



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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## Inside...



Alana Marshall of Oakura is New Zealand's Rose of Tralee. See page 4.



Great chance to recycle e-waste, protect the environment and help schools. Find out how on page 4.



Once the site of an Okato stockade (and early school), now a quality home and farmlet. Would you like to buy it?



Oakura horse clinic teaches horse handling skills to students. See Page 11.

# Simply the best



## The Opunake High School Hillary Challenge Team 2012

Back row Tara Potter, Breanna Morgan. Middle row Matt Lash (Coach), Thomas Bell, Anna Young, Gemma Grey, Julie Morgan. Front Ethan Bloemen, Jordan Hooper, Daryl Read (Team Captain).

## Congratulations National Champions!

At the end of the special assembly on Monday May 21, as the Hillary Challenge winning team representing Opunake High School filed out, the melodic strains of Tina Turner's song 'You're Simply the Best' rang out. That said it all.

After coming tantalising close on several occasions

– including several seconds (2007, 2008 and 2011) and a third (2010), Opunake High School won the prestigious five-day event, held at the Sir Edmund Hillary Pursuit Centre, Tongariro.

Taranaki province did well – the second placed team was a combined one from New Plymouth Boys and New Plymouth Girls High Schools.

One of the distinguished

guests at the assembly was Ross Dunlop, Mayor of South Taranaki. He felt the celebration was so important that he put in an apology for a Council meeting he was scheduled to attend. Other distinguished guests included the previous principal Mark Bowden, Cr Ian Armstrong, Cr Bonita Bingham and Coach Steve McKeen.

The MC for the event was Head Girl, Sheena Brown

who handled her role with aplomb.

The event started with a karakia as the official party arrived, followed by a rousing haka after the group had taken their seats. There was a welcome in Maori by Rangoroa Rongonui followed by a school waiata and the school karakia.

Principal Maria Potter gave a speech. "What an achievement", she declared. She said she was proud at various levels, including the input of students, parents and the

community; she said local identity Doug Coxhead had given the school a cheque for \$2,000 in recognition of the achievement. Sadly, Doug passed away just last week. Special praise was reserved for Head of Physical Education Matt Lash, the main organiser and coach, as well as Julie Morgan and Phillip Hooper for "An amazing amount of time helping the team honing their skills".

Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Andy Whitehead spoke and lauded the win as, "one of the great achievements". He alluded to both Sir Edmund Hillary and Opunake-born Sir Peter Snell.

Mayor Dunlop enthused, "This is absolutely great. This is very, very absolutely special" – more important than a mere Council meeting; he had to be *here*.

Head Girl Sheena said, "You've made us all proud to be part of Opunake High School. It's a memory for all of us to keep".

Near the end a slide show of previous teams competing in various events was shown. At the conclusion it showed a sign which summed up what most were thinking "Cheers Lashy – you're a legend". The man himself borrowed a phase from Sir Ed when he said. "We knocked the bastard off". He thanked many people including the sponsors, staff, Julie Morgan - and Callum Whitehead got a special mention. He pointed out, "Previous teams share in this victory"

Congratulations to the team; Anna Young, Daryl Read, Tara Potter, Jordan Hooper, Thomas Bell, Gemma Gray, Breanna Morgan and Ethan Bloemen.

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Registered office: 23 Napier Street, Opunake  
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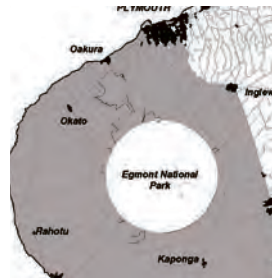
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Accounts accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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# EDITORIAL Teacher performance pay

Like a bad penny this issue keeps coming back. It is not wanted by the majority of teachers, so obviously consultation with the profession is not deemed to be of high importance here.

There are a number of reasons why the idea is not a good one. For a start, *firstly*, the idea is underpinned by anti-teacher sentiment. Because there are some misbehaving and underperforming children, obviously many teachers are not up to speed – according to proponents of the idea.

Much had been made of the one in five students who

are struggling. However, this is not a new statistic or only applicable to NZ; an examination of other countries will reveal similar or worse figures. In fact, NZ compares favourably with other OECD countries in educational prowess.

*Secondly*, it would be very hard to accurately and fairly assess who is entitled to (additional) performance pay – even impossible. The students in an area such as Remuera will generally educationally exceed those in a lower socio-economic area such as Porirua or some parts of South Auckland – regard-

less of the calibre of the teachers. A student is only in the classroom for a fraction of 24 hours – so many other factors come into how well a child is performing, including parent expectations, the value placed on education, parental educational attainment, the number of books in homes and the parent-as-first-educator aspects – to mention just a few.

*Thirdly*, the imposition of performance pay would adversely affect staff morale, which could have a carry on effect into the classroom. No matter how it is assessed there will be ill feeling and controversy as to who is granted the

extra money. The poor old principal will be – unavoidably – in the gun.

*Finally*, selectivity. Why is the spectre of performance pay raised in connection with just one vocational group? Does the Government plan performance pay for all – or any of the other employment categories. No, of course not; – refer to the first point!

Let's hope that the Government and new Education minister the Hon Hekia Parata will reconsider this proposal. Performance pay for teachers is not needed

## Opunake Picture Theatre funding declined

The Egmont Plains Community Board has dashed the financial hopes of Everybody's Theatre Society. The Opunake organisation, with stars in their eyes for the moment, hoping this historic picture thea-

tre can be refurbished and reopened, had their request declined for \$5,000. This Opunake landmark has been a cinema for over 90 years and in March 1980 the community bought the Theatre for the community.

In March 2012 the Theatre was closed to the public and restricted to essential services - due to it not meeting earthquake safety standards. Sharon Arlidge, Chairperson of the Egmont Plains Community Board, commented

that it was unfortunate there were two large fundraising ventures in Opunake at the same time. These are for a new medical centre and the picture theatre. But in the next year's funding, Mrs Arlidge said the picture theatre would be considered.

## Hi-tech security cameras for Opunake crime war

Three portable surveillance cameras and six security camera signs are the latest in the war against criminals in Opunake

The Egmont Plains Community Board recommended at its Manaia meeting that approximately \$3,816 is granted for Police work.

A total of 50 members of the Opunake Business Association applied for this money. Constable Nigel Dey, Officer in Charge of the Opunake Police detailed in a letter how this new equipment would replace the outdated cameras. "I believe that we have been realistic in what we require within the area and have not embarked on a mission to install a high cost system within the Opunake town centre," wrote Constable Nigel Dey. Some of the problem areas

in Opunake, where this new technology may be useful, are at the Skateboard Park for any drug and alcohol offending, Heaphy and Longfellow Roads for nuisance vehicles, disorder above and near the Opunake Beach Camp, and businesses, resident, or homes where there have been criminal activity. Any cultivators or suppliers of drugs in the Opunake community will also be targeted.

## (Bible Believers Corner)

The life of Abraham is a major key to understanding the Bible and an awful lot about God. Abraham's story is full of types and patterns that apply to us.

Abraham, or Abram as his early name was, was told by God to leave his people and travel to a new country that God would give him.

That is like God calling someone to be a Christian. We do not choose God, God chooses us. And it has always been that way. When Adam and Eve sinned they hid from God. It was God who went calling, searching for them. And God provided the skins of animals to cover their sin. Man-made religions or coverings, such as fig leaves, are just are not good enough.

Mankind hides from God today. Be it careers, work, TV programmes, booze, relationships or whatever, people will always try and fill their lives so they do not have to think about God.

But God still calls. He still searches for His children. And let's get something straight, not all people are children of God. Jesus tells us this in Matthew 13 in the parable of the tares and the wheat that the wheat are the children of God's kingdom, but the tares are the children

of the wicked one, sown by the devil. Don't get me wrong, it is not God's will that any should perish; all can be saved. But only those who originally belonged to God can be redeemed.

Abram followed God's call and eventually he completely separated himself from unbelief, that is, from his nephew Lot. Now that wasn't a "holier than thou kind of separation." When Lot and his family were captured by marauding kings Abram armed his men and rescued him. And when God told him that he was going to destroy the city of Sodom where Lot lived, Abraham prayed that Lot be spared.

But once full separation came then came the Promised Son, then came the new life.

It takes faith to start walking to a spiritual country just as Abraham did, but it's God the does the calling and it is our job to fulfil that call.

Refs: Genesis 12 v1-4, Genesis 3 v8-9, & 21, Matthew 13 v24-30 & v36-39 & Ephesians 1 v4-5

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# Recent Massey University Graduates



From left, Shannon Corkill who graduated Bachelor of Science, double majoring in Biochemistry and Genetics and with a Graduate Diploma in Secondary School Teaching. Aimee Walsh who gained a Bachelor of Education (Teaching) Primary/ Diploma in Education studies. Rebecca Blackwood is the new teacher at Opunake Primary School (Brady's partner). She graduated with a Bachelor of Science and also a Graduate Diploma in Primary School Teaching.



Brady Douglas Corkill graduated with a Bachelor of Business studies, majoring in Finance. He also graduated with Distinction with a Post Graduate Diploma in Business and Administration, majoring in Finance.

Shannon and Brady Corkill, are both recent graduates of Massey University. Their parents are Grant and Felicity Corkill, formerly of Opunake. Aimee Walsh is the daughter of Paddy and Tracey Walsh, Opunake Brady, Shannon and Aimee all attended St Josephs Primary School in Opunake as well as Opunake High School where Shannon and Brady were prefects and Aimee the Head Girl.

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## Pharmacy mural out of the red

Paint on the 'Pharmacies Through the Ages' mural in Opunake has just dried and now the project is fully paid for. There was a shortfall in funding for the extended preparation work required for the Opunake Pharmacy wall.

The 50 members of the Opunake Business Association will be pleased that the latest tourist attraction is out

of the red.

The Egmont Plains Community Board voted at its last meeting to recommend a payment of \$600 be made to the Opunake Business Association.

The latest Opunake mural is a centre of attention for visitors to the Coast, was the comment of one South Taranaki District Council staff member.

when it was replaced by a modern light from the Cape Egmont Lighthouse. This replica lighthouse was built specially to house the historic light and the Trust has created the Rutherford Museum.

The proposed \$2,694 funding is intended for signs on the Main Rd to indicate where this tourist attraction can be located. Advertisements can now be organised for volunteers to man the facility during set open hours.

## COUNCILLORS COMMENT



Cr Ian Armstrong

A huge thank you to the members of the Opunake High School Hillary Challenge Team and especially Matt Lash for the pride and feeling of achievement they brought to our community following their win. Look-

ing at the list of schools that competed, Opunake High was certainly the minnow in terms of school size however definitely not in drive and excellence. I attended the celebratory assembly at the Opunake High School last Monday morning. The feeling at that assembly was humbling and up-lifting (Flowery words maybe, but that is how it felt to me). Andy Whitehead, the chair of the Opunake High School Trust, put so much of this into words by saying that that team had shown to all of us how we could all achieve to high levels if we showed the level of commitment that these students showed and

that there are always people to support if we are aiming to achieve. A great result.

