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Inside...



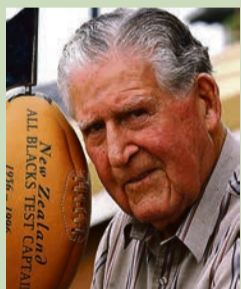
Dame Malvina Major coming soon. Refer page 21.



Bill Denz - superb climber. But was it a case of one risk too many? Turn to page 9.



Craig Bates for quality photography and framing. See page 10 to read about Bates Photographix Ltd.



Sir Fred Allen passes away. Rugby loses a great identity.



More tree felling page 3



High profile lawyer faces death threats and hate mail page 6

ANZAC Day in Okato



Pipers lead the way as an impressive ANZAC Day parade commemorated those who died in the World Wars and other conflicts. They were watched in respectful silence by a large crowd as they made their way up Carthew Street to the Cenotaph.

There was a large turnout of people in Okato to witness the ANZAC parade and ceremony on April 25. Throughout proceedings four female members of the New Plymouth Cadet Unit kept a vigil at four points of the Cenotaph, with their arms reversed. Accompanying the cadets was Joanna Wooffind

in, the NZ Cadet Forces Liaison Officer and Mike Fabish, Captain NZCF.

There were a number of dignitaries participating such as Commander Graham Emerson, Royal NZ Navy, Ken Keel, Secretary/Treasurer of the Okato RSA and Ivor Ellis of the branch.

The parade formed at an

assembly point in Carthew Street south of the Cenotaph, to commands by Parade Marshall Cpl Jeffrey Reid. Leading the way were two pipers and a bugler. Behind senior military and RSA figures, as well as returned soldiers, were the members of the Okato Fire Brigade, as well as the local policeman

Constable Richard Corry.

After the parade had marched to the Cenotaph there was official wreath laying and a flag raising ceremony, with the Last Post played and the Ode (Lawrence Binyon) recited.

Finally, there was a Christian ceremony in Hempton Hall, officiated by lay preach-

er Lesley Dowding.

The whole ceremony went off with respectful solemnity, with the pleasant autumn weather being appreciated.

"Not a bad turnout, especially for a rural area", commented Parade Marshall Cpl Jeffrey Reid. He added, "There are lots of children - that's the key".

On this month in History: Sir Charles Upham VC and Bar

On May 22, 1941 Charles Hazlitt Upham (Later Sir Charles Upham) showed bravery over nine days during the defence of Crete. As a result he was awarded the

Victoria Cross - the highest military award for bravery.

Although wounded himself, he led attacks against German soldiers as NZ troops battled to regain control of

Maleme Airfield. He also rescued wounded soldiers, carrying one to safety while under fire. He also guided a company to safety which had been cut off.

The Victoria Cross was pinned on Sergeant Upham's chest by General Howard Kippenberger who said he was unquestionable the finest fighting soldier the battalion had throughout the operation.

At a later date (July, 1942), Charles Upham also won a Bar to his VC - effectively a second VC. This was awarded as a result of military action at Ruweisat Ridge Egypt.

He was severely wounded at the above engagement and recuperated in an Italian hospital. He ended the war at the infamous Colditz Castle as a prisoner.

Sir Charles was born in Christchurch and was educated at Christ's College and Canterbury Agricultural College. He was a farm manager

and then a farm valuer before World War II. From 1945 he was a sheep farmer at Hundalee, North Canterbury where he lived with his wife Molly and his daughters.

Sir Charles was a quiet modest man and very unassuming - the last person to

'blow his own trumpet'. He allowed the letters 'JP' after his name in the phone book, as was essential for a Justice of the Peace - but no sign of the letters VC.

Sir Charles Upham died in 1994.

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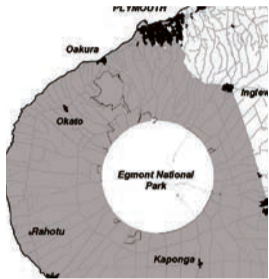
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The Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home and business within the rural area bounded in the north by the New Plymouth city border, extending east to Egmont Village, and around to the edge of Stratford, south to the Hawera city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

EDITORIAL: Pokies for money? No thanks.

It seems a pity that SkyCity in Auckland is likely to be allowed more gambling machines than they are entitled to - in return for the 250 million dollars they have offered to build a new convention centre in our largest city. The deal seems to be that legislation be enacted to allow SkyCity additional pokie machines in the

Auckland casino than they are allowed - by law. Isn't there something inherently distasteful in this proposal? If there is one thing we don't need in New Zealand's society is more facilities for gambling, especially of this ilk - it already causes enough misery in this nation as a consequence of the many people who become

addicted. The harm of rampant gambling extends well beyond the addicted gambler to cause turmoil for the person's family, often employers and beyond. Organised gambling needs to go the way of smoking. There is no good in gambling, except for those milking great returns. A cynic might say that it is the

very well off increasing their income at the expense of the victims - those who become addicted. In the future, there should be no resource consents granted to allow any more casinos to start up and, hopefully, the ones which already exist will have their operation restricted or better still, closed down by legislation

Demographics

Recently I received a copy of the South Taranaki District Council Long Term Plan 2012-2022. The Council are to be complimented on their efforts with a well-illustrated and laid out document.

The document, however, falls far short in its assumption as to the future of the South Taranaki district in the area of demographics. It assumes that the area will remain much the same in the next ten years.

At present there is a bill before parliament to allow the partial privatisation of Fonterra our dairy co-operative.

If this bill is passed with the sort of electoral support the government is getting at present there is no reason to suppose there will not be significant effects in this region.

Some years ago I worked in the sugar industry and took the time to check out the industry in Queensland, Australia. Like dairying it is a primary product, seasonal and an international commodity. It got, at that time, roughly \$400 million in taxpayer subsidies and earned about \$A1, 100 million in export earnings.

Unlike dairying in NZ, it is controlled by a multinational company. One could not help notice old farmhouses, rusty roofs, run down machinery, ghost towns, bumpy roads and a general air of poverty prevailing in the countryside. All vastly different from the well-kept farms, milking sheds and houses of rural Taranaki.

Recently a Chinese investment group bought a large number of farms in NZ and

A reminder to readers

There have been a few changes at the Opunake & Coastal News.

We have upgraded our computers and also changed our email addresses.

We have separate email addresses as follows:

For advertising: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

For editorial contributions: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

For accounts (including remittance slips if emailed): accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

We also now have a website. www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

If anyone wishes to email any of us individually our Christian names - all in lower case - followed by @

opunakecoastalnews.co.nz should reach us. ie bernice@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

We advise that we are now able to process pdfs.

Also we request that photos emailed to us should be sent as an attachment in the JPEG format.

Articles sent as an attachment are easier for us to process. **Please don't put a space between paragraphs and lines of text.**

We very much appreciate everyone's co-operation in the above and in using our new emails which also appear on the inside on page 2 will hopefully streamline our production.

Editor

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Continued page 3 (Bible Believers Corner)

The stories in the Bible are not just stories, nor are they just historical records. They are types and patterns. For example let's take the book of Esther.

There is a king. He has a beautiful wife named Vashti. The King is celebrating and he wants to show off the Queen's beauty. He sends seven chamberlains each with a message to call her. The queen is having her own feast, celebrating with her friends. She refuses to heed any of the seven messengers. She stays at her own feast in her own palace.

The king is displeased and worried. Such rebellion could spread throughout his kingdom. What should he do?

He decides to divorce Vashti and find Himself a new queen, someone who will honour him and his position. Of all those brought before him he chooses Esther, a Jew.

And we stop there. There are more types later such as when Haman tries to destroy all the Jews. That was Germany under the Nazis, but not part of this study.

There is a King of kings. He has a wife, the church. Church history was prophetically given in Revelation

chapters 2 and 3, the seven churches or seven church ages.

The king has sent seven messengers (angels) to the church. Each church age rejects the message of the new messenger - just as Vashti did. Churches have their own doctrines and will not listen. She has her own word and feasts on that.

So the King of Kings is outside the church, knocking to get in. Refused entry He sends out a proclamation, a message, "Come out of her my people."

That is Revelation 18 v4, a call from God; the message for this time. God will divorce those that put their theology, their doctrine, their traditions before God's own Word, the Bible.

What God is looking for is that holy person who, no matter what group or church they are in, puts God and His Word first. That is the Bride of Christ.

And that is what Esther is all about.

Ref: Esther 1 v1-22 & 2 v1-18, Rev 2 v1-29 & 3 v1-22, Rev 18 v4, Ephesians 5 v24-28

Richard Oliver
Pastor Eltham Message Church

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Demographics

continued from page 2

to hurry things along they sent their number 4 in the hierarchy to ensure things went smoothly.

We may ask why would they do that? My conjecture is that they are not really interested in the farms per

se, but in getting access to Fonterra shares. With tradable shares and voting rights it would not be long before they, or another group, would control Fonterra.

If this happens farm incomes would be slashed and the STDC's ten year forecast

would not be worth the paper it is written on. With widespread poverty caused by the profits of dairying going overseas welfare benefits would have to be slashed and rural depopulation would proceed unchecked. Remember what happened in Cuba

when the sugar industry was nationalised, or Libya when they nationalised their oil industry.

Prevention is better than cure.

John Hubbard, Opunake



The area indicating the tree felling.

More tree felling

The latest felling of trees bordering Opunake Lake on Layard Street was requested by Rex Langton from the Opunake Lions Club, said John Sargeant, Property and Facilities Manager with the South Taranaki District Council.

Rex who has done much to maintain the Opunake

Walkway drew the Council's attention to the state of the trees. "He came to us and asked us to drop the trees."

John added that the trees were very old and due to take down.

"They posed quite a danger because they were on the roadside."

He added that several ar-

borists on the council had looked at the trees over the last six years and the trees were dying.

Several trees had been felled around the picturesque lake but there were no plans to cut down any more in the locality without consulting Rex Langton from the Opunake Lions, he said.

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Opunake District ANZAC Day Services

The ANZAC Day services began at the Rahotu Primary School on the first day back of the new term. It was conducted on the lawn fronting their Memorial Stone and Flagpole and opened with prayer by Padre Williams and wreath laid by two senior pupils. The upper class recited *In Flanders Fields* and then two pupils read the Roll of Honour followed by the *Last Post* and *Reveille* played by L. Smith and *The Ode* by President Colin Butler. Many thanks are offered to the Rahotu School and staff for inviting the RSA to do this service.

The Dawn Parade was on a crisp morning with a slight breeze; those who formed to march met at the Cenotaph at 0600. Parade Marshal L Robinson was amazed when he called the parade to order and fall in and that everyone present formed up to march with the RSA and Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade. Arriving at the Cenotaph right

face, the flags were unfurled by the flag bearers Jamie Fevre, Panana Betham, Nathan Hickey and Breanna Morgan. Members laid their poppies and wreath bearers made ready to place their wreaths. Parade Marshal L Robinson accompanied each organisation for their turn to lay a wreath. During the laying of wreaths a piper from the Eltham Pipe Band played a lament. President Colin Butler then recited the 'Dedication' *As the sun rose in the east*. Fr Peter Brockhall led the prayers and the Ian Smith played the *Last Post* and *Reveille*, and President Colin recited *The Ode*. The Parade Marshal returned to the parade and marched them back to the Town Hall.

