



Inside

McAlpine Taranaki's alpine man

The loss of two climbers on Mt Taranaki two weeks ago, underlines the dangers of climbing Mt Taranaki, particularly in winter time. Deceptively easy to visit, Taranaki's iconic mountain – two thirds the height of New Zealand's highest Mountain – has claimed around the same number of lives, around 80, as Mt Cook.

Ian McAlpine of Mt Taranaki Guided Tours has an encyclopaedic knowledge of Mt Taranaki having made over 1800 ascents of Mt Taranaki and guided many people to the summit as well as around the mountain. Here he gives a fascinating account of his life in guiding.

Ian McAlpine has made over 1800 ascents of Mt Taranaki and guided many people to the summit. His youngest client was just five years old and the eldest, 81. Accredited by the Department of Conservation to take trekking tours, Ian has resumed his guiding business Mt Taranaki Guided Tours after a hiatus of 7 years.

"I can run tours to the summit but only in the summer," says Ian. This includes Fantham's Peak.

In the winter months he will focus on the treks around the mountain.

With over thirty years experience, Ian has guided people on many treks in Egmont National Park. His guided tours include the increasingly popular Pouakai crossing, which is around 15 kilometres and goes from Mangorei Road through to the top of the Pouakai Ranges via the Holly and Pouakai Huts to the North Egmont Visitor Centre. It's about a 9 hour trip.

The Pouakai Circuit does a round trip from the North Egmont Visitor Centre scaling Henry Peak and also visiting the Holly and Pouakai huts. The longer 25 kilometre



Ian taking a pew at the Tarns in the Pouakai Ranges.

Taranaki Crossing starts at Dawson Falls and goes round the mountain to Holly Hut finishing at Mangorei Road.

Mt Taranaki Guided Tours also offers a 3 day Mt Taranaki Luxury Trekking Tour and caters for business social groups, tramping clubs and other groups.

"Most people, when they go, have no idea of how fast to travel," says Ian - adding often you have to slow them down so they can walk continuously rather than walking then stopping all the time.

With Ian you're certainly in safe and experienced hands.

In addition to his considerable experience guiding in New Zealand, Ian has also climbed in Nepal. He's also visited Everest

Base Camp. "It was really misty and, in those days, there was only one expedition per season," recalls Ian.

His long career in guiding has brought him into contact with some famous mountaineers.

These include Sir Edmund Hillary who he's met a number of times and visited in Auckland. "He had a fascination with Taranaki," reflected Ian. He also got to meet a number of those from the 1953 Everest expedition including George Lowe when he attended a jubilee in Hastings.

He also knew Rob Hall who he met for the first

time as "just a young guy," and a "gentle giant," and Andy Harris who was from New Plymouth. Rob Hall led the tragic expedition on Everest in 1996 when 8 people perished on the mountain including Rob Hall - stranded with a client near the summit. Andy Harris, who was a guide on the expedition, heroically tried to get oxygen to the pair and also lost his life in the attempt.

"I knew them very well," said Ian, particularly Andy. "He would call around to my place and borrow books from me all the time," and was "very keen." He also

knew Gary Ball who founded Adventure Consultants with Rob Hall in 1991. They were pioneers of guided tours of Mt Everest. Ian continued, "He was a really good friend." Ian first met Gary when they were both guiding in the Mt Cook region which is where Ian first learnt guiding. He described Gary as "very cheeky, very out there." He would come to a lot of the Taranaki Alpine Club tramps in the Mt Cook area. Gary was to also die tragically in the mountains.

Continued page 28



Stop gambling with people's lives says councillor. Page 4.



The new Opunake Business Association Co-ordinator. Page 5.



Flood warning gear vandalised. Page 6.



Stay warm this winter. Heating Feature. Pages 15-18.



Songs of the Earth exhibition at Pihama Lavendar an intellectual and sensory experience. Pg 30.



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Letters to the Editor

Behaviour in Parliament

I write with a feeling of some embarrassment for Maoridom on watching the sub behaviour of the Maori Party Member of Parliament whose name at this moment eludes me as shown on television. The Speaker of the house asked him to resume his seat.

On first being aware of this fellow I’ve had serious doubts about his attitude and seemingly racist attitude. Added to this incident a few weeks ago we saw Debbie Packer’s frivolous exhibition of that incident when interviewed on television; this was also to me an embarrassment.

I am on the Maori Roll and had much respect for the past Maori Party leader Tariana Turia who was a respectful politician and lady.

Now we have this character who has influenced me to reject and finish support I’ve given to the Maori Party.

Added to this was his disrespect by wearing a hat in the House of Parliament.

I suspect he would not wear a hat into the Meeting House on his marae or any other place.

As a past chairman of a marae, if he wore his hat in the Meeting House I would have requested him to remove it, or leave.

As I see it the Maori Party should gather him up and head off into the wilderness.

Gordon (Mac) Sole, Hawera

We’ll always get people unprepared on the mountain

I have listened to people/experts, even given some myself, on why people go unprepared and unequipped on Mt Taranaki over the years. I agree with Lindsay Maindonald’s comments about the persons he came across on Friday. One only needs to spend time on the slopes of Mt Taranaki to come across this sort of people up there.

Unfortunately, sadly it doesn’t make a difference to some people what information and warnings

some people are given by where it comes from, verbal, signage or the internet.

‘It comes down to personal attitude.’ Personal attitude and personal responsibility decide what they listen to and what ideas the person(s) take notice of.

When I have spoken with the experienced Department of Conservation Visitors Centre staff in the Egmont National Park, they say it doesn’t matter what wise information they give some of the visitors who come in there, they have already made up the plans. Sadly, they or anyone have the right to stop people from doing what visitors/park-users choose to do or with or without the right equipment. In some, they walk straight past the centres.

Sadly we cannot change some people’s attitude or mindset.

Ian McAlpine New Plymouth

Helping first home buyers

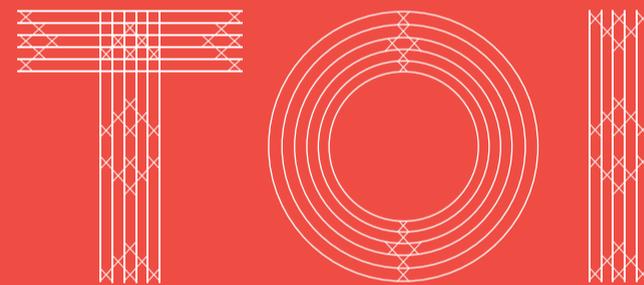
Before labour became our government, our country was under the rule of John Key’s National Government and his housing minister at that time was Judith Collins, now the leader of this political party. Well, she sold off thousands of state homes

throughout the country, some to overseas investors, while others laid empty and became subject to vandals and squatters, so in the finish every one of them had to be demolished, which in turn led to many people sleeping on our streets, sleeping under bridges, in parks, and in their vehicles with their children, yet this same political party promised the world to this country, never ever fulfilled these promises, and lied to us all, that our country was in good hands. Well my friends it wasn’t at all.

Now our Labour Party has announced for all our first home buyers that they only need 5 per cent deposit, rather than 20 per cent, and First Home Grants will provide up to \$10,000 to help people put together their deposit. Home buyers must live in their homes for 10 years until they can sell them, whereas people were only living in houses for five years and then selling them off.

Should anyone want any more information, contact our new Labour MP Glen Bennett, ph (027)4389052

Tom Stephens New Plymouth



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EDITORIAL

Roundup should be used sparingly - if at all

Roundup or Glyphosate is probably the most used herbicide in New Zealand. However, there are signs that it is the most over-used herbicide in the nation. As you drive over Taranaki roads it's amazing how many metres of dead vegetation encircles signs and poles; why does so much herbicide need to be used? It is also unsightly. In some places whole tracts of roadside verges appear to have been sprayed.

So is Roundup safe to use at all? There are some like anti-spray activist Dave Auld who maintains that it should be banned. He is especially concerned that it is used where it should not be - in and around waterways. He is horrified that it is sprayed on about-to-be-harvested crops as a desiccant.

However, there are other authorities who say Roundup is our safest herbicide.

Recently, there was a disturbing report in the news media that Glyphosate was being detected in harvested honey. Whether the herbicide is toxic or not, this reported contamination is of concern. With so much Roundup being sprayed around the place, sometimes indiscriminately, the pollen gathering bees are uplifting some of this herbicide as well.

What is the history of Roundup? Industrial giant Monsanto developed and patented Glyphosate in the 1970s; in 1973 it was marketed as Roundup. Sometimes a surfactant POEA (Polyethoxylated amine) was added. Later, Bayer AG took over the



Do we really need to spray this extensively?

herbicide's production and marketing.

The evidence on Roundup is mixed, although there are a number of aspects which cause concern. In 2015 the IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) of the WHO (World Health Organisation) decreed that Glyphosate be rated Group 2A - "probably carcinogenic for humans." Contrary wise, the United States EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) declared that there was no risks if Roundup was applied in accordance with the instructions and that the product "is not a carcinogen."

However, the opponents have dramatically increased over the years, both in the United States and overseas:

In 2019 Roundup 360 was banned in France. Cancer Australia declared Glyphosate a carcinogen. The European Union stated "Glyphosate was dangerous for the environment."

One result of opposition has been litigation. For example, by October 30, 2019 42,000 American plaintiffs had taken legal action claiming that Glyphosate had caused their Non-Hodgkins lymphoma (a type of cancer). Most plaintiffs were people very involved with gardening such as professional gardeners and grounds people.

Going back in time somewhat (to 1996), the marketers of Roundup were accused of false advertising;

the legal case was taken by the New York State Attorney-general who objected to false claims that the herbicide was safer than table salt, biodegradable and non-toxic to mammals, birds and fish.

One local man who feels strongly about Roundup is Okato businessman Ahmet Auld. He fears that a nearby (to his home) paddock will be sprayed with Roundup prior to the planting of a maize crop. If this happens he fears for the health of his family, "My kids and wife's health are my number one priority." Where his driveway meets the South Road is a sign: *No spray zone for the next 2 kms. Thank U. Waterways, Rivers, Drains* with an arrow pointing to

United States

Appeals court upholds \$35m Roundup verdict

A federal appeals court on Saturday upheld a US\$25 million (NZ\$35 million) verdict against the maker of Roundup, a weed killer that thousands of litigants blame for causing their cancers. The three-judge panel of the US 9th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected an appeal by Monsanto Co., the manufacturer of the herbicide, ruling 2-1 that US\$20 million in punitive damages, "while close to the outer limits," was constitutional. A jury in 2019 made the award to cancer victim Edwin Hardeman to punish a defendant and deter future misconduct.

Above item from Taranaki Daily News, 17 May 2021, page 12.



Does weed control around roadside posts really need to extend so far?

the word *Ocean*. "My father David put the signs there," explained Ahmet.

Have I used Roundup? Yes, although not for some time and I'm somewhat wary of the herbicide now. What is obviously needed is more research to clarify the situation. However, until

the truth is clearer, surely we (hobby gardeners, professional gardeners and local bodies) should use the herbicide much more sparingly than is the case at present.

Rolland McKellar

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Stop gambling with people's lives in Inglewood

Stop gambling with people's lives; a pedestrian crossing is needed on State Highway 3 in Inglewood

Let's talk about Inglewood's gambling problem and why crossing the main road feels like you're playing Russian roulette.

When walking to school or the dairy becomes running the dangerous gauntlet of

traffic on State Highway 3, it's time for an intervention with the national road authority in Wellington.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency's, (who are in charge of all state highways across New Zealand) failure to deliver any significant safety improvements on Inglewood's main road has been forcing people to play a game of chance for way too



Cr Marie Pearce.

town in two, with new homes going up on one side of the highway and two schools on the other.

Almost anyone who lives or works in Inglewood has a story of a near miss, whether it's someone on a mobility scooter, a young mum pushing a pram, or kids on bikes. Even the most safety-conscious can't avoid the lack of visibility.

Inglewood is a great place to live. It's close to New Plymouth and the airport with excellent schools, businesses and medical services, attracting a wide range of new residents.

The big problem is navigating SH3.

At least two generations of Inglewood people have been calling for safety measures such as a 30km/h zone in the town centre or finding an alternative for the logging

trucks, but NZTA keeps the handbrake firmly on anything that might make a difference.

Three years of talk on a safer highway promotion stalled late last year with the agency saying it had no funding.

The only safe bet now is that it's an accident waiting to happen and the odds are especially high for our kids and the elderly.

Inglewood people need to step up and demand action before this ends in tragedy. Sign the petition today at the Inglewood library or Fun Ho! Toys. Or do it <http://chng.it/HJX7L2trK>

Add your name to make our town heard at NZTA head office in Wellington.

New Plymouth District Councillor Marie Pearce.

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long now, especially on the west side of the town. That's why I've organised a petition demanding a pedestrian crossing with lights north of the Purple dairy.

Traffic along SH3 through Inglewood has almost doubled in the last decade

from about 11,000 vehicles a day in 2011 to about 20,000 now, including around 1,100 trucks and the heavy juggernauts that rumble through with loads of logs to the port. <<http://www.trafficcounts.co.nz/>>

The traffic is carving our

Far-reaching backdrop for TRC Long Term Plan

The Taranaki Regional Council says the Long-Term Plan (LTP) it adopted this week aims to give the region the best possible start in navigating sweeping changes that are set to reshape the way local government works.

"We had both eyes firmly on a future of far-reaching changes when we voted today," says the Council Chair, David MacLeod.

"There's action on many fronts. One of our immediate priorities is gearing up to implement the Government's Essential Freshwater package, but that's just the start."

He says the Government's recently announced review of the role of local government is timely. "All Councils will face multiple changes as the Resource Management Act is replaced, as the '3 Waters' reforms roll out and as decisions are made on New Zealand's pathway to zero emissions."

