



## Inside

# Murray farewelled after 40 years teaching

Murray Dobbin who is to leave Opunake High School after 40 years teaching received a standing ovation at Opunake High School's Senior Prize giving as he mounted the stage to be thanked for his immense contribution to the school.

"Murray has given the majority of his life to the education of young people in the Opunake community, said the Principal of Opunake High School Simon Fuller. During his career at Opunake High School he has had many roles and responsibilities including that of Acting Principal. "In all your experiences and activities during this time you have never lost the passion for putting students first," said the principal addressing Murray directly. Referring to his quality teaching and the "many many achievements over 4 decades" of Murray and his students, Simon continued "I have only had the privilege of working alongside you for two years however, in this time I have come to understand just how deeply you care about the school, our students and the entire Opunake Community." fishing and hunting."

Michael Brimelow and Anthony Kidd then spoke of Murray's huge input into Opunake High School and presented Murray with a gift on behalf of the students.

Accepting the gift, Murray in his brief speech said simply "the students have been my life for the last 40 years"



From left Andy Whitehead, Andrea Hooper, James Davidson and at right Principal Simon Fuller at the Opunake High School clapping Murray Dobbin who leaves Opunake High School after 40 years teaching at the school.

and "without my family I wouldn't have survived here."

In a final word to the students "You guys are fantastic. Stop dreaming, go and do it," said Murray, off to pursue his own dreams.

Guest Speaker at the Senior Prize giving was Lisa Tamati who gave an inspirational talk about her experiences

in ultra endurance running and what it had taught her. "There's been moments which have been high points of my life and absolutely horrible ones but that's what life's about," she said to her attentive audience. It's about pushing yourself she said.

She then showed everyone a video on her gruelling 217 kilometre run through Death Valley in the USA which she described as "the closest place to hell on earth". Temperatures reach up to 37 degrees in summer and includes running through a mountain pass. More people have conquered Everest than have completed the race, said Lisa. "The heat can kill the unprepared. They don't call it Death Valley for nothing."

Encouraging everyone to participate in sport all their life she said "We've become too sedentary." The overall message though was "You can achieve things you never thought possible," she said adding attempting such things gives you huge confidence in yourself. "This is why we do things that are challenging. It's not all fun. It's not easy to get a degree, to make money. It's up to you to take ownership of your life. No one else can do that for you. Not your parents. It's up to you to make it one step

at a time."

In his principal's address Simon Fuller said Opunake High School's roll was the largest in a decade and referred proudly to the school's "fantastic" NCEA results.

"These results reinforced that we are one of the highest achieving schools in Taranaki and in the country particularly for our decile."

He spoke of other successes in the school throughout the

year from the sporting to the literary.

He also mentioned the increasing racial diversity of the New Zealand population. "Diversity is the spice of life and our students must develop the skills to understand and value not only our own culture with Tikanga Maori at the heart but be able to connect, value and collaborate with cultures

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Former Community Board member at odds with council page 5.

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**Letters to the Editor**

**Garden Festivals**

Well, Opunake. I was highly embarrassed for visitors to my garden and other gardens in the area (15 in total) being told they had had to wait for coffee and food etc because only one café was open on the weekends and one on Monday. Come on Opunake, tourist numbers are up. Could you not make the effort for 10 days once a year?

*Highly embarrassed and disgusted  
 Opunake*

**Respectful relationships**

Local men are being asked to think about what kind of guy they wanna be, and what they value. This challenge comes from White Ribbon's campaign promoting respectful relationships.

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satisfying relationships.

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Men can learn how to do this, and White Ribbon provides a toolbox for men on how to have respectful relationships. There's another for young men - 'Start With Respect'. And this year White Ribbon is

providing advice for dads on how to grow respectful sons. All available at whiteribbon.org.nz.

Respect is the behaviour we want instead of using violence. It makes your community safer and happier. Let's practice this 365 days a year.

*Cam Ronald  
 Chairperson  
 White Ribbon Committee*

**Murray farewellled after 40 years**

*Continued from page 1*

from right across the globe." Simon also spoke of the future of a rapidly changing world in terms of information and technology and how to prepare students for this.

"The prediction is in 2028 12 years away 50% of today's jobs will be replaced by artificial intelligence - robots, automation and computers. The top 10 most popular jobs today in the United States didn't exist 10 years ago. To build knowledge to have the skills to be able to learn, and unlearn, to be able to problem solve, research and apply knowledge and most importantly to be able to connect, collaborate and work with others either in the workplace, online in the community or across the world is the challenge for education systems across the globe, he said. He quoted Alvin Toffler's famous prophetic prediction in 1970 in his book Future Shock - "The illiterate of the future will not be those who cannot read and write but those



Dux Tara Clement (left) and Proxime Accessit Hone Heron with Opunake High School principal Simon Fuller.

Tara who was also Head Girl, spoiled for choice, has been offered three scholarships and is considering studying Healthcare at Otago University or alternatively going to the States where she's been given a basketball scholarship. She has also been awarded a \$20,000 scholarship by Auckland University and a \$10,000 scholarship by Otago University. Eventually she hopes to study medicine.

Proxime Accessit Hone Heron intends to go to Victoria University next year and eventually hopes to make clinical based prosthetics. He says he "loves science and martial arts" and commented, "It's been the best year".

who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn."

Simon also mentioned

Deputy principal Whaea Barbara's tragic accident on December 1<sup>st</sup> last year

and her ongoing recovery

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# Murray farewellled after 40 years

Continued from page 2

and rehabilitation. "It is in the tough times where we really see the true nature of our friends, support networks and communities," he said which he described as heart warming.

After paying tribute to the great work of the school's Board of Trustees and the "hard work and passion" of the teaching staff making special mention of James Davidson who has been acting Deputy Principal for Whaea Barb this year and who "seamlessly and diligently picked up the role and moved forward with the leadership responsibilities", the principal commended other support staff at the school and spoke of staff changes. These included Sara Bourke who has been on maternity leave this year and has made the decision to resign, Sarah Base who will be taking maternity leave from mid term 2017 and Rachel Taylor who is also "off to have a baby boy" but



Jack Fryer (second from left) performing at the prizegiving with other musicians.. Jack was a warder the 2016 Music Prize.

hopefully will return to the staff next year. Katerina Papageorgiou and Kerri Loughhead are to leave also and are moving to the South Island. "Thank you

for skills and passion you have brought to Opunake High School."

The principal's final words were for the departing senior students.



Head pupils Ben Morgan and Tara Clement who spoke at the Senior Prize giving.

Tara Clement describing "an unforgettable year" advised the younger students to "get amongst it, give everything a go, experience everything - academic events, leadership, sport. She raised a laugh though when on a cultural experience - a school trip to Indonesia - she said she spent "the majority of the time in the toilet".

Head Boy Ben Morgan said they were the up and coming generation and like their predecessors will also stumble and fall and were destined to change the world and address poverty, hunger and cancer. "It's our duty to make the world a better place, a much better place". Whatever you do I implore you to make the best of it. "The next time you're faced with barriers go out there and prove them wrong."

### On this month in history Byrd flies over South Pole

On November 1, 1929 American Richard Byrd set off to fly over the South Pole, the first person to do so. Byrd, with three others flew a Ford Trimotor, setting off from the Ross Ice Shelf. The return trip took 18 hours.

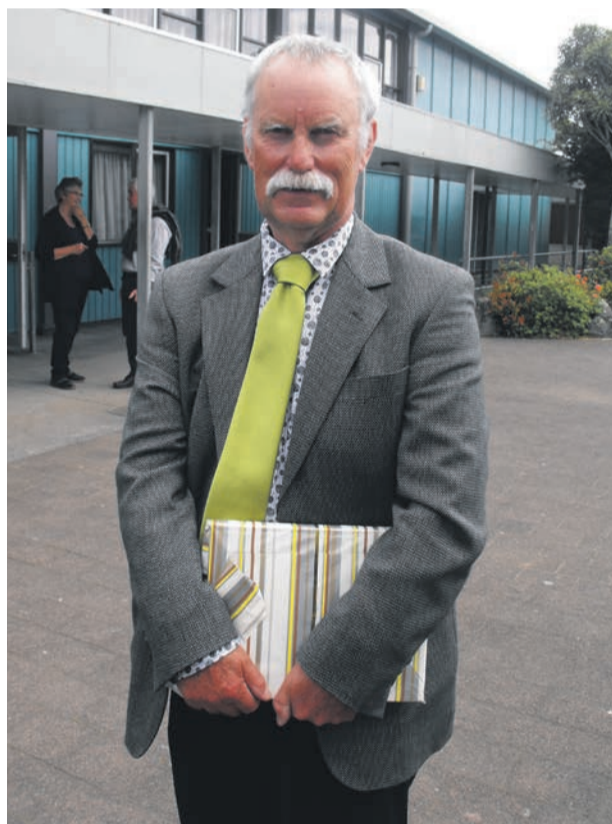
Also on this month in history Muldoon sweeps to power On November 29 the National Party won the General Election to become the government with Robert Muldoon as Prime minister. National won 55 electorates to Labour's 32. Bill Rowling was the Labour leader and Prime Minister at the time of the Election. The next two elections saw National under Muldoon prevail even though the Labour Party secured slightly more votes overall in the nation. Ice Shelf.

Murray Dobbin who leaves Opunake High School after 40 years.

Murray commented of his time at Opunake High School that despite the changes in technology "kids are still kids" and reflected on the fact that he had taught the children of the children he'd originally taught. Referring to himself as "a humble servant" he added he would like to "thank the community for the opportunity to look after their kids". As he admitted to feeling "happy sad" but that he "had to make the decision it's time to take a different part of the journey" a student came up and said "all the kids loved you". Indeed.

Murray's wife Cindy stays on as a teacher at the school so Murray will "still

be around". A farewell for Murray will be held on December 9 at 2pm.



"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail"

After the academic awards were presented by South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop, students

joined by the principal gave a rousing haka in honour of the departing senior students who, as they singly left the stage, were clapped out to a standing ovation by all present. A fitting finale to an eventful two and a half hours.





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### COUNCIL COMMENT

# Thanks to the 34 per cent who voted

The Local elections are over. Congratulations to all first past the post winners selected by the 34 per cent who voted. Does this mean 66 per cent of our District electors don't care or are not interested in Local Government, or don't care or are not interested in the district, the quality of life that we all enjoy, or the future enhancement of our district, or are they resolved to have a minority elected Council? Local Government is involved in some way with everything we do from morning till night, from birth to death. Yet we all take it for granted. To all who voted,



Cr Gordon Lawson

thank you for your support. To the 66 per cent who did not, if Council outcomes are not what you desire don't moan. Council will very shortly be undertaking a representation

review on the number of elected representatives, whether the election should be District-wide or by Wards. Perhaps as only 36 per cent voted in 2013 and 34 per cent in 2016, the cost of future elections could be waived in favour of appointments, but such is not permitted under current legislation. So how do we get people to vote. Go digital to encourage the young, then the older not so technical won't vote? Combine digital with the current postal system? But this could create problems with possible dual voting, or perhaps we revert back to the one day polling booth

still used for our National election? Apathy among voters is not relative to South Taranaki, but to all elections, be it Local Government, National or indeed International. The American Presidential election only managed 49 per cent voter turnout. So how do you get residents and ratepayers more involved in local government and how do you make elections more appealing? "You cannot change the direction of the wind, but you can adjust your sails" Cr Gordon Lawson

## Community Board re-elects chairperson

Craig Dingle was re-elected as Chair of the Egmont Plains Community Board at the first meeting of the Egmont Plains Community Board since the recent Local Body elections. Andy Whitehead was elected Deputy Chairperson and Sharlee Mareikura Creative the Communities Scheme appointment. Craig Dingle was elected Policy Development Committee representative. South Taranaki District Council mayor Ross Dunlop congratulated everyone for getting back on the Board adding a stable Board was

good for continuity. "My door is always open," he said. In other business an application for \$500 from the Discretionary Fund from the Manaia and Districts Lions Club for the Manaia Christmas Parade was applied for by Gordon Chisnall who addressed the Board. The \$500 was granted. There were other funding requests from the Waimate Plains Development Levy Fund. The first of two annual funding rounds, the amount available for allocation for this funding round is \$4225.44. The Manaia Community

Centre Committee (MCCC) has applied for \$9593.98 for money to complete concrete mowing strips and garden edging at the Manaia Skatepark and also to upgrade the Manaia Town Hall sign and to install a second bench seat at the Manaia Cemetery. The breakdown of costs were \$7303.98 to complete the concreting at Manaia Skatepark, up to \$510 to upgrade the Manaia Town Hall sign and \$1780 to install a second bench seat in the Manaia Cemetery. Cr Bonita Bigham recommended that the Board

allocate the full \$4225.44 available. The amount requested by the Manaia Community Centre of \$9593.98 however exceeded the amount available in the two rounds of annual funding. It was suggested that the Board enquire whether they had any other avenues for funding. It was eventually agreed to give \$1935 to the Manaia Community Centre. There has been a huge jump in wifi access with people using wifi outside the libraries.