Following the assembly I spent the rest of my day until the early evening listening to submitters on the council's Long Term Plan. In total council had 800 written submissions and 41 people spoke on Monday to their submissions. While it is really good that people make the effort to put in submissions, if council approved all the requests contained within the submissions, it would result in an increase in rates, above that already projected, of \$945,000 next financial year. This would

be approximately a 10.7% rate increase compared with the current financial year. The increase prior to the submissions was 4.8%. The submission requests over the length of the plan totalled \$4.3 million. There is always the challenge of meeting the expectations of individuals and organisations with the balancing of maintaining rates at affordable levels. The final deliberations by council are on May 30 and will necessitate considerable rethinking about expenditure already planned and what other additions or substitutions can occur.

## Latest report from Land and Water Forum welcomed as a pathway forward

The latest report from the Land and Water Forum on collaborating on policy making and setting water quality limits has been welcomed by DairyNZ as a workable and forward-looking approach as to how we look after our lakes and rivers.

The Land and Water Forum (LWF) is an independent body representing a broad range of stakeholders including the dairy industry, which has been supported by the government in its objective of finding a consensus

view on how to improve the management of freshwater resources.

DairyNZ CEO Tim Mackle says the recommendations from LWF, where it suggests a catchment by catchment approach to finalising water quality objectives and limits, is consistent with the views of DairyNZ.

"While national guidance is an important element in land and water management in New Zealand, addressing the environmental, economic, cultural and social challenges

and opportunities of each waterway needs to be done on a catchment basis. The suggestion by LWF that stakeholders with values and interests in a catchment, be they farmers, iwi, recreationists or urban authorities should collaborate to develop water quality objectives and limits is totally the right thing to do," he says.

Dr Mackle says the dairy industry understands that New Zealanders naturally have expectations around water quality, because of the value

they place on waterways, and it is essential that communities can work together to set objectives and limits and agree collaboratively on how to achieve them.

"Equally New Zealanders also understand the need to use our natural resources wisely for the benefit of the country's economic growth. It is an on-going challenge for the Land and Water Forum to balance the need to create economic prosperity with the aspirations around water quality," says Dr Mackle.

## New staff member for Don Oakes Motors in Stratford



Ralph Wicks has just started work at Don Oakes Motors.

There is a new face at Don Oakes Motors, 146

Broadway Stratford. The second hand car yard will be

well served by Ralph Wicks, who has extensive experience in the trTimeservices Ltd is going from strength to strength. This has meant the need for new staff. Max Urbahn recently joined the successful Hawera computer firm at 57 Victoria Street – he started last month. It's early days for Max but so far he's enjoying himself. "It's awesome. I love it", he says with a smile. He especially enjoys

being out on the road with Matt visiting client's houses to help supply computers or deal with any problems.

Max, who is Hawera born and bred, has been interested in computers for a long time. He started to get really interested in computers back when he was at intermediate school.

He enjoys the no limits scope that his new job allows. "You can build yourself up.

## New man for Matts Computers in Hawera

Matt's Computer Services Ltd is going from strength to strength. This has meant the need for new staff. Max Urbahn recently joined the successful Hawera computer firm at 57 Victoria Street – he started last month. It's early days for Max but so far he's enjoying himself. "It's awe-

some. I love it", he says with a smile. He especially enjoys being out on the road with Matt visiting client's houses to help supply computers or deal with any problems.

Max, who is Hawera born and bred, has been interested in computers for a long time. He started to get really in-

terested in computers back when he was at intermediate school.

He enjoys the no limits scope that his new job allows. "You can build yourself up. There is no stopping point. You are learning new skills all the time", he explains.

Is there any aspect of the

job he enjoys more than any other? "I like it all", he concludes happily.

For relaxation Max spends time working on cars. "Cruising" with friends is another interest.

## RIGHT Aw cute! Some new arrivals at Stoneyoaks Wildlife Park at Inglewood





# Alana wins New Zealand Rose title

Alana Marshall, the reigning Taranaki Rose of Tralee, won the New Zealand title last weekend in Wellington – beating eight other finalists. The finals event was hosted by the Hutt Valley Irish Society and ran for two days in several locations, and included a mayoral reception.

Alana admits to being surprised at the result. “I convinced myself that I hadn’t won. The other girls were absolutely beautiful. When I won I was in shock”. She adds, “I am very happy”.

She was grateful for the support of her 40 supporters, who included her grandfather Bill Marshall of Oakura and Louise Buhler of the Taranaki Irish Social Club, the organiser of the Taranaki event. However, she wasn’t quite prepared for the enthusiastic reception when the winning announcement was



Alana Marshall of Oakura, who has just won the New Zealand Rose of Tralee title.

made. The reaction of her supporters was tumultuous.

Alana, who lives in Oakura, is a university graduate and works for the New Plymouth District Council as Recreation and Events Administrator.

She is the 43<sup>rd</sup> NZ Rose of Tralee, breaking a long drought – it is 18 years since a Taranaki woman last won. Louise Buhler was herself the first Taranaki winner of the NZ title in 1984.

Can Alana now go on to win the International title next month in Ireland? From August 17 to 25 she will participate in the Festival of Kerry International competition to try and secure the International Rose of Tralee title. “I feel privileged to be representing Taranaki and New Zealand”, she says. “I can’t wait”, she adds.

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# Biggest losers in Weightloss Challenge

The Opunake Weight Loss Challenge held their presentation night on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May where they recognised the top three largest percentage of weight losers and top two biggest cm losers.

The winner of our biggest % of weight loss went to Lisa Ison from Opunake who lost 18.4kgs which came to 14.43% of her total body weight. What a fantastic effort, well done to Lisa.

Second place went to Jackie Doherty who lost 8.4 kgs which came to 11.73% of her total body weight. Greg Maclean came in third with 12.6kgs lost which was 11.45% of his total body weight. The largest cm lost winner lost a whopping 69cm of body fat and the runner up lost a huge 60cm of body fat. Congratulations to all the prize winners!

The total weight loss of

everyone who started the challenge actually came to 186.1kgs lost. The total weight loss of the 24 who completed the challenge came to 164.5kgs!! This averages out to be 6.85kgs per person which is a fantastic effort. Also the total cms lost between the group who completed the challenge was 924.5 cms!! That's an average of 38.52cms lost per person! Congratulations to everyone who completed the challenge!

On the presentation night our topic was about weight maintenance and how to keep the weight off that was lost over the last 12 weeks. We went over the the Weight Loss Registry's seven tips followed by successful dieters on how they keep their weight off. Claire and I also went over the guidelines we keep for ourselves on how to keep our weight down and how to maintain our weight. Thank you to all the people who participated in the challenge. We hope you have enjoyed your time with us and have learnt something about weight loss!

The next challenge in Opunake will start on the 26<sup>th</sup> September 2012. So for anyone who wants to get in early and be preregistered please phone

either Sharron on 06 7524844 or Claire on 06 7638393.

Thanks everyone, Sharron Skipper

(The following is Claires Input)

Our Presentation Night was a lovely night. I honestly have learnt so much from all our Challenges. I have really enjoyed talking about our subjects and letting our participants understand how to achieve small goals. Each week Sharon and I would talk about our Main Subjects. Then I would talk about my week of how I have been doing. At times I didnt realise how Important my

Story was to all our Challenges. So each Week I started incorporating my experiences. My ups and downs. When I was talking about my own families, that was emotional for me. I got to meet so many lovely people on the Challenge and to you all out there. I thank you all for helping me be more confident with myself and speaking in front of large groups. I know at times I was going red in the face or I was talking to fast. But Our Challengers, you have Inspired me to carry on to helping you to be a healthier person. So listen out for the next one to be held in September. Cheers Claire Mclean



Biggest losers from left Jackie Doherty (2<sup>nd</sup> – lost 8.4kg, 11.73% of her body weight), Greg Maclean (3<sup>rd</sup> – lost 12.6kg, 11.45% of his body weight) and Lisa Ison (1<sup>st</sup> – lost 18.4kg, 14.43% of her body weight).

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# Eltham Thieves are active

Been a few burglaries around Eltham township of late. One occurred on Tayler Street during the daytime and another has occurred on Bridger Place. Police enquiries are continuing in regards to these matters, but we are still appealing for any information about these burglaries. We suspect a group of youths, ranging in age from 13 - 17 years old, are responsible so if you have any information that would help us please call us at the Eltham Police Station on either 764 8055, 764 8752 or try the Eltham Police cell phone number which you can either text or ring and leave message if we don't answer. This number is 027 4516 905.



Andrew Russ

phone for any information you think Police might be interested in and we can always call you back so it doesn't cost you anything!

Unrelated to the above the Antique Shop opposite the Police Station in Eltham was the target of a night-time raid where a male has smashed in the front door and made off with a significant amount of jewellery.



David Lindsay

This has occurred at around 2:50 am on Wednesday 2nd May. The male has arrived on foot from High Street and taken off through Stark Park. He and another have

also scoped out the business via the rear (Four Square car park) so if anyone has any information regarding this burglary then use the above numbers. All information will be treated as confidential as always.

On a different matter a Eltham male was arrested a few weeks ago after he stole a 4x4 farm bike from an Auroa Road property in a drunken attempt to get back to Eltham. Superb work from the people who rang in at the time to say that there were intoxicated pedestri-

ans on the road and they had almost ran over them. This enabled me to get out there in a timely fashion, but I wasn't able to locate any of the males. However at 2:00am when a male came past me on a 4x4 farm bike my suspicions that this may be one of the males and he may just have stolen the bike were somewhat confirmed when I stopped him near Skeet Road and he was wearing dress pants, collared shirt and a tie! Not your usual attire for your typical dairy farmer on his farm bike. The male was

charged with theft and drink driving. The original informant who rang Police advising us of the intoxicated pedestrians was also stoked as it ended up being his bike that was stolen so he had that returned undamaged so a good result all round.

This shows the importance of calling Police when things are occurring and not waiting until the next day. Don't be afraid to use 111 either and we can decide on urgency and attendance. *Constable Andrew Russ and David Lindsay*

You can text Eltham cell

# Opunake Scam-alert!



Nigel Day

A word of warning to local residents about a couple of scams that have been circulating around in recent weeks - one of which was particularly expensive for one couple. The first scam is the phone call that people have been



Mark Jorgensen

receiving from foreign sounding individuals informing them of problems with their computers. It's rubbish and you are advised to hang up. The second one is for those who use email and online banking. Last week a local

person received an email from someone who they thought was from their bank, asking them to update the security on their bank account. They provided their Eftpos card details and then, within a week, a large amount of money was withdrawn from that account. Any requests received for your bank details online that have not been

initiated by you through an online purchase is a scam with the sole purpose of taking your money. Please be careful and read the alerts that are put on bank websites alerting you of scams that are circulating. If you are not confident in using online banking or purchasing online - do not do it.

*Your local coppers Nigel, Mark and Ricky*

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- \* Don't leave ladders in view - burglars love those
- \* Avoid profuse vegetation growing up against your house
- \* Replace any louvre windows - often on toilet windows (Probably invented by a burglar!)

