



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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## Olympic fever



Coastal Taranaki School Principal Allan Miles at the Okato Olympic Day. It was his first time on a horse! See pages 4

## Lack of liasion wasting money?

An irate Opunake ratepayer has taken the council to task over what she perceives as a waste of ratepayers money due to poor communication.

Anne Sansom who lives in Gisborne Terrace, Opunake addressed the Community Board meeting on October 3 over the roading issue.

"An area of road at the junction of Allison Street up from Gisborne Terrace, which had been recently tarsealed, was then dug up in order to put a drainage pipe under the road. The road's now got to be tarsealed again" she said.

She felt that the Community Board's members who live in Opunake should have been consulted so that the two



The area of recently tarsealed road which has since been dug up to put in a drainage pipe.

projects could have been coordinated. She also pointed out that while they have put in a drain to take the surface water in front of 53 Gisborne Terrace, redirecting it westward

to flow into the stormwater drain, the house opposite also has a similar problem as both sides of Gisborne Terrace have surface water problems. "Presumably at some stage they'll have to go back to address his surface water problems."

South Taranaki District Council Deputy Mayor Alex Ballentyne, who was at the meeting, remarked in response that he "would like to put in a case for closer liasion".

Anne said they should ask the engineers to come out.

"It's my money you're spending".

She felt also that the drains and gratings should be regularly checked and commented on how recently a workman's overalls had clogged up the grating in the storm water drain which runs along Allison Street.

Linked also was the recently constructed detention pond built earlier this year to stop the flooding in Gisborne Terrace.

"The left hand doesn't seem to know what the right hand's doing."

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# EDITORIAL Teaching graduates

What an appalling state of affairs for recent teacher graduates. To have paid reportedly \$7,000 in course fees – using a student loan in many cases - and then to find only 20% of teacher graduates have any reasonable chance of ending up with a job!

Back in the days when there were no fees, in addition to a teacher trainee allowance - \$12,000pa in my day – young teaching graduates were guaranteed a job for their first three years in the

profession. After that they were on their own. It wasn't especially easy to find a permanent job even then – I applied for about 50 jobs before I secured my first permanent position, which was hundreds of miles away from where I lived at the time.

In those days the authorities made an effort to work out approximately how many teaching positions were likely to be needed and varied the teacher trainee intake accordingly. It wasn't perfect, but much better than the present

situation. Currently, learning institutions churn out teaching graduates willy nilly with seemingly no consideration as to their trainees' employment prospects as teachers.

Fancy an 'expert' advising teaching graduates to seek positions overseas! And, as for the suggestion that the end of the decade will see lots of teaching positions emerge, well .... How does the 'expert' know that? I think the best response to that crystal ball gazing is "Yeah right!"

The situation is appalling

and unfair. It is apparent that teaching graduates have been misled by senior education figures, who certainly have some uncomfortable questions to answer. (But probably won't or can't).

An official inquiry is needed to assess the situation and see what can be done. Certainly, we need to return to the system where some attempt is made to attune the number of teaching graduates to the number of positions needed.

*Rolland McKellar*

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## BBC (Bible Believers Corner) Seven eyes

The Lamb had seven eyes!

No, it is not a lamb with some weird genetic defect, it is instead the Lamb of God and it is in Revelation chapter 5.

One sat on the throne of heaven holding the scroll. This scroll contains all the names of those who will be in heaven, but the scroll is sealed with seven seals. Now the time has come to break the seals, open the scroll and read the names. The seals are not wax, of course, they are spiritual and only a perfect person can break them. A

search was made through heaven and earth to find that worthy person, but there was no one.

John, who wrote the book of Revelation, was horrified. If the seals are not broken the names cannot be read. No one will go to heaven; all is lost. John weeps.

The angel with John, and there is always an angel with every one of God's people, said, "Weep not John for the Lion of the Tribe of Judah has prevailed, He can open the seals."

John looks expecting to

see a lion. Instead he sees a lamb, a lamb that had been killed. And that lamb is in the middle of the throne. But that was where God had been sitting. What happened? God became the lamb. He took our death on Himself so that we could take His life in us and live! The scroll can now be opened.

But what about His seven eyes? John had been carried forward from Patmos, in the spirit, to the day of the Lord. That is a day still to come. A voice behind him called. John looked back from the

future, through time, to the first century and saw it all as a seven-branched candlestick. Each candlestick is the light for a church age, and each age has an angel or messenger. It is the messenger who is the eye. He sees what God wants done and brings a message to his church in his age.

The seven eyes are the seven angels of Revelation 2 & 3.

*Richard Oliver  
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## Singing Cowboy entertains in Opunake

For several hours on Friday October 12 Opunake residents were treated to the talents of Jock Hume, 'The Singing Cowboy'. He

played from mid-morning until mid-afternoon in Tasman Street singing a selection of songs from his repertoire of about 100. He mostly sings



Jock Hume, The Singing Cowboy performs in Opunake recently.

country and western, but his repertoire also includes a number of popular and even children's songs, such as 'Teddy Bears' Picnic'. "The people here are very friendly and interested", he enthused.

Although he is based in Auckland Jock has been tour-

ing the country for 42 years singing at 21sts, weddings, parties, cabarets, schools – you name it.

He is especially inspired by such greats as Jim Reeves – his favourite, Slim Dusty of Australia and Charlie Pride. Johnny Cash is another favourite and he belted out a rousing rendition of 'Ring of Fire' – among others.

After singing at the Country and Western Music Museum, Manaia last weekend, he headed south to Otaki to entertain there.

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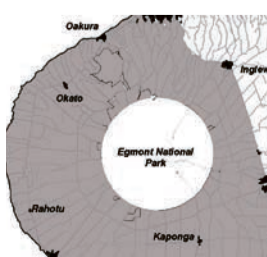
**e-mail: Advertising** ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
**Editorial** editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
**Accounts** accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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# Celebrating 30 years of the Coastal Singers



The Coastal Singers performing at their annual dinner show (and thirty year celebration) with Choir Mistress Noeleen Moir at the piano.

The Coastal Singers had their Annual Dinner Show at Opunake School Hall on Saturday October 13. It was a special occasion – to celebrate their 30 years as a choir. Joining them in the celebration were Urs Signer on the clarinet and Paul Adams on the keyboard – as a jazz duo.

What followed was an excellent evening of singing, jokes and a delicious meal catered for by Andersons Pie Shop and Caterers of Hawera. Choir Mistress Noeleen Moir provided her assured musical direction and astute piano accompaniment as always.

The opening song was 'People of God Rejoice'. Following a welcome by Mervyn Ross the choir sang 'Blaenwern' and poignantly 'The Prayer'.

After the meal entree, the hilarious 'Gumboot Tango' took the stage with the men dressed as farm hicks, although one sported green locks! Andrew Hornblow accompanied the men on guitar.

When the laughter had subsided, Stephanie McKellar introduced the next selection of items, with some interest-

ing information about each. For example, who knew that the 'Streets of London' was originally about Paris?

Barbara Wait and Alan Smith entertained us with 'La Ci Darem La Mano' (from Mozart's opera Don Giovanni) – one of the highlights of the evening. The whole choir returned to sing 'Ole Man River' with Alan Smith as soloist in fine voice. Next came 'Streets of London' with soloist Melanie Brown contributing with her crystal clear voice. This last one was one of my favourites of the evening – it was superbly done.

Jean Roach introduced Urs Signer and Paul Adams who

performed a selection of jazz numbers – simply brilliant. Let's hope we hear more of this talented duo in the future.

After the main course Arthur Hughson had a collection of jokes along the lines of 'How to pick a fight', which had everyone in fits of laughter, enhanced by his droll manner of delivery. Next, the choir sang 'Love Changes Everything', 'Last Night of the World' and my favourite of the bracket 'Killing Me Softly'.

Jean Roach was back to reintroduce Urs Signer and Paul Adams – admitting, "Jazz is my favourite kind of music". "They could make their instruments sing", as



From left Paul Adams (keyboard) and Urs Signer (clarinet) were an entertaining jazz duo.

David Lloyd commented about their remarkable performance.

With dessert enjoyed and more memorable jokes by Ian Baker the choir sang 'Come Follow Me' and my personal favourite of the whole evening 'What a Wonderful World', made famous by jazz great Louis Armstrong.

David Lloyd's vote of thanks included mention that there are still original choir members in the Coastal Singers. Lighting controller Caleb Bishop-Gilmor, a Opunake High School student, was thanked. Acknowledgement was made of the founding Choir Mistress Gabrielle Barr – whose husband Jim is a valued member of the choir – and her respected replacement Noeleen Moir, who has accompanied the choir on the piano for many years. "Dedicated and committed – truly remarkable", said David of Noeleen. Greeters Aileen Simpson, Aileen Joyce, Rosemary Morris, Jenny and Guy Oakley were also thanked.

Also appreciated was Melanie Brown for her intriguing display of the Coastal Singers memorabilia featuring show programmes going back 30 years. The support of local businesses and the TSB Community Trust was also acknowledged.

Coastal Singers members not already mentioned included Margaret Cooling, Jan Deegan, Ruth Hornblow, Joan Lloyd, Bob Morris, Janice Mossop, Margaret Shegedin and Reg Woodfield.

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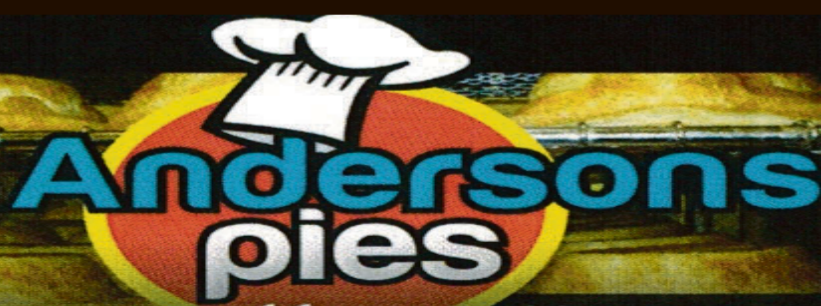
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# The Coastal Olympics

Coastal Taranaki School had a special Olympics Day on Thursday September in which the entire school, including teachers, took part. Members of the Okato community sports groups such as the Okato Squash Club and the Okato Tennis Club also assisted to make it a real community event.

Twenty-three sports were represented including mountain biking, equestrian, squash, tennis, badminton, wrestling, judo and athletics. Flag colouring was an event for the younger children.

Head of Physical Education and Deputy principal Karla Ralph said the emphasis was on participation and enjoy-

ment. The Coastal Taranaki Olympics day began with a workshop in which students chose to take part in one of four sports with groups of anything from 12-50 students competing. Shooting and archery were particularly popular among both boys and girls, said Assistant Principal Ben Naughton. Equestrian was also popular, with Coastal Taranaki School principal Allan Miles mounting a horse for the first time!

Boxing was another sport that was popular particularly with boys. Squash also attracted a lot of participants with the older students competing at the Okato Community Squash courts while the younger ones used a mobile indoor squash court set up in

the classrooms. Special needs students also took part in the day's events.

Ben explained that mountain biking was held at Dover Road and the shooting at Hempton Hall.