A hot 'cuppa' and food welcomed those who came back to the Hall. President Colin read out the messages from the Governor-General and introduced, Daryl Read and Sheena Brown our Guest Speakers from the Opunake

High School. Thanks are offered to both students for their speeches on ANZAC Day, and the continual high standard that your school presents each year. Thanks also to the flag bearers who demonstrated a high standard - showing there had been a lot of practice! Many thanks are also offered to Betty Mackenzie and ladies in preparing sandwiches, drinks, setting up tables and cleaning up.

Padre Williams held a service at the Services Cemetery with prayers, the *Last Post*, *Ode*, and *Reveille* which was well attended thanks to all those who helped out.

The Anzac Day Dawn Parade seemed to be one of the largest parades for sometime. One thing being noticed was the large number of families attending. Thanks to those mothers and fathers for bringing their children and thank you Opunake, and those from outside, for attending. Next year it will be the 80th year of commemoration so it is hoped to see at least as many next year.

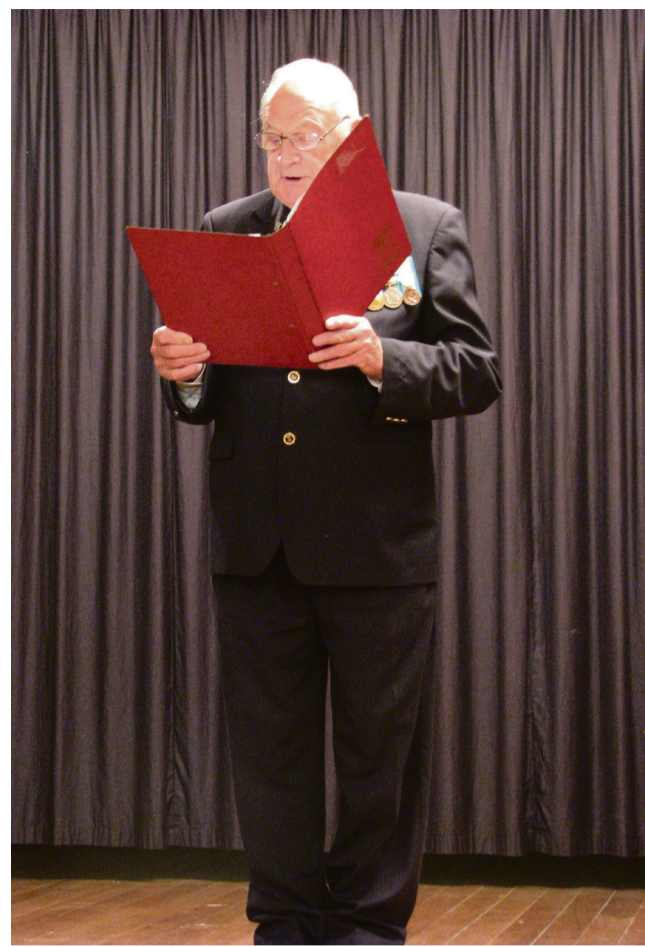
The good weather for our Dawn Parade extended over to our service held at Te Kiri which had a good muster.

Padre Williams commenced the service with prayers and a message; President Colin read the Roll of Honour. A wreath was laid by a member of the Te Kiri community and I. Smith played the *Last Post*, *Reveille* and President Colin *The Ode*. All those present went across the road to the Hall for a light lunch, put on by the Hall Committee. Well done and thank you Te Kiri for your hospitality.

The luck with the good weather still held as we went to Pihama for their Service. Fr Peter opened with prayer, followed by Padre Williams with the prayer for ANZAC Day. Prayers of the people were read and the laying of wreaths was accompanied by Piper Bob Morris. The address by Padre Williams followed by singing "Brother, Sister let me serve you" then the *Last Post* and *Reveille* by I Smith, and President Colin recited the *Ode*. The final prayer and blessing was by Fr Peter and then the singing of the National Anthem.

Finally, it was back to the hall for a finger tea. Well done Pihama, and thank you ladies for your refreshments.

On behalf of the Opunake District RSA Inc we wish



Opunake RSA president Colin Butler reads the letter from the Governor-General.

to thank Opunake and our rural area for the wonderful support and donations to our Poppy Day Collection, which goes towards our welfare fund. Many thanks go

to the collectors who walked and knocked on doors and held out their boxes. Thank you one and all, once again, for your time and effort.

Rev. Geoff Williams, Secretary.



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Manaiia ANZAC DAY



Students from Opunake High School with Manaiia RSA President John Graham and Reverend David Self. Pictured are Deputy Head Boy Ethan Bloemen, Elise Kendall, John Graham, Deputy Head Girl Anna Young, Reverend David Self and Simon Mullin.

Manaiia RSA president John Graham said he was very impressed with the attendance of over two hundred people at the Manaiia ANZAC Parade. He commented that it was always really nice

to meet the young people from the schools that attend the service. These included Opunake High School and Hawera High Schools, as well as Manaiia and Auroa Primary schools.

Also appreciated was the great support for the veterans and RSA from St Johns, Police, Fire Brigade, Girl Guides and other wonderful groups.

John Graham said that

the Normanby Maori Choir singing the Maori Battalion song on the march back to the hall in honour of recently lost members Goldie Whalen and Athol Muir - was the highlight of the service.

On this day in History

On May 8, 1915 the first full accounts of the landings at Gallipoli were published in the newspapers. Previously the only news had been brief official communiques

from Great Britain that New Zealand soldiers were in action in the Dardanelles, accompanied by extensive lists of casualties.

On May 8, 1945 was VE

Day - Victory in Europe Day. The good news that Germany had surrendered unconditionally, accepting the terms stipulated by the Allies, was received in New

Zealand at 2.55am. Most people in NZ greeted the news with jubilation, with street parties and formal celebratory events all over the nation.

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Mobility made easier -talk by Kevin Bromell to Manaia WI

President Ann Chisnall welcomed a good attendance to the April meeting of Manaia Women's Institute and introduced guest speaker Kevin Bromell who owns Mobility & More in Stratford – Kevin is passionate about this business, and very willing to be as helpful as possible to anyone who needs any sort of aids to make everyday living that much easier, and will happily try to procure anything that he does not have on hand.

Articles that he had showed included toe washers and hair

brushes with long handles, shoe horns, and sock and stocking aids, zipper pull tabs and an aid for doing up buttons. There were also aids for opening jars and bottles and tap turners for an easier grip. One article called the steady spoon had its own unique counter balance and swiveling head to enable almost anyone to successfully bring food from their plate to the mouth without spilling – ideal for anyone with minor shakes or tremors. Kevin was thanked for attending our meeting.

Meg Kelly gave a report on Grandmothers Circle where the theme for the meeting had been 'Pets I have lived with' and advised that the theme for the next meeting was 'Teddy Bears'. Meg also read an email from our Link member in England.

The wandering coin was won by Marion Smith and the Mary Hutton Trophy was presented to May Mulholland.

Competition results:

- Bloom: 1st Phyllis Malcolm
- 2nd Daphne Ashley

- 3rd Joy Brogden
- Shrub: 1st Phyllis Malcolm
- 2nd Daphne Ashley
- 3rd Ruth Binns
- Fruit: 1st Daphne Ashley
- 2nd Ruth Binns
- 3rd Marion Smith
- Chocolate Chippie Biscuits: 1st Joy Brogden
- 2nd Daphne Ashley
- 3rd Ann Chisnall

Lifesaving, portable defibrillator now available at ACC

Using a defibrillator on someone having a heart attack can enable you to save their life – and a lifesaving portable defibrillator is now available in your area, at ACC (see list below for specific locations).

ACC's National Health and Safety Manager, Chris O'Flaherty, says ACC has bought 30 Amtech defibrillators, which have been distributed throughout its national network.

A defibrillator works by delivering an electric shock to the heart, which prompts the heart to regain its natural rhythm and enhances the chance of survival.

"Anyone can access ACC's defibrillators if they witness someone experiencing cardiac arrest," says Chris. "This reflects that ACC is part of the community, as well as our commitment to the health and safety of our staff."

ACC is putting signs up at premises where the defibrillators are kept, so passers-by know that they're there.

"If you see a defibrillator sign on an ACC building and you need to use it to help someone, simply come into the reception area and ask for it," says Chris.

According to Chris, the model ACC has purchased – an RES420 HeartSine Defibrillator – is very simple

and intuitive to use.

"You don't need training to use it successfully, because it 'talks' to you and tells you what to do as you're using it. But that said, we've provided training to staff, and our aim is for a trained staff member to accompany any member of the public who comes in asking for the defibrillator. That way, if someone's not comfortable using it by themselves, our staff will be there to assist."

Everyone needs to work together to reduce the suicide rate

The Mental Health Foundation (MHF) is urging all New Zealanders to think seriously about how they can help reduce the suicide rate, chief executive Judi Clements says.

The Ministry of Health today released its statistical report Suicide Facts: Deaths and intentional self-harm hospitalisations 2009.

"While there is an overall downward trend in the suicide statistics, there is still a lot of work to do and we all have a role to play," Judi Clements says.

"Although Government action is essential, we can all get involved. We encourage New Zealanders to really think about how we can make a difference. It is about strengthening the connections we have with family, whanau, friends and the community. Some of the most effective protective factors are supportive relationships, belief in a positive future and a strong cultural identity," she says.

"The statistics tell us there

needs to be greater attention to meeting the needs of Maori men and rangatahi in particular. The Mental Health Foundation recently established a new position for a Maori resource development officer, who is working to design suicide prevention information relevant to Maori communities.

The MHF provides a suicide prevention information service (SPINZ) which has good quality resources and information available to support suicide prevention activities. These cover risk factors, warning signs, common myths about suicide, understanding suicide across cultures, how to help someone at risk, what to do in a crisis, and how to look after yourself.

"We also have strong, positive partnerships with other organisations working together under the Government's New Zealand Suicide Prevention Strategy 2006-2016 and New Zealand Suicide Prevention Action Plan 2008-2012."

The MHF's mental health promotions team and the Like Minds, Like Mine network are also significantly involved in working with communities to reduce stigma and develop positive mental health and wellbeing, which is an important part of suicide prevention.

"If we all make a determined effort, we can make a big impact on the suicide statistics," Ms Clements says.

Additional Information

SPINZ resources available from the Mental Health Foundation include:

- Responding to people at risk of suicide – how can you and your organisation help? This booklet is intended to provide organisations and individuals with easily accessible information concerning appropriate responses to managing suicide and self-harm. It will be useful for organisations and individuals, who do not have a primary role in supporting

people at risk of suicide, but may have contact with people at risk of suicide as part of their core business.

- Information on Suicide Prevention – a series of videos presented by Judy Bailey on a range of topics including warning signs, risk factors, suicide bereavement, caring for someone who is suicidal, suicide in communities and suicide myths.

Spinz.org.nz
Mentalhealth.org.nz
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Youtube.com/suicidepreventionnz

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Opunake

Nigel Day

Hello from the Opunake crew. Believe it or not while I am writing this the sun is shining; there is no wind and not a rain cloud to be seen. I know, given the summer we had, you would not believe it but it has been fantastic to see so many people out in boats fishing and there has also been plenty of good waves



Mark Jorgensen

to keep the surfers happy as well.

There has been some good snapper being caught around the area and we have been doing regular checks down the boat ramps of fish sizes and numbers. It has been really pleasing to see that most of us are sticking to the rules and not taking more

than we need or under sized fish.