Mr MacLeod says

implementing the Essential Freshwater package's new standards, requirements and regulations will be one of the largest projects the Council has ever undertaken.

The Council is budgeting for additional freshwater-focused scientific, technical and cultural resources, as well as increased land management services to help farmers and landowners reduce their environmental impacts. The extra environmental spending will amount to just under \$3 million over three years, the bulk of it starting in the 2021/2022 year.

It will also investigate alternative fuel options for the New Plymouth Citylink bus fleet. It will also investigate and trial new Citylink routes and extra services on existing routes. "We got a clear message about bus services during public consultation," says Mr MacLeod. "The community wants greener buses and more bus

services." When costs for the fuel conversions and extra services are finalised, budgeting provisions will be included in the 2022/2023 Annual Plan.

Other LTP budget items include contributing \$100,000 towards development of a Regional Recovery Plan to ensure the region talks with one voice when seeking COVID-19 recovery assistance from the Government, pressing ahead with refurbishment of the Council's Stratford office at a cost of \$6 million over two years, to be funded with a loan repaid from rates, and restoring financial support for Wild for Taranaki, the regional biodiversity umbrella group, to the pre-COVID level of \$235,000 a year.

Annual regional rates will rise in 2021/2022 by less than \$30 for the average household, and by around \$60 for a farm worth \$2 million, with smaller increases budgeted

in subsequent years. Rates for many commercial and industrial ratepayers will reduce slightly in 2021/2022.

"Budgeting for a rates increase is never a decision taken lightly," says Mr MacLeod. "But the extra spending needed for us to implement Essential Freshwater is significantly offset by the \$20 million 'shovel-ready' grant for the Yarrow Stadium project, the targeted rate for which is reducing by 45%. So the impact for most can be measured in tens of dollars across the whole year."

The LTP details budgets and programmes for the coming three financial year, and outlines those for the subsequent seven years.

The Council received 91 submissions on its 2021/2031 LTP, with 22 submitters presenting their cases in person at a hearing last week.

The LTP takes effect from 1 July 2021.

On this month in history Mabel Howard joins Cabinet

On May 13, 1947 Mabel Howard MP for Sydenham became Minister for Health and Child Welfare, thus

becoming the first female Cabinet minister, not only in New Zealand, but also in the Commonwealth.

Before becoming an MP the unionist was a local body politician in Christchurch. Her father Ted was an MP from 1919 to 1939.

The next time her party Labour assumed office she became Minister of Social Security and Child Welfare well as Minister in Charge of Women and Children.

The flamboyant Australian-born politician was famous for waving a pair of women's bloomers in parliament.

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Business Co-ordinator appointed for Opunake

Sherrie Flanagan is the newly appointed Business Co-ordinator for the Opunake Business Association. She is contracted for 20 hours a month for the next 12 months. The business people of Opunake had their AGM on Monday May 3 at Headlands Hotel when Sherrie's appointment was announced by President Ray Hayward. Her other commitments are running the Sugar Bach holiday home in Opunake, as well as completing a business course.



Sherrie Flanagan, the Business Co-ordinator for the Opunake Business Association.

When she learned of her appointment she admits to being "very excited. I am an opportunist and see this as an opportunity to contribute to the community." She has earlier worked in the public service for about 17 years, with vocational responsibilities for

communities in such places as Whanganui, Rangitikei and Ruapehu. She is confident that the skills she has acquired from her previous vocational roles can be transferred to her new position to the advantage of the Opunake business

community.

In the four years Sherrie has lived in Opunake she has become very involved in the community. She is currently Secretary for the Opunake Board Riders Club, complementing her husband Patrick's role as a surfing

coach. She admits she is something of a beginner as a board rider, but that the activity has enhanced her confidence.

Sherrie has also become very involved in the Opunake Players Inc notably as a vocalist. She recently performed on stage in their latest production, as a member of Heatwave - singing popular songs and will be singing in the next show Great Face For Radio.

She says her taste in music is varied and describes herself as "a musical jukebox." She adds, "My taste in music ranges from the Blues, Ella Fitzgerald, Etta James to David Bowie. It's hard to pick one influence."

She is also the lead singer of the band Right of Way, which performs in such places as Peggy Gordon's Celtic Bar and the DeCantas Tapas Bar, as well as at

private functions.

Although she has lived in Taranaki for the last eleven years (mostly in Inglewood), she was born and bred in the Hawkes Bay and spent some of her formative years in the Wairarapa.

Sherrie has definite plans in her new role, but for the time being wants to learn about the business situation as it is "by meeting key people to pick their brains and use their knowledge and experience." She adds, "I

want to gather information to understand members' expectations (to allow focus) for the next 12 months." She would definitely like to "pull in new members and help grow" the business community.

Sherrie has a special affinity for Opunake. "I'm impressed with this community. For a small town there's always something happening and something to do. I've met some amazing people. It is all very inspiring."

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Don't throw it out recycle it say Kaponga WI

Members of the Kaponga WI met in May at the home of Gillian Frandsen, who along with Sharyn Hurley were our hostesses for the day. We could all relate to the thought for the month - "Time may be a great healer but it's a terrible beautician." A great performance of Happy Birthday was sung for birthday girls Jo Jones and Gillian Frandsen. The brooch we were all asked to wear had some precious memories behind them.

Flowers were placed at the Kaponga Anzac Service attended by members and our amazing pianist Joy Eliason played her keyboard for the service

for the 59th time. That's a record hard to beat. Kaponga District salutes you Joy.

A report from the very successful Kapuni 85th Federation Birthday and Centennial Celebration of National WI was given. The launch of the exhibition at the Patea Museum on June 2 includes items from

Kaponga WI and a group will be attending that function. Some members will attend the fashion parade at Ballentynes in Hawera.

Five members are to travel to the National Conference on June 13-15.

Extensive discussion was held towards the planning of

our upcoming 90th birthday celebrations and several decisions were made.

Margaret Broomhall was given the silver dish and congratulated on her recent 59th wedding anniversary. Diane West won the raffle.

After a delicious lunch we headed off to Hawera to the home of Joy

Linn who runs 'The Joy Within.' Joy upcycles almost anything and

saves a huge amount of trash going to the dump. Old furniture gets

painted using a chalk paint process and transfers specially made for that work.

Joy also upcycles silver, vases, cushions, china,

photo frames, buckets, bins and much more. Joy runs classes regularly for anyone interested and will even come to you. Thank you Joy. We enjoyed seeing your work and wish you well.

Thanks to Gillian and Sharyn for organising a lovely day.

Carolyn Nicholas



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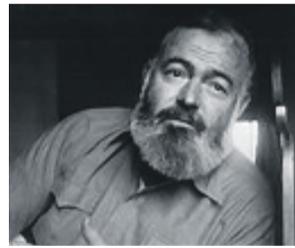


In this month in history Hemingway wins Pulitzer Award

On May 4, 1953 Ernest Hemingway wins the Pulitzer Prize for Literature for *The Old Man and the Sea*. He also won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1954.

He was born July 21, 1899 at Oak Park, Illinois to Clarence (medical practitioner) and Grace a musician and painter.

He was a novelist, short story writer, journalist and sportsperson. His writing was very economical with



Ernest Hemingway.

an understated style. He described it as the tip of an iceberg.

He earlier had a home near Havana, Cuba which

is maintained today as a museum in his honour. The descendants of his many cats are looked after and protected.

Later in life Hemingway suffered from psychiatric illness and died by his own hand (gunshot) at his Ketchum, Idaho home on July 2, 1961. He is buried in the local cemetery.

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Flood warning gear targeted in attack



Flood monitoring networks give communities in the Waitōtara Valley advance warning of possible disruptions.

A vandalism attack on a remote automated monitoring station left communities and livelihoods vulnerable to unexpected flooding, the Taranaki Regional Council says.

Council hydrology officers discovered the damage while checking the network of monitoring stations in the upper Waitōtara Valley catchment. Temporary

repairs were made to get the station back online but full repairs will not be finished for another two weeks.

The stations generate automated phone alerts to locals when rivers reach certain trigger levels, so that farmers know when they should move stock or take other precautions, and communities and roading contractors know when road

access may be at risk.

“Our flood monitoring networks are hugely important, so we were gutted to find that vandals had been at work,” says Regan Phipps, the Council’s Science Manager – Hydrology/Biology. “This vandalism is a huge disservice to those communities.”

He says anyone who sees people tampering with monitoring equipment should

call the police immediately.

The Council operates 22 flood warning stations across the region, with the key ones in the Waitōtara River, Waiwhakaiho River and Waitara River catchments.

They are among the Council’s 62 automated environmental monitoring sites across Taranaki, all of which feed data to the TRC website.

Craig Corrigan ELECTRICAL OPUNAKE

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A pest plant blitz has revealed many New Plymouth residents are unaware of the destructive ginger growing in their gardens.

Taranaki Regional Council has just completed an urban pest plant inspection, with the “nasty” Kahili ginger found to be widespread throughout the New Plymouth district.

As a result, it’s holding a free “Swap your ginger for a native tree” day with the support of New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), saving locals the time and cost of disposing of the weed.

Council environment officers carried out roadside inspections across New Plymouth, Ōākura, Ōkato and Waitara in November, looking for the 11 plants in the Regional Pest Management Plan that landowners have an



Kahili Ginger.

obligation to control.

Following this, about 250 letters were sent out letting landowners know there was a pest plant on their property, how to identify it and that they must control it.

Council Environment Services Manager Steve Ellis says the overwhelming majority were for Kahili ginger, with old man’s beard and giant gunnera also spotted.

He says ginger may be pretty to look at but it’s invasive and “nasty”. It clogs our waterways, threatening native fish and ecosystem

health. It reproduces quickly and can quickly take over an area, shading out native species.

The main goal of the pest plant inspection was to educate and raise awareness, he says.

“We found many people didn’t know what ginger or old man’s beard looked like, let alone the immense damage they do or that they have a legal obligation to control it.

“Our officers spent a lot of time advising those land owners, helping them identify their pest plants and the

measures needed. Hopefully people are now more aware and are talking to their friends and neighbours about what’s in their gardens.”

The identified sites were re-inspected in February, with most owners having done the work required. The remaining 53 were issued a formal Notice of Direction, resulting in all but six doing the work. As a last resort, the Council will carry out the control at these landowners’ cost.

The Council has also worked with NPDC staff to identify infestations along walkways and on other NPDC-owned land. NPDC is working towards getting these under control, in accordance with its obligations.

Mr Ellis says controlling pest plants is crucial to Taranaki’s biodiversity and has to be a team effort.

“We’re asking people to check out the photos of the most common pest plants then take a look in their gardens. Talk to your neighbours – if you’ve got some chances are so do they, in which case it’s best to co-ordinate your control.

“If in doubt, give us a call on 0800 736 222 and one of our team will come out and take a look. If the weed is on NPDC land please contact them directly.”

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Lone cemetery has its own story to tell



The discontinued Warea Cemetery.

Less than a kilometre along Stent Road, on the left when heading west towards the sea, is the remnant of a cemetery which has been discontinued for more than a century. It is located in a paddock several metres from the road. A farm gate marks the site.

These days there is a prominent stone with a plaque

attached detailing six people who were buried there. Just behind the stone is a small wooden enclosure, about 8 metres by 3 metres, with a small shrub planted in the middle, protected by a blue surround. There are no tomb stones to be seen.

Originally, when Warea township was planned, Block

8 was intended to become Warea Cemetery. For a brief time, 1896 to 1904 the location was used as a cemetery. However, a high water table proved problematic and attempts to provide drainage were unsuccessful. The plaque's legend states: *Warea Cemetery. Erected in Memory of the following local settlers who are known to be interred in this cemetery.*

Rose Roberts 24.9.1896 (28 years)

Rose Ellen Roberts 29.9.1896 (6 days)

Edward John Roberts 23.1.1897 (16 months)

Mary Millar 83 years 6.1.1899 (83 years)

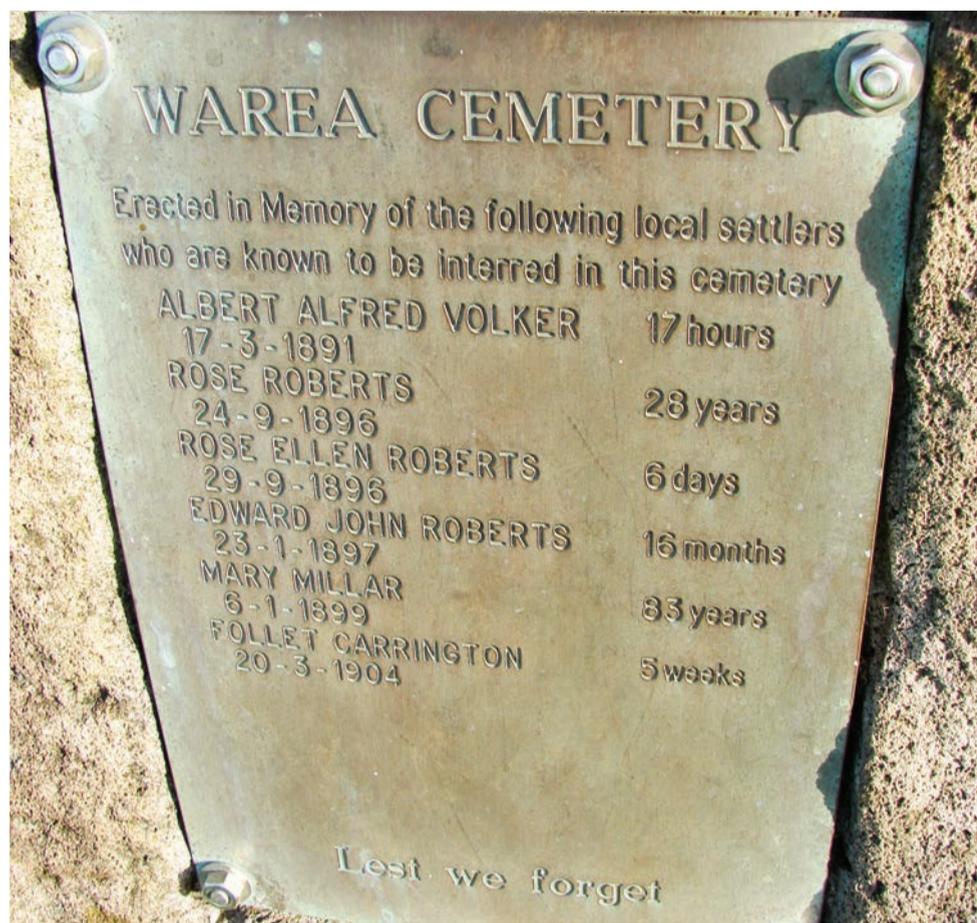
Albert Alfred Volker 17.3.1891 (17 hours)

Follett Carrington 20.3.1904 (5 weeks)

At the bottom of the stone are the words *Lest we forget*

The cemetery tells its own tale of sadness with four very young children buried and a young woman. Only one of the six deceased made it to an older age.