## Manaia Hall to be earthquake strengthened

The tender for the earthquake strengthening of the Manaia Town Hall closed on November 11. The work is expected to begin on November 11 and be completed mid February next year depending on negotiation

with the successful tenderer. In other building work, in preparation for summer, work on swimming pools around the region is either finished or currently being completed. This work includes recladding the Eltham Pool office building inside and out with shade sails and pool covers to be renewed, painting the concrete fence at the Manaia Pool and upgrading the perimeter fence at the Patea Pool to improve safety and

security. The construction of the new multi-use facility at Taumata Park begins in November and is expected to be completed by March 2017. The first phase of the improvement of the steps to Middleton Bay has begun. The work includes sealing the road which leads to the steps from Halse Place and improving the steps. It is anticipated that the job will be completed prior to Christmas

depending on tenders and cost. In other works the sign leading to Opunake Beach which is faded and damaged is to be replaced by NZTA by a new sign. Also Opunake now has its first mosaic bench. It is at the bottom of Napier Street overlooking Opunake Beach and has been completed by the Opunake Mosaic Group.

## There was a process to follow

They knew there was a process to follow, said Cr Bonita Bigham when the controversial felling of trees overlooking the cliff at Opunake was discussed at the last Egmont Plains Community Board meeting

on Wednesday November 2 held at the Manaia Sports Complex. "Knowing what I know, they were going to do it. They knew what the protocol is," commented Board member Brian Vincent.

The area had recently been replanted but the newly planted trees were deliberately ripped out the same night.

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# Questions raised over shifting sands

Former Egmont Plains Community Board member Ron Brewer and the South Taranaki District Council are at loggerheads over work done on a walking track at Opunake Beach.

Mr Brewer says what should have been a simple tidy-up exercise at Opunake Beach has turned into a disaster.

"It's a general stuff-up and an expensive one," he said.

South Taranaki District Council properties and facilities manager John Sargeant says the work done is part of the Opunake Beach Master Plan of which Mr Brewer and other members of the public had been involved, and there is still more work to be done.



Ron Brewer ponders what was once a walkway to the beach.

Corrections Department workers had been used to clear a build-up of sand on the track next to the Surf Club, and leading on to the beach, a job which Mr Brewer says, should have been done by a digger. They had cleared some of the sand, but instead of taking it away they had dumped it on spinefex and pinnae plants, which had been smothered.

"It was always going to be mission impossible," Mr Brewer said.

Mr Sargeant said it had been winter, and the Council had used Corrections Department workers as the weather was changeable, so any work was more likely to be undone in a short time.

"We have a resource consent in regards to getting rid of the sand, so there are only certain places we can move the sand to. About 80

There was a process to follow

*Continued from page 8*

Glenn Hansen, Community Development Advisor with the South Taranaki District Council, remarked that a lot of money was involved in replanting the area.

"All that was taken out that night and they got away with it," added Brian.

Fellow Board member Andy Whitehead however spoke in defence of those who removed the trees????

Bonita however had a piece of advice: "You can achieve your dreams if done properly."

tonnes of sand was removed, so some damage was to be expected."

Mr Brewer says he talked with the mayor Ross Dunlop and deputy mayor Ian Armstrong who agreed with him that clearing the sand was a job more suited to a digger.

Mr Brewer says he then met with Mr Sargeant, who agreed with him that the gap between the rails needed widening to accommodate a digger. He says his offer of taking down the fence and putting it up again after the work was done was declined. Mr Sargeant said that while the offer was appreciated, health and safety issues meant the Council had to use pre-approved contractors.

Mr Brewer says that when he went back later to see how work was going on, he was shocked to see two diggers on either side of the track piling up the sand which the Corrections workers had dumped on the plantings, as well as digging up another regrassed area. What had once been a grassy hollow was now buried under a mound of sand. The fencing has not been replaced, and what was once an attractive walkway to the beach has all but disappeared.

"It's heart breaking really. It took 10 years to get it up there and they destroyed it in three days," Mr Brewer said.

"There was no need for two machines. I did the same job in three hours with one machine about four years ago."

"All that was required was

to dig a trench two metres wide by one metre deep and 30 metres long. That would have done the job. What would have cost \$600 has turned into thousands. To me it's bloody shocking."

"The Council should have had a contingency plan. They should have picked the time they were going to do it, and if something untoward happened, they should have had plants on call to fix things up." With July being the ideal planting time, nothing can really be done to replace the plants that have been lost until then, he said.

Mr Sargeant says it was always accepted there was going to be some damage during the work.

"Ron was also at the meeting we had with the contractors to discuss this work. He also knew that there was going to be an element of damage due to our resource consent restrictions and the amount of work that needed to be undertaken.

"There was some damage, but unfortunately that was always going to be the case given the quantity of sand being removed. The work which has not yet been completed includes building some retaining walls, which will make it easier to keep the path clear in the future, and a new fence as the old one was rotting.

"Instead of doing repeated patch-up jobs, we wanted to do it right once and for all, hence the need for two diggers, a new fence and the plan to build a retaining wall to better contain the sand

input.

"We have always appreciated and included Mr Brewer's input in matters to do with the shifting sands of Opunake Beach, a matter which he takes a personal interest in. However we have sought advice and support from a range of people who have vast professional experience with coastal erosion.. While the work being undertaken at the moment might seem severe, it's part of a bigger plan to enhance the beach and surrounding areas, and we are looking forward to the final result."

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# Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade news

A call to my Country Cousins, "check your tractor's engine bay for starling nests before you start your day." Insurance companies now have a lot of questions to ask should your tractor go up in flames as a result of a nest. A farmer on the Oeo Road has probably had his wad of paperwork as he had a nest fire last week and lost his tractor. Starlings can build their nests over a few hours, so looking under the bonnet is not a once a week task. If you do it on a daily basis, you should be okay. We weren't involved with this call out as it was in the Manaia Fire Brigade area. For your interest our area goes to the middle of the Oeo Road when going up from Surf Highway 45 but as this call was on the Manaia side of the road, it was their's.

Another call out the Manaia Brigade responded to was a house fire on the Inaha Road. There was an article in the last Opunake Coastal News regarding this fire but I wish to elaborate a little about it. The house was fitted with working smoke alarms but the nearest one was in the

hallway. As the fire started in the bedroom, the alarm didn't activate. So please check your smoke alarm layout, and if you don't have any in the bedrooms, it may be wise to fit them. This house fire shows that late detection can cause horrendous damage.

The wheels on both of our fire appliances were rolling on November 2 in the direction of a Pihama property on Surf Highway 45, when a call came in stating that a car was on fire perilously close to a building. Unfortunately all of the town day time drivers were at work and couldn't respond, so the Manaia and Kaponga Brigades were dispatched. Luckily, the vehicle was actually a good distance away from the building, and as luck would have it, two of our out of town drivers turned up at the station, meaning our appliances could respond. This meant the other brigades were able to be turned around as we now had the call covered.

The siren again sounded on the 3<sup>rd</sup> when a young lad aimed fireworks off the cliff at Middleton's Bay and caught the vegetation alight. Helmets off to the culprit because he approached our appliance and told us what he had done. Luckily, the fire burnt out and we didn't have to use any of the foul tasting water that is in the town water system at present.

Morning came around fast on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> when seven of our crew went to Te Kiri at 5 o'clock to marshal the Around the Mountain running / walking event. This is an annual fundraiser for us with the donation going into our thermal imaging camera account. We do this task every year as we feel it is a great community event to support, and there are always locals participating in it so we can have a catch up with them as well.

The Kaponga and the Opunake Fire Brigades hosted the Taranaki Provincial Fire

Brigades Association annual fishing contest at the Kina Road beach on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>. Both brigades have organised this event for the past three years, so next year it is moving north, possibly Urenui or Waitara. Kahawai was the fish of the day with the heaviest being caught by a Waitara Brigade member. This earned our Waitara colleague a new surf casting rod and reel for the coming summer. Fire fighter Chris Harvey's son was lucky enough to catch the only other species, an eel, in the creek so qualified for a lovely prize. Kaponga won the most points on the day and the other small trophies will stay in the cupboard until next year.

We were called out on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> to block off King Street, between Havelock and Napier so the rescue helicopter could land to pick up a seriously ill male patient

*Continued page 8*

## Helicopter landing in street

Part of King Street in Opunake was closed off to make way for the landing of a helicopter on Tuesday, November 8 at around 1pm.

The helicopter was used to transport a patient at Coastal Care to New Plymouth Base Hospital.

Handily Coastal Care is next door to the Opunake Fire Service so it didn't take long to summon the Fire Service to the aid. "We didn't have to travel too far," quipped Opunake Fire Chief



Loading the patient into the helicopter.

Rodney Woods.

Usually helicopters land near the cliff top near the former Opunake Medical Centre in Havelock Street, at Opunake High School or the Opunake Rec grounds.

It's the first time they've landed in the street near Coastal Care.

"It's really good that the building is so versatile that we can have the helicopter when we need it," commented Aretha Lemon, the manager of Coastal Care. "It's got to be nicer for the patient to be loaded directly onto the helicopter. It really shows we've got a one stop shop."

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# Community man remembered

The Opunake and wider community mourns the passing of Colin Butler who contributed many years of dedicated service to the community.

Formerly a member of the Opunake Fire Service for 37 years, he was Chief Fire Officer for the last 25 years until he retired in 1995 and was also the Taranaki Regional president. Colin then joined the Ambulance service where he became president and honoured with Life Membership. He was also closely involved with the RSA where he also served as president.

In later years Colin and his wife Karol owned a business in Opunake, a tea rooms called Rip's Place.

Colin Handley Butler was born on the 25th of June in 1930 in Wellington. He and his five siblings were raised in Whanganui.

Brought up in the Depression followed by a World War, it was a hard life.

When he was just a kid they had a fire at home and the house burnt to the ground. Perhaps it was this that Colin subconsciously or consciously decided that he would fight fires later on in his life. Says son, Shane, "I guess no one knows for sure."

Shane recalls, "Dad would often retell the story to us of his memories of the day World War Two ended. He was walking into class at school and a girl put out her leg to trip him up. And, doing what any boy would do - he pulled her hair in response. Of course, Dad's teacher only saw that part, and so he was called out in front of the class to receive



Colin Butler.

the strap. He was holding his hand out and readying for the impact, when someone came running into the class yelling, 'The War is over, The War is over'. And with that, Dad ran out of the classroom with everyone else and was able to avoid getting the strap."

Returning home from school Colin said to his father that he wanted to leave school. His father told him that he could leave as long as he had a job to go to. By Monday, the motivated Colin had secured a job. Colin worked in a sawmill in Wanganui and later on, he travelled to Raetahi and around the Central Plateau often, doing Borer Control work. This involved checking the state of housing, searching for borer and eliminating it from the timber of houses. A keen sportsman, Colin played basketball and went on to become a basketball rep for Wanganui, which would prove handy in later life.

In 1952, Colin answered the United Nations call for

assistance in supporting South Korea during the Korean War. He went to Waiouru for his military training and joined the Signals Corp of the 16 Field Regiment of the Royal New Zealand Artillery. He returned home to New Zealand in 1953.

In the late 50s Colin came to Opunake for the weekend and as he has often said, 'liked the place so much he has been here ever since', says Shane.

Colin joined The Fire Service in 1957 and met Karol, who would become his wife of 57 years, in a milk-bar in Opunake where she worked. They were married in 1959.

He worked for Opunake Motors and in 1960 joined the Egmont Dairy Company as a tanker driver and then a cheese truck driver driving to New Plymouth two to three times a day. We all remember going on trips in the truck with Dad," says Shane. Steve, Colin's oldest son recalls one time when Colin had just got a brand

new truck which he parked up for the night. "Dad returned in the morning to find the brakes hadn't worked and it was at the bottom of the hill all smashed up." Colin became the Transport Manager there and worked with the company for around 30 years.

Colin devoted much of his life to the Fire Brigade. He joined in 1957, and in 1970 became the Chief Fire Officer, a rank he held until he left the Fire Service in 1995. He was the Opunake delegate to the UFBA conferences for a number of years from which he made many life-long friends and received his Gold Star for 25 Years Service in 1982. He was a Taranaki Provincial president. Recalls Shane, "During Dad's time with the Fire Service we remember receiving many presents from Father Christmas at the Fire Brigade kids Christmas parties and rides on 'Little Flick' - the open-back fire engine at Opunake. He also coached successful teams of Fire Brigade competitors for competitions and also officiated at these events for many years and took us all around Taranaki where we

also made lots of friends, says Shane.

Colin was involved for many years in the Athletics Club. He also coached basketball.

After Colin retired they bought a tearooms and called it Rip's Place where they named a burger after him - The Rip Snorter. They really enjoyed meeting and

interacting with all the people says Shane.

"When Dad retired from the Fire Service his sense of community spirit never left him and he joined the St John Ambulance and carried on to become President and also a Life Member. He was also involved with the RSA and became President of the Opunake organisation."

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# Supporting small businesses to grow

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of our communities with 97 per cent of all New Zealand enterprises employing 20 or fewer people.

Here in Taranaki we have 15,153 businesses, many of which are small businesses contributing to our economy across many sectors. We have also seen a drop in our unemployment rate which now sits at 4.8 per cent and it is the success and growth of our small businesses that help ensure job stability for our region.

The recent exciting announcement from Lonely Planet that Taranaki is the second best region to travel to in 2017 will go a long way for international exposure and will boost our tourism industry creating new opportunities for business ventures and growth.

National knows that it is businesses that drive economic growth and build a more successful economy with more jobs and higher wages for Kiwis.

That's why since coming into office the National-led Government has been



**Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth**

focused on supporting a competitive and productive economy. It's why we are continuously searching out ways to reduce the financial and time burdens that small businesses face.

We have, for example, cut ACC levies, introduced 90-day trials and a starting-out wage, and funded the roll-out of faster broadband. We've set up free online tools and advice from across government to save you time and help make your business a success. And in Budget 2016 we introduced a SME friendly tax package.

We're responsibly managing the Government's books and have posted the second

surplus in a row. New Zealand is now just one of a very small group of countries that has the books in surplus and a growing economy.