As well as the athletes, media students 'covered' the events for the closing ceremony and presentation at the end of the day's events said Careers Advisor Ruth O'Connor in charge of publicity for the school, while IT students tabulated the results over the day. A video was also made and shown at the final ceremony later in the day, which was followed by a sausage sizzle run by the Friends of Coastal Taranaki School.

*Continued page 5*



**ABOVE:** Year 11 students Imber Hawksley (right) and Billie Cameron who put together a video of the day's events, which was shown at the presentation and closing ceremony.



**RIGHT:** Jurnee Brown (right) and Sabrina Transom taking time out from the day's Olympics.

## Council's initiative praised

The water storage pond to the immediate east of Gisborne Terrace in Opunake township is a success according to one long-term resident Ron Brewer, who is a former

member of the Egmont Plains Community Board and recalls considerable discussion of the flooding problem in Gisborne Terrace in the past. He is aware that the estab-

lishment of the pond in 2011, to counteract the flooding tendency in Gisborne Terrace, is not favoured by some residents. However, overall he is pleased with the initiative carried out by the South Taranaki District Council, under Project Manager Christina Gonzales, who said, "It works really, really well. No problems".

Instead of Gisborne Terrace flooding at times of heavy rainfall, much of the water is now diverted to the fenced drainage pond. After any downpour has subsided, the water soon disappears, according to Mr Brewer. It doesn't stay there for long.

The previous situation was worse and potentially more dangerous, claims Mr Brewer.

In the vicinity of the ditch on the east side of Gisborne Terrace, there used to be a much deeper build-up of water when it rained heavily. Also, unlike the holding pond, the ditch, with its greater depth of water, was more of concern as regards the safety of young children. Opunake Primary School is very close, and the Opunake Kindergarten fairly close too.

Mr Brewer feels the South Taranaki District Council have done a good job and deserves more credit than it is the case at present.

*We welcome anyone of a different view contacting us and this could lead to a story*



Ron Brewer points to the inflow area of the holding pond to the immediate east of Gisborne Terrace, Opunake.



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*Continued from page 4*

Students were encouraged to wear their whanau colours with points going towards their respective whanau. The overall winning whanau is to be announced next term, based on an accumulation of points over the year's achievements both in academic and sports fields.

In all it was a great day and a nice way to end Term 3.

**RIGHT:**  
**Steve Cunningham from Icon Sports Tariki instructing the children on shooting and archery.**

*Photo By Jaydene Transom Year 12 Coastal Taranaki School*



# Olympic day at CTS - Live commentary

Excited students from Year 0-13 have lined up to play squash in a senior classroom. They learnt Tae Kwon Do in the common room, shot arrows on the rugby field and rode horses instead of maths and reading.

To end term 3 and celebrate the London Olympic Games, teacher Karla Ralph organised our own Coastal Taranaki School Olympics day.

Members of our community, staff and other providers gave students the choice between 23 different sporting experiences.

The opportunity to travel around Taranaki with a portable squash court is "outstanding" according to Peter Mischefski. The Stratford squash club, sponsored by SPARC, brought squash to the classroom. Mya Kemsley said she "wanted to try squash because she had never tried it before". For many of the students this was a new experience.

Year 6 student and black belt, Matthew Hooker gave karate lessons to students of all ages. They learnt new moves and watched demonstrations.

Ellie Castle used the opportunity to try archery so that she could be like "Katniss from the Hunger Games". Emma Van der Poel thought it was "a lot of fun shooting at the target and was a real challenge".

Shooting was held at Hempton Hall for those

keen to try their luck. The Pungarehu Boxing Club provided sparring practice in the ring for others.

Cycling was a new experience for Flynn who was the fastest Year 4 there and had never done a time trial before. Some students also went mountain biking at the Neilson's farm on Dover Rd, enjoying a rugged track through the mud. All went well except for Mrs Ralph taking a funny fall head first into the mud.

The pony club ran an equestrian course with some, including principal Allan Miles, being on horseback for the very first time. Kayla Deane said the horse riding was "lots of fun". She lead the horses for others. Toby and Spice spent the morning patiently giving lots of students rides.

Students were also able to be media staff for the day choosing from photography, journalism and videoing events.

Participation in all activities was enthusiastic and students were able to end their day with a closing ceremony, enjoying footage and photos of the day.

Huge praise has to be given

to Karla Ralph and her PE Department for organising the events meticulously and to all of staff, community members, parents and students who worked

together to make this day possible.

*Chantal Smith (Year 10 Reporter) & Mrs Sharleen Valentine*



*Photo By Jaydene Transom Year 12 Coastal Taranaki School*

**Cycling skills were among the events on the day. Maybe CTS has some budding BMX riders at the**



**Coastal Taranaki School students try the Tae Kwon Do event on for size**

*Photo By Jaydene Transom Year 12 Coastal Taranaki School*

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# Coastal Cops: Opunake



Nigel Day

## Coastal coppers

For those who are not yet aware, Mark Jorgensen has left the New Zealand Police to join his father in a farming operation. Mark had been stationed in Opunake for over five years and will be sadly missed both in the community and by the Opunake Police. He was a self-motivated Police Officer who gave a 100% commitment to the job and achieved a huge amount in the way of crime reduction and public relations within our area. It is uncertain times at the moment for the Police and we, as do the community, await a decision to whether he will be replaced or not.

As for now, business goes on as usual and you will note by recent media coverage that we have been active in the area of drugs. I will not ramble on about the evilness of drugs, as we are all aware of this, what I will say, however, is that we are going to continue our focus on them and encourage anyone with information to come forward.

We have had another theft of fuel from farm tanks, the latest being on Eltham Road. Once again a large quantity of diesel and petrol was taken which would have needed a vehicle with a number of containers to cart it away. Please ensure that your farm tanks are well secured and located in an area that is either secluded from the road or able to be seen from a residential address.

There has been a noticeable increase in the number of people in the rural areas that are riding their farm bikes on the road and we understand that is part of life out here in getting from A to B. Unfortunately I have identified a number of issues that are occurring far too regularly.

Firstly there are those farm

bikes that are being used as a mode of transport to get to town and recently I pulled up an old one in town that had been ridden all the way from Wiremu Road to Opunake. These bikes are purely for farm use and have no legal status to be used on the road. They are not up to warrant of fitness standard and never been inspected to identify any issues they may have. The corrosive nature of cow manure alone soon takes effect on them and normally the first things to go are the brakes.

Secondly is the number of bikes being ridden on the road where the rider has no helmet and in particular children and teenagers. My understanding is that the Labour Department can now issue a \$200 fine for farmers and their workers not wearing helmets on the farm. Just use common sense when you are on the road especially given that there was a bad accident involving a four wheel quad on Skeet Road the day before this article was written that required the rider to be choppered through to Taranaki Base Hospital. A warning though

if you are seen travelling down the road at warp four speed then you will be getting a ticket.

This problem is not confined to rural areas as we also have an issue in Opunake at the moment with a motorbike not up to standard being ridden three up by a few of our problem children. Thanks to those who contacted me as I was able to catch up with them but unfortunately the bike was parked up at one of their home addresses. They are on my radar and I will continue to be targeting them given their attitude. If seen again please contact us as I have plenty of room in the Police garage to park it up for 28 days.

Speaking of warp four speed, we have more than the usual number of complaints of speed on Ihaia Road within the town boundary. Due to this we are going to carry out a speed campaign on that road at sometime in the future but I am not going to say when. This is forward notice to everyone that when this happens it will be a zero tolerance campaign and if you read this article you have no reason to complain.

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# Coastal Cops: Okato



Rich Corry

Hello all - sorry that I have not had an article for a couple of weeks, but better late than never I always say. Well things have been steady crime-wise over the last month with a good result from My point of view arresting and charging someone with a couple of burgla-

ries and the theft of a couple of bikes. Most of the property has been returned to its rightful owner.

It also would appear that after a number of locals have had their driver licences taken from them that reports of vehicles doing burnouts have also dropped, coincidence? I think not.

While on a traffic note, I have been very disappointed to have to give out two tickets lately for vehicles doing over 120km - now that is crazy. Both drivers had connections to the Okato area. That sort of speed is unacceptable however, on the whole, most of the drivers in my patch have been pretty good so keep it up.

I am, however, looking for the driver of a black or dark-coloured Nissan Cefiro who thought it would be clever to

do a burnout in the middle of Oakura though the new roadworks on Tuesday October 9. I have a very good photo of the passenger of that vehicle as they purchased petrol in the Oakura BP shortly after. I will find you.

I have also had quite a lot of property stolen from a car which was parked down at the Cape Egmont Boat Club a couple of weeks ago. Included in this property was a Spotwood College first fifteen jersey and a very distinctive set of head phones, along with a heap of clothes including the owner's undies.

Whoever the low life was who thought they had the right to steal another man's undies, you need to take a good look at yourself because they don't get much lower than you. Now there

is a parent, caregiver, both-er, sister or somebody who knows who did this and if you don't do something you are as bad as the person that did it.

Anyone with any information about the offender/s of this offence can contact me on (06) 75 24111 ext 62370.

On the point of contacting me, those that have tried of late will know there is a new and improved (so they tell me) system that streamlines the way the Police take complaints. Please persevere with it and don't hang up when trying to get hold of me, simply ask for the above extension and let's see if that works.

Any must go but before I do did you know the electric chair was invented by a dentist?

Take care - Rich

# Fire Brigade: Opunake

It's good to see the fire safety messages are getting across to everyone with only one call out on September 19 to a false alarm at Opunake Primary School. Let's keep this up.

Halloween is approaching fast (October 31) so here are a few safety tips:

- Escort children and provide them with torches.
- Use battery-powered lanterns or chemical light sticks, not candles.
- Ensure children know how

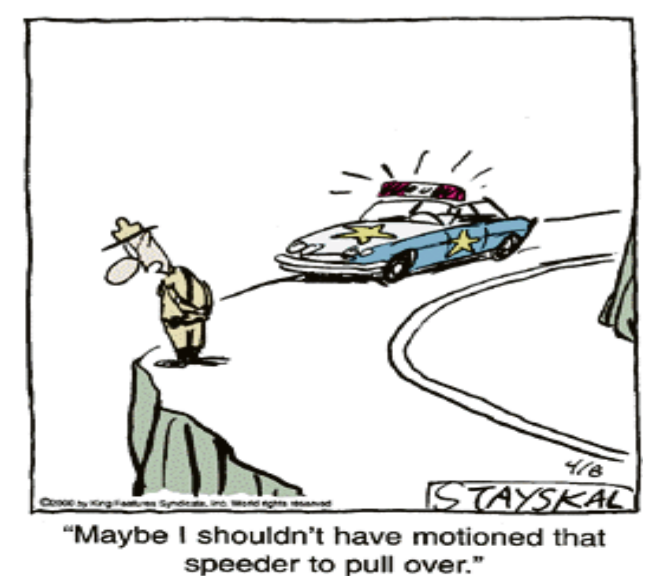
to call 111 in an emergency.

Guy Fawkes (November 5) safety tips:

- Follow instructions.
- Keep a bucket of water or a garden hose handy.
- Don't try to relight dud fireworks.
- Always get an adult to light fireworks.

As always we require new fire personnel so if this sounds like you come along on a Monday night from 7pm.

