

OPUNAKE & COASTAL OPUNAKE & COASTAL

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National's reaction to closing the door on exploration

On Monday April 30 at the Plymouth International Hotel (Quality Hotel) a public meeting was held to allow the National Party to air their objections to the cessation of new permits to explore oil and gas in New Zealand, as well as introduce their plan. The meeting was chaired by Barbara Kuriger MP and also present were Hon Simon Bridges, Leader of the National Party, Jonathan Young MP and Harete Hipango MP. There were many from the oil and gas industry present including Cameron Madgwick, CEO of the Petroleum Exploration & Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ).

The three main speakers were, in order, Simon Bridges, Jonathan Young and Cameron Madgwick.

Mr Bridges complained about a lack of consultation with the oil and gas industry before the decision to reject exploration permits was announced by the Prime Minister Jacinda Adern on April 6. "We will reverse this when we are re-elected," he promised.

He also pointed out that the implications of this decision had wide adverse consequences, for businesses in Taranaki and elsewhere. "It will have effects on the wider economy and will decrease business confidence," he declared.

He was concerned that the Minister for Energy Dr Megan Woods had not thoroughly investigated (before-



From left, National's Simon Bridges MP, Harete Hipango MP, Jonathan Young MP and Barbara Kuriger MP in New Plymouth recently.

hand) the implications of her leader's decision. Mr Bridges was at pains to say that he was also concerned about the protection of the environment and the need to gradually "transition" to a modified scenario and asserted the importance of being aware of climate change and its risks. The Climate Commission should also be involved.

However, he felt the suddenness of this decision was likely to lead to an increase in climate change gases. "It needs a demand side solution far more than a supply side exclusion. The Electric Vehicle programme the previous National Government rolled out is part of the demand side solution." He pointed out that natural gas (in the North Island) was less of an environmental risk, than coal which mostly in mined in the South Island.

He considered that much of the solution is involved with reducing demand for oil and gas, rather that this sudden, "poorly planned" decision, arrived at without consultation and without an analysis of the far-reaching consequences on the economy and jobs.

Jonathan Young MP reiterated much of what Mr Bridges had raised and made some further points. "The Government has not understood the impact of the decision on New Zealanders and decried, "The inappropriate

way the decision seem to have been made and the lack of consultation."

He felt that underpinning the decision was an "anti oil" idealogical sentiment, overshadowing the need to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, "Driven by Jacinda Adern, the Green Party and Greenpeace."

He was concerned about the lack of consultation with Treasury, which could have pointed out the negative impact on the economy, in Taranaki and overall in NZ.

Overlooked was the fact that natural gas supplies 18% of NZ's energy with the implications of potential shortages

a consequence of the sudden decision. "There would be the potential shortage of supply happening faster than the replacing infrastructure can be built."

The remaining reserves of gas were not clearly understood. It was important, "to enable this energy form to remain an important part of the energy mix to support renewables and keep the overall energy costs to New Zealanders lower."

The decision would have a negative effect on investment not just in the oil and gas sector, but more widely.

He also regretted the uncertainty that has arisen for the skilled workforce in this industry. He was wary of the Government's over optimistic view that viable alternatives can be found swiftly enough, when the success rate of new commercial discoveries is "below 10%."

Cameron Madgwick said, "I am delighted at the solidarity here" – referring to the packed room of listeners. He continued, "This decision affects all New Zealanders, not just those in Taranaki." He said, "Cutting off the fuel supply isn't the way it should be done. It's a bad decision, badly made."

He concluded that it was his goal to get the political parties, including Labour, New Zealand First and the Greens to understand the ramifications of this decision." He warned, "It will need everyone's voice."

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Hon Simon Bridges MP on his first visit to New Plymouth since becoming leader of the National Party.





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Plymouth city border, extending east to Egmont Village, and around to the edge of Stratford, south to the Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga and through Eltham.



Calling it time

The people of Opunake should be proud of what James Langton has achieved with his boxing career. By winning two NZ boxing titles and fighting three international boxing bouts and also winning the New Zealand National Boxing Federation Cruiserweight title, although he lost it to Monty Beetham.

When defeating Iseleli Fa for the professional heavyweight boxing title I do still believe he should of then decided either to become a heavy or cruiserweight boxer, but when the opportunity arose for the vacant Australasian Cruiserweight title he took on Australia's southpaw Matt Davoren in Sydney for which he had to lose 8kg in a short period of time, instead of six months. He might have won this title but he lost; not only did he suffer from jet lag, but in the ring he had no energy

Jersey Joe Walcott, a contender for the world

Rugby award

Well, another Opunake sportsperson has been given an award as this time it goes to Graham 'Goss' Mourie, who has accomplished many rugby honours in his career with rugby and being awarded in 1981 the Order of the British Empire for Services to rugby., plus was instrumental in bringing Okato, Rahotu and Rugby clubs under the one rugby banner - now known

as Coastal Rugby Club. Now, not only is he a Life Member of the Coastal Rugby

world. I which he could have been, but opted down into the Cruiserweight division lost and then he retired. Knowing myself when sparring with my southpaw cousin, it wasn't easy.

experience he should restart Opunake's Boxing Club, then challenge other towns in our province, organising provincial boxing tournament of all ages, weight divisions, pick a Taranaki Boxing team, then challenge other provinces around the country - which used to happen.

for what he has done and achieved and the wonderful support he had over his professional boxing career, which isn't easy for any professional sports person and, as for the Sandford sporting whatever, I don't really care what they think as their thinking will always

Tom Stephens, New

Club, but he is being awarded the Life Membership of the Taranaki Rugby Union, as many people can no doubt can vividly remember when he not only made himself unavailable for the 1981 All Black Rugby Tour of South Africa, which was his own personal choice as he didn't like the situation in South Africa, but the rugby union stupidly banned him from rugby by not only receiving royalties from the sales of his book, but openly challenging the out-of-date amateur laws as his ban was

heavyweight champion of the

With James boxing

I give James great credit be out of date.

Plymouth

Send your your views to: **Letters to the Editor** 23 Napier Street, Opunake. Fax: (06) 761 7016

email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

Celebration at St Josephs

On March 19 as St Joseph's Convent School (Opunake) celebrated their patronal feast day, I happened to be in the area and celebrated with

The students were full of enthusiasm and understandings as they sang and read from the Word. I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate the staff who obviously had put much time and thought into the children's success.

Mary-Lee Hall, Urenui

Positive role models in sport

Wow. Jonelle Price won the Badminton horse trials on the weekend, and she is the first woman to win it, since 2007. What an achievement. Laurel Hubbard and Kate Weatherly can be true to themselves, lead by example. I imagine that they will save

for ten years which to me was utterly ridiculous.

Yet nowadays rugby has all gone professional, rugby players are writing books, receiving royalties, players are being paid and the rugby rules have changed somewhat dramatically and played under lights at night-time. Will Graham Mourie's photo be on the wall of the Sandford Hall of Sports Fame or is it there already?

Tom Stephens, New Plymouth

Turn your lights on

I would like to add a suggestion to Constable Rhys Connells advice for drivers in the April 27th edition. He recommends that we adjust our driving as conditions change. May I also recommend that in the dark, in the rain and in the fog, that drivers turn your lights on so that you can see and be seen. A pet peeve of mine. Thanks.

Mary Moore,

Manaia

many lives and pave the way for others, by being excellent role models.

Israel Folau? His personal beliefs don't reflect the views of Rugby Australia, that support all forms of inclusion, whether sexuality, race or gender. Major sponsor Qantas, is disgusted by his comments. "If gays don't repent their sins and turn to God, they will go to hell.". Well, I'm quite sure that Israel has sinned? He has since withdrawn his 'tweets' and comments, and stated that he would be prepared to walk away from rugby, over his Christian beliefs. Really? I reckon 'Lassie' could predict that he wouldn't do that in reality. Israel Folau is the perfect example of a born again Christian, who uses the

bible selectively... Go Lydia, Eliza, Portia Woodman, SBW, rugby 7's. Oh - and the Fiji rugby 7s.

Sporty One,

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Winner of the Neil and Helen Walker prize at the Lysaght Watt Trust Art awards in Hawera.



This exhibit by Blue W Black (Dunedin) won the Highly Commended 3D prize of \$500. The work was entitled 'Repotted'.

Make sure you find time to see this superb exhibition which continues until June 10. The Lysaght Watt Gallery is in Union Street.

Local business has its say on freedom camping

Freedom camping was a hot topic at a recent public meeting held in Opunake to discuss the South Taranaki District Council's Long Term Plan. There were comments that freedom campers spend on average \$48 a day, compared to the \$195 a day spent by conventional tourists, and that there is an adverse reaction in the community to the Council spending money on infrastructure for people who don't contribute to the local economy.

The Opunake and Coastal News asked business people in town if they thought freedom campers who come through town are stopping to spend their money here.

At Fish Chips'n'More, Bill and Ali Hayward point to the map of the world on their shop wall festooned with pins indicating what part of the world their customers have come from.

"I find they spend, and they are very friendly hospitable people," says Ali. "They are intelligent and come across as considerate, law abiding people. They are interested in the town generally. That's why they are here. We have a wide variety of ages and nationalities. We have had Germans, Swiss, French and probably Scandinavians. The Germans in particular can be

any age up to 70. "Our experience has been very positive. We need to provide better facilities. The Europeans are used to recycling, so we need to have recycling facilities for them, as well as laundry facilities, toilets and internet. In Germany they have bins under the sink and they sort things out. They come over here and look for them, and we don't provide them. They are very environmentally aware.

"They like staying at the lake, because the toilet is easy to get to, while the steps to



Ali Hayward points to a world map showing where her customers have come from.



Craig Dingle.

mean it's not conducive to a good stay."

At the Opunake Dairy, Michelle Taupo said they get a lot of travellers coming through town, but can't tell how many would be freedom

"We do see them in here, but not in huge numbers. They might come in to get a cup of coffee."

At the Green Dairy, Austin Xia said he has a few, "not too many" come in.

"They normally chat, ask

might try on sunglasses, and buy some drinks, ice blocks and chippies."

He believes they should be welcomed.

"The country should have open arms for everyone. We should encourage more travellers as Taranaki needs more income to boost the economy."

Murray Gray at Four Square 45 says freedom campers spend a lot of money at his

"They bring a lot of money into the economy," he says. "If we want the town to survive and flourish we need tourism here. Businesses in this town need it. I spent three and a half years in Hawke's Bay and we had a freedom camping area near our business. They brought a lot of money into our area and contributed a lot to the local economy and businesses. I've always found them to be very respectful."



Rosie Corkill.

time Surf Shop says he goes freedom camping himself and thinks we should be welcoming freedom campers to Opunake.

"They definitely spend money here, and I think it's really good," he says. Freedom campers come into his shop, hire surf boards, and buy T Shirts and coffee.

"The guys in the small vans are our clientele and we don't want to shoo them out of town," he says. His one reservation concerns

who monitors the stickers indicating vans are self-con-"What penalty is there for somebody who has a sticker

for a van that's not self-contained?" he asks. At Pastimes, Rosie Corkill says they come into her shop and buy magazines, postage

stamps, cards and souvenirs. "They add to the colour of Opunake," she says. "They still spend some money. They still need to eat."

Daphne Holley says she is "very positive" about freedom campers.

"I'm hoping to set up a laundromat. People say they don't spend money, but they have still got to wash their clothes."

She says she has had freedom campers parking outside her place.

"We have had no problems whatsoever. We have had lots of Germans, French, Americans, English and Argentineans, and they have all been really friendly."

Bruce Curran who works at Coastal Welders in Warea where there has been some controversy about Freedom Campers, describing himself as "a freedom camper" too and said we needed more facilities for them He also added that unlike old time campers who had been brought up in the bush, they needed to obey basic bush law





Water Permits, Discharge Permits and Land Use Consents

There is an important date looming which Opunake residents should be aware of - June 1, 2018. It is on this date that Taranaki Regional Council consents (Water Permits, Discharge Permits and Land Use Consents) relating to the town expire. The consents relate to the taking of water to generate electricity in the vicinity of the Waiaua River and Opunake Lake as well as the protection of the environment, both above the water line and below. The existing consents are signed by AD McLay, Director - Resource Management.

Local identity Rex Langton, who lives near the lake, is concerned that local residents are not aware of the consents, the fact that they are soon to expire, the implications of the process or that some stated undertakings, are not being carried out. The relevant Act of Parliament, guiding the consent process is the Resource Management Act



Rex Langton points to the weir on the Waiaua River where the water flow is controlled.

Rex has a sheathe of relevant documents, some of which go back as far as March 21, 2001. He would be happy to explain the documents

and their implications upon request. He has a number of concerns, including the fact that there has been a considerable build up of sediment in Lake Opunake.

"Nowhere is it mentioned (in the documents) how the sediment will be removed from the lake. The last time this process was carried out was about 2002; it was the Opunake Lions who undertook this task - not the TRC! (Opunake Lions had to raise the money for this initiative to occur).

"There is no compliance," says Rex, adding "I'd like the compliance to be there."

Rex points out that it is no longer possible for boats to be used, because the water is too shallow, although kayaks can still be used.

He admits there is a positive side to the build up of sediment, with little islands popping up in places. "There are a lot of wading birds now, some never seen before. He has noted, for example, Spoonbills, NZ Shovellers (ducks) and Black Teals. He asks rhetorically, "Do we want this lake as a bird sanctuary?"

He also has concerns that weed spraying is not being carried out. "There is no compliance in place for the spraying of weeds. "I used to spray using money from the South Taranaki District Council." Rex says he no longer does this because the last time he sprayed, he asked that the water flow be held back for an appropriate interval; despite agreement, this was not adhered to. "The spray went out to sea" before it could be effective.

Some of the consent clauses also concern Rex. From a Water Permit consent (13 October, 2006) it states: 10. The consent holder and staff of the Taranaki Reginal Council shall meet as appropriate, and at least once a year, with interested submitters to the consent, to discuss any matter relating to the exercise of this resource consent, Particularly the monitoring programme design, implementation and interpretation, in order to facilitate ongoing consultation.

Rex considers it is important that locals are aware of this and its implications.







even some small islands forming as a result.



Opunake Lake showing the build up of sediment and Some of the bird life, which are attracted by the changing lake conditions.

On this month in history the first NZ Rugby Union game was played

On May 14, 1870 the first Rugby Union game was played in New Zealand. From 1905 the national team was called the All Blacks. Why? There are two theories; one suggestion claims that the

name stems from the black jerseys the players wore, while the alternate suggestion states the name was the result of a typographical error. A

reporter wrote that the players were so fast they played like backs, but a printer accidentally inserted an '1' after the 'b'.