Anyway on to business. Thanks to members of the community stepping forward with information over the last month. We have been able to impound two cars and charge the drivers with various offences.

We have also executed a couple of search warrants with excellent results - removing substantial amounts of drugs off the streets.

Fingerprint hits have resulted in resolving the recent burglary to the Opunake campground and an historic burglary over a year ago on Hickey Place; all these offenders have been charged with the appropriate offences

and are currently going through the court process.

Petrol theft is an ongoing problem. On the evening of Friday the 20th of April a substantial amount of petrol and diesel was stolen from a farm on Parihaka Road. To remove the amount that was taken the offender would have needed a trailer unit. If anyone has seen any suspicious activities in the area please call and let us know.

That's enough from us for this week; enjoy the good weather while it lasts

*Your local coppers, Mark,
Nigel and Ricky*

Coastal Cops Eltham

Andrew Russ

Hello people, things have been steady around the town lately.

The dishonesty of offending has dropped away nicely. I think it's a combined effort by constant pressure by Police, regular patrons by C.A.G.E. and public willing to come forward and help us to help themselves, it's great to see.



David Lindsay

We have had a couple of complaints about a person who is using the public toilets in the early hours of the morning and stealing toilet paper, as well as causing some damage.

Times must be tough if you have to steal the TP! Come and see us and we'll give you a roll or two.

Seriously though, please

stop. These are community toilets used by kids and elderly alike.

Another disturbing report was from a farmlet on Castle Street which had numerous paintball projectiles throughout its paddock in what seems to be someone targeting livestock. Beware it is an offence against the Arms Act to discharge such an instrument in these circumstances, not to mention cruelty to animals. It is fortunate the stock hasn't been damaged on this occasion.

We have attended a few jobs lately where we have had some trouble finding addresses in town and in the rural area.

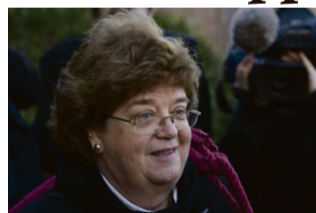
Can we please have a look at our letterbox numbers and rural numbers to make sure

they are present, clean and visible. Remember the fire service and ambulance have the same trouble locating properties sometimes and it could very well make all the difference in an emergency.

Duck shooting season is upon us again. Most people will probably hear the shotguns blasting away on the first morning, the 5th of May. If you're heading out then follow the basic rules of gun safety, identify your target and shooting range and save the cheeky beers for the end when the guns are stored safely away and you can admire your catch.

That's all for now, stay safe.

*Constables David Lindsay and
Andrew Russ, Eltham Police.*

Namedropping: Judith Ablett-Kerr QC

Judith Ablett-Kerr QC

Judith Ablett-Kerr is probably the best known female lawyer in New Zealand. She seems to have been involved

in so many of the nation's high profile cases, such as the poisoned professor case (defending Dr Vicky Calder), the Christchurch Crèche case (representing Peter Ellis) and, more recently, the defence of Dr Clayton Weatherstone, accused of murdering Sophie Elliot.

In a more peripheral sense, she has also been involved

in the Bain case. She has also defended a current All Black on drink driving charges.

When I see her on television, she looks so serious, as she takes her profession as one of our top lawyers deadly seriously. Never a hint of a smile.

I knew her some years ago in Dunedin, but in a different context - nothing to do with law. I was involved in a play Oscar Wilde's 'The Importance of Being Ernest' at the Playhouse Theatre. I had a miniscule part, Lane the Manservant and was first on stage with the main actor, Lewis Kerr, then Judith Ablett's fiancé.

The main thing I remember about her was how relaxed she was and always seeming to be smiling. She was one of the most genuinely nice, warm people I have met. Lewis, apart from being a superb actor, was equally nice and interesting. He was a court official by profession - probably how they met. I

haven't seen them for years - the last time was having lunch with them in downtown Dunedin and I've now lost touch.

Judith was involved in a backstage capacity in the Wilde play. Later, when the play's run was over, the director entered one act of the play in a One Act competition and Judith served as prompt. We didn't win, I have to say.

When I read about the unpleasantness Judith has received, such as huge quantities of hate mail, acid being thrown onto her car, and even death threats, I feel sad and even angry. All people, no matter how reprehensible, are entitled to legal representation. I doubt that Judith took up the defence of Clayton Weatherstone with much relish, but with her professionalism to the fore. I remember feeling relieved that the defence

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Namedropping: Judith Ablett-Kerr QC

Continued from page 6

of provocation didn't stand up; I suspect Judith wasn't too bothered that she lost this one!

I do know that Sophie Elliot's mother Lesley, when she spoke to us after a Hawera meeting in 2011, said she held Judith in the greatest regard and respect. She said that the lawyer is someone she has the greatest admiration for. The two

women got together for a talk after the trial; I'm not sure who arranged the meeting.

Admittedly, Sophie's mother wasn't too appreciative of Judith's rigorous defence at the time of the trial, but understands that she was doing no more than fulfilling her role in a professional manner and to the best of her ability.

Who is Judith Ablett-Kerr? She was born in Wales in 1948 and faced tragedy as

an eight-year-old when her mother died of cancer. As a young woman she became involved with the Young Conservatives. She was chairperson of the Welsh branch, while still a teenager.

She was also a champion debater.

She attended the University of London and graduated as a lawyer at the age of 22.

Married previously, she has two sons - Rupert and Ed-

wards. She emigrated to NZ in 1981, settling in Dunedin.

At one stage she was approached to stand as a List candidate for National, but this did not eventuate. "I'm probably too outspoken, you probably know that", she commented.

She was made a QC (Queens Council) in 1995 and an Officer of the NZ Order of Merit in 2002.

Rolland McKellar

Welcome to the real world of state assets

Rt Hon Winston Peters says the Crown could lose control of state-owned power companies to foreign interests within three years under John Key's asset sales programme.

As pointed out by Mr Peters during a speech in parliament on March 8, the ability for the issuing of "new non-voting shares" in the power companies is a "deep flaw" in the government's legislation.

"Any issue of any non-

voting shares will dilute the Crown's equity in the companies and reduce its influence in the appointment of directors... [and] we know that companies are run by directors, not shareholders.

"The directors on boards of these companies have wide-ranging powers. They will not be acting in the interests of mums and dads, who have to pay escalating power bills," he told parliament in March.

Mr Peters' views have not

changed since then.

"You would think a supposed financial genius who worked for Merrill Lynch would understand that, or perhaps the real plan is to sell everything overseas."

Mr Peters says the "backdoor clause" to allow for the sale of non-voting shares could theoretically see the government's shareholding in the power companies plummet down to one per cent.

"Even a small sell-off of

non-voting shares on a pro rata basis would remove the government's majority holding in the assets.

"Another strategy the government may use is to introduce a shares for dividends scheme which would be snapped up by foreign investors by a dividend hungry government intent on selling out our country's future," says Mr Peters.

World first NZ technology to portray plight of abandoned dogs in this country

New ground-breaking technology developed in New Zealand is set to revolutionise the movie-going experience and is being brought to life by a charity aimed at helping abandoned Kiwi dogs.

Award-winning Auckland production company Finch has developed a system that allows for two different films to be viewed on a cinema screen at the same time with the use of specially designed glasses, similar to 3D.

In a world first, the technology will be utilised by the Pedigree Adoption Drive Charitable Trust in this year's annual campaign, which aims to give the thousands of dogs abandoned every year in New Zealand a second chance at life.

The state-of-the-art tech designed by Finch will be employed during advertisements for the charitable initiative which will air prior to selected screenings of *The Avengers* film at Hoyts cinema in Sylvia Park, Auckland. Pedigree Marketing Manager, Oliver Downs, says the experience will continue to bring to life the plight of abandoned dogs and actively demonstrate the difference that people can make.

"Before they enter the cinema, consumers will be asked to make a choice between a free pair of glasses and a pair that require a donation. Depending on which glasses they chose, their experiences will differ accordingly," says Downs.

"Two versions of the 2012 Pedigree Adoption Drive advertisement will then play - one, showing an abandoned dog Buzz, will be viewed by those wearing the free glasses, while footage

of Buzz after he is rescued, re-homed, happy and healthy will be seen through the glasses of those who donated to the cause."

Downs says that a singular voiceover will connect both of the charity's advertisements and at the end of the film screening, viewers will be asked to drop off their glasses to encourage others to enjoy the experience and contribute to the campaign.

"We are so excited to be able to present the new Pedigree Adoption Drive campaign to the public in this unique way and have really relished the experience of working with Finch on the project," he says.

Finch Managing Director and Executive Producer Rob Galluzzo says that the cutting-edge tech was developed when the company began pulling apart existing 3D technology for an ongoing project and identified a loop hole.

"Our director of creative technology, Emad Tahtouh, discovered an ambiguity in conventional 3D technology and exploited it to create the system which we call the 37 Degree Process. It differs from 3D in several ways. It is not 3D - rather than use the polarization technique to display a single stereoscopic 3D image to the viewer, it uses the same technology to display two discreet 2D images. Two completely separate 2D video streams are polarized, similar to the way 3D video is polarized, but those images are sent to different viewers," Galluzzo says.

An application of this technology is to give consumers glasses, which contain either two left polarized lenses or two right polarized lenses. Essentially half the audience could be

watching Film A while the other half was watching Film B, he says.

"Cinema is about a shared experience. With conventional film storytelling, the tears, laughter, and exhilaration are all deliberately designed to affect the audience at the same time. But now suddenly you may not be having the same experience as the person next to you. In this instance, the technology is actually a storytelling tool that demonstrates the plight of abandoned dogs. If you donate you see how you can help save a dog. If you don't, you don't help save an abandoned dog. It's a wonderfully simple idea demonstrated beautifully, and invariably it leads to conversation amongst the audience."

Galluzzo says that as well as being involved with the Pedigree Adoption Drive campaign locally, the company has been invited to Cannes Lions to speak at the Screen Advertising World Association seminar in June about the innovative new technology.

The implementation of the 37 Degree technology by the Pedigree Adoption Drive follows the success of the charity's Doggelgänger website utilised in 2011 - a state-of-the-art human to canine pairing software designed to connect homeless dogs to their human doubles.

Now in its fourth year in New Zealand, The Pedigree Adoption Drive Charitable Trust raises awareness and funds for animal shelters and desperate dogs in local communities, helping to house, feed and care for the unwanted canines. Since 2009, the charity has raised just over \$160,000 on behalf of parent company

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My day in Eltham on April 23



Hon Chester Borrows
Taranaki King Country MP

It is a tremendous honour and privilege to serve as a Minister of the Crown, but it's not without a downside or two. One such downside is that my new national duties mean I am able to devote less time to be involved with the electorate than I previously could. However, last week I took advantage of the House being in recess to spend a whole day in Eltham, visiting seven different businesses and groups.

I started with a visit to investigate progress towards the refurbishment of the Manual Training Centre. This building, which is over 110 years old, caters for manual training for about 350 children. The staff does a magic job in trying circumstances and with sparse resources, including less-than-perfect premises. The Government intends to spend a billion extra dollars in education resources and property, and I hope we can get this project to the front of the queue. My next three stops were all local Eltham employers – Eltham Building Supplies, Uhlenberg Transport, and Beck Helicopters. All three are superb companies, operated by locals who take pride in their work, and in their community. They are also examples of small town businesses punching well above their weight – such as Beck Helicopters, which is now accredited to fully overhaul

'Huey Iroquois' helicopter engines. As the nearest other Huey repair firm is in Singapore, I expect this is going to take Alan Beck and his staff some interesting places in the future.

