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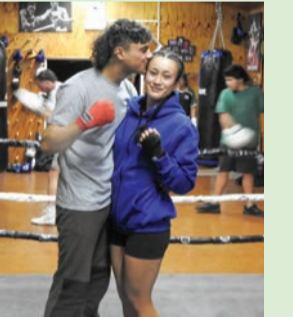
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Heartlands Hub filling a need

It's been an amazing year and we're absolutely filling a need says Jo van Leeuwen, Kaihautu – General Manager - of whanau services at Tui Ora, commenting on the Heartland Hub in Opunake which has just celebrated a year in operation on Wednesday August 7.

Recognising that need Gloria Campbell from the Ministry of Social development approached Tui Ora, a social and health provider, to open a Heartlands Hub in Opunake, explained Jo.

The Hub is a connection point for the full range of Tui Ora services.

“Our job is to connect people with Ministry of Social Development services such as work and income and job seeking. Without a physical presence here it makes it difficult for people to access services and information.”

Heartlands runs complimentary to what CoastalCare and LibraryPlus offer,” said Jo adding “we're the gap between WINZ benefits and work seeking” among a diverse range of other services.



From left: Kara Makiri - Heartland Services Co-ordinator, Sharon Tapiki - Maumai Co-ordinator and Jo van Leeuwen, Kaihautu - General Manager of whanau services at Tui Ora.

These include information about the Maori Land Court, counselling services, budget advice and how to apply for superannuation.

Other services Heartlands provide include good

parenting programmes, mental health and addiction services, youth services and health promotion including such things as cancer screening services. They can help with immunisations, flu

vaccine and Covid boosters and screening for Hepatitis and other health checks.

“It's gone from strength to strength and the feedback has been fantastic from the community,” said Jo.

She added that bank closures have put people at a disadvantage especially those who can't access online services which has increased the need for such a facility.

Since they opened in Opunake a year ago they were seeing more distressed families and more families in conflict with people feeling the financial squeeze and losing jobs. House challenges are also ongoing.

Though the focus is on Maori Heartlands is open to everyone Jo stresses. “Very much so,” she continues adding “If it works for Maori it works for everyone.”

Tui Ora has been around for 25 years.

Their services are Taranaki wide with clinics in Waitara, Hawera and New Plymouth. Tui Ora is also involved with other collectives.

“The community has welcomed us with open arms,” said Jo.

“We love being here in Opunake and are pleased to be able to have a presence here. It's a beautiful community, very strong and resilient.”

Carrying on into second century at Everybody's

Opunake's Everybody's Theatre which is voluntarily staffed and occupies a special place in the heart of the community has had a few changes recently.

Everybodys Theatre is more than just a name. The theatre on Tasman Street which has been part of the Opunake townscape for more than a century has always been the theatre for every body.

This was made clear back in

1980 when Everybodys faced closure and the locals decided they would take it over and run it themselves. They are still doing so today.

There have been a number of changes since then, including the four years it was closed so that earthquake strengthening work could be done before its reopening to much fanfare in 2016.

The theatre which seats 135 has become something of a local icon in its own right. Today artwork above the cinema entrance depicting the likes of Charlie Chaplin, Marilyn Monroe, John Wayne and Jaws can be seen by anybody passing through the centre of town.

The latest round of renovations have included some new carpeting and the placing of 16 new cinema seats upstairs, as well as new lighting, improvements to the shop and kitchen and new computer systems. The renovations have been aided by grants from the Toi Foundation, OMV and the Lotteries Commission Facilities Fund.

Upstairs the addition of 16 new seats helps with the “flow-on effect” redolent of an

authentic cinema experience, with new lighting installed by Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration illuminating the stairs on the way up there.

In the shop there is more room to move freely and the lighting enhances the atmosphere of the 1920s when the building was first used as a cinema. The first movie to be shown here was The Virgin of Stamboul which screened to a full house on 3 September 1921.

In the kitchen there is more cupboard space and the bench space has been extended. As well as making things easier for catering it has also meant more room for setting up for the theatre's popular Boutique Movie screenings held on the first Sundays of every month.

Another innovation has been the introduction of a Veezi computer system designed by a company catering to the needs of independent

cinemas like Everybodys. This means it's possible to keep a tally on people coming in, and at what point the theatre becomes full so that no more tickets can be sold. It also sends reports back to the distributors on how many people are watching their movies. Before then all this had to be done manually.

Everybodys also has a new website designed by Smokey

Continued page 10

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For editorial, email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

For accounts, email: accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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While we welcome free speech, the views expressed in the Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Opunake & Coastal News. Please limit letters to 350 words as we sometimes struggle for space to fit them all in.

Housing for Over 50s

It seems that the President of South Taranaki Grey Power Fred Kumeroa is calling New Plymouth District councillors Amanda Clinton- Gohdes and Bali Haque housing champions for the New Plymouth District Council

to fund more homes for 50+ people.

Now what Mr Kumeroa should know is that these councillors are members of the New Plymouth Labour Party like I am, and it was the Labour Government that got all of these Kiwi-built homes built in the New Plymouth suburb of Marfell and people

have been asking will any more be built?

Look. Grey Power must now realise that the Labour Party was founded in 1916, and that Labour Party PM Walter Nash came from New Plymouth, and since then they have never ever changed their political policies as they always have and will care for

the people of this country.

As for National which was founded in 1936, they have right from that time to the present have never ever changed their extreme selfish attitudes. They have never ever cared for us Kiwis. Only for themselves.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

RIGHT:

Just the thing for these cold winter days, a sauna. Spotted opposite Oakura beach last week several people including one bikini clad woman periodically wandering around to cool off before re-entering, it looks like great fun. Another attraction for Oakura!



ADELPHOS

Most of us have heard the sayings: A match made in heaven, heaven on earth, heaven knows, heaven help us.... There are also dozens of popular songs about heaven. I personally like, Tears in Heaven, by Eric Clapton and Bob Dylan's Knockin' On Heaven's Door.

Heaven is part of the "Kingdom of God." It's also called the "Kingdom of Heaven" in Matthew's gospel. Heaven happened to the world when the Son of God came from heaven to

earth as a baby on Christmas Day. Jesus said, "... I have come down from heaven to do not my own will but the will of him who sent me" (John 6:38, Good News Bible). The apostle Paul reminds us of Jesus' identity and supreme authority: "Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God...for through him God created everything in heaven and on earth...God created the whole universe through him and for him... Christ existed before all things" (Colossians 1:15-

Heaven Help Us!

17). Throughout His earthly life, Jesus' energy source was daily prayer. He was in regular communication with His heavenly Father.

When asked how to pray, Jesus taught His disciples to pray to His heavenly Father, giving us an example in The Lord's Prayer. It's often called the Our Father. Here's a short power-packed sentence within this prayer that at times we quickly gloss over: "Your kingdom [of heaven] come, your will be done on earth as it is in [the kingdom of] heaven." (Matthew 6:10, brackets mine). Let's stop and unpack this sentence. Since God is perfect, these prayer-filled words are actually asking God for His "perfect will" to come from heaven into our everyday lives/situations.

However, in responding to our prayers, God's answers from heaven shouldn't

contradict His revealed will written in the Bible. This is why reading to understand the Bible's basic principles is vital in helping us discern and embrace God's answers to our prayers. A good car mechanic has read and understood the car's manual to achieve a successful engine repair for his customer.

Our prayers to God can be a daily round-trip journey from earth to heaven and back, bringing meaning, comfort and hope into seemingly senseless situations. If we only see heaven as a destination when we die, we can become so heavenly-minded that we're of no earthly good to God or others. Heaven's kingdom is waiting to hear from us. Heaven help us!

Noho ora mai ra,
Adelphos

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Ode to Maui B

On Maui B 3rd of June 1993
 Was one place I did not want to be.
 At 1600hrs on that day
 The whole bloody place just got blew away.

I had finished work and was resting my head.
 There was one big bang. I nearly shit the bed.
 With lights all out and sirens going
 I rushed outside to see the deluge flowing.

With the smell of gas and rushing men
 I knew something had happened then.
 Blowout with wellhead was the news.
 That was enough to give anyone the blues.

Geoff was the boss, the man in red
 Doing his best to keep a level head.
 His decisions, pace, direction and pain,
 Thinking his lot was going down the drain.

Kevin the lecky all wires and lights
 We all think he shit in his tights.
 He reacted quick, one of the best,
 Doing a good job just like the rest.

Andrew was our instro keyboard and screen
 When the siren went off wondered where he had been.
 Good with his hands and clever with book
 Reckons we were lucky to get off the hook.

Fellow operator Gary was out on beat
 Thought it was time for his maker to meet
 Gary was closest to the blast.
 Now he is hoping that this is the last.

Mike our mechanic new member on this pad
 Said he would not forget the experience he had.
 Rushing to the wellhead with horrendous paced.
 When it was over well he is still a hard case.

Our janitor Daryl his words I cannot tell
 Says he is OK, but I reckon he needs a spell.
 He ran thru the L/Qs sure and fast,
 Making sure that he was not bloody last.

I feel rather lucky I could write this note,
 I don't know if this body of mine would float.
 Now it's all over and we are not so uptight.
 We are all like the rig. Bloody upright.

To everyone else who assisted us all
 It was good to see you answered the call.
 To Renny and crew, us guys are still here.
 Next time you see us, shout us a beer.

*John Williams
 Operator.*

The humorous poem at left by the late John Williams was forwarded to the Opunake & Coastal News by Irene Van Der Sar. It was given to her by her brother who worked with John for many years. It was written the year the Maui B platform was installed in 1993 and it sounds like they had some teething problems.

The Maui natural gas field is the largest gas, natural gas condensate and oil field in New Zealand, producing nearly three-quarters of the country's hydrocarbons, as well as providing energy for electricity generation. It is located in the Tasman Sea, 35 km off the coast of Taranaki and to the southwest of New Plymouth. It covers an area of 157 square kilometres and is located in 110 metres of water.

The gas field was discovered in 1969 by a joint venture of Royal Dutch/Shell, British Petroleum and Todd Petroleum. It was considered a "giant" field at the time of discovery. Government investment led to a government organisation later called Petrocorp taking a 50% interest. This was later bought out by Fletcher Challenge Energy. By the end of the Maui gas contract in 2009, the Maui Mining Companies were made up of Shell (83.75%), OMV New Zealand (10%), and Todd Energy (6.25%).[1] OMV New Zealand owns and operates the Maui gas field having acquired the 83.75% share from Shell Exploration NZ and the 6.25% share from Todd Energy since the end of 2018.[2][3]

Two platforms operate in the field: full production from Maui A began in 1979; Maui B was installed 13 years later. Much of the gas from Maui was used to supply the Motunui synthetic petrol plant from 1986 until it ceased operation in 2004. An onshore naphtha refining plant was installed in 1999.

