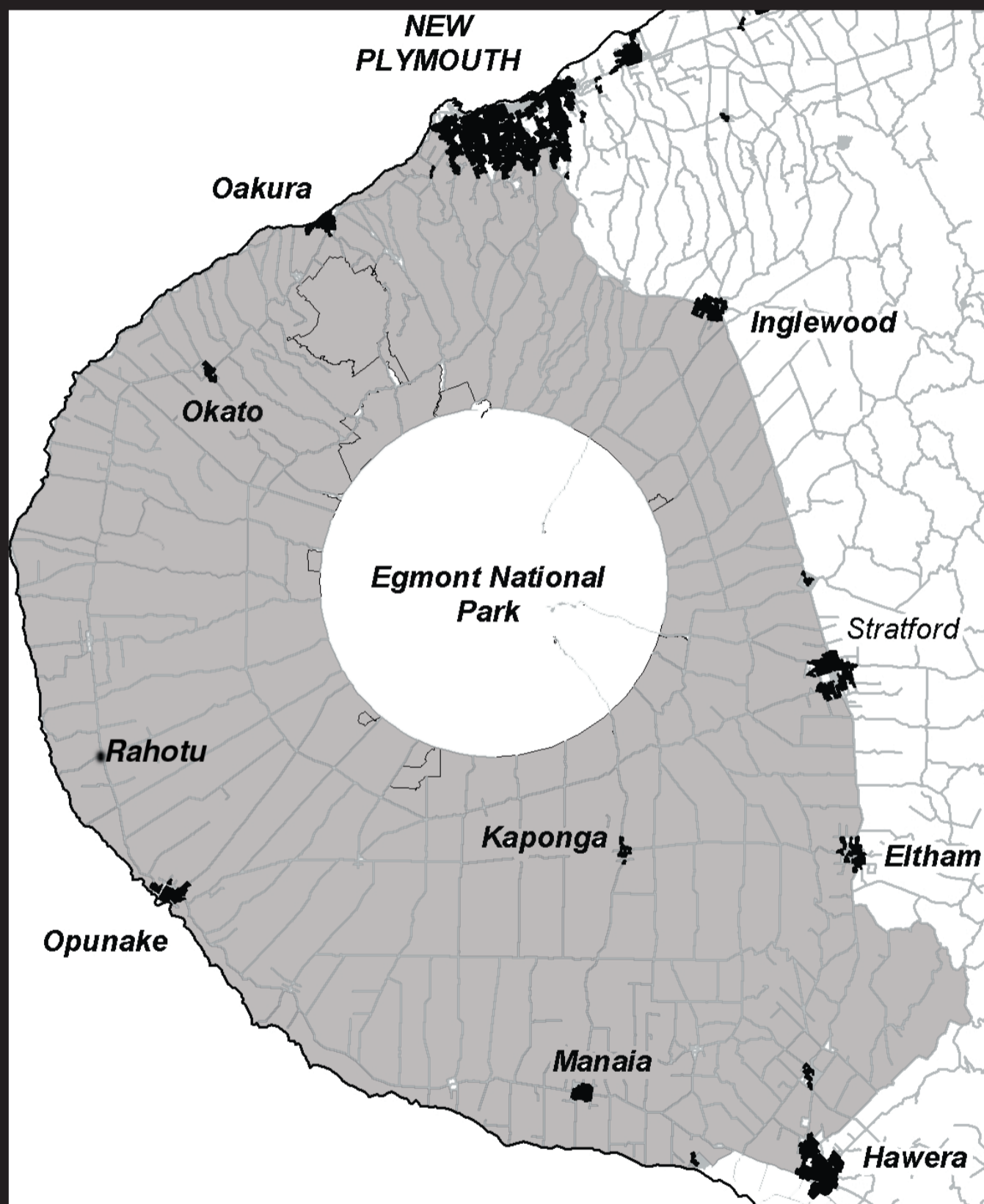
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Out and about.....



Dave Churchman, owner of House of Travel, New Plymouth, congratulates Brian Darth, winner of the \$2,000 travel voucher won by entering the Taranaki Masters Games before 13 Feb, 2015.



Taranaki Hurricanes and All Blacks rugby hero Beauden Barrett backs the Len Lye Centre.

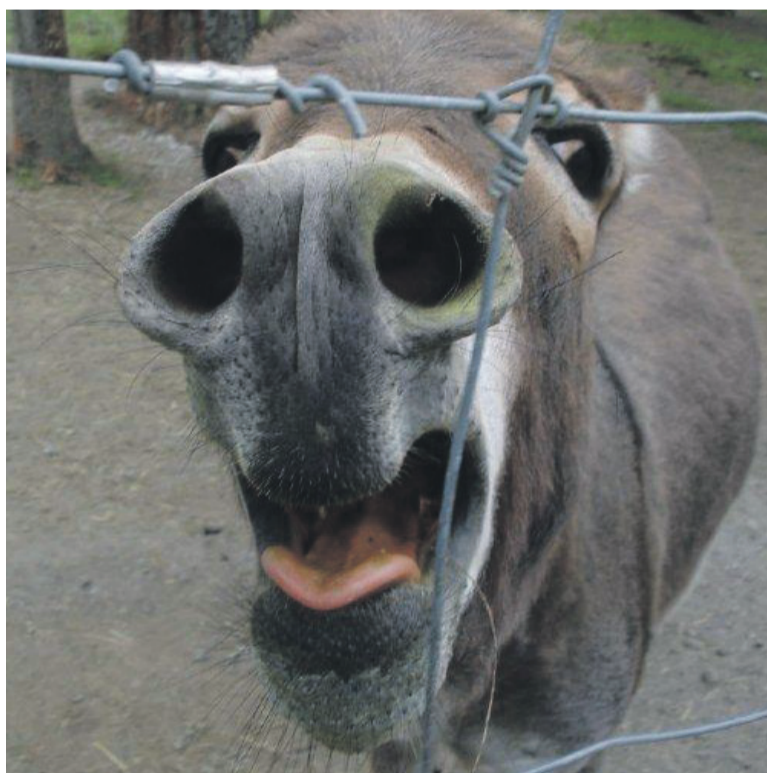
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TPP opportunity for dairy must not be missed

The Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand (DCANZ) has joined with national dairy organisations from Australia and the United States in appealing for their governments to progress a swift but successful conclusion to the TPP negotiations.