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A good time to have your fireplace cleaned

Firstly, I would like to thank all of those who supported our firewood sales. The sales went so well, we have exhausted our supply and also our member's spare time, so are unable to deliver anymore. Fire Chief Rodney Woods and Station Officer Gordy Wells qualify for their Gold Star medal (25 years of service) this year, and it is customary that a presentation function be held in their honour. A representative from the United Fire Brigades Association attends formal functions of this nature and the host brigade is responsible for the accommodation and meal bill. Our wood chop money will certainly come in handy for this event. Seems odd that we sell firewood to light fires, and then run around putting them out.

If you do have a fireplace at your house, it may be a good idea to get it cleaned. You may be able to do it yourself. It can be done by dropping a rope down the chimney and getting a friendly sort to tie a sack to it, as well as another rope. The person at the top

drags the sack up, and then the other chimney sweep pulls it back down. If you do this for a few times, you will have the cleanest chimney

If you aren't able to tackle this dirty job yourself, there are two or three chimney sweeps in the yellow pages, so you may wish to give one a call. I will actually give one a call to get an idea about costs, and I will let you know in the next edition. I will also ask if he would like me to get names, addresses, and phone numbers so that he could visit a bunch of chimneys in the one day. So keep an eye out for the next edition if you are slightly interested.

On May 3, we joined forces with the Rahotu brigade and attended a tree fire on the Wiremu Road. Our town siren didn't sound on that occasion because it had tripped out at 12 o'clock on the previous day when the power chaps were replacing a pole on King Street corner. Luckily, we still have our personal pagers to alert us of a call. The fire had the potential to

our wonderful town and do be relatively large as there was a tree plantation nearby and if we hadn't stopped it, we might still be there dampening down.

> On Saturday 5th, we raced out to the intersection of the Skeet and Patiki Roads because we were dispatched to what seemed like a nasty car accident. We were told two motor vehicles had crashed, one was in the drain, and a person had been ejected from one of the vehicles. On arrival, we found the only person injured in the incident was

being cared for by locals and the newly arrived ambo crew. We took care of the traffic management side of things and also directed the rescue helicopter to a landing site. Once a tractor had been organised to drag the vehicle from the drain our officer in charge checked with Matt, Opunake's new policeman and we were soon heading for home.

Beau the Secretary

Council want Opunake and Manaia to stay together

The South Taranaki District Council has given the thumbs down to putting Opunake and Manaia into different wards. The Council must review its electoral and representation arrangements every six years and a proposal was drawn up by the Council's Policy Development Committee which would have seen Manaia moved out of the Egmont Plains Ward at the next local body elections to be held in 2019.

On April 9, the council voted for a new proposal which would see Opunake and Manaia stay in the same ward. The neighbouring Tangahoe Ward would disappear, with most of it going into the Hawera-Normanby Ward.

In October last year,

Gordon Campbell of the South Taranaki District Council had told the Egmont Plains Community Board that population changes in the last six years meant that the 10 per cent margin requirement could no longer be maintained with the ward's existing boundaries.

"The status quo is not an option," he said. "We can't stay with what we've got. We'd have trouble going to the Local Government Commission and arguing

On May 2 he and Coral Hair were back to explain the new proposal to the Egmont Plains Community Board.

The boundary of the ward that is now called Egmont Plains would stretch to take in Okaiawa and extend to the banks of the Waingongoro River. It would lose Kapuni to the Eltham-Kaponga Ward.

Moving the boundary eastwards would mean taking in Te Ngutu-o-temanu, a significant site for the Ngaruahine Iwi. Gordon said they had tried using a rough approximation of the iwi boundaries when it came to drawing up the new wards.

Community Board chairman Craig Dingle asked if the people of Okaiawa would see themselves as identifying more with Hawera than with Egmont Plains.

"If the Okaiawa people say they associate with Hawera, then we have got to take that into account," said Gordon.

Coral said the new proposal was the most like the status quo they could get. Although

a population decline means they can no longer meet the plus or minus 10 per cent population requirement, the Patea Ward remains intact. The Council still believed historical and geographical factors mean Patea should stay a separate entity.

"The Council believes there's enough information to mount a case for noncompliance with the Patea Ward," she said.

The informal feedback process finishes on May 11, and the Initial Proposal would be put out for public submission from June 7 to July 9. The Council would make a final decision to be publicly notified on August

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New legal mind for Eltham and Opunake

Auckland's loss is Taranaki's gain with the recent arrival of Mark Utting, a lawyer with Thomson O'Neil and Co. He joined the legal firm on February 7. Mark is mostly based in the Eltham office (195 High Street), with Robert England, but will visit the Opunake branch at 30 Tasman Street each Thursday afternoon (from 12.30pm).

Mark is highly qualified with a MA (hons) and an Ll.B from Auckland University. He graduated with his first degree in 2000 and the second degree in 2004.

More recently he has completed a Diploma in Trusts & Estates in NZ. His latest qualification was gained through the Society of Trusts and Estates.

Mark's last position was in Auckland where he had his own legal practice for nine years. He was involved is quite a lot of Court work as a barrister, as well as the usual solicitor office work.

He is enjoying the change and appreciates working with other professionals such as Robert, as well as the staff in the Stratford office. "It's really good to have someone



Mark Utting of Thomson, O'Neil and Co, who has recently joined the respected legal firm.

to discuss things with, like Robert, who is very approachable." With a smile he adds, "I've learnt things about farming I never knew."

Apart from the legal side, he is enjoying such changes as less traffic and the rural perspective. To quote him accurately, he actually said, "No traffic!"

With Court work less of a focus Mark expects to be spending more time with

such activities as wills, trusts, estates and conveyancing.

The reasons for the shift to Taranaki are varied, but Mark and his wife Bridget (who is a teacher) felt the need for a change, as well as the fact that the couple have family members and relatives in the province.

Apart from caring for their growing family, Mark and Bridget enjoy gardening and walking. "There are lots of

opportunities for walking in Taranaki," Mark comments. A special interest of Mark's is the collection of books, including rare ones. Sir Winston Churchill is one celebrity who features in his collection.

Mark looks forwards to meeting locals and is keen to give any legal concerns his expert and friendly attention.

S



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No job is beyond him. "I'll have a go at anything." He's had plenty of business from the staff at our newspaper frankly, we wouldn't dream of going anywhere else. His repairs are robust and stand the test of time.

David, who is originally from England (arrived in NZ 1974), has an interesting vocational background. Initially, he worked for Kirbys, he has driven trucks and once had a fish & chip shop in Hunterville. About 20 years ago he was a sergeant in the New Zealand Air Force.

Apart from repairs to shoes and bags (and anything of leather), David also has a great selection of shoes, boots and slippers at competitive prices. His NZ-made workboots are a specialty.

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David Deacon of Scarpas Shoes hard at work.

and medical conditions. For example, people with painful

bunions or diabetics will find that he is able to stretch shoes (with a special gadget) to minimise discomfort. Diabetics generally need shoes which are somewhat wider and David can help here as well. He can also cater for people with arthritis, those needing wider than usual shoes and those with asymmetrical issues (people who have legs which are not quite equal in length).

The shoes David has on offer are sheer quality with ones imported from overseas

- from places such as Italy, Turkey and Portugal. He even has ones from China.

He has a wide selection of accessories such as polishes, laces, heel cushions, gel cushions, orthotic insoles and even stiletto heel protectors.

Scarpas are open Monday to Friday 9.15 am to 4 pm weekdays and on Saturdays 9.30am to 12. Call by, David's friendly service is guaranteed as well as quality merchandise.

Manaia WI hear about Rawleighs history

Manaia Women's Institute

The May meeting of the Manaia Women's Institute was held on Tuesday May 1. Our Speaker was Lynda Barnes – Rawleigh's Distributor. Lynda told us of the history of the Company, which began in America in 1889 and about the products that were made then, some of which are still produced today. spoke Linda also about the product range that is available now.

Competitions results: Shrub. 1.t Phyllis Malcolm. 2. Daphne Ashley. Any Other Stem. 1. Joy

ley. 3. Phyllis Malcolm. Home craft (unusual photo frame). 1. Marion Smith. 2. Ann Chisnall. 3. Phyllis Malcolm. Hand craft

Brogden. 2. Daphne Ash- - four pieces shortbread. 1. Phyllis Malcolm. 2. Joy Brogden. 3rd equal Ann Chisnall and Janice Walsh. The wondering coin was won by Elizabeth McAllister

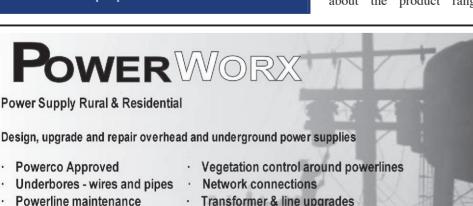
On this month in history South African Census

On May 6, 1970 the report on the 1970 South African Census was published. The statistics were as follows: Blacks 15 million, Whites 4 million, Asian 600,000, coloureds (originally slaves who intermarried) 2 million.

Who was allowed to vote? Only the Whites of voting

In 1993 an interim Constitution was established which led to the first democratic general election on 27 April, 1994 where all races were allowed to vote. The ANC (African national Congress) gained 62.2% of the vote (249 MPs) and Nelson Mandela became the first democratically elected president (He earlier spent 27 years in prison).





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MORRIS LUBRICANTS

Obituary: Dan Holmes March 8 1932 - March 4 2018

past life of Dan, we start to realise just how full it was. Born to Rhodena (Dolly) and Daniel Holmes in the Opunake Cottage Hospital he shared the first and middle names with his father and grandfather and was christened Daniel Mearns Holmes. He farmed on the family properties on Watino Road, which had been broken in from virgin bush by his grandfather, until his retirement to New Plymouth

From an early age Dan set about making his mark within the community, attending the Pihama Primary School and Opunake District High School where he became head prefect and took part in the athletics team where he broke the record for the cross country run. He was also a cricketer in the first XI and captain of the First XV rugby team going on to play for the Taranaki Colts and Taranaki B Rep teams.

Following his life through the years we learn that Dan was married on the 6th of April 1957 to Lois Gaw, his lifelong partner of 54 years, who supported all his community



Dan Holmes

work (proving the saying that behind every good man is a better woman). They had four children.

He was in the RNZA Terri-

torials during the 1950s and early 60s rising to the rank of Captain. He was also a member of the NZ National Party holding positions on

becoming chairman in 1975. While attending the Opunake Presbyterian Church he was an elder during the 1960s and served on other local committees.

Many in the district will remember Dan as being involved with several local organisations. Two of his favourite and most notable were The Cottage Rest Home and Coastal Taranaki Health Trust. In 1989 he, along with others, saw the need for Opunake to have the facility to care for the elderly and co-founded the Trust that converted the old Cottage Hospital building into The Cottage Rest Home. In 2005 he and others recognised the need of the coastal area to have good medical services, and he helped co-found the Trust that has enabled the completion of Coastal Care , in use today. Even though Dan had retired to New Plymouth several years ago he remained on the committees of both organisations, until his more recent retirement from the Cottage Rest Home, but continued to serve as chairman of the Coastal Health Trust until his death.

Skipping through a list of

some more of Dan's achievements we see that he became a JP in 1971, and later, a marriage celebrant. A member of the Auroa Pipe Band, he was drum major for a time and became a Pipe Band competition judge. He was heavily involved in many community boards and committees including Deputy Chairman and Chairman of the Taranaki Hospital board, Commissioner of the Taranaki Area Health Board and several other prominent positions within health. He chaired the C.T. Scanner Trust at New Plymouth Hospital. For his services to public and community health Dan was awarded the Queens Service Order in 1990.

A huge passion for Dan had always been with the Masonic Lodge. A freemason for some 60 years in multiple lodges, Dan attained the highest rank available within New Zealand in 1994. He was also instrumental in the development of the Masonic Villages in Taranaki.

In more recent years his interest spread to education with his involvement in the Pacific International Hotel Management School (PI-HMS) at Bell Block of which he is co-owner. With the respect held from both staff and students he left the funeral service with a PIHMS guard of honour and bagpipes, going to his final resting place at the Lizzie Bell Cemetery at Pihama.

Deeply respected by everyone that knew him, he will be greatly missed by both family and friends leaving many memories and contributions to the community of Opunake, the place he always called home.



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Government drops most charges against Greenpeace

Greenpeace has been advised that the charges laid against the organisation for action last April to stop the Amazon Warrior seismic blasting for oil at sea are to be dropped.

The Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) will not pursue the hefty charges laid against Greenpeace under the controversial Anadarko Amendment, which means the organisation now avoids up to \$200,000 in

Greenpeace Executive Director, Russel Norman, and climate activist, Sara Howell, will still face charges for their part in the action. They have Dr Russell Norman in protest. always admitted their conduct, but say they should not face conviction.

They will plead guilty and seek a discharge without con- Zealand history under a conviction on the basis that their conduct was justified and necessary to bring about required change to government policy. If the Court agrees, the outcome would be the same as an acquittal.

The news follows the Government's historic announcement earlier this month of an end to all new offshore oil and gas exploration.

Last April, Russel Norman and Sara Howell swam in front of the Amazon Warrior - the largest oil exploration ship in the world - forcing it to stop



its search for oil for the day. The pair and Greenpeace were subsequently charged for the first time in New troversial amendment to the Crown Minerals Act made by Simon Bridges in 2013 when he was Minister of Energy, known as the Anadarko Amendment, which outlaws peaceful protest against oil ships at sea.

"We have never denied the facts, that we defied the ban on protest at sea. We see the best course of action now is to plead guilty while making a plea in mitigation in Court on the grounds that our ac-

tions were reasonable and

honourable given the threat of climate change. We remain hopeful that the Court will agree, given the importance of this issue," says Dr Nor-

"Taking this route will also save supporter money and court time, and allow us to continue tackling climate

High profile witnesses including the former President of Kiribati, Anote Tong; the world's leading climate scientist, James Hansen; and UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change lead author, James Renwick of Victoria University; will be providing supporting statements in

Norman says the fact that charges against Greenpeace have been dropped is a "breakthrough" that comes after a year-long legal process, and follows a sevenyear campaign to end oil and gas exploration in New Zealand.

"The Amazon Warrior protest was part of an almost decade-long campaign to bring an end to fossil fuel exploration in our seas given the very urgent and real threat

continued page 8.

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Government drops most charges against Greenpeace

continued from page 7

of climate change - and we've just had a significant victory with that campaign," Dr Norman says.

"Over seven years, tens of thousands of people have marched, protested and lobbied their local leaders against oil exploration. This culminated in Jacinda Ardern's announcement to end new offshore oil and gas permits, which puts four million square kilometres of the Earth's surface out of bounds for new oil and gas exploration.

"Although the tide has turned irreversibly against big oil in New Zealand waters, the fight is not yet over. We still want to see an end to onshore extraction and the revoking of existing permits."