The floating production storage and offloading vessel Whakaaropai was installed as part of the final development phases in 1996, for the production of oil from Maui B. It was sold in 2005 when the recoverable oil reserves had been exhausted.

Gas is piped to power stations for electricity generation at Stratford and Huntly. Electricity production from the gas grew steadily from the 1970s, with it providing 30% of New Zealand's electricity

in 2002. Production declined in the 2000s as the gas was depleted, providing just 16% of the country's electricity in 2005. The gas is also distributed through high-pressure pipelines for industrial and domestic use around the North Island. This used 30% of the gas produced in 2005.[4]

In 2005, the Maui fields oil reserves were estimated to be 92% depleted, and the Maui field gas reserves were estimated to be 91% depleted.[5]

In 2014, the New Zealand government revised its published estimates of natural gas reserves. "The biggest news of the recalculation involves one of the oldest gas producers. When the offshore Maui field was discovered in 1969 and developed 10 years later it was forecast it would be exhausted in 30 years. But now its remaining proved reserves have been doubled to 133 PJ and its 2P reserves more than doubled to 466 PJ".[6]



The Maui B platform.



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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

Out and about with your dogs

As a dog owner, I'm often surprised by how few people are aware of the designated dog areas in our district.

We have a couple of fully fenced dog parks, including Beech Place Reserve in Hāwera and Taylor Park in Eltham. Both parks are fully enclosed, allowing dogs to run free while staying safely within the reserve.

Additionally, there are several leash-free exercise areas throughout the district where dogs can run off-leash. These include Waihi Beach and Domain, Ohawe Beach, the Normanby Domain (designated area only), Middleton Bay, Manaia Domain (behind the sports fields), Smyth Park, Thoumine Park Roadside Reserve Area in Kaponga, Pātea Domain (excluding the play area), Pātea Beach, Long Beach, and Waverley.

Dog doo bags are available at many of these locations. If you notice a dispenser running low, please call the



KAREN CAVE

Council at 0800 111 323 so they can address the issue. Knowing where to find dog waste bags and how to report any shortages helps ensure that everyone can help with keeping these spaces well-maintained. Also, remember to carry your own doggy doo bags when you're out and about to clean up after your furry friend.

All urban areas are designated as leash-required zones, except for our dog parks. This rule is in place to ensure the safety of everyone, including dogs, pedestrians, and cyclists. It helps prevent unexpected interactions between animals and people and reduces the risk of

accidents.

The Eltham Kaponga Community Board are aware that currently there is no water supply available at Taylor Park in Eltham and

are working on getting a Doggy (and human) water fountain installed. In the meantime, there is a large dog water bowl available, and you just need to bring

your own water.

Whether you're using the parks, reporting an issue, or just being a responsible pet owner, your actions help keep our spaces and

communities enjoyable for everyone.

Until next time,

*Karen Cave
Eltham Kaponga
Community Board*

Kaponga WI



From left, F. Collins, D Lines, J. Eliason and C. Nicholas.

Members of Kaponga WI met at the home of Nancy Stokes in New Plymouth and were welcomed by acting President Dene

Lines. The roll call was 'A highlight for 2024 so far,' and grandchildren were high on the list along with other achievements being recalled.

The thought for the month was 'Let go of what you think you are supposed to be and embrace who you are.'

Birthday arrangements were confirmed for October. Members discussed having a collection of children's winter pyjamas to distribute for next winter and Carolyn Nicholas will investigate that.

After a delicious shared lunch hostess Nancy had prepared a quiz for us which tested us but was fun. The winning team was F. Collins, C. Nicholas, J. Eliason and D. Lines who shared their winning chocolates with the losing team who were very gracious in defeat.

Competition results; A folded paper napkin. 1. N. Stokes. 2. D. Lines. 3. C. Nicholas and D. West. Three queen cakes. 1. N. Stokes. 2. D. Lines. 3. D. West.

Potted ground cover. 1. N. Stokes. 2. D. West. 3. C. Nicholas

Hostess Nancy Stokes and her daughter Di were thanked for their part in such a lovely day together.

Carolyn Nicholas

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Bowel screening success lower for more vulnerable people

Samples returned to the national bowel screening programme sometimes can't be processed because of errors like missing consent forms or out-of-date kits, and this disproportionately affects some of the people

most at risk from bowel cancer in Aotearoa. Over 7000 people whose first sample couldn't be screened didn't try again or continued to return untestable kits between 2012 and 2022.

Deprivation was the factor most strongly associated with attempting and failing screening. However, even when this is accounted for,

Pacific, Māori, and Asian people were more likely to attempt-but-fail screening than Europeans, as were men and younger participants compared to women and older participants.

The study authors say this is especially concerning given Māori and Pacific people are more likely to be in deprived areas, to be diagnosed with bowel cancer younger

and at more advanced stages, and to have poorer health outcomes. They recommend a service to check kits at drop-off to improve chances of successful screening and future participation.

New Zealand Medical Journal.

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UK partnership could progress offshore wind in Taranaki

A delegation from the United Kingdom visiting Taranaki has announced its interest in supporting the establishment of an offshore wind industry in the region.

The delegation, which includes officials from the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and the British High Commission, visited Taranaki to present the findings of a commissioned investigation into trade and partnership opportunities.

The UK, which has the second-largest offshore wind market in the world, after China, brings extensive experience in the critical elements necessary for making offshore wind a success, such as financing methods, local and international supply chain development, and regulatory alignment.

British High Commissioner to New Zealand, Her Excellency Iona Thomas OBE said, "Achieving the goals that both New Zealand and the UK has set ourselves requires unprecedented, transformational change. As the global shift towards sustainable energy accelerates, the offshore wind sector in New Zealand is ready to respond. The UK stands ready to use our experience to tackle the challenges and take a strategic approach needed to unlock the potential that New Zealand has."

The delegation's report, Aotearoa New Zealand – Development of the Offshore Wind Supply Chain, outlines key areas where the UK's expertise could foster partnership opportunities with Taranaki and New Zealand supply



From left. Mayor of Stratford, Neil Volzke Mayor of South Taranaki Phil Nixon, UK Trade Commissioner for Indo-Pacific, Martin Kent, Chief Executive of Ara Ake, Dr Cristiano Marantes, British High Commissioner to NZ Iona Thomas, Chief Executive Venture Taranaki, Kelvin Wright, Head of Industry & Government Engagement Ara Ake, Jonathan Young

chain companies. During their visit, the delegation engaged with key local stakeholders, including Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki, Ara Ake, Ngā Iwi o Taranaki, developers, and Port Taranaki, to discuss the report's findings and gain a deeper understanding of the region's progress in the industry.

Kelvin Wright, Chief Executive of Venture Taranaki, welcomed the UK's interest, stating, "As we continue to progress what an offshore wind industry could mean for Taranaki and New Zealand, international collaboration is crucial. Having nations like the UK offer practical support is an incredibly positive step on our journey."

"The challenge is that it won't happen overnight",

continues Wright. "We will need a unified approach between Government and industry to both get offshore wind off the ground, and to support the region as it makes the transition. If we can get that right, offshore wind offers a generational opportunity for the region to transition our specialised workforce into renewable energy, helping New Zealand meet its future energy needs, sustainability targets, and opening the door for industry development like green hydrogen and synthetic fuel production."

In 2020, Venture Taranaki released the Offshore Wind Energy discussion paper and was the first to highlight the potential for offshore wind in Taranaki, attracting international attention and sparking interest from

developers. Since then, the annual Offshore Renewable Energy Forum (2020-2024), hosted by Venture Taranaki in partnership with Ara Ake has been instrumental in building awareness and momentum for the industry.

Ara Ake, New Zealand's future energy centre, has been a key enabler of the country's offshore wind ecosystem.

"Collaboration and innovation are essential to realising New Zealand's goal of doubling renewable energy generation," said Cristiano Marantes, Chief Executive of Ara Ake. "The valuable lessons we are learning from the UK, the world's second-largest offshore wind market, are accelerating opportunities for offshore wind

development here in New Zealand."

The delegation's visit is well-timed, with the New Zealand Government expected to introduce a regulatory framework to Parliament before the end of the year - which is another step closer towards allowing the permitting of offshore wind developments.

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OPUNAKE COPS Concerns about safety

Kia Ora Koutou, I hope everyone is coping with the cooler weather and busier time of the year.

A common topic when we are dealing with incidents and offences in our daily work is social media.

Whether the offending happens on social media or it stems from issues based on social media its often preventable and avoidable.

It is important for people to remember and realise that if it's not acceptable offline, it's not acceptable online. It provides rights for people, but also responsibilities about the ways to communicate with others

Often the best action that can be taken is to block the contact.

The "Online Safety Parent Toolkit" is a good starting point for those parents out there who have children using cell phones and social media to help support your whānau to develop good online safety habits..

<https://netsafe.org.nz/>
Netsafe is a great resource which I am constantly referring people to. From social media issues, advice and support guides, to helping protect you from becoming victim to scams there is plenty of helpful information available.

I encourage everyone to check out their scam guides which are updated with the latest scams which are circulating including how they work and how to keep yourself safe against them. One of the most common scams we are seeing, I



CONSTABLE BRADLEY COAD

you witness this behaviour call 111 if it's happening at the time, or 105 if its already happened or if you have information you could

provide which may assist us. Many thanks as always, Brad Constable Bradley Coad Opunake Police.



Crashed and abandoned car near the High School.



Anti-social and dangerous driving behaviour has been noted around Opunake. Photos supplied.

Accident at Bowen Crescent

Emergency services responded to a single vehicle accident on Bowen Crescent in Opunake shortly before midday on Saturday August 10.

It appears the vehicle left the road and hit a tree, a police spokesperson said.

St John responded one ambulance, one first response unit, and one helicopter to the incident.

Fire and Emergency Services cut one person from the vehicle who was taken by helicopter to Waikato

Hospital with serious injuries.

A police spokesperson says the road was closed for a short time while the scene was cleared.

The cause of the crash was being investigated.