An interesting book to read is *Warea School and District*



The Warea Cemetery plaque.

1884 – 2004. Kelvin Day MA (hons) has thoroughly

researched the history of Warea and wrote a book which provided the basis for the one mentioned here.

Flag presented at outbreak of Great War still stirs memories

At this year's Eltham ANZAC Day RSA service Eltham farmer Malcolm Pease had with him a flag presented to his father Percy at the outbreak of World War I. These flags had been presented to schoolchildren by the New Zealand government, and Percy was an eight year-old attending Omata School at the time.

"It just came to the fore when we were going through a few family heirlooms," says Malcolm.

He said his father recalled the New Zealand flag flying at assemblies which were held on Mondays.

"I do remember him saying the schoolteacher at the time was a very strong German, but he was very loyal to the school and went right through. My father had a very high regard for him."

Malcolm says that in the Second World War, his father did not go overseas, as being the local milkman he had an essential occupation, although he was in the local Home Guard and would



Malcolm Pease with the flag presented to his father at the outbreak of World War I.

keep an eye on the families of those who were serving overseas.

Percy had a brother-in-law Sid Cross who did serve in the Western Desert, and was advancing into battle one day alongside his younger brother Keith when Keith was wounded. Sid had to keep on moving and wasn't allowed to

check up on him. When he later went back to try to find him, Keith had gone.

"He disappeared. Whether he was buried or taken to a camp, Uncle Sid never knew."

Sid was invalided back to New Zealand after that, and the memory of what happened continued to haunt

him. "Uncle Sid could never do a lot of things," says Malcolm. "I can always remember Uncle Sid coming here and sitting here and not doing very much. He was a broken man."

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Celebrating six months in government

New Zealanders voted for stability and security at the last election. In the six months since then we've been working hard to keep New Zealanders safe from

COVID, accelerate our economic recovery, and tackle long-term challenges like housing affordability. Keeping New Zealanders safe from COVID is our



Glen Bennett
MP for New Plymouth
glen.bennettmp@parliament.govt.nz

Steph Lewis
MP for Whanganui
steph.lewismp@parliament.govt.nz

Authorised by Glen Bennett MP and Steph Lewis MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

Labour

number one priority. Going hard and early saved lives and livelihoods. And we know our best economic response to COVID is still a strong health response. Since taking office we have bolstered testing requirements for border workers, made face coverings on public transport mandatory, and introduced legislation to double sick leave entitlements. Plus we secured enough safe and effective COVID vaccines for the whole population, and launched our vaccine roll-out plan, which will see every New Zealander offered immunity by the end of the year. Getting New Zealanders immunised is first and foremost about safety, but it also has economic benefits, allowing us to avoid costly lockdowns and explore our options for safe travel with other countries. Accelerating our economic recovery is also a top priority for us. We moved quickly to cushion the economic blow of COVID with wage subsidies and small business loans. Then we invested heavily in jobs by making apprenticeships free and backing major infrastructure

projects across the country. Already this term we've extended schemes for small business loans and business debt hibernation. We funnelled more major infrastructure projects into the fast-track consenting process. Plus we extended an initiative that helps employers keep apprentices on through tough times. To support our horticulture and winegrowing industries, we incentivised unemployed New Zealanders to take on seasonal work. We also granted travel exemptions for 2,000 experienced seasonal workers from the Pacific. Our strong COVID response and recovery gives us the opportunity to build back better. That means fronting up to the challenges that have been decades in the making in New Zealand, like housing affordability. Making houses more affordable is about increasing supply and shifting demand. Earlier this year we launched our plan for the more than 18,000 extra public and transitional housing places

we're on track to deliver by 2024. More recently we launched a \$3.8 billion fund to speed up the pace and scale of house building, through investments in the infrastructure underpinning major housing developments, like the roads and pipes to new homes. To tilt the balance in favour of first home buyers, we increased income and house price caps on First Home Loans and Grants. Plus we're extending the bright line test and removing interest deductibility for property investors. We're proud to be part of a government that's focussed on tackling New Zealand's long-term challenges. That's what sets this government apart. With the ongoing support of our team of five million, we can't wait to see the progress we make in the next six months.

Glen Bennett. MP New Plymouth
Steph Lewis. MP Whanganui.

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Progress on Homelessness Action Plan

The Government has welcomed the release of the second progress report on the Homelessness Action Plan, showing that good progress is being made on every one of the immediate actions in the Plan. "Homelessness will not be solved overnight, but I am pleased to see that this plan is continuing to deliver for some of our most vulnerable, even in the face of the additional pressures of COVID19, housing supply shortages and affordability struggles," Associate Minister for Housing Marama Davidson says. The Homelessness Action Plan which was launched in February 2020, and

ramped up in response to COVID 19, is the first time a comprehensive central government-led and cross-agency plan has been developed to deliver on the Government's vision that homelessness is prevented where possible, with a focus on the need for collective action. The six-monthly report outlined the progress to date. This included providing urgent support to those in the most need, by continuing to increase Transitional Housing places, delivering 1,005 places as of February 2021. Round One of the of the Local Innovation and Partnership Fund has been completed

with around \$4 million supporting the development and implementation of seven initiatives across the country to respond to and prevent homelessness. Investment has been delivered through the He Taupua fund to support 37 projects to assist whānau experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. A rapid rehousing approach has been piloted to support individuals and whānau into permanent housing. As at February 2021, 342 households had been engaged in the service and 140 households had been successfully housed. "We know more needs to be done to support whānau facing housing pressures, especially those experiencing homelessness," said Marama Davidson. "The Government is working on long-term enduring

solutions working with our partners – including iwi, including the community housing sector, including local government – to get as many people into a warm, dry home. The recent announcement for Rotorua's emergency housing is one example of how the Government can work with partners to provide support to those facing homelessness." The Homelessness Action Plan is supported by the Public Housing Plan which sets out the Government's public housing supply intentions for the next four years, Housing First – a housing and support approach that supports people facing homelessness, the Progressive Home Ownership Fund, the First Home Loan and First Home Grant, and the Housing Acceleration Fund.

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Tax changes yet to dampen housing market

Over a month has passed since the Government announced measures aimed at dampening the rampant growth of the property market, and yet the latest QV House Price Index data shows the market hit a new high in April.

The average value increased 8.9% nationally over the past three-month period, up from the 7.8% quarterly growth we saw in March, with the national average value now sitting at \$913,209. This represents an increase of 21.4% year on year, up from 18.2% last month.

New Plymouth's residential property market remained red hot in April. Its average house price increased by 9% for the quarter and 23.3% over the past 12 months to \$636,439. Meanwhile, house prices in the neighbouring districts of Stratford (\$445,605) and South Taranaki (\$398,793) have been even



Housing market still red-hot.

more buoyant, increasing by 24.3% and 33.2% respectively over the past 12 months.

The average value in the Auckland region now sits at \$1,306,913, up 8.2% over the last quarter, with annual growth of 19%, up from March's year-on-year growth of 16.1%.

Of the 16 major urban centres monitored by Quotable Value, all except Napier City and Queenstown

Lakes District are showing an increase in quarterly growth compared to last month. However, Napier is still showing the strongest gains in value, followed closely by Hastings, with 14.2% and 14% value growth respectively over the past three months.

QV general manager David Nagel said: "We're hearing a range of anecdotal evidence of investors disappearing from auction rooms and

even a decrease in first-home buyer presence. And while less properties may be selling under the hammer, the majority are still being sold at prices that are at least as strong as before the tax announcements were made at the end of March."

"We're starting to see some interesting regional trends emerging, with the strongest value growth occurring in the southernmost regions of the North Island. The Hawke's Bay region, Manawatu-Wanganui and also the greater Wellington region are all showing very strong month-on-month value growth with Hawke's Bay leading the pack at 4.9% monthly growth. The two southern regions of Otago and Southland are showing much more conservative monthly growth of just 2.1% and 2.5% respectively," he said.

"We'll all just be guessing the impacts of the recent tax changes until we get another

couple of months of sales data to analyse. But there's certainly an expectation that we'll see at least a slowdown in the rate of value growth, with potentially less

investors and maybe a few more first-home buyers entering the market over the coming months," Mr Nagel added.



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Weak links found at every level

"COVID-19: Make it the Last Pandemic" was produced by a panel co-chaired by Helen Clark and Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. The panel found the initial outbreak became a pandemic because of "gaps and failings at every critical juncture of preparedness." It also praises the efforts of health workers and the key role that open data and open science collaboration played.

Physician, Dean and Head of Campus, University of Otago, Christchurch, and Co-Director, One Health Aotearoa, comments

"The report pulls no punches. It highlights how the current pandemic situation was preventable; that there was a general lack of preparedness globally despite years of warnings; that responses, especially in the early stages of the pandemic, were often sluggish; and that coordinated leadership was absent. It also highlighted the underpowered nature of the World Health Organization (WHO) and how lack of planning and gaps in social protection resulted in widening inequities.

"The panel's recommendations focused on two areas, viz. (1) immediate actions to end the pandemic and (2) actions directed at preventing a future pandemic. The latter include the establishment of a Global Health Threats Council, strengthening the authority and financing of the WHO, improved surveillance systems, and the establishment of national pandemic coordinators.

"These recommendations apply just as much to New Zealand as to the rest of the world. While we have done relatively well in our COVID-19 responsiveness compared to other countries, we need to do much better in preparing for the next pandemic. We need agile and coordinated systems, and capability within a well-connected and skilled workforce to enable rapid response to future infectious diseases threats.

"This is a welcome report. However, it must be acted upon now. We cannot wait until after the pandemic is over.

"As this report states: 'we

have been warned.'" Professor Nigel French, Infectious Disease Epidemiologist, School of Veterinary Science, Massey University, and Co-Director, One Health Aotearoa, comments:

"It was always a matter of when, not whether, a pandemic on the scale of COVID-19 would occur. Previous events, such as the emergence and global spread of HIV/AIDS and the influenza pandemics of 1918 and 2009, provided ample warning of the potential scale and devastation of infectious diseases. As did near-misses with diseases such as SARS and Ebola that were locally-devastating, but relatively contained.

"All of these diseases crossed over from animals to people at some stage in their evolutionary history, and this is a reminder of how important it is to understand and stop the human activities that lead to the emergence of new pathogens. Preventing the initial emergence of infectious diseases with pandemic potential is a difficult task, but we do

know what needs to be done on global, regional and local scales to prepare for them and reduce their impact. Previously unimaginable advances in vaccine development provide us with even greater opportunities to prevent a disaster of this magnitude happening again, provided we have coordinated, global leadership.

"This report is a welcome and far reaching reminder of what we need to do to prepare for and prevent pandemics, and we hope it is a trigger for a seismic change in how we plan for and respond to future threats."

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Heatwave.

Great music and a great laugh

Great music and a great laugh, just the thing to lift your spirits as winter sets in.

The Opunake Players evening, Spellbound, began with Heatwave, a local singing group comprising Bert Treffers, Stephanie Mackenzie, Monica Willson and Sherrie Flanagan who exuberantly entertained with a volley of songs, some I recognised, others I didn't. Afterwards speaking to Bert who chose the repertoire and directed, said he selected songs that were lesser known. I particularly liked the delightful number where Stephanie took the lead while the others beautifully accompanied.

It was great entertainment by the talented foursome, bright and great fun and went down a treat with the audience.

Then followed two one act plays, both comedies.

The first, Fate's Thread by Stephen Bean directed by Michelle Julian, opens with a scene in a cemetery with two women who have

passed greeting a third. With the most recent arrival still coming to terms with being dead, there is speculation as to how she died. Action then switches to the life she left where we discover her husband is having an affair and who, it transpires, engineered her death in a car accident by ignoring a fault in the car which caused her to crash. Brian Gasson was great as the wayward husband, Jack, announcing nonchalantly at intervals that women found him attractive and that he was helpless to resist.

Lynelle Kuriger as the elderly Alice, and Wendy Smith as the upper crust Harriett playing the two nosy deceased women determined to uncover foul play played up their parts to comic effect and were a perfect foil to the disbelieving Margaret (Sheree Julian) grappling with the circumstances of her death. Assumed voices can grate after awhile though. Chloe Danz as the mistress with the right was

good. I particularly liked the performance of the police officer Jenny (Diane Baldie) investigating the case (and resisting Jack's advances) with cool professionalism.

The split set switching between the two centres of action was very effective, the graveyard scenes realistically creepy.

Cemeteries, death and comedy is a tricky combination to pull off.

It was the second of the one act plays The Witches of Prestwick however that brought the house down.