Publicity officer





# New security cameras in Opunake

The new security cameras in Opunake are now in operation with feedback so far being positive, it was noted at the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting on October 3.

Opunake police constable Nigel Dey is to provide a report to the Egmont Plains Community Board on how the cameras are being used. Deputy Mayor Alex Bal-

lantyne commented that although "not a fan of cameras" thought it was better to have mobile ones rather than fixed cameras.

New Heritage signs have been completed for the Opunake Walkway and will be installed by the Opunake Lions Club. The latest signs include an Opunake Wharf sign.

In a personal address by one of the organisers, the Ta-

ranaki Art Review, at the last meeting of the Egmont Plains Community Board, applied for a guarantee against loss. Though 1000 people came through last year, once again, as in previous years, they have cautiously applied for the guarantee against loss "in case of sponsorship pulling out", the meeting was told by Susie Stanley, one of the organisers of the popular annual

event. It was a back up and they would only lose money if a sponsor pulled out.

Councillor Michael Self queried the wisdom of the closing of the Art Review held in Opunake before the end of the Fringe/Rhododendron Festival last year. He explained he brought some people staying with him to see it only to find it had closed which left "just a bit of a sour

taste in his mouth."

Susie explained the artists need one day in the weekend to pick up their artwork hence the closing time. She also pointed out it was voluntarily staffed and commented "It's very hard to get people to sit at the door."

Cr Self also commented on the "huge rental" of the Sandford Events Centre where the revue is held and remarked

"perhaps the Council could get the rent reduced".

He was, however, informed that the council had no control over the rental of the facility.

The Taranaki Art Review will be held at Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake from October 26 to November 3.

# Fire engine for golfers at Mobility and More



Stratford's latest fire engine with its unusual driver - in the shop window at Mobility and More.

Kevin Bromell, owner of Mobility and More, Stratford has made a lifelike fire engine to celebrate the national Fire Brigade Golf Tournament, recently held in the town. Kevin was once a volunteer fireman at the Manaia brigade - hence

the interest.

The red fire engine is on display in the shop's front window and comes complete with a real siren and flashing lights. "It was time for a change in the window", explains Kevin.

The fire engine comes with all accessories such as ladders, fire hoses and reels. A big dog is in the driver's seat, wearing fireman's helmet (What else?)

"Welcome to all Fire Brigade golfers," says the mes-

sage with the fire engine. It's well worth a look at 279 Broadway, Stratford.

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# Scarpas says goodbye to Opunake

Scarpa's Shoes and Repairs will not be continuing their temporary shop in Tasman Street, Opunake after completing a trial period of about

a month. Although David and Teresa Deacon have enjoyed the time in the township, their circumstances have changed and their Stratford shop (244

Broadway) will be the only one continuing to provide their high quality repairs, merchandise and friendly service.

# On this month in history

On October 22, 1972 New Zealand's most famous poet James Keir Baxter died of a heart attack in Auckland, aged just 46.

He was also the author of a number of plays such as 'Jack Winter's Dream'.

He was also well known for his work with disadvantaged, homeless young people and established a commune at Jerusalem on

the Whanganui River to this end. The commune was somewhat controversial, however. James K Baxter's wife Jackquie was born in Opunake and is buried here.

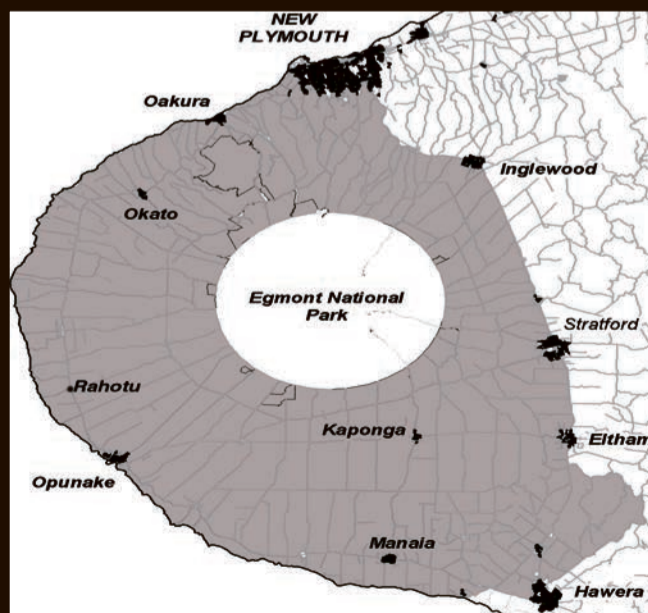
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# Child abuse plan needs careful management



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Andrew Little, List MP

parents, teachers and others. There were some good measures. Having a single place to report suspected abuse will mean one less reason for those who have witnessed something troubling to say, "I didn't know where to go".

The implication from the report is that a lower threshold will apply for intervention in cases of suspected abuse. There will be better co-ordination between agencies dealing with troubled and dysfunctional families. This is all good stuff, some would say long overdue. The minister deserves praise for getting this far.

But some issues remain. With better co-ordination of information, easier access for witnesses to report abuse and a lower threshold for intervention, it will be vital that there are enough people in our social services to respond. It is clear that some of the worst tragedies we have

seen in recent times didn't result just from breakdowns in communication. There have been overload issues for some time. Competing priorities have had to be juggled, and invariably in that situation misjudgements can, and obviously have been, made. So services need to be beefed up. Part of that beefing up is ensuring all staff are well-trained and professional. This government set a target some time ago of accelerating the professional development of child social services workers, but so far little has been done.

There is another issue over information collected by the new reporting system. It is inevitable that amongst the thousands of reports made each year some will simply be wrong. It is important that any report that is so obviously the product of a misunderstanding and which yields no evidence of abuse is deleted from the system.

The ACC debacle this year shows how easy it is in government departments dealing with thousands of people and a vast array of information to misdirect information.

It would be devastating for an erroneous allegation against an individual to remain in the records and have it mistakenly leaked at some later time. Proper safeguards need to be in place.

Finally, let's make sure decent services are available to all those who need it. The minister has said "risk profiles" will be developed and that children in homes with parents on a benefit are likely to be at highest risk. In fact, child abuse can happen in any household, and the state shouldn't discriminate on the basis of a household's income.

Andrew Little

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## A positive economic outlook



Hon Chester Borrows, Whanganui MP

exports will become more attractive to overseas purchasers. At the same time, they have to hope that with the vastly increased cost of fuel - up over \$3 per litre, we won't notice that every item in our supermarkets needed to be driven there in a truck, costing more money. The funny thing is, it's those on lower incomes, who Labour and the Greens say they care about so much, who will suffer most from this.

This is at the same time Labour wants the taxpayer to bail out coal mines and an aluminium smelter, and the Greens want us to give every family in New Zealand a baby bonus regardless of income, assets or personal wealth. Both parties want to up the minimum wage, extend maternity leave and to pay all students to study at university.

Labour and the Greens forget the times when fuel went up because our dollar lost value. That the cost of living increased so wages followed,

(but always lagging behind so nobody ever caught up) and the resulting inflation meant that every dollar bought about 20 per cent less each year. It was out of control inflation. Those were the years when Ella and I bought our first home. We got a home loan with 18 per cent interest on our mortgage!

The Green solution is to print more money and chuck it into our economy. The Germans once tried that, and ended up with \$1000 loaves of bread.

Our trouble is that our dollar is high because the UK, the USA, Japan, and Europe are all weak at the moment. Simple solutions will not fix this. New Zealand's edge is to make and grow good products which people will pay more for, even in a depressed market. We still grow the best food internationally, cheaper than anybody else, and people still have to eat. In recent years we have moved from feeding commodity produce to the poor to feeding niche high value-added

products to those who can afford them. Even in tight times, those customers will buy good products.

National has never claimed to have The Perfect Answer which can fix all our woes overnight, but we are making progress. Policies which hurt jobs, which require huge Government spending and the massive borrowing which accompanies that, which lead to huge inflation, would undo this progress. Following our traditional partners like the United States and Europe into policies of economic desperation would only drive our economy to the same perilous place theirs are.

That New Zealand's economy is doing better than those countries is not something to be ashamed of, it's something we can be proud of.

Chester Borrows

MP for Whanganui

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## Planting hanging baskets at Manaia WI

Jenny Hamley, Vice President of Manaia WI, welcomed a good attendance to the October meeting which began with the Roll Call 'My Favourite TV Programme' - there was a lot of interest in animal programmes, Heartland NZ, and the usual soaps - 'Coronation and Shortland Street', with only one member indicating interest in the sports channels. Members were reminded of the upcoming South Taranaki Federation Fun & Friendship Day, to be held at the Kapuni Hall on 15th Oct and the first of our new Regional Days to be

shared with North Taranaki and Wanganui Federations on 9th November which is to be visits to some of our beautiful Taranaki gardens.

Guest Speaker was Phyllis Malcolm who demonstrated to members the art of filling a hanging basket. Phyllis did a large one with pansies, lobelia and petunia. How easy it was to wrap the seedlings in a piece of plastic and pop through the holes around the basket to give a lovely cascading effect and then plant up the top of the basket. Another basket she planted up was done with just the larger

pansies, already in bloom - and she put five plants into this basket, making it an instant display. Phyllis also demonstrated planting up a container with herbs. The wandering coin was won by Freda Hill and the Mary Hutton Trophy was presented to Daphne Ashley.

Motto for the month was: Beautiful young people are accidents of nature, but beautiful old people are works of art!

Competition Results:  
Bloom: 1st Joy Brogden

- 2nd Ellen Smith
- 3rd Daphne Ashley
- Shrub: 1st Phyllis Malcolm
- 2nd May Mulholland
- 3rd Daphne Ashley
- Vegie: 1st Ruth Binns
- Peanut Brownies: 1st Joy Brogden
- 2nd Marion Smith
- 3rd Ruth Binns



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Courage in the real world looks very different to the glossy courage depicted in the movies.

It might look like the man asking for help for depression.

It might look like the girl standing up to those bullying her.

It might look like the husband supporting his wife through a painful illness.

It might look like someone pursuing their dreams even though the outcome is far from certain.

We need courage to bring our dreams into reality. We need courage to make personal changes that are painful, to end a relationship, to deeply commit to renewing a relationship, to let go of an outgrown career, to face the truth of an addiction.

The times in my life when I have been the most courageous have also been the times when I have felt scared, shaky and small. You may remember a time when you were filled with fear, legs shaking, stomach churn-

ing, heart racing and yet you did what had to be done. Are there any areas in your life where you may need to draw on courage now?

We draw upon courage when faced with a difficult and painful situation, we face into a painful reality, make a bold decision, ask for help. The truth is we draw on courage even when we are trembling with fear. Courage and fear can and often do, co-exist within us. You may be at your most courageous when you are also filled with fear and doubt. You may find yourself filled with fear, doubt and anxiety and yet you take another step forward

anyway because you know it's the right thing to do. This is courage in the real world.

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The Opunake Boardriders Club have received \$1500 to run a coaching course. Their application for funds was approved at the last Egmont Plains Community Board meeting held on October 3 at Sandfords Event Centre and comes out of the Egmont Plains Local Discretionary Fund. The Opunake Boardriders had previously received \$400 in November 2008 for coaches' first aid training and \$5000 in June 2008 to re-roof the Opunake Beach pavilion.