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Opunake teen wins a top award in Burnham



that. I roped my whole family into doing push-ups when I got back," he says. Caige is keen for other teens to go to Life Skills stating "give it a go and try something new. Being under pressure together helps you build good friendships and learn to work as a team."

Looking ahead, Caige is focused on school and exploring future opportunities. "I'll be looking for a summer job over the holidays to keep building on my skills," he says.

Leanne Richards, Taranaki Blue Light co-ordinator, who referred Caige to the camp, had no hesitation in recommending him.

"I knew he had excellent people skills and would cope well in the group environment," she said.

Leanne also expressed gratitude for the New Zealand Defence Force Youth Development Unit. "They do such amazing work with our young people and rarely get to see the impact that they make. But we see it and we're really grateful for their mahi."

Blue Light Life Skill's Graduation, RNZAF base Burnham, July 22 – 26 2024

Winning a top award at Blue Light's recent Life Skills camp in Burnham came as shock to Caige Crawford (15) from Opunake "I was really surprised to win because that meant everyone voted

for me. I was nervous to march out and get it, but really happy too," he said. Caige, who attends Opunake High School, won the Peers' Choice Award at the camp held on July 22-26 at the Burnham Military

base in the South Island, just 30 minutes outside Christchurch. "I gained a lot of new skills and friendships and learnt a lot about opportunities in the Defence Force" Caige says on his experience.

He says the physical training was his biggest test. "My toughest challenge on camp was by far was the PT (physical training) - hard out. We had to do loads of push-ups with perfect form," he said. Despite the

challenge, Caige saw his hard efforts pay off, and upon his return he was keen to see his family learn what he'd learnt. "Over the week my fitness improved and since I got home, I've tried to maintain

Kendra graduates in UK



Kendra Langton recently graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Sports Science from Loughborough University, UK, gaining Second Class Honours Upper Division. Kendra is the granddaughter of Rex and Lorraine Langton, the daughter of Margaret Dalton Langton and Haydn and Bex Langton. Haydn and Bex travelled to Loughborough to celebrate Kendra's achievement.



Overall Peers Choice Award Winner Caige Crawford, RNZAF base Burnham.

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OCR cut is good news

Last week's announcement of a cut in the Official Cash Rate (OCR) to 5.25% is a much-needed relief for families and businesses across New Zealand.

Since mid-2021, we've been grappling with an acute cost-of-living crisis, where weekly food budgets have been stretched, mortgage repayments have soared, and confidence has plummeted in both homes and businesses.

The Reserve Bank's decision to lower the OCR,



DAVID MACLEOD MP
NEW PLYMOUTH

the first reduction in over four years, is a clear indication that inflation is heading in

the right direction. This move is not just a technical adjustment; it's a signal that the worst is behind us.

For families, this means lower interest rates on mortgages and credit cards, directly easing the financial pressure many have been feeling. For businesses, hard conditions are easing which will give confidence to invest, hire and grow once again.

I recently hosted Hon Andrew Bayly, Minister for Small Business and

Manufacturing, and Hon Chris Penk, Minister for Building and Construction, in New Plymouth. It was great to visit some of our businesses to hear about the successes, challenges and the ways they are planning for growth.

In addition to the lower OCR, people will have started to see the results of our government's tax relief package in their pay. Households on an average income get up to \$102 a fortnight, and up to \$150 a

fortnight for eligible families through the Family Boost childcare payment.

We've worked hard to get to this point. The Government's plan to manage inflation has been careful and deliberate, and it's starting to show results. While it's still early days and there's more work ahead, the OCR announcement is a positive sign that we're on the right track.

If you would like to talk about this or anything of interest or concern, please

join me for a coffee on Thursday 5th of September from 10:00am to 11:00am at Arty Tarts Café in Ōpunake. Additionally, reach out if you would like me to visit your business or organisation on my trip around the coast. Please contact me at david.macleodmp@parliament.govt.nz or (06)759 2580. I look forward to seeing you.

David MacLeod
MP New Plymouth

Making it count

As a parent of two young children, I strongly believe in the importance of education. The futures of hundreds of children throughout the Whanganui Electorate, which includes South Taranaki and Stratford rely on it.

Whether we are on a farm counting the number of litres of milk produced or in an office in Wellington calculating how many hectares of land have been planted in pine, competency in mathematics is important. There has been plenty of anecdotal evidence in recent years that the system was



CARL BATES MP
WHANGABUI

failing our young learners. That was confirmed when data from the Curriculum Insights and Progress Study (CIPS) recently showed that

just 22% of Year 8 students were learning mathematics at the expected curriculum benchmark

Worse still, 66% of these students were at least a year behind where they should be. The Prime Minister described the revelation as "appalling," and it's hard to argue.

Education Minister Erica Stanford agrees. She believes that for these results to change, the system needs to change. That's why the Government is taking swift action to transform mathematics education. Minister Stanford launched

'Make It Count' - a maths action plan that will take effect from the start of next year.

A new maths curriculum will be rolled out a year ahead of schedule. From Term 1 next year, children will be learning maths based on a new world-leading, knowledge-rich maths curriculum based on the best from across the OECD like Singapore and Australia, adapted for New Zealand.

We will support teachers, with \$20 million set aside for professional development to give them the confidence to teach the new curriculum.

And with twice-yearly assessments in all primary schools from next month we will quickly be able to assess progress while being able to arrange small group interventions for any children falling behind. New Zealand used to take pride in an education system that was generally regarded as among the best in the world. Whether from country schools or larger schools in our urban centres, we knew our children were getting a quality education. We can no longer claim that when more than three-quarters of our kids start high school without being at the expected curriculum level for a vital subject such as mathematics. There's no reason however



Making it count a generational issue.

why we cannot again become world leaders in education and set our children up with the start in life that will equip them to take on the world. I certainly thank the country school I went to for teaching me maths well, and the Minister's recent announcement gives me

confidence that our kids will be able to do the same. Let's Make It Count!

Carl Bates
MP for Whanganui

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Barbara Kuriger
MP for Taranaki-King Country

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Next issue - September 5

The rising cost of healthcare

As a Member of Parliament, I often hear from constituents about the struggles they face in accessing essential healthcare services. Unfortunately, these stories have become all too familiar and recently, I received a letter from my own medical centre informing me that their fees are going up too. This is not just a statistic; it's a stark reality for many New Zealanders who are now finding it increasingly difficult to afford a visit to their GP. National's decision to underfund general practices



GLEN BENNETT MP
LABOUR LIST

by offering only a 4% increase at a time when costs have risen by 9% is a

serious misstep. The result? People across Taranaki are now paying more, with some fees reaching up to \$70 for a single visit. Even those with community services cards, who are supposed to receive support, are feeling the pinch.

The Government's priorities are clear—tax cuts for landlords and tobacco companies over the health and well-being of everyday New Zealanders. This choice is not only short-sighted but also harmful.

Regular GP visits are crucial in catching and treating

illnesses early, which in turn eases the pressure on our already strained emergency departments and hospitals. Yet, thousands of people are delaying or skipping these visits because they simply can't afford them.

Labour had previously taken steps to ease this burden by reducing the cost of doctors' visits for community services card holders and making them free for children under 14. These measures were making a difference, ensuring that cost was not a barrier to receiving necessary care. But now,

with the reintroduction of the \$5 prescription charge and the rising cost of GP visits, we are seeing those gains rapidly eroded.

The National led Government has the opportunity to correct this course by ensuring GP funding keeps pace with inflation and population growth. Instead, they have chosen to increase barriers to healthcare, making it harder for New Zealanders to stay healthy during a time of economic uncertainty.

As someone who, like many of you, received that dreaded

letter from my doctor, I can only echo the concerns that I'm hearing from the people of Taranaki. Our health should not be compromised for the sake of budget cuts. It's time for the National led Government to make the right choices and invest in the well-being of all New Zealanders.

*Glen Bennett
Labour List MP based in
Taranaki
Spokesperson for Economic
Development & Associate
Energy*

Growing perceptions of corruption need action

Health Coalition Aotearoa (HCA) strongly endorses calls for tough action to protect our political processes from perceptions of corruption, outlined in a new report released by the Helen Clark Foundation.

HCA say that having balanced public policy-making systems with strong transparency and accountability are fundamental for our democracy.

The Government's lack of progress in making urgent changes needed to bring balance and transparency to public policy making is extremely disappointing.

In May, the Ministry of Justice released a draft, self-regulated Voluntary Code of Conduct for Lobbying.

HCA argues the code, written by and for industry lobbyists, is self-regulated, voluntary, and lacks enforcement mechanisms, rendering it ineffective.

"We've seen industry-initiated voluntary codes before, and they simply don't work. Without independent oversight, compliance enforcement, and measurable effectiveness, a voluntary code is meaningless," says Dr David Galler, HCA's Public Health Infrastructure Expert Panel Co-Chair.

Without robust measures to ensure transparency, the Government can make decisions that benefit the few, without scrutiny, and input from the public.

There are numerous examples from this



Helen Clark.

Government in failures to ensure transparency in decisions over vital public health policy including the repeal of the Smokefree Environments and Regulated Products (Smoked Tobacco) Amendment Act 2022, abuse of the OIA in relation to the repeal for which the Associate Minister of Health Casey Costello was forced to apologise, the decision to cut funding to the healthy school lunches programme - Ka Ora, Ka Ako, the decision to increase the alcohol levy to \$16.6million instead of the recommended \$37million.

"In a healthy democracy, policy decisions should be informed by a wide range of voices to reflect the common good. Unfortunately, some individuals and companies wield disproportionate

influence, swaying decisions towards private and commercial interests," says Dr. Galler.

He says this undue influence often comes from intensive lobbying, the revolving door between government and lobbying firms, and the lack of transparency surrounding these activities.

"New Zealand must strengthen its defences against this undue influence and ensure that the playing field is level for everyone," says Dr Galler.

"Under the current structures of New Zealand Parliament, the public are often left out of the decision-making process, and the pressure groups have more influence than the public on some issues."

HCA urges the Government

to follow the example of other OECD countries that have stronger systems in place to protect the public good from vested interests. They call for immediate action to:

1. Implement a public register of lobbyists' meetings with decision-makers, enforce a mandatory code of conduct, and establish an integrity commission for oversight.

2. Slow the Revolving Door by introducing a "cooling off" period for former ministers and officials before they can become lobbyists, preventing misuse of confidential state information.

3. Strengthen codes of conduct for government employees, appointees, and contractors to ensure that commercial conflicts of interest are declared and managed properly.