Fellow activist, Sara Howell, says it's been encouraging to see how effective peaceful protest can be.

"I'm proud and humbled

that I had the opportunity to contribute to an incredible, people-powered movement that's resulted in an end to new offshore oil and gas exploration permits.

"While I will take responsibility for what I did in the Court, I believe it was necessary because all of the life

on this planet - in its oceans, mountains, rivers, forests, and cities - is marvelous and brilliant. It is delicately balanced and too special to destroy."

Greenpeace, Russel Norman, and Sara Howell were due to begin trial in the Napier District Court next week..

They will now appear by video link from Auckland District Court to lodge their pleas, and the case will be adjourned for sentencing on a date yet to be fixed.

Taranaki and New Zealand deserve better

Four weeks ago, the Prime Minister announced an end to any new offshore oil and gas exploration, claiming a need to take a strong stand and saying that there would be no immediate impact on the local economy. They thought they knew the industry. They thought they knew the outcome.

That day local businesses began cancelling recruitment plans, while concerned overseas investors were on the phone with big questions. This is a clear demonstration



JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

of the difference between governing based on theory and doing the hard work to know how the real world operates.

National Party leader Simon Bridges has been in the region with me twice since then, discussing the ramifications of the new offshore exploration ban. He and I both support a logical inclusive transition that utilises local expertise. We aspire to increase renewable energy, reduce emissions and maintain energy security. At the same time we're aware of the need to grow the economy, which

needs investment certainty. We must retain skilled workers and minimise social disruption for employees and their families.

The government's reckless and uninformed decision to ban future offshore block offers, and revise onshore block offers if they are reelected, has thrown up a lot of unnecessary anxiety and doubt. The hydrocarbon sector has invested hugely at all sorts of levels in our community and still has a very important role to play in the future. Instead of deserve better. being treated as the problem, they need to be recognised and engaged as part of the solution.

This is a bad decision. They have waded in to attack an industry rather than genuinely tackle emissions. The resulting uncertainty shows no sign of dissipating, which means that the big issues around our energy future as a country, are not being adequately addressed by this government.

Taranaki and New Zealand

Jonathan Young New Plymouth MP National Party spokesperson for Energy and Resources, National Party spokesperson for Regional Economic Development (North Island).

OPUNAKE COPS

Police will be out there

Greetings from the Sunshine Coast -where the sun always shines but now often behind the clouds....

Firstly I would like to welcome Matt Goodman to the Sunshine Coast along with his wife Andi and their four young fellas. A Good Keen Man is Matt and I am looking forwarded to working alongside him here on the Coast.

We have been kept on our toes lately with a number or reported burglaries in our area including both urban and rural properties. Please keep your eyes and ears open while out and about. If you note anything suspicious



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

vehicles parking on rural roads where they are not normally known to park may supply us with the link we are looking for. We can't be everywhere all the time but with your help we can make those dishonest individuals out there think we are.

police in regards to a recent burglary to a residential address in Opunake with the investigation ongoing with the probability of more arrests with both being referred to Youth Aid.

During my career I have seen, heard and dealt with some shocking things. One sad observation is how many people are aware of who has been involved in a number of criminal incidents and hesitate to contact us. What happens when you find yourself a victim of crime? Does it make a difference to you? I'm sure it would to those that you failed to help. As many in the community are aware there are grave and the willingness of some people in our community supplying drugs to our younger people. I can't fathom how it is that some think of this as acceptable behaviour. To those concerned I hope you are aware of how far reaching your activities are in affecting others. Think of your own family, partners and children, their involvement in the community whether it be employment, school, community groups business and the stigma attached once you and your involvement are exposed.

As I have alluded to in previous issues we continue to see many flouting traffic laws, and I informed you

all that police teams from around Taranaki, including Opunake staff will be conducting a number of traffic operations in and around our township, watching for those not wearing seatbelts, distracted by using cellphones and behaviour at intersections. This month police will focus on the high risk behaviors of driving distracted and not wearing seatbelts.

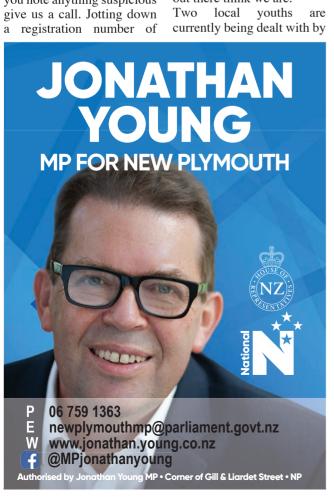
It's takes a second to put on your seatbelt and there's no reason for you to be using your phones when driving. So please understand how important it is to wear your seatbelts and to focus on the road, not your phone.

Lastly I would like to acknowledge Pete Sherie. Pete has been policing in the Opunake / Manaia area for just over 2 two and a half years, and has made the decision to leave the police for another life challenge

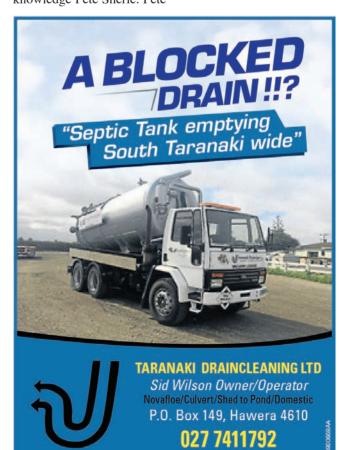
Management have confirmed a likely replacement for Pete will be welcomed into the community in the coming months...

That's about it from us, stay safe and look after each other out there.

Remember, if you have any information for us call ion to the station we are more than happy to help. Alternatively vou can call Crimestoppers at 0800 555111 with all anonymous information.







Jo Lane's Hope and Healing

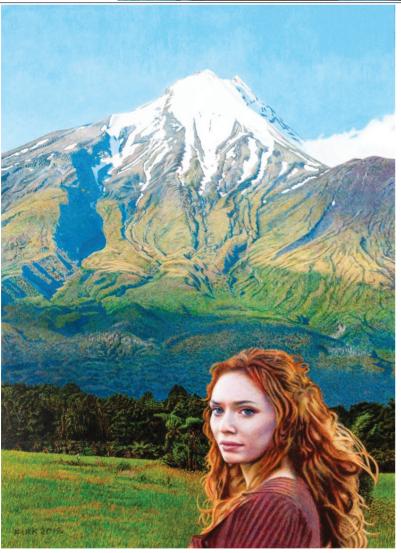
Jo Lane was singing appealingly in Hawera last Thursday May 3, accompanied by Natalie Dixon on guitar. Jo Lane sings Christian songs with the view to raise money to record and produce two CDs, which will eventually be available in Hawera. She hopes interested people will access her Facebook page 'Jo Lane Music'.

Theatre goers may recall Jo's involvement as an actress and singer in a musical 'Last Dance' produced by Opunake Players late last year. One of the highlights of that excellent production was a lovely solo by Jo of a song she had composed herself. It was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the show. She has an exquisitely beautiful voice. All the very best for the production of your two CDs Jo.

RIGHT:

Guitarist Natalie Dixon and singer Jo Lane (right) singing in Hawera recently.





Just completed by Coastal Taranaki artist Graham Kirk, Demelza and Mt Taranaki has a view from the Wiremu, near Auroa Road between 6-7pm on a summer's evening.

NEWTON

On this month in history the first Oscars were awarded.

On May 16, 1929 the first 'Oscar' ceremony was held in Los Angeles. The 'Oscars' are a nicknames for the Hollywood Academy Awards. The inaugural recipients of Best Actor and Best Actress were Emil Jennings and Janet Gaynor, respectively.

In modern times the number of awards on offer have increased. Meryl Streep is probably the most successful actress of those still involved in film making. Jack Nicholson is probably the most successful actor still working. Katherine Hepburn deserves mention of those who have passed away; she has won four times.

Frank Kappa (born 1897) was the first person to win three times as Best Director.

New Zealand born Russell Crowe won the Academy Award as Best Actor one year. New Zealander Anna Paquin won Best Supporting Actress for her role in 'The Piano'. Both recipients are still involved in making films.



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A trip back in time

I hadn't spoken to him for 75 years says Dick Dakin from Opunake who contacted Ron Ardern, grandfather of the primeminister, the Right Hon Jacinda Ardern when he heard he was coming to New Plymouth to visit his niece Maree, Jacinda's aunt.

They were then living in Mangaiti, a tiny town between Te Aroha and Paora. The Arderns were close neighbours.

Ron was ten years younger than Dick but they would catch the same school bus.

Joan was the eldest in the family, then there was Ron and Yvonne, remembers Dick. The Arderns later moved to Paora where a set was twins was added to the family – which gives rise to speculation as to whether the prime minister maybe



Dick's Uncle Frank.



Dick Dakin with the photo of Jacinda Ardern's grandfather as a boy.

carrying twins.

Dick said he was hoping to catch up with Ron in person. "He's got a great memory," noted Dick from their telephone conversation.

"My mother would make fruit buns which Ron particularly liked and earned him the nickname bun eater," said Dick. He also remembered the pig the Dakins owned.

Dick's family including his siblings Frank, Jack and June moved to Opunake in 1949 where his father worked for the railways and went on to be in charge of the new wharf at New Plymouth. "He worked for the

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railways for 46 years", says Dick.

Dick used to graze his horse near where the Opunake Business Centre and Coastalcare now are.

He recalls the cows that used to roam the streets in Opunake. "Harry Yep couldn't put out his lettuces and cabbages on display because the cows would come and eat them." At night the cows would return to their owners to be milked.

Around a dozen households had cows. They were very quiet, he recalls. "You could call them and they'd come to you".

He also remembers "Years ago the street lights would go off at 11pm. The cows would lie on the concrete because it was warm after a sunny day. Because the lights were out and it was dark people returning from the pictures would fall over the cows."

Those were the days when there were three butchers and three barbers in town.

He has another interesting recollection. His uncle Frank

served in World War II. Jack wrote to Freyberg and asked him to contact Frank.

"Freyberg responded by sending a signed photo of himself."

Dick recalls the war years and the rationing of clothing, food and petrol. The family never owned a car. They kept seven cows which they would milk by hand. "We weren't allowed to make butter or cream, all the milk went to the war effort."

They also took a bicycle they owned says Dick. He remembers the Home Guard with their wooden rifles, and remembers the American servicemen who would often go to Rotorua.

He remembers the war finishing when they were at Te Aroha.

"The siren went – people came running out of shops cheering, 'The War's over, the war's over'.

He still has a tiny little calendar given to him by his Sunday School teacher inscribed in her hand 'God is Love'.

Dick says the kaimanawa horses were the horses that were trained for the war effort. When the war ended they just liberated them.



The Prime minister's grandfather Ron is the boy in the front second from right. Ron's sister Joan is third from the right, and younger sister Yvonne third from left. Dick's late brother Jack is second from left.

Making our oceanz healthy

Healthy Oceanz is a Young Enterprise Scheme 2018 business from Opunake High School. Healthy Oceanz has been running since the start of the year. It got started up because of the need to be more sustainable and to look after the environment better in today's society

Healthy Oceanz is all about being sustainable and caring for our beaches, coastlines, and oceans in Taranaki, New Zealand. The ocean needs to be healthy for all the sea life living in the oceans so that they are protected and don't pose the risk of becoming endangered. Reducing the amount of rubbish and waste that we create is going right to the source and minimizing the effects that we have on the ocean. While the health of the ocean affects the animals living there, it also relates to global warming, climate change and plastic pollution. If we are not sustainable, how will our future generations survive? As a commitment to reversing and minimizing any further changes to our ocean environment, Healthy Oceanz will be hosting multiple beach cleanups around the coastal Taranaki area.

Katie Sinclair



Katie Sinclair

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11

WELCOME PETER O'LEARY

An exciting new chapter in the life of Opunake High School began on the first day back in Term Two with a formal welcome & Powhiri for Mr Peter O'Leary as the new Principal. Joining Mr O'Leary were his family, and with support from the staff and students of Trident High School, Whakatane.

As students and staff of Opunake High sat expectantly in the school hall for the welcoming Powhiri for Mr O'Leary, a framed photograph of Kaumatua, George Tito, was brought in to be placed in the school foyer.

As the formalities got underway, the visiting manuhiri provided us with korero regarding their place in Aotearoa and some farewell words to Mr O'Leary. Korero and waiata were shared which made the event a celebration of the new future for Opunake High School and indeed for Mr O'Leary and his whanau. The formalities were completed with some words from Mr O'Leary that were to the point and meaningful:

"It is not about me, it is about we."

At the completion of the Powhiri, visitors and staff shared in some kai together, all while students education and supporting student from Trident High were shown around our school by some of our prefects before their long trip home. Staff from Opunake High chatted with their visitors maybe in the hope of gaining some inside knowledge on Mr O'Leary. Whatever the case, it can definitely be said that it was an exciting and successful morning.



Mr O'Leary joins Opunake High Those of who with a keen eye on Mr O'Leary had this to say about School from his previous position as Deputy Principal of Trident High School in Whakatane. Prior to that he was the Head of

Science at Tikipunga High School, Head of Biology at Hillcrest high School and before that he was a science teacher at Wellington and Waitakere Colleges.

Apart from a clear passion for success, Mr O'Leary values onprofessional growth having recently completed a post-graduate certificate in digital learning and collaborative learning through Unitec. Mr O'Leary has also completed his Masters in Education Leadership and Administration from Massey University.

world sport, may recognise Mr O'Leary as a FIFA Soccer World Cup referee, having represented New Zealand at the 2010 and 2014 World Cups, as well as refereeing in the A-League. Mr O'Leary is most famous in football circles for a 2014 World Cup match in Brazil Bosnia-Herzegovina and Nigeria, where an incorrect call by one of his linesmen saw him receive death-threats. Lucky that we're a little bit more relaxed about sport here on the coast.

staff, Board members and student leadership of both Trident High School and Opunake High School.

Growing up in Ngaruawahia, Mr O'Leary spent a lot of his formative years on the farm, and thought about a career as a farmer until realising it wasn't for him. His wife Rachelle is also a teacher, and together they have two children.

For more photos, check:

his arrival here:

"I believe an excellent education is not possible without the great collaboration of students, parents, whanau and staff.

conversations with the community, what is evident has been the immense enthusiasm and pride for the school and community. It is through that same enthusiasm and pride that I look forward to becoming an integral part of the community with my own family and working with each of you to continue the great successes at Opunake High



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Morriesons Café Bar a brief look at its history

Last issue (April 27, page 29) we published an article looking at the culinary and entertainment side of this iconic business at 58 Victoria Street, Hawera. This time we will focus on the historical and literary underpinning side restaurant.