The coaching course will train and up-skill current and new surfing coaches to add to the Boardriders Club's surf school coaching roster and will begin in either December 2012 or in summer

2013. The full cost of the NZ Surf Instructors' course is \$3300 with the balance coming from a TSB Community Trust grant of \$400 and fundraising.

A request for \$448 from the Manaia Community Services for the continued development of the Manaia Walkway was also approved by the Community Board. A number of native trees have been planted along the walkway and the grant will go some way to defraying the costs of the purchase of the trees and other costs such as metal for the track. The Manaia Walkway is expected to be completed by November 1 2012. An application for funds by the Manaia Lions for the Manaia Christmas

Parade was also granted.

The Manaia Lions also applied for \$300 to help with the costs involved in the Manaia Christmas Parade which includes advertising of road closure. Cr Michael Self commented that the Lions were "penny pinching" and moved that the application for \$300 be increased to \$500 which was approved. The Manaia Christmas Parade has a long tradition and has been held for the last 50 years.

Community Board Member Brian Vincent queried whether the advertising of street closures in Manaia and Opunake in advance of the Christmas parades could be co-ordinated in order to save money. Fiona Green-

hill, Group Manager Community Services who was at the meeting, said the two Christmas parades were too far apart.

In other business relating to the application of discretionary grants, Community Board member Ben Julian queried whether they should be receiving late applications mentioning the late former mayor Pierce Joyce who was "a stickler for doing things correctly". It was explained by the STDC council officials that there was some flexibility and that the closing dates were loose guidelines.

The deadline for discretionary fund applications for the next Community Board meetings is Friday October 19.

## Pharmacist addresses Community Board

Pharmacist Benjamin Araba addressed the last Egmont Plains Community Board meeting on October 3 explaining why he had recently opened a full pharmacy in Opunake.

Benjamin bought both the Manaia and Opunake Pharmacies off Peter Copeland last year. The pharmacy

side of the Opunake business was subsequently closed and instead, a prescription service offered through Opunake Medicines, Health and Beauty from the Manaia Pharmacy where Ben was based. In a reversal of roles, Ben has now opened a full pharmacy in Opunake and the Manaia

Pharmacy will change from its full pharmacy status and become an agent of the Opunake Pharmacy. The former Manaia Pharmacy renamed Manaia Medicines will be operating a thrice daily service via courier to customers and will continue to remain open from 8:30 am to 5pm. There is an 0800

number that people can use.

Ben explained that he decided in July this year that since Opunake represented 70% of his business "It would make more sense to be here", referring to Opunake. He made application to Taranaki Healthcare 8-10 weeks ago and "only last week" had received a licence to open a pharmacy in Opunake. He had already decided to open a pharmacy in Opunake before hearing, in August, of plans for a second pharmacist to open in Opunake.

Councillor Michael Self though disappointed at the change in status of the former Manaia Pharmacy, said it was nice to know there would be a dispensing service available.

Ben replied that he took a number of phone calls from people concerned about losing the service.

Community Board member Brian Vincent asked whether there were plans to move into the proposed new medical centre in Opunake and was told that he planned to do that.

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# Keep Opunake Clean Project



Many Opunake Lakeside Lions hands made light work of the Keep Opunake Clean project. The aim was to collect rubbish around the town and these Lions club members attacked the task with great gusto. From left are Kathy Stanley, Kath Williams, Jan Deegan, (front row) Kaye Mourie, Rachael Norgate, Colleen Clement, Sue Huckstep, and Diane Forsyth.

## Te Kiri WI

A good attendance was welcomed to the September meeting by our Vice President Kath Perrett. Institute business was discussed and it was decided to hold further discussions next month.

A letter from Adrienne Hickey, the Secretary for the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust was read to the members by Judith Armstrong. Members were very interested and will follow the results of future happenings with this venture.

We had two lovely surprises. Kath had been on holiday to her daughters and was taken to a cooking demonstration by Jo Seager, which Kath very much enjoyed. Jo was such a lovely homely person Kath asked if she could take her photo. Jo had other ideas and told Kath to sit on her knee and let someone else take the photo. This resulted in two lovely ladies laughing their heads off and a delightful photo shared with us all to enjoy.

A few months ago Judith received a letter from her daughter who works in an orphanage overseas. These children have no toys, books, or pencils so Judith sent a big parcel over to her daughter and several of our members knitted teddy bears, which Judith also posted over.

Now our newspaper is on-line. More advertising exposure for your money.

We were all thrilled when Judith showed us the photos of these lovely children at the orphanage playing with her daughter and doing their school work. They looked so happy it made me wish I could give them all a hug. Judith is hoping for a letter to let her know if the teddy bears arrived safely. These two surprises made a very happy meeting interesting and enjoyable.

### Competition Results:

Bloom: 1<sup>st</sup>: Judith Armstrong, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Pat Barrett, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Raina Karam  
 Shrub: 1<sup>st</sup>: Judith Armstrong,

2<sup>nd</sup>: Raina Karam, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Kath Perrett

Cooking: 1<sup>st</sup>: Heather Radford, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Judith Armstrong, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Jay Collins

Handcraft: 1<sup>st</sup>: Joy Collins, 2<sup>nd</sup>: Kath Perrett, 3<sup>rd</sup>: Heather Radford

Our table of the month had some beautiful knitting and some very pretty Christmas decorations displayed. Yes the months seem to be flying by.

Our thanks to Joy and Judith for our very nice afternoon tea. Also to Joy for picking me up and to Heather for your help as well. It is very much

appreciated. A meeting with two big surprises – very much enjoyed.

Mavis West

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# Good growth is gained through great knowledge



Owner Adrian McLeod at the entrance of Fairfields Garden Centre.

Adrian and Cherry McLeod have been running the Fairfields Garden Centre for almost 15 years. It is located at the corner of Mangorei and Junction Roads – very near Tupare Gardens. “I’ve got a real passion for gardening. I’ve worked all my life in it,” explains Adrian, who was Manager of Palmers Garden Centre before setting up his own business.

The centre has a huge range of plants and trees and they are kept well supplied by specialist growers nationwide. Adrian says he prides himself in ensuring the plants are kept in natural conditions and are therefore hardened. Some of the plants in some other garden centres are kept in artificial condi-

tions and are therefore not hardened to ensure survival once they are planted out in a garden. “Soft plants” are less likely to thrive or even survive.

“We put the comfort of plants before the customers”, he jokes.

Also, because their range is so comprehensive the avid gardener has a better chance of obtaining the rarer plants from Fairfields.

Their opening hours are also customer-friendly; they are open seven days 8.30am to 5pm. In fact they are closed virtually never – apart from Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

They have an impressive range of garden materials and implements displayed inside. Garden cloths e.g. shade cloth, frost cloth),

fertilisers, terra cotta pots, stakes, bulbs, garden tools, soil conditioners, sphagnum moss, sheep pellets - you name it really.

They also have a good stock of organic products.

Inside, the selection of seeds was astonishing. The Kings Mail Order range that Fairfields offers ensures “some real unusual seeds” can be obtained.

Fairfield’s also has a hir-

Heirloom varieties of apples are also included here.

Natives of all types can be purchased, such as Kowhai, as well as exotics such as azaleas, rhododendrons and magnolias. Plenty of roses are on offer, as were climbers such as honeysuckle.

There are lots of punnets of plants of colourful flowers – such as pansies - and all kinds of vegetable seedlings. Tomato plants are a special-



A comprehensive selection of anything you could dream of for your garden.

ing side to its operation. For example, you can hire a Lawn Thatch Moss Removal tool, or a Soil PH tester to ensure your soil is not sour.

Fruit trees, in abundance, are on display – with various varieties of each; pears, lime, grapefruit, orange, feijoa, macadamia, guava etc.

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# Surrey Cottage a first time Fringe Festival garden

The Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival is just round the corner – it runs from October 26 to November 4. One of the gardens, which is well worth a look, is Surrey Cottage (Number 48, page 25 in the Guide), which is located at 205 Surrey Hill Road, Oakura. It is off Upper Wairau Road – about 2.5 kilometres from the village. Your hosts are Janet and Dave Quay, who are in the festival for the first time.

Janet and Dave have owned the (almost) four acre property with its interesting pre-1900 cottage and sea-view for about 15 years. Janet admits there was some mild coercion from friends to enter the festival with their “park-like” garden.



Owner Janet Quay in front of Surrey Cottage, in the vicinity of an established tree and neat hedging.

ready, as they are an important feature, providing, “Lots of colour and styles”, she said.

A splash of colour from a



Janet in a much beloved part of her garden.

Janet and Dave have transformed the property in the time they have lived here. Apart from a huge number of new plants and trees being established, they have put in paving, fencing, steps, and garden features, such as an intriguing fern-shaped water feature. Janet says she especially likes roses and climbers such as wisteria. She regrets that her dahlias were not yet

Azalea Mollisus was a bush which caught the eye.

There is a well-established orchard with such trees as pears, apples, cherries, oranges, avocados and tamarillos – even a banana palm.

Among the established trees are plenty of natives such as Nikau Palms and Puriri trees.

The couple has established a good parking area, to accommodate several

visitors at once.

There will be a shop on the property selling “unique rustic gifts” and craft products – mostly locally made. Rustic garden art by Chris Read will also be on offer. Food will also be available. The mobile Wildcat Café will ensure you are not thirsty while you stroll around.

Well-known artist Margaret Scott will have a selection of her paintings displayed and for sale in a wing of the cottage.

Make sure you add Surrey Cottage to your itinerary of gardens to visit. You won't be disappointed - there is so much to see and experience. It is wheelchair friendly, has toilets, with refreshments available. Bus tours are always welcome.

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# A Garden of Significance! Taranaki Garden Spectacular



Beautiful Lockinge Garden - a Garden of Significance

More than 30 years ago Lockinge Garden in South Taranaki was little more than a small flower bed, a vegetable garden and an apple orchard – now it is a Garden of Significance in the Powerco Taranaki Garden Spectacular, running from October 26 to November 4 this year. Owner Phyllis Malcolm is also a floral artist – so the one-acre country garden is bursting with a couple of hundred different varieties of flowering plants that are the source for her arrangements. Described by Phyllis as a woodland garden for its large deciduous trees such as golden elms, Lockinge is planted around two small lakes that are home to an elegant pair of black swans, and more than a

few ducks.

Visitors enter through a pergola covered in a scented clematis, and then follow meandering paths lined with flowering plants such as hostas, primulas, ajugas – and of course Rhododendrons.

Rustic farming relics, such as an old dray, can be found nestled in garden beds and dove cotes provide a home to white doves that flit through the trees. The bucolic scene is enhanced by a rough sawn timber bridge spanning one of the lakes.

Lockinge is one of 11 Gardens of Significance as rated by the New Zealand Gardens Trust in the 51-garden line up in this year's Festival.

Ranging from the sub-tropical to the sub-alpine, and from the ornamental to the oriental, the gardens are spread right around Taranaki with the greatest garden of them all at this heart, Mt Taranaki and the Egmont National Park. The Powerco Taranaki Garden Spectacular will also feature a range of guest speakers and events for visitors to enjoy in between visiting gardens, says festival manager, Lisa Ekdahl.