# Werner Gut talks of Swiss flowers



when Werner Gut addressed the Opunake Garden Circle. The Pihama Bowling Club was the venue for this pot luck luncheon. Kathryn Stanley and Sharon Gouch decorated the pretty tablecloths with rose petals and flowers. A landscape gardener in Bell Block, Werner Gut and his family spent some years in Switzerland where he worked and took up recreational rock climbing. To illustrate his time in the mountains, Werner showed photographs of the breath taking scenery. Enjoying a chat after luncheon, photographed from left, Jolanda Gut and Werner Gut, Robyn Chard, Sharon Gouch, and Mavis Frost.

Mountaineering and magnificent spring flowers were fascinating talking points

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# Kaponga WI meets lady firefighter

President Fiona welcomed 13 members and 4 visitors to the home of Carolyn Nicholas for our May meeting.

Carolyn introduced our guest speaker Rachael Lind, an ex Kaponga girl. Rachael is a Fire Fighter at New Plymouth Fire Station. She is the only female amongst the male dominated

fire crews. Rachael spoke of the hard training she went through and the satisfaction of qualifying.

Rachael also spoke to us about 'Look Good Feel Better'. She heads the New Plymouth programme for women who are coping with cancer and its various treatments.

Members and guests then had a delicious shared finger lunch - after which a short meeting was held. The silver dish was presented to Margaret Broomhall on the occasion of her 50th wedding anniversary.

The monthly raffle was won by Margaret Walton, one of our visitors.

Afternoon tea was then enjoyed and thankfully the rain had stopped as we made a dash for our cars and the journey home.

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# Community newspapers going strong all over the nation



**Mike Fletcher, Executive Director of the New Zealand Journalist Training Organisation (JTO) addressing the CAN Conference. makes a point during the Conference.**

Community newspapers in New Zealand are in a strong position, with Nielsen Research showing 2.25 million people in NZ over the age of 15 years read a community newspaper in the last seven days.

That was the message received by the Community Newspapers Association (CNA) at their 53<sup>rd</sup> annual conference held in Dunedin last week.

John Spring, president of

CNA, said it's a great statistic and shows how valuable we are to our communities. "Competition for people's attention and entertainment is tough these days but community newspapers are still strong because of their

relevance to their readers and advertisers.

The association is also looking strong and has been remodelled to make it more affordable to members to join and to ensure it is able to be an efficient and workable body for the benefit of its members.

The annual conference and awards will continue to be the focus of the association .

CNA is made up of about 42 mainly independent owned newspapers throughout NZ, with a combined circulation of about 810,000 copies.

The newly elected committee is made up of John Spring – President (The Whakatane Beacon), Gary Anderson (Allied Press - Otago), Karla Wairau (Times Newspapers – Auckland), Nancye Pitt (Ashburton Guardian), Pier Smulders (Mainland Press – Christchurch).

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# Tag Oil land sale at Ministerial level

The sale of 12.988 ha of land block at Upper Durham Road, Inglewood to Tag Oil Limited (TAG) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2012 was a consent granted by the Hon Dr Jonathan Coleman and the Hon Maurice Williamson.

Annelies McClure, Manager of the Overseas Investment Office (OIO), in response to a questioning about whether decisions are made routinely by the ministers or just those more sensitive, large scale or contentious made the following statement:

'Under the Overseas Investment Act 2005, the Minister of Finance and the Minister for

Land Information must decide all sensitive land applications. An example of 'sensitive land' is non-urban/rural land over five hectares in size.

However, the Act also enables Ministers to delegate some of their decision-making powers. The Minister of Finance has delegated his decision-making powers under the Act to one of the Associate Ministers of Finance. The Ministers have in turn delegated some of their decision-making powers to the OIO. The OIO decides about 75% of all applications. Only

those applications that involve particularly sensitive assets are decided by Ministers'.

The freehold block has been sold to TAG by R., M., and A Boddington. Described as a lifestyle block, it is located in Upper Durham Road, Inglewood.

An OIO statement on the sale says: TAG had been conducting operations on the land under an access arrangement with the vendor. The land contains wells and a production station for the Sidewinder oil and gas field.

They also stated "We were advised by TAG that no fracture stimulations have been undertaken in respect of the four wells drilled on the land and that TAG has no current plans to undertake any fracture stimulation in respect of wells located on that land in the future□.



**Next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on June 14**





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**Hon Chester Borrows**  
Taranaki King Country MP

Anybody running a household budget knows you can't keep spending money you haven't got. That is exactly what the last Labour government did in the eight budgets Michael Cullen prepared while they were on government. He spent \$25 billion of new spending without realistically addressing any government debt. That debt grew the public service, bought two more elections and tried to buy a third. Public servant numbers virtually doubled and they were not doctors, nurses or teachers. Almost doubling the health budget bought no more op-

erations and did not produce better results in education. National have been much more careful with budget spending and has only spent a net \$750 million more dollars than the 2008 budget prepared by Labour. But we have got much more for our money in terms of healthcare, education, policing, and a more efficient public service. Quality healthcare and education is important for families. That's why one of National's four priorities in this term of Government is to deliver better public services. It's a key part of our plan to build a brighter future for all New Zealanders. Despite tight financial times, we have announced big funding boosts to improve services in health and education. We're making great progress while responsibly managing the Government's finances. It is not about finding more money it is about spending what we do have more efficiently — bang for buck. National has already achieved record results in health. We've dramatically

improved immunisation rates for children, boosted elective operations, reduced waiting times for cancer treatment and emergency care, and put more doctors and nurses on the frontline. We're lifting our game further. On May 13, as part of Budget 2012, we announced a \$101 million boost for surgery and cancer services. This will provide more elective operations and faster services for cancer patients. It will reduce waiting times for MRI scans, CT scans, and other vital diagnostic tests. We also announced \$144 million for disability support. We are committed to helping more disabled people get care in the community, while ensuring residential support is available for those who need it. These funding increases come from savings in health and across the Government's accounts. To help meet cost pressures and fund new health initiatives, the Government will increase prescription charges from \$3 to \$5. This is the first increase in 20 years. No person or family

will pay more than \$40 extra a year for prescriptions. Prescriptions for children under 6 will remain free. Despite tight economic times, National is lifting education spending for the fourth year in a row, with an extra \$512 million over four years. We want all children to leave school with the skills they need to reach their potential in the modern economy. We will invest more in teaching development, collaborate on an appraisal system, provide stronger mentoring, and introduce new qualifications for teachers and principals. Good teachers will mentor those coming through and needing support. We're making savings so we can invest more. Everything we do in life from buy our groceries to pay our bills we do differently than 15 years ago. We need to maintain the values but change the way we do business in the public service. Because it's the public we serve.

*Chester Borrows*  
MP For Whanganui

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## Budget shows Government plan is low and slow



**Andrew Little, List MP**

Last week's Budget failed to set out a credible long-term programme for economic adjustment. Worse, on delivering the Budget, the government then tied Parliament up for two days in urgency debating measures that will raise a few millions of dollars in the face of a deficit of \$9 billion and a public debt heading towards more than \$70 billion.

But it wasn't all a bad week for the government. Primary Industries minister, David Carter, made a bold move for our fishing industry for which he deserves credit. The Budget first. There were cuts; there was some new revenue (from the rise in prescription charges, the scrapping of a \$240 a year tax credit for 68,000 young teens doing after school jobs, and the higher rate of repayment for student loans) and lots of money was re-allocated. Of the cuts, the most disturbing is in the funding for specialist teachers at intermediate schools. The idea is that there will be no dedicated funding for teachers of IT, hard materials (woodwork and metalwork for those of my generation) and classes like cooking, sewing and art.

The plan is for these subjects in intermediate schools to be taught by general teachers, or not at all. How can the government claim it is serious about building a technologically skilled population when it cuts funding for teaching technical subjects? What is the point of prioritising fast broadband to schools when intermediate schools are unlikely to have the capability to take full advantage of it? It's not just the pupils who lose. In the end we all do. Looking at the Budget overall, we are still facing a huge deficit and growing debt. In a recession, this on its own is not necessarily cause for concern. But it is a cause for concern when there is nothing being spent on initiatives that will help generate future

wealth, including assisting with the adjustment to a carbon-constrained world. The government deserves a bouquet for their courageous decision last week to require fishing vessels operating in New Zealand waters and fishing under local quotas to be flagged in New Zealand. This will go a long way to ensuring enforceable standards apply on these ships and the crew on them have the protection of New Zealand law. It should bring an end to the sort of exploitation, and even lethal conditions, we have seen on overseas boats recently. It's a pity it's going to take four years for the change to take full effect, but congratulations to David Carter for making the move.

## Regions highway stance vindicated

Good progress on two of Taranaki's top-ranked highway projects look likely in the next three years - without the region having to choose between one or the other. Taranaki's insistence on equal ranking for the New Plymouth northern outlet and the Normanby overbridge has been supported by the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA). The agency had previously insisted that the region must indicate which is most important. Taranaki's Regional Transport Committee has reaffirmed equal ranking for both projects in its draft Regional Land Transport Programme for 2012/2015, after the agency said it is happy to review the scope of both projects to maximize the benefits at both sites with-

in funding constraints. The agency says it intends to review its design for the Normanby overpass to see if the same safety benefits can be achieved at a lesser cost and flesh out plans and costings for improvements to New Plymouth's northern outlet between Vickers Road and the central city. Plans are currently only at conceptual stage. "This vindicates the region's united stance in insisting on equal ranking for both projects, despite pressure to choose one over the other," says the Committee's Chairman, Taranaki Regional Councillor Roger Maxwell. "It's always been our view that both projects are needed and they stack up well on cost-benefit ratios. They both deserve to be progressed and we're gratified that

the NZTA accepts there is scope to do this." The Committee also heard a number of submissions on its Draft Regional Land Transport Programme, whose priority list also includes passing lanes at Mokau, and a heavy vehicle route from South Taranaki to Port Taranaki. A finalised programme will be formally adopted in June, to be forwarded to the NZTA in Wellington for moderation and compilation into a national three-year programme. The Regional Transport Committee has members from the Taranaki Regional Council and the region's three District Councils, the New Zealand Transport Agency and a number of stakeholder groups. It is administered by the TRC.



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# Inaugural winners of DairyNZ 'Prize Pond'

Effluent storage ponds from Taranaki and Canterbury have picked up DairyNZ Prize Pond Awards for keeping pond levels low in an event believed to be the first of its kind in the world. Canterbury farm owners Murray and Shirley Thomas and sharemilkers Dave and Pip Howard, have a 30 day holding pond irrigating 160ha under a central pivot system. Dave Howard, who farms near Ashburton, says keeping pond levels low is a no-brainer. "It's pretty simple; if we keep some room in our pond and it's not too full, we have options on how we manage the farm. If we have no capacity, we have no options. Otherwise it's a bit of an effort to keep on top of it,

therefore we just make it part of how we manage the farm," says Dave. The Taranaki 'Prize Pond' is owned by Ken Sole and is managed by sharemilker Dan Merritt. Ken is glad they entered. "We're really pleased that our low pond, and how we manage it, has been recognised," says Ken. Prize Pond chief judge DairyNZ's development project manager for effluent, Dr Theresa Wilson says the unique competition threw up examples of well-managed and constructed ponds. "The Prize Pond entries from farmers nation-wide showed many effective ponds at low levels, and judges from the effluent team were pushed to select

a winner," says Theresa. "We're thrilled to be able to put on barbecues for the winners and their farm teams to celebrate their awards with our Prize Pond supporter, farming commentator and former All-Black Richard Loe." DairyNZ ran the competition, alongside a series of cartoons, articles and reminders to help people in charge of managing farm effluent systems to keep as much effluent storage free as possible heading into winter. "It was great to see so many farmers getting into the fun spirit of the competition. We had entries that really demonstrated how proud farmers are of how they manage their ponds. Their ponds didn't just look great, but they dressed

up in the spirit of the awards. DairyNZ hopes the initiative contributes to an improvement in effluent compliance results. "If this competition shows us anything it's that farmers are looking at their ponds in a new light – they see a full pond that lacks storage capacity as a risk, and they are seeing well-managed low ponds with great deal of pride."