“We have a historic opportunity to remove distortions from the dairy market in the Asia-Pacific region. Our governments must grab hold of this.” Said DCANZ Chairman Malcolm Bailey

“TPP outcomes must be ambitious, comprehensive and commercially meaningful for dairy along

with other products. We understand that progress is being made in the negotiations but that it still falls short of the level of ambition needed.

“DCANZ strongly supports trade liberalisation. The case for trade to lead to job creation, increased investment, and economic growth has been demonstrated over centuries. But within this context dairy remains one of the most highly protected product groups globally. For example, Japan and Canada have import tariffs on dairy products that exceed 200 per cent.

“A successful TPP will

benefit New Zealand, Australian and US dairy producers and exporters, while at the same time improving nutritional security by delivering increased consumer options for safe high quality dairy products.”

Mr Bailey said the joint letter that has been sent to the three countries Governments reflects the commitment of the New Zealand, Australian and US dairy industries to a TPP outcome which is transformative for dairy trade in the region.

“These negotiations come at a time of increasing demand for dairy products globally. Trade will play

an important role in filling that demand. It makes absolutely no sense not to take this opportunity to remove the huge barriers which currently constrain dairy trade.”

The concerns of the New Zealand, Australian and US industries extend beyond tariff reduction. DCANZ says trade is also constrained by other less transparent and easily understood non-tariff barriers, such as the use of import licencing monopolies.

“Tariffs are only part of the problem” said Bailey. “Access gains won’t be realised unless other restrictions are also tackled”.

Taranaki Rescue Helicopter has busy Friday afternoon

A motorbike accident on a Pihama farm was one of four incidents the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter responded to last Friday.

Rescue Helicopter spokesman Mike Parker said the first of these calls was to fly a male to Taranaki Base Hospital after a medical incident on

a farm at Huinga. No sooner had they got back than they were called to attend a motorbike accident on a Pihama farm. An adult male was flown to Taranaki Base Hospital.

This was followed by a call

to pick up a young Taranaki boy, who was feeling unwell, 200 metres below the North the Mt Taranaki summit. A St John paramedic was winched down, and the patient was taken aboard the helicopter and flown back to

Taranaki Base Hospital.

Later that day, the helicopter was called to Hawera Hospital, and flew a person who had had an altercation with a dog to Waikato Hospital, Mr Parker said.



The Taranaki Community Rescue Helicopter was kept busy on Friday.

On this month in history: Arthur Allan Thomas found guilty of Crewe murders

On March 2, 1971 Arthur Allan Thomas, a farmer in the Pukekawa area, was found guilty in the Supreme Court in Auckland of his neighbours Jeanette and Harvey Crewe’s murder in

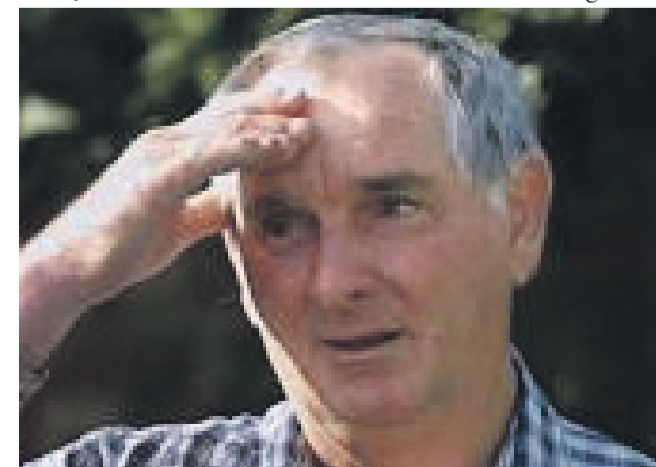
1971 (probably June 17). The couple’s infant child Rochelle was found in the house on June 22, 1970 in a distressed and unkempt state, begging the question who had been feeding her.

Her parents bodies were found in the Waikato River some weeks later. After an appeal a second trial was held and Thomas was again found guilty.

After a public furore the verdict was eventually deemed unsafe and the prime minister of the time Rob Muldoon (Later Sir) granted Thomas a pardon and he was released. He had spent about nine years in prison.

He was awarded almost a million dollars compensation for his many years of wrongful imprisonment, where he was assaulted and it cost him his marriage.

Thomas was involved in the campaign to overturn the murder conviction of David Bain.



Arthur Allan Thomas in a fairly recent photograph. He was born in 1938, so he would be about 76 now.



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Farmers care about cow welfare, says DairyNZ

DairyNZ is reminding farmers of the requirements for transporting cattle following recent news and social media comments on a case now being investigated by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

DairyNZ's veterinary technical policy advisor, Dr Nita Harding, says the requirements for transporting cattle are the same whether the animals are going to slaughter or some other destination – all animals must be fit for the journey.

“It is not acceptable to load and transport very thin animals and most farmers understand that and take great care of their animals. The industry, and that includes farmers, see the importance of everyone adhering to the same standards of care and they place a high priority on ensuring that happens. The law and our industry take animal welfare very seriously and there are strict rules relating to animal transport.”

Dr Harding says for farmers sending animals off-farm, it is not just a matter of booking the truck and

loading the animals. The animals for transport must be selected and checked to ensure they are fit for the journey.

She says DairyNZ has done a lot of work on communicating requirements for the selection and preparation of animals for transport so there is no excuse for farmers not knowing what to do.