4. Revise the Official Information Act to increase automatic publication of government information requests, improving visibility into ministerial decisions.

"For New Zealanders to have confidence that decisions are made in the public interest, we need to know who is lobbying whom to have the assurance that everyone has an equal opportunity for their voices to be heard," says Dr Galler.

The Helen Clark Foundation's recent report, *Shining a Light: Improving Transparency in New Zealand's*

Political and Governance Systems strongly endorses HCA's *A Balance of Voices: Options for the Regulation of Lobbying in New Zealand*, which includes recommendations

for specific legislation, a lobbying register, a stand-down period, and a mandatory code of conduct for lobbyists.

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Carrying on into second century at Everybodys

Continued from page 1

Lemon. The theatre has always had the support of the local community and they are able to show new releases at the same time as the bigger cinemas, says Everybodys chair Kim Gatenby.

She says an improved layout has made the theatre more of a fun space, and having the Veezi system working will encourage more volunteers.

“We are always looking for volunteers,” she says. “None of this would have been possible without funding.”

Everybodys treasurer Maree Drought says movie attendances are “running on par with other years.”

“We’re doing quite well. It was busy in the last school holidays with Despicable

Me 4 and Inside Out being very popular.”

She says there are always tourists coming through as well as people from the likes of New Plymouth, Hawera and Stratford.

The building housing Everybodys was built in 1912 for Oaonui farmer John O’Rorke. It started as a grocery business before being converted into a cinema by O’Rorke and lessee Arthur White with the first film screening in 1921. It was later owned by L.(Boss) Whiting who became well known for showing movies at country halls around Coastal Taranaki. After he retired his son Bruce took over. When Bruce wanted to retire in 1980 he tried to sell it, but not being able to find a buyer he decided to close it.



The revamped lolly shop which sells icecreams, popcorn and drinks - all the fare needed when watching a great film.

A public meeting on April 23 attracted 600 people and it was decided that a Trust would be formed to buy the theatre and to run it themselves.

Since then the theatre has been kept going by local people volunteering their time.

The money to buy the theatre was raised by a number of measures including the sale of debentures. The last of these

was paid off in 1994.

The story of Everybodys Theatre Opunake is moving forward into a new century and there are more plans in the offing. These include

lining the toilets, putting in an extractor fan and having the projector completely automated.

“Everybodys has been going for 103 years and it’s

been run by volunteers since 1980,” says Maree. “The community has been very supportive and we couldn’t have done it without them.”



The new seats upstairs. Downstairs there’s sofas if you feel like lounging while watching a movie.



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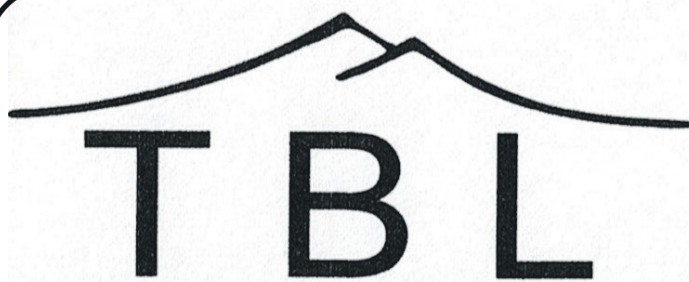
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Focus on pest plants pays off

Taranaki Regional Council is working to eradicate pest plants from 570 sites around the region – about three times as many as six years ago.

That's excellent news, according to Council Environment Services Manager Steve Ellis.

"To get rid of pest plants, we have to know where they are. Most of the sites identified recently would have been quietly spreading and getting worse for many years. Now we can do something about it.

"The Council has controlled known infestations of various pest plants for decades however in the last couple of years we have really stepped it up. We have been carrying out more surveillance across the region, working strategically to detect infestations of those pest plants that pose the biggest threat to our native ecosystems.

"It's also great to see a growing community awareness of the importance of biosecurity, what plants to look out for and what to do about

suspicious plants. A great example of this was the massive response from the Fitzroy community when we asked for sightings of moth plant. The new sites they reported have kept us busy, but we're not complaining.

"It's important to remember our kids and grandkids won't be able to enjoy our incredible biodiversity in the future without a collective approach to biosecurity today."

The Regional Pest Management Plan for Taranaki lists five plants the Council directly controls, namely, climbing spindleberry, giant reed, madeira vine (or mignonette vine), moth plant and Senegal tea. The goal for these plants is eradication. Another 11 plants and two animals are classed as sustained control pests, which means the landowner or occupier is responsible.

Of the active direct control sites, 43% are moth plant, 37% madeira vine, 13% giant reed, 7% climbing spindleberry with just two sites of Senegal tea.

Pest plants are a huge threat to Taranaki's native



A Taranaki Regional Council biosecurity officer controlling a madeira vine site in New Plymouth.

biodiversity as they and spread easily, which challenge. smother native plants makes control an ongoing "Unfortunately it's rarely

a quick fix. With the direct control sites, our biosecurity officers or contractors have to make multiple visits before we can be confident the plant is eradicated," Mr Ellis says.

For some plants that may take up to 20 or 30 years.

The Council does direct control on public and private land, at no cost to the landowner. If people spot one of the five plants on or near their property, they should leave it alone and immediately let the Council know.

"We have had a few instances recently where well-meaning locals have tried to deal with these plants themselves, but have inadvertently spread it either when moving it or disposing of it."

If you see or suspect a direct control plant, please contact the Council on 0800 736 222 or email biosecurity@trc.govt.nz with a photo and exact location if possible. Do not touch it or attempt to control it. For more details see www.trc.govt.nz or www.weedbusters.org.nz.

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Lions prepare for garden festival



Busy at a Lions' Club working bee were Rachel Norgate (left), Trish Anderson and Kaye Mourie making novel items for sale during the Rhododendron Festival in spring at the Sandersons garden near Manaia.

The project is for the Opunake Food Bank.

Kathy Stanley

Frigid housing market's winter blues continue

Residential property values are slowly buckling under the strain of the ongoing economic downturn, with just three of New Zealand's main urban areas recording positive growth this quarter. The latest QV House Price Index shows values decreased nationally by an average of 1.9% across Aotearoa throughout the three months to the end of July – a larger rate of reduction than the 0.9% quarterly decline recorded back in June.

The downturn remains relatively steady in Taranaki. Across the wider region, the average home has reduced in value by 1.4% this quarter – just 0.2% off the quarterly rate of decline reported in last month's QV House Price Index. In New Plymouth, the average home value has reduced by 0.9% to \$713,748 this quarter – its rolling three-monthly rate of quarterly decline increasing by just a fraction of a percentage point from June to July –

with an average annual rate of decline of 0.5%. South Taranaki recorded the largest average home value reduction this quarter at 3.1%, with Stratford not far behind on 2.9%. However, these two districts are still showing a small amount of positive home value growth on an annualised basis of 1.8% and 0.2% respectively.

The average home is now worth \$909,517, which is 2.3% more than the same time last year and just 0.5% higher than at the start of

2024.

QV operations manager James Wilson commented: "Residential property values are slowly shrinking across all price brackets, in almost every part of Aotearoa.

This is to be expected given the current challenging economic conditions, with a rising sense of job insecurity and persistently high interest rates leaving both buyers and sellers between a rock and a hard place."

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Coastal Gems for Sale

Modern home offers skies the limit views

By Kathryn Mary Stanley

Visitors to Opunake have an extremely pleasant surprise when they discover this stunning, black linear home, built in 2023.

It is an outstanding example of good quality planning and a high standard of workmanship by Signature Homes.

Drive along southern Tasman Street and look for the first clue. This house has a letterbox with number two. It is nestled down a right of way and it has a number one location. The house has been cleverly designed to face the sunny north, the sea breezes from the west, and the southern, rural areas.

The driveway is big enough for visiting family and friends' vehicles while the owners have a very roomy one car garage. There is even enough parking area for a campervan. This would be ideal for family times such as Christmas and school holidays.

Scenery, native shrubs

The 1445 square metre section has been carefully fenced and landscaped in grass and native planting. This is where Opunake Coastal native shrubs and trees can thrive in the salty air and wind. This is a healthy and invigorating climate which refreshes the body and mind

This is an easy care garden which borders on the Waiaua River. The Opunake Lake glimmers and shimmers further along the headland. The surroundings are enticing for walking the dog or ambling along to local fishing spots. The locals talk about the Opunake whitebait catches. That delicacy can be found in the Waiaua River. It all depends on being there at the right tide and the right tide with a splash of good luck.

It is not only a house with views. The large lawn in front of the house is a wonderful place for children to play games and relax. Nearby there is the Loop Trail which ambles along to the Opunake Beach. This is a secluded situation which lures a relaxing atmosphere both summer and winter.

Two lounges

Once in the welcoming front door area, visitors

are impressed by the open plan living area which the architect has designed. There is a spacious, light and bright atmosphere from every part of this house. There is one main lounge which opens out onto the wooden deck from the north and west. Outside on warm days there is room for an outdoor table and chairs as well as a barbecue. It would be a happy place for easy entertaining.

The smaller lounge is a cosy place to curl up and watch television or quietly read a book. Again the large windows let in sunshine while the glass double glazing makes the rooms warm and muffles outside noise. This smaller lounge could be converted into a third bedroom. It is screened from the neighbouring house by the use of blinds.

The master bedroom opens out onto the outside deck. This bedroom is spacious and there is a walk-in wardrobe and an ensuite. The muted colour scheme, as in the entire house, echoes the surrounding sea, nature and skies. The white walls, soft pastels, and gentle grey accents in one bathroom, all have a soothing, restful effect on everyone. All the double curtains, one for sunny days and the other for warmth and privacy in the evening, have been chosen for their top quality and making.



Outside view of house with sea views.

Luxurious interior

There is an art in interior decorating and it has been captured in this home. Luxury and comfort are the words on everyone's lips. The polished concrete floors are practical and decorative. These can be enhanced with the choice of large floor rugs

in different patterns.

The second bedroom is slightly smaller but it is still a very comfortable size, large enough for a queen size bed and some furniture. There is a lot of storage in the wardrobe. The large windows show a view of the grassy section. At night the blind can be pulled down so this is a private place for sleeping overnight or 50

winks after a swim at the beach.

Next door to this bedroom is the main bathroom, complete with a deep bath, large shower, toilet and a vanity. It is designed for luxury and pleasure. Gas heats the water supply so this is ideal when there are extra guests.