After lunch at Rhubarb Café, I talked bees with Brian and Sonia Bluett at the Apiary, and listened in on a meeting of the Eltham Community Development Committee, before finally ending up at the Lake Rotokare Wildlife Sanctuary. The Sanctuary is a very special resource for the South Taranaki, with local farmers and residents taking responsibility for a grubby, pest ridden chunk of government land, and turning it into a pristine natural wildlife area. Submissions for the South Taranaki District Council Long Term Plan are being accepted until 14 May, and I encourage all residents to make a short submission urging Council to make \$60,000 (\$4 per

ratepayer) available to this worthwhile project.

As you can see, a day spent in the electorate is very different to a day spent in Wellington. I thoroughly enjoyed the chance I have as part of the Government to grapple with the big issues which affect the whole country. But it's just as important for me to spend quality time with the people who sent me to Wellington in the first place, whether in Wanganui itself, or further out in the towns and villages of South Taranaki.

I look forward to doing more days out like this, and will report back to you all, through these columns, about the exciting things going on in our little corner of Aotearoa.

Chester Borrows

MP for Whanganui

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Sky City deal shows up shady Government



Andrew Little, List MP

The flare-up over the dodgy deal at Sky City casino can't be swept under the carpet. The way the issue has been handled goes to the heart of good government. The background is the government wants to build a convention centre big enough to host large international events involving hundreds of people at a time. As govern-

ment officials were putting together a business case for the idea (i.e. thinking about whether the idea was even viable in the first place) expressions of interest in building and operating such a facility were sought and some interested parties sounded out. The Prime Minister found that Sky City, the Auckland casino operator, would build the desired convention centre without any taxpayer contribution on the condition the government changed the law to allow them to increase the number of pokie machines by several hundred.

The Prime Minister halted all work on the business case and the government has been in talks with Sky City since to try to close the deal.

This is no way to govern.

The government must be above special interests and

giving favours to individuals. The reason why a business case is needed for something like this is so that the full costs and benefits can be evaluated. There is a real question about just how viable a large convention centre in New Zealand could be. Is it likely that hundreds, if not thousands, of conference attendees would fly from all corners of the world to meet for a few days in Auckland?

If one of the purposes of an internationally ranked convention centre is to attract collateral benefits in tourism, why wouldn't we build it somewhere that tourists actually go to, like Queenstown?

But the real worry is this government's tendency to make deals that involve changing the law to suit individual companies. They did it with Warner Brothers

over 'The Hobbit', claiming that if they didn't change the law to take away the right of actors to negotiate their terms and conditions of employment the movie would be taken overseas. This was total hocus pocus, and no one who has seen the government papers on the issue even believes that story.

The likely deal with Sky City is even more insidious. Just when the country is coming to grips with an increase in problem gambling and trying to reduce the number of pokie machines, the government does a dodgy deal to increase them.

There is no such thing as a free convention centre. And the price for this one is shady government and a worse gambling problem.

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Earthquake minister must resign says NZ First

New Zealand First has called for the resignation of Earthquake Minister Gerry Brown-

lee because of his "do-nothing" approach to the serious housing shortage in Christchurch and the "exploding" rents being charged.

Christchurch Earthquake Issues spokesperson Denis O'Rourke says Mr Brownlee's latest claim that nothing needs to be done about the rents, and that the housing shortage is not yet serious enough to require further government action, is outrageous.

"Mr Brownlee has got his head planted firmly in the liquefaction if he thinks that doing nothing is the solution. He has now become a large part of the problem himself.

"Trade Me figures that the minister is so fond of quoting show that demand

for housing has increased by 42 per cent, supply has reduced by 40 per cent and rents have increased by 15 per cent since last year."

Mr O'Rourke points out that Parliament gave Mr Brownlee extraordinary power to provide for extraordinary measures in extraordinary circumstances.

"The minister's failure of leadership in refusing to regulate rents, as requested by NZ First, is appalling.

"We have also asked the minister to provide concessionary bridging finance for people who can't finance a new home after accepting the government's red zone offer, and who can't qualify for a mortgage or service one.

"Again the do-nothing minister has failed to respond.

"The same applies to his failure to address the plight of rest home residents who had only a license to occupy, and have been left in the lurch by a combination of the rest home owner and government inaction," says Mr O'Rourke.

Mr O'Rourke, a former Christchurch City Councillor, says insurance issues also remain a big problem for thousands of people.

"All of these problems will not go away, and it is now clear that only if the minister does, will there be any hope of positive action. He must go," says Mr O'Rourke.

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Discuss parental leave like adults, says Winston Peters

Rt Hon Winston Peters has suggested that all political parties stop trying to score points over the private members bill that extends the period of paid parental leave. National will reportedly use its veto rights to stop the bill to extend paid parental leave to six months even if it has majority support. Mr

Peters says he is astonished that this situation has been reached before the legislation has even been discussed by political parties.

“New Zealand First MPs have not had a chance to talk about it. The author of the bill has not raised the issue with us and National has not asked

us whether we oppose or support the legislation. What is happening is government through media columns. It actually does not work in practice.

We suggest that the hysteria ends and we discuss this issue calmly as adults and see what we can work out. To our

knowledge no one has done any accurate analysis of the potential cost of this parental leave bill. The government keeps crying poor and cutting social services yet it can pour billions into failed finance companies for its mates so perhaps a compromise can be reached,” says Mr Peters.

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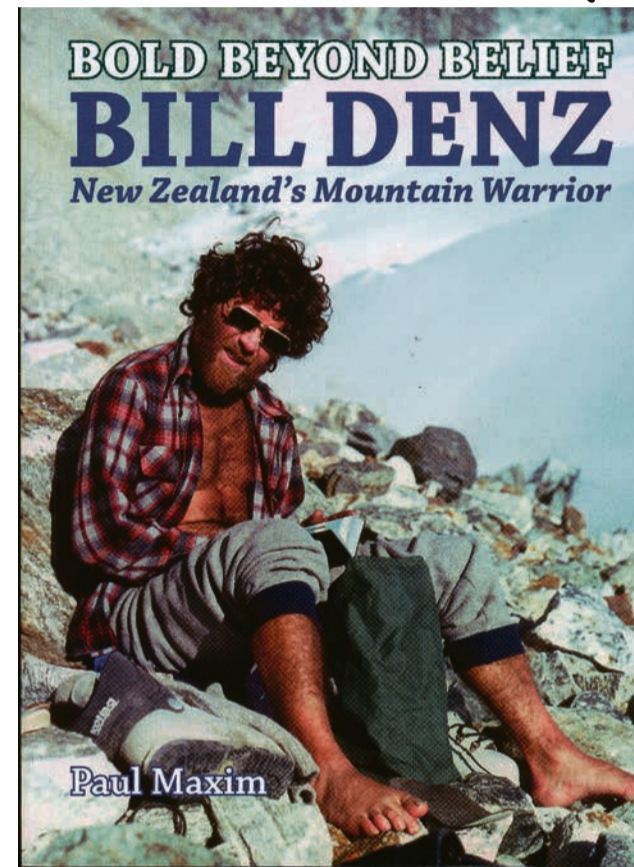
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One risk too many: A book review



Bold Beyond Belief: Bill Denz – New Zealand’s Mountain Warrior. Written by Paul Maxim. Maxim Books, Wellington, 2011.

Bill Denz (1951-1983) was probably one of NZ’s greatest mountaineers. This book caught my eye, partly because I knew two of Bill’s sisters Harriet and Abigail (called Abby in the book). I don’t recall meeting Bill.

He was ambitious and wanted to be NZ’s greatest climber ever, not withstanding Sir Edmund Hillary – in fact it was on an expedition led by Peter Hillary, Sir Ed’s son, that Bill met his death while climbing overseas in 1983 – swept away by a slab avalanche on Makula (the world’s fifth highest moun-

tain); his body was never recovered. “Bill was New Zealand’s greatest mountaineer both in his gigantic repertoire of climbs and the extraordinary motivation that fired him to constantly push the standards”, said Peter Hillary.

The book is richly endowed with photographs several of people Bill climbed with, some who similarly died while climbing. As an example of how dangerous the sport is, of the four man team that was on the Makula expedition, only Peter Hillary has survived.

While Bill was an outstanding, if risk-taking climber, he was also colourful, multi-talented, but sometimes caustic and prickly. The book opens

with an argument – Bill wants to take a big climbing risk, his two companions are more cautious. The word “coward” gets bandied about and one climber, a Canadian, is keen to punch Bill. Luckily, calm prevails. This time. Only one of the three climbers of this expedition has survived.

At various times Bill writes letters to people, often his mother Cicely, where he expresses the need to tone down his risky climbing and obsession with the sport and settle down. But he never quite managed it – not even to save his marriage to his first wife Christine.

His risk taking also extends to his life. Although basically a law-abiding man, he plants his marijuana in less than secluded places – such as on his window sill at his Broad Bay, Dunedin cottage. It is good luck that the local policeman, who finds his plants in the garden, doesn’t prosecute, but merely directs Bill to get rid of the illegal plants.

The book has an excellent glossary of climbing terms, which is useful when reading the many carefully outlined climbs Bill was involved with.

This is an intriguing well-written book about a complex, but worthwhile man, who people who knew him were enriched by.

The book was bought at Benny’s Book Shop in New Plymouth.

Last word goes to Rob Hall. “New Zealand has lost one of its finest mountaineers. We have all lost a friend, a person who had helped enrich our very being. A climber who

had inspired the least of us”. Rob Hall died near the summit of Mt Everest, refusing to abandon one of his clients who was incapacitated.

Rolland McKellar

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This month in history

On May 1, 1893 Richard John Seddon became of the Liberal Party as well as the premiership (later changed to ‘prime minister’) - upon the death of John Ballance (It was his statue head that got decapitated at Moutua Gardens in Wanganui some years ago during a land occupation protest). English born Richard Seddon – often called King Dick – remains the person who has been leader of NZ for the longest

period – 13 years 44 days. H Never beaten in an election, he and died on board a ship returning from Australia in 1906.

Seddon was a colourful person who lived at Kumara (and Wellington) – a former goldminer, shopkeeper, publican and boxer. He was a great orator.

The long period of the Liberal Government saw much reform to the extent that NZ was considered the ‘social

laboratory of the world’. Yet one measure that the Liberal period is best remembered for – the granting of women’s franchise (first country in the world, although Texas was first) in 1893, Seddon himself voted against. The irony is that Seddon was generally in favour of women’s rights – an anomaly here.

Seddon was probably most proud of introducing and seeing passed into law the first Old Age Pension Act in 1898. It is the forerunner of today’s Superannuation.

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Craig Bates - Master photographer and portrait framer

Craig Bates has years of experience behind him, which combined with his lifetime interest in photography and skill, makes him a safe bet for any photographic requirement. "It's always been my passion", he states simply.

After 31 years working as a photojournalist for a Taranaki newspaper, he set up his own business about six years ago, which he runs from his Riversdale home. Of his extensive newspaper experience he says, "It put me in really good stead - all aspects of photography." He adds that it has made him "very versatile".

Craig says he "very happy" having his own business and

would not want to return to working for someone else because he enjoys the flexibility of hours his venture allows, especially as it pertains to time with his young family.