Our policies are helping keep the cost of living low and interest rates at near record lows making it easier for small businesses to invest and employ more people.

A survey of 1000 small and medium-sized enterprises reveals 57 per cent regard National as the best party for their business to succeed. The Labour Party was back on 10 per cent. MYOB, the business software firm which conducted the survey, says it shows real confidence in Prime Minister John Key and Finance Minister Bill English and the economic environment they are creating.

The positive sentiment is borne out in other recent data. New Zealand now tops the World Bank rankings for ease of doing business. The No. 1 ranking highlights the good work this Government is doing to reduce the cost of doing business. The World Bank report also notes New Zealand's strength in procurement through our online

procurement process and that we have made paying taxes easier and cheaper.

Statistics New Zealand reports most industries and regions have more businesses and staff than last year. And the ANZ survey of job advertisements shows the numbers keep going up with a strong lift in employment intentions in many of the regions.

The services sector, which makes up 70 per cent of the economy, and manufacturing are both expanding and have the highest growth against the likes of Australia, Japan, China, the UK, Europe and the United States.

Thanks to the entrepreneurship and hard work of New Zealanders supported by the Government's economic plan and responsible financial management our economy is growing with more jobs, and rising wages.

On Wednesday November 23, the Hon Craig Foss, Minister of Small Business will be visiting Opunake and speaking to the Opunake Business Association.

*Jonathan Young MP*



# JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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# Opunake Fire Brigade News

*Continued from page 6*

from Coastal Care Medical Centre. We wish that patient a full and speedy recovery from his ordeal.

We trained at the hot fire training ground at Oaonui on the night of the 7th. This wonderful facility is visited by us to hone our skills in wearing the breathing apparatus (B.A.), our search procedures in a smoky environment, fire extinguisher usage, oil, gas, and general firefighting techniques, along with all of the other related activities we are required to know. These involve the BA time board, hazardous chemical identification and procedures, patient recovery and triage, to name a few.

If anyone is thinking of becoming a volunteer fire fighter, pop along on a Monday night at 7 o'clock and have a chat with our Chief, Rodney Woods. At present we have a vacancy, so if you are a team player, are prepared to travel to Rotorua for the initial week of training (expenses paid for by the brigade), live close to town, are over the age of sixteen, and want to learn valuable life skills, come along and join this worldwide family. Who knows where your start in the Opunake Fire Brigade could lead you.

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**Labour**



# Distinguished visitors to Stratford

Last week, on Tuesday November 8 to be exact some distinguished visitors were seen in Stratford. They were first spotted at the Percy Thomson Gallery in Prospero Place and later strolled through the CBD visiting shops. Paying a visit to Stratford was former Prime Minister Sir Geoffrey Palmer and his wife Margaret – he took over when Labour Prime Minister David Lange resigned.

As he cheerfully posed for this photograph, Sir Geoffrey commented he had been “very busy.” He mentioned that he has just had a book

on constitutional law released. Sir Geoffrey was Deputy PM when the Lange Labour Government took office on August 8, 1984 a position he held till August 8 1989 when he assumed the top Government post. He was the 33<sup>rd</sup> Prime Minister of New Zealand, although held the position briefly.

Sir Geoffrey, a lawyer, entered parliament in 1979 in a by-election for Christchurch Central and was MP until 1990. He was a Cabinet Minister being Attorney General (1984 – 1989) and Minister of Justice (1984 – 1989), as well as other senior

responsibilities. His books include ‘Unbridled Power’ and he was a professor of Law at Victoria University. He was knighted in 1991. He has served NZ in other capacities including serving on the International Whaling Commission, which endeavoured to stop illegal whaling by such countries as Japan.

After I first spoke to the couple I encountered them twice more in Stratford. At the last meeting he and Margaret had one question; *Where can we buy an ice cream?*



Sir Geoffrey and Margaret Palmer recently seen in Stratford.

## What might Trump mean for science?

As the world responds to a Trump presidency – experts are already turning their thoughts to what that could mean for science, especially health and climate change.

During his campaign, Donald Trump said he would repeal President Obama’s Affordable Care Act and reinforced his stance as a climate sceptic.

The Washington Post that the surprise election hurled

international climate change negotiations into doubt, as the Marrakech climate summit – COP22 – continues.

Princeton University professor of geosciences and international affairs Michael Oppenheimer told *The Washington Post* that if Trump doesn’t honour the Paris Agreement’s commitments, “that virtually guarantees that the international process will fall into disarray”.

Writing on *The Conversation*, University of Michigan Energy Institute director Mark Barteau suggested a prime target for Trump would be the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and its regulation of greenhouse gases through the Clean Power Plan. Trump has already appointed a prominent climate sceptic – Myron Ebell – to lead his transition team at EPA.

One possibility is that the Keystone XL pipeline, which would carry up to 730,000 barrels of crude oil a day from Canada’s oil sands to the US, could be put back on the table after being turned down by President Obama in 2015. *The Washington Post* has speculated that a move back to fossil fuels could set back Tesla and the electric car industry.

Posted in *In the News* on November 10.



Sir Geoffrey and Margaret Palmer disappearing (almost) down Broadway.



AUCTION

Oaonui 160 Kina Road
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**Last Open Home Before Auction!**  
This 2.5098 hectare lifestyle block has much to offer as it's just up from Surf Highway 45 and near all the well known international surfbreaks. The two storey home is immaculately presented with 4 bedrooms, 2 lounges, 2 bathrooms, a large open plan living area with an awesome kitchen and fantastic chattels throughout. The triple car garaging with internal access and four bay implement shed are great for "toys" and storage. The landscaped gardens and grounds have a lake and fabulous areas to stroll while enjoying stunning views of the mountain and sea.

**Auction**  
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Oaonui 195 Kina Road

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In a sought after area, just up from Surf Highway 45, Oaonui, this approx 18 hectare block is all flat and north facing with a river as the boundary at the back. The well fenced paddocks are all opening out onto the central race. Buildings include an old disused cowshed. At the moment it is being used in conjunction with the Dairy farm opposite it. The land is all mowable and is excellent for supplements.

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# Winner draws on diabetes experience

A 12-year-old Kaponga Primary School student has turned his experiences with Type-1 diabetes into an award winning music video. Harrison Downes took out the award for the best music video original performance at the MOA Kluster Awards on November 8 and then went on to beat all comers to take out the supreme award.



**Harrison Downes with his MOA Kluster Awards, including the Supreme Award.**

The awards are given to students from the Matapu, Opunake, Auroa and Kaponga schools which make up the MOA Kluster.

Harrison was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes 2-3 years ago.

"I'm the same as other kids, but I have to test my blood and make sure my

blood sugars stay around 7," he said.

Listening to a song on the radio gave him the idea for

a music video based around diabetes.

The 3 minute 30 second video has Harrison playing

the guitar and singing Ruth B's song Lost Boy. It draws much of its inspiration from the movie Neverland, with Jacob Linders playing Peter Pan.

"It shows my diabetes and me checking my insulin. Then I'm the lost boy going to Neverland, losing my diabetes for a day, running through forests and special places, and then coming back."

He says that while he has been playing the guitar for a while, this was the first time he had sung for anything.

He plans to send his video on to New Zealand Diabetes and see where things go from there.

# Opunake School fares well at Awards

The MOA Awards were held on Tuesday November 8 at Sandford Event Centre, with Dinnie Moeahu compering with a flourish. There was a huge turnout of about 800 - mostly students and their parents.

The awards included such categories as Best Digital Image, Best Music Video, Best Animation, Best Book Trailer, Best Graphic design, Best Short movie and Best Educational Video - to name just a few.

The contributing schools were Matapu, Opunake, Auroa and Kaponga. Opunake School did well - securing over half of the awards on offer (15 of 29), although Kaponga School

took out the overall top award for their 'Lost Boy' song by Harrison Downes

"The MOA Awards really showcases the students creativity," explained Lorraine Williamson, Principal of Opunake Primary School. She added, "You can see the reality of how technology can be used to enhance creativity."

One of the winners were the trio of Souhl Laison-Deegan, Chase Tapiki and Brody Hemara who won 'Best Te Ao Maori (Senior)' award with their entry 'Te Ao The Maori Pokemon'.

"I was just shocked," admitted Souhl. He explained, "When I saw who we were going up against I

thought that our chances had dropped."

Lorraine Williamson points out that the event is quite a lot like the Academy Awards in Hollywood, with everyone - including students - dressed up in their best finery. "The idea was for the students to look stunning," said Lorraine. "and, she concluded, "They did."

Jason Bloor needs special mention for creating a show, which highlighted the finalist entries to a high professional standard.

Many people put much time into setting up the event with the Opunake Floral Artist group preparing many floral decorations. There

were various red carpets laid for the award winners to traverse as they went up to collect their awards. The many people to thank is legion, but Natasha Sefton, Hannah Williamson and Claire Moss need special mention for all their hard work.

One man, in comparing the event with a similar one held elsewhere, considered that our event had the definite edge. He concluded, "The calibre of the MOA entries was superb."



**From left, Souhl Laison-Deegan, Chase Tapiki and Brody Hemara who won the Te Ao Maori (Senior) Award for their entry 'Te Ao The Maori Pokomon'.**

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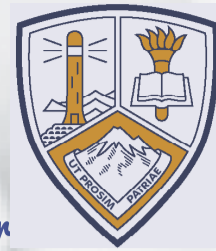
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### ACADEMIC AWARDS FOR 2016 SENIOR STUDENTS

O.H.S celebrated the senior students successes on Thursday 3 November at Senior Prizegiving. The community supported this event and paid tribute to all students who had exceeded expectations over the year. Congratulations to everyone that received awards.



Some of the awards given:  
The Scott Oliver Memorial Scholarship for Tertiary Studies in the Creative Industries  
**Tenaya Eiffé**

McNeil Adams Cup, OHS Medal and Ikaroa Lodge Award for  
**Dux of the School Tara Clement**  
OHS Medal and Award For Proxime Accessit  
**Hone Heron**

McKay Cup & OHS Medal  
Head Girl  
**Tara Clement**  
Crawford Cup and OHS Medal  
Head Boy  
**Ben Morgan**



The Combined Churches Award For Outstanding Character  
**Alexandra Tahau**  
**Ben Morgan**  
**Herne Minhinnick**



**YEAR 12**  
Sue Spindler Cup & Award Excellence in Year 12 Subjects  
**Kendra Langton**  
Sue Spindler Award Runner-Up in Year 12 Subjects  
**Simone Cook**



The Toolshed Award Top Year 13 Student in Design Technology  
**Brooke Heaps Jordan Siciliano**



OHS Cup Top in Year 13 Graphics  
**Ashleigh Clement**



Egmont Community Arts Council Award Cultural Arts Cup  
**Ben Morgan**  
Egmont Community Arts Council Award Musical Arts  
**Jack Fryer**



**YEAR 11**  
Pam Morris Cup and OHS Medal Excellence in Year 11 Subjects  
**Aimee Abplanalp**  
Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 11 Subjects  
**Dylan Coleman**



Morgan Family Trophy Top Yr 13 Student in Geography and Harry Keys Geography Research Prize  
**Michael Brimelow**  
Natalie King Cup Excellence in Physical Education  
**Christian Rosewarne**  
Griffith Merit Cup For Best All Round Girl  
**Tara Clement**  
Graham Sulzberger Memorial Cup For Best All Round Boy  
**Christian Rosewarne**



### ARMISTICE DAY

On the 11th day of the 11 month at the 11th hour World War 1 ended.

Left: Richard Hewitt, Brydee Hunt, Rev Geoff Williams, Kiana Kahukaka-Snowden & C.J Taamaru. These students had the honor of attending the Armistice Day held at the TSB bank on Friday 11.11.16. These four students had to lower the New Zealand, Australia, Navy & Army flags to half mast as the "Last Post" played. Thank you to the RSA members for allowing the students to participate in this occasion.

*The Principal and Staff warmly invite you to be present at*

## Junior Prizegiving

*10:30 am Friday  
9th December 2016*

*School Hall followed by afternoon tea  
Join us to celebrate a  
successful year!!!*

**6 December**  
**MARKET DAY** \*

**At Opunake High School**  
As part of project learning this term students are holding a market day at school, all welcome. 11am – 1pm



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# Opunake Community Kindergarten's Infant & Toddlers area opens

There was a special occasion at Opunake Community Kindergarten on Friday November 11. The brand new Infant and Toddlers area was officially opened – it's called the Moana Room. Head Teacher Suzi Pentelow gave the introductory speech and pointed out that the project had taken a "long long time" to come to fruition. The name Moana was chosen, explained Suzi, because it was close to the ocean.

Heartland Construction was the main firm involved with this project and have produced their usual high quality work. They were aided by such firms as Gibson Plumbers, Sinclair Electrical, DR (Jack) Gray, Metalcraft Roofing, RJ Eagar, Value Building Supplies and Wormald.

A Kapa Haka song followed with the children resplendent in ethnic dress and with 'tattoos'.

Jenna Stevenson of the Management Committee spoke next. "I am very very excited," she said. She added that the eventual completion "seemed like a distant dream" for so long. She paid particular tribute to Suzi as "the driving force" of the project. She also expressed gratitude for the support of the parent community, as



Aaron Langton cuts the official ribbon, accompanied by his daughter Eva (centre) and Kelly Langton (holding three-year-old Celeste, her daughter).

well as financial help from the Ministry of Education. Various sponsors also contributed financially - which was greatly appreciated.