Morriesons Café Bar was named in honour of James Ronald Hugh Morrieson, who spent virtually his whole life in Hawera. He was born on January 29, 1922. He wrote four novels, but only two of them were published in his lifetime The Scarecrow' (1963) and 'Came a Hot Friday' (1964). However, he had to approach an Australian publisher to get them into print.

Although he wrote two more novels, he was unable to get them published and this had an adverse effect on him, coupled with the death of his mother Eunice in 1968. Ron died in 1972 (December 26) aged just 50, but overdependence on alcohol, as well as depression were serious contributing issues.

The other two novels were published, firstly in New Zealand; 'Predicament' in 1974 and 'Pallet On the floor, in 1976. Landfall also published two short stories of his around the same time.

All four of his novels have since been made into feature films and he is the only New Zealand writer to have this honour. Our greatest comedian Billy T James (Tainuia Kid) is the subject of a mural inside Morriesons from the filmed version of 'Came a Hot Friday'.

Two other murals relate to the films of 'The Scarecrow' and 'Predicament'.

Ron was also a remarkable musician and played in several bands from an early age. He played several instruments including the guitar, double bass, piano, saxophone and violin. His greatest love was jazz and he longed to go to New Orleans, the birthplace of the genre.

He was also at a later stage, an excellent music teacher. He had many pupils who all attest to his patient tuition.

Ron lived almost all of his life at 1 Regent Street, Hawera where KFC now stands. Several of his family and relatives lived there from his early years, but by the time he was writing, just his mother Eunice and Aunt



People enjoying their meal at Morriesons Café Bar.

Doris remained and he was devoted to them.

After the deaths of Eunice. Ron and finally Doris (1974) the homestead was sold to become an aluminium joinery factory for a while. In the early 1990s KFC wanted the land where the homestead stood to site their

SPECIAL

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proposed restaurant. This was most controversial and petitions (for and against) letters-to-the-editor followed, as well as public meetings.

Tim Chadwick led the fight to endeavour to save the homestead for cultural reasons and formed the 'Scarecrow Committee' with Nigel Ogle, Clive Cullen and Robert Surgenor, which was very active.

Eventually, the local Council gave permission for the proposal and the house

was demolished in 1993.

However, two surrounds, staircase leading to the attic and wood (kauri and matai) was saved. An enterprising and literary conscious couple Mark and Penny Burt incorporated the wood, fire surround and staircase into existing building to herald a new restaurant – Morriesons Café Bar, which was opened in 1993. The floor, bar and tables were fashioned from the wood saved from the demolition and the fire installed. Also saved was the attic. Photographs and other memorabilia were on display.

After sitting in a paddock for 19 years the attic was transported and restored at Tawhiti museum by owner Nigel Ogle, helped Robert Surgenor. The superb exhibit is accompanied by much intriguing memorabilia and is well worth a visit.

We'll finish with a true incident involving Ron. He and his great friend Gordon 'Mac' Sole had a cuppa in a tearooms (no alcohol) as it was then, named 'The Victorian'. Mac left Ron and a few minutes later was talking to a friend in a jeep nearby when he saw a shocking sight. Three men had Ron by the scruff and were pushing him towards the back of the building intent on giving him a hiding. Mac rushed to the rescue and a fierce fight occurred - Ron and Mac sent the three assailants packing. The window of the nearby butchers shop was broken in the melee and Mac, now older and wiser, still has a scar on his hand as a memento of sorts.

It can be said, therefore, that in a sense, Ron Morrieson has also visited Morriesons Café Bar - but when it had another name.

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The original staircase from Ron Morriesons homestead and murals from the film made from his books.





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TARANAKI

ahotu abuzz

of the tornado at Rahotu held at the Rahotu Tavern on Sunday April 29 was a resounding success with \$4500 raised for those who suffered at the mercy of the elements a month ago.

"It's been an awesome day," commented Rachael Baylis.

Commented Jason Allan from Kahui Road who had his shed roof lift off and smash the kitchen door, the fundraiser had been "excellent", with "awesome music" and added there had been a great turnout. "It's good to see the Rahotu community coming together." He recalled how after the storm it took 25 minutes to drive three kilometres up Kahui Road because of debris from trees and buildings littering the road. As with disasters generally however there had been positives. "Twenty five people came to check we were OK including policemen, firemen and locals in the community. Everyone banded together, it was humbling."

another nearby resident, a local farmer who had been five days without power and had to "dump milk for five days" the fundraiser had been good for the town. Even the mayor of South Taranaki Ross Dunlop put in an appearance and "wanted to donate something," said Dipal Desai, the owner of Rahotu Four Square who briefly attended and donated to the fundraiser. No doubt they could hear the music from their shop across the

The event was organised by Ray Hayward from Raybern Entertainment.

"It's been a fabulous day," he agreed.

"There was so much happening. So many people overwhelming. was Humbling. People they'd never seen so many people."

Financially too it was a huge success with the \$4,500 raised on the day going to the South Taranaki District Council Mayoral Relief Fund. The money will then be given back to the Rahotu Pungarehu Lions who will organise the distribution to the community. As entry to the event was by gold coin donation and a food item, they also received "a huge number of food items" said Ray adding that Jackie at the Rahotu Tavern and the Lions Club will be distributing.

The afternoon's entertainment included nine bands and 16 solo acts



Musician Dan Marks from New Plymouth who performed at the fundraiser. He'd obviously enjoyed the experience and the "really vibrant group of people. If you envision what the coast's about, this is what they are."

and duos playing on two different stages. Among the bands were The Slacks who have recently released a single. "The Slacks were a bonus," said Ray.

"We might look at doing it as an annual event," said Ray adding that several of the entertainers - all of whom donated their services - suggested it nominating different charities.

fundraiser about from a suggestion by Liz Sinclair, secretary of the Opunake and Districts Business Association, in a discussion with Ray who said "Let's do it."

It was a great day.

THANKS

Without the help of the people below our amazing Sunday for the Coastal Community would not have been possible.

Coastal people definitely have appreciated the efforts made to lift the spirits of our community. A massive thank you to the community for supporting such a special day! Also THANKS to

Rahotu Tavern, Raybern Entertainment, Pihama Lavender, PSL, NZME, Okurukuru, Pungarehu & Rahotu Lions Club, NZ Fire Service, Alan Manu, Rahotu 4 Square, Sweet Aggie's Coffee Caravan, Pirate Pizza's, Kat's Gelato & Sorbet Van, RD 1, Hyway 45 Classic Cars

BANDS...Majik Pizza Box, Laconic Zephyr, Selah Saints, Rythmik Fusion, SLAM, The Slacks, Shady Rudy, Black Frog, Ellusion and Alan Manu & Friends

SOLO'S & DUO'S...Nganeko Eriwata, Monique Matthews, Ian Wallace, Mountain Duo, Kimba Mallowes, Gypsy Blue, Ash & Aidan, Boss Heke, Dan Marks, Chloe Danz, Just Us, Suzanne Fraser, Terry Simpson & Wynne and David Bowers-Mason Special thanks to Nigel Wilding for his work mixing the bands

Stevenson's at Manase On Savai'i Samoa. Danger from Okurakura, and especially the local guys who prepared the staging, marquee, garden area and helped with cleanup the day after. Special thanks to the hard working bar staff, Ness, Henri, Lee and Berna - what a day!!

Jackie and Trent

The Rahotu Tavern

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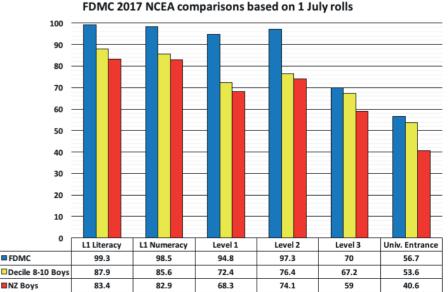
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Strong turnouts for Anzac Day

A dark, warm morning greeted us all at the Town Hall in Opunake for the beginning of the Dawn Parade on Anzac Day. After the large crowd who were in attendance fell into formation, the Stratford Pipe Band led the Parade down to the Cenotaph overlooking Opunake Beach for a service to remember the Australian and New Zealand soldiers who faced their baptism of fire on the shores of Gallipoli 103 years ago. Poignant and thought provoking speeches by Rev Geoff Williams and Murray McEwan served to give us some insight into both the brevity of those involved in war, and also the suffering and horrors invoked by it. This theme continued at the Town Hall after the parade with Cr. Bryan Roach expressing the often-forgotten suffering of, in particular, women who during wartime say goodbye to boyfriends, husbands, brothers and sons without any assurance that their loved ones will ever return. It also must be remembered that women are often 'left in the dark' about their loved one's health and whereabouts during war which adds to the stress, and I would think – many, many sleepless days and nights. With the added pressure placed on women to keep the economy and industry at home going during times of war and conflict, the rationing and the abovementioned uncertainty that women endure during times of war - all of this must be remembered and

Speeches by Craig Dingle and Opunake High School students Katie Sinclair and Stevee-Jai Kelly followed. I would like to acknowledge the Opunake High School students who over the years have assisted the

acknowledged.



ANZAC Day service at the Te Kiri Cenotaph.

RSA during Anzac Day and Armistace Day for their incredible contributions. Katie's and Stevee-Jai's were very meaningful again meaningful and thoughtful. As I said at the Town Hall after the Parade, let us not forget that for many young people on Anzac Day, they are in effect honouring their peers – some of the military personnel killed during World War One and Two were barely older than 16 or 17, a sad but true fact. Well known local identity Ron Brewer said to me that he had heard someone say once that the best way to end war for good was to put an age limit on those who are able to join the military – that no one aged under 70 should be eligible for enlistment. Food for thought.

From the Town Hall it was down to the Services Section of the Opunake cemetery for us. This service was held in the area of the cemetery that is set aside for Returned personnel, for those that have seen military service. This is a special part of the day for all of us involved.

Next up was a service at Te Kiri. This service was well attended once again this year by the community, and once again I was struck by the number of children and young people were in attendance. The service was made even more special by the reading of local soldier's diary extracts by some of the boys there. There is nothing as moving as hearing first-hand accounts of war experiences, especially when experiences are from local people with connections to the community in which they are read. The placing of poppies on the cenotaph by every child in attendance

was also a special moment here. Thanks to the Te Kiri community for organising such a great service and remembrance to those who are involved in war.

We arrived at Pihama just as it was starting to get chilly and as the sun began its descent below the horizon. The service at Pihama as always was well attended by Photo: Judith Armstrong

the community. This timing of this service is special as it occurs at the 'going down of the sun.' The Ode to the Fallen which is recited at every RSA service states, "Though shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun, and in the morning - We will

remember them". Here too, it was great to see so many children and young people in attendance and participating in the service. Thanks to the Pihama community for organising this service.

Last week we travelled out to Rahotu School for an Anzac Day remembrance service. This service is held in the first week of the new term each year. The service is special to us and to Rahotu School. Every student in the school plays a part. From the initial karakia, to the singing of the national anthem, to the lowering and raising of the NZ flag, to the war poetry readings, to the diary readings, to the part in which students aged between 5 and 13 speak in front of the entire school about family members and relatives who have experienced war (from WW1 to Afghanistan) this is a wonderful service. Credit must be given to the teachers, students of Rahotu School, and their families for teaching and learning about Anzac Day and its significance even today, and for organising and putting into practice this service.

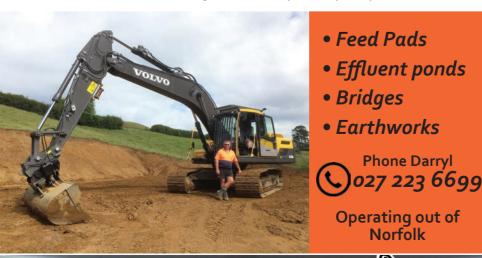
Thanks to everyone in Opunake and Districts for another memorable day, and for carrying on the legacy. Lest we forget,

Shane Butler
President, Opunake &
District RSA

Otakeho remembers ANZACS



It is estimated around 100 people were at the Otakeho Hall on April 24 for a service which not only remembered those who fell in past conflicts, but also celebrated the shifting of the war memorial plaques from the Otakeho School site to the new memorial outside the Otakeho Hall.



Operating out of Norfolk

ANZAC Day in Okato

There was a huge turnout of people for Anzac Day on April 25 in Okato and the weather remained fine. At 9.30am the parade set off down Carthew Street, led by a piper playing 'Scotland the Brave'. Following behind were returned servicemen, police, fire-fighters, civilians and a number of children. The parade stopped in dignified silence beside the Cenotaph as a number of wreaths were laid. These included floral tributes by, for example, Coastal Taranaki School (CTS)and the New Plymouth District Council. Surrounding the Cenotaph were several members of the City of New Plymouth Cadets. One of these was Corporal Olive Grogan, who commented of the wreathe laying, "It was very nice. It was beautiful with the children involved."

During the ceremony the NZ flag was lowered and 'The Last Post' played (bugle). Binyons Ode of Remembrance was also

A church service followed in Hempton Hall, ably led by lay priest Leslie Dowding. "Today is a very special day - because they returned we are here today. I hope you find it a memorable day." She referred to the small crosses on the lawn in the grounds of St Pauls and suggested that people attach poppies to each as a mark of remembrance.

On the stage were several guests including Major Taylor (retired), Scott Walden (Principal of Coastal Taranaki School), Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae (MD Canadian Army), Carol Julian, Kiana Armstrong (Head Girl CTS) and Kyle Manson (Head Boy CTS). All took an active part in the service in one way or

The keynote speech was by Major Craig Taylor who spoke of his postings overseas to such places as East Timor, Lebanon and Syria, where many trials and tribulations had to be endured.



The Okato Parade was held at 9am.

He also spoke on an uncle who was killed in action. His name is engraved at the Auckland War Memorial Museum. He spoke about how moving it was to visit Chunuk Bair in Gallipoli – "A special moment" he said.

At the end of his speech he concluded with a vigorous Haka and an address in Maori.

After the singing of 'God Save the Queen', the hymn 'God of Ages' and the National Anthems of both New Zealand and Australia, the service ended with a blessing led by Lesley:

May the road rise to meet

your back

May the sun shine warm upon your face

And the rains fall soft upon your fields

And until we meet again May God hold you in the May the wind be ever at palm of his hand.

Gratitude to veterans remains strong

At this year's ANZAC Day Manaia dawn parade Bonita Bigham said thank you to the people of Manaia.

"Thanks to my town of Manaia who rallied in support of my call, along with Councillor (Phil) Nixon, for funding for our local hall," the South Taranaki District councillor

For many years Memorial Manaia War Hall had been an integral part of Manaia's ANZAC Day commemorations. The dawn crowds would leave the Hall, and march to the town's band rotunda for the laying of wreaths and the ANZAC Day service, before returning to the hall for refreshments. In 2015

the Hall was declared an earthquake risk and has been closed ever since. The Manaia and District RSA expressed concern about what would happen to the roll of honour inside the front door commemorating servicemen from two world wars and later conflicts such as Korea, Vietnam and the Malayan emergency, as well

as the RSA's own honours board and a walk-in-safe containing memorabilia from various groups and organisations in Manaia.