The award-winning photographer is skilled in a wide spectrum of photography including, for example, family and child portraits, pregnancy portraits, landscapes, weddings and an array of commercial work. He has even carried out extensive aerial photography.

Craig can also custom frame photographs and posters, and embroidery or cross-stitch for clients, using quality framing materials.



Kapuni by dusk - one of Craig's photographs. Note how the wind is affecting each smoke plume differently.

With his painstaking attention to detail, the finished product is first class.

Although much of Craig's work is independent, he still does assignments for number of publications - including regular work for Women's Weekly, Women's Day, House and Garden and NZ Farmers Weekly, as well as some newspapers. He has also had work published for NZ House and Garden, NZ Homestyle and an Australian biker magazine.

Much of Craig's work is by word of mouth and he is sought after because of his professional calibre. He is quite amenable as to how far he is prepared to travel. For example, a recent assignment

was in Taupo. "I'll go as far as the compass takes me", he says with a smile.

Craig's rates are "definitely competitive", partly because by working from home, he can keep overheads down, as well as there being no office space to rent or lease. All his work is guaranteed.

Bates Photographix Ltd is located at 4 Inaha Road, Hawera, although, in reality it is closer to Manaia. His corner property is easily seen from Surf Highway 45, with its distinctive wooden and brick fence. His orange, white and black sign is very visible.

You can phone Craig on 06 274 8381 or 027 637 6143. Or just call by - he is



Craig Bates, who - has over 30 years of experience as a photographer.

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Early photography

The very earlier forerunner to photography goes way back to the Chinese philosopher Mo Di, as well as Aristotle and Euclid in the fifth and sixth centuries, when they invented a primitive pinhole camera.

The actual word 'photography' was coined much later in 1839 when Sir John Herschel used the word in a lecture to the Royal Society of London. However, the word was used in an article the same year by Johann von Maedler in the publication Vossische Zeitung.

There were many advances in the early days of the process, but France's Nicephone Niepce produced the first actual photograph in 1826. It was a view from nature entitled 'View from his window at Le Gris'.

The first photograph of a person was in 1838 taken by Louis Daguerre, of a man having his shoes shined in the street by a shoeshine man. But this needed several minutes exposure - many more advances were needed and yet to come.

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Creative stone, creative magic

A Combi van, the cartoon figure Shrek, surf boards, guitars, bottles and a truck are just some of the unusual memorials people choose for their loved ones.

“We’re limited by your imagination,” says Callum Mahy of Creative Stone Monumental Masons.

Callum from Okato opened Creative Stone Monumental Masons in the Blagdon shopping centre, 18 months ago. Since then business has been growing steadily.

“It’s an emotional time,” admits Callum of choosing a memorial. Roughly one in ten customers will break down in tears, particularly if they involve children.

Prior to opening the business Callum was a monumental mason in Hamilton for 15 years. The Blagdon shop is a



Creative Stone’s Blagdon premises.

sister branch of the Hamilton business.

This means they have buying power. “We can offer better prices to people,” says Callum.

Callum’s wife Amanda – they’ve just got married – manages the shop.

Callum does the masonry work, lettering, inseting of photos and design work. He also has a business which runs parallel to the stone masonry doing plastering and

tiling and decorative glass.

They try to cater to people’s diverse taste. People can choose the type of stone and also colour.

“There’s 20 different colours of granite,” says Callum adding that granite, which is a volcanic rock, is used these days as it lasts longer than marble.

There is also an incredible range of monuments one can choose.

Callum has books with all

sorts of designs which people can peruse which include ex-



Much care and attention to detail went into the creation of this stone, symbolising loving remembrance.

amples of his previous work. Usually cremation stones are a bit smaller, says Callum.

Photos inset into memorials which have always been popular have become cost effective, he comments.

There seems to be a return to larger and also more unique and personalised memorials.

Amanda, who has been managing the shop since November, says she’s still learning the business and is enjoying it.

“I’m still learning,” also offers Callum - adding that he has to keep up with regulations which can differ for each region. For example in the New Plymouth cemetery there’s a one metre height limit on headstones. In South Taranaki there’s a two metre limit.

Creative Stone is open Tuesday to Thursday from 12noon to 4pm and Friday from 11am to 3pm.

Appointments outside these times, including weekends, can be organised by arrangement.



This amazing little horse, forever keeping watch over a departed loved one, is the work of a very skilled person in Callum.



The different types and themes of memorilas are only limited by the imagination of the bereaved clients.

Care and co-operation needed in the transport of stock

Dairy farmers are being advised to make sure their cows are properly prepared for transport when being moved off the farm.

DairyNZ development team leader for animal husbandry, Dr Nita Harding, says that many farmers are transporting cows at this time of year, either to winter on another farm or as cull cows.

“There are a number of things farmers need to do and some checks they should make with the driver before their cows are loaded onto trucks or trailers for transport,” she says. “Travel can be stressful for the animals and it’s important that they are well presented for transport”.

“At this time of year, farmers who are wintering off stock are moving animals which are in late pregnancy and they need to be handled with particular care and patience. “Farmers should take the opportunity to have a good chat with the driver to make sure the truck is in good order for transport,” says Nita. “The truck needs to have sufficient effluent collection capacity for the journey and be in good repair.” Farmers should also make

sure that the transport provides enough space, including crate height for larger cows, adequate ventilation and that the animals are protected from adverse weather. “And also, with the requirements of the National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT) scheme taking effect from July 1, it may be better to tag animals before transport, especially if the home farm has better animal handling facilities than the wintering block.” When animals are being moved to a wintering block, care must be taken to ensure that a feed transition plan is in place, so the animals adjust to the different feeds of the two farms. A gradual adjustment over 7-10 days is recommended.

Cows should receive a diet containing 80-100g elemental magnesium a day for three days either side of transport. The stress of transport causes a significant drop in blood magnesium levels so some supplementation is required. Nita says that farmers who would like more detailed support or advice should contact their local DairyNZ consulting officer or phone


the Farmer Information Service 0800 4 DairyNZ (0800 4 324 7969).


The main things farmers should consider when moving any stock, are:

- all people responsible for transporting cows need to have the experience and knowledge to look after their welfare
- cows should be fit, healthy and strong, and able to bear weight on all four legs.
- cows with a body condition score of three or more can be transported, those less than three need immediate remedial care.
- cows should receive a diet containing 80-100g elemental magnesium/cow/day for three days leading up to transport and for three days following.
- cows in the last three months of pregnancy should not be transported

for more than eight hours without a rest period.

- cows should be stood off green pasture for 4-12 hours before transport to reduce effluent during the journey – preferably on grazed-off pasture or a wood chip pad rather than on concrete. Make sure water is provided during this stand-off time.
- Feed and water should be immediately available to the animals when they arrive at their destination.





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Newsletter 1, April 2012

Everybody's Theatre Society Inc.

72 Tasman Street, Opunake

Yellow Sticker Not Slowing Us Down

On 8th March, Everybody's Theatre was yellow stickered by the South Taranaki District Council. This means no movies or use of the theatre until the Earthquake Strengthening has been completed. An Engineer has been commissioned and plans are drawn up to complete the structural strengthening.

The good news is that our two tenants; Penny's Coastal Café and Dave's Barber Shop are able to continue operating. So it's full steam ahead for them. We can continue to use the front foyer of the theatre for activities as this doesn't have a lot of weight bearing above it.

So what happens next?

The committee is unanimous in their decision to continue with the upgrade and earthquake strengthening of the building. The committee has produced a financial plan to get us through the months ahead so we can continue meeting our financial commitments of normal monthly expenses, rates, insurance, and power. Our only income will be rent from our two tenants. Due to the closure, our source of income ceases.

The committee is planning some fund raising events in the coming months, so watch out for these exciting activities. Applications are in process to TSB Community Trust and the Pub Charities for funding as a Community Facility. The Lotteries Grants will also be applied to help meet any shortfall.

In the community look out for raffles that are available for purchase in the Post and Lotto Shop and other supporting businesses. Thank you to those people that have already purchased tickets.

What we've been up to lately

In 2011 an online survey was started and 61 replies were received. The committee learnt that live shows, a boutique theatre, dances, a museum and an array of other events such as displays were the order of priority.

Our Boutique Theatre has been running well and a number of different themes have happened, such as Breakfast at Tiffanys with a high tea served after the movie, Coffee and Cake at the Bridesmaids screening and Pizza and Beer at the Billy T:Te Movie with several more movies screened as well.

Gary Mc Cormack and Mayor Tim Shadbolt arrived in town for a show at the Theatre and were attended by 121 people. We had wedding booking which sadly we had to cancel and Young Farmers Ball enquiry. St Joseph's School held their end of year production last year along with several other activities and would like to stage a community production when we are open again. Dancing lessons had started and a dance recital was planned to follow, our local Youth Group, Kindergarten and Swimming Club have had private screenings. So as you can see our venue has been very busy, as well as our regular Friday and Sunday Night movies and matinees.

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- Southern Trust
- Opunake & Coastal News
- Opunake Post & Lotto
- Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration
- Egmont Plains Community Board
- South Taranaki District Council
- TSB Community Trust

Contents

Yellow Sticker

So what happens next?

What we've been up to lately

Multi Functional Facility

Community Consultation

Funding/donations

Contact Details



Mark Tatham putting finishing touches to the stage upgrade.



Mayor Tim Shadbolt & Gary McCormack put on a show at Everybody's Theatre 2nd January 12



Phil Smith shaking hands with Frank Kerslake from TSE Engineering.

Cont/... Newsletter 1, April 2012

South Taranaki District Council Long Term Plan Submission

The Everybody's Theatre Committee would like you to make a submission to include our Theatre in the Long Term Plan. Include your submission under the 'Items not in the Plan'. This will show STDC that there is support in our community for the upgrade and continued use of our facility.

Fundraising Events - June

Weekly Raffles

Garage Sale/Cake stall/Raffles/Sausage Sizzle at Everybody's Theatre Foyer on 16 June, 9am.

A Night at the Races at Sandfords Event Centre. 21 June, 7 pm. First race begins at 7.30pm.

A fun filled night including Fashion in the Fields, \$15 tkt available from committee members.

Please cut out and send it back to us.

Letters of Support

I/wesupport/ do not support the upgrade of Everybody's Theatre so that it can be used by the community as a multi functional facility.

Signed Date.....

Post to: Everybody's Theatre, 2 Havelock Street, Opunake, 4616 or email: madrought@xtra.co.nz

Pledge/Buy a Brick

I/we would like to pledge/ buy ____ brick/s to help support Everybody's Theatre Society Inc.

Gold <input type="checkbox"/>	Silver <input type="checkbox"/>	Bronze <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
\$500	\$100	\$25	\$_____

A permanent display of donations will eventually be on display in the theatre.

Sponsorship

I/we are interested in sponsoring Everybody's Theatre Society Inc.

Please ring us so we can talk about it. Please phone _____

Donations of Product or Services

I/we are interested in donating products or services to the Everybody's Theatre Society Inc. that will help with the upgrade.

Please ring us so we can talk about it. Please phone _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Receipt Yes / No

Cheques can be written out to Everybody's Trust or money can be deposited at the TSB bank. Donations are tax deductible. Weekly automatic payments are great too!

TSB Bank Account Details: Everybody's Trust

TSB Bank Account: 15- 3952 – 0379031-00

Contact us if you would like to be involved with the Theatre. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

A Multi Functional Facility

It makes sense to utilize the theatre to its full potential and develop the theatre into a multi functional facility that provides many uses for the community. These are the current uses followed by possible uses.