Two Highly Commended entries have also been awarded. The 'outstanding spirit' award was given to Zane and Mel Scott of Southland for the sheer exuberance they displayed over having a low pond. Also highly commended was Mikaeyla Hall from Outram in Otago for a photo of the best pond makeover.

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# Speaking Frankly - a book review



**Speaking Frankly**  
The Frank Sargeson Memorial Lectures 2003-2010  
Edited by Sarah Shieff

*Speaking Frankly: The Frank Sargeson Memorial Lectures 2003-2010. Edited by Sarah Shieff. Published by Cape Catley, Auckland (2011). A book review.*

This fairly short (200 pages) book contains the Frank Sargeson Memorial Lectures – featuring such writers (and personal friends) as Dr Michael King, Kevin Ireland (Kevin Jowsey), Owen Marshall, Christine Cole Catley

(publisher) and Graeme Lay - who lived in Opunake for some of his formative years and attended Opunake High School. His lecture was intriguing.

It was while at this school that he came across a short story, by Sargeson, which captivated him - 'An Affair of the Heart'. It is a poignant, rather sad story about a poverty-stricken mother who waits in vain for a disinterested (and probably of little

worth) son to return home, month after month – but who never returns.

Some years later Graeme Lay shifted to Auckland and came across the writer of the memorable short story and after a bumpy start when he arrived unannounced at the writer's home, became a good friend of the older writer.

However, before he befriended the 'Father of NZ literature', all Graeme Lay's short story submissions had been turned down. In desperation he wrote to Sargeson enclosing the last story rejected – by The Listener as it happens.

Frank wrote a detailed reply explaining how the younger writer's technique could be improved and where he was falling into writing pitfalls - better avoided.

Graeme rewrote the story and re-submitted it. Not only was it accepted, but his next two stories, both to different publications, were also accepted. Three in a row accepted – after many rejections! He was on his way.

This, to a large degree, sums up the iconic writer – Frank Sargeson was a mentor to so many of our well known writers, helping not just with literary advice, but also sometimes accommodation, as well as money - despite being generally impoverished himself.

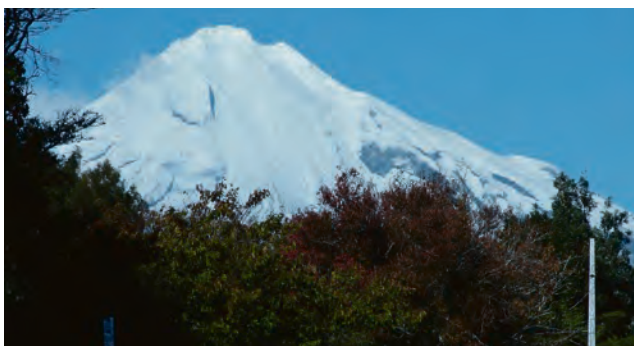
The famous army hut at his Esmonde Road, Takapuna

(Auckland) garden housed such important writers as Maurice Duggan (first occupant), Janet Frame, and Kevin Ireland.

There is a wealth of intriguing information about Frank Sargeson in these lectures, especially from those who knew him best such as Christine Cole Catley, his literary executor.

There are so many excellent books that have been published just recently – this is another of those. I bought this book at Bennys Books in New Plymouth. It's a fascinating read.

*Roland McKellar*



## Mt Taranaki with a liberal covering of snow.

This photograph was taken from Carthew Street in Okato, about ten days ago. As this newspaper comes out, you have just 24 hours until it is officially winter.

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# Miss Tui: Opunake entrant wins Girl Next Door



Miss Tui 2012 Gabriella McCormack of Christchurch being crowned.

## Congratulations Jozien for winning the 'Girl Next Door' category.

## Taranaki land sale decision to be released

The Overseas Investment Office (OIO) will be releasing a decision on the proposed purchase of land in Taranaki by overseas buyers this Thursday, the 31<sup>st</sup> of May at around 11.00am. There will be one decision.

At the time of this paper going to press the specific details are unavailable. However, the OIO's decision summaries are published on their website and the end of each month ([www.linz.govt.nz](http://www.linz.govt.nz)).

Jozien Hannah from Opunake has won the 'Girl Next Door' category in the Miss Tui competition. The Opunake Firefighter wins \$500 in cash plus 10 dozen Tui. The major title of Miss Tui was won by Christchurch entrant Gabriella McCormack. The 19-year-old stood out from the other eight finalists and is a worthy winner of the 2012 crown, remarked the judges. William Papesch, Tui Beer Brand Manager says, "We have a winner and we are

proud to announce that Miss Tui 2012 is from Christchurch! Gabriella McCormack showed us she has a love of all things Tui - exactly the things we were looking for in Miss Tui 2012. As well as all that she has a real love of life, the ability to laugh at herself and a great attitude." She wins \$2,500 in cash and a year's supply of Tui - 366 bottles. Gabriella competed for the title with seven other finalists; Tina Sharp (Fielding), Krystal-Leigh Shortland

(Palmerston North), Jozien Hannah (Opunake), Vicky Paine (Masterton), Rosemary Brunt (Porirua), Julia Hope (Dunedin) and Amber Appletini (Palmerston North). The minor prizes went to the following finalists, who won \$500 (cash) and 10 dozen Tui: People's Choice: Rosemary Brunt GirlNextDoor: Jozien Hannah

Shoe Stopper: Julia Hope Remarkable Voice: Tina Sharp

For more information on the Miss Tui 2012 and to see Gabriella's campaign highlights visit, [www.tui.co.nz](http://www.tui.co.nz) or <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Vote-For-Gabriella-To-Become-Miss-Tui/173120142807176>

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Jozien Hannah of Opunake who won the 'Girl Next Door' category.

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# Horse clinic for students



Dave Stewart and Tonia Hall demonstrate horse handling skills, while a group of students from Opunake Primary School watch.

Equine Services and Training Facility of Oakura have offered a unique opportunity for schools – they’ve invited the local schools to send small groups of student to learn horse riding skills from experts, with a good dollop of student-centred life philoso-

phy thrown in. The clinic, held at a horse arena at 60 Weld Road on May 24 was run by horse wrangler David Stewart, aided capably by Tonia Hall. It was one of the most impressive demonstrations I have seen, carefully attuned to the

student audience – fourteen male students from Opunake Primary School, accompanied by Deputy Principal Leo Franks and parents such as Jenny Collins.

As the audience watched, perched on the top rail of the arena, Dave firstly worked

with a frisky black and white horse which had only been ridden half a dozen times. All the time he was working with the horse, at first from the ground, he spoke in a clear voice explaining what he was doing and the rationale – coupled with a child-centred philosophy of effective living, with emphasis on the importance of education.

Throughout I was both intrigued and impressed.

The somewhat nervous horse needed reassurance. “The first thing is to let him know that I am not going to eat him”, commented Dave with a grin.

Next, the importance of getting through to the horse. “You have to open the line of communication with him”. Body language was one of the keys because “I can’t talk horse”, he explained in a flash of humour. Dave’s sense of humour was often to the fore, and used to make his points. The students were lapping it up – with rapt attention. “It’s

great”, enthused one student – Devon Tonga (aged 12).

But you have to be in control. Don’t let the horse bully you. He had an aside about how to deal with bullying at school. “If you allow it once you’ll be bullied 100 times”, he warned.

The horse was saddled and mounted. He was certainly lively, but readily controlled by Dave, helped by Tonia, who also rode the horse. Various techniques of horse control were demonstrated, with a clear voice explaining each step. “You have to teach him foundation training”, which he then related to the importance of attending at school to learn skills for adult living. “If you want the good things in life, you have to get a good educational foundation. I know I (regrettably) left school at 15”. He also mentioned that he was a farrier by trade.

After a while the frisky horse was led out and two much quieter, well ridden

horses ‘Jimmy’ and ‘Nugget’ were led in. These were the horses the students would be encouraged to ride later on. “I want you to walk up to the horse with confidence, quietly as though you know what you are doing”, Dave said.

At this point he had a cautionary note about some riding schools, who teach technique, but don’t stress safety aspects as well.

Both Dave and Tonia rode these horses, with safety issues well covered. “At all times I’m looking at his body language as well – his eyes and ears”, explained Tonia. Then a surprise comment, “He can even feel a human heartbeat – he can pick up anxiety”, she added.

I certainly can endorse this riding school – not just for students, but also for adults. You can contact Dave and Tonia at 027 629 5056 or 06 752 7454 (after hours), or call by at 60 Weld Road, Oakura

*Rolland McKellar*

# TK Locksmith - New agent for Magicseal

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This is only part of the positive story of the benefits of MagicSeal. Visit the website for more ([www.magicseal.com](http://www.magicseal.com))

Tony is heartened by the positive feedback he has had from satisfied customers – he’s keen to spread the message further. You can phone him 0800 10 44 66 or



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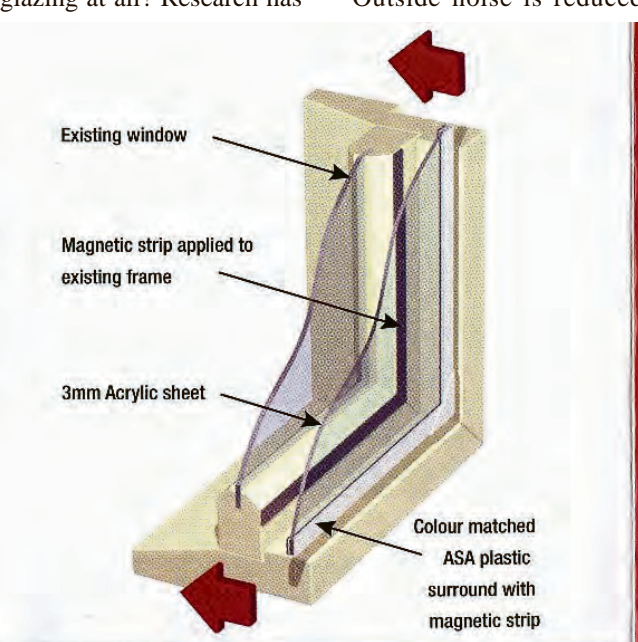
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A micro-look at the system - taken from a brochure.

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Although his focus is on double glazing with winter just around the corner, as summer beckons he’ll be keen to install his range of magnetic Insect screens and Retractable Insect screens for doorways. More about those later.

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An elated Matt Lash is absolutely delighted to finally have his team win the Hillary Challenge trophy, which will be presented to the team next Friday at Opunake High School.