Gas heating is also available for other areas of the house

which is well insulated from floor to ceiling.

In the hall, a storage cupboard has one shelf after another to keep linen and household items in a warm environment.

Dream kitchen

The open plan includes the kitchen. What a joy it would be to cook there. At one side the kitchen looks out onto the front door so guests can be welcomed with a smile from the owners. Another large window looks out to the north.

Sleek design lines are the key word. There is a walk in pantry where food can be stored away, along with kitchen appliances and pots and pans. The numerous drawers are another modern feature which appeals to keen cooks. Fisher and Paykel, known for top quality, have been chosen for the induction cooktop, dishwasher, and oven. It is a spacious and well planned hub of the house where food can be prepared, cooked, placed on the wide servery for the enjoyment of all.

The laundry can be found at the back of the large garage. There is a washing tub and plenty of room for a washing machine and clothes drier. Open the back door and there are a few steps to the clothes line.

Some people like good



The large lounge opens out onto a spacious deck. There is a second lounge which could be converted into a third bedroom.

Coastal Gems for Sale

areas of storage, especially if they have downsized and moved to a smaller house. This garage can be used for tools, fishing rods, surf boards, luggage or lawnmowers. There is still plenty of room to park a car. With the internal access to the hall, owners of this home can easily shop and bring their goods inside whatever the weather is like. Rain or shine, this floorplan is most convenient.



A peep view of the main bathroom and the second bedroom.



The kitchen on sleek lines.



The master bedroom has a walk in wardrobe and en suite and opens out onto an outside deck.

2
 2
 2
 1

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A trip down memory lane

Noel Northcott called into the Opunake & Coastal News while in Opunake attending the funeral of Rita John with an interesting photo, a bullock team taken in 1935 at the Waiau River. The person in the photo is Bill Munro who worked for his father, Noel explained. Bill Munro was the uncle of long time Opunake dentist Brian Munro. Coincidentally the Munro family will be having a reunion in Opunake late August (more on this next issue).

Noel who grew up in Opunake says they left in 1948 to live in New Plymouth where he still resides. He clearly had fond recollections of his childhood in the little country town. Now aged 90 he was in the same class as Rita and also another sadly departed classmate George Tito who he said was a bit of a tease. He recalled an incident when they were in the third form where Rita was walking past George's desk and George gave her a wee pinch. An unamused Rita wheeled around and retaliated with a resounding hit.

Noel also recalls Peter Snell who was three years younger than him, who he used to play tennis with. Peter's sister Marie was a good tennis player as was Peter who



The bullock team owned by Noel's father. The man in the photo is Bill Munro. They would have been taking stones from the Waiau River to be crushed for roads said Noel.

"didn't look like a runner", comments Noel of the future triple gold medallist judged New Zealand's Sports person of the Century.

He also recalled the Opunake Times which was run by a Gordon Jackson. Then the 9 hole golf course

was behind the Opunake Cottage Hospital (now a rest home) on Crown land.

Opunake also had three grocers, three butchers, two jewellers and Harding furniture shop, he recalls.

They lived at the corner of Layard Street and King

Street, the house is no longer there. Then Layard Street continued across Tasman Street stopping at the bend in the road. It is now known as Ihaia Road.

He also recalled the railway which went from Opunake to Hawera via Pihama where

there were stock yards and where farmers would load stock.

Noel recalls his father used to put cattle on the railway at Pihama. There were plans to extend the railway from Opunake to New Plymouth, says Noel.

"It would have been a great tourist attraction," he says. Indeed.

Noel's parents had a carrying business, PJ Northcott which was subsequently sold to Cleggs, then Opunake Motors.

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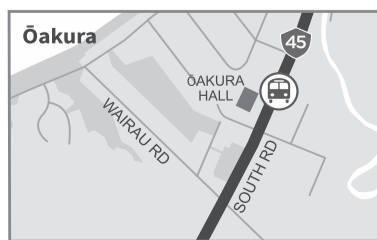
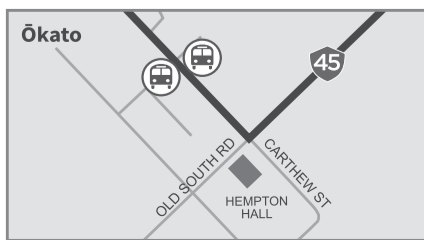
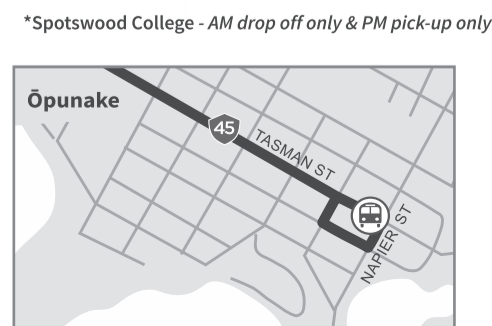


SCAN TO VIEW
FARES INFORMATION

Ōpunake to New Plymouth (Mon-Fri)		AM	PM
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	6.55	1.30
Rahotu	Plunket Rooms	7.08	1.43
Pungarehu	Opposite Town Hall	7.13	1.48
Okato	Carthew St. (opp. Sinclair's)	7.25	2.00
Oākura	Oākura Hall	7.35	2.10
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	7.50	2.25
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	7.57	2.32
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	8.00	2.35



New Plymouth to Ōpunake		AM	PM	Friday only	PM
		Mon-Fri	Mon-Thu		
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	11.30	5.05	New Plymouth	FDMC
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	11.33	5.08	New Plymouth	NPGHS
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	11.40	5.18	New Plymouth	SHGC
Oākura	Oākura Hall	11.50	5.20	New Plymouth	NPBHS
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	12.00	5.30	New Plymouth	Egmont Street
Pungarehu	Town Hall	12.10	5.40	New Plymouth	Liardet Street
Rahotu	Four Square	12.15	5.45	New Plymouth	Spotswood College (pick-up only)
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	12.28	5.58	Oākura	Oākura Hall
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	12.30	6.00	Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.
				Pungarehu	Town Hall
				Rahotu	Four Square
				Ōpunake	Dreamtime
				Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St



*Spotswood College - AM drop off only & PM pick-up only

Innings completed for century maker



Norm Johnson at the Auroa Cricket Club 75th Jubilee with photos of the winning Bowman Shield teams in which he was vice-captain and captain.

One of the characters of South Taranaki has passed away on the farm which was home for 94 of his 101 years. Norman William (Norm) Johnson who was born

at Kaponga Hospital on October 24 1922, passed away on August 7 at the farm at Auroa which his parents had bought in 1928. The only child of William

and Esme he took over the farm on the corner of Skeet and Mangawhero Roads and lived there for the rest of his life. Before buying the farm his

father had been manager of the T.L.Joll Co-Operative dairy factory at Tempsky Road. When Norm left school aged 15 he worked for his parents without wages to help them pay the farm off.

It is believed Norm may have been the first farmer in the country to milk once a day throughout the season, something he took up in the 1970s after his father had passed away. Nobody had done it before, but he proved the naysayers wrong and had the somatic cell count figures to prove it. He carried on milking cows until he was 98.

His hundredth birthday celebrations brought out numerous stories of his personal kindness towards

others including lending money to young people who were beginning their farming journey.

A lifelong bachelor he never travelled out of the North Island.

Aside from a lifelong love of farming another interest was cricket. The Opunake and Coastal News spoke to him in February last year when the Auroa Cricket Club celebrated its 75th jubilee. He had arrived there in the Chevrolet which he bought brand new in 1952. The reporter commented on the firmness of his handshake.

He had just been presented with photos of the Auroa teams which had won the Western Division Championship and Bowman Shield in the 1952-3 and

1964-5 seasons. He was vice-captain on the first occasion and captain on the second.

"I played for Kaponga for a couple of years and then Lindsay Webby canvassed me to come and play for Auroa," Norm recalled.

Norm was something of an all-rounder, as a medium-pace bowler and as a batsman who batted in the middle order, although he occasionally opened the batting. There was the time he and Harry Goodin opened against Kapuni where Harry got a century and Norm got 67. Then there was the time against Rahotu where he had amassed 87 runs before team captain Arthur Andreoli declared, leaving Norm 13 runs short of his century.

Banking inquiry scope hits the mark

Federated Farmers says the broad scope of the banking inquiry will hit the mark for farmers and rural communities.

"We're pleased to see the Government announce a wide-ranging inquiry that will leave the banks with nowhere to hide," Federated Farmers banking spokesperson Richard McIntyre says.

"Farmers have been asking serious questions about the levels of competition, profitability and transparency in rural lending for a long time now - and it looks like they're about to get answers.

"This inquiry is well placed to shine a bright light on parts of our rural banking system that, until now, have been allowed to operate in the shadows."

Concerns about banking have consistently topped the list of issues in Federated Farmers' regular farm confidence survey.

"Any concerns Federated Farmers had about just how 'rural' this inquiry would be have been well and truly put to bed with these terms of reference," McIntyre says.

"Everything we hoped to see included is in there,



Richard McIntyre.

including questions about rural banking competition, transparency mechanisms, credit risk models, and open banking.

"There are also some very specific questions about the return on capital banks are getting from rural lending and the level of interest rates charged to the sector."

Federated Farmers are particularly pleased to see the inquiry will be taking a closer look at the impact of Reserve Bank capital requirements and credit risk models on rural lending.

"The involvement of Parliament's primary production select committee will ensure a real rural focus to this inquiry and gives us a lot of confidence," McIntyre says.

"Many of those members

live in rural communities and have practical hands-on farming experience. They'll know exactly which trees to shake and which stones to look under."

McIntyre says that Federated Farmers will be engaging in the select committee process and making a comprehensive submission on behalf of their members.

"Federated Farmers have been leading the charge to get this rural banking inquiry over the line but there's still a big job to be done," McIntyre says.

"We need to make sure the rural voice stays front and centre during this process so we can find some genuine, practical and rapid solutions that will improve the lives of farming families."

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RURAL CARRIERS

Eight million plants and counting

It all started with one native plant.

It was 1996 and Taranaki Regional Council had just launched its ground-breaking Riparian Management Programme as a way to help protect the region's waterways.

That first plant left the depot and was planted on one of Taranaki's hundreds of rivers and streams. This marked the beginning of one of New Zealand's most successful collaboration programmes between farmers, the community and the Council to improve the quality of freshwater and

ecosystems.