“Now in our 25<sup>th</sup> year, we've made sure that virtually every day of the

festival there will be a choice of garden-related events,” explains Lisa.

“Garden lovers can enjoy guided walks, tours, demonstrations, seminars or workshops with guest speakers such as media personalities Lynda Hallinan and Tony Murrell. There's also a stunning Spring Fashion in the Garden show to Frocks on Bikes!”

And this year's unique Landscape Design Project supported with funding from the TSB Community Trust, will be “The Peranakan Lights”. Also supporting this project is power generation company Agrekko.

A fascinating artistic fusion from South-East Asia, the Lights are inflated, illuminated shapes screen printed with designs of traditional Peranakan art - renowned for its rich and opulent designs in ceramics, embroidery, screen-printing and architecture.

Some 50 lights will be installed in New Plymouth's Pukekura Park in the area known as the Brooklands Lawn enabling anyone to come and enjoy what will be an impressive first for New Zealand.

For more information, visit [www.gardenfestnz.co.nz](http://www.gardenfestnz.co.nz) or [enquiries@gardenfestnz.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@gardenfestnz.co.nz) or call 00 64 06 759 8412

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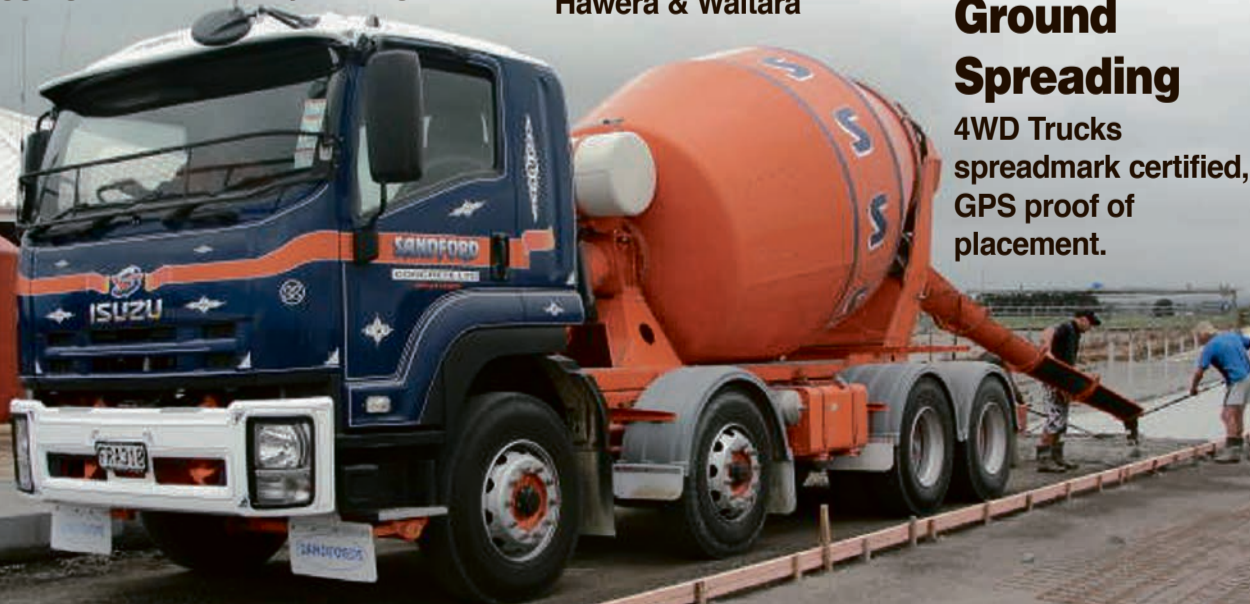
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# Information evening for contractors

Ag Traction in New Plymouth hosted a successful product night recently to showcase their new product line of Lely harvesting gear and also to inform contractors of current and up and coming law changes in relation to heavy equipment and tractors on the road. Several representatives from the New Zealand Transport Agency, Commercial Division from Palmerston North spoke and also gave a slide show. Peter Vis, the Managing Director for Lely, New Zealand and Lydia Dickinson, Managing Director of Independent Wrap Ltd were also among the guest speakers. The evening held at Ag Traction's premises at 643 Devon Road New Plymouth was by invitation only, with the 70 plus contractors who attended also enjoying a complimentary meal and refreshments.

"It was a fantastic evening, with a great turnout" commented Trent Hall, who founded Ag Traction four years ago. "It's the first time we've ever hosted anything like this," he said adding "that hopefully it showed as locals we are serious about supporting contractors and farmers in providing them with the right tools and information to succeed in their business". "Their local business is our local business," he added. It was by all accounts an informative and enjoyable evening. Sergeant Andy Williams from the Commercial Vehicles Infringement Unit from Ohakea and Lynne Williams from the NZTA, addressed those present about the latest regulations for driving agricultural machinery on New Zealand's roads. Amendments to the rules governing agricultural

vehicles are currently under review and there was quite a lot of debate about what the new rules expected to come into force next year would be. Sergeant Anderson said the most common infringement by contractors and farmers related to loads greater than two and a half metres wide where vehicles must have the correct flags or panels to delineate the width of the road. The next most common infringement was towing with a tractor a silage bin or agricultural implement and not having safety chains. A recent change to the regulations was that as of August 1, tractors no longer need a time licence. If people have any queries about the current regulations they should contact the Agricultural Guide 2009 website or make contact with the NZTA through the 0800 numbers or the police at Ohakea, advised Sergeant Anderson.

Peter Vis from Lely, also a guest speaker, discussed the latest additions to the Lely equipment range. This includes the Lely Welger Tornadoes Baler Combi which bales and wraps. "They're a new machine to the New Zealand market which is taking New Zealand by storm," said Trent. "They're a good quality fast baler and very manoeuvrable". Afterwards contractors got to converse with the speakers on a one to one basis. One of the contractors who attended, Gary Langlands

from Waiteika Road, Opunake said it was an enjoyable evening and he found it useful learning "what we can do, what you can't do," in terms of the LTSA. "My biggest concern is what the Land Transport want from us," he said adding it was useful to have all the rules and safety aspects of contracting clarified when you're on the road such as the signage you need for the different sized vehicles and the different categories. Also the requirements regarding headlights, wide load signs, reflectors boards etc.

Though there was the occasional accident as last year when a concrete truck rolled at Oeo, the number of accidents caused by contractors was very small, he stated. Gary added that it was also good to mix with other contractors. It was very informative and well run he said adding that it was also interesting to learn about Lely's product range. Sales Manager at Ag Traction Garry Miles said he'd like to thank everyone for coming and for their support. "It was a good turnout for the coast."



Contractors listening intently to the guest speaker.

## Just what are we investing in?

Concern about what we were investing in was raised by Councillor Michael Self at the last Egmont Plains Community Board meeting.

The South Taranaki District Council has an investment fund which is managed by an investor.

The investments change at the discretion of the in-

vestor and the council is not informed.

Cr Self however expressed concern that the investment could include tobacco and other products.

"I'd like to see several snapshots or a statement saying we don't invest in tobacco," he said.

He added that if the community knew we were invest-

ing in tobacco they might not approve. He cited countries where child labour is used as another undesirable investment.

He felt that the South Taranaki District Council should themselves be informed of the companies that were being invested in and had an obligation to inform the community.

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# Maize improves with fertilizer



Ravensdown Manager  
Mike Davey

“Ravensdown is in an enviable position”

says Mike Davey, “as Ravensdown 12:10:10 Maize/Cropping Fertiliser was specifically tailor-made for the New Zealand maize market by two large German companies back in the 1980s”.

Ravensdown 12:10:10 Maize Fertiliser is a premium quality N.P.K.S. compound fertiliser (every granule contains the same nutrients).

Mike explains that by having a compound fertiliser planted with the seed, the

growing plant then has access to these nutrients as opposed to a blend of DAP and potash where separation occurs because the DAP/potash is blended. Mike confirms that the two forms of nitrogen in Ravensdown 12:10:10 for maize are immediately available nitrogen and slower releasing nitrogen.

The phosphorous (P) is mainly in water soluble form allowing ready uptake by the plant roots which is essential for establishment and early

development.

Mike confirms that maize contractors prefer Ravensdown 12:10:10 for planting as it is free-flowing which results in no blockages and very little dust. As maize contractors have a tight window when planting, any hold-ups due to fertiliser quality results in increased costs to the farmer.

Mike is passionate about Ravensdown 12:10:10 for maize crops and he says it’s a ‘no brainer’. It’s all about yield.

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## Brave farmers waxed for charity

It was all on at the Okato Rugby Clubrooms – or off if you mean hair. Alexandra (Alex) Lawn had organised a unique fundraiser on Friday October 12 for the Coastal Young Farmers – men (volunteers) would have selected areas of their body hair waxed and removed to raise funds for two good causes – Starship Hospital for Children (Auckland) and Animal Welfare. The two charities were chosen by the Young Farmers Club at a recent

meeting.

Many supporters turned up for the big event. Few parts of the body were safe. Men volunteered to have hair waxed from legs (eg. Sean Richardson), chests (Daniel Downes) and stomachs and – wait for it – even eyebrows for two brave volunteers. “The most humiliating”, explained Alex. Someone even volunteered the waxing of

his armpit hair. “The most painful”, admitted Alex.

The amount raised by each volunteer varied; for example one leg garnered \$100, but a full chest waxing a princely \$500. Each volunteer could choose which of the two charities their contribution went to.

The fundraiser was certainly worthwhile – raising over \$1,000 on the night.

Altogether a total of \$3532 was raised for Starship Hospital and \$275 for Animal Welfare.

What’s next? Perhaps a fundraiser involving the women next time. “Bring it on,” quips Alex.

Last word goes to the organiser Alex Lawn, “I was blown away by the general spirit of the community”.

*“We use Ravensdown’s 12-10-10 because it flows easily and there are no blockages”*

Tom Goodin from Goodin Contracting, one of Taranaki’s largest maize contractors



Tom Goodin with Mike Davey, Ravensdown Sales Manager

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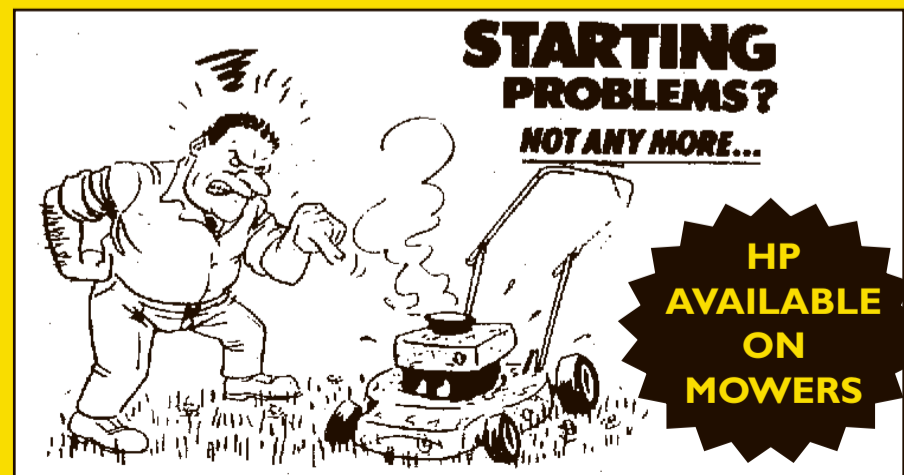


**Ravensdown**



Daniel Downes is ready for his chest hair to go. Organiser Alex Lawn (right) looks on with concern.