Written by Joe Graham and directed by Paul Andersen-Gardiner, three members of an amateur dramatic society are rehearsing a scene from 'a Scottish play' (Macbeth). One of the trio has been researching witchcraft and, a bit bored with the rehearsal, the trio, intrigued by the concept of magic, instead attempt to conjure up their 'perfect man' who 'arrives' in the form of a vacuum cleaner salesman. Sensing he is may not be who he

appears and, losing their nerve, the trio then attempt to reverse the spell.

I wasn't quite sure whether the reference to 35 inches quite hit the mark though, or did I mishear.

Hilarious action follows as the unassuming salesman brilliantly played by John McCarty with comedic restraint tries to ward off the attentions of the excitable women played by Alexandra Lawn, Stephanie McKenzie and Lisa Beynon. As each in their different seductive styles collude to reverse the spell the bewildered bachelor salesman tries to ward off their advances. Eventually the women seem to accept his protests that he is indeed just a salesman and he finally gets to demonstrate his vacuum cleaner. As he plugs it in, we are plunged into darkness, and then appears ... the devil complete with flashing red eyes.

It was a brilliant end to a very funny play.

An entertaining night..

Bernice McKellar

Sandfords Manaia Golf Club results

May 8. Saturday Men. 1. Logan Symes. 2. Phil Elliott. 3. Ralph Symes. 4. Caleb Symes. 5. Rod Le Fleming.

May 2. Juniors. 1. Cooper Symes. 2. Boston Symes. 3. Eila Elliott. 1. Carter Symes.

2. Hannah Symes.

May 8. 1. Jesse Jenkins. 2. Denis Hurcomb. 3. Dinny Gibbs. 4. Phil Elliott. 5. Gary Dowdle.

May 9. Juniors. Putting. 1. Carter Symes. 2. Hannah Symes. 3. Luke Norris. 4. McKenna Norris. 5. Anise Borrie.

May 9. Senior Men's Pennant. Manaia came

through with a clear win.

Manaia 5-New Plymouth 1. Sam Jones lost F.Broderick 3/2. Ethan Jones won A.Searle 9/7. Caleb Symes won Z.Lewis 1 up. Caleb Andreoli won T.Stewart 5/4. Fairball. Jones and Jones won Searle and Broderick 5/4. Andreoli and Symes won Stewart and Lewis 7/5. Well done Manaiboy.

May 15. Saturday Men 1. John Oliver. 2. Logan Kennett. 3. Gary Wallis. 4. Quinton Symes. 5. Wayne Balzer.

Junior Girls. Foursomes. 1. Carter and Anise. 2. Hannah and McKenna. 3. Luke and Cooper. 4. Jaxon and Eila. 5. Kobi and Boston.

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Taranaki ideas become reality with TSB investment

The lightbulb moments of Taranaki's top innovators will be turned into a reality this year with the help of a Kickstarter fund from TSB.

The bank is proud to once again be getting behind Kiwis ready to make a difference in their communities with its annual grants programme, TSB Good Stuff.

Last year the TSB Good Stuff fund awarded \$200,000 to innovative ideas throughout New Zealand, with an additional \$50,000 available specifically for Taranaki innovators as a commitment from TSB to its home region.

In September, \$60,000 was awarded to two Taranaki based projects. Nick Jones received \$30,000 to help fund the development of an industry-leading and humane predator trap, and Dr Yvonne Anderson and Gregory Lynne of Tamariki Pakari Child Health and Wellbeing Trust were awarded \$30,000 to help create a new app to improve health checks and support healthy lifestyle changes for Taranaki children.

TSB CEO Donna Cooper says the bank was overwhelmed with fantastic applications last year and



TSB CEO Donna Cooper.

the team is already excited to see what ideas the people of Taranaki put forward for 2021.

"As a bank owned by local philanthropic organisation Toi Foundation, TSB exists to invest our profit for purpose in the Taranaki community.

"With giving back at the core of our bank, we're excited that TSB Good Stuff is another tangible way we can do even more good in our communities, in particular our home region.

"Taranaki is filled with innovators and bright sparks who know what this province needs to be able to thrive even more," Ms Cooper says.

"TSB's here to help solutions take flight and drive positive change for Taranaki, so if you've got an idea that'll benefit the region or help solve a problem, then we want to hear from you."

The Healthy Lifestyle Check app has now been built and a six-month trial with Taranaki DHB will

begin soon.

People who think their idea could be perfect for a TSB Good Stuff grant of up to \$30,000 need to submit a 60 second video pitch along with a written submission describing their idea, the problem it's attempting to solve and the benefits it will bring.

Head to <https://www.tsb.co.nz/good-stuff-entry> for more information - applications are open until Sunday 13 June 2021.

Opunake Bowling Club



Left. Taranaki Champion of Champions 2020-21 placings by Opunake Club members. Clockwise from top left are: Winner Women's Senior Singles, Chris Commane; Runner-Up Men's Junior Singles, Levi Davis; Winners of the Men's Fours (from left) Paddy Deegan, Daryl MacKenzie, Kewene Ratahi and Len Reader.

Opunake had a memorable day on May 1 at the Paritutu Bowling Club on Champion of Champions finals day. All disciplines were played, with the winners of all clubs taking part.

Chris Commane won the finals of the Senior Women's Singles beating Kathy Andrews of Paritutu.

The Men's fours final was again at Oakura, and was a popular win for Opunake. Paddy Deegan was the skip, and the rest of his team were Kewene Ratahi, Len Reader and Daryl MacKenzie, all playing their part.

Also notable was Levi Davis, who was runner-up to Vogeltown's Hohepa Murray in the Men's Junior Singles.

It was a day to remember for this small coastal club, punching well above their weight. Congratulations to all who took part.

Kay Fleming.

Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



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Elephant Garlic

A large variety with a much milder and sweeter flavour perfect for roasting.

Printanor Garlic

The most common in home gardens, it is a medium sized bulb with white skin and mid to strong flavour.

Planting

The general rule of thumb is to plant on the shortest

day of the year, but you can plant them in May or as late as September.

Plant in a sunny position with freely draining soil. The soil should be loose with lots of compost and organic matter added.

Separate the bulb into cloves and plant 10-15cm apart with the pointy end facing upwards. Plant at double the size of the seed, so around 5cm deep is about right.

Maintenance

Keep on top of the weeds. Once sprouted a thin layer of mulch will help keep the soil moist and cool.

Once spring rolls around,

you will need to give the plants a good feed. Liquid fertilisers, blood and bone, sheep pellets and vegetable fertilisers are all good options. Garlic is a very hungry plant. Monitor if the soil starts to dry out, and water if needed.

Harvest

Harvest in December or January when the tops start to die back. You can use them fresh or leave them to dry out. Leave them on the soil or hang them up somewhere. When they have fully dried out, usually about 3-4 days, plait them together and store in a dry place.

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NEWS

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Palmers

New banner for Opunake Embroiderers Guild

It was with great pleasure on Saturday 8th May at our regional day in Normanby we unveiled our new banner. For many years past presidents have talked about making one but other projects got in the way. Three years ago while at conference in Nelson, president Sue Staveley and secretary Sheryl Roach talked about our banner not being hung along with all the other Guilds around the hall. As they talked about what should be on it, they decided to approach Cyra Lewis the



Back row. From left. Ramani Gungatunga, Joyce Adams, Cyra Lewis, Sue Staveley, Joy Collins, Marion Woller, Sheryl Roach. Front left, Margaret Guy, Heather Radford. Front right, Val Coombe.

very creative member in the guild. It was discussed on their return at the next workday. It was decided it needed to have our beautiful side of the mountain and a view of Opunake from the sea with the beach etc. Cyra was to sort something that we could all stitch on. The

following week a beautiful background in felt came to our meeting, and then all the stitching began. Joyce Adams our awesome cross stitcher did our name and Cyra stitched our logo. As many of us as we could stitched different things onto it, and we think it looks

great and represents our area well. Thanks so much to all you very clever ladies who stitched on it as it will be treasured for many years to come.

*Sue Staveley
President*

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Don't throw it out - upcycle it

Members of the Kaponga WI met in May at the home of Gillian Frandsen, who along with Sharyn Hurley were our hostesses for the day. We could all relate to the thought for the month - "Tie may be a great healer but it's a terrible beautician."

A great performance of Happy Birthday was sung for birthday girls Jo Jones and Gillian Frandsen. The brooch we were all asked to wear had some precious memories behind them.

Flowers were placed at the Kaponga Anzac Service attended by members and our amazing pianist Joy Eliason played her keyboard for the service for the 59th time. That's a record hard to beat. Kaponga District salutes you Joy.

A report from the very successful Kapuni 85th Federation Birthday and Centennial Celebration of National WI was given. The launch of the exhibition

at the Patea Museum on June 2 includes items from Kaponga WI and a group will be attending that function. Some members will attend the fashion parade at Ballentynes in Hawera.

Five members are to travel to the National Conference on June 13-15.

Extensive discussion was held towards the planning of our upcoming 90th birthday celebrations and several decisions were made.

Margaret Broomhall was given the silver dish and congratulated on her recent 59th wedding anniversary. Diane West won the raffle.

After a delicious lunch we headed off to Hawera to the home of Joy Linn who runs 'The Joy Within.' Joy upcycles almost anything and saves a huge amount of trash going to the dump. Old furniture gets painted using

a chalk paint process and transfers specially made for that work.

Joy also upcycles silver, vases, cushions, china, photo frames, buckets, bins and much more. Joy runs classes regularly for anyone interested and will even come to you.

Thank you Joy. We enjoyed seeing your work and wish you well.

Thanks to Gillian and Sharyn for organising a lovely day.

Carolyn Nicholas



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Double celebration for WI

South Taranaki Women's Institute celebrated 100 years of Women's Institute in New Zealand and also their 85th Birthday on April 19 at the Kapuni Hall.

The hall was decorated with beautiful floral arrangements especially for the occasion.

The day started with a Meet and Greet, and then the Federation President Phyllis Malcolm welcomed the 76 guests who attended, and gave a few highlights that had happened over the past 85 years in South Taranaki Women's Institutes.

Grace was said and then we enjoyed a delicious two course meal.

Members were able to view the memorabilia.

Before cutting of the cake, three candles were lit by Past Federation presidents Helen Cameron for Past members, Leonie West for the present, and the newest member April Cowley for the future.



Val Eliason and Phyllis Malcolm cut the cake.

The cake was then cut by our Federation Gold Honour members Val Eliason and Phyllis Malcolm.

The highlight of the day was a narrated sketch performed by the executive committee, and Maata member Deborah Clough taking us through the life of our founder "Bessie" Ann Elizabeth Jerome Spencer.

Finishing off the day with Glenda Leatherby who led a sing along, of songs through the ages.

A great day was had by all.
Phyllis Malcolm



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Lions make martial donation



Diane Forsyth, President of Opunake Lakeside Lions, presented the Opunake Martial Arts Club with a donation from the proceeds of their stall held at the February 24th highly successful AmeriCARna event. Meat patty sandwiches and preserves were very popular with the tourists.

The Martial Arts Club then demonstrated their skills to the Lakeside Lions members who were highly impressed.

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Trent, son of Nigel Dravitzki and Nicola Lee Hart-Wilson, and Rebecca, daughter of Samuel and Leigh Heemi were married on February 20 at Julie and Paul Dravitzki's garden at Tarata near Inglewood. Trent was born in New Plymouth, while Rebecca comes from Opunake, but was born in Hamilton. The happy couple are pictured with their son Eli. The celebrant was Sam Bennett and the florist was Robyn Chard from Fabulous Flowers in Opunake.



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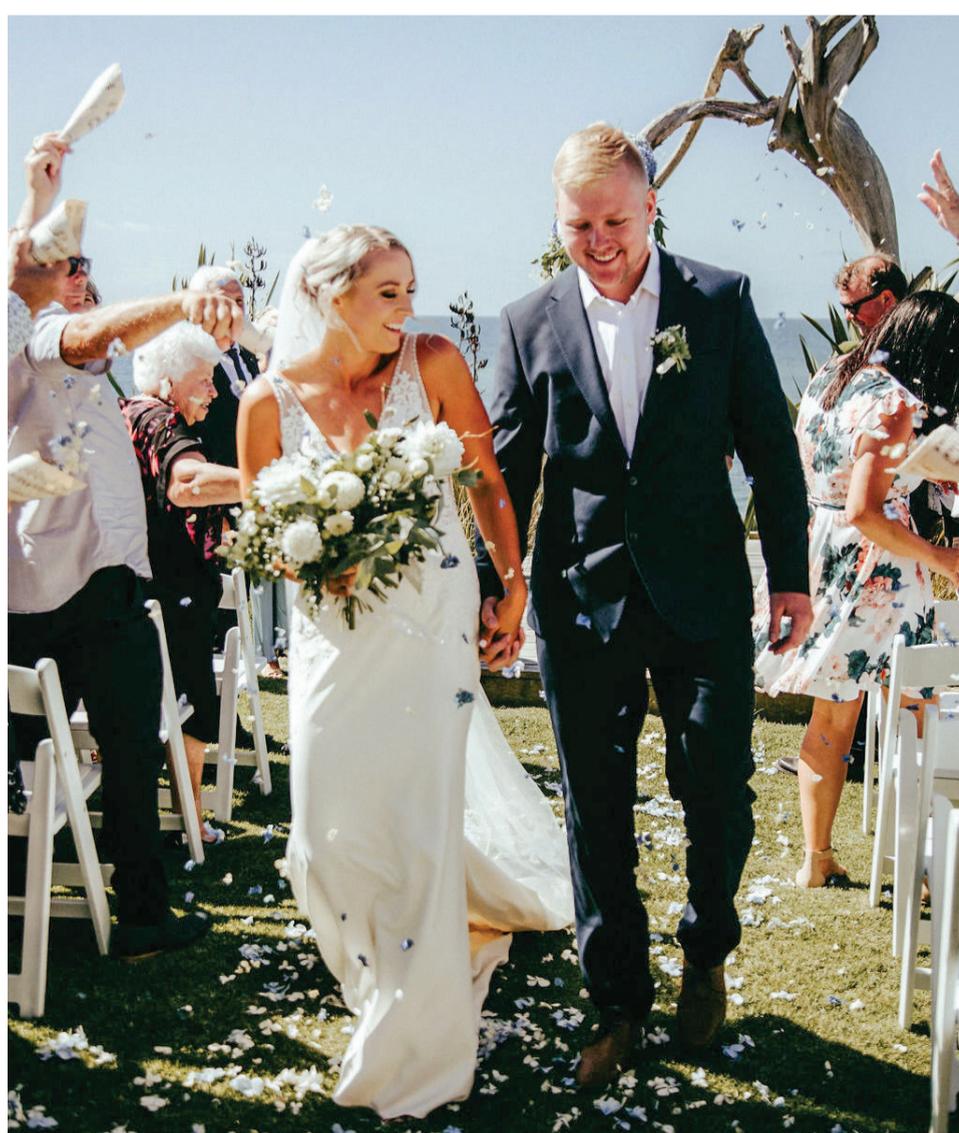


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Bradley Parkes (formerly of Marlborough) and Nicole Johnson were married on the farm on February 13. Nicole is the daughter of Susan and Ross Johnson of Mangatoki, and granddaughter of Dick and Nola Johnson (Mangatoki) and Jack and Ielk van der Sar (New Plymouth formerly of Opunake).