Some 28 years later, a major milestone has been reached with the eight millionth plant now planted by a farmer on a riparian margin

The programme is the largest revegetation project in the country on private land with an incredible 5,385 kilometres of planting on across the ring plain.

Land Services Manager Don Shearman, who started running the programme when it was launched, says the Council is proud of the scheme's positive impact not only on water quality



Family ties: TRC Riparian Team Leader Holly Laundon, left, with son Charlie, 4, and mum Vicki Jagersma at the Stratford A&P Showgrounds, one of the Council's plant depots. Vicki is secretary for the A&P Association which runs the depot when plants are dispatched to landowners and farmers by a team of volunteers.

prices for planting the following winter. To ensure the system remains efficient, the Council has to ensure the right number of plants are grown each year. Therefore, landowners must now order them a year in advance and pay a small deposit to secure their order.

"We've been talking to our community about freshwater as we look to create a new Land and Freshwater Plan for Taranaki and we've had strong support for continuing the programme," added Mr Shearman.

"Our ambition is to have riparian planting - where appropriate - and fencing on all rivers and streams in the ring plain and that's something we'll continue to work to achieve in the future.

"We started the native plant scheme with a single plant 28 years ago and now we're at 8,142,487 plants and this doesn't even include all the plants that farmers have bought independently or grown themselves. That's an incredible achievement for our Riparian Management Programme."

The focus of the programme is currently to carry out audits on all existing riparian management plans to ensure the existing plantings and buffers are working as intended.

In order to launch the programme, the Council launched the Riparian Management Strategy in 1993.

This established a bulk supply of plants with 14,000 available when the scheme started three years later.

The riparian scheme hit the two million-plant milestone in 2011. A record 985,239 plants were put through the scheme in 2021, with assistance from the Government's Jobs For Nature programmes.

Around 7,000km of new fencing has been erected by landowners to protect new plantings and to exclude stock from waterways since the scheme was launched.

Today 99.5% of Taranaki's 1,600 dairy farms have riparian plans

but on the 'transformation of the landscape' and on the region's ecosystems and biodiversity, particularly the establishment of new native habitat.

"We're delighted to have reached another landmark with the number of riparian plants now distributed to farmers in Taranaki at more than eight million," said Mr Shearman.

"We couldn't have achieved this result without working together with the farming community and all the other stakeholders who have an interest in freshwater quality. Collaboration and

clearly defined roles have been the key reason why the region now has thousands of kilometres of new riparian planting as well as thousands of kilometres of new fencing.

"It's by far the most successful voluntary fencing and planting programme in the country without ratepayer subsidies and we believe it's made a significant improvement to ecosystems and water quality.

"We're also looking forward to seeing further water quality improvements when those eight million plants have matured and

the remaining margins have all been fenced and planted adequately

"However, we know with the government's new water quality standards, there's still a huge amount of work to be done in this area but the riparian programme has given us a strong platform to build on."

Landowners who are part of the programme work closely with the Council's Land Management Officers (LMO) who develop free, property-specific riparian management plans and provide recommendations and technical advice on where to fence and how to plant waterways with the right plant in the right place.

Through a tender system, contracts for growing native plants in bulk are awarded to commercial nurseries a year in advance of planting so that they have time to grow. They are then sold on to farmers at wholesale

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Opunake boxers win in Auckland

Opunake boxing couple Bobbie Katene and Leilani Leatherby have made it two from two after wins at an Auckland Boxing Association event in Auckland.

Bobbie and Leilani who box out of Barbwire Boxing in Opunake won by unanimous decisions against their opponents Victor Singh and Soifuaeseese Ailapeta.

The wins come in the buildup to their appearances at the Barbwire Fight Club on September 7 at the TET Multi Sports Centre in Stratford. Bobbie will be fighting on the main card against Lenuasi Tueli while Leilani's rematch against Soifuaeseese Ailapeta, her opponent from the Auckland event will be the main undercard.

"It was good to get a good fight in during the training camp," says Bobbie. "There was a good crowd and it was a bit scary fighting in their home town. There were not many people cheering for Barbwire Boxing or for us, but we turned up and did what we came to do."

Leilani had similar thoughts going into her fight.

"It was a bit scary fighting on her turf. In the changing rooms you could hear the crowd cheering for her," she said.

The two had travelled to Auckland the previous day with James (Batman) Langton of Barbwire Boxing.

The first of the two Opunake fighters to get into the ring was Bobbie whose fight against Singh was the sixth fight that night.

"He was the same height as me, a little bit lighter but he had quite a bit of muscle on him," said Bobbie. "He put up a good fight, but I just might have been a bit more calmer than him."



Bobbie and Leilani enjoy a moment as they prepare for Stratford Fight Club.

In a fight that comprised three two-minute rounds the referee began the 10-count on Bobbie's opponent three times.

"I thought I got a TKO but the ref gave another 30 seconds," says Bobbie. "It was a tidy fight. I was tired at the end, and my opponent had a golf ball on his face."

James Langton says he was surprised the ref hadn't stopped the fight.

"Bobbie's opponent is a well-known fighter in

Auckland who has had a few fights, but on the night Bobbie was too good for him. He had a game plan and he stuck to that game plan throughout the fight."

Leilani said she picked up a few pointers about her opponent during their fight which will be useful when they face each other again in Stratford.

"We are quite different in height. I'm significantly taller than her so she fought differently."

James says that with four

wins from four fights Leilani is being noticed in boxing circles.

"She's making a name in New Zealand boxing as one to watch out for. I've had some people contact me and say both your fighters are definitely going to go places."

James says Leilani had

shown this with her most recent fight.

"It was a technically beautiful fight to watch. You had two technically very good fighters, and it would be a privilege to watch them once again going into battle at Stratford."

He says anyone not able to

be there in person can watch it online, with the option of being able to vote on the outcome through registering on the website. The winner of the voting decision also gets a monetary prize.

"You're guaranteed to watch some of the best fighters in Taranaki," says James.

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Friday 30th August
Stall at Everybody's Theatre

Baking, Jam, Pickles, Raffles and Daffodils

Contact Daphne 021 128 1680 if you would like to contribute donations

The Opunake Lakeside Lions are holding Daffodil Day again this year with a stall in front of the Opunake Everybody's Picture Theatre.

It is on Friday August 30 starting at 9 am. We will have our baking, jams, pickles, plants, lemons etc for sale. Kaponga Lions Club

will be there with their BBQ selling sausages in bread for a snack. The Daffodils are blooming well, despite the weather, and they will be on sale too.

The raffles this year are the very popular donation from Bernard and Roslyn Karam. This year it is a dinner for

two, with an overnight stay and breakfast at a popular Taranaki destination. Buy a ticket and find out where it will be. The other raffle is also very popular. The first prize is \$100.00, second \$50.00 and third \$20.00. Be in to win.

All proceeds raised go to

the Taranaki Cancer Society and is used in our province, so please come and support us with our annual fund raising effort.

Donations of goods, especially baking are gratefully accepted. You have to be quick, because the baking and the raffles go really fast.

Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park



New Kune Kune piglets at Stoney Oaks.

Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park will be open on Sunday 1st September for Fathers day and then again in School Holidays 11am to 4pm NO EFTPOS.

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Towards
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Taranaki

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- **The big picture** - Mustelid control, a regional view and the Predator Free 2050 goal

Thursday 5 September

Between 5.30pm and 7.30pm

Butlers Reef 1133 South Road, Ōakura

All welcome. Nibbles provided.



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Towards Predator-Free Taranaki
trc.govt.nz/towards-predator-free-taranaki



The ultimate event for women is back this September

The New Plymouth Women's Lifestyle Expo will bring together close to 110 of the finest lifestyle brands under one roof at TSB Stadium on Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 September.

The event promises an array of offerings from unique artisanal goods perfect for gifting, to luxurious pampering products and the latest eco-friendly essentials. Emily Travers, Head of Events at NZME, says "We're absolutely thrilled to bring our Women's Lifestyle Expo series to New Plymouth next month.

The expo aims to connect remarkable Kiwi companies offering something unique to women of all ages and stages in life, making it the perfect occasion for a girls' day out or to indulge in a leisurely day discovering delights at every turn."

The Artisan Zone remains a fan favourite, spotlighting New Zealand's finest crafters with exclusive items ranging from organic beauty products and jewellery to art, home decor, and fashion. While the Taste Zone serves up delicious refreshments, gourmet bites, and tasty treats to keep attendees

energised throughout the expo.

Attendees can also enter to win an incredible trip for two to Fiji including a 7-night cruise, thanks to World Travellers, Fiji Airways and Blue Lagoon Cruises.

The expo will be held at New Plymouth's TSB Stadium on Saturday 7 September from 10am - 5pm and Sunday 8 September from 10am - 4pm. Earlybird tickets start from \$7, and door sales are \$13 across the weekend. Find out more and buy tickets at womenslifestyleexpo.co.nz



Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park



Here's a photo of our new Valais Black Nosed lambs. Twin lambs Lyric and Lola in foreground and single girl Corina in middle all enjoying the sun.

Photos courtesy of Gail Simons, Stoney Oaks.