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# Rainfall varies in Taranaki



Rainfall is variable around both sides of the mountain

Rainfall for September was very mixed with percentages ranging between 37% and 163% of normal. The rainfall sites on the Mountain all recorded above normal rainfall, but it was a different story around the ring plain. From Okato in the west to Hawera in the south the recorders received above normal rainfall with percentages ranging between 107 and 134%, while from Stratford in the east and right up to the Kotare rainfall site (Tonga-

porutu) all recorded below normal. Kotare was extremely dry with only 37% of normal rainfall recorded.

Year to date rainfall is ranging between 79% and 123% of normal. The Mount Taranaki sites are all above normal by between 102% and 123%. The sites that are recording below normal to date are Cape Egmont (98%), Te Kiri (79%), Patea (89%) in the west and south and also Kotare (84%) and Uriti (97%).

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## Study pays off

Casey Morris, granddaughter of Lester Davis from Pungarehu, has recently received her Level 3 National Certificate in Automotive Parts and Accessories Merchandising.

Casey (22), whose mother went to Opunake's St Joseph Primary School, lives in Masterton.

She works in the parts department at Southey's Auto World Honda and Nissan in

Masterton.

Casey says she thoroughly enjoys her job - she has worked for the Masterton business for four years. The certificate took two year's study and Casey is now looking forward to further study perhaps in the area of management training.

*The photo was brought into the Opunake & Coastal News by proud grandmother Lester Davis from Opunake.*



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## Mobility Scooter Expo to be held in Opunake

The A mobility Scooter Expo is to be held in Opunake next year.

The prospect attracted some amused comments when it was discussed at the Egmont plains Community Boards meeting with "visions of mobility scooters jamming Opunake" according to one Board member.

It was felt that an itinerary of points of interest could be useful.

## Number plate recently spotted!



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# The Surf Inn Opunake Kneelo Surfing Classic 2012



Hamish Christophers of Oakura will be competing at the classic this weekend.

Top local and national kneelo surfers will once again head to Opunake for the annual Kneelo Hui. The event was postponed in 2011, but is back with a vengeance says event organiser Muzza Weir of Opunake. The event is scheduled for Labour Weekend.

We are hoping that all past and present kneelos will attend, as this event will help tune those surfers considering travelling to the 2013 ISA World Kneelo Surfing Titles, which will be held in Tahiti and will double as a trial for U 18 for this team says Murray Weir.

Locals like the Stanley brothers, Craig Dingle and Roydon Stewart will be out to snare the scalp of internationally performed surfer and reigning pro junior World champ Hamish Christophers of Oakura. Add reigning National champ Jamie (Chip) Andrews (Waitara) and youngster

Maukino Skelton (NP), who recently took out the 2012 Scholastic title, to this mix and the event has some top performers lining up. Former junior world champ and Ops local Kelvin Weir will miss the event due to attending the Cambria Kneelo Surfing competition in Spain and travel commitments in Europe, but his place will be taken in the Open by other top performers of similar quality namely Josh Christophers (Oakura) Mike Anderson (Auckland) and Gisborneite Chris Halsall. New Junior kneelo and surf lifesaver, Locky Stevens from Oakura has indicated he will be having a go, along with Jono Tahau of Opunake in the U18s, an event that will see Skelton also perform.

In the women's event former 2009 world champ Jo Moore is back, with the Stevens sisters Eli and Casey from Oakura. The latter being a top performer in surf life saving

circles along with her brother Locky and younger sister Eli, who all have made the transition easily to the smaller kneelo boards. Former NZ representative Bex Heemi is expected to make the trip from her varsity base in Hamilton to accompany her former NZ team mate Jordan Cooksley. Phil Miller, Craig McDonald both from Auckland and Craig 'Hoops' Hooper from the Bay of Plenty will lead the veterans or elders of the sport. Locals Steve Croton, Paul Christophers, Bryan Wallbutton, Steve Skelton and Muzza Weir will lead the charge against them for bragging rights of the more mature kneelos. Hopefully veteran power surfer Paul 'Ando' Andersen will have recovered from recent knee surgery to take his place in the water. The event will kick off with a 'meet and greet' at the naming sponsors bar The Surf Inn for registration with

the heats and finals hitting the water Saturday and Sunday of Labour Weekend 2012. A local's only club long board event has been added to help the flow of the draw and enable the kneelos to have adequate respite before their finals.

Local sponsors and supporters of the surf industry once again support this event and the Opunake Board Rider's Club have stepped in to help the kneelos run the competition, which will be held at the beaches and reefs in the Opunake region. KSNZ president Murray Weir would like to thank local surfers, supporters and sponsors for enabling this longstanding event to once again take place especially sponsors in this period of hard economic times.

Those wishing to see the event can do so by viewing the venue board that will be located at Dream Time Surf Shop in Opunake each day. *KSNZ press release.*

## Taranaki locals honoured at 'In it for Life' Awards Luncheon

Seven Taranaki residents were officially recognised for their hard work and dedication to save lives on New Zealand beaches on Saturday at the 2012 DHL In it for Life Awards Luncheon.

The celebration of surf life-saving took place in Wellington at the James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor.

Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club members Todd Velvin and Emma Crofsky both received Service Awards.

Thrust into speedos at a young age Todd joined Fitz-

roy as a nipper in 1978 and sat his Lifeguard Award in 1988. He has spent the last 20 years as a patrol captain and has held a number of club positions, including Club Captain, Club Coach, Instructor and is the current Chair and President.

*Continued page 19*

**At right: Vaughn Garrett from New Plymouth Old Boys Surf Lifesaving Club with his award for Dedication and Commitment to lifesaving.**



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# Opunake Bowling Club Report

Opunake Men's and Women's Bowling Clubs have now amalgamated – the last in Taranaki to do so. Separate Club days will still be held though – the women on Wednesdays and men on Sundays, starting at 9.30am. A combined Opening Day was held on Sunday September 16 with a finger-food lunch and mixed games in the afternoon.

The new President of the Club is Rodney Woods: Patron: Marie Moir, Vice President: Val Coombe, Secretary: Barbara Harvey and Treasurer Allen Harvey. Committee Members are: Nell L'Ami, E. Rothwell, Pat Barrett, K. Fleming, T. Brown and L. Reader.

On the September 26, Club Fours - four teams battled it out in gale force winds, playing two games



Val Coombe about to put up the first Kitty, watched by Club members. On her right is Pinto Brophy who rolled up the first bowl.

instead of three. Winners were B. Robinson, N. L'Ami, K. Perrett and B. Harvey. Club Triples - held in nice conditions with the greens

running smoothly. Winners were B. Robinson, R. Johns, K. Fleming and P. Barrett.

On the October 10, Club Pairs – only four teams

played, with school holidays and people away having an effect on numbers. Winners were J. Barrett, R. Johns, and C. Commane.

# Taranaki locals honoured at 'In it for Life' Awards Luncheon



From left, Neville Hodder, Valda Walsh and Grant Crossan with their awards for services to New Zealand Surf Lifesaving.

Continued from page 18

He is an examiner, a surf official, has competed in and managed successful Taranaki Surf League Teams and occasionally does a bit of announcing at national events.

Emma Crofsky joined the blue and whites in 1995. She has been on the committee since 2003 and has held positions such as Club Captain, Patrol Officer and Patrol Captain. She is also an examiner and has been a mainstay on the Taranaki Sport Committee for a number of years.

While a very successful IRB competitor who has taken numerous national titles, in recent years she has really started to

make a name for herself as a team manager having managed her club, the U19 Taranaki Surf League Team and the New Zealand Development Team.

Locals Neville Nodder, Grant Crossan, Vaughan Garrett and Valda Walsh were each honoured with Life Membership Awards.

As a member of the New Plymouth Old Boys from 1968-1973 and a member of East End SLSC from 1973-1980 and then again from 1989 until today, Neville has received both New Zealand Service and Distinguished Service Awards and was Lifeguard of the Year in 1999.

Grant has been a member of the East End club from 1968-1980 and again from

1985 until today. As a life-guard since 1967 he has received both New Zealand Service and Distinguished Service Awards. At the club he has held several titles including club captain, committee member, patrol officer and team manager.

New Plymouth Old Boys member Vaughan has been with the club since 1973 and a lifeguard since 1983. He has been involved in officiating and volunteer for national surf sport events and was Lifeguard of the Year in 1999.

Valda Walsh joined the East End Club in 1962 and worked as a lifeguard between 1963 and 2000. She has been part of the

ladies captain tour to the UK and the masters team in 1992. She has been a president, sat on the advisory committees and acted as an examiner.

Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club member Brian Velvin MNZM also received his 50 year badge. At the Surf Life Saving Awards of Excellence black tie event on Friday night Brian also received a special recognition presented by Executive General Manager of State, Mary Jane Daly for being made a Grand Knight by the International Life Saving Federation. Brian is now one of only 43 Grand Knights in the world.

## Gold star the highlight

The highlight of the recent Waimate Plains Indoor Bowls Assn. prizegiving was the presentation of a Gold star to Jane Augustine for winning her 5th Taranaki Centre title.

Jane reached this milestone by winning the Taranaki Centre Champion of Champion Triples along with Don Semple and Dave Unsworth.

They had earlier won the Waimate Championship as well.

Other Waimate Championship winners were: *Rinks*: Rose Ratahi, Scott Dimock, Marlene Clement and Pat Barrett *Pairs*: Gordon Hamley and Ronnie Young *Singles*: Rose Ratahi

Milton Griffin Secretary

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**Local Handcrafts Craft & Hobby Fair**  
CRAFT FAIR Miranda Street  
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Saturday 27th Sunday 28th October  
Free Admission  
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**Motorcycle & Hot Rod Show**  
A & P Showgrounds Hawera  
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Rival State, Sin City & Craig Radford  
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**Rahotu Tavern**  
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**VISION OKATO'S HANDKRAFTED MARKET**  
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**NEW STOCK MGP SCOOTERS** arriving daily, parts now in stock. Available at Collins Sports Centre. Opunake

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**OPUNAKE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION**  
NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
**SUNDAY 25th NOVEMBER 2012**  
AT SANDFORDS EVENT CENTRE AT 7.00PM

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**Coastal Rugby**   
**COACHES AND MANAGERS POSITIONS FOR 2013**

The Coastal Rugby Club is looking for people who are interested in coaching and managing the following teams in their club.  
Senior B's - Senior 3rds - Under 21's  
Applications close 25 october 2012  
Apply to: bj kettlewell  
Please send cv to email: bjketl@xtra.co.nz  
Inquiries call: (06) 761 7033 - 0272 298 932

**Rahotu Playcentre AGM**  
**7pm Wednesday**  
**24th October 2012**  
**At Headlands Opunake**  
**Contact Shelly**  
**763 8490**

**OANUI WATER SUPPLY LIMITED**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Monday 29 October 2012**  
**Headlands, Fox Street, Opunake.**  
**7.30pm start**

**BUSINESS FOR SALE**

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**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**  
Manaia - 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**

**Opunake Business Association**  
**NEXT MEETING**  
Monday November 5th at Opunake Surf Inn  
5:30 Social, 6.00 pm Meeting  
We welcome any member of the community to our meetings, you don't have to have a business.