- Upstairs for regular movies
- Downstairs for Boutique Theatre
- Downstairs & stage is used for school concerts & live shows
- Front Foyer available for stalls & meetings
- Downstairs area for art exhibits, part-time museum, youth bands, Kapa Haka, dance recitals, public meetings, etc
- Weddings, balls, and birthday parties
- Mini music festivals
- Wet weather venue
- Market Day

Funding for Stage 1

The strengthening and toilet reconstruction has been quoted at \$225,000 + GST. The committee is hoping to raise \$15000 from the local community, with the balance coming from funding agencies.

Contact Us

Chairperson

Debbie Campbell: 06 761 8192

Vice Chairperson

Rachael Hughson-How
06 761 8390

Secretary: To be advised.

Treasurer

Maree Drought: 06 761 8701

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"There may be the perception that things are bigger and better overseas, but actually New Zealand does very well," said Susan Claire, guest speaker at the Taranaki Patchwork Quilters Regional Showday hosted by Opunake's Quirky Quilters recently.

There is a difference though. "Over there they love certain colours which we wouldn't like," she says. "New Zealanders prefer colours that are brighter." They like clearer colours, she adds, which she feels is a reflection of the New Zealand light.

Susan has been doing quilting for 11 years and particularly enjoys designing. She showed the 100 plus women from all over the region samples of her own works.

Susan has showed her designs overseas and has been to the States where she exhibited at the International Quilt Market in Houston in October, an experience she described as "totally overwhelming and absolute fun." The event is held twice yearly - in May and October.



Susan Claire with one of her designs, which attracted considerable applause among the audience.

Though she sells some of her designs overseas Susan concedes "It's not an industry where you make a lot of money."

Some of the shows have big prizes, she said describing the Best of Show award would win \$10,000 US.

"They're stunning, they're immaculately made," said

every 6 weeks with different clubs in the region serving as hosts. The meeting includes a show and tell from the host group who also put on a morning tea.

Commented Joyce Adams from Quirky Quilters it was "very addictive".

Remarked Dee Bakewell, another mem-

ber of the Opunake group, there was good cameraderie.

"It crosses all boundaries." The Opunake group Quirky Quilters has 20 members. They meet weekly at the Opunake Business Centre on a Monday from 10am till 3pm.

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Susan, very elaborate and with great attention to detail. "They're not quilts you put on your bed - they're works of art - made to win competitions - wall art."

Susan who lived in New Plymouth prior to moving to Otaki where they have a little bit of land with "a couple of cows" said it was nice to come back.

"We really, really like New Plymouth," she said "It has been good to us." The couple had shifted to New Zealand from Australia. Susan was born in Bahrain however and educated in England.

In mid-May Susan is off to the Kansas Trade Show.

She amused the audience by telling them that she told her husband that he could accompany her on these overseas trips only if he wears all his clothes as she needed his baggage allowance for all her quilts.

The Taranaki Patchwork Regional Showdays are held



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Winning style

Oakura's 17yr old Anna Hinton riding Sexy B won the A1 Challenge Cup (riders 17 and under 21yrs) at the NZ Pony Clubs Horse Trials Teams Championships held in Oamaru recently. With a polished performance Anna also won the Knox-Thompson Challenge Cup for the best Dressage, scoring 24.44 from Northland's Megan Hart (Stoneriver Beethoven) and Otago Southland's Kendra McRae (Il Mafioso) both lying 2nd equal on 27.50.

The cross country course was very technical. Anna, being thirteen seconds over time, had a cost of 5.2 penalties, Megan picked up 4.4 while Kendra was one of the three riders jumping clear within the time, which gave her the overnight lead.

Show jumping took its toll though, and Kendra dropped a rail to add four faults to her score. To delight of all Taranaki supporters present, Anna and Sexy B jumped a nail biting clear round, giving them the final total of 29.64 and the A1 Individual Cup wins. Kendra finished 2nd 31.50 and Megan 3rd 31.90. Anna, Head Girl at Spotswood College, also won the Secondary School award.

In the DC section (riders 16yrs and under) Lauren Mathis (Flintoff) Waikato was the only rider to jump the cross country without incurring faults, although a further three took a 5 point



Anna Hilton competing in the NZ Pony Champs.

option. Lauren moved up from 13th in the dressage to win the DC section on 37.78, followed by Franklin Thames Valley duo Zephania Steele (SS Nonchalant) 40.92 and Devon Prangley (Born to be Me) 3rd 44.71.

Only three teams finished with a live score in the Teams Championship event, Otago Southland 165.36 1st, Franklin Thames Valley 174.53 2nd, Canterbury 263.13 3rd. For the first time for over 10years, the Taranaki team did not finish

with a live score, hindered by the fact that they only had four riders contesting the teams' event when a team is made up of six with the best four scores to count. Team members were A1(riders 17 and under 21yrs); Anna Hinton (Sexy B), Hannah Trott (Waka Ahu) Waitara 14th, Ashlee Butler (Kitford Tajgeil) Waitara E, DC (Riders 16yrs and under); Jacqui Tulloch (Cosmic Zipper) Opunake E.

Taranaki faired better in the Training team section,

with both riders finishing on their dressage score, Tracey Bolton (Silver Dundee) Waitara 40.25 7th and Rueben Gray (Onetai Law) New Plymouth 43.50 10th to give them 3rd overall. Team Trainer was Julia Bolton with Manager Suzy Bolton.

All was not lost however, and Taranaki also won the coveted Horse Management award, for their attention to safety, tidiness and detail around the horses and their sportsmanship. Taranaki has a great record



The coveted trophy.

of A1 cup winners, back in 1975 Jeannie Attrill, 1983 Robert George, a host of winners in the 1990s, Rachael Whitaker, 92, Jaala Bolton

93, Claire Tompkins 94, Heelan Tompkins 95, 96, 97, Rosie Hazard 98, and Jean Tompkins 99. with Courtney Newton winning it in 2010.

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Te Kiri WI hopes to 'Brighten a life'

We were welcomed to a very busy, interesting and happy meeting by our president Mrs Sue Muggeridge. She thanked our wonderful committee for all the help in making our 75th birthday celebrations a big success - with a special thank you to Judith Armstrong and Diane Bright, our whizz girls on the computers.

A discussion on how to encourage new members and how to make meetings more interesting was had. Diane Bright was appointed delegate to a meeting to discuss the matter.

Nita Kaiser and Merle Clement were appointed delegates to the council meeting held in the Normanby Hall on April 16.

Several members were serving morning tea. A busy time for those members was had. Our progressive dinner to raise funds for the kidney kids was well underway with Mrs Pauline Clough and Mrs Joy Collins and their husbands hosting this event. A committee meeting to discuss the menu was held. Members were busy knitting hats for children suffering from cancer. Our knitting members had handed in over 60 hats. One member had knitted 40. We're very proud

of our knitters.

Judith Armstrong's daughter Paula is working in an orphanage in Nanidia where children have lost their parents through aids and the children are very sick with this horrible disease as well. Judith has sent a parcel of books, pencils, crayons and colouring in books and donated some wool asking members if they would please knit some teddy bears and she would send them over to Paula.

Our theme for the year is 'Brighten a life', so we hope we do.

We were reminded that our visitors from the Idea Services were invited to a soup and sandwich lunch. We look forward to this visit and meeting them again, as well as hearing them join in our meeting.

Our table of the month had some really lovely articles on it. Several pairs of bed socks, hats, a beautiful bag and some cuddle baby singlets Kath had knitted. It was a treat to see now that Joy has settled in the new home she is making and she is making those lovely bags again.

Our table is very interesting with all the different articles displayed. A great talking point.

Competition results

Bloom
1st Joy Collins, 2nd Judith Armstrong, 3rd Merle Clement

Shrub
1st Heather Radford, 2nd Merle Clement, 3rd Judith Armstrong

Cooking
1st Joy Collins, 2nd Heather Radford, 3rd Kath Perrett

Floral
1st Mavis West
Handcraft (National Competition) 3 classes

Class 1: 1st Kath Perrett

Class 2: 1st Joy Collins

Class 3: 1st Heather Radford

These entries got judged at the Council meeting at Normanby and the winners go down to Wellington to the National Competitions.

Heather had made a beautiful Christmas angel with a hardanger skirt and has embroidered the bodice in silver - just beautiful.

Thank you to Merle Clement and Pauline Clough for the yummy afternoon tea. Thank you for the lovely flowers given to me by Kath for my floral arrangement and to you and Heather for all your help. We enjoyed getting our little institute work in order and look forward to our Mother's Day meeting this month.

Mavis West
Publicity Officer

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Kaimanawa Wild Horse Preservation Society
Web: www.nzwildhorses.com
Phone: Pauline 07 883 6708

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15 May 2012



Obituary: Sir Fred 'The Needle' Allen

Rugby great Sir Frederick Richard Allen died recently. Aged 92 the former All Black player selector and coach died after being ill with leukaemia, while living at Whangaparaoa, north of Auckland.

Despite his illness he was active to the end; the week before he died he unveiled a bridge on the Sir Fred Allen Walk of Honour at the Auckland Memorial Park, Silverdale.

Sir Fred was born in Oamaru, but educated in Christchurch where he played for the Linwood club. Later he played as captain of the NZ Colts.

Although he was first selected for the All Blacks as an exciting first five eighths in the backs, war interrupted his career at the top level. He served overseas, attaining the rank of lieutenant in the 27th and 30th battalions. Just after the war he toured Europe with the Kiwis Army team.

Back in NZ, he was selected as captain for the All Blacks 1946-1949. However, his career as an All Black culminated in a 0-4 lost series against the Springboks, during the tour of South Africa. He indicated his retirement with a measure of disgust by throwing his boots into the sea. He had played 21 games as an All Black, including six tests. He was captain of the team throughout.

Perhaps his peak in NZ rugby was as a coach from

1966 to 1968 – winning all 14 tests. He felt this record attracted a degree of “jealousy” as regards his unblemished record. He was demanding as a coach – hence ‘the Needle’ and had a few tricks up his sleeve to keep his players on their guard and motivated. One method was to read aloud fictitious telegrams, as Sir Colin Meads – one of his All Blacks – explains. A telegram might read “Meads is over the hill”. Fred had made all the telegrams up himself beforehand.

Earlier he had successfully coached Auckland in the late 1950s during their Ranfurly Shield era.

He was also an All Black selector 1964-1965.

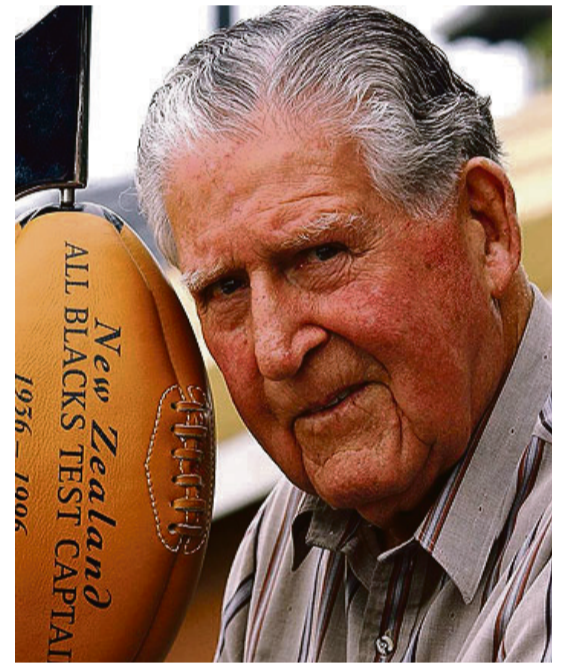
Sir Fred received many honours in his lifetime. He received the OBE in 1990,

his knighthood (KNZM) in 2010 and was inducted into the international Rugby hall of Fame in 2005. In 2002 he received a silver tray (Steinlager Salver) at the NZRFU Awards night.