“We have also assisted with some recent Ministry for Primary Industries workshops on transporting livestock held for stock transporters, stock agents

and meat industry personnel. We are all working together to ensure the best standards of cow care at all times,” says Dr Harding.

Dr Harding says in preparation for transport, animals should be held off green feed for four to 12 hours, with water and hay provided, and a final check made at the time of loading.

“Animals that are not fit to travel must receive appropriate care on-farm, including veterinary care if necessary, and in some cases this may mean humane slaughter on-farm.”

New Dairy Industry workplace accord to be launched

A new dairy industry workplace accord will be launched in May as part of a range of industry actions aimed at helping farmers attract and retain skilled people to work on farms.

“The Quality Workplace Accord is a commitment to improving the work environment of dairy farms,” says DairyNZ's strategy and investment leader for people and business, Mark Paine.

“The overarching goal is to achieve quality work environments through helping farmers implement good people management practices.

“We need a positive reputation for employment practice and we need it now. We have to show our commitment to delivering that for the people who work in our industry and who are considering coming into it. This Accord is going to be a strong, visible and public commitment. The Accord will have deadlines and set out timeframes for meeting key targets around safety, legal obligations and remuneration policies.”

People as a key asset

“Good people management practices are critical to lifting our productivity and value as an industry. Providing evidence to others about how we are improving our performance will help on a number of fronts,” says Mark.



“We need to attract the best people at all levels because we can't farm competitively and responsibly without good staff. We have an industry strategy that says we want talented people and a world class environment. We need to show how we're going to attain both of these important goals.

“Having an industry Accord will enable 12,000 diverse dairy farm businesses to be co-ordinated”. **The management challenge**

DairyNZ's People Benchmark Survey from November 2013 indicates more than 90% of dairy farmers feel competent at staff management, although less than half actively enjoy it.

“This raises the challenge of how we lift performance when most of our farmers aren't really happily engaged in that part of their businesses. If you're not enjoying the people management side, then you are probably less likely to

want to spend more of your time on doing it better. This is going to be challenging for the industry,” says Mark.

Across all regions in New Zealand, the survey showed the importance that manager's place on farm staff is consistently higher than other operating components such as pasture, herd quality and infrastructure.

Federated Farmers' dairy industry group chairperson, Andrew Hoggard, agrees that improving workplaces is crucial.

“We recognise there's a labour shortage. There's a need to upskill people currently working in the industry, as well as making dairy farming an attractive career prospect.

“There are some really great employers and workplaces out there, but as an industry we need to improve. There's no point in running a big campaign attracting people to dairying until we're confident we've got a world class work

environment to back it up.”

With increased scrutiny of the dairy industry, Andrew says it's also important to take the initiative to set targets and make improvements to remove the need for increased regulation and surveillance.

Federated Farmers has already started their Employment Compliance seminars which will be held around the country, focusing on what the regulations will mean for farmers.

“Focus areas include employee contracts, minimum wage requirements, time keeping, staff accommodation and health and safety,” says Andrew.

The final Quality Workplace Accord will be available to dairy farmers on the DairyNZ website in May 2015.

Quality Workplace Accord

What is it about?

- Setting our industry targets and commitments around quality work environments, compliance of legal workplace requirements and staff wellbeing.
- Setting out what the industry is doing on the ground to ensure quality work environments.
- Deciding who's responsible for contributing actions towards each target.

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Hands up all those who took part? The cup is held aloft by Lucy Shegedin and Jamiee Siciliano.

Opunake Primary School win cup

Opunake Primary School has won a prestigious event, the Mount SPA Tryathlon, culminating in John Pullar of Shell Todd Oil Services presenting the Cup on Monday March 16 at the school. Lucy Shegedin and Jamiee Siciliano received the Cup on behalf of the school at a special assembly.

The event – which was capably organised by the Opunake Community Pool Committee - was held on March 12 and involved 243 competing students, aged seven-years-old and upwards from eight primary schools. The

different activities included swimming in the Opunake Swimming Pool, cycling the streets of Opunake, and running distances on the Opunake High School grounds. The distances were similar to the ones involved in the Sanitarium Weetbix Try-athlon and it is hoped that the young competitors will also give this event a go later on.

The organisers were grateful for the various groups and clubs for their support and specifically their providing over 40 marshals to ensure that safety was the prime consideration.

In addition to the Cup Shell Todd Oil Services support enabled a \$500 prize to fund sporting activity and equipment for the school. Recently, Kiwisport also funded safety equipment following last year's bicycle purchases.

Kay Pointon, a spokesperson for the Opunake Community Pool Committee commented, "This was a real example of community effort at its best." She was grateful for the generosity of local retailers who provided 25 spot gifts for the children.



John Pullar of Shell Todd Oil Services presents the Mount SPA Tryathlon Cup to Lucy Shegedin (middle) and Jamiee Siciliano of Opunake Primary School.

Our next issue is due out on April 10
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Time for redemption?



James Langton

The Cricket World Cup is the big sporting news of the moment and everyone is talking about Martin Guptill's score of 237 not out (which included 35 boundaries) to beat the West Indies in the quarter final. In my opinion it was without doubt New Zealand's finest innings, followed by the test innings of Brendon McCullum's triple century against India and Martin Crowe's 299 against Sri

Lanka. Guptill has finally found the form that New Zealand has been waiting for. We knew he could produce a big one day innings. His 237 on Saturday surpassed New Zealand's previous One Day International record of 189, which Guptill also held. So all the talk before the World Cup about Guptill's bad form, and that he shouldn't be included in the World Cup team, has proven to be nonsense. He is a player that's capable of big scores and with his experience it was just a matter of time before he got his form back. By the time you read this we will know if Guptill has put up another big score and if the Black Caps have beaten South Africa to make it to the Cricket World Cup final for the first time.

A few things that I believe have turned this team around are: Brandon McCullum; if there has ever been a display

of leading from the front, this is it. McCullum is setting the standard in the Black Caps which every player needs to aspire to.