For advertising phone (06) 761

The Opunake High School have succeeded in winning the prestigious Genesis En-

# A WESOME

ergy Hillary Challenge held at the Outdoor Pursuits Centre last week. The event is described as the toughest secondary school event in New Zealand and it certainly lived up to its reputation as the top twelve adventure racing schools in the country battled it out in testing conditions. Opunake High School have been a finalist in this competition for the last seven years and after coming so close before, including third place in 2010 and second place in 2011, they finally realized their potential to take the win. Darren Ashmore challenge organizer said on Radio Sport that this was a David and Goliath effort from Opunake High School!

solving, team work and communication. After the scores were tabulated on Tuesday night, Opunake had a 150 point lead over Whangarei and New Plymouth Boys and Girls High schools, a lead that provided a healthy buffer going into the two day expedition. Rookie team member Gemma Grey said "having a lead going into the expedition gave us a real boost-great for our confidence, we knew we could keep building on the lead" The expedition this year was held close to OPC- on farm-land, forestry blocks and national park near the Whakapapa skifield road. The weather was brutally

cold and wet, with snow down to low levels and strong winds, but this did not deter the team, in fact they were quite used to these conditions having trained for years in similar weather! Over the two days the team had to navigate to as many checkpoints as possible and build the biggest score- each checkpoint was worth a different value so strategic planning was crucial as well as speed and strength in carrying all food, gear and tents. On Thursday evening, they made their way to the finish line with ten minutes to spare, crossing the line with huge grins on their faces.

*cont next page*

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Having just over three hundred students up against Schools with thousands to choose from Darren said its great what can come from courage, commitment and dedication The team have been training hard since January and according to team member Daryl Read, "all the hard work we put in has really paid off" The training included regular morning running as well as kayaking, mountain biking and tramping. Jordan Hooper adds "having Mount Taranaki on our doorstep is a real bonus as it's a great training area- pretty similar to the terrain over in the Tongariro national park". To win the coveted trophy, the team had to complete 12 one hour scenarios on Monday and Tuesday that tested the group both mentally and physically. The challenges included kayaking skills, high ropes, a blind maze, tree climbing and several other tricky activities that required plenty of problem



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# Awesome bloody awesome



Thomas Bell, Tara Potter and Daryl Read push through the rugged bike leg on the last day of the Hillary Challenge.

cont from page 14

so happy knowing we had smashed it” said Tara Potter. Anna Young shared similar views- “knowing we had done so well on the expedition was an amazing feeling- it gave us another boost going into Fridays multisport race” At that stage, the team did not know it, but they had amassed the highest score in the expedition and therefore increased their lead to nearly 300 points, but with the final scores not revealed until the prizegiving, they still knew they had to go all out on Friday to seal the win. Fridays multisport race covered a total of 51 kms, including a 6 km bush

run, 32 km mountain bike ride, 4 km kayak and finished with a 9 km run to the finish line at OPC. The team raced strongly over the challenging course and recorded the third fastest overall time. Ethan Bloemen said “the race was hard, but we knew we had had put the work in beforehand so we just kept working as a team and it all paid off” A huge feature of the race was Opunakes’ huge crowd of supporters who had travelled over to cheer the team on- mostly parents, a few students and even a few ex Hillary Challenge team members. “Having our Mums and Dads there definitely

helped us go harder- cheers Mum!” said Thomas Bell. With the race over, the team then had a nervous wait to get to the business end of the prizegiving. “We were all huddled up... so nervous... but when New Plymouth were read out in second place we were so stoked!” said Daryl Read. “Some of us cried- but I wont say who, - we were pretty happy all right” For winning the event, the team members all receive an awesome outdoors jacket, a huge trophy and \$6000 worth of outdoor gear for the school- no doubt to help with next years title defence! The team would like to acknowledge all the help and

support from the whole community with regards to the huge task involved with the fundraising for the team to participate. The hangi, quiz night, firewood raffles, car wash, sausage sizzles, donations from all the Lions Clubs and the many local business who made donations and provided prizes- thank you very much!! A special “Sponsors and Supporters” evening is to be held at Sandfords Event Centre on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 7pm. So in the immortal words of 2006 Hillary Challenge team member Brady Corkill, when asked “so was it a challenge?” replied “Yes it was a challenge, it was THE HILLARY challenge!!”



The Team paddling strongly along Lake Otamangakau near Tongariro National Park with their OPC guide. Students Thomas Bell, Anna Young, and Jordan Hooper at the front of their canoes.

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# Happy cows means decreased farm expenses

Cow behaviour expert, Darold Klindworth, says farmers need to identify the signs of cow stress to improve the milking experience for their animals and staff. He says by making a few changes to the milking process, farmers can make a real impact on a farm's bottom line.

"When a cow is stressed, it can lead to lower milk yields, increased milking time and higher animal health costs. Plus, if your cows are stressed and acting out, that often creates stress for staff as well," says Mr Klindworth.

"While many cows demonstrate outward signs of stress, some cows do not. That's why it pays to learn a bit about how cows are naturally hard-wired to react to certain stimuli around them. "That way, you can create a better milking experience for the animals and farm staff," he explains.

Mr Klindworth's 'Thinking Like a Cow' workshop is one of 12 seminars on offer to farmers attending the DairyNZ Farmers' Forum at Hamilton's Mystery Creek Events Centre on May 23-24. The forum is free to levy-paying farmers and

their staff.

Those attending the 'Thinking Like a Cow' workshop will get information about stimuli that causes cow stress, how to identify signs of stress and changes to get the best behaviour out of the herd.

Mr Klindworth says the way a cow responds to loud noises, sudden movements or even certain smells is in its evolutionary nature.

"In the wild, dairy cows' survival depended on their response to activities around them. For instance, their natural response to a sudden movement or noise is to

flee. So if a farmer suddenly flaps his arms and shouts, cows will get agitated and flighty rather than choose to walk calmly into the milking shed."

Mr Klindworth will discuss research that shows if a cow is stressed, the increased adrenalin in her system can adversely affect milk let-down times by as much as 30 minutes. "So, if we can eliminate activities such as forcibly pushing cows into the shed, for instance, we can speed up milking times significantly," says Mr Klindworth.

Decreasing cow stress can

also have a significant impact on animal wellness, he says.

"Stress is one of the many factors that can increase a cow's probability of being infected with mastitis. Additionally, stressful trips down the race or anxiety due to crowding inside the yard can contribute to lameness.

"In the end, happy cows can lead to a decrease in farm working expenses and increased profitability."

To find out more about the DairyNZ Farmers' Forum, download an event programme or register to attend, visit [www.dairynz.co.nz/](http://www.dairynz.co.nz/)

farmersforum

Darold Klindworth is a research and extension scientist with the Department of Primary Industries in Ellinbank, Australia. He has worked at the department for 12 years and has been heavily involved in Australia's 'CowTime' programme.

This programme helps Australian dairy farmers improve their milk harvesting processes by showing them how to spend less time in the dairy, save money on labour and decide on the dairy improvements that are right for their circumstances.

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## Okurukuru top chef

Okurukuru top chef Troyden Waters from Okurukuru Winery at Omata has won the Bidvest/Nestle Professional Taranaki/Wanganui Chef of the Year for the third year running in the NZCA Taranaki/Whanganui Hospitality Competitions for 2012 held at WITT in May.

Troyden is also currently the top Junior Chef in New Zealand having won the HAans Beuschens award at the Wellington Culinary Fare last year and is on the New Zealand Culinary Team, which represents New Zealand in culinary competitions worldwide.

He will next compete in the New Zealand Culinary Fare in Auckland in August.

Other award winners at the Taranaki/Whanganui Hospitality Competitions for 2012 from the Okurukuru Winery included Lillie Hood who won the Nice Hotel and Table Ta-



From left Phoebe Davis, Troyden Waters, Louise O'Donnell and Lillie Hood from Okurukuru Winery.

ranaki/Wanganui Open Service Professional of the Year award and Phoebe Davis who won the Okurukuru Wines Taranaki/Wanganui Training Service Professional of the Year. Louise O'Donnell took the Vegetables.co.nz Signature

Main award with Gold and Dylan Wilson took Silver in the Vegetables.co.nz Signature Main category. The Manager of Okurukuru Winery, Eileen Marshall commented, "We encourage all our staff to take part in competitions, both regionally and na-

tionally to keep standards high across the board."

Competing in the Regional Awards were 90 Competitors, 110 entries, 18 Classes - 10 Kitchen Classes and 8 Front of House Classes.

## Dairy Farmers urged to use best information in tougher times

DairyNZ is urging farmers to access the best possible information to help them farm through the more challenging times of lower incomes.

The country's largest milk company Fonterra has just announced its forecast milk price payout for its farmers for the 2012/13 year at \$5.50 per kilogram of milksolids, which compares to the current season expectation of \$6.05 per kilogram of milksolids.

DairyNZ CEO Tim Mackle says the long term outlook for dairy farming is still very bright. However, the immediate focus is how to manage through the short term with incomes reduced from last year.

"We've always been consistent with our messages to farmers about the volatility of international milk prices, which ultimately affect their incomes, and for them to ensure they have a farming system that is as resilient as possible to fluctuating prices," he says.

"For many farmers this can often mean being extremely focused on costs, particularly the costs of using additional supplementary feed for cows to boost milk production," says Dr Mackle.

He says there is a good understanding about why prices are falling for farmers, which is largely due to a boost in milk production internationally, and in New Zealand,

and economic uncertainty in Europe.

"Because farmers can't control the price of milk, or interest payments in the short term, the action has to be around managing the cost of production. All farmers need to ensure they have a good budget in place and they are looking closely at what they are spending, including of course any variable farm costs," he says.

Dr Mackle says DairyNZ's provision of information around dairy farm management as well as its research aimed at greater farm profitability, is crucial when times are tougher.

DairyNZ has planning and budgeting tools available on its website at [www.dairynz.co.nz](http://www.dairynz.co.nz) and there is also valuable information to be gained by attending farm discussion groups with the sharing of experience and expertise. Many of these discussion groups are organised through DairyNZ farm consulting officers.

In addition, DairyNZ's DairyBase database information should be another standard on-going tool for farmers to ensure a focus on profitability. This tool can provide crucial information on wider farm management as well as financial performance.



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# Two homes, spectacular views and history

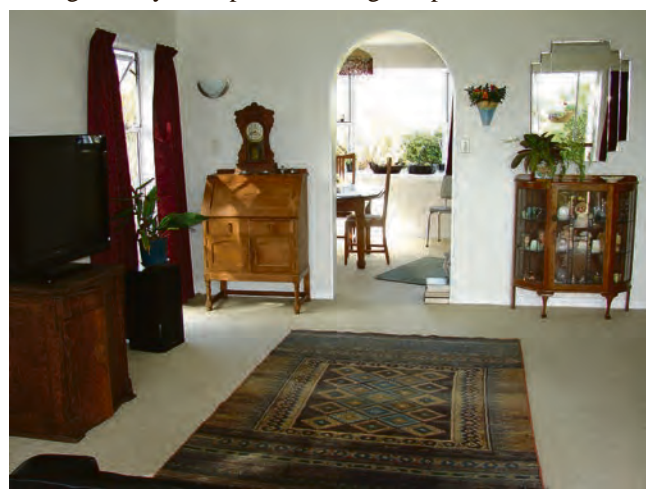


Exterior view of the upper house on the farmlet. What a commanding panoramic

Mike Gordon of TSB Realty has a real winner of a property to show discerning clients – on the eastern edge of Okato township. Set in a property of 4.0469 hectares (10 acres) are two houses. The first house you come to has ‘log cabin’ style cladding and could provide an income as a rental property. It’s a nice house, but is up-staged a little by the other, larger house

Therefore, we’ll concentrate on the upper (main) house, which is sited near the highest point of the property where a 1870s military blockade used to be, which also had the first Okato School. The site is described in some detail in historical books of the Okato and surrounding area, which the owner is happy to show.