Aaron Langton stepped forward to cut the official ribbon accompanied by his daughter Eva alongside Kelly Langton with her daughter Celeste (3). Aaron had a major role in the setting up of the kindergarten in its present site (It used to be situated at St Joseph's School). Eva, now aged



Opunake Lions President Terry Mullin hands Head Teacher Suzi Pentelow a cheque for \$1,000.

17, was one of the original children at the Kindergarten in its current Whitcombe Road locality.

Terry Mullin President of the Opunake Lions handed a cheque for \$1,000 to Suzi Pentelow. This generous donation will go towards paying for the bunkroom. "The facility looks wonderful," he enthused.

The Moana Room includes a well-equipped kitchen in the open plan layout. It was a vinyl bench stainless steel sink and such appliances as microwave, dishwasher, fridge freezer and oven, with plenty of cupboard space. A hardy vinyl floor completes

the picture.

The other rooms include a bunkroom, bathroom and lounge area all beautiful appointed with carpet (mostly) and vinyl where appropriate.

The covered deck is a useful addition especially when the weather is inclement. Translucent roofing ensures the area get plenty of light.

Aluminium joinery will ensure that maintenance is kept to a minimum.

Overall, the new facility looks as attractively appointed as it will be of benefit to the many children who will have the use of it.

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# Pet Day fun at Awatuna Playcentre

Monday 7 November was a special day for Awatuna Playcentre – it was their Pet Day. Although the weather was not kind plenty of people turned up with an assortment of pets including lambs and dogs. President Louisa Ogle was “delighted” at the turnout of people. She added, “I was blown away – I couldn’t have wished for better.”

The Awatuna Playcentre had some special visitors - Normanby Playcentre was invited along for the event.

Because of the inclement weather the parade had to be held indoors. Sometimes it was hard to tell who was leading who – the children or the pets. There were even a few toy pets to add to the spectacle.

Around midday there was a free sausage sizzle which was most popular.

Their raffle has four prizes on offer, which includes a grocery hamper, a Christmas cake (baked by Janine Mullin), a Siku Toy Tractor & baby tray and fourthly a one litre tin of jelly beans. The raffle will be drawn at the Christmas Party on



The Pet Parade had to be held inside because of the inclement weather.

December 12.

The playcentre is open on Mondays and Fridays (during school terms) from 9.45am to 12.45pm. Families considering joining are welcome to have three free sessions before enrolling (if they decide to) and paying a modest fee.

The Awatuna Playcentre

is amazingly well-resourced with such things as a trampoline, play ladder (it’s very low!), dressing up clothes, bouncy balls, a detached tunnel, and a nature table. There’s even a children’s kitchen with toy appliances, and furniture. Everywhere are lots of colourful books.

Outside there is a sandpit and an inviting adventure playground.

Their philosophy and astute organisation was plain to see with many explanatory notices such as this one: *Our playcentre is a parent-run co-operative providing a quality licenced Early Childhood Educational*

Service, where parents are valued as their children’s first and best educators and children learn through stimulating and interactive play.

Do you want to know more? Try the playcentre website [www.playcentre.org.nz](http://www.playcentre.org.nz) You can phone 06

274 5073 or also phone Louisa Ogle on 027 406 1667. Awatuna Playcentre are located at 2230 Eltham Road, Awatuna, situated at the rear of the Awatuna Hall. “Children’s access to an extensive range of purposeful resources that encourages their physical



Isabella (Izzy) Webb (4) with her dog Jake.

## Kaponga WI clocks up eighty five years

Kaponga WI members met for lunch and a little light

entertainment to mark the Institute’s 85th year.

After lunch, Fiona Collins read a monologue entitled

Taking Jimmy to the Zoo.

Jo Jones took the silent but very expressive part of Jimmy who wasn’t a bit interested in the zoo animals. He kept wandering off despite his Gran’s best efforts to draw his attention to all the lovely animals. He only wanted an ice cream.

Most of the members were at the Pioneer Village’s “Shakee Pear” to celebrate Kaponga WI’s 85th year, the second oldest WI in the

South Taranaki Federation.

President Dorothy Hughes reminded members of the Regional Day to be hosted by Pihama WI at the Pihama Dairy Factory (Pihama Lavender). Several indicated they would be attending that day, and also the International Day being held on Armistice Day at Kapuni Hall.

Five members were to be making the items for the Table Display competition on Armistice Day which

are: Hessian/sacking oven cloth (Joy), Photographic Memory (Dorothy), Handmade Postcard (Joy), Floral - celebration of Armistice Day (Jo Jones), Anzac Biscuits (Fiona)

Sharyn Hurley gave out raffle tickets for the Christmas Draw and reminded members to provide two grocery items for it, and Fiona has sent the UK Link, Pratts Bottom, a Christmas card.

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# Armistice Day honours the nurses

Five hundred and fifty New Zealand nurses enrolled for service in World War I and 16 of them died before the end of the war.

On November 11, the nurses who served were remembered at the Manaia RSA's Armistice Day ceremony. About 70 people, including students from Manaia Primary School were at the Lone Pine Grove for the service to commemorate not only the end of World War I, but the centenary of one of its bloodiest battles, the Battle of the Somme.

Among those there were three nurses in uniforms representing nursing through the last century. Marolyn Harrison wore the World War I era uniform with which the wounded from the War to end wars would have been familiar, while Ann Wright was dressed in the garb of the 1960s and 1970s, and Lynette Gopperth

represented the present. "Nurses as they did more than a century ago continue to receive and wear their medals with pride, possessing feminine virtues of gentleness, obedience and patience, together with the ability to nurture the newborn, the elderly, the sick and the dying with compassion, strength and self sacrifice," Lynette told the gathering.

The nurses' wartime work did not end with the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The last New Zealand medical hospital in Britain did not close until mid 1919.

Among those at the ceremony were visiting South Australian nurses Susan West and Cathy Walsh who had made the trip from Auckland after they heard about the Manaia service.

"I always go to



Remembering nursing through the ages. From left Marolyn Harrison (World War I), Ann Wright (1960s and 1970s) and Lynette Gopperth (present day).

Remembrance Day services, and as I was in New Zealand, which is our closest ally, I wanted to find a service. When I saw there was one honouring nurses I wanted to come along," said Susan, whose husband is a captain in the Royal Australian Navy.

Josh McKee read the poem Why? reflecting on the carnage of the Somme, and the Rev David Self spoke about "the religion of the trenches."

"it manifested itself in all kinds of ways. Rations, parcels, even letters were looked upon as communal possessions, to be shared

with the less fortunate. But it was not only evidenced by gifts in kind. It was demonstrated by what St Paul would have called the fruits of the Spirit. Simple human acts of kindness, friendship that developed into brotherhood, a readiness to sacrifice oneself even unto death."

Manaia RSA member Eric Marr came with a small container which had been

given to his father Douglas, who had served in the Royal Navy during World War I. Emblazoned with the head of Queen Mary, they were given to servicemen at Christmas 1914, and would contain either sweets or cigarettes.

Douglas served on a number of ships before ending the war aboard HMS Hood. Although best known as the ship blown up by the Bismarck in World War II, when Douglas was aboard it was regarded as the world's most formidable battleship.

Douglas settled in 1923.

"Dad never spoke much

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News will be published on December 2



The container presented to Douglas Marr of the Royal Navy. Christmas 1914.

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# The Ritz Swing Band goes down a treat

The Ritz Swing Band from New Plymouth went down a treat at Everybodys Theatre.

Chilled out on couches and easy chairs and some rocking chairs handy for rocking to the music at Opunake's Everybodys Theatre it was a great way to while away a lazy Sunday afternoon.

The 17 piece band originally bonded together 12 years ago and was lead by Robin Wells on saxophone.

With four trombones – the loudest instrument in the orchestra, six saxophonists, three trumpets, a drummer, bass guitarist, rhythm guitarist and a pianist they put out quite a sound.

After several uplifting instrumentals, the band was joined by vocalist Mike Gordon who began with Fly Me to the Moon which the appreciative audience enjoyed. The highlight for me from the entire afternoon's repertoire was the dreamy romantic When I Fall in Love which followed. Another oldie, with some beautiful restrained accompaniment by the band and sung by Mike with feeling sent us all into another plane, it was exquisite. I loved it. The risqué Making Whoopie which followed however brought us all back to earth. This Guy's in Love with You, was well received



Mike Gordon and the Ritz Swing Band entertain. Leader Robin Wells is third from right on saxophone.

and after a short interval the programme resumed and Mike was joined in a duet by Unity Wara. Other stock favourites followed including Never Knew How Much I Loved You and Ain't Misbehaving from the musical Stormy Weather, appropriate considering

the wild weather, and the ever popular big band instrumental, In the Mood. More of the ilk of a few more ballads would have provided a nice contrast from the big sound of some of the traditional jazz and Big Band numbers.

As the musical afternoon

ended some in the audience gave the musicians a standing ovation.

I've seen The Ritz Band before but there was something special about experiencing them in the homely comfort of Everybodys Theatre – upstairs was also full. With

the Taranaki Art Review finishing, Opunake's Market Day on the Saturday and the garden festivals concluding, the Ritz Band's musical treat marked the culmination of a busy week.

Well done to Mike Gordon and Robin Wells for bringing a unique music experience

to Opunake. Come again.

Bernice McKellar

The Ritz Band play at the Festival of Lights in January 2017.

## A special Day of Remembrance

Saturday November 19 is a special day of remembrance. It's a day put aside to remember those we have lost to suicide - even though they are probably never far from our thoughts most days. People still suffer from historical loss to suicide, sometimes decades down the track. Suicide is a death like no other, and often the support and understanding is hard to find. You are not alone. Touched by Suicide meets monthly in New Plymouth and South Taranaki - the contact for further information is Supporting Families phone 06 7597300. Here you will find other families who really understand what you are going through. While it is sometimes hard to talk about suicide, it isn't something that is going to go away. In fact the numbers have risen to the highest since records began. We all need to know what to do and what to say

if we notice risk. There may not always be clues. Sometimes there are no clues at all. We need to be aware of risk, ask the question 'have you thought about suicide?' listen to the person (it's important it shows you care), support and help or get help. If the person has a plan and the means to carry it out then please get immediate help from the Police or local crisis team. Suicide prevention helpline number is 0508 828 865 and you can check out [www.suicidepreventionservices.co.nz](http://www.suicidepreventionservices.co.nz) for further help.

A warm welcome is offered to all who have lost someone to suicide, at a balloon release remembrance event on Saturday November 19 at 2.30pm, at Churchill Heights, Cutfield Road, New Plymouth. Catherine and myself from Touched by Suicide will be joined by Trish from SVU and Temika from Fighting the Blues.. Sylvia Huitson



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# Research: Where should your farmer dollars be spent?



Pat Poletti

cent. It was concluded that further research to explore the possibility of breeding for this higher efficiency was worthwhile.

However, research dollars are limited and choices need to be made. So, is it better to pursue the genetic line or is it better to look at the 81 per cent to 86 per cent of the cause of difference that is not genetic i.e. environmental influences? "Environment" in this sense isn't climate change or saving the whales but what exactly is happening in the animal related to its diet, stressors and stress level, production level etc.

There is an opportunity to improve the feed conversion efficiency in the animals we already have now, not at some undefined point in the future when the vagaries of genetic gain might eventually come into play.

One interesting aspect the researchers found was that the lesser efficient animals converted more of their energy intake into heat

rather than growth or milk production. Immediately we are talking about thermoregulation - the process that animals use to control their heat production and how they partition energy between keeping warm and growing or making milk.

There has been quite a bit of work done on thermoregulation. The thyroid gland and corresponding thyroid hormones play a very important role here. If we take a cursory look at what influences the effectiveness of these processes, we immediately find a tie up with two trace elements that are more often than not deficient; iodine and selenium.

Iodine is the core of the thyroid hormones and selenium is actively involved in the conversion of inactive to active forms of these same thyroid hormones. And incidentally, the level of selenium required for full activity of the proteins

needed for this conversion is around 10 times higher than the currently accepted dietary selenium minimum i.e. status quo advice regarding selenium intakes will result in less efficient thyroid function and less efficient thermoregulation.

Poor feed conversion efficiency is already high on the list of effects that iodine and selenium deficiency are associated with - nothing new there. The initial work done to identify the genetic versus the environmental contribution to feed conversion efficiency has been extremely valuable. But where will the research dollars return the most benefit - the 80 plus per cent environment, or less than 20 per cent genetic? That's a strategic question for those who approve the funding. In the meantime, the rest of us can ensure our stock are eating a diet that is sufficient in iodine and selenium and we may just head the scientists off at the pass.

Pat Poletti

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## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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I went to a DairyNZ field day last week where the results of an investigation into feed conversion efficiency were presented. Some animals just manage to achieve more production from less food eaten with the difference between the best and worst highly significant - so it's well worth a look at the issue.

The researchers found that the contribution played by genetics to the difference between the best and worst performers was between 14 per cent and 19 per

## St Joseph's Opunake Winners

Champion Calves at St Joseph's Opunake were Will Hurley Junior Champion Calf and Matthew O'Rorke Senior Champion Calf. Matthew was awarded Supreme Champion Calf and the Judges were Barry Moore and Barry Harvey.



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# Toko hosts first district contest for FMG Young Farmer of the Year



Michael McCombs who has made it through to the regional final.

The race to represent the Taranaki/Manawatu region in next year's Young Farmer of the Year competition has kicked off in Toko. The first district contest and skills day for the 2017 FMG Young Farmer of the Year was held at a farm on Toko Road and organised by Central Taranaki Young Farmers. There will be three other district contests and skills days being held in Taranaki/Manawatu, including one at Okato on December 10. Twelve contestants were put through their paces by judges assessing their agricultural knowledge and practical skills.