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Laurie Feaver and Daryl Read were married on February 20 at Little Church Bay New Plymouth by Celebrant on the Coast Murray Weir.

Laurie's parents are Mark and Tracey Feaver formerly of Opunake and Daryl is the son of Cindy Gray and Murray Read.



Winter is just around the corner!
It's time to **Heat up** your home!

Keeping warm in winter



Debbie, Trish and Alysha at Sinclair Electrical Opunake ready to help with your winter warming requirements.

The temperatures have finally come down. There's that chill in the air and it's time to start thinking about keeping the house warm. "You can't go past a heat

pump if you are thinking about sorting the heat out," Trish Anderson of Sinclair Electrical says. "It's clean, efficient and the best value for heating. We have them available as a wall unit of a floor console. We have different ones to suit."

An electric blanket can keep the warmth in on long winter nights. They come easy to use with mattress protectors.

Or you could throw on an

electric micro fleece throw. "These are cheaper to run than an electric heater. It's like wrapping yourself up in an electric blanket, and can be used as an alternative to turning the heater on," Trish says.

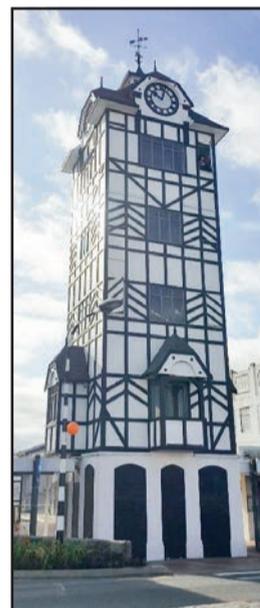
"We have a range of portable heating as well if it gets too cold and your throw is not cutting it."

Finally when the weather gets cold, the inner person craves sustenance.

"If your crockpots are old and decrepit, and you're in need of a new one, we can help you out," Trish says. "There's nothing nicer when you get home from work and it's cold, than to have your crockpot full of soup and

ready to go." Mention this article to us in store we will give you a 10% discount on

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Slow cooker Pumpkin Soup Recipe

Ingredients

- 1 onion, chopped
- 1 tsp garlic, crushed
- 2 carrots, cubed
- 6-7 cups pumpkin, cubed
- 1 tsp cumin, ground
- 1 tsp paprika
- 3 cups chicken stock
- 1 cup cream

Instructions

1. Add the onion, garlic, carrot, pumpkin, cumin, paprika, and the chicken stock to the slow cooker.
2. Cook on low for six hours or until the vegetables are tender.
3. Using a stick blender, blitz until smooth.
4. Add the cream. Season with salt and pepper.
5. Cook for 30 minutes to allow for the soup to heat.
6. Serve and enjoy.

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Winter is just around the corner!

It's time to Heat up your home!

Heating your rental property

Did you know that the Housing Improvement Regulations Act 1947 states that, *Every living room must be fitted with a fireplace and chimney or another approved form of heating*

This has been overlooked by many owners and landlords. Some councils may provide information on approved forms of heating. The Tenancy Tribunal may

consider that an inexpensive plug in heater is enough but this will not meet the new healthy homes standards (a power point in the living room is not sufficient).

Under the healthy homes regulations, landlords must provide one or more fixed heaters that can directly heat the main living room to a maintained temperature of at least 18 degrees C all year

round.

How to find what size heater is required.

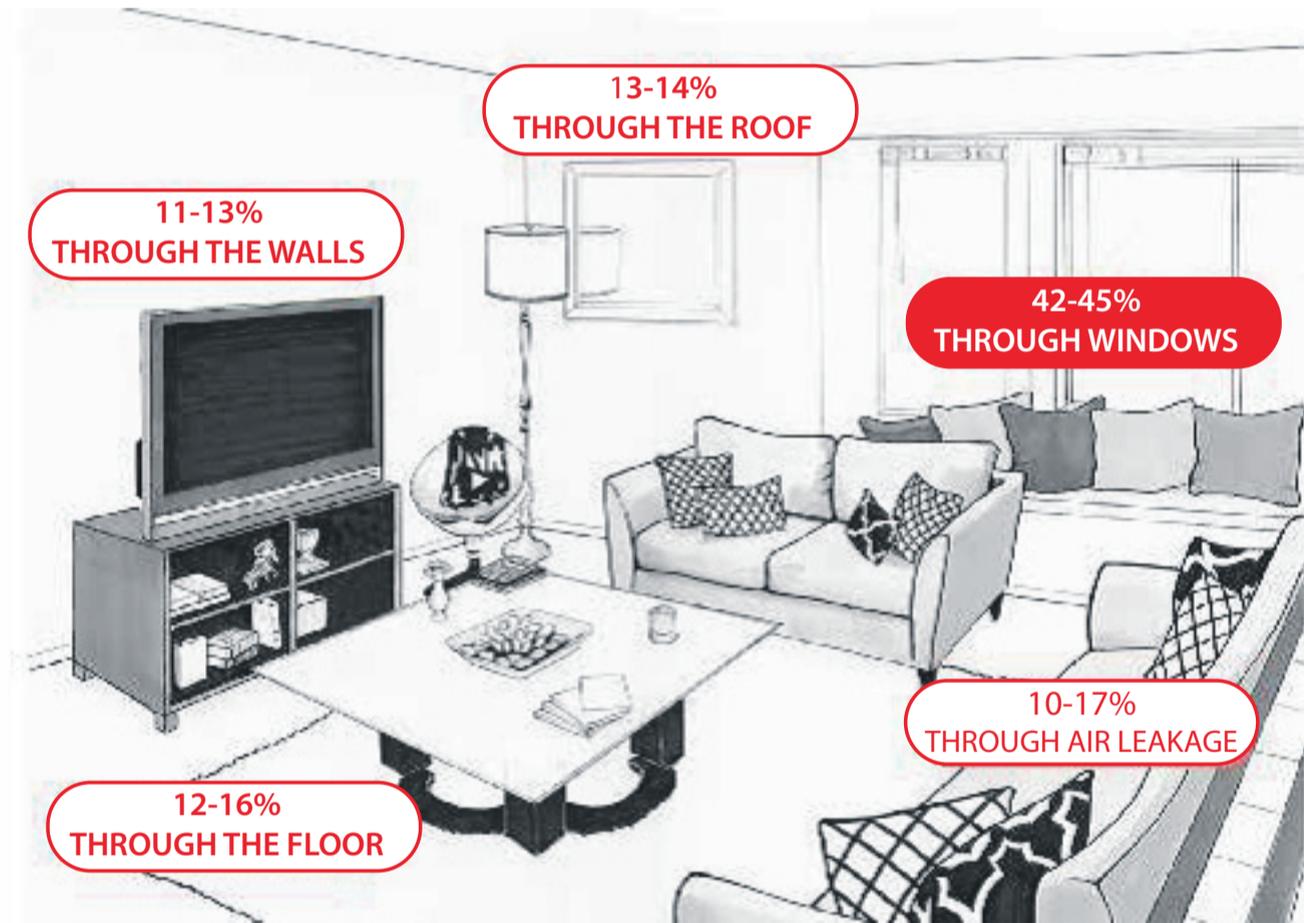
There is an online tool available at www.tenancy.govt.nz/heating-tool or use an inspection company experienced in the healthy homes standards.

Some heaters that cannot be used to meet the standards include portable LPG bottle heaters, unflued

combustion heaters, open fires, heaters less than 1.5 kilowatts.

There are some exemptions. These include where it is not reasonably practicable to install a qualifying heater, where the rental is a certified passive building and work could cause substantial damage to the property.

Where the heat is lost in our homes



Each month New Zealanders are faced with a stack of bills they have to pay to keep their household running, and as winter arrives, the dreaded electricity bill can often cause our household costs to skyrocket. In the common New Zealand household, over one third of the energy bill is attributed to keeping our homes warm. However, according to New Zealand's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA), over 600,000 New Zealand homes have inadequate insulation, resulting in all of this heat being lost through our roofs, walls and windows.

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Winter is just around the corner!
It's time to **Heat up** your home!

Supporting New Zealanders through winter months

From May 1, over one million New Zealanders receiving either a Main Benefit or New Zealand Superannuation will get more money each week through the Winter Energy Payment.

"The Winter Energy Payment started as part of the Government's December 2017 Families Package designed to help older New Zealanders and many of our poorest families heat their homes over winter," Minister for Social Development and Employment Carmel Sepuloni says.

"Having a warm home is a key part of preventing illness and supporting peoples' wellbeing through the winter season. Many families struggle with



Winter Energy Payments to help ease heating costs.

the increased power costs through these months and the Winter Energy Payment will be a welcome relief for them.

"The Government is committed to laying the foundations for a better future and the Winter Energy Payment is part of the overall package we have undertaken to support our most vulnerable New Zealanders.

"Last year the Government

doubled the Winter Energy Payment as a response to more people staying at home due to COVID-19. This year's payment returns to normal, but remains a meaningful boost to incomes during the winter months." Carmel Sepuloni said.

The Winter Energy payment is an extra payment to help with the cost of heating your home over winter.

If you're single, you'll get an extra \$20.46 a week. Couples and people with dependent children will get an extra \$31.82 a week, and it's paid to one person in the couple. Payments start from May 1 and continue until 1 October 2021.

If you're getting a single rate and caring for any children under the age of 18, please get in touch. We may be able to pay you at a higher rate. As the Winter Energy Payment starts part way through the pay period, the first payment on May 11 will be less than the full amount. The full amount will be paid in the following payment. The Winter Energy Payment won't affect other payments and isn't considered income (for tax purposes).

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Ben Gibson and James Scott installing a fireplace.

A message from Gibson Plumbers Ltd

Gibson Plumbing has been operating in Opunake and outlying areas for 60 years. David's Dad (Wyn) arrived here in the 1950s and operated his business until he lured his son David from his farming job in Matamata to assist him and learn the trade. That was 45 years ago. After completing his apprenticeship, David and wife Ann bought the business, and today, with

the able assistance of their son Ben and James Scott are still servicing the coast. Incidentally James's dad, the late Keith was one of David's several apprentices. As winter nears, most peoples' main concerns are methods of staying warm and dry. Roofs become the number one concern, as are

ways to heat the house -be it by solid fuel or gas, all of which require checking and servicing (e.g.chimneys cleaned etc) to ensure maximum performance and safety. Due to the many facets of the trade, (i.e. plumbing, gasfitting, drainlaying and roofing) the plumbers are

always busy with various different tasks each day, along with after-hours callouts. Thanks to our loyal customers, who enable us to continue the service we provide, we should be able to continue to keep Opunake and surrounds in A1 condition.

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What's on the menu at your farm?

This may be a question you ask yourself daily, but I'm not talking about your lunch. Instead, what diversity of pasture species are you offering your cows and why does it matter?

Ryegrass/clover swards, along with common supplementary feeds meet the basic energy and protein requirements of grazing ruminants, but just like humans, ruminants will thrive on more diverse

diets. The phytochemical richness, potentially more balanced mineral profiles, and provision of choice that comes from increasing the diversity of the pasture swards on your farm, are all factors that may benefit animal health and performance.

Phytochemical Richness
Ruminants grazing within a diverse habitat in the wild may consume over 50 plant

species in a day, with 3 to 5 items typically making up one meal. In the process, they ingest thousands of phytochemical compounds (also referred to as Plant Secondary Compounds or PSCs) that in small doses are beneficial to animal health and performance.

Examples of these compounds include phenolics (eg. Tannins) and terpenoids and while the details of how these

compounds work are still being researched, there are many studies documenting the animal health benefits. The benefits include improved rumen function, improved antioxidant status, improved energy utilisation and protein economy, as well as anthelmintic (anti-parasitic), anti-bacterial and anti-fungal benefits. Many of the plant species typically included in multispecies pasture mixes contain a selection of these beneficial compounds. In comparison, grass and clover species are very low in PSCs.

Better Balanced Mineral Profiles

The greater the number of species in your sward the greater the potential for more balanced mineral profiles. For example, including herbs such as plantain and chicory will improve calcium levels while sunflowers will improve the magnesium status of a sward. Being able to better meet the mineral nutrition needs of your herd through the pasture means there is potential to reduce inputs, not just in terms of feed, but also mineral supplementation.



