



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Vol. 33 No 2, February 8, 2024  
www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Published every  
Thursday Fortnight

Phone and Fax 761-7016  
A/H 761-8206

for Advertising and Editorial  
ISSN 2324-2337, ISSN 2324-2345

## Inside



Double fatality a warning, page 6.



Beaches should be regarded as roads advise police, Page 6.



Head students at CTS, p11



A voice for youth and one to watch. Page 3.



A fascinating encounter. Page 7.



Tataraimaka Hall celebrates centenary. See What's On pages.

Local news, Local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events.

Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS  
06 761 7016



A town's appeal to provincial bank. From left, ODBA chair Raewyn Cornford, former ODBA chair Bob Clark, Cr Aaron Langton, Cr Bryan Roach, and Taranaki Coastal Community Board chair Andy Whitehead.

## Give us back our bank

The Taranaki Coastal Community Board and the Opunake Business Association want the Opunake TSB bank building given back to the local community.

The building which once housed the town's last bank has been empty since the Taranaki Savings Bank (TSB) closed their Opunake branch last year. It is currently on the market. Nearby is the statue to Opunake-born sporting legend Peter Snell and next door is the town's Library Plus. It is in an area of town for which plans are being drawn up for a green space as part of the town's revitalisation scheme.

On January 24 the current and a former chair of the Opunake and District Business Association (ODBA) as well as a South Taranaki District councillor and a former South Taranaki deputy mayor were at the Taranaki Coastal Community Board's first meeting of the year to speak about the building's future. Among the suggestions raised was that the TSB should give

the building back to the community.

"I would like the Community Board as well as the Business Association to write to the TSB and say they have ripped the heart out of Opunake and should donate that building back to Opunake to be used by the community of Opunake," Cr Bryan Roach said.

Opunake Business Association chair Raewyn Cornford agreed.

"We need your clout," she said. "Why don't we go back to the TSB and propose that they donate it to the South Taranaki District Council?"

She said the Council could then pass the building on to the Opunake Business Association with a fair lease. This would ensure that the ATM which is the only one in town will remain. The building could be used as an Information Centre, "or maybe a museum as well."

"It would be good if we could all get together and suggest this to the TSB."

Since the meeting the Taranaki Coastal Community Board has drafted a letter

to TSB chief executive Kerry Boielle asking that the building be donated to the Opunake community.

"We are writing to you to appeal to the spirit and fundamental foundations on which the TSB Bank was first built over 170 years ago. First established in 1850 to provide people independence, a spirit of community with the foundation and core value to put people first," the letter read. "We write to you on behalf of our community, in fact on behalf of your community also. We ask that you please donate the now closed Opunake TSB Bank building back to the community that helped build it."

"The TSB Bank has been the central hub for our community for many years and we believe by donating this building we can create a community facility that will remain as the heart of our small but vibrant town."

Community Board chair Andy Whitehead says the TSB has long had an association with Opunake. "Everyone in the community

at some point would have banked with them," he said.

Since the meeting Raewyn Cornford has contacted the STDC and suggested that the STDC buys the bank or approach the TSB and ask for it to be donated to the ODBA at a peppercorn value and this would ensure that the ATM stay in place.

The ODBA would set up a volunteer-driven Information Centre that promotes Opunake and other towns in South Taranaki. There would also be a small history/museum display about Opunake and the district. They would like to see the Maui Display which had previously been open to public display relocated here.

The ODBA would also provide a "cash float" for local businesses and community groups.

"This I consider is a start," says Raewyn. "Due to the placement of the old TSB and the planning for the green space on Napier Street we consider this would be most appropriate."

She says she has since heard back from South Taranaki

mayor Phil Nixon who told her that her message has been passed on to the appropriate people at the Council. Former ODBA chair Bob Clark had previously written to the South Taranaki District Council suggesting they buy the bank site. At the Community Board meeting he noted the number of community facilities which local people had got going.

"I've lived in Masterton, Upper Hutt and here, and I've never seen such a wellspring of community strength."

The former bank building could have a number of uses, he said.

"What would be valuable for this community would be an active Information Centre."

South Taranaki District Councillor Aaron Langton said once the building was back up and running it could host different themes during the year.

Former deputy mayor Ian Armstrong who was at the Community Board meeting said the consensus from

Continued page 2



# Letters to the Editor

Send your your views to: Letters to the Editor  
23 Napier Street, Opunake.

email: [editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

**“Let’s create your business growth strategy together”**

Your only local community accounting firm



Accounting for the future, today

Hawera - Opunake - Patea - 06 278 4169

Opunake Office hours:  
Mon, Wed & Thurs: 9am-3pm



## POWER SUPPLY Rural & Residential

Design, upgrade and repair overhead and underground power supplies

- Powerco Approved Contractor
- Network connections
- Powerline maintenance
- Vegetation control around powerlines
- Fault repair
- Specialists in rural power servicing and installation
- High voltage installation
- Street lighting design and installation
- Underground utility detection

0800 877 746

[powerworx@obertech.co.nz](mailto:powerworx@obertech.co.nz)



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.

# Give us back our bank

Continued from page 1

people around Opunake he had been talking to was that there would be support for buying the building so long as there was a clear vision and that it was purchased at a reasonable price.

Cr Roach says it’s time for the TSB to donate the building back to the community.

“You would hope that a bank like the TSB would put the community first before profits. Over the years the Opunake community have supported the TSB Bank. It’s time for the Bank to give back to this community of Opunake.”



The former TSB Bank that sits in Opunake’s Town Square, where many community events are focussed. Library Plus (at the left) adjoins the building in the square. A statue of triple Olympic gold medallist Peter Snell who was born in Opunake, is also in the Town Square.

## ADELPHOS

The word “Grace” is used over 120 times in the New Testament. Amazing! Many of us around the coast have sung the lyrics of the hymn Amazing Grace, written by John Newton in 1772. As a prosperous slave trader, on a ship during a life-threatening storm John realised his own sinfulness and corrupt lifestyle and put his life into the hands of a gracious God.

Newton’s repentance, lostness, blindness and fear are echoed in his words,

*“Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see. ‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved. How precious did that grace*

## Amazing Grace

*appear the hour I first believed!”*

Although Newton continued as a so-called “merciful” slave trader for some years, he realised his hypocrisy and renounced slavery as a campaigning abolitionist. He then became an Anglican cleric and parish priest. John Newton realised what grace was in the light of his own sinfulness compared to a holy God. This is because grace is the free and undeserved favour of God. We can’t earn God’s forgiving grace because of our good works. Charitable works become an expression of our faith (James 2:14-17; Ephesians 2:8-9, NIV). The

free and saving grace of forgiveness, only comes through Jesus’ shed blood on the Good Friday cross. That’s why only Jesus was able to say, “I am The way and The truth and The life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6).

There are two kinds of grace. God gives His Common Grace to everyone, atheists included. We all benefit from the beauty and bounty of His creation, medical cures and technological advances that benefit humanity. It’s seen in the compassion of parents, letting someone ahead of you in a PAK’n’SAVE shopping line or visiting someone sick

in hospital. The second kind of grace is Saving Grace, which John Newton wrote of in his hymn.

The good news is that saving grace is undeserved and sufficient to strengthen us when weak (2 Corinthians 12:9; Romans 8:26-28). Everyone who receives saving grace can take comfort in Newton’s amazing lyrics:

*“Through many dangers, toils and snares we have already come. ‘Twas grace has brought us safe thus far and grace will lead us home.”*

Grace and peace in 2024,  
Adelphos

More copies of the Opunake & Coastal News are available on stands at the following locations

### New Plymouth:

Ate Forty One, Tukapa St, Westown, Challenge Spotswood, The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City

### Waitara:

Outside the North Taranaki Community House Trust, 67 McLean St

### Inglewood:

Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata Street

### Stratford:

Stratford Knit & Sew, 202 Broadway, First National, Stratford.

### Eltham:

Eltham Four Square

### Hawera:

At First National, High Street; Hospital Supa Store, 52 Hunter Street; The Sunshine Dairy, 246 South Rd; Glover Dairy & Convenience Store, 187 Glover Rd; Flowers R Us, 158 High Street

Papers are also available at

The Normanby Dairy, The Manaia Dairy Silver Snapper Okato Takeaways

## Vehicle Valet Service

PICKERING MOTORS LTD  
OPUNAKE



### CONTACT:

Pickering Motors Office on:

06 761 8363 | 0800 22 11 20

Ask for Tracey or Linda.



COST: \$85.00 per hour incl g.s.t.

Bookings available Wednesday’s & Thursdays. Other days on request.

Car can be picked up and dropped back for small fee.

Vouchers available.