"I'm stoked. It's an awesome feeling," he said. "I was quite nervous on the day and I'm not generally a nervous person." "The module where we had to name weeds and native plants was by far the hardest section," he said. Eight competitors from Taranaki/Manawatu will go through to the regional final in Hawera in April, and one farmer will represent Taranaki/Manawatu in the 2017 FMG Young Farmer of the Year national final to be held next July in Fielding.



Kenzie Bellringer sets up a shearing handpiece.



Connor Porter manages the quad bike section.

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# Watch on for woolly invader



Woolly Nightshade

A tall, pale, hairy invader is prevalent in Taranaki and you have the power to help evict it.

Woolly nightshade is increasing here, but Taranaki Regional Council Environment Services Manager Steve Ellis believes a widespread community effort could control it within the region.

“The Council is encouraging people to control it by destroying it,” he says.

“You can cut it down and paste a chemical on the stump. The Weedbusters website is a good place to go for more information. Weedbusters works with

local governments on weed initiatives and weed control.”

Woolly nightshade, also known as Solanum mauritianum, tobacco weed and flannel weed, steals into backyards, gullies, bush margins, vacant land, roadsides, shelter belts and riparian strips, especially in warmer areas. You name the place, it might put in a furry appearance.

It forms dense colonies and inhibits the growth of nearby plants. Its large leaves and fast growth mean it hogs the sunlight, and if that’s not enough to make native plant-lovers gnash their teeth, woolly nightshade is

moderately toxic to livestock and humans, potentially affecting people’s throats, eyes and skin.

Woolly nightshade spreads quickly, via birds and machinery, and its seeds rolling down banks or being borne by rivers to another spot. It generally starts flowering and fruiting in January, but its clustered mauve and purple blooms are present most of the year, and the shrub quickly grows up to 10 metres tall, so it’s easy to spot.

The good news is that it’s a soft wood so, if it’s too large to pull out, it’s easy

to cut down and then the stump can be poisoned. Failing that, agricultural spraying contractors can be found in the Yellow Pages if specialised assistance is needed for ground or aerial poisoning.

Local authorities monitor the prevalence of Woolly nightshade, which has been classified as an unwanted organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993 and is in the National Pest Plant Accord. As such, it is illegal to sell or offer to sell it, or display it in a place where plants are offered for sale, exhibition, distribution or propagation.

# Kapuni workmates take on NZDIA challenge

Two Kapuni workmates look set to go head-to-head in Taranaki’s longest-running dairying competition.

Neil Hunter, 22, and Tim Bonner, 23, are farm assistants on Steve and Maria Poole’s 810-cow dairy farm on Skeet Road.

They’ve entered the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards and will both be vying to take out the title of 2017 Dairy Trainee of the Year. “I was keen to follow in the

footsteps of my boss, Sam Hughson, who won the title earlier this year,” Neil said.

He grew up in Fiji and lived in Auckland for more than four years before deciding to give dairying a go. “There are endless opportunities in the dairy industry and entering the Dairy Industry Awards will look good on my CV,” he said.

“I’d like to be contract milking within five years and a herd owner within a decade.”

His colleague Tim Bonner became hooked on the Dairy Industry Awards after entering the Manawatu competition last year.

“It was a great experience and helped me to focus my goals. I learnt a lot,” Mr Bonner said.

“I came third and took out the practical skills and farming knowledge merit awards, which was awesome. This time I’m striving to do better.” Sam Hughson, 20, has

worked for the Pooles on their 210ha (effective) farm since leaving school and was promoted to manager in June.

“The competition helps entrants advance their careers,” he said.

“My advice to all trainees and farm assistants is that if they want to progress, challenge themselves and meet new people, then they should enter.”

“There’s an impressive

prize pool up for grabs, plus it’s the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the awards. What have you got to lose?”

Entries for the Dairy Industry Awards close on November 30<sup>th</sup>.

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From left. Neil Hunter, Sam Hughson and Tim Bonner.

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# Milk flows in 2015-16 despite low prices

In a year which saw the lowest milk prices in at least 20 seasons, milk production declined just 1.5 percent, according to the New Zealand Dairy Statistics 2015-16 released this week.

Milk production for 2015-16 eased slightly despite 52 fewer herds and 20,522 less cows than in 2014-15.

In total, dairy companies processed 20.9 billion litres of milk containing 1.86 billion kilograms of milksolids (kg MS) in 2015-16. This compares to 21.2 billion litres of milk (1.89 billion kg MS) the previous season.

“The average kilograms of milksolids produced per cow has gradually increased over the last

15 years and enables our industry to maintain high production year-on-year,” says Matthew Newman, DairyNZ senior economist.

“On average, each cow produced 373kg MS last season – very near the 2014-15 record of 377kg MS and still above the 2013-14 production of 371kg MS. On average last season, each cow produced 4185 litres of milk.”

North Island milk production declined 3.9 percent in 2015-16, with all regions except Northland (which had no change) producing less milk compared with 2014-15.

Taranaki (-8.3%) and the Lower North Island (-5.4%) recorded the largest

declines from 2014-15.

Overall herd numbers fell for the first time since 2007-08, now totalling 11,918. North Island herd numbers declined 122 to 8696, while South Island herds increased 70 herds to 3222.

Farm ownership structures are also changing, with 30.0 percent of New Zealand dairy herds operating under a sharemilking agreement in 2015-16, compared with 32.4 percent in 2014-15.

Within the sharemilker herds, variable order sharemilking herd numbers declined in 2015-16. In particular, 20-29 percent sharemilkers decreased by 229 herds (-22 percent) to 821. Herd-owning sharemilkers (50:50 sharemilkers) declined 57 herds (-2 percent) to 2422.



Champion Calves at Opunake Primary School. Miriama Roach - Reserve Champion Calf and Kasey Roach - Supreme Champion Calf, with Judges Ray Lawrence and Claire Bourke.

# MPI wins appeal over bobby calf sentence home detention replaced with imprisonment

A slaughterman who received home detention over the abuse of bobby calves has had his sentence replaced with a two year prison term following an appeal by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Noel Erickson, 39, was sentenced to 10 months home detention and 200 hours of community work when he appeared in the Huntly District Court in July this year.

He had earlier pleaded guilty to 10 charges over the abuse of 111 bobby calves at a Te Kauwhata pet food processing plant in August last year.

The charges included wilfully ill-treating a calf and representative charges of recklessly ill-treating calves, ill-treating calves, and using blunt force trauma.

Penalties for the offences

ranged from a maximum five years imprisonment or maximum fine of \$100,000 (or both), to charges carrying a maximum penalty of 12 months imprisonment or a maximum fine of \$50,000 (or both).

The Crown lodged an appeal over Erickson's sentence on behalf of the Ministry for Primary Industries in August.

MPI Compliance Operations Manager Gary Orr says MPI welcomes the decision.

“Erickson's offending involved a significant number of calves who were treated with extreme cruelty.”

“There was clear evidence of abuse including of Erickson throwing and dropping calves onto the ground, kicking and hitting them, and dragging one under a gate.

“Justice Patricia Courtney has quashed the sentence of home detention and community work and substituted it with a sentence of two years' imprisonment.

“MPI takes animal abuse very seriously. When we get information about the mistreatment of animals, we conduct thorough investigations. When there is offending, we take action and people are held to account.

“MPI introduced new regulations governing the welfare and management of bobby calves in August this year. Since then, we have been actively reinforcing the new regulations with warning letters and infringement notices.

“The new regulations, combined with a comprehensive education programme targeted to farmers, transport operators

and processors are part of a suite of initiatives designed to ensure we see significant improvements.

“I'm very pleased to note that this season we have seen a material improvement in the condition of calves that end up in processing facilities.

The reality is, we're not going to see problems fixed overnight but with continued and ongoing education and the introduction of new, strengthened regulations we would expect fewer incidents of this nature.” Mr Orr says MPI has a number of

active investigations underway related to this bobby calf season. In addition, the investigation initiated last year that resulted in the Erickson conviction is ongoing and another related case is currently before the courts

## AUROA DAIRY/GRAZING/RUNOFF



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# Taylor finishes second in New Zealand



Not afraid of a little dirt Taylor Rampton motocross racer.

When Opunake's Taylor Rampton competed in the New Zealand Women's and Vets motocross nationals she finished second behind one of the world's best. At the nationals, held near Mosgiel on October 29-30, Taylor (18) entered

the senior women's class, coming second in New Zealand. She was comfortably ahead of third placegetter Letitia Alabaster, finishing behind winner Courtney Duncan (20) of Dunedin, one of the world's top motocross women.

Taylor said she was pleased to have the opportunity of racing against Courtney to be able to give some idea of what sort of pace would be needed against a world class competitor. Taylor also finished second behind Courtney in

the women's champion of champions feature race. Earlier Taylor had competed in the Wellington champs on October 9 where she finished first in the Senior Women's.

She also won the Senior Women's class in the MX fest held in

Taupo on October 23-4. Taylor raced in the Waikato champs on November 5-6, winning the 15 years and over women's class, and competed in the Pro 250 class against top New Zealand ranked names, finishing the day 13<sup>th</sup> in that class.

Taylor is looking forward to the rest of her 2016/2017 season, and would like to thank her parents, all the farmers for the support, family for the accommodation in the South Island, the Opunake Lions Club, her sponsors, and everyone who has supported her



Taylor with her proud parents Donna and Lewis Rampton

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## Normanby wins Lions Shoot

Five teams of four shooters turned up for the annual Inter-club Lions Shoot at Hawera on November 6. For shooters that only compete in target shooting once a year, the standard was very high. The Pakeke team that won last year conceded to Normanby and Districts who won the Beccard Trophy and headed off Manaia by 10 points. The shoot was a great social occasion and finished with a cuppa and supper. Hawera Pakeke Lion John Freer said this would be the last Zone

Shoot For Pakeke Lions as they would have to close at the end of the year because of falling membership. Scores were: Normanby Lions: Rocco Grous 96gr, 87.0, 183, Chris Emblens 99gr, 83.2, 182.8, Frank Eustace 100gr, 97.4, 197.4, Ray Treeby 99gr, 85, 184.0, team, 746.6, Manaia Lions: Mathew Peters 98gr, 92.3, 190.3, Rico Symes Patterson 100gr, 90.3, 190.3, Greg Eustace 100gr, 76, 176.0, Kylee Eustace 97gr, 83.1, 180.1 Team 736.7, Patea

Lions: Phil Harrison 96gr, 89.2, 185.2, Linda Reid 95gr, 80.0 175.0, Eliza Reid 98gr, 85.0 183.1, Colin Schrader 97gr, 87.0, 184.0 Team 727.3 Pakeke Lions: John Freer 96gr, 75.0, 171.0, Noel Hainsworth 96gr, 75.0, 171.0, G .Savage 96gr, 75.1 171.1, M .Savage 96gr, 83.0 179.0 Team 692.1, Hawera Mt View Lions Sue Bray 60gr, 70.0, 130.0, Bryan Bray 93gr, 84.0, 177.1, Michelle Hofmans 98gr, 91.1, 189.1, Joy Babington 90gr, 782.1, 162.0 Team 658.1  
*Frank Eustace*




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# The art of stained glass windows in Eltham attract interest



Inside Eltham's All Saints church.

Over a hundred visitors viewed the collection of fifteen stained glass windows at Eltham's All Saints' Church during the garden festival. "One visitor described the self guided tour of the windows as the 'highlight' of their week in Taranaki," says Regional Administrator Karen Christian. This was the first time the Church has had open days during the festival, and such was

the interest that the days were extended and tours continued into the next week. Local stained glass craftsperson Paul Burgham was on hand to talk about the technique of working with glass and leadlighting with visitors and he had a display of lights and books in the Church. The Stained Glass windows were made in England in the traditional manner by G.

Maile and Son. Each piece of glass is hand painted and fired and they are works of art in themselves. The expertise of the windows has been much admired and the collection of windows are a fine example of the craft of stained glass.

## Maniaia WI

The November meeting was held in the lounge of St. Cuthbert's Church, Maniaia on Tuesday November 1. Six members had enjoyed the West Coast Regional day at the Pihama Lavender Farm. Arrangements were made for our entry in the competition at the South Taranaki Federation International day. Members enjoyed a visit to Phyllis and John Malcolm's garden - "Lockinge".

Competition results: Shrub. 1<sup>st</sup> May Mulholland, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Chisnall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Daphne Ashley. Any Other Stem: 1<sup>st</sup> Joy Brogden, 2<sup>nd</sup> Phyllis Malcolm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Daphne Ashley. Homecraft - Lemon Scones. 1<sup>st</sup> Marion Smith Handcraft - Christmas Decoration. 1<sup>st</sup> Jenny Hamley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann Chisnall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Daphne Ashley. The wondering coin was won by Jenny Hamley and the Mary Hutton Trophy awarded to Marion Smith.

# Coping strategies when the earth moves under your feet

Associate Professor Sarb Johal of Massey University's School of Psychology says after an event like the 7.5 Kaikoura earthquake, people may feel a bit fragile and jumpy. "After a complex event like this, where we have had multiple quakes in the night, along with a strong tsunami warning, many people can struggle to make sense of their many thoughts and feelings. Just like the science experts trying to make sense of a complex event, it will take some time.