Mike Hussey; the Black Caps Coach. None of the results would have been possible without him and regardless of this week's results he can be proud of what he has done for New Zealand Cricket. Attitude adjustment; the players have gotten rid of their "I'm great and I'm a Black Cap" mentality and now their attitude seems to be "I'm a Black Cap and my results determine the team's greatness."

The Black Cap's performance so far in the World Cup has renewed New Zealand's interest in cricket, but as for the players, I'm sure nothing less than a World Cup win will make up for the years of disappointing results.

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Aussies Dominate Kiwis but Butler and Ensor claim trips to Brazil

The young Australians may have come to town and stolen the show on the final day of the Rip Curl GromSearch held at Fitzroy Beach on March 22, but it will be Mount Maunganui's Kehu Butler and Raiha Ensor who will represent New Zealand at the International Rip Curl GromSearch final. Butler and Ensor both finished runner up in their respective Under 17 Divisions in clean but small waves under 1.0m at Fitzroy Beach. As a result of their performances they will head to Brazil in a month to represent New Zealand at the International Rip Curl GromSearch Final. Butler was a stand out all event, beating Dexter Muskens on two occasions, but he could not match him in the final finishing with a 13.67 point heat total compared with Muskens' 15.0. Butler missed the opportunity to represent New Zealand at the event in 2014 but on Sunday, he defeated last year's champion Daniel Farr (Tara) who placed third ahead of first time finalist Harry Macintosh (Auck) who placed fourth. Ensor finished runner up to Paris Whitaker (AUS) who defended her title. Whitaker posted an excellent score early in the final and finished with a 12.1 point heat total. That forced the Kiwi girls to vie for the minor placings with Ensor coming out 0.20 points ahead of Britt Kindred (Mur) in third and Kea Smith (Mnt) in fourth. "I was in second toward the end of the heat but Britt got a good wave in the last two

minutes of the final and I wasn't sure if I held second place until they announced the results at the prize giving" explained Ensor. "This is so cool. To have an opportunity to go over to Brazil and represent New Zealand with Kehu will be amazing. I am going to take Dad with me and I will have more time off school but I can't wait" added Ensor. Dylan Preston (WGM) was another surfer to defend his title, winning the Under 14 Boys Division. Preston was the stand out surfer throughout the event and posted a 13.3 point heat total to defeat Luke Griffin (Mnt). Caleb Cutmore (Ham) had to settle for third place ahead of William Van Der Beek (Mnt) who equalled his personal best result by making the final. After three consecutive final berths and fourth placings, Georgia Wederell (Mnt) claimed her maiden victory in the Under 14 Girls Division. Wederell posted a 10.90 point heat total for the win over Gabi Paul (Piha), Grace Pevats (Whangarei) and Toni Power (Mnt). In the Under 12 Divisions it was local Oakura surfers Tom Butland and Ariana Shewry that claimed victories. Both finals were contested down to the final hooter. Butler posted a 12.3 point heat total to beat Jai Oakley (Chch), Tom Robinson (Whangarei) and James Ririnui (Mnt). Shewry posted a 10.9 point heat total to beat Ruby Hutchieson (Tara), Kahana Ngaia (Tara) and Maia Ensor (Mnt).



Kehu Butler. Photo by Daisy Day



Dexter Muskens. Photo by Daisy Day



Tom Butland. Photo by Daisy Day

New Plymouth Sanitarium Weet Bix Kids TRYathlon a sell out

The New Plymouth Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon has sold out with a new record of 1750 New Plymouth children gearing up to tackle the event on 1 April, 2015.

Registrations are now closed and there will be no on-the-day registrations for the event.

The event which is all about encouraging kids aged seven to 15-years-old to give it a try, will be held at Ngamotu Beach, New Plymouth.

The TRYathlon is a rite-of-passage for Kiwi kids and boosts a child's self-esteem. This year participants will have the chance to meet sporting celebrities Catherine Latu,

Mika Vukona and Tom Abercrombie, who will also be attending the event.

The response from parents of kids who participated last year was also positive with a survey showing that 84 per cent of children "really enjoyed" taking part, while an amazing 95 per cent felt positive about finishing the event.

Pierre van Heerden, General Manager for Sanitarium Health and Wellbeing Company says building happy, healthy children and communities is what the TRYathlon is all about.

"Every year it's fantastic to receive positive feedback on an event which grows-year-

on-year and we expect this series to be no different.

"It's so important for kids to get active at a young age, and it's great to be involved in an event which encourages them to do just this in a fun environment," says Mr van Heerden.

There are 14 events across New Zealand running from December until April, and kids can enter the TRYathlon as individuals or in a team of two. The Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon is the world's largest triathlon Series for under 16s and every child who participates receives a certificate and a medal along with a race pack, a race T-shirt, and a swim cap for all swimmers.

Promote your events in the

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - Call in at 23 Napier Street, Opunake or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

People who put in public notices and display adverts in the **What's On Section** for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos **FREE OF CHARGE,** to help promote the event.



RIGHT INTO OUTDOOR POWER EQUIPMENT

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If it needs cleaning - you need me. We now mow lawns & cut hedges!
 20 yrs exp. Inside or outside. No job too big or too small.
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HOLD A Rejuvenate Your Skin Party! Host gets \$30 commission on every pack sold, free products for hosting with a party of 6 or more with sale of 4 kits. Contact Melissa 027 608 9996.

FOR SALE

STIHL equipment on special this month. Chainsaws from \$325. More specials instore. Collins Sports Centre. 06 761 8778.

JOINT CARE 200 tabs, half price \$54 at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 758 7553

50% OFF table at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 758 7553. Getting rid of excess stock!

TUMMY BUG? Been on antibiotics? Replace good bacteria with a probiotic at Hardys the health shop in Centre City 758 7553. We deliver!