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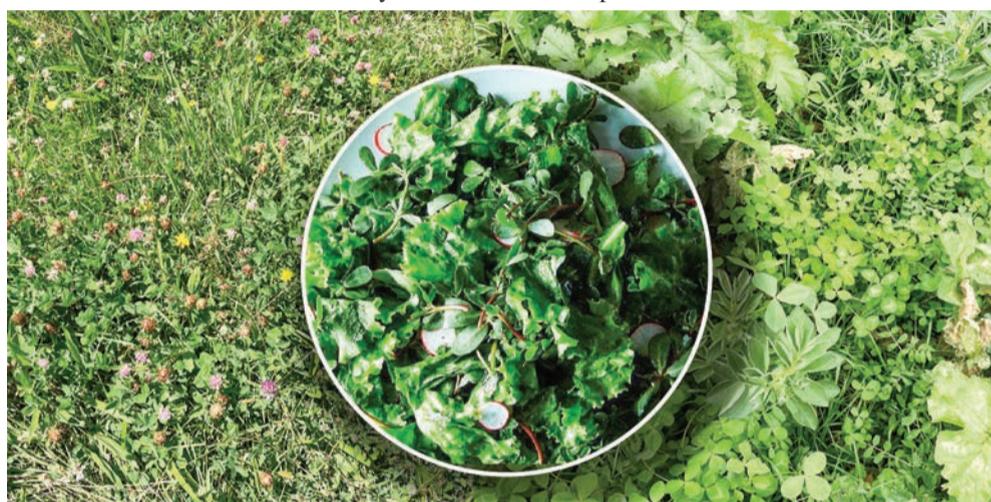
Dietary diversity promotes improved animal wellbeing in a couple of ways. It's well understood that the nutritional status of an animal is linked to oxidative stress. This oxidative stress plays a role in common production diseases and illnesses such as mastitis, hypocalcaemia and more. When given the choice animals will select more adequately balanced diets, thus improving their nutritional status. Along with the advantages from PSCs (natural antioxidants) this improves the oxidative status, and thus health and wellbeing of the animal.

It is also suggested that providing dietary choice improves the hedonic (relating to pleasure)

wellbeing of grazing livestock. Studies in lambs have shown that those provided with dietary choice had decreased blood cortisol (stress hormone) levels compared to those that were fed a monotonous total mixed ration made up of the same components. I don't know about you, but I'd definitely get bored eating the same thing for lunch every day.

While this is a very coarse look at a complex topic, there is a lot of evidence supporting the theory that multispecies pastures provide significant animal health and wellbeing advantages. However, it's also important to acknowledge that multispecies pastures are not without risk. We recommend you use regular pasture sampling and analysis to ensure you are meeting the nutritional needs of your herd, particularly as you transition from ryegrass/clover swards to more diverse pasture mixes. Care for a tossed green salad for lunch today anyone?

*Emily House
5th Business Agri*



What kind of salad are you offering for lunch?

Shortage raises concerns

DairyNZ says the decision not to approve 500 skilled dairy workers to come into the country will put farmers under intense pressure, as they head into the new dairy season in June.

DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle says having the government application declined is disappointing and essentially lets farmers down, right as the sector heads into its peak period.

"We have real concerns for this season, including animal

welfare, farmers working longer hours, increased stress and mental wellbeing issues," says Dr Mackle.

"DairyNZ continues to work hard to resolve long-term workforce issues. However, we have an immediate workforce crisis this season, due to Covid border closures. This decision is a blow to the sector.

"Right now, there are also staff on farms who need residency applications

processed. So in the interim, we urge the Government to urgently fast-track applications for those migrant workers on dairy farms who want to become New Zealanders, and already qualify to meet residency criteria.

"Our migrant staff are extremely valued by the sector. We are concerned that the delays are forcing them to look to other countries who can offer a more certain future."

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stirrers, or PTO stirrers provide the right angle to get the whole pond swirling and keep the sediment from settling at the bottom of the pond, but if you really want



A good stirrer should be able to get the whole pond swirling.

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to maximise efficiency the placement and positioning of the stirrer is also important.

Where possible, the ideal place to stir from is half way down the length of the longest side of your pond. With the stirrer pointed perpendicular to the other side of the pond, and approximately half a metre to a metre below the surface, a good stirrer will get the whole pond swirling, and the flow of water will keep everything in suspension. If your pond has corners, pivoting the stirrer from the same position will bring any dormant effluent into the mix.

If you have the option of placing your stirrer close to the effluent inlet this would be an advantage, but is not critical. The advantage here is that your stirrer can break up the solids while they are fresh and soft, meaning less work for the stirrer, and less solid build up in this area.

With an electric stirrer, the concrete mounting block needs to be as close as possible to the edge of the pond. If you have a lined pond the foundation needs to be incorporated in the anchor trench.

Of course every effluent pond is unique, and whether you have a PTO stirrer, or

a shore mounted electric stirrer, it's not always possible or economical to position it in the ideal location. Access can sometimes limit where you can get the tractor in for PTO stirring, and electric stirrers need to be close to the pump and power supply. The good news is a good stirrer should be able to get the whole pond swirling regardless of your set up. If you're unsure, talk to a specialist for advise on the best stirring routine to maximise nutrients in your pond.

Lloyd Thomas
Nevada Effluent
Management Specialist

Getting drug drivers off the road

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) say they are pleased to support proposed drug driving legislation which it believes will reduce drug-related deaths on New Zealand's rural roads.

"RWNZ Members believe that there are as many accidents on the road with people using illegal drugs as there are people drunk driving," says board member and Social Issues convenor, Sharron Davie-

Martin.

"Drivers under the influence of illicit substances are a danger to themselves and others.

"We understand that currently, an illicit substance test is only carried out if the Police Officer suspects impairment and the driver does not show an alcohol reading.

"RWNZ believes that the testing of illicit substances needs to be mandatory and carried out at the same

time as compulsory breath testing.

"Aotearoa New Zealand has too many road users losing their lives on our rural roads and any work done to reduce deaths and serious injuries is good for everyone.

"Drug driving is one of the road safety issues facing rural women, children and communities and its time we fixed it – let's get drugged drivers off our rural roads," says Mrs. Davie-Martin.



Genetics helps secure premium for sustainable high value milk

Genetics will play a key role in helping farmers achieve a premium for their milk as part of Fonterra's new Cooperative Difference Programme.

CRV Managing Director James Smallwood says it makes sense that farmers - who have invested in tools and solutions, such as genetics, to produce sustainable, high value milk from healthy and productive herds - are rewarded.

"The Co-operative Difference Payment programme aligns extremely well with what farmers can expect from breeding with CRV sires," he says.

"For many years, CRV has provided farmers with a choice of sires that perform not only in terms of production, but also from a broader health and sustainability perspective.

"Our investment in research and development is ongoing, with at least 20 per cent of our revenue each year dedicated to finding innovative genetic solutions for New Zealand farmers."

CRV has led the way in identifying teams of bulls that can help reduce cows' MUN, increase facial

eczema tolerance, breed hornless calves, and breed cows suited to once-a-day milking.

"Incorporating these types of traits over time into a breeding programme will help farmers future-proof their herd and their business," says James.

CRV is currently taking part in research, which is an industry collaboration funded by MBIE, in partnership with NZAGRC, CRV and LIC, measuring feed intake and methane emissions - in the form of burps - from over 120 yearling CRV bulls.

Globally, CRV was the first cattle improvement organisation in the world to start large-scale measurement of the feed intake of dairy cows on working farms.

CRV is convinced that targeted breeding still has huge potential to improve the feed efficiency performance of cows.

In 2020, CRV Netherlands began collecting the feed intake data of more than 1600 cows. This data has been used to develop a Feed Efficiency index.

"By using of some of these



James Smallwood.

Dutch genetics in our New Zealand portfolio and in our breeding programmes, our goal is to reduce the cost of milk production and increase the sustainability of dairy farming," says James.

"Our connection to the wider CRV business and the R&D work being carried out in the Netherlands creates an opportunity to further strengthen our ability in this innovative trait space.

"Breeding is not a quick fix. While it plays a crucial role in producing quality and sustainably made consumer dairy products, farmers understand a breeding programme takes time. You

don't get the results in year one, which is why CRV focuses on longer-term gains.

"Targets, such as reducing cow numbers by 15 per cent while maintaining production, are achievable with small incremental gains. The benefit of genetics is that the gains are locked in the genes. The benefits will be passed on, which means they will be there for generations to come."

CRV focuses on delivering innovative breeding solutions, including a strong focus on healthy and efficient herds.

CRV Breeding Programme

Manager Aaron Parker explains that CRV incorporates Somatic Cell Count (SCC) as one of the traits in its breeding programme.

"We've put emphasis on SCC in our breeding programme to address the issue and that's exactly what farmers can do as well. Farmers can use their herd testing data to target their high SCC cows and use low SCC bulls as part of their breeding programme to improve that.

"Selecting the right bulls to use will absolutely help reduce the incidence of mastitis," he says. "It's a slow process, but it is also a permanent one and you never lose the gains you make.

"Sub-clinical mastitis is not visible and can go undetected. Using data from herd testing is crucial for identifying cows with subclinical mastitis. This information is valuable in terms of identifying the right cows to treat, but also informs farmers' breeding decisions to help reduce SCC in their herds.

"The heritability of SCS at 15 per cent is high enough to be able to make good

progress through selection. All bulls in New Zealand receive a breeding value for Somatic Cell Count. Like with the bulk Cell Count we are aiming for lower values so a negative value for the breeding value is desirable.

"For example, assuming a population average of 150,000 for SCC, a breeding value of -1 is roughly equivalent to -75,000 SCC so resulting average level would be 75,000, which is a big improvement."

James says CRV is committed to making a difference to each and every farmer it works with.

"The New Zealand grass-based system forms a great basis from which to produce healthy products with a low environmental footprint and good animal welfare.

"Our dairy industry's goal is to produce a high quality, healthy and nutritious product that meets the needs of today's global consumer, while still enabling our farmers to run an environmentally and economically sustainable business. We're excited about the role genetics is playing to make that happen."

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A purebred life membership for Pat

A lifelong love of jersey cattle has been rewarded with a life membership of the Taranaki Purebred Jersey Club.

"My father was a great Jersey man and I've always liked Jerseys," says Pat Wilson whose Camaro Jersey Stud is based on the Inaha farm which has been home for him and his wife May since 1978.

Earlier this month the Taranaki Purebred Jersey Club of which Pat is an executive member awarded him a life membership.

The club's patron Allan Jenkins said Pat's interest in Jersey cattle extended beyond his involvement with the Taranaki club.

"The Camaro Jersey Stud is renowned for its productive ability and the Wilson family have received many production awards for their herd's performance," Allan said in his citation.



May Wilson, Taranaki Purebred Jersey Cattle president Nicola Ashley and Pat Wilson.

"Pat's interest in Jerseys has extended to the wider circle of Jersey breeders as he is well known outside Taranaki District as a classifier and

judge."

Allan noted Pat's involvement with the Kaponga Jersey Club, of which he was president for

three years.

"Pat as he is known to us all has contributed to the success of the Kaponga Jersey Club's bull fairs, not only as a vendor but has worked tirelessly in the preparations prior to the bull fairs and is there in force in the clean-ups afterwards without fail," Allan said in the citation nominating him for life membership.

"Pat has always rolled up his sleeves at working bees before the South Taranaki Boys and Girls Calf Club championships putting up the rings and so forth for the big day following.

"Pat has given his time as a ring steward over the years at the calf days plus having a hand in being the announcer on the microphone."

Allan paid tribute to the contribution made by May who has "kept Pat on the straight and narrow path."

Pat grew up in Mokoia, and he and May had

been sharemilking at Otakeho before taking up a sharemilking job on the 178 acre Inaha property, which they later bought.

Pat recalls having to fence their new farm while grappling with 21 per cent interest rates and facing problems with facial eczema and water supply.

"All the water lines were not much bigger than a half inch pipe, and it was gravity fed to the cow shed. If you had a blockage and it was a hot day, the cows took all the water you had. When the Inaha water scheme came on we got hooked up to that and we never looked back. We managed to get the farm fenced, and we paid back the money."

Pat says he likes to stick to purebred jerseys where he can. He joined the Jersey club as a member and bought his first pedigree bull at the Kaponga Bull Fair in 1988, and things moved

from there, with he says help from other pedigree Jersey breeders.

A trip to Britain in 1997 included a visit to Jersey in the Channel Islands where the Jersey breed story all began.

"That was the first big holiday we ever had," says Pat. He particularly enjoyed a day spent judging cattle, which involved judging cows which were in milk, followed by ones that were dry.

Today the farm comprises 233 acres, with 250 cows as well as bulls. The yearlings stay until they are weaned and go out for grazing.

Pat and May's son Chris now run the farm, although Pat who turns 77 next month still likes to help out.

"I still go out in the mornings to hose down the shed and do all the odd jobs. I'm the gopher," he says.

Stratford farm manager is third in New Zealand



Diego Raul Gomez Salinas

A one-time agriculture professor working as a farm manager at Stratford has finished third in the final of the National Dairy Industry Awards.

Diego Raul Gomez Salinas is farm manager for the Michael D Burr Trust 142ha property, milking 380 cows at Stratford. He had earlier won the dairy manager category in the Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards.

Diego began his career as an agribusiness professional in Argentina, where he was a professor and researcher in an Argentinian University. He came to New Zealand in 2009 to learn about dairy farming and believes New Zealand dairy farms are excellent role models for other countries

The judges at the national final described Diego as a passionate, likeable and gregarious individual who is quite humble and appreciative of the opportunity New Zealand has given him.

"He oozes passion and enthusiasm for what he is doing."

The judges noted Diego's strength in pasture management through regular pasture walks, constantly monitoring growth rates and paddock performance.

"He covered pasture cultivars and is trying to improve part of the farm that hadn't been regrassed for a long time through the maize rotation," says judge Gray Beagley.