In February this year Manaia residents turned out in force at the South Taranaki District Council's Policy Development Committee which voted \$1 million be made available towards rebuilding the town hall.

This year's parade began at the Robert Gibson Hall and made its way to the band rotunda. One familiar face missing this year was that of Jim Washer. The former Otakeho farmer and World War II veteran who laid the Manaia RSA wreath as recently as last year when he was 96, had died in March.

Cr Bigham spoke about those from Manaia who had served overseas.

"Although they are gone, they too once had lived in Manaia. While their numbers maybe sadly reduced, our gratitude to them remains strong."

She spoke of her father, Godfrey Edwin Isaac Bigham servicemen he never spoke refreshments.

who was taken prisoner in Crete. Family lore had spoken of the time the camp commandant's dog had been kidnapped and ended up in the prisoners' pot, and of her father's insubordination towards his captors, from which he was possibly saved only by his Germanic sounding first name.

"Real life in the Stalags was different from the laugh a minute antics of Hogan's Heroes," she said, citing the forced marches of prisoners, often during a brutal winter.

"One in five of these prisoners of war didn't survive the camps. I'm lucky to be here," she said. Her father still had German shrapnel in him when he died.

South Taranaki District deputy mayor Phil Nixon spoke about his grandfather Clifford Charles Lord who served in the First World

"He was one of the lucky ones. He was able to come home, marry and raise three girls. Like most ex about the war at all."

Almost 100 years before, on August 30, 1918, Lord as a company runner was carrying important messages while facing shell and rifle fire, for which he was later awarded the Military Medal.

After the war he married and started a family. A man who had to leave school early went on to become a dairy factory manager at the Sutherland Road, Kapuni and Oeo branches of the Kaupokonui Dairy Cooperative.

Cr Nixon also has family connections to the Second World War. Like Cr Bigham, his father had been a prisoner of war.

The Ode was read in English and Te Reo, and students from Hawera High School helped lower the flag. Nga Ruahine presented a number of items, with John Hooker acknowledging the fallen from the local battles fought in the Land Wars of the 1860s. The service finished and it was back to the Robert Gibson Hall for



ANZAC Day at the Manaia Band Rotunda.

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ANZAC Day at Eltham

While many towns have one ANZAC ceremony on April 25, Eltham has two. First up is the civic ceremony at the Eltham Primary School War Memorial Gates, followed by the Eltham RSA's own commemoration service at the Eltham Services Cemetery.

ANZAC Day in Eltham began with the parade from the Fire station, led by the Hawera Pipe Band.

The Eltham RSA has long had a good working relationship with the Eltham Fire Brigade, says Eltham RSA president Llew Eynon.

"The RSA is the Returned and Services Association so the fire station is very much a part of things," he says.

Parade marshal Gavin Bennett had put together a display at the fire station explaining the origins of The Last Post and its American equivalent, Taps.

"A lot of people don't know it's got words to it," he says. "I generally try to put on a display at ANZAC Day. It's a way of bringing the rich military heritage to people's notice."

Gavin served in Malaya from 1961-3, hunting out



Air force cadets stand to attention by the New Zealand flag.

communist terrorists on the Malay-Thai border. The new state of Malaysia was formed when he was over there and he was at the independence celebrations in Kuala Lumpur. He represented the Malacca State Pistol Association at the Malaysian Games and came away with a bronze medal.

Gavin was in the New Zealand Army for 24 years, retiring in 1981.

"I was supposed to go to Vietnam, but the government

changed their mind. It was probably the best thing that happened to me," he said.

He shifted to Bell Block seven years ago, but every ANZAC Day he comes back to Eltham where he is a life member of the RSA.

At the Memorial Gates, Maureen Drylie from the Eltham Historical Society spoke about some of those from Eltham who did not come back from the First World War. On October 30, 1918, Frederick Babbage volunteered to help take out a German machine gun post but came across German troops on the way there and was killed. Then there was Cecil Albert Duff, a cheese hand from Te Roti who had earlier been wrongly reported dead before being killed at the Somme.

South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop said looking at the names on the memorial gates, he was amazed that a town like Eltham had sent so many of its young people away to war. He cited a family connection to one of the names on the gates. Captain Howard Frost who was killed in Italy in 1943 had been engaged to his mother.

Mr Dunlop talked about the visit he and his wife Jan had made last year to some of the battlefields on the Western Front, and the military cemeteries with names of the young people from South Taranaki who did not come back. He also visited Le Quesnoy, the town where the name of New Zealand is still held in high regard, having been liberated by New Zealand troops in 1918.

In the closing stages of World War I, New Zealanders were awarded six VCs. Two of these were awarded to South Taranaki men, Harry Laurent and John Grant after whom streets in Hawera are named. Mr Dunlop said there are plans to celebrate the centenary of these men being awarded the VC later in the year.

With the civic ceremony over, it was off to the Services Cemetery east of Eltham which is dedicated to those from the area who had served overseas. Once at the cemetery, there was then a walk past wrought iron gates with plaques commemorating VE and VJ Day, and a covering of knitted poppies. Back in

1915 to mark the centenary of the April 25 landings at Gallipoli, the RSA had asked its women members to knit poppies in commemoration. The ones which the Eltham Women's section had made were collated and placed on a covering which is placed on the gates every year.

Gavin Bennett says the RSA are very proud of the services cemetery.

"It's a beautiful setting. The Council have gone overboard to keep it tidy. The Women's Section have put a flower pot on every grave-all 187 of them."

Air force cadets stood to attention by the New Zealand flag. In front of them was the word ANZAC, behind them were crosses bearing the names of those who went from Eltham and did not come back.

Eltham RSA honorary padre Lindsay Maindonald said services being held in Australia and New Zealand were united by the symbol of a single flower.

"The poppy is a symbol of strength and peace," he said. "We realise that this monument as beautiful as it is, is a resting place for those who died to give us freedom."

Those attending the service were invited to place a cross by one of the headstones in the cemetery.



Nine years at Kaponga Four Square come to an end

Karl and Tina Turner have been at Kaponga Four Square for nine years and say they will be sorry to leave.

"We have had a lot of fun, met some wonderful people and made some brilliant friends," says Tina. "Kaponga has so much going for it. It's such a beautiful town, with so many amazing caring people."

Karl who is a butcher by

trade, is originally from New Plymouth, while Tina, originally from Okato came from a grocery background, having previously worked for both New World and Woolworths.

Tina says that when they took the store over, it hadn't been doing well.

"When we got here, we didn't know if we were going to make a go of the shop. We nearly walked out

after six weeks. We changed the whole store to provide for this community as much as we could."

In the time they have been there, they have seen local children grow up, and enjoyed having them come into the shop to update them on their latest sporting results. They have also acted as counsellors for customers going through hard times.

They have had their own

testing times, such as breakins in 2009 and 2010. Five years ago the town was without power for three days. Although they didn't have a generator at the time, the Turners decided to keep the store open for their customers. They would write down what the customers had taken, and a few days later the customers would come back to pay for it.

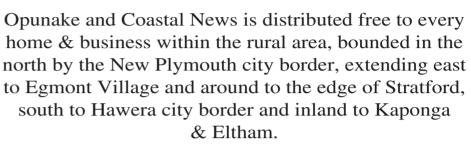
When there were weatherrelated power cuts earlier

this year, the Turners had by then acquired a generator of their own. They were now able to invite people to come in and plug their phones, heat up their baby bottles or make a cup of coffee.

They say that as well as missing the town, they will miss their staff. One staff member, Judi-Ann Noonan has been there for nearly eight years.

Karl and Tina finish on May 20, and new owner Molly Steiner takes over on the following day. They aren't sure as to their immediate plans, other than take a break, something they haven't had in nine years.

We've fallen in love with Kaponga, the community, the people, everybody," says Tina. "It's going to be so hard to leave our customers and the town. We want to wish Molly all the best in the



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EPA takes wait and see approach on EU ban

The European Commission voted to ban neonicotinoid pesticides in EU member states. The decision is expected to come into force by the end of 2018, with only closed greenhouses exempt.

decision follows growing evidence that the insecticides may be linked to declines in pollinator including populations, honeybees.

New Zealand's Environmental Protection Authority has said it would watch the European Commission's decision, but that the rules around the use of neonicotinoids in New Zealand were working to protect pollinators.

Mark McNeill, scientist, AgResearch, comments:

"The challenge around neonicotinoids is that they are an effective insecticide to control seedling pests in New Zealand such as the Argentine stem weevil, black beetle, springtails, caterpillars and slugs, that can have significant impacts

on the establishment of pasture and forage crops. Protection during seedling stage is critical to the production and persistence of these pastures and crops.

"The neonicotinoids are also less toxic to humans than organophosphate insecticides, and considered environmentally friendly means of crop protection compared to broad-spectrum foliar sprays. This is because they are highly targeted (being buried in the soil with seed) and therefore do not have the same risks of environmental exposure and impact (e.g. through aerial dispersal).

"In addition to reduced weed invasion and improved persistence and yield, the neonicotinoids also allow crops and pastures to be established by direct drilling (where the seed is drilled into unploughed soil), reducing nutrient leaching and carbon emissions.

"While it is early days

yet, the withdrawal of neonicotinoids will cause some issues for farmers, as there are no ready alternatives. Irrespective of any future decisions, NZ farmers need to have effective and safe treatments for controlling pests at the seedling stage.'

Dr Bill Parker, Director of Research, Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB), said: "While this decision is not unexpected given the mounting weight of scientific evidence of the effects of neonics on pollinators, it is nonetheless a serious issue for the agricultural industry as it further restricts the crop protection toolbox that farmers and growers have available to them for controlling key pests.

"Although alternatives do exist, the consequence of this decision is likely to be a greater use of insecticides applied as foliar sprays (spray applied to leaves), particularly on crops such as wheat and sugar beet (the banned neonics were only ever applied as seed treatments, not as sprays). The implication is that some foliar insecticide sprays can have a broader effect on insects present in the crop than seed treatments, though this does heavily depend on the spectrum of activity of individual insecticide products. is worth pointing out that insecticides (including neonics) accounted for 7% of total pesticide use by area treated in the UK in 2016, with neonics themselves representing 2% of the insecticide treated area.

Prof Nigel Raine, Rebanks Family Chair in Pollinator Conservation, University of Guelph, Canada said: "Reducing pesticide exposure by removing the use of these three most widely used neonicotinoids (Clothianidin, Imidacloprid and Thiamethoxam) from outdoor use is a major step towards improving pollinator health in the EU. It represents part of the story

to support pollinators – we also need to ensure there are sufficient flowers and nesting sites for these animals that support production of one in three mouthfuls of food we

"The science supporting this decision has been unfolding over a number years, particularly around important effects on behaviour and reproduction following low level chronic exposure to these insecticides. It has also become increasing clear that different types of bees respond in different ways to similar exposure, and wild/ unmanaged populations of pollinators may be more sensitive. Policy makers in other jurisdictions will be paying close attention to these decisions.

"We rely on both farmers and pollinators for the food we eat. Pesticide regulation is a balancing act between unintended consequences of their use for non-target organisms (including pollinators) and giving farmers the tools they need to control crop pests. Disagreements around the extent of impacts of neonicotinoids have underlined the need to properly understand the ramifications of different routes of exposure.'

Prof Ian Toth, Senior Scientist in Cell and Molecular Sciences. and member leading the Integrated Pest and Disease Management (IPM) research, The James Hutton Institute, said: "The use of pesticides has been such an important part of crop production for decades that loss or reduction in the use of such chemicals, including neonicotinoids, will almost certainly affect crop yields and, ultimately, the price of food for consumers. Now more than ever it is so important that we find alternative methods of control through more resistant crops, biocontrol and other integrated pests management approaches."

Make the best milk, from the best systems

Zealand dairy farmers have a great opportunity to market the best milk and its origins to the world, according to Minister of Agriculture Damien O'Connor.

Speaking at DairyNZ Farmers' Forum at Mystery Creek in Hamilton, Mr O'Connor told the crowd that New Zealand's dairy sector could benefit by promoting its on-farm production systems internationally.

"Every part of our production system has

to be up to standard, if we say we are the best then we have to be able to prove it," said Mr O'Connor. "So we have to redefine what we do and inspire everyone to understand the potential of the world's finest food production system.

"The government knows how important the primary sector, and in particular dairy, is to the economy. It's our single biggest earner, alongside tourism. We have to back our production with brand integrity - which is why sustainability, animal welfare, climate change and

other issues are so important, that's why we are talking about it.

"My vision is that we produce the finest food and protein for the world's most discerning customers, because those customers will have to be able to pay a little bit more for the food that takes a little more to produce, because we are going to run the best systems in the world."

Mr O'Connor discussed Mycoplasma Bovis and efforts being made to eradicate it. "Mycoplasma Bovis may be the most challenging biosecurity issue we will ever have to deal



Agriculture minister Damian O'Connor.

NZ has been set-up with an risks offshore, along with

with. For future, Biosecurity international unit to look at

reviewing import standards and the Biosecurity Act."

Minister for Climate Change Hon. James Shaw also discussed New Zealand's emissions profile and reaching a zero carbon emissions target by 2050.

"We are committed to being part of a net zero emissions and it is not down to one sector - it is going to take all of us to achieve it," said Mr Shaw.

"Every part of our production system has to be up to standard."

Damian O'Connor

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April delivers weather potpourri

all. experiencing strong winds, thunderstorms, tornadoes, heavy rain, hail, cold snaps and warm sunny autumnal

Rainfall for the month was varied throughout the region with percentages ranging between 38% and 181% of normal, according to Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) figures.

Taranaki North sites (Inglewood north) recorded below normal by between 38% and 91%, while South Taranaki recorded above normal by between 110% and 181%. Mangati (Bell

Block) received only 38 % of normal rainfall with 75.4 mm, while Rimunui Station recorded 181% of normal with 176.5 mm.

Year to date rainfall totals are all above normal by between 107% and 212%, with an average of 145%.

Sort out rebate system first

government introduces a tax on diesel to fund transport it must first sort out the "cumbersome and costly" fuel excise duty rebate system, Federated Farmers told a select committee last week.

While there is a rebate applying to off-road petrol use many farmers don't bother to make claims because the paperwork is too onerous, Federated Farmers transport spokesperson Guy Wigley told the Finance and Expenditure Select Committee.

"Extending the fuel excise duty off-road rebate to diesel, which is much more heavily used in agriculture than is petrol, will likely result in a big increase in claim volumes and an increase in compliance costs."