1995 HONDA CRV \$4000 ono. Please phone 06 752 4377

WANTED TO BUY

A copy of the following books:
 Moa Farmers' Co-operative Dairy Company Limited 75th Jubilee, 1895-1970.
 Opunake Co-operative Dairy Company Ltd 75th Jubilee, 1899-1974.
 Mangatoki School 75th Jubilee 1891-1966.
 Mangatoki School & District Centennial 1891-1991 (A century in progress).
 Auroa School 75th Jubilee 1891-1966.
 Warea School & District Centennial 1884-1984.
 Te Kiri School & District 75th Jubilee 1900-1975.
 Te Kiri School & District Centennial 1900-2000.
 Kaponga Public School Centennial 1891-1991.
 Otakeho School & District Centennial 1884-1984.
 And also Riverlea & Makaka School & District Centennial 1899-1999 (From Stumps to Strainers).
 No photocopies please.
 Ph: 06 764 8945 Eltham

SCRAP METAL South Taranaki. S.O.S. - Ph Dave: 0276058437

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

WORK WANTED

GARDENER available. Weeding, pruning, roses/shrubs, mowing. \$20 per hour. 10% pensioner discount. Ph/text: 027 699 8443

LOST & FOUND

AMERICARNA straw cowboy style hat, left at Sugar Juice Café, 27th Feb. Americarna flag pin on hat has sentimental value, from my mum who passed away. Contact 027 447 0027 with any information.

BIRTH NOTICE

LANGTON, James and Kelly (nee Martin) are overjoyed to announce the birth of their new daughter Anneliese Valerie. Born 4 March 2015 at Taranaki Base Hospital and weighing 9lb 0.5oz. Anneliese is a beautiful little sister for Shamus, Ellie and Celeste.

Our next issue is due out April 10
Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016

PUBLIC NOTICES



HERE TO THERE WITH CARE

Need help getting to your community appointment?
 Red Cross Community Transport is here for you - without the worry of transport costs.
 Call 0800 733 726 to see if Community Transport operates in your area, and how to book your lift.

0800 733 276
 www.redcross.org.nz



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Surf Highway Motorcycles

- Motorcycles (Harley Davidsons, European and more)
- Ride-on lawnmowers • Jetskis
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Located in Oakura, covers New Plymouth and coast
Call Brian on 027 435 5289

Call us today to advertise on 06 761 7016

PUBLIC NOTICES

Playcentre

Welcoming any new families into the area. Come and have a look at our child friendly facilities

Session Times: Tuesday & Thursday
 9.30am - 12.30pm

Enquiries Contact: 06 763 8658

RAHOTU PLAYCENTRE

Whanau tupu ngatahi - Families growing together

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

Opunake Catholic Church

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

Other areas

Maniaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm
 (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs).
 Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am
 Okato - St. Patricks - Saturday 6pm

SITUATIONS VACANT

PHYSIOTHERAPIST WANTED

for elderly Lady in New Plymouth
 Please phone:
 (06) 761 8206 or (06) 752 4377
 OR (06) 761 7016

PUBLIC NOTICES



SOUTH WORKING TO ENABLE & EMPOWER TEENS

Seeking community input

We are looking for expressions of interest from youth, whanau, community members & local business people wishing to attend a series of public meetings.

We're working on better outcomes for the youth of South Taranaki:

- * reducing offending
- * reducing truancy
- * reducing alcohol, drug & other substance abuse
- * increasing education, training and employment

Our meetings will be in Hawera, Opunake/Rahotu, Patea, Waverley, Eltham and Kaponga/Maniaia between March 31 - April 9. Everyone welcome.

For information about the meetings please email emma.symons@tuiora.co.nz, text or phone 0278075718 or view our SWEET facebook page.
 www.facebook.com/SWEETSOUTHtaranaki



SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL'S PROPOSED 2015-2025 LONG TERM PLAN PUBLIC MEETINGS

The South Taranaki District Council is currently consulting with residents about its' Proposed 2015-2025 Long Term Plan.

Come along to a public meeting for your chance to be informed about the Plan and the projects, activities and services the Council intends to carry out in the district over the next ten years.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

- Opunake**
 Wednesday 8 April, 5.30pm
 Sandfords Event Centre
- Hawera**
 Tuesday 14 April, 5.30pm
 Dimock's Building, Regent Street
- Patea**
 Wednesday 15 April, 5.30pm
 Old Folks Hall, Egmont Street
- Eltham**
 Thursday 16 April, 5.30pm
 Eltham Town Hall

MORNING COFFEE SESSIONS

- Maniaia**
 Friday 17 April, 10.00am
 Maniaia LibraryPlus, South Road
- Kaponga**
 Tuesday 21 April, 10.00am
 Kaponga LibraryPlus, Victoria Street
- Waverley**
 Friday 24 April, 10.00am
 Waverley LibraryPlus, Weraroa Road

For more information go to www.southtaranaki.com or phone 0800 111 323

PUBLIC NOTICES

**OPUNAKE
BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

A.G.M.

Monday 20th April - 7.00pm

Fish, chips and salads

\$11.90

at Everybody's Theatre - All welcome

SPECIAL NOTICE

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN PARISH

5th April 2015 Easter Sunday Service



Please note changes:

**VENUE - RAHOTU METHODIST
CHURCH**

TIME - 10.30am.

Contact person:
Elva Symons - 06 763 8650

**Auroa School & Districts
125th Jubilee**



**TARANAKI
ANNIVERSARY
WEEKEND
11th to 13th
March 2016**

For further information look on Auroa School's website
www.auroa.school.nz
Or contact Jessica Mills by phone - 0276355874
or email - jessica.mills@live.com
Follow us on Facebook

MOUNT SPA

Try-athlon

**organised by Opunake Community Pools
are grateful for the support of**

Shell Todd Oil Service & Kiwi Sport
PLUS

4Square45, Farmlands, Opunake Fish & Chips, RD1,
Coastal Pharmacy, Dreamtime Surf Shop, Collins Sports,
Araba Pharmacy, Country Connections, Sinclair
Electrical, Pastimes, Turn heads, Opunake Board Riders
and Surf Lifesaving Club

AND

Volunteers from the Opunake Fire Brigade, Lions Club,
Lakeside Lions Club, Opunake High School, Linda
Campbell, and the many family and friends who helped
make the event for our kids a great one again this year.