The well-sheltered, private three bedroomed home is attractively appointed. The classy house greets you with a substantial veranda to sit on and look over interesting rolling country, with patches



The attractively appointed lounge.

of native bush – all on the property. For the lifestyle you can survey all you need

– rolling paddocks, glasshouse, hayshed, sheds, and hen house. There is even a swimming pool for those hot summer days and a pond to stroll around. Near the highest point there is a bush

walk, which you can share with native pigeons (kereru). The interior of the house

includes a large lounge with a modern woodburner. The carpet and wallpaper reflects neutral tones. From the lounge an appealing oval entrance way leads to a pleasant well-lit dining room and adjoined modern kitchen with polished wooden floor.

The whole house has many, large windows – with aluminium joinery - allowing great panoramic views of the countryside.

There is a conservatory to the rear of the house, with superb views behind. A garden shed and woodshed are handy to the house from this vantage point.

The three comfortable bedrooms have built in wardrobes, are all of a good size and are nicely maintained.

Outside, everywhere are established trees – native and exotic. Lots of flowers make their presence felt as you wander through the intriguing property.

Mike Gordon has just had his first open day on this new-to-the-market lifestyle property. The GV is \$580,000.

You can contact Mike on 06 968 3800 or 027 452 5088. He’ll be delighted to show you this unique prop-



The well-equipped kitchen with lovely polished wooden floors.

erty situated at 115 Oxford Road, Okato. Don’t delay, as already there is some interest in the property.

Expressions of interest close June 14 at 4pm (unless sold prior).

Next open day is on Sunday, June 3 (12-1pm).

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## Once a Catholic - a great performance

Stratford on Stage has just finished its season of the comedy ‘Once a Catholic’. The show ran from May 16 to May 26 at TET Kings Theatre, Stratford.

Once a Catholic, written by Mary O’Malley, was ably directed by Tracey Blake. The play dealt with life in the Convent of Our Lady, a girls grammar school in 1950s London where the

with the hopes, aspirations and needs of teenage girl students.

One can see why the show was controversial as it is rather direct, with some dialogue going beyond risqué.

However, the cast and production crew must be commended for taking on such a demanding play - two acts involving 29 scenes, coupled with some very long mono-

logue scene changes and I loved the old pop standards of that era blaring out, which heralded the changing of scenes.

There were many very funny scenes, such as when the girls retired to a locked toilet to engage in girls talk. They are discovered, but luckily their possession of a Bible softens the impact a bit. Were they really reading the Bible in the lavatory?

distinction – it’s a bit unfair to select any for special mention. However, here goes!

Katherine Wisniewski – playing the too-honest-for-her-own-good Mary Mooney was brilliant. She was always in trouble simply by being honest and transparent.

Shane Martin, playing Father Mullarkey was a delightful caricature of what a priest might have been like in the 1950s.

Dave Rohe is always excellent in whatever role he plays – always word perfect. This time he was superb as the doddery old music teacher Mr Emmanuelli.

Grayson Kira was hilarious as Cuthbert, the boy who knew far too much about things he wasn’t meant to be privy to.

I look forward to Stratford on Stages’ next production - I’m sure it will be just as good.



The sisters and students are listening attentively to Father Mullarkey, but will the girls heed what he is saying?

strict expectations of the school staff, including nuns curiously named after male saints and the patriarchal Father Mullarkey conflicted

logues (how do they learn it all?) and presenting the play to such a high standard.

Everything was well done – costumes, props, smooth

And, if so - why? The nuns are most suspicious.

All actors and actresses performed their roles with

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From left Craig Keech 3<sup>rd</sup> (13.35kg), Ronnie Shirtcliffe 1<sup>st</sup> (13.87kg) and Mark Neal 2<sup>nd</sup> (13.32kg).

## Fishing competition gets off to a cracking start

The Opunake Boat and Underwater Club held its annual fishing competition throughout the month of April.

Things got off to a cracking start on the first fishing day when three snapper over 13 kilos were weighed in! To our knowledge this is probably a first in New Zealand for a fishing competition. Two of those big snapper were caught in the same boat. (Ronnie Shirtcliffe 1<sup>st</sup> and Craig Keech 3<sup>rd</sup>). That first day really set the tone for the snapper section throughout the month. Large snapper became the norm and by the end of the month the tenth heaviest snapper was 9.910 kg. Lots of big snapper were caught and released in the quest to get the big one.

The Blue Cod section produced some whoppers with Gary Northcott prevailing with a 2.625 kg specimen. For us older fishermen that

is close to six pound! Gary obviously hit the spot as his boat took out four of the blue cod prizes. Not to be outdone the Campbell's boat took another three blue cod prizes but we all know where they were fishing!

Other notable catches were Ben Gibson's 1.320 kg gurnard and noted surf caster Paddy Walsh who took out the trevally section with a nice fish of 4.015kg.

The weather really turned it on this year and we had a spell of six consecutive days fishing, unheard of for the coast.

The competition concluded with prize giving at the clubrooms and many thanks to Nigel Ford for the wild pork, Andy Nicholls for the lamb and Graham Payne for the mutton. Rang Fleming was the winner of a beautiful rod and reel sponsored by Collins Sports Centre.

The full prize list is as follows:

- Snapper** 1<sup>st</sup> Ronnie Shirtcliffe 13.870kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mark Neal 13.325kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Craig Keech 13.255kg  
4<sup>th</sup> Gary Northcott 11.675kg  
5<sup>th</sup> Quentin Gray 11.445kg  
6<sup>th</sup> Brent Newton 11.405kg  
7<sup>th</sup> Barry Tippett 11.055kg  
8<sup>th</sup> Hamish Campbell 10.365kg  
9<sup>th</sup> Papi Klassen 10.070kg  
10<sup>th</sup> Stu Munro 9.910kg  
**Kahawai** 1<sup>st</sup> Hamish Campbell 2.920kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Leon Van Vuuren 2.730kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Kerry Evans 2.600kg  
4<sup>th</sup> David Cathie 2.550kg  
5<sup>th</sup> Quentin Gray 2.540kg  
6<sup>th</sup> Jackson Cathie 2.530kg  
7<sup>th</sup> Matt Cathie 2.390kg  
8<sup>th</sup> Murray How 2.375kg  
9<sup>th</sup> Mike McKie 2.325kg  
10<sup>th</sup> Steve Corkill 2.310kg  
**Cod** 1<sup>st</sup> Gary Northcott 2.625kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Barry Tippett 2.500kg

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Jill Fearn 2.425kg  
4<sup>th</sup> Quentin Gray 2.420kg  
5<sup>th</sup> Russell Campbell 2.290kg  
6<sup>th</sup> Kerry Evans 2.285kg  
7<sup>th</sup> David Lee 2.245kg  
8<sup>th</sup> Geoff Campbell 2.215kg  
9<sup>th</sup> Steve Corkill 2.150kg  
10<sup>th</sup> Warren Arlidge 2.080kg  
**Gurnard** 1<sup>st</sup> Ben Gibson 1.320kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grant Hill 0.990kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Shaun Neal 0.845kg  
**Trevally** 1<sup>st</sup> Paddy Walsh 4.015kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Devon Tonga 3.345kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Josh Scott 3.190kg  
**John Dory** 1<sup>st</sup> Josh Scott 2.505kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Boof Lowe 2.140kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> Simon Foley 1.275kg  
**Terakihi** 1<sup>st</sup> Robert Shirtcliffe 1.435kg  
2<sup>nd</sup> Rodney Corrigan 1.175kg  
3<sup>rd</sup> David Lee 1.100kg  
**Hapuka**  
1<sup>st</sup> Robert Shirtcliffe 27.650kg

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## The Opunake Boat & Underwater Club

### Thank You

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# Coastal Under 15's Rugby



This year the under 15 (years old) boys from Opunake High School and Coastal Taranaki School have combined to compete in the Under 15's open weight "A" division. With about 23 boys keen and willing, it bodes for a good season. A pre-season game versus Spotswood resulted in a cobweb blowing 35-22 victory. Out first competition game

saw a 31-17 win over Central, a game closer than the score indicates. Next was a game against Hawera in which the score see-sawed until the final whistle with Coastal winning 22-20. So a good start for the team, results wise, and with practices being very well attended, hopes are that we will have a successful and fun season of rugby this year



Rawiri Nanasini scores a well-earned try after bursting through the Inglewood defence last Saturday. Both of these young teams showed speed, determination and flair. However, the Coastal team held on to win 36-31.

# Coastal Soccer



Tara Clement watches as Olivia Bright steals the ball from a FDMC player during Coastal Opunake Strikers 12/13th grade soccer game. Opunake won 16-0.

# Waimate takes out the Pool competition

After fierce competition between the six teams since March, the ten week DB Pool Competition reached the business end of proceedings on Sunday May 27,

with the finals held at the Opunake Surf Inn. The competition has been run on a weekly basis - each Tuesday night since March 20. The six teams were made

up of players from Rahotu, Waimate, Club Hotel, Okaia-wa and Opunake Surf Inn. Opunake Surf Inn were really keen - they entered two teams (Surf Inn and Coastal).

Although Surf Inn was first on the ladder, the next ranked team Waimate won the final. Rahotu and Coastal fought out the third placing, with Rahotu taking the win.

First prize was a 50 litre keg and \$300. Second prize was a 30 litre keg and \$200. Third prize was a 30 litre keg and \$100. If you'd like to participate in

the 2013 competition, please phone Rahotu Tavern on 06-763 8787. Thanks to Jackie Broad for supplying this information.



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# Coastal Rugby



## Senior A

Coastal Taranaki  
Claire Lynskey 021 388 957 Tracey Thomson 021 279 6519  
or 0800 QUINPHOS (0800) 784 674 ⑩



Coastal 1st XV player Adrian Pape lays the ball back to Kallum Whitehead in the game against NPBHS last week.