Women's Lifestyle expo



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Turning to the future

<p>2 Sept 5:30pm</p> <p>What's next: Update on the offshore wind project and next steps</p>	<p>7 Oct 5:30pm</p> <p>Lightbulb moment: Why is electricity so expensive?</p>	<p>4 Nov 5:30pm</p> <p>We need you: Training opportunities in offshore wind</p>	<p>2 Dec 5:30pm</p> <p>Sea, land and air: Caring for the environment</p>
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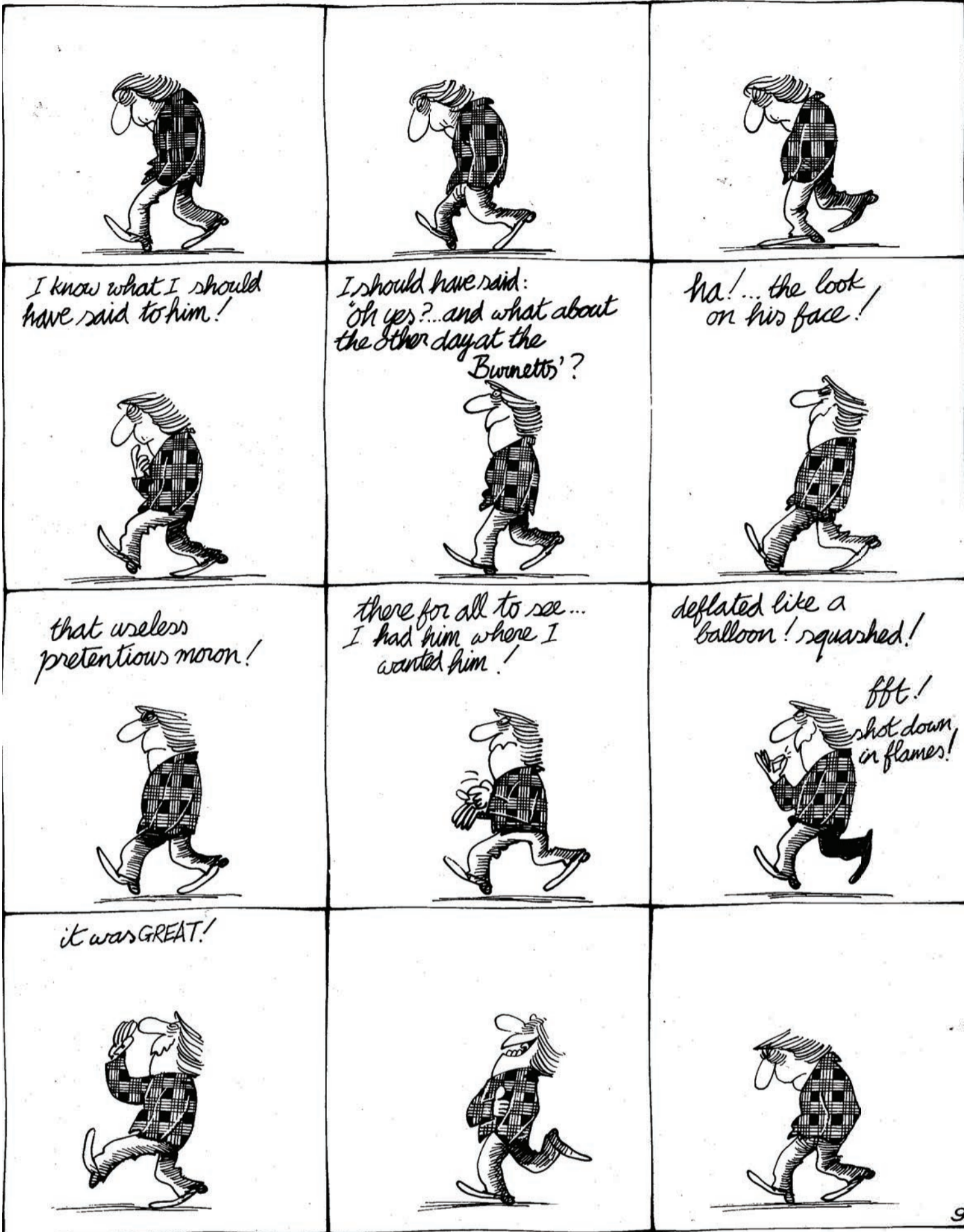
Public information sessions on offshore wind energy
18 UNION STREET, HÄWERA

FOR MORE VISIT taranakioffshorewind.co.nz



stepping it up

What's On Listings



ONGOING
Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.
MONDAYS: The Barnabas Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:30 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025.
Hawera 4 day old Calf Sales: At A& P Showgrounds. 12pm.
TUESDAYS
Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.
Pungarehu Golf Club Twilight: Tee-off between 4.30 & 6.30pm.
Opunake District RSA: Meet 1st Tuesday of every month at 5.30pm at the Opunake Fire Station. Financial Members are welcome to attend.
WEDNESDAYS
Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.
Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.
Opunake Embroiders Guild: Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.
Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4pm to 5.30pm.
Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.
THURSDAYS
Egmont Euchre Club: Every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club. Inquiries, 06 761 8337 or 06 761 8607.
Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia: Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia. Contact Helen Braithwaite 0274 825 108.
FRIDAYS
Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.
Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth: Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.
AT THE CLUB HOTEL THIS WEEK:
Monday: Burger special \$15, Happy Hours 3pm- 6pm; **Tuesday:** Pork ribs \$20, Pool Tournament 7pm; **Wednesday:** Pizza night 2 for \$24, Poker night \$30 buy in; **Thursday:** Steak night for \$20, Poker Night \$27 buy in; **Friday:** Pensioners lunch \$15, Lamb Shank \$20; **Saturday:** Chicken Schnitzel \$20; **Sunday:** Roast night \$20 Complimentary dessert for dine in customers.
NOW TO OCTOBER 8
Ma Wai Ke Atu - A creative collaboration from students of Taranaki Schools: Puke Ariki Museum, New Plymouth.

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NOW TO OCTOBER 13
Te Kitenga o Hina Exhibition: Puke Ariki Museum, New Plymouth.
JULY 31 TO AUGUST 24
Inspired by Nature - A Watercolour Exhibition by Yvonne Geeraedts: The Village Gallery, Eltham.
AUGUST 28
TOI Foundation Annual Public meeting: Kaitake Community Sports Hub, Corbett Park, Oakura, 1pm. Applications close for annual, programme & event or capital grants from the TOI Foundation. info@toifoundation.org.nz or 0800 7699 471.
AUGUST 30
Opunake Lakeside Lions Daffodil Day Stall: Everybody's Theatre.
SEPTEMBER 5
Pennylane Bull Sale: 1167 Croydon Rd, Midhurst. 12 noon start.
Burmeister Partnership Bull Sale: Julian Rd, Warea. 12.30pm start.
Zero Possum Open Evening: Butler's Reef, Oakura. 5.30pm-7.30pm.
SEPTEMBER 7
Barbwire Fight Club: Ringside Stratford & Livestream at barbwire.co.nz, 7pm.
SEPTEMBER 7 & 8
Women's Lifestyle Expo: TSB Stadium, New Plymouth.
SEPTEMBER 8
Everybody's Theatre AGM: At the Theatre, Opunake, 10am.
SEPTEMBER 17
Creative Taranaki Hui: At the War Memorial Centre, Stratford 12.30-2.30pm. Everybody's Theatre, Opunake, 6-8pm.
SEPTEMBER 24
Cold Creek Community Water Supply Ltd AGM: Te Kiri Hall, 7.30pm.

MIND MATTERS

There are different kinds of counselling and therapy. This MIND MATTERS may help you to decide what kind of sessions you want or need. See if you can figure out if you are more Option One or Option Two:

OPTION ONE: You want to get rid of precise difficulties (for example, you cannot sleep, your mind will not stop racing, anger, violence, poor communication with your adolescent daughter, you think you may be depressed, you cannot stop worrying, your 40-year-old husband ran off with a 20-year-old, you keep thinking of suicide, your father died and grief has a grip on you, you know the problems you have).

OPTION TWO: You are concerned that in some way life is not working for you, you want a different life, to be a new person, happiness and contentment seem to elude you. You feel you need to grow and develop. You want to be more relaxed, confident and contented. You might say "I want to find myself." Some Option Two people are very successful and accomplished people. Perhaps they know that they had a poor childhood and feel that somehow that is still with them. Perhaps they never feel happy at parties or in groups (they always need a few drinks to relax). Others feel that they are always acting, putting on a face, but that is not really their true self. "I can never be just me" they say. Other Option Two people may realize that they are repeating patterns in their relationships – "I always choose the wrong man, it never works." Others are kind and considerate but lack sexual energy. Then there are those who have strict routines in their life and are slaves to their routines.



DR. ROBERT SHAW

If you are Option One, you should seek counselling. You have to address your mental health symptoms. If you are Option Two, you should seek therapy. You need to grow and develop as an adult person, to change your way of being.

Sometimes, people visit me to talk about their symptoms (Option One) and then after a few sessions they decide they really want to proceed with "deeper work" (Option Two).

This MIND WORKS is to help you understand the sort of help you can get if you take that first step.

Above, I describe two "Options" to consider if you think you might benefit from a counsellor. Option One refers to people with mental health symptoms and Option Two refers to those who are concerned about themselves and their life as a whole. It is helpful if you can decide which Option refers to you.

There are some things that are important regardless of whether you want to focus on specific symptoms or whether you want to achieve personal growth. I will mention two of them: (1) The relationship which develops between you and your counsellor is very important. You must both be comfortable with each other. There are several

reasons for this which I will consider in another MIND MATTERS. Suffice to say, if you do not feel the person you see is just right for you, you need to mention this in person or in a message (text or email). Your counsellor will probably already be worrying about your interaction. Ask yourself if you could say to the counsellor "You get me!" or "You are on my side?" If you can not say this, you may need to consider someone else.

(2) The goal is change. Focus on change whatever concerns you have, and whatever kind of counsellor or therapist you see. You want to be altered in some way. With your counsellor it would be good to figure out what are your goals. They might be precise behaviours (Option One people): I want to get a good night's sleep, I want to stop the thoughts in my head, I want to stop the panic attacks, I want to enjoy/tolerate sex, I worry about everything all the time, I clean the house all the time and it drives my husband mad. Or, they might be imprecise worries (Option Two people): I want to move on with my life, I want to feel genuine, I want to overcome my false face, I want more joy from living, I want to understand the purpose life. The goal determines the method.

Symptom focussed therapy: The goal is always to fix a symptom. There are many different approaches. At one end of the spectrum are the behavioural therapies. If you have ever potty-trained an infant or rewarded a dog for good behaviour, you have employed some of the techniques of behavioural therapy. The first part of a behavioural therapy is to break the

unwanted behaviour down into its component parts. Then you can work out a way to deal with each part of the symptom. Say you want to stop drinking. Every week you buy your alcohol and bring it home. Can you control the buying of alcohol? Alter that behaviour and you might be doing something towards the alcohol problem. This is very unlikely to work! But, it illustrates how behaviour change (buying less alcohol) might be used to address a symptom (getting drunk).

One step beyond behavioural techniques are the cognitive-behavioural approaches. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT) practitioners develop the client's thinking to aid in achieving behavioural change. This has become a common approach in the current managed-care environment. For example, in work to help people with chronic pain, CBT has played a considerable part in conjunction with other methods (although I suspect it is not as prevalent as it used to be because more somatic/body techniques are used). Another group of symptoms which may respond well to CBT are anxiety disorders. The key ideas in CBT are to make little steps towards the goal and to think about reality and emotions, and thus slowly gain better control of the symptoms. There is good research that CBT works. There is no longer research that shows it is better than other methods (although once this was thought to be the case, particularly by those who wanted insurance companies to pay for counselling).