**COLD CREEK COMMUNITY WATER COMPANY LTD**  
**12<sup>th</sup> AGM**  
**Monday 29 October 2012**  
7:30 at Te Kiri Hall, Te Kiri  
**All Shareholder Consumers Welcome**  
Neville Ardern and Steve Pivac are Directors to retire in rotation, both are available for nomination.  
Nomination forms are available by Phoning 06 761 8701  
All nominations must be sent to  
The Secretary  
Mrs M.Drought,  
2 Havelock Street, Opunake  
By 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012

 **YES CHADDY'S CHARTERS ISLAND TOURS**  
Free museum.  
New tandem mountain bikes and kayaks for hire.  
Also trips to seal colony and marine park.  
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**St Josephs School Opunake**  
Invites the community to it's Annual Agricultural Day held on Tuesday 23rd October 2012  
Calf and Lamb judging starts at 10.45am  
Food for Sale, ranging from \$1 - \$5  
Butter Chicken, Beef Kebabs, Sushi, Slushes, Jelly Cream Sundaes  
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# WHAT'S ON

**SCRAP & CHAT / CARD MAKERS EVENING**

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

**EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB**

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

**RAHOTU TAVERN**

Open Tues – Sun 5pm – 8pm. Melbourne Cup day Tuesday November 6. See advert.

**OPUNAKE SWIMMING BATHS**

Open to the public 1- 4pm Sundays, 3.30 – 5pm Thursdays. Other Classes available ph 761 8052

**TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE**

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

**NEW LIFE NURSERY SALE**

Hedging clearance on now. Refer advert.

**WOODSY'S GARDEN CENTRE CLOSING DOWN SALE**

Last trading day Sunday November 18. Refer advert.

**CUE THEATRE - ENTERTAINING ANGELS**

6th October - 20th October - A comedy by Richard Everett. Tickets on sale at Inglewood Book Centre.

**IT PAYS TO PAY DRAW**

Draw for \$150 car grooming, October 18 at the Rahotu Tavern, 7pm.

**THE MODERN JIVERS**

Starts October 18 at 7.30pm then every Thursday at Opunake Town Hall: Foxtrot, Waltz, Samba, Cha Cha Cha, Modern Jive Workshops.

**AUROA SCHOOL LAMB & CALF DAY**

October 18 at Auroa School, 10am start.

**OPUNAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL AGRICULTURAL DAY**

Thursday October 18, 11am.

**MOTORCYCLE & HOT ROD SHOW**

Saturday October 20 – Sunday October 21, A&P Showgrounds, Hawera

**TATARAKIHI THE CHILDREN OF PARIHAKA**

Gala screening at Hawera Cinema Tuesday October 23, 6.15pm. Refer advert.

**UK/EUROPE EVENING**

Tuesday October 23. Phone United Travel, New Plymouth (06) 758 6119 to register. See advert.

**RAHOTU PLAYCENTRE AGM**

Wednesday October 24, 7pm at Headlands, Opunake. Refer advert.

**OPUNAKE COTTAGE RESTHOME AGM**

Thursday October 25 at the Opunake Bowling Clubrooms, 7pm.

**COASTAL RUGBY COACHES & MANAGERS FOR 2013**

Applications close October 25. Refer advert.

**TARANAKI NATIONAL ART AWARDS**

Friday October 26 at Sandfords Events Centre. Refer advert.

**POWERCO TARANAKI GARDEN SPECTACULAR**

Friday October 26 – Sunday November 4. Refer advert.

**TARANAKI FRINGE GARDEN FESTIVAL**

Friday October 26 - Sunday November 4. Refer advert.

**PERCY THOMSON GALLERY**

Elements Exhibition, Oct 26 – Nov 18, Miranda Street, Stratford. Refer advert.

**KORU QUILTS**

Sale and display at St Andrews, Liardet Street, October 26 – November 4. See advert.

**CRAFT & HOBBY FAIR**

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 October, Stratford Memorial Hall

**TARANAKI COUNTRY BASKETBALL PRIZEGIVING & CHARITY AUCTION**

Saturday, October 27 at The Hub, Hawera. 7:30pm.

**TARANAKI COUNTRY BASKETBALL 3 on 3 TOURNAMENT**

Saturday October 27 at The Hub, Hawera. Refer advert.

**POTTERS & PICTURES**

Till October 27 at the Lysaght Watt Gallery, on the Square, Hawera.

**WELCOMING FUNCTION FOR NEW RESIDENTS**

Monday October 29. Request an invitation from the New Plymouth District Council by phoning (06) 759 6060.

**OANUI WATER SUPPLY**

AGM Monday October 29. 7.30pm at Headlands. Refer advert.

**THE LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS**

Hawera Memorial Theatre November 1 – 10. Refer advert.

**SOULPLAN WORKSHOP**

Saturday November 3 at 10am – 4.30pm, Bellringer Pavilion, Pukekura Park. Refer advert.

**VISION OKATO MARKET DAY**

Saturday November 3, 10.30am – 1.30pm at Hempton Hall, Okato.

**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING**

Monday November 5 at Opunake Surf Inn, 5:30pm social, 6:00pm meeting.

**OPUNAKE BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION AGM**

Sunday November 25, 7pm at Sandfords Event Centre

# Taranaki National Art Awards all set to go



Anne Gibson (left) and Suzi Stanley have a moment of hilarity while trying out the new display board.

The Taranaki National Art Awards open with a dazzling splash of colour on October 26<sup>th</sup> when 248 entries will be displayed.

Susie Stanley and Ann

Gibson have directed volunteer committee members who have worked tirelessly to stage this important art event.

Artists from all over New

Zealand will flock to Sandfords Event Centre on the opening night for the awards presentation. A total of \$12,000 in cash prizes will be given out. "Come as Your Art" is the dress theme for the patrons who dare to be different at the awards opening.

"We are grateful to all our sponsors who support this event," says Susie Stanley. Mobile display boards have arrived in time so that each entry can be presented properly.

Another innovation is a children's display of art, organised by Monique Sinclair. This can be found in the Stevenson Lounge. Opunake High School pupils will also show their creative works there.

Visitors to the coastal township can see art displayed in the retailer's windows on Tasman Street.

Enquire about the \$20 Friend of the Taranaki National Art Awards. Visit the [www.Taranaki Arts Awards website](http://www.TaranakiArtsAwards.com).



Free sausage sizzle Sunday while stocks last

## Opunake Kneeboard Classic 20-21 October 2012

Registration: 7pm October 19th at the Opunake Surf Inn

Open Divisions (Mens and Womens) - \$30 Students / U18 \$10 (age as at 1/1/2012)

The event also includes:

NZ Trials for the U18 team for the 2013 World Titles in Tahiti

Taranaki titles

Contact:

Murray Weir: Mob 027 376 6268



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53 Wairau Rd - Oakura NP - Ph 06 752 7680  
[www.oakurabeachmotel.co.nz](http://www.oakurabeachmotel.co.nz)

**3 on 3 Tournament**  
 \$10 per entry  
 (Time to be confirmed once entries received)  
 Categories: U15 and below boys'  
 U15 and below girls', Open Men, Open Women

**Prizegiving and Charity Auction**  
 \$5 per entry 7:30pm start  
 Saturday October 27th - The Hub, Hawera  
 All funds from the tournament and the auction will go to  
 CJ Taamaru and family  
 Entry forms or queries from  
[bexcrafft@hotmail.com](mailto:bexcrafft@hotmail.com)  
 Or text Bex Langton 0273542816

**TCB**  
 TARANAKI COUNTRY BASKETBALL

**S E C O**  
 ANDFORDS VENTS ENTRE PUNAKE

**"OPUNAKE'S OWN"**  
**TARANAKI ART AWARDS**  
**OPUNAKE HAS MADE THEM**  
**WHAT THEY ARE**  
**Don't miss**  
**Great event in**  
**Our home town!**  
**From the 26th**  
**S.E.C.O. RESTAURANT**  
**CAFE AND BAR**  
**IS PROUD TO BE**  
**ASSOCIATED WITH THIS**  
**NATIONAL EVENT**

# SoulPlan workshop planned

A unique counselling workshop is scheduled for Saturday November 3 (10am to 4.30pm). It will be held at the Bellringer Pavilion, Pukekura Park, New Plymouth. It will be run by two respected counsellors Meegan Care and Kali Cathie, who would optimally like to

have at least 50 people enrol. The SoulPlan workshop is aimed at women, but men are most welcome, to "access the energy and information of your soul. Connect with your true purpose and the action you need to take. Download your life purpose and the action you

need to take". This workshop was held in a similar capacity earlier in the year. One client who attended this earlier workshop was highly enthusiastic about the commitment. "What a wonderful empowering experience".

The counsellors were gratified by the positive feedback they received. "Truly, it made my heart sing", commented Meegan. She added, "It was really inspiring".

The two counsellors are, in many ways, complementary to each other. "We bounce off each other", explains Kali.

Meegan Care is a psychosynthesis counsellor and healer. You can learn more by accessing her website [www.meegancare.co.nz/](http://www.meegancare.co.nz/)

soulplan. She also writes a valuable and insightful column for the Opunake and Coastal News.

Kali Cathie is a hypnotherapist and meditation teacher, whose work has been featured in a '20/20' television documentary. You can learn more by accessing her website [www.malahypnotherapy.com](http://www.malahypnotherapy.com). Both counsellors are based in New Plymouth. The ultimate plan is for SoulPlan to be available on a website. This is expected to be in place early in 2013. Also in the pipeline are videos, and other media.

The fee for this worthwhile workshop has been kept a low as possible at \$47. Please phone 753 7326 or 027 6252 707 or Email [kali@malahypnotherapy.com](mailto:kali@malahypnotherapy.com)



Counsellors Meegan Care (left) and Kali Cathie.

# CJ waits but keeps on smiling

Even though his beloved Breakers fell victim to the Perth Wildcats in the first home game of the new season of the iiNet NBL championship, nothing could wipe the grin off young CJ Taamaru's face as he sat courtside at the big game last Friday night.

CJ's family was lucky to be selected by the staff at Ronald McDonald house to be the recipients and VIP guest of Chris Millbank's corporate table courtside for the Breakers first home game. Chris Millbank works with the Skycity Breakers team; however, this corporate table is his personal donation to Ronald McDonald/Starship families and at every home game a family gets to enjoy his hospitality and generosity of this corporate table.

CJ proudly wore his Taranaki Country Basketball (TCB) top along to the game so that he could be easily spotted by

friends and whanau around the country, and his giant grin and hearty wave during the fourth quarter was the highlight of an otherwise disappointing game for hardcore Breakers' fans. CJ was introduced to the team after the game and spent some time talking with two of his favourite players CJ Bruton and Mika Vukona. It was a fantastic night for CJ, his sister Tiana-Vai and mum, Janine which included a photo with the Breakers team. A highlight for whanau members around the country was seeing CJ, Tiana-Vai and Janine as they have been away from Taranaki since mid-August. They all enjoyed watching CJ with the basketball after the game showing his ball skills and then seeing both CJ and Tiana-Vai shooting hoops.