"It's important to acknowledge that what we have experienced is actually a combination of different events that can have an effect on what are thinking, feeling and doing right now. The initial earthquake shock, subsequent aftershocks, and uncertainty about when the next aftershock will strike, the tsunami alerts issued shortly after the initial earthquakes, and people deciding when and how to move to safety if they were at risk, and the rain and wind that have been experienced in central New Zealand, and flooding and landslips associated with this

"Fear, shock, disbelief, numbness, and disorientation can also be experienced when these unexpected events happen in our lives, especially when they arrive together. While I hesitate to call these 'normal' reactions, they are totally



**The big quake**  
Not much dislodged after the big quake in Opunake. The photo was taken not long after midnight on Friday morning of one of the two supermarkets in the town.

understandable and ordinary reaction to extraordinary circumstances..

"Fear tends to calm down reasonably quickly in events like this once you are feeling safe, but if the aftershocks continue for a while - which they are likely to - then these feelings can persist for some time too.

"For most people, these experiences are likely to be short-lived and recede relatively quickly.

We might also feel a bit foggier in the head than usual and not feel as sharp in our thinking. Partly this might be due to interrupted rest and sleep, and having an abnormal number of things to stay on top of.

"One of the most important things that will help you feel better is to look after yourself and

those around you. That means sleeping as much as you can when you can, eating well and regularly, and connecting with others to receive and give social support.

"Remember there will be lots of tired and stressed people around so be even kinder and more patient than usual. You're definitely not alone.

"Try to: follow a normal routine as much as possible, eat healthy meals - be careful not to skip meals or to overeat, exercise and stay active, help other people in your community as a volunteer, stay busy, accept help from family, friends, co-workers, or other people you trust - talk about your feelings with them, limit your time around the sights and sounds of what happened, don't dwell on TV, radio, or newspaper reports on the events.

« Share your experience and feelings with others - a bit at a time when it is right for you. Look after your own and your family's general health - rest, exercise, food and company all help (being careful not to drink too much alcohol).

«Children can feel like their sense of the world being a safe, stable and largely predictable place has been undermined. So, it's important to talk about what has happened in terms that your child will understand, when they are ready.

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Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

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

Opunake Catholic Church

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

Other areas

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

ALL WELCOME

THE WAVE

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

ST. BARNABAS

Anglican Church 141 Tasman St, Opunake Sunday Services 10.00am Communion 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday Prayer & Praise 2nd Sunday Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

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RAHOTU COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CLUB INC. AGM

Sunday 27th Nov 2016 at 7.30pm to be held in the clubrooms. All welcome Jo Morgan - Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICES



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Next issue out December 2



Rahotu School Board of Trustees' By-Election Declaration of Parent By-Election Results Parent representative votes:

Horo Janine 15 Pennington Neil 38

I hereby declare the following duly elected Pennington Neil

Signed Leanne Wiringi RETURNING OFFICER



SECOND RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the second instalment of rates for 2016/2017 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 30 November 2016.

CR Stevenson Chief Executive



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

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REDIN & CHAPMAN CONTRACTING advertisement with excavator image.

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NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK advertisement for livestock requirements.

Opunake & Coastal News contact information and logo.



# What's On Listings



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## OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month.

## OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

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

## SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

## COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

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## COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

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## TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 1 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

## EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 7pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

## CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

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## TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

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## COASTAL SINGERS

7pm every Wednesday night at the Catholic Church. Contact 7864

## ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

## PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Stratford Art Society, 1 November - 4 December. Refer advert.

## EGMONT SHOWGROUNDS

Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust Egmont Show Parade, Friday 8th November. Refer advert for full details.

## EGMONT A & P SHOW

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November Refer Advert

## BUTLERS REEF

Live Band SLAM Saturday November 9<sup>th</sup> from 9pm Refer Advert

## COUNTRY CONNECTIONS ANNUAL SHOPPING DAY

Sunday November 11<sup>th</sup> 11 am - 7pm, 80 Tasman Street, Opunake. Refer advert.

## PIHAMA LAVENDER MARKET DAY

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November 10 am - 2pm.

## THE VILLAGE GALLERY, ELTHAM

10 YEARS ON HIGH A Members Exhibition to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> year in Eltham' High Street. Open 2<sup>nd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November - 6<sup>th</sup> December.

## CRAIG FOSS MP

Minister for Small Business, Guest Speaker, Wednesday November 23<sup>rd</sup> at Everybody's Theatre, Opunake, 5.00pm - 7.00pm. Organised by the Opunake Business Association.

## OPUNAKE SMALL TOWN BIG AMBITIONS

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November At Coastal Care

## ST. BARNABAS CHURCH FAIR AND GARAGE SALE

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 9 am - Noon. Refer advert.

## STRATFORD A & P SHOW

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November Refer Advert

## NEW ZEALAND TATTOO ART FESTIVAL

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November Refer Advert

## RAHOTU COMMUNITY AND SPORTS CLUB INC.

AGM, Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> November 7.30pm to be held in the clubrooms

## ST. MARY'S SCHOOL OPUNAKE COUNTRY FAIR

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 5pm-8pm, Refer advert.

## GARDEN SAFARI

3rd & 4<sup>th</sup> December 10 am - 1pm, for 10 spectacular gardens plus the Manaia Walkway. Food available from the Manaia Golf Club on the day. Refer advert for full details.



# Environmental Awards

## Congratulations to the 2016 award winners

*Our awards highlight and celebrate mighty efforts right across the community. They recognise important work that ensures Taranaki continues to enjoy unrivalled lifestyle opportunities, a generally good and improving environment, and that future-proofs our vital industries.*

David MacLeod, Taranaki Regional Council Chairman

### Environmental action in education

Sponsored by Taranaki Daily News

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### Environmental action in the community

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- Rapanui Grey-Faced Petrel Trust
- Trina Stanley
- Pātea Planting Trust
- Otaraua Hapū and Waitara Alive

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# The Essence of Youth

Te Puna Rangatahi O Waingongoro are a Community Kapahaka Roopu based at the Eltham Maori Club Hall who are open to all tamariki and whanau of all cultures in the wider community. They cater for all school-aged tamariki 13 years and under. Te Puna Rangatahi o Waingongoro means The Essence of Youth of the River that flows through Eltham and Ngaruahine Rangi called Waingongoro. The group has been placed

in several kapa haka festivals around the country in recent years. The roopu will perform both days on the Cafe stage. They will also run free Poi making, Waiata and Weaving workshops under the grandstand for all to take part in. They will be putting down two hangis each day of the show, just inside the Burnside Avenue gate. These will be on sale at approximately 11am and 2pm daily.



Te Puna Rangatahi O Waingongoro.

## See us at the Shows



**EGMONT A&P 19-20 NOVEMBER  
STRATFORD 26-27 NOVEMBER**

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## The Nukes

Rollicking and rolling out of the woolliest corners of Auckland's wild west, it's The Nukes, New Zealand's most feared and revered original ukulele trio.

Comprised of Dave "Fingers of fire" Parker, David "Snapper" Thiele and Benjamin "Country boy" Collier, The Nukes have a reputation for reckless and riveting live shows where a fine blend of folk, bluegrass, reggae and post punk is caressed, coaxed and beaten out of three innocent wee ukuleles.

As a child, founding member Dave Parker ran

away from the circus in pursuit of a more regular life. He found it in the rather impressive combination of National pop celebrity and familial bliss, reaching the top of the charts with his bands The Parker Project and Rhythm cage whilst simultaneously reaching peak performance as a husband and father of four. However, after so many years of assumed normality, Dave began to feel the tug of his vaudevillian roots. In 2008 he could resist no longer, his will crumpled and The Nukes were formed. In 2008 after suffering a

series of near debilitating outbursts of musical violence, Snapper was informed by his Doctor Dave Parker that the only available and viable remedy was to join The Nukes. In the interest of his health and general public safety, Snapper complied.

The Nukes began to leave impressions. At first with a whisper and then with a bang, discharging three part vocal harmonies, blistering riffs, riotous rhythms and questionable dance moves.

If you hear that The Nukes are coming don't duck and cover, don't try and be a hero, Just gather all your friends and head for ground zero. **The Nukes**

## Hawera Auto Court Egmont Show 2016



**SATURDAY 19th & SUNDAY 20th NOVEMBER 9am - 4pm**

Tickets Adults \$10, Child (under 14) \$3, Under 5 free, Family 2 ad, 3 ch \$25, Maire St Carpark \$2 per car  
Public parking off Burnside Ave, Free Primo Wireless

### ENTERTAINMENT

#### PATEA MAORI CLUB

2.30pm Saturday, Shearing Stand Stage

- Kids Karts Racing
- Vinyl Burns performances
- Te Puna Rangatahi O Waingongoro, Poi making and weaving
- Steam Engines and Horse & Cart Rides
- Mahons Amusement Side Shows



**THE NUKES** performing live workshops both days - registration form on the website or at the show office.

### KIDZONE

- Fred & Eunice Rodie Trust Small Animal Tent *Bigger, better and more exciting than ever*
- Pony Rides,
- Claas Pedal Tractors
- Rugby Bucket Throw
- The Big Dig
- Photobooth
- Facepainting
- Gumboot Throw

**Lots of prizes to give away!**



**FULL ENTERTAINMENT TIMETABLE AVAILABLE AT  
[www.egmontshowgrounds.org.nz](http://www.egmontshowgrounds.org.nz)**





# Stratford promises fun for all

All the traditional fun of the Stratford A and P show is back this year, with a whole lot of farm style entertainment aimed especially for children.

The children will have the opportunity to pet a variety of baby farm animals in the McDonalds Farm Barn while the show will continue with the usual attractions of side shows and rides, food stalls, wood chopping competitions, livestock shows, sheep dog trials, vintage machinery displays

and more than 100 trade displays.

The Kidz Fun Spot will include traditional children's games of noughts and crosses, horse show throwing, egg and spoon races, and sack races. There will also be face painting, colouring competitions and much more. Children will be able to see and have their photos taken with Mickey and Minnie Mouse and Elmo from Sesame Street.

The ever popular pig races are also back with pigs

specially trained for their big weekend of running. They will run three times a day and will be followed by cow milking and sheep shearing demonstrations. Children will be able to handle and play with the fleece after the event a novel experience for many.

The show caters for four separate audiences, with the Kidz Fun Spot for the children, the trade displays for mum and dad, while the older kids and the teenagers prefer the side shows and rides and the older rural people enjoy the trade area and the livestock sections.

While entries are still being received in the cattle, the indications for the equestrian and pig sections are that numbers will equal or better previous years.

Show weekend is traditionally hot and sunny, and free sunscreen is available for people to prevent sunburn, and there are drink stations set up to provide free drinks of filtered water. The last things the organising committee want is for people to get sunburnt or dehydrated.

With at least 15,000 people expected though the gates it is considered the largest single event in Central Taranaki. The show open on Friday November 25 with equestrian events and the public days are Saturday 26 and Sunday November 27.

# Calling Eltham artists

The first Eltham Community Art Exhibition attracted over 700 visitors to the Eltham Town Hall.

This was held in 1999, and was the catalyst to the creation of The Village Gallery.

The gallery has now been in existence for 15 years starting in Bridge Street before moving to High Street in 2006. Run totally by volunteers, the gallery attracts over 2000 visitors a year. Two exhibitions a year are held for Members to exhibit work and since the move to High Street, 24 artists have been encouraged to hold first time solo exhibitions. Thus the gallery is fulfilling its mission 'to encourage and promote local and district art'.

Now a third Community Art Exhibition is planned for April 10- May 5 next year. Entries are open to anyone who lives or has lived in the Eltham/Kaponga District. Expression of Interest are being sought from artists now. There will be no charge to exhibit work, the event has been supported by South Taranaki Creative Communities.

EOI forms can be obtained from the gallery Monday - Saturday 10am - 3pm, or by contacting Maree Liddington 7645221 or email [alanliddington@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alanliddington@xtra.co.nz).

The Village Gallery came into being after a group of five local people recognised

that one of Eltham's strengths was its artists. They decided to invite people from the Eltham area to take part in a Community Art Exhibition. This was held in the Eltham Town Hall in 1999.

The coordinator was Pauline Turpie, assisted by Ian Turpie, Maree Ballantyne, Karen Christian and Ian Henderson. This exhibition was a huge success with over 50 people exhibiting from the Eltham area, along with displays from the local schools, kindergarten and playcentre. The Community Art Exhibition helped identify artists in the area and led to the setting up of an Art Gallery in Eltham.

The Village Gallery opened in 2001 when the owners offered a building in Bridge Street rent free for a year. The Gallery was staffed by volunteers. The Village Gallery sign was painted by Kaponga artist Lawrence Larkin. The

Village Gallery continues to go from strength to strength. In 2006 The Village Gallery moved to the corner of King Edward Street and High Street. The move has proved to be very successful. Visitor numbers doubled, with half the visitors coming from out of town.



Ian Littlewood views the display.



Aleisha Tippett at Stratford A & P with Champion Te Awhata Tequila Violet.

## 10 YEARS ON HIGH

A Members Exhibition to celebrate our 10th year in Eltham' High Street.