Diego also picked up the

On this month in history

The Auckland Harbour Bridge opened

On May 30 1959 the Auckland Harbour Bridge was opened by Governor-General Lord Cobham. Construction took four years.

An open day was held allowing an estimated 106,000 people to walk across the bridge, which was the longest in the North Island.

In 1969 four lanes were added by a Japanese company, leading to the nickname Nippon Clipons.

At first drivers had to pay a toll, driving from either direction. Tolls were abolished in 1984.

Although the Auckland Harbour Bridge is 1580 metres long, the bridge over the Rakaia River is longer at 1757 metres.

Feed Management Award.

This year's Taranaki Sharefarmer of the Year winner John Wyatt from Auroa picked up the Pasture Performance Award and the Farm Dairy Hygiene Award.

Representing Taranaki in the Dairy Trainee category was Sydney Porter.

John had already attracted national attention by winning Dairy Industry Awards in all three categories. As well as the Taranaki Share Farmer title, he had won

the 2009 Hawkes Bay/Wairarapa Dairy Trainee of the Year category and 2015 Manawatu Farm Manager of the Year.

This year's national title winners were Manoj Kumar and Sumit Kamboj from Hawke's Bay/Wairarapa (Share Farmers of the Year), Christopher Vila from Waikato (Dairy Manager of the Year) and Ruth Connolly from Waikato (Dairy Trainee of the Year).

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Premiers turn on win for Blake's 100th match

Our second to last game of the round was against our next door neighbours Southern who have had an up and down season, but always play entertaining rugby.

Coastal Premiers chose to play with the wind and the first 25 minutes of the match was some of our best rugby of the season, forwards and backs chiming in well.

Rick McKenna opened the scoring and cut through to score under the posts 7-0. Shortly afterwards Jeremy Newell scored next to the posts to give us a 14-0 lead and everything was going to plan.

Then after a midfield handling error Southern came into the game, and after a few quick rucks and some slick passes scored a good long range try to Jackson Ormond. Then after good phases, they scored again to make the halftime score of 14-12. Turning into a stiff wind we had to be on our game to get us home.

Our forwards were dominant at scrum time, and that was keeping ourselves in the game and also with our backs making good raids, we managed to score to get to 21-12 through captain perfect Jeremy Newell getting his double. Southern then put us under a heap of pressure and scored under the posts to make every coastal supporter



Congratulations. Blake Barrett playing his 100th game for Coastal.

nervous at 21-19.

Almost straight away we scored a second try to our player of the day Rick McKenna to make the final score of 28-19.

Our scrum was solid again and Chris Gawler was dominant with help from the rest of the tight five. Jeremy Newell was at his abrasive best and worked well in tandem with centurion Blake Barrett and Jacob Gopperth. All backs are enjoying the new open style we are playing, but of note the Crowley brothers, Troy Stevenson and McKenna all being as good as any.

Full credit to Southern. They played well and were very dangerous and will be

very hard to beat at home in the second round.

The injury front wasn't improved and with Chris Simons breaking a rib, John Julian dislocating his shoulder and Liam Parker suffering a head knock, this will put us and other squads under pressure for a few weeks, along with the guys who are already out.

Lastly the team would like to congratulate Blake on playing his 100th game. He's a hugely respected player in our team and club.

We always get 100% out of Blake. He's one of our heart and soul players. He leads from the front and has only missed one game in getting to his 100th match at the age of 26.

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Premiers go down to Tukapa



Andrew Trolove fights up field against Southern on May 8.

In our last game of the first round we had to play table toppers Tukapa. With player ranks hugely depleted from injuries, we fronted up with a strong starting team and a very weary bench of boys from the Div 1 who had already played a tough 80 minutes, but we knew in coastal tradition the boys would give a 100 per cent for us. It was a stop start affair. Our scrum was excellent again, led by Trolley and Chris Gawler and Harry Foreman making his first start. Early penalties were traded by both sides before Tukapa scored to make it 10-3. Then after some great ball movement and ruck play,

Jackson Sinclair drew the last defender to put Harry Symes in space, and with blistering pace scored wide out for our best try of the season to be a halftime score of 10-8. In the second half Tukapa hit their straps, scored a couple of well worked tries and got out to a 25-8 lead before Thomas Kalin scored late from long range in the 70th minute to give us the respectability of a 27-15 final score. We were a bit unlucky with Logan Crowley being disallowed a try from a quick tap, and Ben May being yellow carded coming to the aid of his fellow player with 20 minutes to play after Harry Symes was hit late and lifted and driven

to the ground without the ball by a Tukapa defender, damaging his kidney, and is currently in ICU awaiting assessment whether he has to have an operation at the time of writing this. Unfortunately it looks like Harry has had his last game for us this season. He was an exciting strike weapon that will definitely be missed. Our lineout wasn't at its best again and the boys will be working hard this week to rectify it. Jacob Gopperth was our player of the day and once again played his usual high work rate menacing game. Hopefully Mark mows the roadside at Arawhata Rd this week as we cannot afford another injury to Bam

mowing the drains this week. So onward and upward. We have the tough job of facing a big Inglewood pack at TET stadium on Saturday. With points being halved after the first round, it will be crucial to get away to a good start in the second round. If you know of anybody keen to play rugby of any ability we have a team for you from Under 20s, Women, Senior 3rds, Development and Premiers. Any numbers would be appreciated. as we are having a horror run of injuries. MVP. 3. Jacob Gopperth. 2. Jackson Sinclair. 1. Andrew Trolove. Ride the wave.

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Bayleys new premier netball sponsor



Bayleys Taranaki general manager Dean File is joined by - back row: Mareko Tuhaka (Raukura), Mechaela Major (Inglewood), Brooke Neilson (Tysons), Nikita Roberts (Stratford/Eltham), front row: Grace Kelly (Tukapa), Mishka Rosa (The Locals), Shayzaria Pirini (Bell Block), Khiara Smith (Inglewood High School), Kate Baxter (NPOB).

Bayleys Real Estate has become the principal partner of Netball Taranaki's premier league.

They will have the naming rights to all three premier competitions played on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Bayleys Taranaki branding will be visible at all Netball Taranaki's premier venues in New Plymouth, Waitara, Opunake, Stratford and Hawera, and the operations tower at the Waiwhakaihō Courts in New Plymouth.

Netball is the largest

participated sport in Taranaki and has the highest rates of female participation in New Zealand. Traditionally a female dominated sport, Netball Taranaki has made a commitment for more diversity and inclusion locally.

Bayleys Taranaki general manager Dean File said the company is proud to support Netball Taranaki and is looking forward to growing a strong partnership not only now, but into the future.

"It's very rewarding to be able to support organisations

such as Netball Taranaki and assist them in being able to provide suitable competitions across the region. We realise how every dollar is so vital in keeping sport strong and available for everyone in Taranaki.

File said Bayleys Taranaki is very focused and committed supporting a wide range of community groups and are now excited to commit to supporting Netball Taranaki.

"The fit with Netball Taranaki is perfect with our teams also covering the region from our well-located offices in New Plymouth and Hawera. Bayleys are a proud New Zealand owned business, built on solid family values with strong community support across the country."

Netball Taranaki general manager Jaqua Pori-Makea-Simpson is excited to secure

a principal partner for the year.

"Bayleys has a strong name around the Region and shares the same values and commitment to the community. It's really important for us to align with a brand that supports local, and we are excited to announce the rebrand of our premier competitions to Bayleys Premier Netball League. We thank Bayleys for its support and we're looking forward to seeing this partnership grow."

Bayleys has existing partnerships with many community and sporting organisations, including Make a Wish Foundation, Taranaki Chamber of Commerce, Multi-Ethnic Extravaganza, Flanagan Cup, Taranaki Rugby, Bowls Taranaki and New Plymouth Surf Riders Club.

Indoor bowls results

The Taranaki Indoor Bowls Centre played their Open Singles Event at Kapuni on Sunday.

Eighteen players took part with six qualifying for post section play and results were:

Sue Bourne defeated Ross Wright 8 - 7. Andrea Berry

defeated Cliff Smith 11 - 4.

In the Semi Finals Sue Bourne defeated Andrea Berry 11 - 4. Rodney Morris

defeated Ella Smailes 12 - 4.

In the Final Morris defeated Bourne 13 - 8. Sue Bourne

received the Trophy for the Lady progressing the

furthest.

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Techweek 2021 is back in Taranaki

New Zealand's technology and innovation event Techweek 2021 returns to Taranaki for its fourth year from 22 - 30 May, with a dozen events on offer showcasing and celebrating Taranaki and Aotearoa innovations.

An annual nationwide festival of innovation, Techweek is a platform for people to meet, share ideas and create connections to enhance our future world. Techweek Taranaki 2021 is curated by Venture Taranaki, the region's economic development agency.

Maunga you will find innovative and entrepreneurially spirited people." says Michelle Jordan, Venture Taranaki General Manager Enterprise. "Techweek gives them the opportunity to connect and collaborate, as well as providing the Taranaki community with the chance to engage with tech and innovation. With Aotearoa's technology and innovation sectors rapidly growing Techweek is a chance to raise the sector's profile while inspiring the community, enterprises, and tech-lovers with the range of events on offer."

"With a diverse mix of events there's something for everyone in the programme; you can learn how to build a 3D model, hear from experts talking about all things digital, and new technologies that could help boost your business. Other events have a focus on food and fibre possibilities, how we can use tech to protect our environment, and hands-on hydrogen demonstrations." New to Techweek Taranaki 2021 is the Techweek Hub located at DoBox in New Plymouth's Quarterbank. This Hub will

house virtual and live events with technology available for people to engage with and try out. Visitors to the Techweek Hub will also be able to talk to the Venture Taranaki team and others about R&D, digital boost, AI, the raising of capital, and the role of technology in our community.

"We're delighted to bring Techweek Taranaki to the region again. Technology is an integral part of our lives and our economy, and Techweek is one way to connect our community with some very cool technology, individuals and

organisations. We encourage everyone to explore the events on offer and register through the Techweek website so they don't miss out," continues Michelle.

Venture Taranaki is a connector and curator, and proud to facilitate

Techweek 2021 in Taranaki, supporting and sharing the stories, innovations and entrepreneurial spirit of the region.

For more details and to see the events line up head to: <https://techweek.co.nz/whats-on/>

Opunake Library Plus Book Review

The Split by S J Bolton.

S J Bolton (who is also Sharon Bolton) never fails to write with chilling undertones and her novels are always a stark twisting journey. The plots always catch you by surprise and *The Split* is no less intense than her previous novels. Felicity Lloyd is a glaciologist, working for the British Antarctic Survey carrying out research on glaciers. Before arriving, she was very sure she was being stalked by a killer. On the island of South Georgia, a harsh former whaling colony, she is positive she will be safe as very few tourists arrive and those that do are only allowed to stop for a short time. Surely after this project she will be safe, right?



Dr Joe Grant is a psychologist asked to evaluate Felicity in hospital after she was attacked and found hurt and distressed wandering at night and unable to remember the attack. She has a few consultations with Joe before leaving for her new job. Bolton paints Joe as a kind

caring man who runs a free clinic for the homeless, and in her compassionate writing we get a clear window into the world of those who are homeless.

Joe's mother gives him issues. Delilah Jones is a Detective Inspector investigation the death of a young homeless woman and the disappearance of another. The local homeless sleeping on the streets are uneasy and worried about someone called Shane who likes to watch them while they sleep.

Enter Freddie. Freddie has been in prison. He, and his past are looking for Felicity and he's not going to give up easily. The mind-blowing race for survival will set your teeth on edge and I suggest you have a calming beverage of your choice to hand for

the later stages of the book and perhaps for an hour after. A truly psychological suspenseful read.

You can reserve this book at any South Taranaki LibraryPlus branch in person, or call us on 0800 111 323.

You can also visit <https://ils.stdc.govt.nz/>

Maria Brewerton
Kaiārahi Whare Pukapuka
- Opunake/Manaia | Branch
Librarian - Opunake/
Manaia

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What's On Listings

ONGOING

Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

MONDAYS: Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:230 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025

Opunake Friendship Club: Meeting last Monday of each month in Opunake Town Hall at 1.30pm. All welcome.

TUESDAYS

Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.

Life Drawing Group: Weekly at the Emporium, 86 Tasman St, Opunake 7pm to 9pm. \$10 to pay for the model. Models always wanted; male, female, any age. If anyone is interested please call Marianne Mugeridge on 06 274 5713.

WEDNESDAYS

Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.

Opunake Embroiders Guild: Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.

Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4.30 to 6.30pm.

Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.

THURSDAYS

Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia: Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

FRIDAYS

Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth: Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.

WEEKENDS

The Historic Cape Light & Museum: Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

APRIL 16 TO AUGUST 15

1896 - Christopher Aubrey's Taranaki Exhibition: At Puke Ariki, New Plymouth.

MAY 11 TO JUNE 4

Autumn Exhibition: At The Village Gallery, Eltham.

MAY 29

Pungaree No1 reserve Meeting of owners: Novatel Hotel, New Plymouth, 10am.

JUNE 4 TO 6

Coastal Rugby 25 Year Celebrations: Rahotu Domain.