Symptom focussed therapy is often short-term work (say fewer than 15 sessions) and for some people progress can be rapid. People move beyond their problems and feel better. Psychologists and counsellors may specialize in this kind of treatment. It is not the work of a psychotherapist.

Personal growth: this is work "beyond the symptoms." This is the therapy for people who are worried about themselves or have personality difficulties. A big group who need work "beyond the symptoms" are those perfectly ordinary people who suffer trauma. It is best to use the word "therapy" for this work, and not "counselling."

Therapy is longer-term work, a year or two is not uncommon. It addresses things which have been a concern for years, sometimes many decades. In-depth work will focus on your internal thoughts/feelings, it might seek your "core issues" and lead to personal

growth. Therapy is called the "talking cure." The term "talking cure" was coined by Sigmund Freud's patient Anna O. (real name: Bertha Pappenheim), who used it to refer to her habit of making up stories and fairytales to soothe her high emotion. Freud recognized the power of words: "With words one man can make another blessed, or drive him to despair... Words call forth effects and are the universal means of influencing human beings".

The key to what a psychotherapist does, as compared to a psychologist, is in the name. Psychotherapists specialize in "psycho – therapy". Therapy for the mind. To complicate things, some psychologists provide psychotherapy and many psychiatrists are trained in psychotherapy.

*Dr Robert Shaw
Registered Psychotherapist
opunake@mail.com*

Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park



This is our new baby Chinchilla named Verity. She's only a few days old. Enjoy. We now have eight Chinchillas at Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park.

Gail Simons, Stoney Oaks

Some of the regular services:

TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE
Every Tuesday, Thursday and 2nd Friday

LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY
Every Wednesday

ACTIVE + PHYSIOTHERAPY
Monday & Thursday 9am - 3.30pm

NZ POST, NZTA & STATIONERY SHOP
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm

COASTAL PRINTERS
Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5pm

TARANAKI CHIROPRACTIC
Every Wednesday

COUNSELLORS
Gwenyth Richards 06 278 6399
Alex Jones 021 0816 3248
Robert Shaw 022 020 9779

MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS
1st Thursday of the month

TARANAKI PODIATRY
2nd Wednesday of the month

HIP
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CONTACT ARETHA LEMON
Facility Manager on 06 761 8488




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It Ends with Us 2hr 10mins M Thu 22 Aug 7PM	We Were Dangerous 1hr 23mins M Fri 23 Aug 7PM Sat 31 Aug 7PM
Panda Bear in Africa 1hr 29mins G Sat 24 Aug 7PM	Deadpool & Wolverine 2hr 8mins R16 Sat 24 Aug 7PM
Ghostlight 1hr 55mins M Sun 25 Aug 1PM Thu 29 Aug 7PM	The Fabulous Four 1hr 39mins M Sun 25 Aug 7PM
The Lion King (30th Anniversary) 1hr 27mins G Fri 30 Aug 7PM Sat 31 Aug 1PM	Midas Man 1hr 36mins E Sun 01 Sep 1PM Sun 01 Sep 7PM



It Ends with Us
Domestic violence & sexual violence references | 2hr 10mins | Rated: M
Thu 22 Aug 7PM



We Were Dangerous
Offensive language | 1hr 23mins | Rated: M
Fri 23 Aug 7PM

CHURCH NOTICES



Church Services - Manaia, Kaponga, Opunake, Pungarehu, Okata, Oakura

Opunake Co-operating Parish

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

Okato Co-operating Parish

Okato - St. Paul's - Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Oakura - St. James - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Mid-week open church - Okato - St. Paul's - Pew for You, every 3rd Wednesday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm

Opunake Catholic Church

St Martins, Pungarehu: Temporarily closed - no Masses
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday

Other areas

Sacred Heart, Manaia - Temporarily closed - No Masses
St Joseph's, Hawera - Every Sat at 5pm; Every Sun at 9am
St Patrick's, Patea - 4th Sunday of month; 11.00am
St Francis de Sales, Waverley - 2nd Sunday of month; 11.00am

St Patricks Catholic Church, Kaponga

2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month Mass at 6pm. However during winter the time will be 5pm i.e. Saturday 10th June, 24th June and 8th July. After this date the time will revert back to 6pm.
Sunday Mass 8.45am.
Thursday Mass 10.00am (subject to change).

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - weekly

The Wave

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

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

Okato Community Church

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.
Everyone welcome

St John's Community Church. Kaponga

Cnr West and Egmont Streets.
Sunday Services 10.30am followed by morning tea

Manaia Union Fellowship

Terou St. Manaia.
Meet 10am every 3rd Sunday of the month with communion

Friend & Fellowship Group

Thursdays @ Manaia
Support our Faith and support each other with Prayer and Bible study
Encouraging interactive discussion and Praise
All are welcome
We would love it if you could come
Rodney & Val 274 8550 or 0272384187

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

90 Regan St., Stratford,
9:00am Sunday: Breakfast and Study
10:30am: Breakfast is followed by "Coming Together Worship Service"
Thursday: Study Group at 2 pm at 96b Brecon Rd., Stratford.
Contact Rev. John Mattock 027 2039799

TO LET



Office Rooms/ Board Room available
Long term, short term or casual basis
Building has kitchen facilities, wheelchair access, cleaning services and plenty of parking on Napier Street or at rear of building on King Street.
Inquiries to Clare Moss - Ph 06 278 4169
clare.moss@hughson.co.nz

Spiders make trapped male fireflies imitate females

Fireflies use flashing signals to communicate with each other - but spiders have found a way to manipulate their signals and lure unsuspecting male fireflies into their webs.

Once one male firefly has been caught in its web, an orb-weaving spider can alter its flashes to look like those of a female, attracting other male fireflies. Researchers

observed a nocturnal orb-weaving spider and a species of firefly in 161 webs and found that the webs captured more male fireflies when the spider was home—and that trapped fireflies flashed just one of their two lanterns. This flash pattern was more similar to that of female fireflies, which also have only one lantern. In most encounters between a

flashing firefly and a spider, researchers saw the spiders biting and wrapping the fireflies—which continued flashing—suggesting that the bite or venom of the spider manipulates the firefly's flash to lure more prey.

Current Biology



A Spider with fireflies.

FOR SALE

AB Equipment are selling a Manitou All Terrain Portfolio 4 wheel drive forklift - Model MC-X 18-4. They're pretty rare, there's not a lot of them out there.



They're great for guys that are doing honey or for horticulturists and nurseries. In fact any work involving gravel or muddy work areas. With tractor tyres, they're a great off road 4WD. Great for shifting bales. Very versatile, they have an open cab and an overhead guard for safety.

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Email - office@ethernetworks.co.nz

HAWERA BUDGET Advisory Service. Heartland Services office, 21 Napier Street, Opunake every second Tuesday from 9am. Coastal Care, Opunake, every second Wednesday 9am to 12pm. Appointments are necessary, Please phone 0800 333 048 to make them. Facebook page: Hawera Budget Advisory Service. Email: info@hawerabudget.co.nz

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The next issue is out on September 5.

PUBLIC NOTICES



Fisheries New Zealand
Tini a Tangaroa

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Request for a temporary fisheries closure in western Taranaki, to the harvest of all shellfish (including crayfish), seaweeds (excluding beach cast seaweed), anemones, and stingrays, and both conger eel species (Conger wilsoni and Conger verreauxi).

Under section 186A of the Fisheries Act 1996, Taranaki Iwi and hapū have requested a temporary closure in western Taranaki. The requested temporary closure is to prohibit the take of all shellfish (including crayfish), all seaweeds (excluding beach cast seaweed), all anemones, all stingrays, and both conger eel species (*Conger wilsoni* and *Conger verreauxi*).

The proposed temporary closure covers the fisheries waters in western Taranaki, from Herekawe Stream to Taungatara Stream, and extends 2 nautical miles offshore, but excludes the Tapuae Marine Reserve.

A copy of the request and a map of the proposed area is available on the Ministry for Primary Industries website (www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the below address or FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz.

Under section 186A(7)(a), Fisheries New Zealand invites written submissions in response to the request from persons who have an interest in the species concerned or in the effects of fishing in the area concerned.

Further information about temporary closures is available on the MPI website (www.mpi.govt.nz/fishing-aquaculture), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the below address or FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz.

Submissions can be made up to **5pm on Monday, 30 September 2024**. You can email your submission to FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz.

While we prefer email, you can post your submission to:

Spatial Allocations
Fisheries Management
Fisheries New Zealand
PO Box 2526
Wellington 6140

Submissions are public information

Note that all, part, or a summary of your submission may be published on the MPI website. Most often this happens when we issue a document that reviews the submissions received.

People can also ask for copies of submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA says we must make the content of submissions available unless we have good reason for withholding it. Those reasons are detailed in sections 6 and 9 of the OIA.

If you think there are grounds to withhold specific information from publication, make this clear in your submission or contact us. Reasons may include that it discloses commercially sensitive or personal information. However, any decision MPI makes to withhold details can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may direct us to release it.



MPI 5647

Toi Foundation Annual Public Meeting

When: Wednesday the 28th August 1pm – 3pm

Where: Kaitake Community Sports Hub, Corbett Park, Ōakura

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI

Please join us for our Annual Public Meeting.

AGENDA:

Karakia | Apologies | Confirmation of Previous Annual Meeting Minutes | Presentation of Audited Financials | Chair & Chief Executive Report | Grantee Presentations | Karakia | Afternoon Tea



RSVP Essential: 25th August 4pm
info@toifoundation.org.nz
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The next issue of the **Opunake & Coastal News** is due out on **Thursday September 5.** Phone us on **06 761 7016** to be in it.



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FIRST RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the first instalment of rates for 2024/2025 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 28 August 2024.**

FM Aitken
Chief Executive

Creative Taranaki Hui

Calling all creatives, makers, advocates and appreciators We're coming to your community to connect, listen and share. Please come along and contribute to the conversation about our regional arts sector.

When? Tuesday 17th September
Where? TSB Chambers at the War Memorial Centre, Stratford, 12.30 - 2.30pm
Everybodys Theatre, Opunake, 6 - 8pm

Light refreshments and drinks provided.

Please contact megan@creativetaranaki.org to register your attendance.



24th AGM Tuesday 24

September 2024
7:30pm at Te Kiri Hall, Te Kiri

All Shareholder Consumers Welcome
N. Ardern & S. Pivac Directors to retire in rotation, both are available for nomination. Nomination forms are available by Phone/Text 0273137494
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Mrs M. Drought,
2 Havelock Street, Opunake
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