## FINER SPRAYING SERVICES LIMITED

• Crop Spraying

• Pasture Spraying

• Facial Eczema

Grant: 027 444 9189  
A/H: 06 278 8451



**BOOM SPRAYING SPECIALIST**  
Accurate Application - Sound Advice

# A strong voice for young people in South Taranaki

Last year Ebony Kalin (18) set up *Empower Youth* with the support of the South Taranaki District Council. This body has the overall goal of ensuring that South Taranaki has empowered young leaders of tomorrow. They have already had a series of meetings in 2023 to carry out this goal, Ebony points out that *Empower Youth* will meet in early March to continue their important work and hopes that more young people will apply to join Empower Youth in the near future. Applications for Empower Youth 2024 open on Monday 12 February and close on Friday 1 March.

Last year was Ebony's final year of High School at Te Paepae o Aotea in Hawera, where the straight A grade student ended on a great note, being named as Dux. "It was a goal I set for myself," she explains.

This year she is working for South Taranaki District Council as a Summer Student, where she is involved in several varied initiatives including the consultative process for the upcoming Long Term Plan, and within the community, governance and policy space of Council.

Despite her busy life, Ebony still finds time to play hockey for the Hawera Women's Club, Speech and Drama, and spending time with her family and friends.

In August Ebony will head to the United States for tertiary study. She will be enrolled in the Trinity College of Art and Sciences at Duke University, North Carolina



Ebony Kalin pictured at the South Taranaki District Council, Hawera.

for a four year degree. She plans to study Public Policy and Political Science on the pre-law track. "I know I want to be in this career field of governance and policy, it's

my passion," she comments. Although she will miss her family and South Taranaki the place she's called home for 18 years, she said: "I look forward to the adventure

ahead." This outstanding young woman, who has already achieved so much, is someone we will hear much more about in the future.

## Are males really better than females at navigating?

Have you ever heard the old saying that men are better than women at navigating? US researchers looking into the differences in wayfinding in 21 different species, including humans,

say that it's not quite right. The team looked at how humans and animals found their way around their specific home ranges, and how good they were at spatially recognising the

areas. They say there was no significant correlation to the sexes. Instead, they say this ability is more likely due to experienced factors, or unselected biological side effects, rather than actual

functional outcomes of natural selection.

Royal Society Open Science.

**The Cottage**  
Rest Home - Opunake

- \* Respite Care
- \* Day Care
- \* Meals on Wheels

Enquiries welcome at the Cottage, 1 Layard Street, Opunake or Phone 761 8009

**gibsonplumbing** LTD.

**CERTIFIED**  
Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drain Laying

**Plus!** Roofing, Wood Fires and other Heating Solutions

06 761 8757 027 445 7164  
gibson.plumbing@xtra.co.nz

**WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA?**

Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home & business within the rural area, bounded in the north by the New Plymouth city border, extending east to Egmont Village and around to the edge of Stratford, south to Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga & Eltham.

We want to be involved with your business. Call today and discuss your marketing options with us.

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**  
Promote your business or event in our area, call us on:  
Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - 23 Napier Street, Opunake or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

**HEADSTONES TARANAKI**

**Taranaki owned and operated**

We create all types of new memorial work and restorations, including second inscriptions, repainting and cleaning existing memorials.

We also specialise in unique stone works for special projects.

**TINY AUSTIN**  
021 663 199  
tiny@headstonestaranaki.co.nz

Do you know what happens if you don't advertise...  
...nothing

Promote your events in the  
**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

**BRANDERSON HOMES LTD**

**TRANSPORTABLE HOMES**

Office, Show Room & Workshop located at  
**47 Hautapu Road, Cambridge**

branderson.homes@xtra.co.nz  
www.brandersonhomes.co.nz  
07 827 3901

# New principal for Matapu

Kelly Bunker first wanted to be a schoolteacher when she was four years old. Last week she took up her first principal position at Matapu School.

The school on the corner of Skeet and Hastings Roads has a roll of 144. Kelly proudly points to one of the school's recent additions, a basketball court decked out in the school's blue and gold colours.

"The spirit of rural communities is quite different," says Kelly. "You almost immediately feel that support. I'm lucky that I'm coming into a school that's really well resourced and has a good community spirit. There are some awesome things already going on and I see my job as building on that."

Although she is new to Matapu, she is not new to South Taranaki, having grown up in Hawera, nor is she new to rural communities, having taught for nine years at Auroa School, which is 16km away along the Skeet Road.

After Auroa she taught



Matapu School principal Kelly Bunker.

for five terms at Te Paepae o Aotea before coming to Matapu.

"In my career I've taught everything from Year 2 through to Year 10," she says. "I wanted to be a teacher since I was four, before I even went to school."

She had left Taranaki to study at Massey University

where she graduated with a Bachelor of Education and a Diploma of Teaching. She taught at various schools in Manawatu before returning to Taranaki 11 years ago. Auroa was the first rural school she taught at.

"I don't think you understand really how great a rural community is until you are in it," she says.

Kelly has a partner and two children, Sophie and Jack, who attend Te Paepae o Aotea.

Her interests include keeping up with her children's football, as well as walking.

"I've been on the mountain quite a bit," she says.

# Bridge's days are numbered

It could be the end of the road for a footbridge on a trail meandering through the bush along the Manaia Walkway.

The bridge which crosses the Waiokura Stream may be about to be replaced, South Taranaki District Council community development advisor Fran Levings told the Taranaki Coastal Community Board at its January meeting at Opunake.

The footbridge had taken a hammering during the storms of February 2022 causing erosion and structural damage. Council engineers had recommended replacing the bridge and this had been budgeted in the next Long Term Plan. Fran said it was still safe in the meantime.

The bridge had been made



Council engineers have advised the replacement of this bridge on the Manaia Walkway.

from old power poles. When safety issues were raised about the sides of the bridge, the Manaia Lions Club had stepped in and provided the railing.

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon said

the work could be done by students on the Build a Bridge programme.

"It's not just about replacing the bridge, but about teaching good skills to young people at the same time," he said.

There was also a progress update on the upgrade of the Goat Track leading from the Cenotaph to the north end of Opunake Beach.

As reported in the Opunake and Coastal News (November 30), Council staff were looking at extending the roadway to the steps that lead to the beach and properly draining the area.

Fran Levings told the meeting that tenders for the work had closed and the three tenders received had all been very good.

Board member Liz Sinclair noted that the track got a lot of use during the annual Americarna festival.

The idea of placing signs at the top and bottom of the track was also discussed.

**Stratford**  
**Knit and Sew**  
Haberdashery, quilting materials and supplies.  
Wool, patterns and needles.  
Embroidery and cotton.  
Open:  
10am-4pm Mon-Friday  
10am-12pm Saturday  
Phone: 06 765 4181  
202 Broadway, Stratford  
www.stratfordknitandsew.com

**Simple But Significant**  
a simple cremation & burials  
Helping Taranaki families with a range of simple, professional funeral services. With affordable caskets, urns & jewellery.  
0800 236 236 233 Carrington St New Plymouth  
www.asimplecremation.co.nz

You can rely on us for your energy needs  
www.rockgastaranaki.co.nz  
Transform your home - all your hot water, space heating and cooking needs from your trusted local Rockgas supplier.  
Count on us - reliable delivery of 45kg LPG cylinders to your home, business, or farm where ever you live.  
Locally operated and proud to be part of your community  
rockgas TARANAKI  
Call Rockgas Taranaki  
0800 LPG 2 YOU or 06 757 9264

## Only these things go in your yellow recycling bin

Food and drink tins and cans  
Plastic bottles, trays and containers numbered 1, 2 and 5 only  
Paper and cardboard  
Take off the lids, and rinse your dirty items.  
npdc.govt.nz/ZeroWaste  
Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa New Zealand Government  
Zero Waste Taranaki  
NPDC

# Te Rere o Kapuni project will be completed in July

At Te Rere o Kapuni (formerly Dawson Falls) the rebuild is progressing well and is likely to be completed in July 2024.

Livingstone Builders are carrying out the construction.

As January rolled to an end the sound of hammering could be heard as about 10 builders worked on the project, while a Value Timber truck pulled up with more supplies, as photographs were taken to show progress.

To the left, when looking towards the Tasman Sea, was a reinforced two-storey structure with many timber supportive battens.

To the right looked like the beginnings of a high peaked



Building progress as pictured looking towards the Tasman Sea.

branding and vision boards were unveiled and the Mauri stone laid at the entrance of where the whare will be. Phil Nuku (cultural advisor) explained that this represented all the mahi carried out and the people involved.

Much initial work and leadership had been provided by the cultural advisors Phil and Puihi Nuku (who gathered kōrero and Whakaaro), and by prominent personality Bonita Bigham, as well as

many others.

The project is managed by Te Kīwai Mauī (Ngāruahine's commercial wing). In 2022 Ngawai Hernandez-Walden was appointed Establishment General Manager.

Once completed the building will house 18 accommodation units, a rest room, a wananga facility, a retail space and a huaora space. All the best for the completion of this unique project.