JUNE 22

Opunake Beach Carnival Committee AGM: 7pm at Sandford Event Centre, Opunake.

techweek 2021 Taranaki

TECHWEEK EVENTS

Mon 27 May - Fri 28 May
Scratch Coding & 3D Printing Course

Check out <https://pukeariki.com/> for times and locations
Libraries around North Taranaki

Mon 24 May 4.30pm
Teaching Tech by Leveraging Technology
Do Box

Tue 25 May 10.30am
Senior Tech
St James' Church, 24 Lawry Street, Moturoa

Tue 25 May 1.30pm
A Taste of Tomorrow: Next Generation Food & Farming
New Plymouth Boys High School (school event)

Wed 26 May 5.30pm
Digitisation & Performance: an Interactive Workshop
DoBox

Wed 26 May 5pm
Tech for Environmental Sustainability in Taranaki
Puke Ariki Foyer

Thu 27 May 12pm
How Taranaki Businesses are Using Technology to Grow
DoBox

Fri 28 May 12.30pm
Fantastic Tech People & Where to Find Them
DoBox

Fri 28 May 1pm
Small Business Essentials
WITT New Plymouth Campus, B101, 20 Bell Street

Fri 28 May 2pm
Clean Tech: Touch the Future
Novotel New Plymouth Taranaki

Fri 28 May 6pm
Technology Challenges for Aotearoa's Zero Carbon Future
Novotel New Plymouth Taranaki

Mon 24 - Fri 28 May 9am - 4pm
Techweek TV in Taranaki libraries
Stratford Library, Hawera Library

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TARANAKI
Te Puna Umanga

techweek.co.nz/whats-on/

McAlpine Taranaki's alpine man

Continued from page 1

Ian's adventurous past has also included, in 1988, spending three and a half months in Antarctica with the New Zealand Antarctic

Division as a safety officer "looking after the geologists." He visited one of Captain Scott's huts. "Everything was there that was there in 1912," he said

such as meat, "It didn't thaw." He recalls looking at the walls of the historic hut and thinking "I wish these walls could talk."

He could have applied to go back the next year, but chose to not. Being selected to go to Antarctica was quite a process. There were 600 applicants for 12 jobs. "It took me three years to get accepted," said Ian who was there in 1987-88. Initially he was put on standby. When he was finally selected the successful applicants - which included Andy Harris - all went to Tekapo where they had to learn all sorts of things including fire-fighting. One necessary attribute was a sense of humour and Ian has a host of anecdotes which testify to his sense of fun.

In Antarctica they were helicoptered into the dry valleys where they slept in tents. The largest ice-free area in Antarctica, this region was discovered by members of Robert Falcon Scott's party during their 1903 expedition to reach the South Pole. At -20 degrees Celsius they needed double sleeping bags, says Ian.

Some years ago he guided Mark Inglis - who had prosthetic legs having lost both his legs on Mt Cook - up to Fantham's Peak in summer. (Despite his disability Mark Inglis



Pouakai Hut.

Photo: Tamsen Walker



A group of clients at Dawson Falls. *Photo: Ian McAlpine.*

would also go on to summit Everest). Ian recalls racing ahead - or so he thought - to get a photo only to discover Mark was right behind him. "He was amazing," Ian said. A reporter from a newspaper accompanied them to record the quest.

In a separate trip, Ian guided Phil Doole who was with Mark Inglis on the fateful Mt Cook trip and who also lost his legs to frostbite, up the north side to the summit of Mt Taranaki, this time in winter.

Ian actually visited both men when they were recovering in hospital from



Phil Doole on the Mt Taranaki summit climb.

Photo: Ian McAlpine.

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Facebook: Mt Taranaki Guided Tours**

McAlpine Taranaki's alpine man

the Mt Cook ordeal, which cost both climbers their legs. "Phil was saying very little. Mark was chirpy and asked if we could take him for a ride on the wheelchair and 'Put a beer in my cupboard.'" The incident is mentioned in one of several books Mark Inglis has written on his experiences.

Ian has done the Pouakai and Taranaki Crossings often and says there's a lot of Auckland people coming to Taranaki to do them. Over Easter there was over 700 people completing the Mangorei Track to the Pouakai Tarns. "The Mangorei carpark was full." They were all New Zealanders, he noted with international tourism at a standstill because of the Covid situation.

To meet demand, the New Plymouth District Council is also building a carpark at the Egmont National Park boundary and there are plans to have a shuttle service to the visitor centre.

As a guide you have to relate to a lot of different personalities, says Ian who has a lot of interesting and amusing anecdotes of his experiences.

He carried a kayak up to the Pouakai Cairns. A photo of him in his kayak, widely circulated, was one of his amusing stunts.

He has also got a photo of himself dressed as Santa Claus on the summit of Mt Taranaki. On his 1000th summit of Mt Taranaki friends set up a surprise party in advance complete with a table, glasses of sparkling grape juice and a big cake.

His friend Lindsay Maindonald dressed as a penguin – Ian had just returned from Antarctica – acted as a waiter. The whole thing was videoed as an unsuspecting Ian approached the summit.

The group, who were all dressed up in different

costumes, kept them on as they descended.

"They all really enjoyed it," said Ian. There were a few snooty remarks however from others who commented, "you're not meant to have fun up there," Ian wryly observed.

Ian has also been involved in Search and Rescue ever since he left school. He doesn't elaborate much but says, "The down side of mountaineering is there's a lot of people who don't make it to their 60s."

People who are doing a summit of Mt Taranaki need to have a "good" standard of fitness, says Ian - adding doing a bit of running or biking all helps.

Ian is looking forward to getting clients/guests now that the Australians are allowed back to New Zealand and is waiting for the rest of the world. "There is a lot of interest from New Zealand groups including family and women's groups to enjoy being guided by me," he says



DOC have been busy at work in the national park.

Photo: Ian McAlpine.



The Goblin Forest on one of the tracks..



Holly Hut.

Next issue
of the Opunake & Coastal News
is on June 3.



72 Tasman Street, Opunake - www.everybodystheatre.co.nz - Phone 027 383 7926

MAY/JUNE 2021

Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$8, Under 4 free

<p>LAND Drama 1hr 29mins M: Suicide References Fri 21st May 7pm Sun 30th May 7pm</p>	<p>CRANSTON ACADEMY Adventure, Family 1hr 25mins PG Sat 22nd May 1pm Sat 5th Jun 1pm</p>
<p>LOCKED DOWN Comedy, Crime, Romance 1hr 58mins M: Language, Sat 22nd May 7pm</p>	<p>CRUELLEA Comedy, Crime 2hr 14mins PG Sat 29th May 1pm Sun 6th Jun 1pm Fri 18th Jun 7pm</p>
<p>JAMES AND ISEY Documentary 1hr 15mins M: Language Sun 23rd May 7pm</p>	<p>NO MANS LAND Western 1hr 54mins M Language, Violence Fri 28th May 7pm Sat 5th Jun 7pm</p>
<p>TWIST Drama 1hr 50mins M:Language, Violence Sat 29th May 7pm</p>	<p>FINDING YOU Drama, Romance 1hr 55mins PG Fri 4th Jun 7pm Sun 13th Jun 1pm</p>
<p>MINAMATA **JUNE BOUTIQUE** Drama 1hr 55mins TBC Sun 6th Jun 7pm Sat 12th Jun 7pm</p>	<p>A QUIET PLACE II Mystery, Thriller 1hr 37mins M:Violence Fri 11th Jun 7pm Sat 19th Jun 7pm</p>

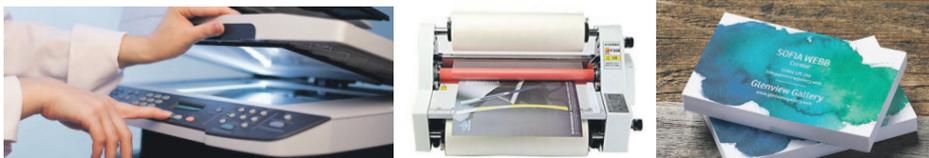
Check out the 1pm Sunday screenings starting in June



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Songs of the earth strangely unearthly

It's out of it, fascinating. We live in such a sheltered life unless we go and explore things, it's so different was Dorothy Symes enthusiastic comment on viewing an exhibition at Pihama Lavender.

Entitled Songs of the Earth, the exhibition by Roger Peters from Kaponga is both a sensory and intellectual experience.

A graduate of Elam School of Fine Arts in Auckland, as a second year student Roger won an Air New Zealand Art Award open to students in tertiary institutions nationwide and judged by none other than Colin McCahon, widely recognised as New Zealand's foremost painter.

Roger majored in sculpture and the exhibition encompasses five decades of his work.



He cites conceptual artist Marcel Duchamp as a major influence. The French-American painter and sculptor rejected what he termed 'retinal' art (intended to please the eye) in favour

of work that was conceived in the mind.

At Elam Roger came into contact with visiting overseas artists who encouraged experimenting using industrial materials and also everyday items using various forms of energy. The 28 diverse exhibits include passive displays of inert objects which contrast with energised ones using gas light and heat.

"I'm playing around with the senses," Roger explains invoking light, hearing and smell.

Ultimately the aim is to intellectually, aesthetically and emotionally engage the

person.

"An artwork captures something – it brings life into that thing," he says. It encourages us to feel connected; it satisfies those cravings we have and gives us something to look at.

One work in particular he also amuses and confuses with a work entitled Fish which I depict in neon pink a shape which symbolises both a penis and a vagina.

Roger Peters has exhibited in Auckland.

Before leaving I noted Dorothy's husband had a different, reaction to the works questioning Roger on what voltage he used in



some of the exhibits. Art is subjective.

Prepare to have your horizons widened.

The exhibition is open daily

till Friday May 28 between 10am and 4:00 pm or after hours by appointment.

Bernice McKellar



Above left: Roger Peters. Above top: Leaves and steps. Above: Cubes.

TOURS & SHOWS

Mid Winter Getaway to the Chateau Tongariro
11th – 14th August 2021
\$1050pp

Chatham Islands Experience
29th September 6th October 2021
\$4900.00 pp

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Visit [weirbros.co.nz](http://www.weirbros.co.nz) for more tour information or to join our database.

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www.weirbros.co.nz weirbros@xtra.co.nz



“Songs of the Earth” - Roger Peters Sculpture Exhibition

A group of senior Art students from Opunake High School headed off into the unknown, to the old Pihama factory nestled in the bend of the Punehu River.

We step through the rustic red door into an unexpected space, our senses instantly tweaked by light, colour, smells and structures.

The raw materials are recognisable as wood, steel, wire, stone, coal, sand, salt, oil and water. Relatable in their familiarity to rural dwellers.

As we move about the objects we begin to feel the heat emanating from electric rods, kiln coils and flickering flames.

Eyes dart from form to

form, seeking, settling, intrigued, curious, awkward, wondrous. What am I 'supposed' to do? Or think? Or feel? Or say?

This sensory swirl of the immersive experience ignites the brain's response. The aesthetic process of appreciation begins.

Our instinct is to touch and disrupt the tactile textures, but we fight the forbidden urge. Mischievous temptation.

We delight in shadow play above the amber oil bath. Silhouette creatures emerge on its surface.

We observe reflection and refraction as neon light beams fall upon cones of salt crystals, so bright with

whiteness.

Eyes peer into spaces where bulbs illuminate blocks, seemingly floating as they step upwards, balancing precariously.

The 'Songs' are our dreams, our direction, grounded in earthly elements that link us to our place in space.

Ladders, steps, a ramp or bridge assist our journey onward, allowing us to progress along pathways the void occupies.

A smile of coastal familiarity – the howling wind, rocks ignited with flame, gas.

The pink blob, a messy spill that we've tried to wipe up, but no such luck.

The gentle swing and

sway of sagging hot coils as water awaits, passive and transparent in stainless bowls.

The neon spoked wagon wheel perhaps alluding to perpetual motion, escalation, commotion.

But elemental balance is restored in the dense black soak of the coal box, absorbing and settling the sensory overload.

Calm and stillness beneath the rafters as we gather in a circle and share impressions. We are all drawn to these mystic lumens like nightly flying critters, attempting to unravel the illusions of creativity and inspiration.

Megan Symons

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Ambitions hopes and dreams



Above: Ambitions Hopes & Dreams.

For all of those who've seen the exhibition on the Virtual Tart site and asked if the kimonos can be worn, no, sorry. They're paper collages. I felt the same way - loved the look of them and wanted to wear one.

And if you'd like to see what's been keeping me quiet for a few weeks, have a look at my part of the Showcase section of the Tart site. and take a look at the Ambition, Hopes & Dreams assemblage.

It's been the most difficult construction I've made since the Not Very Merry Go Round which I made last century. Doesn't that sound like such ages ago? I'll try to get a small video online, to show what happens when you turn the handles.

Cheers Dale Copeland

PUBLIC NOTICES



Next Meeting is on
June 14, 2021
at 5.30pm

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the
Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake
(opposite the Coastal Care Medical Centre)



FOURTH RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the fourth instalment of rates for 2020/2021 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 26 May 2021**.

WD Crockett
Chief Executive



Opunake and Districts Foodbank AGM

25th May 2021

3.30pm CoastalCare Community Lounge

All welcome, tea and coffee provided
Parcel and shopping volunteers needed.
Secretary needed

LORETTA'S Gentlemen's Club. Near to town. new Plymouth CBD. Come and meet the ladies. Ph 021 090 207 98.



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June 14, 2021
at 5.30pm

Hughsons & Associates
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Medical Centre)

PUNGAEREERE No 1 RESERVE

Meeting of Owners

Saturday 29th May 2021
Novotel Hotel
Cnr Leach & Hobson
Streets
New Plymouth
10am - Registrations

Agenda:

- Mihi/Karakia
- Apologies
- Previous Meeting
- Trustees Report
- Property Report
- Financial Report
- Urupa report
- Election of Trustees
- General Business
- Karakia Whakamutunga

RSVP by 18 May 2021

Contact:

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email:
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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake Co-operating Parish

Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month

Okato/Oakura Co-operating Parish

Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays each month
Oakura - St James - 9am Bible Reading, Prayer and Reflection every Tuesday
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays each month
Okato - St Pauls - 10.30am Fellowship time 3rd Thursday of each month
Okato - St Pauls - 6.30pm Silent Prayer and Reflection 3rd Thursday of each month

Opunake Catholic Church

St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday
Other areas
Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am
All welcome

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Come along or contact
Belinda Philp
027 935 6191

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

141 Tasman St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10am
Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday
Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday
Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

Okato Community Church

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.
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