CJ is an 11 year old student who attends Rahunui Primary School. He was born with a severe liver condition, which



Brave young CJ Taamaru waiting for a liver transplant

affects one in every fifteen thousand newborns and received his first operation at two months old. CJ and his family have traveled to Starship Hospital in Auckland sporadically over the past five years for checkups; as well as being overseen by paediatrician Dr John Doran in Taranaki.

CJ's mum, Janine Luke-Taamaru, has set up an email account for CJ and the family; so that people can contact them, [cj.rautini@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:cj.rautini@yahoo.co.nz) and if you are unable to make the 3 on 3 tournament which is to be held on October 27 at the Hub in Hawera, then you can send a donation to: TSB Bank, Newmarket, CJ Rautini Taamaru, account: 15-3968-0012883-26.

Support for the 3 on 3 tournaments has been overwhelming with teams entered from New Plymouth as well as the South Taranaki area, including a team of Janine's workmates, who describe themselves as larger than life!

The auction will take place at the TCB prizegiving 7.30pm also at the Hub on Saturday night.

So dust off your sneakers and your cheque books and help support this deserving young man.

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# Insight provides a European vacation to remember



Taking a ride on a gondola - a 'must do' when visiting 'romantic' Venice.

Last November I was invited by Insight Vacations to join with travel agents from New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, Ireland and the United Kingdom to participate in a short tour visiting Italy, Switzerland, Austria and the small principality of Liechtenstein.

Singapore Airlines flew us through to Milan with a transit in Singapore. We arrived early morning and were met by a representative from Insight Vacations and transferred by coach to the Splendida Hotel at beautiful Lake Maggiore in the Italian Lakes.

When we arrived, there was a beautiful sunrise over the lake and so after a few photos we showered and had breakfast. We then had a lake cruise across to the little town of Stresa where we experienced a 'Taste of Italy', tasting olive oils with mixed Italian herbs and various Italian wines. Our coach transported us from Stresa to Lucerne, a pretty Swiss lakeside town where we were staying for two nights. As we had spent many hours travelling, it was now time to relax, have an early dinner and a good night's rest. As we are travel agents, this tour had been planned specifically for this group;

it was going to be a busy schedule as Insight Vacations wished us to experience a good sample of Europe, whilst experiencing their product.

On the final day our tour guide advised us that our clients would not be as rushed as we had been because the itineraries for Insight Vacations tours are planned to be more leisurely paced than ours.

On day two we embarked on a thrilling excursion by cable car and cog wheel railway to the summit of Mount Pilatus from where we had stunning views over the lakes, countryside and surrounding hills. Even though it was foggy and cold down in Lucerne up at the summit of Mount Pilatus it was a beautiful blue sky day. The journey we had just undertaken is the world's steepest rack railway.

Back down in Lucerne we did a little more sightseeing and then had some time for lunch and shopping.

The following day we travelled to the beautiful town of Innsbruck in Austria. The journey was amazing; we travelled through some extremely long tunnels in Switzerland. I was really amazed at the tenacity of the Swiss people from their

hard ways of life in the mountains to this country where everything appears to work like a well-run clock. No wonder this is the home of clocks and watches.

The drive to Innsbruck was also very pretty, just like a pretty postcard, with lovely chalet style homes and the greenness and colourful flowers everywhere. We had a very short stop in the tiny capital of Liechtenstein, Vaduz.

On to the town of Innsbruck which is set in a valley of snow-capped mountain peaks. We spent the remainder of the afternoon relaxing among the cafes of the Old Quarter with its narrow arcades and gabled shop fronts. Several of the winter Olympics have taken place here due to the proximity of the mountains.

The following day was very exciting as we headed out of Innsbruck to Venice for a 2 night stay.

We travelled across the impressive Europa Bridge and crossed the Bremner Pass. The drive was stunning, with the huge Dolomite Mountains, and on the slopes coming down on to the plains espaliered apples and vineyards.

We arrived into glorious Venice known as 'Queen

of the Adriatic'. I had been to Venice many years ago, however on this visit my senses were truly awakened to the magic that is Venice.

We enjoyed finding our own way through the streets to St Mark's Square; Belinda our guide explained that rather than trying to follow maps we would be better to just look up at the street signs and follow the arrows. They didn't all have the arrows so there were a few navigation skills required. We also enjoyed the atmospheric canals and a gondola serenade and Belinda gave us the history and made everything come alive. Our hotel was on Venice Island

on the Grand Canal. It was a great location to explore from. A highlight was a day trip to the Island of Burano, an island of fishermen. We had a seafood feast for our lunch. The shopping there was very good, slightly better priced than Venice Island.

Belinda our tour guide was an Australian lady who had lived in Italy for many years. She was very experienced, had a lovely personality and such a love of Italy that it was very easy for her to pass to us her passion and enthusiasm.

Our last day took us back to Lake Maggiore for our final overnight stop and fare-

well dinner. En-route we stopped by Verona with its first century Roman Arena and of course we visited Juliet's balcony. We had a sumptuous Italian lunch in Milan, the fashion capital, on the way. Our hotel at Lake Maggiore was the Hotel Dino, again a first class hotel. The hotels Insight use are all of a high standard. The extra seat room provided in the Insight Coaches really does make the coach travel very pleasant. I had travelled with Insight previously, but I am now convinced that the little differences of Insight Vacations do really add to the holiday enjoyment.

Sharon Herlihy



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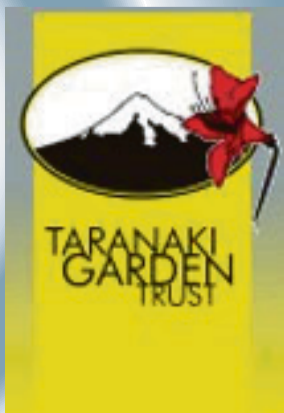
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## Led Astray at The Village Gallery



Robyn Smaller and Donna Hitchcock enjoyed making paper mache torso's titled 'Million Dollar Man' and 'Eyes on You' for their exhibition at The Village Gallery opening October 22.

With the official opening on Labour Day (October 22) the Village Gallery, Eltham (1pm) has an exhibition entitled 'Led Astray'. This exhibition will continue until November 16 and features pottery, sculpture and 'stray'. What's 'stray'? – you'll just have to come along and find out! The artists involved include – Robyn Smaller, Donna Hitchcock, Margaret Foley and Ann Burton.

The Village Gallery is open Monday to Saturday 10am to 3pm.

An added attraction is a Garden Art Sale – also featuring these artists - at 'Fern Glen', 66 Kent Terrace, Mithirst from October 27 to November 4 (10am-4pm). With Christmas shopping so close, here's a chance to purchase some quality art for gifts which will be treasured. Feel free to phone 06 762 8658 for further information.

## Gala screening for South Taranaki Film: Te Hokinga Mai a Tātarakihi - The Children of Parihaka

Tuesday, 23 October, 6pm Hawera Cinema 2

Tātarakihi – The Children of Parihaka - described by NZ Herald's Peter Calder as a "modest and affecting road trip doco" and Graeme Tuckett of Dominion Post as "a gentle film, full of compassion. I cannot recommend it highly enough" - is coming to South Taranaki for a special homecoming screening.

Te Hokinga Mai a Tātarakihi - The Children of Parihaka is a gala screening of the film on Tuesday October 23 at Hawera Cinema 2. The event, supported by South Taranaki District Council, will feature special guests from Parihaka, the children from the film and the filmmakers, welcomed to Hawera by Ngati Ruanui iwi members.

The film - about the 2009 journey of a group of children from Parihaka to places their ancestors were taken to in the 1880s - has been making its own journey to cinemas around the country and now comes home to South Taranaki.

Maata Wharehoka, the Kaitiaki of Te Niho Meeting House, Parihaka says, "This film is a story told by our children from our Kura Kaupapa Maori o Tamarongo, Opunake. It's a film made by one of our own, Paora Joseph and his wife Janine Martin, and graciously supported by renowned filmmaker Gaylene Preston. It is important to show this film in Hawera because it not only embraces the story of Parihaka, it acknowledges the imprisonment of those men from Pakakohe from Ngarauru in 1869. We want to pay tribute to all those who were imprisoned for their acts of passive resistance."

She also says that the film is

"a gentle approach to telling a harsh story. It is well balanced and allows the viewer to take from the storyline what they feel is right for them at the time."

South Taranaki Mayor, Ross Dunlop says the story of Parihaka is one of New Zealand's most important and profound. "The history of this place should never be forgotten and there is so much to learn from all of the events surrounding this special South Taranaki place," says Mr Dunlop. "Congratulations to the film makers for recording and telling the very significant and at

In 2009, a group of Taranaki children were taken on a bus trip to visit the places their ancestors, passive resistors from Parihaka in the 1880s, were imprisoned and forced to labour in. Places like Addington Jail in Christchurch and

produced by Gaylene Preston.

Joseph says: "While it recounts days of darkness, Tātarakihi – The Children Of Parihaka carries a sense of restoration and hope, and I hope it enables continued dia-



Some of the children of Parihaka

times disturbing stories about Parihaka."

After this gala screening, Tātarakihi – The Children of Parihaka will feature in the NZ International Film Festival in New Plymouth on October 27, 28 and 31. Then it will come back to Hawera Cinema 2 for a one-week only season starting on November 1. However, it will be available for school group bookings after that.

It will also open in Auckland at Rialto Newmarket on November 1. See <http://www.parihakafilm.com> for cinemas and session times in other areas.

Adam Fresco of flicks.co.nz said the film is: "a raw and heartfelt record of a sacred journey of remembrance . . . powerful, provocative and pertinent."

various buildings and roads they worked on in Dunedin. Along the way, they were welcomed at local marae by descendants of local Maori who supported the prisoners at the time. It was an emotional journey, documented by Joseph's camera and the children themselves. The narration is by the children, from their writing, poetry, song and art, expressed in a workshop after the journey.

Children, known at Parihaka as "tātarakihi" (cicadas), after their chattering noise, have a special place in the village's history. In 1881 the children of Parihaka greeted the invading Armed Constabulary with white feathers of peace, in accord with the philosophy of passive resistance taught by their two leaders, Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi.

Tātarakihi – The Children of Parihaka records the journey of today's children of Parihaka to these lasting monuments to the years of punishment endured by their ancestors. It weaves a delicate tapestry of narration, poetry, song and archival image to tell a haunting story that spans five generations.

The film is produced and directed by Paora Joseph, co-directed with his wife, artist Janine Martin and executive

logue for understanding and mutual respect of both Māori and Pākehā in the New Zealand we know today.

"It was important to include the Pakakohe travesty within the wider story of the Parihaka film because the intent for peace and goodwill in their surrender to the Crown following the land wars in 1869 was pure. Their subsequent arrest was a breach of natural lore and justice. The kaupapa of passive resistance from this time onwards, although firmly held at Parihaka by the prophets Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi extended from North Taranaki to Whanganui. Had it not been for the Pakakohe people, the rate of land confiscation within South Taranaki would have increased significantly. A part of the film therefore pays tribute and honour to this hapu who were wrongfully arrested.

"This film is dedicated to the memory of all who have carried the kaupapa of passive resistance taught by Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kākahi."

**Tickets are available from the South Taranaki i – SITE from Monday 8 October.**

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