A sign showing aspects of Te Rere o Kapuni.

structure, as shown in a nearby sign.

The site was purchased in 2016 by the Te Korowai o Ngāruahine Trust. Before construction got underway in May 2023 an opening ceremony was held in the company of representatives from Ngāruahine uri, the Stratford District Council, STDC, DoC, Livingstone Construction and ED Project Management, who gathered on our tauheke maunga to perform the mauri ceremony to bless and prepare whenua for the construction of Rere o Kapuni. On this occasion

**PROGRESSIVE FENCING**

FOR ALL YOUR FENCING REQUIREMENTS:  
Agricultural & Electric, Fencing & Shelter Belts, Stockyards, Retaining Walls, Residential, 180 Rev. Post Rammer.

Member FCANZ  
Ph Steven on (06) 278 5949 or 021 298 5106

**S**

**SCHURR IRELAND**  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

NEW PLYMOUTH ELTHAM  
p. 06 759 0105 p. 06 764 8305

www.schurrireland.co.nz

## New Zealand not providing minimal standard of mental health care

Former Canterbury Clinical and Forensic Director of Area Mental Health Services Dr Erik Monasterio writes that little has changed since he and colleagues highlighted the human rights violations of mentally ill people in NZ prisons in the NZMJ back in 2020.

Dr Monasterio resigned from the role when he felt wider systemic factors in

the mental health system stood in the way of him helping care for this group of people, leading him to be unable to meet the role's responsibilities. In a new editorial, Dr Monasterio explains those systemic factors that led to his decision to resign and says there is still an urgent need to provide adequate mental health care to stop people

with serious mental illness going to prison instead of receiving care. Failure to do so breaches the Bill of Rights Act 1990, Te Tiriti o Waitangi, and national and international agreements on the minimal standard of care for prisoners, he writes.

*New Zealand Medical Journal*

## Invest more in early parenting

Increased spending on health and social support for parents over the first five years of a child's life would be the most cost-effective measures to end the cycle of disadvantage, a New Zealand report suggests.

The researchers say

mothers' mental health is particularly important in how well a child thrives, and it is mostly determined by how much stress parents have in their lives.

They say that with an estimated 20-30 per cent of New Zealand children living

in poverty, the country needs to do more to tackle the stubborn issue.

*Koi Tu*

**LAWYERS**

**OPUNAKE LAWYERS**  
**Thomson O'Neil & Co.**

*Our Opunake Office is attended by:*  
**Robert England on Wednesday & Fridays** for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills and Estates.  
**Mark Utting on Tuesdays** for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills, Estates and refinancing matters.

**FOR ALL YOUR LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**30 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE**  
**PH: 761 8823**

**DP PLUMBING**  
Craftsman Plumber/ Drainlayer  
Living locally in Okato  
23 years experience  
Competitive quotes and prompt service  
Ph Duane on 021 023 05021

67 Breakwater Rd (up Norma's Way) • NEW PLYMOUTH • PHONE 06 751 5065  
FAX: 06 751 5085 • WWW.NEWTONGORDGE.CO.NZ

**ALL DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL JOINERY**

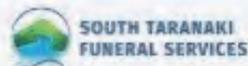
**Newton Gordge JOINERY**

• Kitchens • Stairways • Vanities • Lounge Units • Bench Tops • And More

Don't leave them wondering

Plan ahead today

CALL US TODAY  
06 278 8088 - All hours



## COASTAL COPS

# Take care with your car on the beach

Kia Ora Koutou,  
I hope you all enjoyed your festive season and you are managing to spend some quality time with family and friends in the sun.

We've had a great stretch of sunshine in recent times, meaning there have been activities aplenty in and near the water/beaches.

A couple of reminders moving forward. The beach is considered a road under the land transport act. I have had complaints about vehicles joyriding on the beach, with people, generally teenagers, hanging off the roof and body of the vehicles. This is risky with families on the beach. Please respect others use of the beach and vehicles should not be on the beach



Constable Matt Stone

unless for a sensible reason. I reported this matter a few articles ago but again wish to reinforce this matter. I have had an increasing involvement in agreement or contract type disputes in recent times. With time being an ever-depleting commodity often we

make verbal agreements, such as lease's or tenancy agreements, but nothing is written down and signed. I emphasise the importance of writing down and signing an agreement so that conditions are clear and cannot be argued. This will resolve a lot of problems. I suggest written agreements used for even minor transactions such as car purchases/swaps.

Thank you to those good samaritans who cleared up the glass and rubbish left around the surf club on new years day. Unfortunately, there were 6-8 Police Officers who babysit 200 kids for 4-5 hours. A reminder that if you child is 17 years or under, that they are not allowed in a public

place with alcohol, opened or unopened. I will admit that most of the kids at the surf club were really respectful, just willing to chat to Police and follow instructions. I love seeing teenagers that can strike up conversations with adults, it's a credit to them.

However, this incident tied up a large number of Police Officers, meaning it pulled resources that couldn't help elsewhere. If Police did not attend, I hate to think about the damage that may have occurred in the area.

Thanks for your time and I'll see you on the road.  
Nga Mihi

Matt

## POWERLINE FAULTS AND SERVICING

From a fuse or broken insulator replaced to a complete powerline rebuild

Call: **TOP OF THE LINE ELECTRICITY SERVICES**

Greg Lewis: 027 453 0326

**Powerline Servicing Specialists**  
Free line inspections  
Free advice | Free quotes



# Fiery crash kills two women

Two cars collided at the juncture of State Highway 3 and Boylan Road (near Eltham). The crash occurred at 5.50am on Wednesday 31 January.



The roadblock which was just north of the fatal crash.

The road was closed for several hours with two detours set up for vehicles travelling in the vicinity. A northbound car crossed the centre line, colliding with a southbound car. The northbound exploded into flames in impact, while the southbound car, which was coloured red, ended up upside down. There was debris spread all over the

road. "There was heck of a mess, with things strewn all over the road, said one local man.

At first there was doubt as to how many victims were in the cars, but the Disaster Victim Identification Unit confirmed that there was no one else, apart from the two deceased women.

Senior Sergeant Andrew Ross said, "Our thoughts are

with the victim's families at this incredibly difficult time."

This was the third multi-fatality on New Zealand roads in just four days. "That is two deaths too many," commented south Taranaki mayor Phil Nixon.

The Serious Crash Unit is investigating the fatal accident.

## On this month in history RL Stevenson visits New Zealand

On February 25, 1893 Robert Louis Stevenson visits NZ. He arrived in Auckland from his adopted home Samoa. He was travelling on the mail ship Mariposa. He was met by the former governor and premier George

Grey who took the Scottish writer back to his home in Parnell.

Stevenson is famous for writing such classics as Treasure Island, Kidnapped and the Strange Case of Dr

Jeckyl and Mr Hyde. He also wrote A Children's Garden of Verses.

He was born on November 13 1850 and died in Samoa on December 3, 1894.



Juffermans Surveyors Ltd

**Allen Juffermans**  
Surveyor  
Juffermans Surveyors Ltd

Prospero Place  
**STRATFORD**  
06 765 4122

South Taranaki offices are at:

Te W'anake The Foundry,  
High Street, **HAWERA**  
06 278 4135

32 Ridgeway Street, **WHANGANUI**  
06 345 0333

www.jsl.nz | info@jsl.nz

**TBL**  
TARANAKI BUILDING LTD  
Local Builder  
Shaun Stanley Ph. 0278 186 385

**TBL**  
TARANAKI BUILDING LTD  
SUPPLIES  
OPEN HOURS  
THURS-SAT 9AM - 1PM  
181B TASMAN STREET OPUNAKE

**DOOREYS DOORS**  
TARANAKI GARAGE DOOR INSTALLATION

## OUR SERVICES

- ✓ Timber doors
- ✓ Roller doors
- ✓ Sectional doors
- ✓ Garage door repairs
- ✓ Merlin motor supply & installation

CONTACT JARED BARRON

027 208 6113

sales@dooreysdoors.com

www.dooreysdoors.com

# Namedropping: Michael Tavioni of Nukutere

*Namedropping is an occasional column which features notable people the writer has encountered. Some of the personalities have been: Sir Charles Upham VC and Bar, AH (Sir Alfred) Reed, Dr Benjamin Spock, James K Baxter, Dame Joy Cowley, Ray Columbus, Lianne Dalziel and William Burton (Last survivor of Captain RF Scott's final Antarctic expedition. He died aged 99). Let us know if you'd like us to locate any of these past issues.*



Awhitia and Michael Tavioni enjoying a watery setting in Nukutere (Rarotonga).

Michael Tavioni, whose full name is Mitaera Ngatae Teatuakaro Michael Tavioni, was one of four Cook Islanders to receive a Royal Honour in the 2022 Queen's Honours. He received the British Empire Medal (BEM) for his services to arts and the community.