Forestry, fishing, rail and maritime sectors would be similarly affected, adding pressure on administration of the rebate.

"Running a dual refund system which includes diesel for Auckland but not for the rest of the country will add further complications and confusion," Guy said.

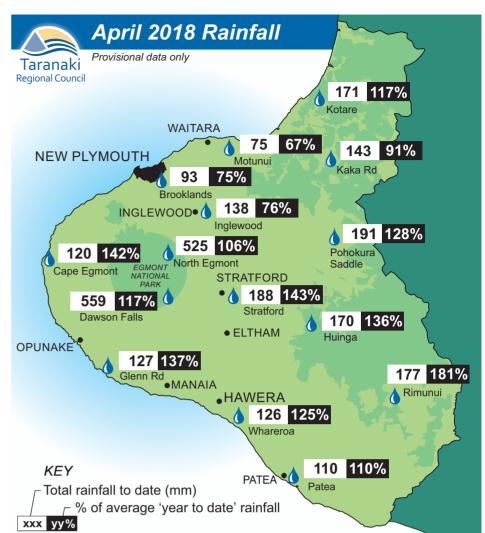
The Federated Farmers submission supported increased investment in transport infrastructure and acknowledged the case for extra revenue to be raised for specific transport projects that might otherwise crowdout investment in other regions.

"It's not just Auckland that needs investment. Rural roads need to be improved, especially for safety, and they need more funding for maintenance."

Federated Farmers say they have long held concerns about regional fuel taxes (RFT), and the prospect of RFT revenue collected from rural road users being used solely to fund urban projects.

"However, if an RFT is to proceed and be collected from rural areas of a region, then it is only fair for revenue to be spent on activities in rural areas as well as urban areas.

"That should be written into the criteria in the proposed amendment bill."



Regions continue to see higher value growth than main centres

The latest monthly QV House Price Index shows nationwide residential values property for 7.6% increased over the past year, while values rose 1.1% over the past three months. The nationwide average value is now \$678,856. When adjusted for inflation the nationwide annual increase

drops slightly to 6.4%. Changes in South Taranaki and Stratford districts were well above the national average. In South Taranaki there was a 10.3% annual increase, with the average house value being \$220,658. In Stratford there was an annual increase with the average house being \$261,449. Plymouth. New In average value was \$444,814, annual increase of 6.3%. Meanwhile, residential value across the Auckland region increased slightly by 0.8% year on year although values dropped by 0.3% over the past quarter. The average value for the Auckland region is now \$1,051,687. When adjusted for inflation values dropped 0.3% over the past year. QV General Manager, David Nagel said, "Nationwide values continue to rise at a

moderate pace with many regional centres continuing

to see steady increases, while

the rate of growth continues to slow, plateau or even drop slightly in the main centres.

"This is partly due to the

continued trend of people

seeking a lifestyle change

away from the cities and

purchasing better valued

properties in the regions, particularly those that within commutable distances of major centres.' Values across the Auckland Region and Wellington City have dropped over the past quarter and while

growth annual remains positive across both, the Auckland region rose just 0.8% in the year to April.' "Annual value flat also remains Christchurch, while Hamilton, Tauranga

Volunteer Cynthia Mooney baits vermin traps as part of Ngati Tara Oaonui Sandy Bay activities at Tai Road. This is important work in keeping down the number of pests in the reserve. People are reminded that dogs are banned from the reserve.

Dunedin markets continue rise moderately. "The slowdown in value growth can be partly attributed to the usual seasonal slowdown in activity as we approach the winter months and also the fact that many people, particularly investors, are expecting significant

capital growth coming months so are less active in the market." Wellington and Dunedin -

due to rising rents which mean "Despite the fact that home it can often be as affordable values remain high, first to purchase an entry level home buyer activity is home and pay a mortgage. increasing particularly in as it is to rent a home. "However, for many, raising a as people take advantage deposit is still a bridge too far KiwiSaver to cross to be able to gain entry their deposits." into the housing market.

"The higher proportion of first

home buyer actively is largely



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COASTAL RUGBY



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A win and a loss for Premiers



Thys VanderPoel in his blazer (50th) game steps up field.

Round 5 had Coastal Farm Source Premiers heading to Inglewood. A better start saw Coastal take a 20 - 10 lead into half time. A second half try and penalty extended the lead to 28 - 10, with a late Inglewood try making the final score 28 - 17. Try scorers were Alex Kauvalu(2), Lisiate Folau and Jeremy Newell.

Thys VanDerPoel kicked a conversion and a penalty. Rick McKenna also kicked a penalty.

MVP was Liam Parker.
Round 6 was played in
Rahotu against Clifton.
Perfect conditions allowed
open running rugby with the
lead changing several times.
Coastal went into halftime

with a narrow 20 - 19 lead.

An early second half penalty and try extended the lead to 28 - 19. The game was far from over as Clifton scored two tries in the last 20 minutes to lead going into the last 10 minutes. Coastal were unable to score again and Clifton took the match 31 - 28. Try scorers were Cal Davies, Lisiate Folau, Liam Parker and Tevita

Fa'ukafa. The other 8 points game from the boots of Thys VanDerPoel and Rick McKenna.

MVP was Alex Kauvalu.

Next week is the last game of round 1, and Coastal will travel to Hawera to take on competition leaders Southern.

Brian Olliver



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A lucky Friday for Coastal Women's team



Brooke Sim powers her way past the Clifton defense.

On Friday April 13, the Coastal Women's rugby team travelled to Hawera to play Southern. Some might find the day unlucky but not Coastal. They turned up ready to play and from the kick-off dominated South-ern with numerous tries scored by various players. Defence had been worked on at training that week and it showed. We defended well only letting in a well worked try from Southern. The forwards played really well making good metres through the middle of the Southern defensive line to

ball. Halfback Brylee Gee was player of the day. She made some good runs playing more like an extra loose forward and getting a try for her efforts.

The conditions last Friday were perfect for rugby. The Junior Girls Rugby was a great curtain raiser to the Clifton vs Coastal Women's game. The Coastal girls were pumped for their first home game of the season and were encouraged by the number of people there for the junior girls. For the first time Coastal had a full team of 23, but unfortunately Clifton only had 14, so Coastal donated

a couple to Clifton to enable a proper game. Coastal started strongly but couldn't capitalise on possession. Clifton got a few tries in the first half and Coastal managed to get one back through captain Brooke Sim. Things were made easier when a Clifton girl got carded for constant infringing at the constant infringing at the ruck just before half time. Coastal played really well but could only manage one more try through centre Juistyce Green. Both tries were converted by Casio Te Ora Austin. Clifton just had too much pace out wide. Sim was player of the day

and led by example with some strong ball carries and crushing defence along with Hineana Dando and Natalie Jones. Brooke Sim said, "I'm really proud of the team. Every game we get better and the girls put in a much improved performance against Clifton. It's really nice to have a Women's competition up and

early fince to have a woll-en's competition up and running Taranaki to help promote Women's rugby."

The next game is against Southern at Rahotu on Fri-day May 11 at 7 pm. The girls would love your sup-port so get on down port so get on down. BD



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COASTAL RUGBY

Runaway win for Division 1



Beauden Fleming soars high for a lineout win.

FBT Coastal Division 1 played a strong game against Clifton last Saturday at Rahotu. Tries were scored by Bryn Chard, Jacob Gopperth, David Hughes and a hat trick from Jordan

Fleming. At half time the lead was 17-5 but the forwards started to control the game in the second half which provided good ball for the backs. This allowed us to run away with the game 45-10. Player of the day was captain Jamie Fevre whose leadership skills were outstanding. The previous week we had the bye, as unfortunately Inglewood are unable to field a Division 1 team. This Saturday we travel to Hawera for a top of the table clash against Southern at 1.00pm.

Gerard Kalin

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COASTAL RUGBY

Colts have loss and a win



Bradley Hare hares up the paddock for the Corkill Colts.

On the 28th April the Corkill Systems Coastal

Colts travelled to Inglewood for the clash against Inglewood Colts with the game

Inglewood finally winning going right to the wire with 22 - 20. It was a tight game

with the boys faltering in the last 20 minutes. The backline were threatening all game with strong running by Shaan and Jared in midfield, and the forwards led by Cody and Jackson. Player of Day points went to Shaan Wineera (3), Jackson Wright (2) and Cody Rothwell (1).

The following week the Colts played at home in Rahotu on the Number 1 field against Clifton. The boys fronted up and played the whole 80 minutes and won

28 - 17. It was a good game with strong performances by Ra Naniseni and Tom Aim in the forwards, and with Jared Hunt continuing his good form with good help by Alex Bell and good goal kicking by Bradley Hare. Player of the Day points went to Cody Rothwell (3), Toni Hess(2) and Tom Aim(1). Next week we go to Hawera to play Southern. Boys, we need you to turn up to trainings so we can build onwards and have a good season.

Two out of two for Div 2

Well it's been a big job but tracking well with great results so far. From my last report Goodin Ag Div 2 have played Spotswood at Okato and had a good win 72 - 5 with some of Spotswood under 20 players coming on in the second half to help them get a bit of go forward ball, but it wasn't enough. The next game was played in Stratford. We knew it would be a harder game as they've had some good results through the season so far. We tied them up in the

forwards and got some great tries out wide from Herewini , Sharpy and Daniel, leading to a 57 - 5 win. The next game was going to be a test against Inglewood. With them not having a B team they would have a strong side. They had a strong back line. Whitebait and the boys did a great job and showed they could grind out a win when required with us wining 16 - 10. Training is every Thursday night at 6.30 cheers

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Manaia Golf results

Junior Pee Wee Girls. 1. Taylor. 3. Lucas Symes. MacKenzie King. 2. Hannah Symes. Pee Wee Boys. 1. Nathan Thomas. 2. Connor Thomas.

Kiwi Boys. 1. Carter Symes/. 2. Oliva Symes. Kiwi Girls. 1. Jayda Sharp. 2. Zoe Reader.

The Last Wollies. Gross. 1. Ashton Sharp. 2. Kieran

Taranaki age group championships held at Westown April 26-27. 3rd Gross. Jayda Sharp (18 hole section). 1st Nett. Ashton Sharp (72 hole section).

Saturday May 5. Men. Stroke Play. 1 . J o h n Oliver. 2. Gary Dowdle. 3. Greg Elliott. Twos. 1. Caleb

Ambrose Junior. 1. Girl Power. 2. Golf Musters. Putting team. 1. Girl Power. 2. Golf Musters.

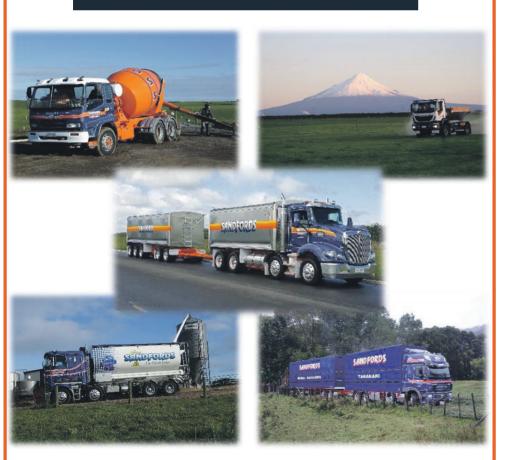
Junior Boys Gross. 1. Kieran Taylor. 2. Carter Symes. 3. Jayda Sharp. Putting. 1. Kieran Taylor. 2. Carter Symes. 3. Jayda Sharp.

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Opunake Bowling Club



Paddy Deegan and Levi Davis finished runners-up in Hugh Moss, a Taranaki-wide tournament for junior men players.they are pictured here with President Peter White.

On March 12, Paddy Deegan and Levi Davis finished runners-up in Hugh Moss, a Taranaki-wide tournament for junior men players.

The final of the Women's Singles was played on March 14. Chris Commane beat Bev Robinson 21-18 in the first to 21 points.

Some finals were not played due to greens being closed early. The Pihama Bowling Club came to the rescue and a day was held

with competitions finalised. Junior singles were played with Paddy Deegan beating Brian Brophy. Rita Davey won the Junior Ladies singles, beating Hemahema. Julie was the first year winner.

Hole in one at Pungarehu Golf Club tournament



Joseph Doyle scores a hole in one.

At Pungarehu Golf Club's annual ANZAC Pork tournament, Joseph Doyle (25) used his 6 iron to score the perfect shot scoring a hole in one on the 160 metre, 9th hole. There were 88 entries who were able to compete in perfect weather and the course was in outstanding condition, which made for a great day for a round of golf.

Results: Men's div 1. 0-14. Best nett (61) - Logan Crowley. Best Stbfd (43) Noel Stanley. Men's div 2. 15-39. Best nett - John VanderPoel. Best Stbfd -Liam Harvey. Ladies: Best nett - Sharon Fisher. Best Stbfd - Sharon Adamson.



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Mounga Tri Series takes Opunake by storm

entry-level triathlon held in Opunake on Saturday 21 April, is proving a huge The Mounga success. Tri Series has been held in Opunake for the past three years and this year's event is biggest yet. Taranaki Toa founder, Alf Robson, was delighted to see the enormous interest and participation. More than 200 people, of all ages, sizes and fitness, registered for the event. People showed courage and determination to have a go. The Mounga Tri Series (Mounga is the Taranaki word for mountain) was established by Taranaki Toa, a Taranaki Māori community group, to encourage whānau to become active and engage in regular exercise. While the group is open to Māori and non-Māori, Taranaki Toa's unashamed goal is to address the overrepresentation of Māori in



Some of the coastal triathletes who took part in the Waitara and Opunake Triathlon..

as obesity, heart disease and diabetes. Everyone

poor health statistics, such is encouraged to have a go in a safe, encouraging and supportive

"The main focus is on participation, rather than environment. competition. Usually the

biggest cheer is for the last person who crosses the line," Mr Robson said.

Robson attributed the success of the event to a special bunch of dedicated Opunake locals and a fantastic group of volunteers who selflessly gave their time and energy. Many local community businesses contributed to the event, providing spot prizes, resources and support. He paid special tribute to Taranaki Toa member and local Iron woman, Julie Morgan, who has been an inspiration to many people to become physically healthy and active. The Mounga Tri Series in Opunake, closed out the event calendar for 2018. It is planned to return in April next year. With the success of this year's event, Mr Robson encouraged participants to continue pursue a healthy lifestyle of regular exercise and a balanced diet.

Julie Morgan.

Indoor bowls play first round

Taranaki Indoor Bowls played the first round of their inter association competition at the Normanby Hall on Friday April 27. Each Association has two teams of six players and the competition played is triples pairs and singles. Central A and Central B both scored 18 points each for a

combined total of 36 points and a clear lead over South A (13 points) and South B (10 points) for a combined total of 23 points and in third place are Waimate A (5 points) and Waimate B (8 points) for a combined total of 13 points.