WHAT'S ON



OPUNAKE COMMUNITY POOLS

AquaFit & lane swimming. A/F - Mon 6:30pm, Tues/
Thurs 5:30pm & 6:30pm, Tues/Fri 9am. Lanes - Mon-Fri
6:30-8:30am. Mon 6:30-7:30pm, Tues - Thurs 5-7:30pm.
Public swimming Weekends & Public Holidays 1-4pm.

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month. Monday 6 April,
Everybody's Theatre 5.30pm Get together 6pm Meeting.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

First Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall,
1-4pm. All welcome

BARNEY AND CO

Mondays 1.30pm. St Barnabas Church Hall. Games,
friendship, cuppa. All welcome.

ELTHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Corner York and Bridge Streets. Open 1.00 p.m. - 3.30
Thursdays and Fridays.

SURF INN

Every day free pool. Every Friday free sausage sizzle
from 5. Every Sunday afternoon. Pool comp.

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato
Bowling Club.

**TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME,
MANAIA**

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf
Highway, South Road, Manaia.

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club.

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

COASTAL SINGERS

7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654.

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY MARKETS

8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato.

SESQUICENTENNIAL EVENTS

HISTORY BOOK

These are now available from the Opunake Library Plus
at \$20 each. Paid orders can be made through all South
Taranaki Libraries.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY

South of the Mountain. Hawera Art Club Exhibition -
March 16 - April 10.

TARANAKI HOME AND LIFESTYLE EXPO

TSB Stadium, 27-29 March.

**BUTLERS REEF - KAYAK FISHING CLASSIC
2015**

March 28-29 - Come and watch the weigh-in from 3pm
each day. Sunday Fish Auction at 5pm. All proceeds go
to the Coast Guard.

RAHOTU TAVERN MUSO SESSION

Sunday 29, 2pm-6pm at the RahoTu Tavern. Refer advert.

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Tony Carter - Floor Talk, Sunday 29th

CONNECTIONS - Opening April 2nd, 6pm. Refer advert
for further information.

SEEKING COMMUNITY INPUT

Public meetings are run by the South Taranaki Social
Sector Trial.

Our meetings will be in Hawera, Opunake, Patea,
Waverley, Eltham and Kaponga between March 31 -
April 9.

Please refer to Public Notice advert for full details.

**OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE OPUNAKE
HEALTH CENTRE**

Thursday, April 2 at 11am, Napier Street, Opunake.

ELTHAM DOWNHILL CHEESE RACE

Easter Saturday, April 4 2015.

**ST PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN PARISH - EASTER
SUNDAY SERVICE**

5TH APRIL 2015. Please note changes: VENUE -

RAHOTU METHODIST
CHURCH - TIME -
10.30am.

**SOUTH TARANAKI
- PROPOSED LONG
TERM PLAN PUBLIC
MEETINGS**

Refer Public Notice for
dates and times.

**TET CUE THEATRE,
INGLEWOOD**

THE GAME'S AFOOT
or HOLMES FOR THE
HOLIDAYS, 7 - 19 April..

**OPUNAKE BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION**

AGM Monday April
20, 7pm at Everybody's
Theatre. Refer advert.

**H A W E R A
REPERTORY.**

ANZAC by John Broughton
directed by Clive Cullen. 18
- 25 April 2015. Cinderella
by Ben Crocker directed
by Donald Campbell. 4 - 11
July 2015.

**AUROA SCHOOL &
DISTRICTS 125TH
JUBILEE**

T A R A N A K I
A N N I V E R S A R Y
W E E K E N D 11 T H T O
13 T H M A R C H 2016

For further information
look on Auroa School's
website www.auroa.school.nz
or contact Jessica Mills
by phone - 0276355874 or
email - jessica.mills@live.com. Follow us on Face
book.

TSB Community Trust

**PLANNING A MAJOR PROJECT?
NEED TO APPLY FOR FUNDING?**

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROCESS



**Only invited organisations can
apply for a grant over \$100,000**

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

Funding applications under \$100,000
no longer require an EOI

From 1 April 2015 the Trust has a new grant
structure (Operational, Capital, and Programme
and Event Grants)

**Apart from EOI's the Trust will not be accepting
any funding applications in March 2015**

To learn more about our new grant types, discuss your
project and find out whether your
organisation may be eligible to submit
an Expression of Interest visit our website
www.tsbtrust.org.nz or contact the
Trust office phone 06 769 9471 or
email info@tsbtrust.org.nz



THE OPUNAKE CHURCHES

invite everyone to join them on

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 3

Meet at St. Pauls Church for light breakfast at
8am

9am Walk of Witness from St. Pauls to
Cenotaph and back.

10am Combined Service at St. Pauls

Promote your events in the

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

People who put in public notices and display adverts in the **What's On Section** for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos **FREE OF CHARGE**, to help promote the event.

Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016

Call in at 23 Napier Street, Opunake or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Our next issue is due out

April 10

Phone us today to advertise on 06 761 7016

Don't be shy!

ARE YOU RECENTLY Married?

We would love to share your special day with our readers! Send in your photo and details of how you met etc, to: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Keeping company with Barney

For the last six months, Barney & Co has been meeting at 1.30pm every Monday, except for the fourth Monday of the month, at the St Barnabas Church Hall.

For a \$2 entry fee, there's a cuppa and biscuit, as well as games like rummikub and scrabble, and a free raffle ticket.

"There are a lot of people alone at home who need an extra bit of company during the day, and we're saying we can be like another family to you," Karen Newport of St Barnabas Church said.