Michael, who was born in Nukutere (Rarotonga) in 1947, is skilled in many areas including as master carver, poet, teacher, storyteller and author. His most recent book is *Escaping West to Reach the Rising Sun* (2022). This edition has sold out and a new publication is due this month.

An earlier book was *Motifs of Nukutere: Traditional images, designs, motifs, patterns and symbols* (1922). The book is dedicated to his granddaughter Te-Pua-O-Te-Tiare-O Ikurangi Emilia Raetae Tavioni Raiti. "Te Pua gave my wife Awhitia and I some of the happiest moments of our lives and we are grateful for that."

In 2002 he published a poetry collection entitled *Speak your Truth*. Another book will be published soon. As regards art he is proficient in many mediums including printing, wood, stone, bone, and traditional tattooing. In 1975 he even started producing t-shirts using wooden blocks.

This outstanding man is considered an icon in the Cook Islands, or Nukutere, which is the name he prefers for his homeland. In 2021 a documentary highlighted the many aspects of his life. It was entitled *Taonga: An Artists Activist*. Yet to meet the man is to understand his humility, despite his many achievements.

In his formative years, after attending Tereora College in Nukutere, Michael received a government scholarship to attend Northland College in New Zealand. Upon leaving school he attended Massey University, graduating with a degree in agriculture and horticulture (Much later, he graduated with a Masters in Fine Arts from the Auckland University of Technology). Before becoming a full time

artist in 1975, Michael spent some years in Nukutere as a public servant.

In 1985 he married Awhitia, who is also a capable carver. "She's better than me," he concedes with modesty. The couple's daughter is Tatiana. In conjunction with Michel Tuffery, Michael was commissioned to create a carved wooden gateway for the RSA Memorial Cemetery to commemorate the centenary of Cook Islands participation in World War 1.

In 1996 he had a major hand in setting up the Punanga Nui market in Rarotonga, which continues to be very popular with both locals and tourists.

When the premier Sir Albert Henry (Cook Islands Party) was involved in electoral



Michael Tavioni and Rolland McKellar.

malpractice, at the time of the 1978 general election, Michael took a stand against the "incident" – as he terms it. He also participated as a candidate for the Unity Party, but was not elected. Although Sir Albert's party (CIP) won the election, the result was overturned by the High Court and Tom Davis became premier, leading his Democratic Party as the government.

Michael hastens to explain that despite this incident, he admires Sir Henry for his many achievements during the time as premier (August 1965-July 1978).

I met Michael, on February 12, at his "Poor

Man's Gallery," which he established in 2015. Here, students from the Cook Islands Tertiary Institution are taught vaka making by Michael. Together, they continue to carve, teach and encourage the preservation of traditional Cook Islands art, culture, language and life skills.

There were many highlights during a seven day visit to Rarotonga in January 2024, but meeting this remarkable man Michael Tavioni was paramount.

Many thanks to Gina Tavioni Bamber of Vananga Operations for her input. She is Michael's niece.

**TransAg Centre**  
AGRICULTURE





**BA PUMPS & SPRAYERS**

**SPRAYERS AVAILABLE NOW**

**ENQUIRE TODAY**




**WALCO**

**WEED WIPERS**

**WITH TIME OUT SWITCH**





**Case II**      **KUHN**      **KRONE**  
THE POWER OF GREEN

**New Plymouth**      **Hawera**

**Branch: 06 758 2274**      **06 278 5119**

**Paul: 027 498 7277**      **Raymond: 027 444 8861**

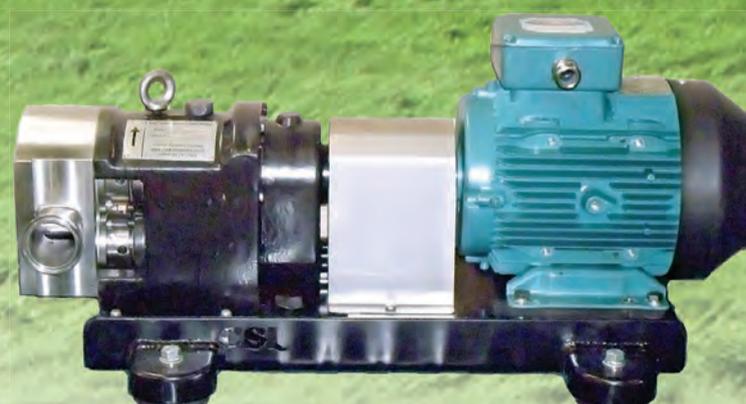
## Lower Milk Solids Damage

## Improve Milk Cooling



### MILKFLOW

**The CSL Milkflow Milk Pump Controller improves returns by reducing milk solids damage and optimising primary cooling.**



## ROTARY LOBE PUMP

**Combined with the CSL Milkflow Controller, the CSL Lobe pump accommodates the large wash volumes required in today's dairy sheds without compromising milk quality.**



**Contact us**

## 0800 10 7006

[www.corkillsystems.co.nz](http://www.corkillsystems.co.nz)

# Government will be laser-focused

It's hard to believe that we're already into the second month of 2024 and it will soon be four months since the October 14 election.

After every election, new ministers are given briefings on the state of their portfolio areas.

These briefings have made for grim reading this time, and clearly demonstrate the previous government's view that the amount you spend is more important than the outcomes you get. Alongside the soaring cost pressures faced after Labour's economic mismanagement, their lack of delivery has led to poor outcomes across the board. Too many children aren't going to school, too many people are staying on a benefit instead of being supported into work and there's been a concerning rise in the visibility of



**CARL BATES MP**  
WHANGANUI

gangs and persistent young offending. This from a Labour Government that increased spending by a massive 80 per cent. It's no wonder New Zealanders made it clear our country needed a change of direction. This Government will deliver that change – starting with the economy. A strong economy means we can afford better healthcare, education and build the roads and infrastructure New Zealand needs. Our 100-day plan has already



**Carl delivering his maiden speech at Parliament recently.**

delivered the cancellation of fuel tax rises, the deeply unpopular Ute Tax is gone, and we've stopped all work on Labour's Jobs

Tax and Auckland Light Rail. We've also repealed Labour's changes to the Resource Management Act and will repeal Three Waters

legislation in the very near future. And we are only getting started. In my maiden speech last week I said this:

As we look to the future, it is imperative that this House is more responsible with New Zealanders' money. This House must make choices about what the role of Government is, and what it is not. We cannot, and should not, do everything, nor attempt to solve every problem.

The Coalition Government led by Prime Minister Christopher Luxon will be laser-focused on rebuilding our economy, restoring law and order, and delivering better outcomes in health and education. We will also remove much of the red tape that is causing so much stress to our farmers, who as I said in my maiden speech are "the backbone of our regional economy".

*Carl Bates, MP for Whanganui*

## Bridging the rural-urban divide



**JO LUXTON MP**

It's been a busy week back in Wellington, with Parliament sitting again for the first time this year. Not only has this meant reconnecting with my caucus colleagues, but also having the opportunity to meet with some of those working in the primary

sector. Building a strong relationship between Labour and our farmers is a high priority for me as the Party spokesperson for Agriculture, Rural Communities, and Biosecurity. As the country grapples with evolving economic and environmental challenges, fostering a robust partnership between the political sphere and those at the forefront of our primary industries is imperative for sustainable growth and a thriving future. I am well aware that addressing the concerns of the sector goes beyond

making promises during an election campaign; it requires open, frank and continuous conversation. I want to start by acknowledging the challenges faced by farmers and in the future, I hope to work with the sector in order to present ideas that are not only effective, but also inclusive. Labour has a unique opportunity to bridge what some have described as an urban-rural divide by understanding the needs of a wide range of New Zealanders. Policies that address environmental sustainability, economic viability, and social equality

within the primary industries are key to the country's prosperity, now and into the future. The more connected we are, the more proactive we can be when it comes to tackling challenges around the climate and environmental sustainability. Farmers are the stewards of a huge amount of land in New Zealand and can offer invaluable insights into sustainable practices and adaptation strategies. By involving farmers in the process, Labour can ensure our environmental policies are both ambitious and realistic, striking a

*Continued on page 9*

Get Supercharged for School

Apple Authorised Service Provider  
Microsoft Consultants Network  
Apple Authorised Reseller



Supercharge Your School Year at Proformac Technologies! Visit us at 127 Gill Street, New Plymouth for Apple and Windows laptops.

Get ready for success with our turn key solutions allowing you to walk out with a ready to use device. Your perfect study partner awaits!