Ray Finlay Publicity officer.

Taranaki Target shooting

Taranaki Tigers v Hutt Valley Hawkes

In the N.D.C. National Districts Champs telephone shoot 1st round the Taranaki Tigers beat the Hutt Valley Hawks by 9 points to 4. The open squad performed well with Sam Gooding leading the charge with a great shoot of 298. 19 and a handy 100.5 last card.

In the composite Squad Clare Bramley shot very well with a total 295.19 and equal top score on her final card of 100.8. Two other hundreds were shot by father and son Bruce and Jason Cameron. Paul Tidswell finished strongly for a 100.7.

The Composite Squad were the standout in helping the Tigers to their win. Taranaki Tigers scores were: Open team: S .Gooding 29819, B. Cameron 297.20, Cameron 296.14, D. Fake 294.15, B. Moratti 292. 12, B. Moratti 292.12, P. Tidswell 291.11, T. Jupp 28812, H. Andreoli 288.12, D. Gibson 290.11. total 2929.143.

Composite Squad: Bramley 295.19 C. Clealand 293.13, Martin Michel 290.6, C. Burr 287.8, G. Moratti 282.9. Junior Squad H. Amond 186.4, Tenneile Crump/ Conchie181.3, D. Robinson167.2.

Frank Eustace



Nicole Bennett in action.

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Maree Seymour and her son Tristan. Maree won the major spot prize of a new bike at the Taranaki Toa event in Opunake.



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PUBLIC NOTICES



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5.30PM

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

Hawera Genealogy **Book Fair Second Hand Book Collection**

We will be at the Opunake and Coastal News office from 10-2pm on Thursday 17th May and Thursday 31st May

> Phone Jill 027 4310145 or Jim 027 2789252

The Book Fair will be held in October



FOURTH RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the fourth instalment of rates for 2017/2018 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 30 May 2018.

WD Crockett Chief Executive

OPUNAKE LIONS CLUB

CASUALTY CALF COLLECTION

All Groups or Organisations wanting to collect Casualty Calves this season please contact co-ordinator:

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Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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Opunake Catholic Church

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea) 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

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake Sunday Services 10.30am Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday Men's Group 7pm Wednesday Youth Group 7pm Friday Come along or contact Pastor Murray 027 688 7378

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

Meets 6.00pm Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome

PUBLIC NOTICES



Opunake Surf Life Saving Club Annual General Meeting

Date: 10th June 2018 Time: 11am **Location: Opunake Surf Life Saving** Clubrooms - Beach Road, Opunake.

As part of the AGM we are calling on nominations for Elected Roles & Committee Members.

- President
- Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- Club Captain
- Junior Surf Coordinator
- Committee Members

Nomination forms & job descriptions can be requested by emailing opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all in the community who have supported our club over the past year, your support is very much appreciated. Please stay safe and stay within your limits when playing in the surf and we look forward to another fantastic season next summer.

Authorised by OSLSC Committee.

OPUNAKE PONY CLUB **AGM**

May 23 7.30pm 3955 South Road

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Boeing Boeing flies very high indeed



The talented cast of 'Boeing Boeing'.

TET Cue's latest production 'Boeing Boeing', which was written by Marc Camoletti, (and translated by Beverley Cross) runs from April 25 to May 5. Directed impeccably by Stephen Leeks (Captain Stephen) the comedy is simply superb. It is rare where a production does not appear to be a bit lacking in some aspect, but this one seems faultless. It is a shame this comedy (with this cast and ground crew) is not touring, because it deserves to be experienced by as many people as possible.

The comedy, set in the 1960s, is in two Acts opening in Bernard (played by Simon Buick)'s flat. I don't want to give too much away and spoil it for patrons still lucky enough to see it, but Bernard has an complicated unbelievably life and romantic deliciously grumpy maid Bertha (played by Victoria Mills), who is decidedly forthright.

An old friend from way back Robert (played by Lindsay Franklin) turns up and gets caught up in the romantic mayhem.

Three ladies come and go and mostly (thankfully) avoid each other; these include Janet (played by Karlina Nickson), Jacqueline (played by Rebecca Leafberg) and Judith (played by Kerttu Matto).

And the ending? Surely, even the most astute theatregoer couldn't guess

All players are well chosen, word perfect and very entertaining; I don't recall seeing better. It was simply an excellent cast, with the standouts (by a tiny degree) being Victoria Mills and Kerttu Matto. The onstage brilliance is complemented by the expertise and care of the ground crew led by Stage Manager Paul Oliver and Production Manager David Powell.

Cue's productions always excellent. Is this one the very best I've witnessed? - very possibly! Don't delay and risk missing out - go and book your tickets NOW from Fun Ho in Inglewood.

Rolland McKellar

What's On Listings

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?

Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care.

For more information phone: 06 7591363. Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month. May meeting to be held on Monday the

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome **SCHNITZEL NIGHT**

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE - LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

TAI CHI BASICS

14th May.

Thursdays 9am - 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

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

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

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

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

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

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

PREGNANCY HELP TARANAKI

Is now in OPUNAKE! Are you pregnant? Do you have a baby or young family? To hear more, like us on facebook www.facebook.com/preghelptaranaki/. Please come and meet us and find out how we may be able to help you.

OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

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

TAINUI DAY CENTRE - ST BARNABAS CHURCH HALL, 141 Tasman Street Opunake.

Each Monday at 10 am - 12:30 pm. \$2 donation. Join us for "Steady as you Go" gentle, happy exercise. Enjoy morning tea, over any discussion which is topical or deemed helpful. Chose a quiet game or join in with bowls or golf. If preferred just sit and watch. Stay as long or little time as you feel comfortable; but be assured of a very warm welcome.

From time to time we invite speakers from different organizations who would prove most interesting and beneficial.

We look forward to seeing all our regular folk and meeting new members; we feel sure you will soon make new friends or find someone you already know.

Need more information call Jenny 7628080 or Glenys 6558025, they will be pleased to help. ART EXHIBITION NATIONAL COMPETITION WITH LYSAGHT WATT GALLERY

May 4 to June 10 at the Lysaght Watt Art Gallery, 4-6 Union St, Hawera. Refer advert for

FAMILY WORKS 'GROWING TOGETHER' SUPPORT GROUP WORKSHOP

Thursdays from May 10 to June 14 at Opunake Co-operating Parish. Refer advert for details.

'WALLS' EXHIBITION AT THE VILLAGE GALLERY

Opens May 11. Refer advert for details.

THE SLACKS PLAYING LIVE AT BUTLERS REEF

In Oakura on May 12. Also, Happy Campers Band playing on May 19. Refer advert for details.

RAHOTU TAVERN MOTHERS DAY

Sunday 13 May. Trevors Show and Shine - come see over 100 classic cars on our Tavern lawn.Catering by Rahotu Home and School - coffees, cakes and BBQ

10 am to 2pm STRATFORD A&P ASSN AGM

Monday May 14 2018 7.30pm at Skinner Hall Showgrounds, Stratford. A light supper will be provided. All Welcome.

SELF HELP GROUP

Starting Thursday May 17, 6-7pm at the Town Hall, Opunake. Addiction, disorders, enabling.

HAWERA GENEALOGY BOOK FAIR

Collections at the Opunake & Coastal News offices on May 17 and May 31. Refer advert

BDO FARMING EXPO - 'OPEN TO CHANGE' Thursday May 17 from 10am to 2.30pm. At the War Memorial Centre, 55 Miranda St,

Stratford. Refer advert for details. OAONUI HALL INAUGURAL ANNUAL GUMBOOT BALL

To be held at the Oaonui Hall on May 19. Refer advert for details.

PIHAMA LAVENDAR MARKET DAY.

May 20 at Pihama Lavendar. At the old Dairy factory, Main Rd, Pihama. Refer advert. ST BARNABAS CHURCH

141 Tasman Street Opunake, "Thy Kingdom Come". The church will be open for Prayer and Contemplation. Sunday afternoon May 20th, followed by an evening service at 7 pm (usual morning service at 10 am, all welcome)

OPUNAKE PONY CLUB AGM

May 23 at 7.30pm at 3955 South Road. Refer ad for details.

TUMAHU HALL AGM

May 26, 2417 Wiremu Rd, Okato at 7pm..

ORIMUPIKO RESERVES TRUST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At Orimupiko Marae, Elham Rd, Opunake on May 26 at 10am. Shared kai at 12.30pm.

OPUNAKE SURF LIFESAVING CLUB AGM

June 10 at 11am. At the Opunake Surf Live Saving Clubrooms. Refer advert for details. **ASIAN ADVENTURE WITH NICOLA FROM YOU TRAVEL, ELTHAM**

Experience Singapore, Cambodia and Vietnam with You Travel. Travel times are from October 21 to November 2 2018.

Lysaght Watt Gallery National Art Competition

view the superb collection of art at the Lysaght Art Gallery in Hawera and discover the results of the competition on Thursday May 3. The event was ably run by Lynne Walker, Chairperson, with the judging carried out by an esteemed member of the artistic fraternity Bill Milbank QSO (WH Milbank Gallery, Whanganui). The competition theme was 'rising'. The exhibition runs from May 4 to June 10 and can be viewed at 4-6 Union Street, Hawera.

There were several prizes on offer, but the supreme award was won by Nour Hassan from Auckland with her moving painting 'Beat'. Her prize was \$3,000. The Lysaght Watt Trust were the sponsors of this prize.

This was the first time the young female artist had entered a competition or exhibited. Accompanying the exhibit was this statement from the artist: *This reflects a*

period when I struggled with addiction. My interpretation of the theme 'rising, is using your struggles to elevate you to another place. Mr Milbank described the painting as "stunning."

Lynne Walker, in her address, said the number of entries is the greatest yet - in this the sixth time the event has been held. After several withdrawals a total of 87 exhibits were displayed. The expert mounting of the works is a credit to Margaret Springett (curator), Cecilia Russell, Robert Russell and Lynne Walker.

Sponsors were kindly responsible for the other awards monetary value. Jean Finer (Hawera) won the Local Artist Award for her intriguing painting 'On, Upward Through the Herbfield', showing miniature hikers making their way up Mount Taranaki amidst a myriad of colours. This prize was sponsored by the Tandem Group (Chartered

Accountants) with a prize of \$250.

Blue W Black (Dunedin) won the Neil and Helen Walker 'Highly Commended' award 3D for 'Repotted' and \$500 in prize money. Blue's colourful floral exhibit is most eyecatching. Lynne said the artist (a woman) is currently in Dunedin Hospital so hopefully this award will keep up her spirits for a speedy recovery.

The other highly Commended Award, this time for 2D, was the Mere/Ohangai Rural Women Prize of \$500. This was won by Joon-Hee Park of Auckland with her oil painting Sweet Dreams 2. Her dreamlike beautifully executed work was most appealing.

Di West of Northland won the Beccard Motors Commended 3D prize for her bronze 'Star Finder'. Her exhibit depicts a figure rising on a sky ladder to collect a golden star amongst the clouds. It was a carefully crafted imaginative



Nour Hassan from Auckland with her moving painting 'Beat'.

exhibit.

The Greaves Electrical prize of Commended 2D went to Sophie Prendergast of Auckland for her double photograph entitled 'Transition' - of a "youthful woman, hair flowing like a river." The mirror image

is captured in an intriguing manner which highlights her personality. Her prize was \$250.

Make sure you find time to visit this outstanding exhibition. Also make sure you cast your vote for the final prize - the People Choice Award, sponsored by Normanby Fibreglass. The prize will be announced on the final day of the exhibition-Sunday 10 June. The Lysaght Watt Gallery is open Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm and on Saturdays 10am to 1pm. Don't miss out.

Good Home for great entertainment



The Good Home in New Plymouth has a great line-up of live music and DJ's this May. If you are heading into New Plymouth and looking for some great food, drinks and music, then make The Good Home your first and only port of call. Entertainment starts at 10.00pm each night and goes till late.

Friday May 11-Dj Mawai. Saturday May 12 - Ash & Aidan followed by Dj Ash. Friday May 18. Dj BB. Saturday May 19-Blistered Fingers. Friday May 25-Dj Mawai. Saturday May 26 - Blistered Fingers.



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Change at the helm at Headlands

Opunake's iconic restaurant Headlands has new owners. Balvir Singh has bought the business and he and son Birendra Rawat will jointly run the restaurant which they have renamed Headlands Indian Restaurant.

They took over a month ago from the former proprietors Haresh and Sonam Prasad who have moved to New Plymouth.

The pair come from Auckland. Balvir is a chef with 40 years experience. Birendra meanwhile previously managed an Indian restaurant in Auckland and says he's "used to a busy restaurant." They hope to be joined at some stage by the rest of the family which includes Birendra's younger sister and mother.

The restaurant is now open seven days a week from 11am till 2pm and from 5pm till 9pm and serves Indian food and also, at lunchtime, European food. The extensive menu in-

cludes favourites such as butter chicken as well as a chef's special.

They also do takeaways and can deliver.

And they cater for birthdays and other celebrations. "We've catered to a few birthdays in the last month," says Birnendra which they've enjoyed.

The restaurant also has a great selection of appetisers. Birendra explains that food is cooked in a Tandoor, a clay oven, which gives naan bread and appetisers "a smoky flavour.

As well they serve a range of cocktails.

Birendra enjoys making cocktails and on the menu is a variety of summer and winter cocktails, both alcoholic and non alcoholic, as well as one of Birendra's own creations, Taranaki Sunrise



which is non alcoholic or a "mocktail." He is practising "flairing" which he explains is making cocktails with great flair and dexterity. It's a sort of juggling art he hopes with practice to demonstrate to customers, but "not yet," he says with a grin, showing a video on his cellphone of what a true master can do.

They also have a fine selection of wines. And they welcome people who just want to come in for a coffee and sell the usual selection.

Future plans for the restaurant include having instrumental music "to add to the atmosphere" and

perhaps changing the lighting and adding more pictures.

And as a Mother's Day special, a complimentary drink or a free dessert is offered to all mothers who dine on Mother's Day.



Opunake's iconic Headlands Restaurant renamed Headlands Indian Restaurant.





On this month in history

Everest climbed by seventy-year-old

On May 22, 2003 Mount Everest was climbed by Yuichiro Miura of Japan. He was aged 70 years and 222 days making him the oldest to reach the summit. At 8848 metres the mountain is the highest, not only in the Himalayas, but the world.

The risks are great, with avalanches claiming the most lives. Sir Edmund Hillary was the first to climb it, with Sherpa Tenzing (May 29, 1953). They had bottled oxygen. Italian Reinhold Messner was the first to climb Everest (with Peter Habeler) without the advantage of oxygen on September 17, 1978.

He is arguably the greatest

mountaineer of all time.