"If you have any difficulty getting to Barney & Co, or know someone else who lives locally who would also like to come, but has no means of transport, let us know and we can see what we can do about arranging a ride. Or if you need help to get groceries, or be taken to pay your bills, let me know and we might be able to help out."

A former legal secretary and one time church treasurer, Karen said she could help out with anyone wanting help with paperwork, be it a government form, IRD returns,

passport forms or Greypower applications. She is open to suggestions on future activities and plans for the group. The group currently meets after lunch, but people coming might prefer another time such as 11.30am-2pm, so that lunch could be included.

If there is sufficient interest, short day trips could be included to places such as Brooklyn Zoo, Puke Ariki, Hollard's Gardens, Tawhiti Museum, or even a boat ride on Chaddy's Charters.

A number of speakers are also being organised to speak

to the group.

"Some of these are practical but we will try and have some fun ones as well, like a travel agent so you can find out what's available if you have any special needs," Karen said. "We would welcome your thoughts and input on the various subjects, or indeed sharing your own stories or interests." Anyone coming along to the Monday meetings can also leave their details, including birthday in the contacts book, so a birthday card could be sent on their special day.

Hawera Rep name Cinders cast

The cast for Hawera Repertory's production of Cinderella has been announced. Cinderella will show at the

Hawera Memorial Theatre from 4-11 July.

Cast. Fairy Godmother - Deb Thomas. Dandini - Ethan Robson. Prince Charming - Bergen Raikes. Buttons - Grayson Richards. Baron Hardup - Todd Woollett. Dumpling (A horse) - Robert Richards. Lady Devilia Hardup - Lorraine Wilkie.

Cinderella - Maren Seaver. Snitch (Broker's Man) - Shaun Campbell. Snatch (Broker's Man) - Jym Shaman. Cheryl (Ugly sister) - Janna Kerehoma. Beryl (Ugly sister) - Ceri Robson. Major Domo - Hauiti Brider. Queen Sybil May - Jane Lawrence. Chorus - Cassandra Lew-

is, Samantha Turner, Linda Jefferies, Danyelle Ryan-Harrop, Sarah Bird, Zoe Snowden, Samantha Harvie, Jordy Gibson, Makayla de Souza, Grace Legge, Mike Powell, Robert Richards, Tim Woollett, James Weir, Jaydn Robson, Noah Hunt, Josh Bird, Caleb Lewis.



THE GAME'S AFOOT or HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Written by Ken Ludwig
Directed by Joan Ertel

TET CUE THEATRE, INGLEWOOD
7 - 19 April
Tickets from INGLEWOOD BOOK CENTRE
PH 06 7567 032
\$22 per person
(\$20 group bookings of 10+)
www.cuetheatre.co.nz

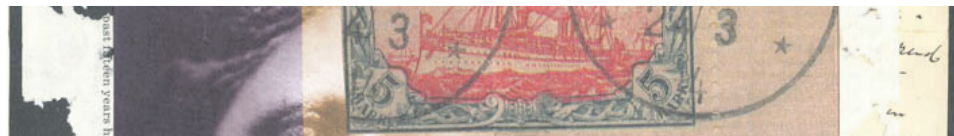


Gail Simons from Stoney Oaks in Inglewood with two of her beautiful birds.

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Coming up at the Percy Thomson Gallery

Tony Carter - Floor talk, **Sun 29th 2pm**, join us to hear more about these fascinating characters from Another World, Ohura
Opening Thurs, April 2nd, 6pm 2015
Connections 2015 & 17th International Collage Exchange
[join us for these events](#)



Hawera Repertory Society presents

ANZAC

A play by John Broughton, directed by Clive Cullen

18 - 25 April 2015

Hawera Memorial Theatre

Adults - \$10

Students under 18 - \$5

(Booking fees apply)

Tickets on sale now from **TicketDirect**

Sponsored by South Taranaki District Council



Rahotu School learn to swim programme popular



The Rahotu Primary School learn to swim program was formed in 2008 by a group of enthusiastic parents. The junior school has lessons twice a week at our school pool in Rahotu with Fiona Lacey who was Okato community Club of the Year in 2014. Fiona, supported by the school's senior teaching staff, also takes our seniors to Opunake High School pool twice a week.

Lessons in the covered pool at Opunake allow our students to have lessons well into March, and the length and depth is more suited to our senior students.

Rahotu School has just completed their school swimming sports and there have been many success stories of our students swimming progress and achievements.

The program is well supported by our teaching staff and school community, and the feedback from them is always very positive. Also welcome to our two new committee members, Karen Helms and Mel Woods and we look forward to another successful learn to swim program next year.

From Rahotu learn to swim – Heather, Shelly and Angie

Something to look at when caught short

One building in town more likely than most to make the motorist stop for a visit is the public toilet. For many travellers passing through from Point A to Point B, the main impression they get of a town maybe the public loo.

In addition to the usual facilities, some unique artwork may also impress. The good people of Kawakawa realised this years ago when they put in their new toilets designed by artist and resident Freidenreich Hundertwasser. The people of Eltham also appear to have caught on, with their Arty Loo having opened for business in February.

If Kawakawa and Eltham can have one, why not Opunake? With Opunake celebrating 150 years, the public toilets at the Coastal Care Health Centre on the corner of Napier and King Streets are due to be decorated as

part of a project involving local school pupils, the Opunake Sesquicentennial Committee, the South Taranaki District Council, Egmont Plains Community Board and Coastal Care.

Judith Armstrong approached South Taranaki District Council arts co-ordinator Michaela Stoneman and asked if an arts project involving local school pupils could be arranged as a sesquicentennial project. A mosaic was decided on, with the Coastal Care public toilets as the appropriate place to put it.

Michaela said she had had sessions with classes at Opunake Primary and St Joseph's schools to brainstorm ideas on what should be included.

"They have come up with some awesome ideas," she said. "The theme is all about Opunake, and what it means to them, and how they want to

be represented to the world. The ideas all come from the kids. It's all their ideas, and they have worked hard to think about what represents Opunake as a place."