### Your Taranaki MPs are here to help you.

**Carl Bates MP** for Whanganui

carl.batesmp@parliament.govt.nz  
www.national.org.nz/carlbates



**Barbara Kuriger MP** for Taranaki-King Country

barbara.kurigermp@parliament.govt.nz  
barbarakuriger.national.org.nz/



**David MacLeod MP** for New Plymouth

david.macleodmp@parliament.govt.nz  
www.national.org.nz/davidmacleod



**TransAg Centre Ltd.**  
AGRICULTURE  
... and proud of it

**KEEP MOVING FORWARD WITH CASE IH.**

**SPECIAL PRICING AVAILABLE**

**NEW PLYMOUTH**  
65 KATERE ROAD  
PARTS/SERVICE: 06 758 2274  
SALES: PAUL STANTON 027 498 7277

**HAWERA**  
16 GLOVER ROAD  
PARTS/SERVICE: 06 278 5119  
SALES: RAYMOND 027 444 8861

# Bridging the rural-urban divide

Continued from page 8

delicate balance between conservation and economic

viability. I want to find common ground with the sector, to acknowledge the challenges

faced by farmers and work collaboratively to find innovative solutions that benefit the economy and the environment. Together we can ensure a future where New Zealand's primary industries thrive alongside

our progressive values.

Jo Luxton MP  
Labour Party spokesperson

for Agriculture, Communities, and Biosecurity

## Tractor-and-hay art in Taranaki



LEFT: Mr Tractor-and-hay takes a determined run through the paddocks.

## GPx Immune Protect

A NATURAL FORMULATION BUILT TO SUPPORT CELLULAR OXIDATIVE DAMAGE

- Boosts energy levels fighting fatigue and burnout
  - Protects against oxidation stress
  - Supports a more effective immune system
- Increased mental clarity and stress management



THE HEALTH SHOP

*We keep you healthy*

Centre City Shopping Centre Ph: 06 758 7553

## Alzheimers can be caught

Five UK patients 'caught' Alzheimer's from deceased hormone donors. Alzheimers is a common form of dementia, often associated with decline in the elderly.

A total of five people in the United Kingdom, who were given growth hormones sourced from deceased people during childhood (which is now banned), developed early-onset Alzheimer's disease, according to UK scientists.

The findings suggest that

Alzheimer's disease may have medically acquired forms, they say, although there's no evidence that it can be transmitted through routine care or daily life.

Between the years 1959 and 1985, nearly 2,000 United Kingdom patients were treated with human growth hormone extracted from cadaver-sourced pituitary glands (c-hGH). Some developed Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD), linked with 'mad cow disease', so the practice stopped, and some of those patients had

signs of Alzheimer's in their brains.

The study discusses eight patients given the hormone who did not develop CJD, five of whom developed

early-onset dementia. The authors say this emphasises the need for measures to prevent any accidental transmission via medical treatments and procedures.

The next issue of Opunake & Coastal News will be out on February 22, 2024. Call us on 06 761 7016 to be in it.

**FISHER**™  
WINDOWS AND DOORS

CREATORS OF THE ORIGINAL RANCHSLIDER

**Fisher Taranaki**  
50 Rimu Street, Strandon, New Plymouth  
**06 758 5068**  
fisherwindows.co.nz

Powered by altus Window Systems window & glass member Proudly NZ Made & Owned

**Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration**

**WIN \$1000 CASH BACK!!**

- Order an **AIRCON/HEATPUMP UNIT** from us during the time period stated and go into the draw to **WIN \$1000 CASH!!\***
- From **Monday 22nd January until Friday 8th March.**
- Contact us at either **OPUNAKE 067618084** or **STRATFORD 067654499** to arrange a **FREE QUOTE!!**

**Panasonic**  
\*T & CS APPLY

**MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC**

# Greenpeace slam Hiringa urea appeal result



The synthetic nitrogen fertiliser production at the Kapuni factory in Taranaki.

The Court of Appeal has ruled against Greenpeace in its challenge to the High Court's ruling to greenlight consent for hydrogen expansion of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser production at the Kapuni factory in Taranaki.

Greenpeace say they are calling on Hiringa Energy to commit to a timeframe for transitioning from fertiliser production to transport fuel.

Greenpeace Aotearoa programme director Niamh O'Flynn says, "This is a loss for the climate and for fresh water in Aotearoa, as well as for local hapū of Ngāruahine, who also have issues with the project, but we call on Hiringa Energy to do the right thing and commit to a transition out of fertiliser production within five years

as well as honouring the wishes of local hapū with regards to the location of the wind turbines."

"Climate justice is interconnected with te Tiriti justice, so working with iwi and hapū must be central to all new energy infrastructure developments. It is vital for the success of these projects to do right by local Māori and the environment," says O'Flynn.

With the support of Hapu of Ngaruahine in South Taranaki, Greenpeace opposed the proposal by fertiliser company Balance Agrinutrients and Hiringa Energy to use wind power to generate 'green' hydrogen. The challenge concerned the consenting panel's failure to lock in any fixed timeframe by which Hiringa must stop using the hydrogen plant for making synthetic nitrogen fertiliser (urea) and to instead transition its

production to clean vehicle fuel only.

O'Flynn says, "With their dogmatic refusal to put an end date on the proposed plant's use for producing climate-killing urea, Hiringa and Ballance Agri-nutrients are giving wind energy a bad name in one of the regions where important opportunities exist to use wind as a means of transition away from oil and gas."

"Of course, Greenpeace supports wind power and green hydrogen, but not if it's being used to create the products that cause climate change, kill rivers and contaminate drinking water.

"Fonterra and the dairy industry are New Zealand's biggest climate and freshwater polluters, and it is synthetic nitrogen fertiliser that drives that pollution," says O'Flynn.

O'Flynn says urea is the primary form of synthetic

nitrogen fertiliser, and to make it, you need hydrogen. For urea synthesis, hydrogen is the building block for ammonia compounds, which are used as a feedstock for urea production. In the process of making ammonia and urea, hydrogen is the most sought-after commodity because it does not freely exist in nature.

The Kapuni factory, built in 1982 under Robert Muldoon's "Think Big" program, is the only place in New Zealand where urea is made. The dairy industry uses 63% of all synthetic nitrogen fertilisers in New Zealand.

O'Flynn says, "If we are to solve climate change and protect our rivers and drinking water sources, we need to phase out the use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser and significantly reduce the number of dairy

## Creative Plate Crafting

Talk to me about one of my existing designs or creating something special just for your home, garden, business or personalised gift.

Melanie Thompson

027 306 8048

coastalwelders@xtra.co.nz



## ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE

Call our advertising team on  
**06 761 7016**  
and get a 16.3% discount off our normal rates \*

\*When you commit to an ad this size in each issue for 12 months and quote this number: 1807122

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

FOR ADVERTISING THAT WORKS!

Delivered free to rural Taranaki homes fortnightly | Available at newstands in Opunake, New Plymouth, Waitara, Stratford, Hawera and Inglewood.

## TransAg Centre Ltd. AGRICULTURE

... and proud of it



SPECIAL PRICING AVAILABLE



NEW PLYMOUTH

65 KATERE ROAD

PARTS/SERVICE: 06 758 2274

SALES: PAUL STANTON 027 498 7277

HAWERA

16 GLOVER ROAD

PARTS/SERVICE: 06 278 5119

SALES: RAYMOND 027 444 8861

### CUB CADET LE17.5 PETROL RIDE ON



NOW \$5,899

### CUB CADET LE18 V2 PETROL RIDE ON



~~\$6,999~~  
ON SPECIAL \$6,599

### LAWNMASTER 22 TONNE LOG SPLITTER

NOW \$3,299



### LAWNMASTER COMMERCIAL 21" GLADIATOR MOWER PRO

NOW \$1,799



WE PICK UP AND DELIVER TARANAKI WIDE

STIHL SHOP HAWERA

25 Glover Road, Hawera

Ph: 06 278 4753 Fax: 06 278 5682

Email: hawera@stihlshop.co.nz

STIHL SHOP  
Outdoor Power Equipment

www.stihlshop.co.nz

# Coastal Taranaki School Head students



**Zak Fougere, Thomas Moffitt and Connor Rayner Coastal Taranaki School Head Students 2024.**

The two Co-Head Boys at Coastal Taranaki School for 2024 are Zak Fougere and Connor Rayner – both are aged 17.

The Deputy Head boy is Thomas Moffitt aged 16.

**Zak Fougere**

“I was pretty glad to be chosen, to be honest. Being a leader has excited me.” He is looking forward to being a

role model for the younger students.

This year Zak’s subjects include maths, physical education and his favourite woodwork. He is also involved in the Build a Bach project at WITT (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays).

In his role as leader Zak intends to make a case for the school providing more

water fountains –perhaps one for every two classrooms. He also wants to push for a more inviting outdoor area, with improved seating, “For teachers to take their classes outside on nice sunny days.”

For relaxation he enjoys jogging, especially on the beaches.

As regards work when he leaves school, he is keen to

undertake an apprenticeship, either in building or tattooing. He also intends to obtain a forklift licence, as he is interested in becoming proficient in forklift driving.