Sir Fred is predeceased by his wife Norma and his son Murray.

A worthwhile book to read is ‘Fred the Needle: The Untold Story of Sir Frederick Allen, by Les Watkins, his friend, who commented that the man was the “greatest gentleman” and “most inspiring”.

Sir Brian Lochore, whom Sir Fred chose to captain the All Blacks during his coaching era, admitted his bedroom was adorned with pictures of the coach. He stated that Sir Fred was “one of the biggest influences on my career.”



Sir Fred Allen was a great All Black captain, All Black selector and unbeaten coach of the National team. He'll be missed.

Hist –Jean Batten

On May 23, 1934 NZ pilot Jean Batten completed a solo flight in her aeroplane the ‘Gypsy Moth’ from England to Australia, landing in Darwin to a huge welcome 14 days 22 hours and 13 minutes after setting off. This set a new record, beating Amy Johnson’s by more than four days. On the way she had her share of problems, including poor weather and monsoons after leaving Burma, but she prevailed.

This was Jean’s third attempt at the record; her earlier attempts ended in a crash in Pakistan on the first attempt and running out of fuel near Rome in the second, sustaining damage to her five-year-old aeroplane.

Opunake people will recall Paul Andersen-Gardiner and Rebekah Hornblow’s excellent musical ‘Garbo of the Sky’ celebrating the New Zealand aviatrix several years ago performed brilliantly by the Opunake Players.

Jean was born Jane Gardner Batten in 1909 in Rotorua and died in Spain in unusual circumstances. She died as result of not seeking treatment for a dog’s bite and unknown to the locals, was buried in a pauper’s grave.

For about ten years it was a big mystery as to what had become of Jean – the most famous New Zealander of the 1930s.

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Hillary Challenge 2011



The team from Opunake High School heading off next week to compete in the Hillary Challenge. From left back, Thomas Bell, Darryl Read. Middle row, Ethan Bloemen, Jordan Hooper, Kallum Whitehead, Tara Potter. Front row, Gemma Grey, Anna Young, Breanna Morgan.

New Zealand's toughest challenge for teenagers is about to start on 13 May. The most adventurous senior secondary students in the country will assemble at the Sir Edmund Hillary Outdoor Pursuits Centre at Tongariro to begin the 2012 Secondary Schools Hillary Challenge. The rewards for these teenagers are massive: confidence, camaraderie, pride. It's an epic week they'll remember for the rest of their lives.

Details of the course are a tightly guarded secret until the event begins, but the challenge will include a two-day rogaine-style wilderness expedition and a multisport race. In previous years this has included kayaking, run-

ning, abseiling and mountain biking.

"Win or lose, The challenge encourages young New Zealanders to push their personal boundaries, while boosting their love and respect for the country's great outdoors. The intense five-day event will test their outdoor skills and endurance, as well as their mental acumen and teamwork, in a series of wilderness and sporting challenges.

The Opunake High School Hillary Challenge Team is heading off again to the event. The Challenge runs for five days and is based around the New Zealand Outdoor Pursuits Centre and Tongariro National Park. The team has a series of challenges - two days of sce-

narios, a two day expedition and a one day adventure race. They are aiming for the top spot; the reigning champions are the combined New Plymouth Boys High and New Plymouth Girls High teams.

Opunake is currently the top single school in New Zealand for Hillary Challenge. They have been runners up three times and, having just over three hundred students to select from, this is a really impressive feat. Opunake High School has competed in the challenge since 2006.

While some of the other teams have the luxury of having several large sponsors, the Opunake team have worked hard fundraising with the support of the

Opunake community - including a trail bike ride and quiz night.

The team has been training hard for months running, cycling and tramping with large packs to condition themselves for the challenge.

Good luck to these dedicated teenagers.



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Altum Coastal A prevail in a thriller against NPOB

Altum Coastal travelled to Vogeltown Park on April 21 to take on a NPOB team in a 'top of the table clash'. Fresh from beating Tukapa the week before Coastal were in for a difficult time as the first half was to show. Staunch NPOB defence, with some enterprising back play, saw the hosts draw first blood with a try awarded after the boys from the Coast were put under some intense pressure.

Altum Coastal were guilty of putting pressure on themselves by making mistakes or not finishing off hard fought build ups and it was a Brent Stevenson dropped goal that kept them in touch with a determined NPOB team.

John Julian celebrating his 23rd birthday, showed some deft touches with his kicking game, to get the Coast into NPOB territory. From the lineout the ball was spun wide and a try was awarded to Brent Stevenson to put the Coast in front 8-5.

Coastal's defensive system was tested severely and, as the pressure mounted, mistakes were made by both sides, as the half ended Coastal and NPOB were tied at 8 all, through the spell, Old Boys had the edge in possession with Coastal's forwards, lead by Nick Lawn and Mitchell Campbell, making tackle after tackle.

The 2nd half started with both teams trying to dominant. Half back John Julian's kicking game relieved the pressure a number of times



Senior thirds players Michael Lawn, Ben Burmiester, Matt Koch, Justin Davis and Aaron Gopperth took down Spotswood United 65-13 at Rahotu

and Te Waiti Mareikura pulled off a try saving tackle as NPOB looked certain to score. Again basic mistakes thwarted Altum Coastal's scoring opportunities as both backs and forwards tested NPOB resolve in defence. Old Boys took their scoring chances and went into the lead 13-8 from a competent lineout move and the pressure was on the table leaders to front up.

Steve Barron was having a superb game at the back, brushing off high tackles and defending stoutly as NPOB mounted attack after attack on the Coastal line.

The visitors never gave up and desperate defence by both pack and the backline held Old Boys out. The game see sawed back and forth. Down to 14 men after a questionable sin-binning, the Coast made one last valiant attempt and with time almost up they pressured NPOB line. Prop Hamish Lawn wrestled the ball and was driven over the line to score. From wide out Man of the Match, Steve Barron slotted the goal to get Coastal out of jail. The Coastal supporters went mad as a dejected NPOB looked on.

Final score Altum Coastal 15 NPOB. 13.

Point Scorers
Tries to: B Stevenson, H Lawn.
Drop Goal to: B Stevenson.
Conversion to: S Barron.

Player of the Day Points:
3- Steve Barron
2- Mitchell Campbell
1- Nick Lawn.

Next week the Coast have the bye then away to Inglewood.
Laters, Kia kaha Rua Ngaitahu "Over the Hill".

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Coastal Senior Thirds apply pressure on Spotswood United at Rahotu. Aidan Heather, Alistair Ritchie, Jason Young, Matt Lawn and Ben Burmeister are giving it their all, with the ball just out of reach.

Coastal Senior Thirds account for Spotswood easily - Kaitake more of a challenge

Game 4 of the season saw Coastal Senior Thirds meet Spotswood at Rahotu; Coastal started putting points on the board early in the game with a quick try and Spotswood responded with points from a penalty - score 5-3. Coastal continued to pour on points by scoring five tries and three conversions. Half-time score: 36-3.

In the second half, Spotswood scored two unconverted tries and Coastal added another five tries and converted two of these; leaving the final score at 65-13.

versus Kaitake

Coastal travelled up to Oakura to play Kaitake for the Greg Burkitt Memorial Shield challenge.

The game started well with

Kaitake applying the pressure early and it wasn't until mid-way through the half that the first points came from a try to Aaron Taylor. Kaitake were awarded a penalty to bring the score to 5-3.

Fifteen minutes before the break Coastal was awarded another try and the second conversion for Goppy. A penalty to Kaitake brought the half-time score to 12-6

to Coastal.

A few changes at half-time saw Coastal score two more tries and converting one to make the full-time score 24-6 to Coastal.

Next games:

- vs Bell Block 1 pm @ Rahotu
- vs Eltham/Kaponga 1 pm - away

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Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays.

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

Other areas
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Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am
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- STDC - COLD CREEK RURAL WATER SUPPLY BILL - SUBMISSIONS FOR SELECT COMMITTEES.** Submissions are being called for the above (May 3 deadline).
- POKER NITE** Wednesdays at the Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.
- SCRAP & CHAT / CARD MAKERS EVENING** Mondays at Pastimes, Tasman Street, Opunake from 7-9pm. Beginners and new people welcome.
- KIDZSHOW 2012** Exhibition runs until 20 May Percy Thompson Gallery, Stratford refer advert.
- "1 NITE 2 DJS" - DJ TATZ & DJ SWAA** Every last Saturday of the month, April 28 at the Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.
- SATURDAY AFTERNOON BLUES** Big Daddy Wilson at Butlers Reef, Oakura 3-6pm Sunday April 29 refer advert
- SALE AT NEW LIFE NURSERY** Starts May 3 until May 10 at 183 Tasman St, Opunake
- OPUNAKE COMMUNITIES KINDERGARTEN AGM** Friday May 4th 2012, 7.30pm at Headlands Restaurant. Everyone welcome. Refer public notice
- CONFUSION** Three one act plays by Alan Ayckbourn brought to you by the Opunake Players. Season continues until May 5 at the Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake. Refer advert.
- NEIL LUSK INDEPENDENT LIVESTOCK IN CALF HEIFER FAIR** Friday, May 4, 597 Hurford Road, Omata, 12noon. Refer public notice
- RIVER SAFETY INSTRUCTION** Sunday May 6 at the Meeting of the Waters, New Plymouth 12noon to 3pm. Run by Mountain Safety. See article
- KAPONGA VETS OPEN DAY** In their new premises at 72 Victoria Street, Kaponga on May 12 at 10am. Refer public notice
- MOTHERS DAY** Sunday May 13
- OH MY GISH COMEDY TOUR** Sunday 13th May at Headlands, Opunake. Refer Public notice
- LAKESIDE LIONS FUN RUN AT PIHAMA** Sunday May 13 (Mother's Day). Registration at Pihama Town Hall from 9am. Run at 10.30am. Refer advert.
- SPACE** A First time parent? Starting in Opunake Tuesday May 15 refer advert.
- OPUNAKE PONY CLUB AGM** Wednesday, May 16 at Headlands, 6.30pm. Refer public notice
- OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB AGM** Monday May 21 at St Barnabas Church Hall, Opunake 9:30am. All welcome. Refer public notice
- IRE EXT** Saturday night May 19 at Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.
- ONE NIGHT, DJS** Saturday night May 26 at Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.

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Malvina Major returns for Egmont Community Council Anniversary



Dame Malvina Major who will sing in Opunake soon.

11th October we are organising a graffiti art workshop. It is envisaged that a tutor will work with interested youngsters to design and produce up to 8 plywood panels that we hope will be installed at the Skate Park adjacent to the Sandfords Event Centre in Opunake.

On the weekend of October 13th-14th there will be a Tattoo Art Installation and Tattoo / Ta Moko Drawing Workshop being held upstairs at the Opunake Surf Inn. This will hopefully consist of a live demonstration, after two drawing workshops over two days, multi-media installation pieces and an exhibition of photographs of the work of the three / four tattoo artists being featured.