Much work still has to be done, and issues worked through, including whether the artwork should be figurative or abstract, as well as issues of proportionality, and making the design as robust as possible to take into account such things as possible vandalism.

Michaela has worked with school pupils on public mosaic projects before around the South Taranaki District. She says recent projects in Patea and Eltham show the council is prepared to budget for work such as this.

Once decided on, the designs have to be approved. They will then be put on panels and placed on the

building. At this stage it is hoped there will be a public opening in July.

What's On **butlers reef**

Kayak Fishing Classic

March 28-29 2015

Come & watch the weigh-in from 3pm each day.
Sunday Fish Auction at 5pm.
All proceeds go to Coastguard!

1133 Main South Rd, Oakura
Phone 06 752 7765 - www.butlersreef.co.nz

*To advertise your upcoming event
phone us on
06 761 7016*

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE
For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre

Mar/April 2015

Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale Upstairs Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Downstairs All \$12, Senior Citizens \$8. **No Eff-pox**

Kingsman: The Secret Service

Action, Comedy, Thriller | 2hr 08mins | R16 | Violence & offensive language

X-Men: First Class and **Kick-Ass** director Matthew Vaughn brings another comic book to the big screen with this comedy spy tale. Eggsy (Taron Edgerton) is a wayward youth until recruited into a secretive global espionage agency by Harry Hart (Colin Firth), where he becomes part of their effort to bring down a genius super-villain.

Fri 27th Mar, Wed 1st Apr & Sun 12th Apr @ 7pm. Fox

Paddington Bear

Comedy, Family, Kids | 1hr 35mins | G | Country of Origin: UK

The duffel-coated, galoshes-wearing family favourite bear hits cinema screens for the first time. Follows the comic mis-adventures of a young Peruvian bear with a passion for all things British, who travels to London in search of a home.

Sat 28th Mar @ 1 pm. Studio Canal

Insurgent

Action, Adventure, Science Fiction, Romance | 1 hr 59mins | M

Shailene Woodley leads this follow-up to 2014's **Divergent**, the young adult dystopian sci-fi about a heavily-guarded community in the near future broken into five factions based on individual skill sets.

Sun 29th Mar & Fri 3rd Apr @ 7 pm. Sat 4th Apr & Mon 6th Apr @ 1 pm. Rialto

Still Alice ****BOUTIQUE THEATRE****

SUNDAY 5th April @ 6.30pm. Starts 7 pm

Drama | 1hr 41mins | M | Offensive language

Julianne Moore (in an Oscar, BAFTA and Golden Globe winning performance), Alec Baldwin, Kate Bosworth and Kristen Stewart star in this drama based on the bestselling novel by Lisa Genova. Harvard professor Alice (Moore) is happily married with three grown children, until she is diagnosed with the early onset of Alzheimer's disease. Normal viewing upstairs. Adults \$10, Children & Seniors \$8.

Sun 5th Apr @ 6.30pm, Wed 8th @ 7pm & Mon 13th @ 1pm. Roadshow

Jupiter Ascending

Adventure, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Thriller | 2hr 07mins | M | Violence

Wachowski siblings (**The Matrix**) sci-fi, starring Mila Kunis and Channing Tatum. In a universe where humans are unaware of being near the bottom of the evolutionary ladder, a woman unknowingly set to inherit vast wealth and power is targeted for assassination.

Fri 10th, Wed 15th & Sun 19th @ 7 pm. Roadshow



MUSO SUNDAY SESSION MAY 29, 2PM-6PM AT THE RAHOTU TAVERN

**COME AND EXPRESS
YOUR MUSICAL TALENT.
PA & BACKLINE
PROVIDED.**

ALL WELCOME!

**CONTACT DOUG
027 932 8258**

IF YOU'D LIKE MORE DETAILS





Opunake High School was again at Relay for Life.

Hundreds relaying in a good cause

Relay for Life began in 1985 when Dr Gordy Klatt of Tacoma, Washington completed a 24 hour Walk/Run to recognise those affected by cancer.

Sixteen years later, the first New Zealand Relay for Life was held in Palmerston North. Last weekend crowds flocked to the Pukekura Raceway to take part in this year's New Plymouth Relay.

They came in a variety of attire. There were mediaevalists, super heroes, and those dressed more conventionally. There was even a firefighter, dressed in full uniform carrying his equipment with him. Despite the arrival of unforecast rain, there was an atmosphere of fun, but also a sense that everybody was there for a more serious purpose.

The relay was preceded by the march of the cancer survivors and their carers on Saturday morning. Later that day there was the flag raising ceremony, compered by Mrs Brown, and including a combined choir from St Marys Diocesan School in Stratford and Stratford Primary School.

Occupying a prominent part on the east side of the circuit, Opunake High School was at the Relay for the fifth year running.

“(Former principal) Maria Potter started it and we just kept it rolling. It’s got bigger and bigger every year,” deputy principal Andrea Hooper said.

Last year there were 100 students taking part. This year, there are 140, and as at Saturday afternoon, they had raised \$8000, Andrea said. To be there, each student had to raise \$40 to be able to stay over for the weekend.

Also taking part from Opunake was a 15-strong group from Get Fit 45.

“Initially we started as a place for ladies to come and work out,” founding member Sharlee Mariekura said.

What began five months ago as eight women running circuits at the Opunake Event Centre now has 35 members training three days a week.

Club treasurer Julie Morgan said they range in age from 14 to “63 years young.”

Speaking on Saturday afternoon she said they were looking at a target of \$3000 raised through sponsorship



Get Fit 45 making their first Relay for Life appearance.

and other events, including raffles and taking collection buckets around workplaces.

Everyone from their club taking part had known someone affected by cancer, she said.



Pupils from Stratford Primary and St Mary's Diocesan School singing during the Flag Raising Ceremony.

All kinds of people turned up for the Relay.