**Connor Rayner**

“I was really surprised and excited to be chosen as a leader. There are a lot of opportunities when you are higher up (in the school).”

This year Connor’s subjects include maths, english, design, art and physical education; the latter two are his favourites. He is also studying restaurant service at WITT two days a week (Monday and Tuesday).

In his leadership role he intends to promote team games, such as basketball.

Connor’s interests include playing basketball (he plays centre), as well as beach walks.

As regards a vocation he explains that he already works part time at The Warehouse. However, he intends tertiary study at Massey University so he can graduate with a degree in sociology. He intends a career as a social worker.

**Thomas Moffitt**

“Being a student leader was a bit of a goal. I was proud,

surprised and very excited to be chosen.”

His subjects this year include science, woodwork (his favourite), agriculture, english and he also attends WITT three days a week.

As a leader Thomas wants to build up team spirit in the school and to ensure the students are sufficiently motivated to set goals and work towards achieving them.

His interests revolve around his upbringing on the family farm. He enjoys doing farm work, such as hay and silage. “I enjoy ‘hands on’ work,” he comments. He also has an agriculture contracting job on a part time basis.

As to the future, when Thomas leaves school he definitely intends doing a trade, possibly to do with agriculture.

## Rahotu School New Teacher Baylie Bright

Kia ora Rahotu whānau and community.

My name is Baylie Bright, and have joined the teaching staff of Rahotu School.

I am 26 years old and this will be my third year teaching.

I have grown up my whole life on the coast, and still live locally with my wife Taylah. I am excited to be

teaching at Rahotu as I have a connection to the school as it is where I attended my primary school years and also completed my first teaching practicum there.

I’m big into sport and specifically football and hope to get involved with this at the school and with the students. I look forward to getting to know the students and meet all of you as well.



**Baylie Bright**

# Harcourts

DID YOU KNOW YOUR  
EMPTY FARM HOUSE  
COULD BE BRINGING IN  
A NEW INCOME?

All farm houses come under the same law as urban rentals and need to comply with the Healthy Homes Standards.

CALL ME TODAY FOR AN  
APPRAISAL!

**Colin**

Tyler

Property Manager

P 06 758 4397

M 027 542 1853

# Full range of precast concrete in stock

**Box Culverts - bearers – pipes – troughs – inspection pipes – lids – custom made certified bridge decks.**

Come and see our engineering staff, they’re qualified and ready to help.

**Peter Kuriger Engineering & Concrete**

**889 Upper Kaweora Road – Opunake - 0274 526 718**



# First home buyer market share sets new record

Interest rate hikes and turbulent property market conditions through 2023 did little to deter first home buyers (FHB), whose market share hit a new record high at 27% in the final months of the year.

Figures from the CoreLogic January Housing Chart Pack shows FHB activity hit 27% in December and in quarter four overall, taking their total market share for 2023 to 25.8%, well above the previous peak of 23.1% in the 2021 calendar year.

CoreLogic NZ Chief Property Economist Kelvin Davidson said FHBs may have been the biggest

property market success story of 2023.

“This is the first time FHBs have ever out bought other buyer groups,” Mr Davidson said.

“There are a number of reasons for their relative resilience, but key factors include access to KiwiSaver to boost the deposit, a willingness to compromise on location or property type, the ability to tap the low deposit lending speed limits at the banks, and less competition from other buyer groups,” Mr Davidson said.

Despite hitting a record share of purchases, the

number of purchases has been higher in the past, but relative to other buyers they are still showing some strength. FHBs accounted for approximately 17,000 property purchases in 2023, up from 14,500 purchases in 2022.

Mortgaged multiple property owners (MPOs, including investors) had a quiet 2023 – with only about 14,000 purchases or 21% of activity, both the lowest on record back to 2005.

Relocating owner-occupiers (movers) are also relatively quiet compared to past standards, with just 25% of activity over the

fourth quarter of 2023.

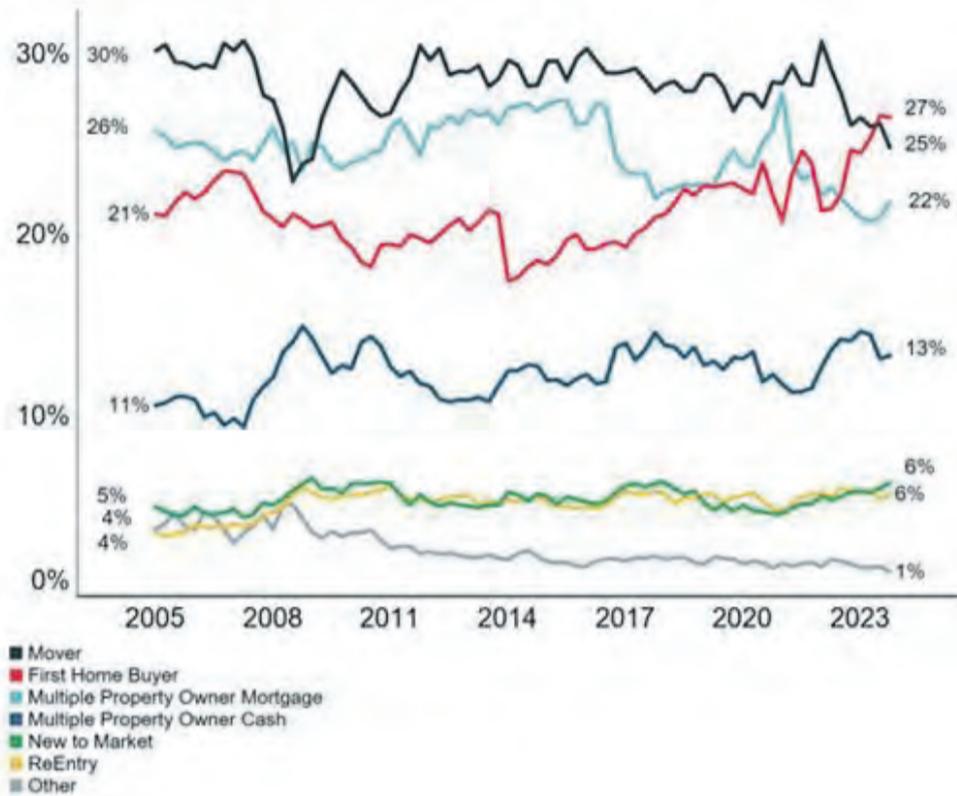
Mr Davidson said with loan to value ratio restrictions still biting, gross rental yields low, mortgage rates high, and the interest deductibility rules still against them, it’s not too surprising that investors’ purchasing activity has softened.

“That said, their market share has just started to edge higher in the past month or two, so they’re definitely a buyer group to watch as the market enters a new cycle.”

“Looking ahead, the overall property recovery is set to continue in 2024, but could be a little underwhelming,

given still-high mortgage rates and the prospect of caps on debt to income ratios later in the year. As property tax changes kick in with deductibility restored to 80% from 1st April, it will be interesting to see how investors’ demand responds,” he said.

% share of property purchases, New Zealand



## Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



## Looking after your cacti and succulents



Cacti and Succulents are easy care, low maintenance plants for containers, coastal gardens, or as accent plants. Providing form, colour and texture, they add interest to hot, dry, sunny gardens.

Cacti and succulents store water during wet periods and then draw on it in periods of drought. Cacti store water in their stems. Succulents have thick fleshy leaves that store water. Some are coated in a waxy substance to reduce water loss and others have spines to protect them from sunlight, drying winds and browsing animals.

Good drainage and at least half a day of direct sun is required. Add fine gravel, sand or pumice to the soil to improve drainage. Most

require protection from temperatures below 50C – Sempervivums and Sedums are the most cold-tolerant. In areas with heavy soils or frost, grow plants in containers.

Water regularly, but not excessively, during summer. Cacti and succulents rest in winter and don’t require watering at all. Avoid over-feeding and apply slow-release fertiliser in spring, and a weak solution of a soluble fertiliser such as Thrive in summer.

For aesthetic purposes, a fine layer of gravel, crushed shell or river-stones can be placed over the soil surface – this will help deter slugs and snails.

When planting in

containers, use Cacti and Succulent Mix which has the right amount of fertiliser and drainage. Water container grown plants once a week in spring and summer depending upon the weather, and intermittently in winter. In cold or wet weather move pots to a more sheltered, drier place to prevent root rot.

Slugs and snails can be a problem. Control with Tui Quash. Mealy Bug appears as soft fluffy patches. Control with Grosafe Groventive. Wrinkling and softening flesh indicates a root disorder. Reduce watering, plant into containers, or improve drainage by mixing sand, gravel or pumice into the soil.

## Property values rise 0.4% to kick off 2024

The CoreLogic House Price Index rose for the fourth month in a row in January, although the 0.4% increase was a deceleration in the pace of gains on both November (0.7%) and December (1.0%).