Opunake Reinhold Messner was also the first climber to summit all Ph: 06 761 8358 14 peaks above 8000 metres.



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OAONUI HALL

Inaugural Annual Gumboot Ball Saturday May 19



\$20 ticket - BYO Drinks

Supper provided · Courtesy Van available

Tickets from Andy 027 499 5203 or Snapper 027 248 5858



06 752 7765

Oaonui in boots and all



Oaonui Hall Committee chairman Andy Whitehead.

A ball to welcome newcomers to Oaonui will double as a fundraiser to help pay for renovations to the local hall.

Organisers hope that the Inaugural annual Gumboot Ball to be held at the Oaonui Hall on May 19 will be the first of many similar events in other Coastal Taranaki communities.

The idea of having a ball just before the annual June 1 farm changeover to welcome people coming into the area is not a new one, says Oaonui Hall Committee chairman Andy Whitehead.

"The Gumboot Ball used to happen every year. For the last few years it hasn't happened and we want to make it happen again," he said. "We always wanted to have a community get together, and having the hall is an excuse to meet your neighbours and get together."

Originally the hall committee had been thinking of having a 50 Shades of Gold Ball, but this idea was thought too formal, so they decided on a Gumboot Ball instead. This would allow people to come dressed however they wished, whether formally in suits and glad rags, or in more casual attire.

The evening will include auctions for pairs of gumboots signed by the Barrett brothers, and the Warriors Rugby

League team.

"They both had good wins this week, and let's hope they win next week," says Andy.

The Ball will also be a fundraiser to put in an allaccess entrance and toilet. At present anybody wanting to use the toilet has to climb two flights of stairs.

Andy says the hall entrance faces on to the Surf Highway, and the committee want to move it away from the main road to make it more user friendly.

The hall acts as a bus stop for connecting school buses and the new entrance would act as a sheltered area for students waiting for their bus to turn up.

The hall which is 120 years old gets a lot of use. Andy says its advantages include being one of the bigger community halls on the coast and having a lot of space for parking. It also has a pool table, darts club and table tennis available.

"Once we get the all-access entrance and toilet it will make it even better," says

Recent functions at the hall have included a concert by the band Hopetoun Brown which attracted an audience of 80 people.

"The band had a fantastic interaction with the crowd and played a great range of music," said Andy.

The local community has a T20 Club where they try to have something on the 20th of every month, like the Bump Ball event which attracted 40 children and 30 adults. Among the groups using the hall is the Rifle Club, who meet here every Wednesday.

The Oaonui community are raising a third of the money required for the renovations themselves, with the balance from other sources.

Last week the Oaonui Hall Committee went to the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting and came away with a grant for \$2895.43.

With Andy Whitehead also being deputy chairman of the Community Board, he declared an interest and the Hall Committee's case was put by treasurer Adrienne Young.

The committee is planning to start work at the end of May, she said, and with "a lot of voluntary help" it would take about three months.

Community board member Brian Vincent said if halls like these are not maintained, then they are lost.

"Keep up the good work on the hall. It's the only thing left on the map that says Oaonui," he said.

Board chairman Craig Dingle said the hall is the hub of the community, particularly given recent events such as Cyclone Gita and the tornado which hit nearby Rahotu.

Walls come together

Around fifty Taranaki artists have joined together to design, paint, stitch and felt nearly 100 'Brick' sized canvases for the latest exhibition at The Village Gallery, Eltham.

This is part of the latest exhibition entitled 'Walls'. The artists brief was to create something that reflected their idea of 'walls' or simply design a brick.

So, you can imagine the diverse interpretations of that theme; garden walls, prison walls, castle walls, walls of the mind and appearance. The possibilities are endless.

The display all came together on Monday as the gallery committee arranged the 'Bricks' on to four large for sale.

The Gallery walls

themselves have a display of works on the same theme. This includes a number of photographic items, paintings and mixed media works.

It is good to see Margaret Foley's pottery 'Apartment Houses' featuring also.

The exhibition officially will be launched on Friday at an evening function from 5.30 pm - 7 pm.

This exhibition is something different and well worth a visit. The Gallery is open Monday – Saturday 10am – 3pm

Maree Liddington

One section of the 'Walls' display; and detail of a 'Brick' by **Dorianne Hornby of** New Plymouth.



Hawera Rep goes to Narnia

Hawera Repertory's latest production "The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe" has been cast and is busy in rehearsal. The play by C.S Lewis and adapted by Glyn Robbins will be directed by Samantha Turner. The cast is made up of some new adult members to the Hawera stage, some familiar older faces and many of the younger cast members have been involved in the Barbara Leydon Junior Drama Festival run by Hawera Repertory. Director Samantha Turner who most recently bought us Beauty and the Beast will once again deliver an entertaining production with sharp characters, great costuming and many moments best described as the 'magic of theatre' Sign in Loading...

When Lucy comes across the old wardrobe standing alone in the spare room at The **Professors**

house, she thinks she has found a good place to hide. But then she tumbles headlong into a

magical world of fauns, dwarves and animals that talk the land of Narnia.

It is so extraordinary that at first her brothers and sister don't believe it can be real. Soon, though,



Hawera Repertory's latest production "The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe"

Peter, Edmund and Susan find Narnia too and the adventures really begin. Together they must

battle against the evil White Witch to break her cruel grip on Narnia, a land she has cast in perpetual

winter, without Christmas. Only one thing can hold fast against such wickedness: the mighty Aslan.

Join Hawera Repertory in this enchanted world. This play is two acts and runs for approximately two

hours including an interval.

It is suitable for the whole family from age five upwards. The show is on from June

22-30 in the Memorial Ticket Direct. Theatre with tickets available from the I-Site or online at

Coastal art by a coastal artist

The May exhibition on the Virtual Tart site is Coastal Drawings, by Paul Hutchin-

No more long and energetic walks on the beach - while his old dog Fergus rested, Paul

CoastalCare

drew their favourite beaches of coastal Taranaki. Paul Hutchinson lives at Puniho, Taranaki.

Dale Copeland



Haumaru ki Tai Health and Community Centre Delivering essential community health and social services now and into the future....

DID YOU KNOW?

CoastalCare offers for hire, quiet, private, well-appointed room's for meetings, training opportunities and social gatherings. This will seat up to 60 people or it has the flexibility to be divided into two smaller rooms. The facilities include a lounge area & kitchenette for self service of coffees and tea

Permanently residing in the building are: **OPUNAKE PHARMACY,** OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE, ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE, PLUNKET, **HEALTH BOARD SERVICES,**

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

COASTAL PRINTERS Wednesday and Friday 9am - 5pm TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE Offering full dental services every Thursday from hygiene treatments to

dentures LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY Every Wednesday **ACUPUNCTURE CLINIC**

Every Thursday afternoon. TAI CHI - NIGEL CLIFFE Every Thursday, 9am-10am

BUDGET ADVICE By appointment

TARANAKI PODIATRY Every 3rd Wednesday



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AVENGERS: INFINITY WAR Action, Adventure, Fantasy, Sci Fi| 2hrs 36mins | M: Violence

As the Avengers and their allies have continued to protect the world from threats too large for any one hero to handle, a new danger has emerged from the cosmic shadows: Thanos.

Sun 13th May 7pm Wed 16th May 7pm Sat 19th May 7pm

BLOCKERS Comedy| 1hr 42mins| R16: Nudity, Drug Use, Offensive Language When three parents discover that their

daughters plan to lose their virginity on prom night, they launch a secret one-night operation to foil their children's plans Sat 12th May 7pm

A WRINKLE IN TIME

Adventure, Fantasy, Sci Fi | 2hrs | PG Meg Murry and her little brother. Charles Wallace, have been without their scientist father, Mr. Murry, for five years, ever since h

discovered a new planet and used the concept known as a tesseract to travel there
Sat 19th May 1pm|Fri 25th May 7pm



THE GUERNSEY LITERARY AND POTATOE PEEL PIE SOCIETY Drama, Romance, Historical 1hr 26mins I M

A free-spirited journalist Juliet Ashton, who forms a life-changing bond with the delightful Peel Pie Society. She decides to write about the book club they formed during the occupation of Guernsev in WWII

Sun 20th May 7pm | Wed 23rd May 1pm | Sat 26th May 7pm



ID required for all R movies FILM STARS DON'T DIE IN LIVERPOOL Drama, True Story | 1hr 45mins | M: Sex

References, Offensive Language What starts as a vibrant affair between a legendary femme fatale and her young lover quickly grows into a deeper relationship. Their passion and lust for life is tested to the limits by events beyond their control. Wed 16 $^{\rm th}$ May 1pm | Fri 18 $^{\rm th}$ May 7pm



EARLY MAN

Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids | 1hr 29mins | PG Course Language Early Man tells the story of Dug, & sidekick Hognob as they unite his tribe against a mighty enemy Lord Nooth and his Bronze Age City to save their home.

Sun 12th May 1pm | Sat 26th May 1pm



!!!ARTHOUSE!!! EARTH: ONE AMAZING DAY Documentary, Family|1hr 35mins|G
An astonishing journey revealing the awesome power of the natural world. Over the

course of one single day, we track the sun from the highest mountains to the remotest islands, from exotic jungles to urban jungles Wed 23rd May 7pm | Wed 30th May 1pm

THE SHAWSHANK REDEMPTION Thu 17th May 7pm



THE BREAKFAST Drama, Comedy | 1hr 37 min | R13: Thu 10th May 7pm



| Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun |
|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| | | The Breaker | Early Man 1pm | Avengers 7pm |
| | | Upperers 7pm | Blockers 7pm | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| Film Stars don't die in | The Shawshank | Film Stars don't die in | A Wrinkle in Time 1pm | The Guernsey Literary |
| Liverpool 1pm | Redemption 7pm | Liverpool 7pm | Avengers 7pm | 7pm |
| Avengers 7pm | | | | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| The Guernsey L - 1pm | The Breakfast Club | A Wrinkle in Time | Early Man 1pm | I Feel Pretty 7pm |
| Earth One Amazing Day | 7pm | 7pm | The Guernsey L - 7pm | |
| 7pm | | | | |

Being Open to Change in Farming



Hamish Bond

As the end of the farming seasons draws near there will be a lot of reflection on events and what that means for farmers personally, their business and the farming community. It's been one heck of a ride this season with flooding, drought, governmental change, the mycoplasma bovis threat, tornados and lightning.

How farming looks and feels today is moving rapidly. It needs to, as we are faced with constant changes. Time doesn't stop and we need to be resilient and open to change in order to be sustainable in the future - the cost of not doing so is too high to imagine.

BDO Taranaki is backing farmers through this challenge of continual change. Change is different for each of us and can at first seem scary, but it doesn't need to be. If we embrace change one step at a time we are likely to see challenges are disguised opportunities to make gains. The BDO Farming Expo, Thursday 17 May at the War Memorial Centre, Stratford, from 10am-2.30pm features a range of seminars and stalls designed to give farmers the tools to do exactly that.

To be sustainable we have to change our focus from looking backwards (reactive) to looking forward (proactive), in order to maximise our opportunities and avoid pitfalls.

Optimising per cow productivity is becoming increasingly important with farming coming under increasing pressure to increase sustainability and decrease its impact on the environment, and these can work in harmony.

Mineral Systems uncover causes of poor animal health, often where there are no physical signs. Their Expo session will show how an 'animal first' focus will lead to improved health using fewer drugs (decreased expenses), increased productivity and industry good. They have pioneered a new "milk fever free Taranaki" initiative where down cows will no longer be the accepted norm.

Resources are becoming scarcer and costlier. Our communities look at how to maintain our clean, green waterways and image and we find ourselves on the path towards minimising feed, water and fertiliser lost. DairyNZ will discuss how this will enhance sustainability of resources, the farm and the industry in the long term.

The new government is proposing further changes to employment and known issues with the Holidays Act and Health & Safety which Lawyers Auld Brewer Mazengarb & McEwen will cover.

Succession planning allows our farming legacy, or the gains from it, to carry on. Many Taranaki farmers are nearing retirement but have little or no succession plans. Coach Approach Rural will talk on the impact of no action and how your family

can plan for the future.

LIC and Drone Technologies Ltd will also present sessions. The day will wrap up with our guest speaker Olympic and Commonwealth medallist Hamish Bond- an athlete who exemplifies being open to change with his successful switch from rowing to cycling.

The day including; seminars, stalls, lunch, barista coffee and drinks, is open to all in the farming industry. Register now at www.bdo.nz/farmingexpo

Sheree Hastie, Chartered Accountant, BDO Taranaki

Chainsaw Safety Tips & Tricks

On 14 May STIHL will launch the 2018 STIHL Chainsaw Safety Awareness Week throughout the country with a strong but simple message for the Kiwi "weekend warrior" -taking five minutes to get ready before you start your DIY adventure is essential to your safety.

Our Chainsaw Safety Awareness Week targets the occasional chainsaw user who starts up their machinery every now and then, but may not give proper consideration to keeping themselves safe.

Chainsaw Safety Tips

Check that your protective clothing is complete and fitting properly. Your clothing should be snugfitting, with no loose elements getting in your way. Wear trousers with a reinforced cut-retardant layer or front leg protection i.e. Chainsaw Chaps. Wear

protective cut-retardant footwear with non-slip soles and steel toecaps.

Wear heavy-duty non-slip gloves, preferably in leather. Don't forget to wear proper head, face and eye protection as well as sound barriers (ear plugs or mufflers).

Visit your local STIHL Specialist Retailer to view their extensive range of essential protective wear.

Check your Chainsaw, before you start up, check that all parts are intact and secure, the chain is the right tension, the chain cutters are sharp, the depth gauge settings are correct, all safety devices are in place and working, that there are no loose bolts, screws nuts or covers.

If anything's missing or damaged, don't use the chainsaw. This is especially important if you weren't the last person to use it.

Check your work area and make sure it is free of tripping hazards and electrical cables. Also keep an eye out for anyone who could enter your work area and check to make sure nothing is going to fall on you while you are working (like tree tops, etc). Hold and use the Chainsaw correctly. Keep two hands on the saw and hold it close to your body, with the body of the saw close to what you're cutting. Plant your feet f irmly and slightly apart for balance. Never try to adjust your chain or machine while the engine is running.

Maintain your Chainsaw. Good maintenance will extend the chainsaw's life and ensure its safe to use. When you finish a job make sure the air filters, sprocket cover and chain brake mechanism are free from sawdust; clean

the guide bar groove; oil the holes and check everything is in place.





*Valued at \$242 RRP. Hurry this offer is only available until 20 May 2018 or while stocks last.

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Regardless of how you and your business fared this season, to be sustainable in the future, it is important to be "Open to Change".

Join a range of speakers including former Olympic rower and cyclist Hamish Bond to discuss all things farming in Taranaki.

Event sponsor:



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