There will also be an Anniversary Dinner for past and present members of the Egmont Community Arts Council committee and invited guests on the 27th October. This will be held in conjunction with our Flax and Fibre Demonstration / Exhibition and is timed to be held on the weekend of the Taranaki Arts Review, the Fringe Garden Festival and the Rhododendron Festival/Taranaki Garden Spectacular.

At some time prior to the dinner, date to be confirmed, we are hoping to have a writers / poetry symposium to be held at the Opunake Library Plus. The long term objective of the exercise will be to produce, collate and publish work relating to Opunake and surrounding districts in the manner of the 'Friends of the Library' publications of the past. Maria Brewerton

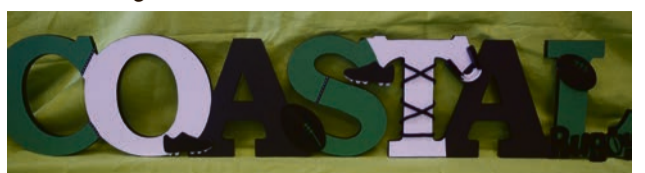
the Librarian is very enthusiastic. We have contacted and await the reply of a published author to give an address and maybe to help facilitate a writers workshop. This is yet to be finalised.

We are also working towards having a dance workshop /classes, which we anticipate will result in an 'Old Time Country Dance' with a live band at the Opunake Town Hall. A real blast from the past.

The Egmont Community Arts Council meets every fourth Monday of the month. We have a Facebook page, so keep an eye open there or in the local paper for details of these events. Anybody who wishes to contribute, attend or has any queries should ring Ms Carol Marshall (Chairperson) of the Egmont Community Arts Council on 06 761 8789 (carolmarshall9@gmail.com), Facebook: Egmont Community Arts Council.

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This year, 2012, we are celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Egmont Community Arts Council.

We have an exciting itinerary of celebrations, culminating with a concert starring our own Dame Malvina Major. This is going to be held at the Opunake High School Hall on November 24th.

The year began with a concert on the 22nd March, held at the Sandfords Event Centre, starring Fiona Pears, the nationally and internationally acclaimed violinist and composer. Fiona has performed in Opunake in the past and her return was eagerly anticipated. It had been a stormy few days prior to the date and on the night,

but that didn't prevent one 83-year-old aficionado driving home in the worst of the storm to New Plymouth from Tauranga to attend.

The next item on our agenda is the play 'Silent Night' on Saturday 21st July. The one-woman play Silent Night was written and will be performed by Yvette Parsons. To quote Theatre Review this "Bitter sweet show captures the lonely world of an ever-optimistic old widow. Yvette Parsons creates a Kiwi Eleanor Rigby in her haunting portrait of an elderly widow busying herself in preparation for a Christmas Day gathering that no-one will attend."

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Public invited to forum to discuss the future of community health services

Midlands Health Network is asking members of the public how they would like the future of primary care to be shaped. It is hosting a community forum at the TET Stadium in Inglewood on May 10.

Midlands Health Network says public health dollars need to be better targeted to ensure everyone across the region has equal access to quality community health care in the long-term.

"We need to think smarter, and work smarter to cope with the demands on health care funding from an increasing population, an increasing disease burden, especially among Maori and Pacific Islanders, and a diminishing workforce as we struggle to attract doctors to rural practice," says Mr John Macaskill-Smith, chief executive officer of Midlands Health Network Ltd.

The region faces a significant increase in demand from

health services from an overall 14 per cent population growth forecast by 2026.

Mr Macaskill-Smith says this is both a sobering and exciting challenge for its 98 general practice teams in the Lakes, Tairāwhiti, Taranaki and Waikato District Health Board regions. Together, they work with just under half a million people, helping them to manage their health care needs.

"Sustainability is a relatively new concept for the New Zealand health system, but in our daily work we increasingly encounter the limited supply of resources available to the health sector and the increasing demands we face," he says.

"General practice teams need to be more available to people to help them to manage increasingly complex health needs, and deliver more effective services within the resources that are available. We need to achieve this in

a way that also cares for the well-being and job satisfaction of the people delivering those services to ensure a sustainable workforce. These are the people our health service depends on and they are already working at peak capacity in this region to meet patient demand."

Mr Macaskill-Smith says new ways need to be found to improve access to health services that will, in turn, improve the health of both individuals and the disease burden across the population. "We need more services that anticipate people's health problems and provide the safety net at the top of the cliff, rather than the ambulance at the bottom. This means shifting the emphasis in health care provision from unplanned hospital admissions to better, planned management in the community of long-term health conditions, which includes anticipating the

support needed by those most at risk."

Mr Macaskill-Smith says that, at all levels, New Zealand's health care professionals recognise that they need to work differently if they are going to deliver responsive, efficient and effective health services to their communities.

Do you have a view about how you want the future of primary care services to be shaped? Midlands Health Network invites members of the public to a community forum about the exciting challenges that lie ahead on 10 May 2012, 10am, at the TET Stadium, Inglewood.

For further information please contact:

John Macaskill-Smith
Midlands Health Network Ltd
Phone: 027 587 1609

River safety course - NZ Mountain Safety Council

Mountain Safety Taranaki is running a short river-safety instruction course on Sunday May 6 - 12 noon to 3pm at Meeting of Waters, New

Plymouth. River crossing methods, techniques, risk management and river dynamics are covered in this course.

It is designed for both the novice and those wishing to up-date their techniques. A practical is included. *Wetsuit essential.* The cost of the

course is \$20.

To register your interest please contact Phyllis (06) 753 9256 or email taranaki@mountainsafety.org.nz

Coastal care update - many thanks

What makes Coastal Taranaki a special place? Isolated, remote, often left to itself, the community is made of resilient people who help themselves and have demonstrated over a number of projects that they can make things happen for the betterment of the whole community.

Once again the Coast has

responded very positively to an appeal for help. The Coastal Taranaki Health Trust would like to gratefully acknowledge the wonderful efforts of the Opunake Lions and Lakeside Lions - ably assisted by the Fire Brigade, Rahotu/Pungarehu Lions, Pihama Women's Institute and the many volunteers who have helped them carry out the door to door canvas during the last month.

Over 2,500 flyers have been delivered to individual houses and follow up visits have been made to make sure that everyone is aware of the proposal to build a new Multi Purpose Coastal Care Health

Centre in Opunake and how they can help through donations, pledges and letters of support.

The community fundraising target of \$411,000 is getting much closer and has totalled just over \$330,000 to date. The recent appeal realized over \$41,500 in pledges and \$30,000 in cash and cull cows. A terrific show of support from such a small community as ours.

The Trust will be grateful of ongoing support given at any time. For those who have been missed, or have mislaid their flyer, your donation, pledge or letter of support can be sent to

Coastal Care Health Trust, (Building fund), Freepost 101, Opunake 4645. Receipts for tax purposes will be sent out. For those who haven't as yet given an indication of their support, we urge you to get on with it, letters of support are a necessary part of the appeal as these are needed when applying to the various agencies for funding. Simply fill in the back of the flyer and send it in.

Anyone who didn't receive a flyer and wishes to know more, can pick one up from Pastimes in Opunake or view information at the Library or by visiting the website www.cchtr.co.nz

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Through the Lens at the Village Gallery



The Village Gallery in Eltham has an interesting exhibition which runs until May 11. There are lots of intriguing photos from the Livingston Baker archive. *This* historic photo shows a hotel in Opunake back in the days of horses and buggies. Other photos show such things as an Opunake Beach carnival in the 1960s with a cast of hundreds! and Hawera's water tower from High Street in 1915. There is an interesting one of Hawera Hospital long ago. *The Village Gallery is open Monday to Saturday 10am to 3pm (Closed Sundays).*

KIDZ SHOW 2012

McDONALD REAL ESTATE CHALLENGE and YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

27 APRIL - 20 MAY



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Make sure you see the great youngsters' art at Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford. Kidzshow. You have until May 20. You may even see something you would like to buy.

Don't miss the Kidzshow at Percy Thomson Gallery



One of the many exhibits at the Percy Thomson Gallery Kidzshow, which continues until May 20.

Hot off the press! Breaking News at the Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford.

Big news stories inspire top young artists in the annual McDonald Real Estate Canvas Challenge.

It is Kidzshow 2012 time again, opening 7.00pm - 8.30pm from Friday 27 April.

This year the McDonald Real Estate Challenge Shield - 'Hot off the Press' has used newspaper as its theme.

Youth between 12 - 24years

have been challenged to use three primary colours, plus black and white (kindly supplied by Resene), a canvas and an allocated front page of a major newspaper as inspiration to complete an artwork. There must be a link between the newspaper and the finished artwork. The participants have been asked to write a few words explaining their journey explaining how and where the page has taken them. These are then judged and awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes, the McDonald Real Estate Challenge Shield and the Stratford Art Society Prize by a panel of three.

This is the ninth year the Percy Thomson Gallery has hosted this show involving schools and educational groups. This is a great opportunity for the youth of the region to become involved in the gallery and valuable experience exhibiting in the space.

The show is a combined effort between Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford District Youth Council, Stratford Art Society and is supported by McDonald Real Estate and Resene.

The canvases will be accompanied by an exciting display of art from more than 13 schools and learning groups including early childcare and secondary pupils. Kaponga School is displaying wearable art of their own creation, Avon

Primary printmaking and Marco School - painted rocks and fabric printing among others.

It is always rewarding to see the world through young fresh eyes so make sure you don't miss this display of our upcoming artists' work.

Over 10 garments from the Taranaki Daily News Fashion Art Awards will be modelled at the opening and award presentation and later will be displayed in the gallery. The selection includes: Wendy O'Keeffe and Marion

Struthers (artists) 'Mardis Bras'

Constructed of: 180 pre-loved, hand dyed bras, sequins, beads

Section entered: Festival Fiesta Head to Toe - 'Mardis Gras', Open section

Prizes awarded - Winner of our section and Runner Up to the Supreme Award.

'Tane's Tears' by Sasafras - Marshall - Johnson Winner of the Natures Living Magic Student Category; 'Maid of Armour' Winner of the Hardware Havoc Open Category designed by Hali and Paul Penberth; 'Poetry in Motion' designed by Ali King; 'Jest Her' designed by Ann Aitchison; 'Tin Ballerina' designed by Elly Struthers, finalist in Off the Wall Child Category; 'Elegant in Eggshells on Raceday' designer Jill Nagel Winner of Recycled Open Section; 'Taranaki Cheer' - Finalist in the Off the Wall Child Category Designed by Morgan Bell; 'The Milky Wave' - Finalist in the Recycled Child Category; designed by Amelia Hutton; 'Completely in Tune' designed by Ann Aitchison, Finalist in the Recycled Open Category.

This amazing diverse and exciting exhibition is something not to be missed and all are welcome at the prize-giving and opened 7.00 - 8.30pm Friday 27th April Percy Thomson Gallery.

The opening hours of the Gallery are 10.30am until 4pm weekdays. The weekend hours are 10.30am until 3pm.

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If you have any questions please contact:
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Sport Taranaki
P: (06) 759 0930 Ext 710
M: 027 910 7253
F: (06) 759 1779
E: whanauapakari@sporttaranaki.org.nz
www.sporttaranaki.org.nz