**Open 21st November - 16th December.**

The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

Welcome to the 

# 117th Annual Stratford A&P SHOW 2016!

## 26th & 27th November 2016

**Adults... \$10**  
**Children... \$3**  
Pre-schoolers FREE

**Family... \$25**  
(2 adults & upto 4 children)  
Parking available \$2 per vehicle  
please have correct change ready  
ETFPs available at the gate

### 9am - 4pm Show Timetable

**Saturday 26th November**

8.00	Sheep Dog - Commencement of competitions
8.30	Horse Events - Commencement of Judging
9.00	Cattle Section - Commencement of Judging for all Dairy Animals including Boys and Girls section
9.00	Pig Section - Commencement of Judging
9.30	Chopping - Commencement of competitions
10.00	Shearing - Commencement of competitions
10.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot - including pig race, cow milking and sheep shearing
10.30	Chopping - Jack & Jill Sawing
11.00	Chopping - Tree Climb
11.30	Pet Lamb - Commencement of Judging
12.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot including pig race, cow milking and sheep shearing
12.30	Chopping - 'A' Grade Underhand Champ
1.00	Chopping - 4 Man Team's Race heats
2.00	Chopping - Tree Climb
2.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot - including pig race, cow milking and sheep shearing

**Sunday 27th November**

8.00	Horse Events - Commencement of Judging
8.30	Cattle Section - Judging for Dairy All Breeds
9.30	Cattle Section - Judging for All Beef Breeds
9.30	Chopping - Commencement of competitions
10.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot including pig races, cow milking and sheep shearing
11.00	Chopping - Tree Climb
11.45	Best Trade Exhibit Announced
12.00	Chopping - 4 Man Team's Race Final
12.30	Chopping - Under 21 Champ
12.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot including pig race, cow milking and sheep shearing
2.30	Family Entertainment in the Kidz Fun Spot including pig race, cow milking and sheep shearing

**World Class Shearers**

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**Livestock & Horse Events**

**Pig Racing**

**Dog Trails**

**Craft Stalls**

**Parents Changing Rooms**

**KIDS FUN SPOT**

Come and relax and have some fun! Activities include Pig Racing, Meet Mickey, Minnie and Elmo, Face Painting, Cow Milking, Life Size Noughts Crosses and Connect Four, Horse Shoe Throwing and much more....









**Visit Old McDonald's Farm Barn**

This very popular attraction returns for more family fun featuring heaps of baby animals.

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# Christmas at The Bowl 2016

It's beginning to feel a lot like ..... Christmas At The Bowl. Pop it in your diary now as this is always the biggest community event of the year in Taranaki. Join a talented bunch of Taranaki performers on Sunday December 18 for what is guaranteed to be another outstanding community event. Artistic Director, Jordan McFadyen promises there is something for everyone in the show at the TSB Bowl of Brooklands. The beautiful and very talented singer Bryony Williams will be gracing the stage along with Lisa Rangī, Sam Mitchell, a stunning aerial and circus style act, the Taranaki Children's Choir, and our own Devon Hotel New Plymouth Brass just to name a few.

Relying on fantastic sponsors and gold coin donations on the night, this annual event is our own celebration of Christmas incorporating the renowned Powerco Fireworks display

– a fun-filled family occasion for all to enjoy.

Gates open at 5.00pm and you are encouraged to bring along the family and your picnic dinner to really enjoy the atmosphere of the event. Food stalls will also be at the venue for your convenience. The Christmas At The Bowl app for iPhone and Android will have words to all the carols to download before the night – look for it from December 1 – and even a “living candle” to brighten up the night.

Pre-show entertainment is provided by “Rusty Az” at 6.30pm. The Christmas At The Bowl Variety Spectacular starts at 8pm with the big screen ensuring every seat in the Bowl can enjoy the performances.

Entry is by gold coin donation with Urenui Lions Club and Little Fighters Trust assisting with the collection of the donations. The Ironside vehicle is available to those with mobility issues and there is

limited car-parking within the Gables grounds for those with official Disability Vehicle passes on a first come first served basis.

Around 9.30pm sit back, gaze skywards and enjoy the Powerco Fireworks display. This is definitely a night to mark in your diary now – an event ‘for the community by the community’ and something that everyone can afford to do with their family to celebrate the festive season. Remember it is also the first public night for the beautiful TSB Festival of Lights, so walk out via Pukekura Park and add to the special occasion.

This year we have a very special prize to give away to one lucky child. Staples Rodway, as part of their ‘Start Small Think Big’ campaign, are offering one lucky child \$1,000 cash to



Christmas at the Bowl will be held on Sunday December 18.

put into savings for their future. Listen to “The Hits” the morning after the event with your lucky candle holder or programme for one lucky child under the age of 16 to win this great prize.

There is also a family pass to Saturday at WOMAD up for grabs. Christmas is coming early to Taranaki.

Postponement night is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December in the event of bad weather – see

[www.christmasatthebowl.co.nz](http://www.christmasatthebowl.co.nz), become a friend on Facebook at Christmas At The Bowl – Taranaki for regular updates or text BOWL to 4487 for weather updates on the day.

## Business Association gears up for Christmas parade

On Christmas Eve, the Opunake and District Business Association will be holding the Opunake Christmas Parade. The parade starts at 7pm on December 24 at the corner of Tasman Street and Ihaia Road, and will also end there.

Entry forms must be in by December 11 to Fish Chips and More or emailed to [pihamalavender@outlook.co.nz](mailto:pihamalavender@outlook.co.nz) to guarantee being in

the parade line-up. Entries received after then will be placed at the end of the parade. This year all entries will be judged and prizes will be awarded based on the criteria of most creative and the best effort.

Parade officials will inspect all entries and reserve the right to eliminate any entry that doesn't conform to parade rules. Changes to the parade lineup on the day will be at the sole discretion

of the parade officials. All entries must have clear identification signs. Nobody may get on a float after it has started along the parade route, and no entry may exit the parade before the end of the parade.

For safety, all open wheels must be covered, so marchers cannot snag clothing or be pulled under wheels, and all motorized fleets must have wheel watchers on both sides. Nothing may be thrown on

any of the parade entries. No alcohol is allowed.

A representative from each entry must attend a pre-parade meeting. Please call Liz on (06)2158169 in December for the time and date.

Entry forms for the Opunake Christmas Parade are available from Opunake Fish, Chips and More or online.

**PIHAMA Lavender MARKET DAY**  
Sunday 20th September 10am - 2pm

**The GOOD HOME**  
PUBLIC BAR & RESTAURANT | 21 ARIKI ST  
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Christmas Shopping in New Plymouth? Call in and say hi!

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**Live entertainment**  
Friday & Saturdays  
**Ph: 06 758 4740**



Milly Moss shows off her creations at a recent Pihama Lavender Market Day. Get along to the next market day on Sunday 20th September, 10am - 2pm.

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For Breakfast or Lunch we offer a huge selection of tasty treats from our cabinet, fulfilling menu meals and exquisite Chef's Specials plus delicious coffee. Great for groups or parties, Bring the kids  
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Check us out on Facebook/Opunake Surf Inn



# Manaia Club combines gardening with golf

The Manaia Golf Club has been punching above its weight and wants to continue doing so. To this end they will be holding a Garden Safari on December 3-4 to raise funds for their ongoing work which will feature 10 gardens in the Otakeho-Auroa-Manaia area, as well as the Manaia Walkway. The last time they did something like this was about 20 years ago.

The Club has 120 members. The ladies play every Tuesday and the men play every Saturday, rain, hail or shine all through the year. This is in addition to Ambrose Golfing on Mondays and Twilight Golf on Fridays.

The Club has also catered for 80<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> birthday and wedding anniversary celebrations as well as the Manaia Lions Club monthly tea meetings.

In September the Manaia Ladies Golf Committee received a community organisation award from the South Taranaki District Council for their contribution to golf which has included raising money and running a junior coaching programme



**Margaret Putt's garden will be among those featuring in the Manaia Golf Club's Garden Safari.**

which has turned out Taranaki age group champions. The club has also produced more winners of golfing scholarships to American universities than any other club in Taranaki. These have included New Zealand Under-19 champion Celeste McLean as well as Sam Jones who went to the United States last year. His brother Ethan is due to be there next year. When a

Taranaki team won the New Zealand Girls championship in 2011, five of their six players were from the Manaia Golf Club.

Of such things Manaia Golf Club members take a justifiable sense of satisfaction.

"If you can put something back and give kids the confidence, they can succeed in all directions," the club's junior golf

convenor Margaret Putt said. Numbers are continuing to grow.

"We've just had a big influx of juniors, with 10 new members last month," Margaret said. "The next group we have coming through is amazing, and we've had great support from parents and grandparents."

Her Otakeho garden will be among those open to the public in the first weekend

of December. She first entered her garden in the Taranaki Rhododendron Festival back in 1986, and up to 2011, it was to become one of the festival's regular fixtures. Festival goers who remember her garden from back then will be able to see the additions she has been working on since.

The last time the Manaia Golf Club had a Garden safari, there were 15 gardens open, and Margaret says this year they have had no trouble finding people willing to open up their gardens to the public.

"We tried to keep it to the Manaia-Otakeho-Auroa area, so there wouldn't be a lot of travelling," she said.

Among other gardens on show are the Taunt garden on the Rama Road, which has also appeared in the Rhododendron Festival, and Peter and Lizzy Hunt's Willow Creek Garden on the Auroa Road, which this year

made a welcome return to the Fringe Garden Festival.

Also open will be Bev and Andy Davy's Oeo Road garden, Brennen's garden on the Skeet Road, and the Gibbs' Sutherland Road garden. In Manaia, Neil Scown's garden presents a man's world with bird aviary and fish pond. The Fox Garden and the gardens of John and Noeleen Graham and Eric and Pam Marr will also be open.

Finally there is the Manaia Walkway which includes the historic redoubt dating back to the town's origins in the 1880s, as well as a newly developed rhododendron area and descendants of Gallipoli's Lone Pine, after which the bloody First World War battle was named.

Tickets are \$10. Gardens are open from 10am-4pm, with tea, coffee and lunch for sale from the Golf clubhouse from 11am-2pm.

## Four choirs at Christmas



**Back row: Polly Otterson, Jennie Cameron. Front row: Christine Gibson, Music Director - Peter Copeland, Michele Bellomo.**

Stratford Singers are to combine with three other Taranaki choirs for their concert in the Catholic Church, Stratford on Sunday, November 27 at 2.00pm.

When planning the concert it was decided to invite one other choir to join us- and like Topsy it just grew. So, on November 27 the audience will be treated to music from an 80-strong group, comprising Stratford Singers, Taranaki Male Voice Choir, Hawera Women's Club Choir and Living Harmony. To top this, international cornet

player Trevor Bremner will make a guest appearance.

Massed items will be directed by Stratford Singers' own choral director, Peter Copeland, and the Catholic Church, with its fine acoustics, will be a perfect setting for the performances.

Entry is just \$10 and includes afternoon tea. Come along and join us for an afternoon of festive music. **Sheila Boyes.**

The first person to contact the Opunake and Coastal News will get two complimentary tickets to the show.

## Now's the time to get your rhodos into shape

Home gardeners inspired by recent spring festival displays can head to Hollard Gardens, Kaponga, on Sunday November 20 to find out how to make magic with their own rhodos, camellias and azaleas.

A free two-hour workshop

will offer participants timely tips on pruning these wonderful plants for shape and form to maintain healthy growth for good flowering. And this is exactly the time to be applying the magic touch.

Sunday's workshop starts

at 2pm at Hollard Gardens, 1686 Upper Manaia Road, Kaponga. It's part of a year-round programme of free public events at Hollard Gardens, Tupare and Pukeiti, the three heritage properties owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council

on behalf of the people of the region.



**Rhododendrons at Hollard Gardens.**

**SANDFORDS**  
RURAL CARRIERS



## Garden Safari

**3rd & 4th December 2016**  
**10am - 4pm**

\$10 for 10 spectacular gardens plus the Manaia Walkway.

Food available from the Manaia Golf Club on the day

*Tickets on sale now available from*  
**Margaret Putt**  
**Ph: 027 247 1946 or 06 274 8614**  
**Manaia Four Square**  
**Manaia Golf Club**

We welcome your contributions  
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Next issue due out on December 2.  
Phone us today to advertise on 761 7016

**Country Connections**

## Annual Christmas Shopping Day

Dear valued customer - Leigh and Patrice invite you to a pre-Christmas Shopping Event. Our store is stocked and ready for the rush.

Come and sample our Christmas Treats - Great for Christmas gifts.

**When: Sunday 20 November 2016**  
**Where: 80 Tasman St, Opunake**  
**Time: From 11am to 7pm**

*Please take this opportunity to visit us. Bring a friend!*

Layby now for Christmas - Collect your entry form instore to go in the draw for a gift basket.





# Bombshells showcases great

Hawera Repertory's latest show 'Bombshells' is currently running at their club-rooms at 59 Collins Street, Hawera. The season ends on Saturday November 19. The show was written by Joanna Murray-Smith and is expertly directed by Clive Cullen. This review is of the show performed on Friday November 11.

The show consists of six monologues of women who "are balancing their inner lives with humour, desperation, cunning and pathos." (Programme).

The acting of the six actresses is nothing short of superb and virtually word perfect. (I heard the prompt briefly just once). Quite how these performers remembered all their lines, often rapid fire and convoluted, is a mystery to me. Huge talent here and the youngest actress Zoe Snowden as 'Mary O'Donnell', is someone to watch with interest - doubtless a considerable emerging talent.

I don't like to pick out one actress above the others, but perhaps Hollie Weir as 'Meryl Louise Davenport' had the edge. She had a lengthy monologue to master, which she did with finesse - as a fraught mother overwhelmed by all the demands placed on her as she struggles with the question as to whether she is good enough or even "a fake." I did wonder if a few more props may have enhanced the performance even more - such as perhaps having a doll to represent the baby.

The show opened with Lorraine Wilkie's 'Tiggy Entwhistle' who is using a love of cacti growing to deal with her husband Harry's abandonment of her for another woman. The use of a PowerPoint presentation of the cacti, with the occasional unexpected shot of the errant man popping in, - was worthwhile. Lorraine performed her role with assurance pitting her vulnerability with her determination to accent the positive. Well done indeed.