Since September’s trough, property values have now risen 2.5%, bringing the national average to \$928,184, or 11% below the recent peak.

In New Plymouth property values increased 0.8% in the last month, 3.0% in the last quarter and 1.5% in the last year. The average value of a property is \$716,288 or

4.6% below the recent peak.

CoreLogic NZ Chief Property Economist, Kelvin Davidson said the slowdown in the pace of monthly gains is a timely reminder the emerging recovery trend remains tentative and shows some variability from region to region.

“The mood in the housing market has certainly turned since the middle of last year, given a fillip by the change of government, and its property policies that are friendlier to investors. This mindset shift is reinforcing the effects of the underlying fundamental drivers, such as continued employment growth, and

high migration,” he said.

“The Reserve Bank’s proposals around loan to value and debt to income ratio rules, if enacted, will operate in tandem, however the DTIs may not bind straightway so the net effect on the market in the near term could be positive.”

“Certainly, some buyers will already be starting to anticipate a likely easing in the LVR rules from the middle of the year, which will allow more owner occupiers to purchase with less than a 20% deposit, and reduce the required deposit for investors from 35% to 30%.”

**Palmer's**  
NEW PLYMOUTH

**let's grow together**

**PALMERS GARDEN CENTRE OF THE YEAR**

**CAFÉ BOTANNIX**

**THRIVING GARDEN CENTRE BUSINESS FOR SALE**

Cnr Katere and Devon Roads Fitzroy  
Ph: 06 758 7455

**COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPING EVENT DIY HIRE**

**THT**  
TOOL HIRE TARANAKI

100% Locally Owned & Operated

**FITZROY + SPOTSWOOD • THT.CO.NZ**

# An old fashioned butchery with a contemporary feel

The Oakura Meat Co and Fine Foods has opened in Oakura.

Selling a range of good quality meat the owners, Vaughan and Stacey Coveny, say they try and source as much produce as they can locally.

A qualified butcher for over 30 years, Vaughan also makes his own sausages. He also cuts his own steaks guaranteeing "the perfect steak," says Stacey, adding there are not a lot of butchers who have their own business these days.

"It's important to us that people can buy what they need and pick and choose what they want," says Stacey. Some of their produce is organic.

They also stock a range of



Vaughan and Stacey Coveny in their new business in Oakura.

condiments, sauces, olive oils and relishes as well as good quality cheeses.

Another unexpected

sideline they sell is the Italian ice cream gelato. With a great selection of 14 different flavours the gelato is proving popular and getting customers into the shop. They've even come up with a doggie gelato. "The dogs love it," says Stacey.

The couple, both very hands on, are keen to provide a personal service and enjoy chatting to customers. Stacey was previously involved in the travel industry "till Covid came along." She says she loves customer service and comments, "It's very hard to get good service."

They are also keen to get rid of packaging and meat

trays. The customer leaves with their produce wrapped in brown paper like the old-fashioned butchers.

The distinctive building - originally a surf shop, Vertigo - next to Serial Griller has been completely refitted. With a contemporary look the interior has been purpose-built, designed with our vision and goals with what we want to sell, says Stacey. "People can see and chat to Vaughan and watch what he's doing."

They opened two weeks ago and have had nothing but good feedback from locals.

Stacey also designs canvas wall hangings which hang

decoratively behind the counter and have attracted a lot of comment. One features all the street names in Oakura. She may put the designs onto tea towels and coffee mugs in the future and sell them.

ideal for campers who don't have the means to store large amounts of meat.

Vaughan is a surfer while Stacey describes herself as a traveller who loves the beach.

The Oakura Meat Co is open Tuesday to Sunday from 10am till 6pm.



Bringing back the "Old School Butcher" so you can buy only what you need.

- Quality fresh cuts of Beef/Lamb/Free Range Pork/Chicken
- Quality NZ Cheese & Cheese Tastings
- Hand made sausages made on site
- Award winning NZ made condiments
- Mokau Butchery bacon and salami sliced to your requirements
- Scooped Gelato (including a special dog Gelato - created by us)
- Gift vouchers
- Personalised service and recommendations

Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date on new products and specials

OPEN TUESDAY - SUNDAY 10am-6pm  
1139 South Rd (behind the bottle store)  
Ph 06 7521157 Email: info@oakurameat.co.nz



The Oakura Meat Co.

SKIN  
ON FORTY-FIVE

Book a FREE Spot Check Now.



Are you concerned if a mole is 'just a mole' or whether it's something more sinister?

Book in for a FREE Spot Check with us and we can examine the area of concern and if you need treatment we can discuss these options with you.

- SCCA Accredited Skin Cancer Clinic
- Taranaki's only MoleMap provider
- Integrated with experienced Doctors to ensure all your skin concerns are addressed not just your skin cancer concerns.
- Southern Cross Affiliated Provider
- NIB First Choice Provider
- Integrated with Cosmetic and Aesthetic services for optimal management of all your skin concerns.

Book a FREE Blepharoplasty Suitability Assessment Now.



Is saggy skin above your eyes causing you to appear tired or impacting your vision?

Blepharoplasty is a surgical procedure that removes excess skin from the upper and or lower eyelids with the effect of improving vision and addressing the appearance of ageing and tiredness.

Precision Blepharoplasty provides an effective and safe solution to this condition with minimal downtime and great long term outcomes.

The procedure is performed under local anaesthetic with procedural sedation and takes about 120 minutes from your arrival in the clinic to having you heading home.

Surgical Blepharoplasty generally has effects that last for 10-12 years before the natural ageing process continues its inevitable work.

\*\*Some insurance providers will cover Blepharoplasty for significant visual impairment.

Book a FREE Varicose Vein Assessment Now.

Get your Veins sorted with Taranaki's Gold-standard non-surgical RFA team, with minimal or no time required off work and guaranteed results.

We have a wide range of treatment modalities at our disposal designed to provide the best service for each case.

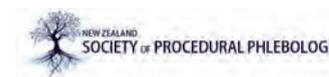
Radio Frequency Ablation (RFA) - recognised as the gold standard treatment for Varicose Veins giving the best outcomes with the fastest recovery and resolution of your veins. Surgery is no longer needed for the treatment of Varicose Veins.

Ultrasound Guided Sclerotherapy (UGS) - always used in conjunction with RFA for the smaller and tortuous veins. It is also used to treat the cases where RFA can't be used due to the complex nature of some people's veins.

Microsclerotherapy (UGS) - is available for reticular and spider veins for great cosmetic results.

Nd:Yag Laser Sclerotherapy - For the non-invasive treatment of small spider veins and facial telangiectasia.

\*We offer private payment plans and provide insurance accredited services for all the main providers.



100%  
TARANAKI  
OWNED &  
OPERATED

Skin Cancer Surgery/Management . Eyelid Surgery . Varicose/Spider Veins Appearance Medicine . Mole Mapping . RF Needling . Laser Hair Removal

Quality skin, vein & cosmetic care you can trust. 51 Egmont Street, New Plymouth . 06 927 3491 . skinonfortyfive.co.nz

# Numbers up on Festival of Lights

Up to 175,000 visitors were at NPDC's TSB Festival of Lights 2023/2024 summer season— 20 per cent more than last summer's festival.

The five-week festival in New Plymouth's Pukekura Park which featured almost 90 events and 14 light installations.

NPDC's Events Lead, Lisa Ekdahl says she was delighted with the turnout, continuing the consistent growth the festival has experienced in recent years, particularly after being crowned New Zealand's Favourite Event for 2021.

"Observing both locals and out-of-town visitors enjoying the lights and music experience we offer every season is incredibly rewarding. The dedication put into organising this free event becomes truly meaningful when met with such overwhelming support."

Lisa says that the great weather played a big role

in the event's success, with only a handful of event changes needed.

"This event has a huge team behind it with council staff, sponsors, contractors, and volunteers putting in the mahi to support the running of this event. We are thankful to all of those involved."

The 2023/2024 TSB Festival of Lights ran from 16 December 2023 to 21 January 2024.

Up to 140,000 people have visited the TSB Festival of Lights in New Plymouth's Pukekura Park in recent years.

In 2022 the TSB Festival of Lights won two New Zealand Event Association Awards from their last season, including Best Government Event 2023 and New Zealand's Favourite Event 2021 (as voted by the public).

Up to 10,000 people attend the festival's free New Year's Eve event.



This year's TSB Festival of Lights attracted around 175,000 visitors. Photo Charlotte Curd.

## The Golden Girls



Winifred Corrigan and Diane Forsyth.

On the third Wednesday of every month a group of local ladies get together for a roast meal at the Club Hotel. It is an occasion to get together, meet friends, reminisce etc. This lunch is a continuation of the lunch we used to have at the Event Centre before COVID. One of our ladies decided it was time to give

the occasion a rebirth. There were no caterers at the Event Centre but Mine Host at the Club Hotel bravely decided to cater for us pensioners.