### Altum Coastal Senior A vs. Eltham Kaponga. 19 May 2012.

Altum Coastal got back to their winning way versus Eltham Kaponga (EK) on a sunny Okato Domain in front of a good crowd. Early action by the Coastal pack saw an early try to lock Kane Barrett with Steve Barron adding the extra two, Coastal 7 EK 0. Not long after, centre Chris Barron, back from injury, and showing his normal composed self, scored wide out and the Coast had points on the board, the ball and a good percentage of territory on the stats sheet. EK got onto the board after a Coastal infringement and with the score at 12-3

Eltham Kaponga gained some possession and used it well to get into the hosts half on a number of occasions. With flanker Jade Fleming hounding the loose ball and setting it up, Brent Stevenson took the pass and showed skill and speed to cross the try line the first of his three tries for the afternoon and S. Barron again added the extras for the Coast to go out to a 19-3 lead. Though the Coastal team showed a few lapses in concentration at times they were asserting control over a determined EK team. With the forwards creating quick ball, the backs took the

opportunity to run and spread the ball wide for winger Te Whaite Mareikura to score a well earned try. EK were awarded a penalty which they capitalised on and at the break the score stood at, Altum Coastal 24 Eltham Kaponga 6. Shortly after kick off No 8 Jeremy Newell sparked Coastal into life with a good break down field and after linking with supporting players Coastal were unlucky not to get rewarded. EK's defence keeping them out. With Coastal being punished by the referee, the match lost a little flow, but after a good

break by journeyman Phil Barron, B. Stevenson was in again, with S. Barron adding another conversion the Coastal boys were out 31-6. EK never gave up and there style of play frustrated Coastal into numerous errors. From broken play however some deft foot work on a kick and chase saw Brent Stevenson cap off a solid game to score his third try after a composed build up by the Coastal pack that saw rookie number six Jade Fleming featuring throughout. Another Barron conversion saw the Coast out to a 38-6 lead with 20 minutes to play. Coastal was penalised and EK capitalised to score bringing the score to 38-13. Lewis Flood at 2<sup>nd</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> for the hosts breached the line and sent the ball to Mareikura who scored another good try and the Coastal were in firm control with the board showing 43-13. Eltham Kaponga do not give up easy and in the last moments of play latched onto a laboured Coastal pass, the intercept was made and after a foot race going the length of the field EK scored, slotted the goal. The whistle blew, Altum Coastal 43 Eltham Kaponga 20.  
Point Scorers:  
Tries to B. Stevenson (3), T. Mairekura (3), C. Barron, S. Barron 4 conversions.  
Player of the Day, Jade Fleming  
Next Week vs. Stratford

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# Coastal Rugby



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## Altum Coastal Senior A vs. Stratford

### 26 May 2012.

Coastal travelled to Stratford at the top of the leader board in Taranaki rugby. Stratford could not be taken lightly as they had had many very close games against the top ranked teams in the competition.

From the kick off both teams played some enterprising football with Coastal going to the front early with captain Nick Lawn crossing under the posts after some excellent lead up work. Fullback Steve Barron added the extra two and Altum Coastal were 7 nil up. This was immediately nullified as Stratford hit back, a disorganised defence saw Stratford score under the posts the kick was added and it was 7 all on a dull day in Straty.

Coastal as in many other games came under the fire from the referee for infringements and mistakes and constant disruption through penalties did not help the flow of the game. A 40 metre penalty attempt saw Stratford hit the front 10-7 and saw Coastal at sixes and sevens due to a lively Stratford pack coupled with a back line that was prepared to give

the ball some air.

For Coastal, J.Newell, and D Fitzharris stood out in the lineout, with hard working flanker Nick Lawn tidying around the rucks. Steve Barron was having a fine running game from the back. Coastal equalized with a 42 metre penalty goal to Barron near half time and a try went begging for the visitors after a good break up field by half John Julian.

Half time Altum Coastal 10 Stratford 10.

Coastal got the wake call at half time and an opportunist try to Steve Barron and the conversion saw the Coast head out to a 17-10 lead. The Coasters began to play with a bit more tenacity and as the subs went on, it was pleasing to see Kelvin Weir back from injury and Rick Mc Kenna back from playing in the UK take the field. McKenna made his presence felt immediately with a penalty to his credit and then adding another five minutes later and the Coast shot out to a 23-10 lead.

Coastal still were guilty of mistakes and as the penalty account again grew against them, the ref issued a yellow card for an infringement around the tackle area and Coastal were playing with

14 men and 15minutes to go. A competitive Stratford side took scum after scrum from awarded and kickable penalties and finally they out stripped the Coastal defence to score a good try. 23-17, from this point on, Altum Coastal defended stoutly, kept the ball close, missed the odd penalty to run out the winners and still unbeaten 23-17.

Player of the day: Nick Lawn  
Points Scorers:  
Tries to N. Lawn and S. Barron.  
Penalties to: S. Barron and R. McKenna (2)  
Conversions: S. Barron (2).  
NEXT WEEK: THE BOYS NEED THE SUPPORT, OPUNAKE VS SOUTHERN.  
Rua Ngaitahu Over the Hill.

## Coastal Snr 3<sup>RDS</sup> vs Inglewood

In warm conditions at Inglewood, the home side started putting points on the board straight away pushing out in front to 14-0, Coastal hit back with three quick trys and two conversions to get ahead by 19-14. Coastal

continued to score points adding two more trys to bring the half-time score to 36-14. Both teams scored three trys each in the second half, with Coastal converting one of these to finish the game 50-35 to Coastal.

## Coastal Snr 3rds VS Toko

A home game at Okato saw Coastal take on a spirited Toko team in front of a good crowd of supporters from both Clubs. Coastal opened the scoring with Sharpee crashing over in the corner for his first try, the home side went on to score a feast of trys (Sharpee 2, Matt K, Dan 3, Matt L, Bing 3,

Gryllsy) and conversions (Goppy 3, Dan, Ash). Toko never gave up for the whole 80 minutes. Full-time 65-0 to Coastal.  
Next games:  
Vs Okaiawa away  
Vs Patea home/Rahotu

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Sunday 17th June 1pm Club rooms - Gisborne Tce

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On 23 June 2012 at 8pm at Rahotu Tavern

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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

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

**Other areas**

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

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## PUBLIC NOTICES



## Opunake High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Opunake

## OPEN DAY

Thursday 14 JUNE 2012

1-3pm &amp; 7-9pm



In the school hall

All parents, caregivers and community are welcome to attend. Look through the school and be updated on the direction of education at Opunake High School.

For information contact the school office on 067618723 or admin@opunake.school.nz.

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## Pihama

## Cemetery Board

AGM - Monday 11 June

At Doug Campbell's residence,

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At 7pm. - All welcome

D Campbell, Secretary (06) 761 8884

## Stepping Stones

## Early Childhood Centre

2502 State Highway 45 RD37 Okato

Open Day on June 11

Starting 11am until about  
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Refer page 2 for further email addresses.

## WHAT'S ON

## STDC – COLD CREEK RURAL WATER SUPPLY BILL – SUBMISSIONS FOR SELECT COMMITTEES.

Submissions are being called for the above. Refer public notice for further details.

## POKER NITE

Wednesdays at the Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.

## SCRAP &amp; CHAT / CARD MAKERS EVENING

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

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Runs for 5 weeks refer advert

## PICKERING MOTORS BUS TO FIELD DAYS

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## AUCTION 3789 SOUTH ROAD, WAITEIKA BEACH

June 13 at 1:30pm at Harcourts House, cnr Robe & Vivian Streets, New Plymouth.  
Refer John Smith 027 279 0648

## OPUNAKE BOWLING CLUB AGM

Sunday June 17 at Clubrooms, Gisborne Tce, 1:00pm

## DIRTY DUSTING

20-30 June, Hawera Repertory, Repertory House, Collins Street, Hawera

## RAHOTU FIRE BRIGADE AGM

June 23 at the Rahotu Tavern at 8pm.

## OPEN HOME

115 Oxford Rd, Okato Sunday 12 noon till 1:00pm. Refer advert Mike Gordon  
TSB Realty Phone 0274 525 088

## OPEN HOME

Okato, 10th & 17th of June., 11am till 12:15pm. Contact 021 140 1244  
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## QUIZ NIGHT

Wednesday 27th June at the Club Hotel, Opunake

## LADIES NIGHT

Friday June 15, Lingerie and Linen at the Club Hotel, Opunake.

## DAVE UPFOLD

The Hilarious Hypnotist -Saturday 16 June 2012—7pm Opunake High School Hall  
Refer Advert for further details. A Opunake High School Fundraiser.

## OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL OPEN DAY

Thursday 14 JUNE 2012, 1-3pm &amp; 7-9pm, In the school hall, Refer advert further details.

## LLOYD SPIEGEL - LIVE

Live On Sunday 10th June 2012 3.00pm at Butlers Reef Oakura - refer advert

## CUE THEATRE - AUDITIONS

"Entertaining Angels" 11am Sunday 17th June 2012 @ TET Cue Theatre Inglewood

## PAINTBALL TOURNAMENT 2012 JUNE 2ND &amp; 3RD

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## EXHIBITION - STRATFORD ART SOCIETY

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Percy Thomson Gallery and being the first exhibitors in the Gallery. Free Entry. May 25 - June 17. Percy Thomson Gallery  
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## LIVE BANDS

Saturday 16 June 2 bands, one nite - Unique and Samsara Circle, Saturday 30 June 2  
DJs one nite - LAST SHOW DJ Tatz & DJ Swaa

## MID WINTER RAGE

Coastal Rugby, 23 June 2012, Rugby Club Rooms, Rahotu. Refer advert further details



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# Stepping Stones has an open day



Sarah MacGregor (with little dog), the Head Teacher and Michaela Taankink (Centre Administrator) in a favourite corner of Stepping Stones Early Education Centre, Okato.

**COASTAL RUGBY**  
**MID WINTER RAGE**  
**DRESS: BLACK, WHITE, GREEN**  
**THEME: Eg All Black, Angel, Frog**  
**WHEN: 23 June 2012**  
**WHERE: Rugby Club Rooms, RAHOTU**  
 Dance and be Entertained by Dinnie and Ash  
**BEST DRESSED PRIZES**  
 SUPPORT COASTAL SPONSOR AND MEMBER DAY AND NIGHT  
 Stay after the NPOB game and enjoy Coastal hospitality!!

Stepping Stones Early Educational Centre will have an Open Day on Monday June 11, Head Teacher Sarah MacGregor has announced. The big day will start at 11am and will continue until about 3pm. All are welcome.

The venue is the old Stony River Hotel at 2502 State Highway 45, RD 37, Okato.

The open day will begin with a blessing by

Rev Alby Martin, with light refreshments to follow. Visitors will be most welcome to have a thorough look through the Stepping Stones facility.

"The day is available to people and whanau, (to have a look) answer any questions and get to know people in the community", explained Sarah.

There is a lot to see – many children's curriculum

and activity centres/material to look at, such as the library corner, the waves slide, painting place, sandpit, as well as facilities for music and dancing.

Sarah will be available to explain details of enrolment and when the children will be welcome to arrive for their first day at Stepping Stones.

Michaela Taankink, the Centre Administrator, is looking forward to the day,

very soon, when the children arrive.

"I'm pretty excited really, for myself and for the community". She adds, "I think a service like this is much needed".

Last word goes to Sarah. "I'm just looking forward to the Open Day and (soon) getting into the teaching role".

Next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on June 14. Get your contributions and advertising in early!

## Spiegel to play Butlers Reef



Lloyd Spiegel - coming soon to Butler's Reef

opportunity is a chance to hear a great guitarist who has played with 'the best'. Spiegel has won countless awards, glowing reviews and endorsements and toured internationally, most extensively in the USA.