Angelique Poczwa's performance as 'Theresa McTerry' was a delight as a bright and breezy betrothed woman who gradually realises her dream of marrying Ted was more to do with the pomp and glamour and even the glittering wedding dress, as doubts creep in and eventually takes over. Angelique, a newcomer to Hawera Rep, hails from Blenheim Repertory and their loss is definitely our gain - a very accomplished performance.

Arriving on stage in a pussycat suit Zoe Snowden captivated the audience with her 'Mary O'Donnell' who is destined to win the talent quest - or is she? - as she realises a rival has stolen her thunder.

The hugely experienced Jane Lawrence performed



The cast of Hawera Repertory's current production 'Bombshells'.

as 'Winsome Webster' and gave a sterling performance of a lady dealing with widowhood by keeping herself very busy with the emphasis of being of service to needy people. Winsome longs for the *unexpected* to brighten each day and certainly finds

it when she is assigned to read to a blind man. There is an unexpected spark between the two and a relationship develops.

A great ending to the show was Cherol Filbee as 'Zoe Struthers' a fading stage singer fighting back with

all her strength and making headway - although less than she would desire.

Well done to all who worked to make this show a success. I look forward with anticipation, as always, to Hawera Repertory's next production.

**T&H Betta ELECTRICAL**

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**Stratford Art Society**

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11 NOVEMBER to 4 DECEMBER

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY  
MIRANDA ST. STRATFORD  
06 765 0917  
TSB COMMUNITY TRUST

**Opunake Music Workshop**  
7:30pm Tuesday, 22nd November 2016  
Catholic Church, 33 Whitcombe Road, Opunake.  
Bring your own instruments, basic amplification provided.

Wedding or function, planning a party?  
Book us for Sound, Lighting or Video.

- ✓ We setup & operate our own Sound Equipment.
- ✓ We setup & operate our LED Lasers & Stage Lights.
- ✓ We record Video using Multi-Camera HD.

**Colour Conversions Limited**  
Video, Audio and Graphic productions  
Phone us on 027 897 8941  
Web Site [www.colourconversions.com](http://www.colourconversions.com)

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

CoastalCare would like to welcome Nigel Cliffe – Acupuncture Clinic

Nigel is now working from CoastalCare every Thursday 12pm-4pm

He can provide Acupuncture for many things, including pain relief, lower back and conditions.

Nigel is ACC registered and happy to discuss your case and advise of a treatment plan

He can be contacted on the numbers below

**Nigel Cliffe**  
027 681 9524  
06 763 8801  
ACC Provider

**Opunake Acupuncture Clinic**





Local musicians.

# Opunake Music Workshop celebrate 12 months

A tiny seed was planted in November 2015 by Ashley Pedersen and the team from Colour Conversions, video, audio and graphic productions, who felt there was a real need in the community for a safe, nurturing environment where young and old could develop their musical talents under the guidance of responsible, caring and skilled individuals.

Firstly, a suitable venue was sought so the seed could sprout, extend it's branches and develop into a fully grown tree. Secondly, we needed a diverse array of musical talent to come forth from around Taranaki, who would see our vision and the long term benefits of this group.

An advert was placed in the 'What's On' section of the Opunake and Coastal News, creating an awareness campaign about the existence of the group. We have gone from strength to strength, enticing a diverse group of talented musicians, singers and dancers out of the woodwork from all over Taranaki, including a visitor from England.

On behalf of all who attended these evenings, we are extremely grateful to the Opunake Players for providing our first venue until theatre plays began. Then we moved to the Catholic Church where Father Vijay listened to the vision, and saw benefits for the community. He graciously

offered the Church lounge as a musical platform for budding musicians (amateur and professional) to strut their stuff. This has given performers the confidence to stand up in front of their peers, improving their musical abilities, encouraging collaboration with others, and developing their stage presence.

The main amplification is supplied, and set up each fortnight on a voluntary basis by the team from Colour Conversions, and many of the musicians now bring along their own instruments and amplifiers. It's a team effort all round, and it's appreciated when some of the artists lend a helping hand to pack up the equipment at the end of the

evening.

No longer do local musicians have to confine their talents to their lounge room or garage, and it's an ideal opportunity to meet others in the community who share a common interest. The support has been tremendous, and we are now celebrating our twelve month anniversary, since the concept began. The amazing talent around Taranaki is truly inspirational.

Anyone who would like the opportunity to perform with talented musicians, singers and dancers in the music group, please join us at 7:30pm on Tuesday November 22 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery  
Working together -



## What's On

# SLAM - COVERS BAND

**Saturday November 19 from 9pm**  
no cover charge

**1133 Main South Rd, Oakura**  
Phone 06 752 7765 - [www.butlersreef.co.nz](http://www.butlersreef.co.nz)



## The Club Hotel, Opunake

Book in for your

### Christmas Function

### Smorgasbord or Family Dinner


## TAB - POOL POKER

**100 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE PH: 761 8213**

Promote your events in the

# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

**For advertising talk to us today on 761 7016**



## Small Town Big Ambitions

**Who is Organising this Event?** The Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre & CoastalCare Opunake

**When?** Wednesday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016 10am - 2pm

**Where?** CoastalCare Health & Community Centre - 26 Napier Street Opunake

**Services already available at CoastalCare Health & Community Centre**

- Budget Advice
- Community Corrections Services
- Counselling
- Dairy Training Ltd
- Lisa Keen Audiology
- Medical Centre
- Midwife - Surf Side Midwifery
- Needle Exchange program
- Pharmacy

- District Foodbank
- Royal NZ Plunket Society (Inc)
- St John
- Tai Chi classes
- Taranaki District Health Board
- Taranaki Podiatry
- Taylor Dental Practice
- Tui Ora Ltd

**Step out and Talk** All it takes, to make the world of difference to your life and your health. Simply getting out for the day and head to the Opunake's CoastalCare Health Centre. Sharing in the activities or just a conversation can help. We'd like to bring to the Community of Opunake the best possible support, Health Groups can offer and let you know you are not alone, remember that we are an increasing aging society, people will experience a gradual change in health, leading to increased health problems at some point in their lives, and it's nothing to be ashamed of. This day is all about promoting the services and activities that are freely available to you and showing you can have easy access to whatever services that are available to you, which could make all the difference to your life, to your Friends and Whanau's health.

**For more Information Contact Marama to Register Your Space for Attendance**



**Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre**  
28 Young Street - 4310  
[info@tarankidic.org.nz](mailto:info@tarankidic.org.nz)  
New Plymouth  
Monday - Friday  
9am - 5pm (Wk Days)  
06 7590019


The Taranaki Disabilities Centre In New Plymouth Along With The Tireless Health Groups Are Joining Forces Again For 2016. Together With The Ambitious Staff From The Opunake CoastalCare Health Community Centre Are Inviting Everyone, All Groups, All Families, All-Schools, All Volunteers, And Whanau To Come Along And Find Out For Themselves How We Can Improve And Better Manage Ones Health Thru Life.

Linking You & Community Support TDICT

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

**Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE**  
For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre

**NOVEMBER**

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos
 <p><b>DEEPWATER HORIZON</b> Action, Drama, Thriller   M   Offensive Language   1hr 47 mins. This disaster film based on the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion. Deepwater Horizon explosion - the incident which saw 11 workers killed, 17 workers injured and a massive oil spill leak into the Gulf of Mexico. It was the deemed the largest environmental disaster in US history. <b>Friday 18 November 7pm</b></p>	 <p><b>HELL OR HIGH WATER</b> Crime, Drama, Western   R-16   1hr 42mins. Justice isn't a crime. A story about the collision of the Old and New West, two brothers - Toby a straight-living, divorced father trying to make a better life for his son; and Tanner, a short-tempered ex-con with a loose trigger finger. <b>Saturday 19 November 7pm</b> <b>Friday 25 November 7pm</b> <b>Sunday 27 November 7pm</b></p>
 <p><b>KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES</b> Comedy   M Violence, sexual references and offensive language. Takes spying on your neighbours to another level. <b>Saturday 19 November 1pm</b> <b>Sunday 20 November 7pm</b> <b>Wednesday 23 November 1pm</b> <b>Wednesday 30 November 7pm</b></p>	 <p><b>CHRONESTHESIA - NZ Film</b> It's an indie romance with time travel   1hr 36mins   M   New Zealand. <b>Saturday 12 November 1pm</b> <b>Wednesday 16 November 7pm</b></p>
 <p><b>FIRST MONDAY IN MAY</b> In the first Monday in May, New York's Metropolitan Art Museum's fundraiser brings together designer-dressed artists, actors, popstars and politicians for what Vogue's larger-than-life Editor-at-Large Andre Talley describes as "the Superbowl of annual social fashion events". <b>Wednesday 23 November 7pm</b> <b>Saturday 26 November 1pm</b></p>	 <p><b>THE LIGHT BETWEEN TWO OCEANS</b> Drama, Romance   2hrs 13mins   PG-13 A lighthouse keeper and his wife living off the coast of Western Australia raise a baby they rescue from an adrift rowboat. Shot in New Zealand (Otago) and Tasmania. <b>Saturday 26 November 7pm</b> <b>Wednesday 30 November 1pm</b></p>

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
16 Magnificent Seven 1pm Chronesthesia 7pm	18 Deepwater Horizon 7pm	19 Keeping up with the Joneses 1pm Hell or High Water 7pm	20 Keeping up with the Joneses 7pm
23 Keeping up with the Joneses 1pm First Monday in May 7pm	25 Hell or High Water 7pm	26 First Monday in May 1pm The Light Between Two Oceans 7pm	27 Hell or High Water 7pm
30 The Light Between Two Oceans 1pm Keeping up with Jones 7pm	2 Dec Arrival 7pm	3 Dec Fantastic Beasts & where to find them 1pm Arrival 7pm	4 Dec *Boutique Night* I, Daniel Blake 7pm



## Women's Self-Defence Course

SANDFORD'S EVENTS CENTRE



**S**treet  
**T**aught  
**O**ffensive  
**P**rotection  
**S**ystem

- Ⓞ Self defence for women
- Ⓞ 13 years and over
- Ⓞ All levels of fitness and training
- Ⓞ Block course

Register your interest online [www.freestyleboxingclub.co.nz](http://www.freestyleboxingclub.co.nz)

Contact Dean: 021 558 123

Freestyle MMA Gym

email: [freestyleboxingclub@gmail.com](mailto:freestyleboxingclub@gmail.com)



## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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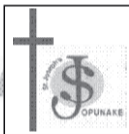


Opunake St Joseph's School PTA invites you to their

## Country Fair

Friday 2nd December, 5pm-8pm

*Spit Roast & Sausage Sizzle, Stalls & Raffles  
Races & Prizes, Silent Auction, Clothes, Arts & Crafts  
Baking, Sweets & Produce, Face Painting & Games*



Levi Sherwood.

## Levi Sherwood to ride at Tattoo Festival

FMX world champion Levi Sherwood will be at the New Zealand Tattoo and Art Festival on November 26-7 in New Plymouth.

Winner of the X-Fighters World Tour and Nitro World Games, Sherwood will be riding three times a day in the Professionals Real Estate Action Sports Zone at the TSB Stadium.

Sherwood is eager to perform in front of Taranaki fans. "There's nothing like having a chance to perform in front of home fans, after battling the best riders on the planet this year, I am excited to be back and riding at the festival," said Sherwood.

Nick Franklin, Luke Price, Mitch McHardy and the Freestyle Lifestyle BMX crew will join Sherwood. "It's a fantastic opportunity

for the public to get closer to the riders than is possible at other events. The riders will also be signing autographs for fans in the Fowler Homes Outdoor Zone" said festival director Brent Taylor.

Fans can expect to see backflip variations, supermans, huge whips and much more.

The festival also features over 250 of the worlds best tattoo artists, live music from

Aussie rocker Ash Grunwald, kiwi punk legends Bleeders and Skinny Hobos, sword swallowing, fire breathing, kidszone, retail stalls, food village, an awesome bar and much more.

Tickets are on sale from Ticketek, Adult day pass \$25, Adult 2 day pass \$40, Kids 14 & under free, the prices will increase at the gate. checkout [www.nztattooart.com](http://www.nztattooart.com) for more info.



3 FMX SHOWS EACH DAY  
BY WORLD CHAMPION

## LEVI SHERWOOD

# NZ & ART TATTOO FESTIVAL

TSB Stadium



Book now at [ticketek.co.nz](http://ticketek.co.nz)



# 26-27 NOV

1 DAY PASS \$25  
2 DAY PASS \$40

\*PRICE WILL INCREASE AT THE GATE

[www.nztattooart.com](http://www.nztattooart.com)

UNDER 15 FREE  
ACCOMPANIED BY A PAYING ADULT



Head down to St Joseph's School on December 2.

## All the fun of the fair at St Joseph's

On Friday December 2, St Joseph's School will be holding a Country Fair. This will be the first event fundraiser of this type for the school in many years. We decided on a Country Fair as we needed a way to raise money for three important resources for our school, IT Equipment, Sports Equipment, and Kapa Haka. The idea of a Country Fair was to do something to fit

in with our rural community and have some fun with old fashioned games and stalls, and selling of produce, and items made by the school children.

The fair will run from 5pm to 8pm and there will be plenty of food available, games to play, arts and crafts, raffles, clothing, and a silent auction where you might find a Christmas present or two to buy.

We are kindly asking our families and community for donations of raffle items, baking, produce and anything else which will help make our fair a success. If anyone would like to donate or help out in any way, we would be very grateful.

We hope to see you all there!

St. Joseph's School PTA Committee