Considered a dominant figure for over twenty years in the Australian Blues scene, fans and critics have always focused on his guitar skills described by The Canberra Times as "always being nothing short of brilliant".

More recently Spiegel has become known as a composer and lyricist. His 2005 release, 'Tall Stories' was recognized as a breakthrough recording for him. The follow-up, 'Timber and Steel', mixed his considerable song-writing skills together with his exceptional acoustic guitar expertise. Spiegel's latest release, "Tangled Brew", recorded with Malaysian percussionist Arunachala, is all original material.

Spiegel has experimented with the latest guitar technology provided by Cole Clark Guitars. This company, with a world-wide distribution, has Spiegel as their premier endorsee for the last ten years with CEO Brad Clark stating that they have "even modeled much of the company instrument's evolution on what Lloyd needed for his sound."

The accolades for Lloyd Spiegel's music and often raw and hard hitting style are extensive. Australian Guitar magazine says "Spiegel deconstructs how the blues guitar is supposed to operate, makes love to it, then kicks it out the door."

To come in the door to hear this great musical opportunity tickets can be purchased from Butler's Reef and Vinyl Countdown.

He's played with Bob Dylan, Buddy Guy, Brownie McGee, Etta James, Ray Charles, Peter Frampton - to name a few. Now he comes to you at Butler's Reef. Butler's Reef is to host Lloyd Spiegel on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of June. This one-off

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# Recycle e-waste and support your school



**Bob Campbell waits patiently, having delivered some e-waste to be recycled, while Douglas handles the paperwork.**

Just until the end of June you can rid yourself of electronic waste (e-waste), which contains hazardous materials, in such items as old computers and televisions - and perhaps benefit the school of your choice. Each item you bring in is worth a point and these can lead to prizes such as a computers for the most

nominated schools.

The scheme is supported and subsidized by the New Plymouth Council, the South Taranaki Council and the Stratford District Council.

One drop off point is at Whitaker Civil Engineering Ltd at 47 Corbett Road, Bell Block. (Phone 06 755 9099). There is just one time

available - Saturdays 8am until noon. There was quite a mound of stuff, such as stereos, microwaves, CRT monitors, fax machines, printers. There is a charge, but the material is shipped to Wellington and is recycled, which is good in itself. It also means that environmental damage is precluded, as well

as harm to wildlife and even children if the e-waste is disposed of inappropriately. "I've sent eight pallets off to Wellington", said the attendant Douglas.

The Taranaki drop-off points are part of a national network developed by the RCN Group in partnership with Community Recycling Network, supported by the Ministry for the environment through the Waste Minimisation Fund.

One client, Bob Campbell, who arrived with a selection of electronic waste was pleased to have a positive means of ridding himself of e-waste. "It's better than throwing it in the tip, Bob-said. He added, "It's worth paying for".

Other drop off points are Egmont Refuse and Recycling Ltd, 19 Scott Street, Hawera (Phone 06 278 6170) Weekdays 8.30am-3pm, Saturday by appointment.

For Stratford the service is provided by Egmont Refuse and Recycling on the first Saturday on the month from noon to 4pm in front of the War Memorial Centre.

**Appearing Live**  
**LLOYD SPIEGEL**  
 On Sunday  
**10th June 2012**  
**3:00pm**  
 at **Butlers Reef Oakura** *butlers reef*

**Tickets \$20**  
 from  
**Butlers Reef & Vinyl Countdown**

**DAVE UPFOLD**  
**THE HILARIOUS HYPNOTIST**

**Saturday 16 June 2012—7pm**  
**Opunake High School Hall**  
**Tickets: \$30 Adult**  
**\$25 Student**

**Bar Facilities available**

**A NIGHT OF FUN AND LAUGHTER FOR ALL!!**

*An Opunake High School Home and School Fundraiser and Community Evening.*  
 Tickets available from OHS office, Kaponga Dairy, Karams Clothes on the Coast, Manaia Four Square, Rahotu Four Square, Country Connections.  
 Ph Vanessa Smith for more information 067617342

# Hypnotist show coming

As seen on TV3's 'Campbell Live' programme, Dave Upfold is known for his energetic, engaging and enthralling live show involving audience participation and utilising the power of the mind. With no two shows ever being the same, Upfold has been entertaining audiences around the globe with his "live hypnosis comedy show" for over 15 successful years.

Part of Upfold's success actually stems from his generosity, having personally raised over \$1 million for various charitable causes. He donates a portion of each ticket sale to charity, which then directly helps the local communities in which he performs.



**Dave Uofold hypnotist.**

audience members rethinking their stance on "the power of persuasion".

With a strong background in hypnotherapy, Dave Upfold is sure to instil an uplifting positive message into all who attend. In turn, the participants benefit the most and wind up being the true "stars" of the show as well. However, all who witness the

show may walk away with a renewed sense of humanity, and generally a sore stomach from so much laughter!

*Dave Upfold - Entertainer, Magician, Illusionist, Comedian, Comedy Stage Hypnotist, Motivational Speaker and the Worlds only Auctioneer that is also a Hypnotist. Phone 09 527 7374 or 021 453 202*

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**NZPPL Event #2**  
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**2nd - 3rd June 2012**  
 Egmont A&P Showgrounds - Indoor Arena  
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**"Hawera" Taranaki**  
**Location of Event**

**5 Players per team**  
**Cup/ Plate**  
**Format**

**Cup Prizes Money**  
 1st Place **\$1000** + Free entry next event  
 2nd Place **\$500** + Half entry next event  
 3rd Place **\$250**

**Plate Prizes**  
 1st Place Assorted prizes  
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# Stratford Art Society exhibition - reliably of a high standard

The Stratford Art Society's exhibition opens at 7.30pm May 27 and runs until June 17 at Percy Thomson Gallery. Guest speaker, Puke Ariki senior researcher and

historian, Ron Lambert will open the exhibition. With titles like 'You Scratch My Back and I'll Lick Yours' a painting by Dan Todd, and 'Tsunami, Chatham

## Stratford Art Society Exhibition

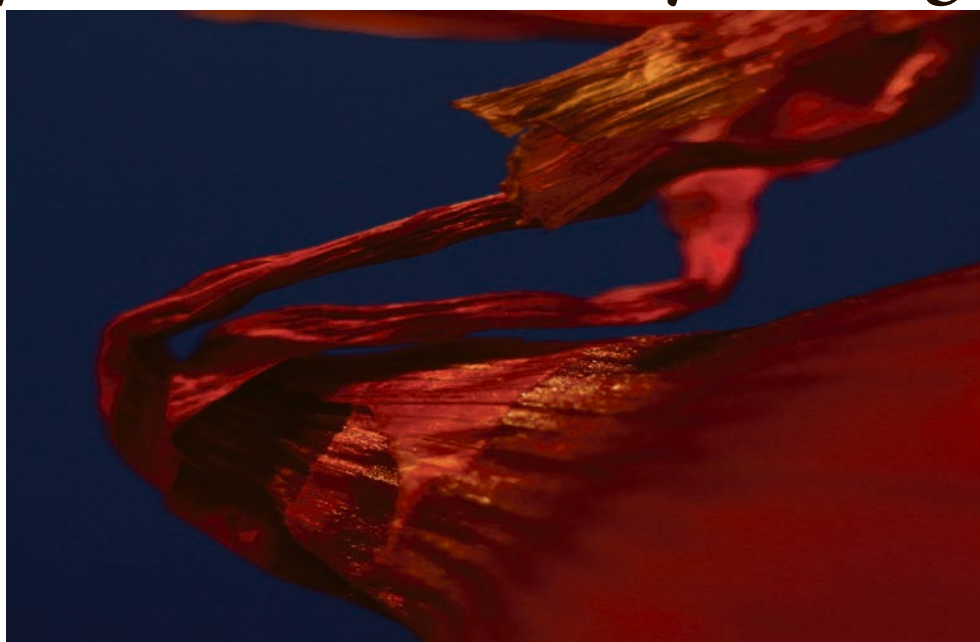


Celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Percy Thomson Gallery and being the first exhibitions in the Gallery

**FREE ENTRY May 25 - June 17**

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percythomsongallery.org.nz



One of the exhibits at the exhibition

Islands' a panoramic image from Janet Wheeler - a photographer who actually witnessed a tsunami, you can expect to be challenged and entertained.

Jocelyn Barrett, Stratford Art Society secretary has

been collating the catalogue for many years and is always intrigued by the titles and descriptions on the entry forms before she views the work.

There is one thing you can always rely on - the Stratford

Art Society showcasing a high standard of work by local artists in its popular twice-yearly exhibitions and the next one will not disappoint.

The Stratford Art Society's focus will be a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the

Percy Thomson Gallery. The Society was the first exhibitor at the gallery, relishing the beautifully-executed and designed space to show their works after the difficulties in preparing the many temporary buildings and sites they had shown in previously before Percy Thomson Gallery came into existence.

On display will be the usual wide range of media including wood-turning, pottery, textile, photography, painting and sculpture. There are 215 entries from 56 artists.

The Society continues to foster the arts on a local level hosting outings and encouraging members by subsidising workshops. They also support many Gallery initiatives such as the annual Kidzshow Canvas Challenge, workshops and assistance.

## Help is at hand for rural builders

Help is at hand for those who want to build in the rural areas of New Plymouth District.

The Council has released design guidelines for rural subdivision and development. The guidelines provide comprehensive information on the variety of land types, how to work with the landscape, what to consider when planning a building's location and appearance, and the best ways to plan for landscaping, vegetation and servicing.

Consideration to other unique features in the

rural area, such as the coastal environment, is also given.

"This is a really handy guide for helping people get the home or development they want in a way that benefits the immediate rural environment," says Acting Manager Environmental Strategy and Policy Juliet Hickford.

"The time to have a look at these design guidelines is right at the start, before any design planning has begun, as they will help owners avoid environmental pitfalls

and suggest possibilities they might not otherwise have thought of."

The guidelines draw on public feedback received during a review of the use of rural land in the district, with input from designers and developers who have experience working in the local landscape.

"It is possible for people to get the home that they want and to also retain the open nature of our rural landscapes for future generations to enjoy," says Juliet Hickford.

The guidelines are not enforceable, but encourage people to think of the long-

term effects on the rural landscape. "What we want to do is encourage owners to consider the wider environmental aspect of their project", she commented.

"We've made that easier to do with these guidelines, which take people step by step through a range of issues that are worth considering before the design work begins."

the design guidelines are available on the Council's website at newplymouthnz.com, the Civic Centre, and service centres in Bell Block, Waitara and Inglewood.

**cue theatre**  
**AUDITIONS**  
 "Entertaining Angels"  
 11am Sunday 17th June 2012  
 @ TET Cue Theatre Inglewood

Entertaining Angels is a very English comedy – the laughter constantly bubbles to the surface giving full value to Everett's witty, perceptive and very funny script.  
 4 Females (30s-60s) 1 Male (60s)  
**Director Sharren Read**  
**Performance Dates:**  
**Sat 6th Oct - Sat 20th Oct 2012**  
**Director's notes and scripts available from Sharren (06)7547716 or Margaret (06)7566318**

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