"Pensioners?" says Mary. We are not old. We are the Golden Girls, and so we are. Our first lunch was in September. It was great. October, November, just

as good. Our December Christmas lunch was enjoyed by the 39 people who attended. Our next get together will be on the third Wednesday in March.

Age is something you grow into. Thank God it doesn't happen overnight.

Pat Dudley.



An artist's impression of upgraded Windsor Walkway.

## Million dollar upgrade for Windsor Walkway

Going for a stroll in Inglewood will be even easier once the Windsor Walkway is sealed by NPDC.

The work on the \$1.3m project will see 3.7km of the walkway concreted that is currently loose metal or grass berm.

"When it's finished, it'll

be an all-weather walkway separated from the road, that'll be much safer and easier for everyone to use," says NPDC Councillor Marie Pearce.

"This new sealed walkway will allow more people to explore a beautiful part of our district whether you're walking the dog, out with a stroller or on a mobility

scooter."

The Windsor Walkway is a 4.5km loop in the south-eastern part of the town. This upgrade is expected to be finished later this year, weather permitting, and will include elements of cultural expression through a partnership with Pukerangiora Hapū.

## Why can't insects resist the allure of lights at night?

Why there's always a cloud of insects buzzing around your outside lights at night has remained a bit of a mystery since the Romans noticed they could use lights to trap insects, but now international scientists have shed some light on the

reason. They say artificial lights make it hard for flying insects to orient themselves to the horizon, after using high-speed infrared cameras to track insects' flight in 3D, both in the wild and in the lab. They found insects correct

their course so their backs are facing towards a light source. When that light source is the sun, this allows them to hold a steady flight path oriented to the horizon. But artificial light means they're constantly and erratically correcting their flight path, causing vertigo

and making it appear that artificial lights are attracting them.

The authors say we can improve the lives of insects by keeping artificial outdoor light at night to a minimum.



Artificial light is attractive to insects.

Photo New Scientist.

# Over 600 exhibits at Summer Show

Over 600 exhibits at Summer Show

The weather outside may have said otherwise but this year's Hawera Horticultural Society Summer Flower Show turned on a summer treat.

"There's over 600 exhibits and a really high standard," Society president Paul Lander said shortly after doors opened on Saturday for the two day show at the Hawera Community Centre. "We are blessed with the number and variety of plants and flowers. It's incredible to see the range of dahlias, gladioli and roses."

Also impressive was the number and standard in the Children's section

"It's nice to see the younger people," says Paul. "We've been trying to encourage the children and it seems to be working. We've got some great children's exhibits. It's amazing the creative talent some children have. For a long time we were struggling to get any, but I'm really pleased with the number we've been getting the last few shows."

Another feature of the show was the number of gladioli on show.

"It's a while since we had



Gladioli made a welcome return to the Summer Show.

gladioli," said Paul. He says this is a flower which is not as fashionable as it once was

but this year a large number were being exhibited by Whanganui grower Wayne Hughes.

Judging the gladioli was well known Hawera horticultural identity, club patron and past president Spud Brogden.

Spud is perhaps better known for growing daffodils but he has previously also grown gladioli and had competed against Wayne Hughes.

"Sometimes I would be first and other times he would be first, but now there's just him on his own. There's only one other guy who competes on the same scale," says Spud. "I thought it might have been a bit late in the season for good gladioli but he got them there and done very well."

Spud was admiring the vegetable table. "That's a very very good bench of vegetables," he says. "This show's terrific."

At 90 years-old he still keeps his hand in, although where once he grew

thousands of daffodils, he now grows hundreds. At this show he picked up a first with his begonia and a second in the vegetables.

Also enjoying the show was Mervyn Hawkes from Eltham.

"It's a good crowd and

this would be our biggest number of entries in years," he said. Mervyn had brought along some of his Adriatic lilies, something which he says he has been growing for the past 10 years.

"It's just a small addiction but it's growing," he says. "Some people don't like the scent of lilies, but there are lilies out there that don't have scent. I think there's a lily out there to suit anyone. You don't have to be an expert to show. You don't know until you put something on the bench. If you enjoy doing it have a go."

He says the wind had been "a bit strong" in the last couple of weeks but it was reasonably sheltered in his garden.

"As summer comes you've got to keep the water up to them. They're big feeders and like to be fed."

A few years ago the show was extended from a one-day to a two-day show, a change which Paul says has worked well. Another change, brought in last year, was having an autumn show in addition to the Society's Summer and Spring shows. It's something Paul is looking forward to have again in the first weekend of May.

"It's amazing how well the first one went. Hopefully we can make it a regular feature."



Spud Brogden (right) with Alan Jenkins admires the Vegetable table.



Entries in the children's section drew a lot of interest.

# Study reveals impact of internet use on test scores

Mobile internet access is hurting student test scores, according to a recent study.

The research paper, titled '3G Internet and Human Capital Development', shows that test score declines are most significant among female students, students whose parents have less education and those in lower-income countries.

These groups also exhibit the largest increases in daily internet browsing following the introduction of 3G networks.

Study co-authors, University of Auckland

economics lecturer Sam Stemper and Harvard PhD candidate Ronak Jain, utilised test score data from over two million students across 82 countries, including Aotearoa, through the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA).

They also leveraged the staggered rollout of 3G technology to investigate the impact of mobile internet access on student academic performance over nearly two decades from 2000 to 2018.

By linking 3G mobile network data to students' test scores, they discovered

that having access to mobile internet leads to more young people owning smartphones and using the internet. In turn, this is linked to lower test scores in all PISA subjects.

"Our research sets the stage for a more in-depth exploration of how internet usage has become ingrained in students' lives, impacting not only their academic pursuits but also various other aspects," says Jain.

To gain insights into students' engagement, social connectedness and mental wellbeing within the school context, the researchers

look at homework hours, absenteeism, ease of making friends, sense of belonging and self-efficacy.

"We find evidence that measures of social connectedness and mental health—namely, ease of making friends and feeling a sense of belonging—worsen after the arrival of 3G," says Dr Stemper, who controlled for data on student gender, school type, age, immigration status and parental education.

They also harness student responses to the Information Communication Technology

questionnaire, which is optional among countries participating in PISA. It includes questions about students' technology use, digital competencies, and attitudes toward information and communication technologies.

Among students interviewed in 2012, 2015 and 2018, 90 percent had a smartphone at home, and the average daily number of minutes spent online was 250 - about four hours.

"After the arrival of 3G coverage, students spend an additional 40 minutes on the internet every day. In turn,

3G expansion is associated with large declines in student test score performance across all subjects," says Stemper.

"Education policy has a role to play in regulating the use of phones in schools, but it goes far beyond that in terms of how we're thinking about our focus and attention in other areas. All of us have changed the way we spend time - whether we're scrolling during dinner or while watching TV, access to high-speed mobile internet is affecting every element of our lives."

# Young shearer on the rise

While most teenagers are winding down for a relaxing summer ahead, Gisborne's Jodiesha Kirkpatrick is sharpening the combs and cutters for her first crack at full-time shearing.

The 17-year-old grabbed the farming world's attention recently when Federated Farmers posted a photo showing Jodiesha holding her 200th lamb shorn in one day.

Jodiesha says she's very much still learning, but she's proud to have hit the milestone.

"I started doing all the last sides for dad on his farm about two years ago, when I was 15. The last side is the easiest part of the sheep to shear, so he'd make me do

that.

"I didn't know how to shear a full sheep until last year and this main shear coming up over summer will be my first full-time shearing.

"I just want to get better, and my next goal is 200 ewes."

Jodiesha reached her impressive 200-lamb tally in November while shearing for Federated Farmers national meat & wool chair Toby Williams, on his Pihitia Station just north of Gisborne.

Williams describes the teenager as "a fantastic shearer" who takes her time and focuses on quality.

"The big thing about Jodiesha is she didn't rush out and try to do 200 - she



With mum LilyBeth and brothers Donald and Ian at her side, teenager Jodiesha Kirkpatrick takes a breather after shearing 200 lambs in a day for the first time.

just did 200 really well-shorn sheep.

"There's a saying among the good shearers that you focus on quality and the pace will come. Jodiesha's parents, Ian and LilyBeth, have instilled that in her and in all their shearers. It's about quality, with nice pink sheep coming out.

"She's got really soft hands when she's shearing. Each blow counts and is exactly as she wants it."

Those in the shearing community won't be surprised at Jodiesha's prowess with a handpiece, given her pedigree.

Ian and LilyBeth were, until recently, long-time shearing contractors and organisers of the Gisborne

Shearing and Woolhandling Championships at the Poverty Bay A&P Show.

Jodiesha's brother Ian (junior) was the 2008 top-ranked intermediate shearer and winner of both the Golden Shears and New Zealand Shears intermediate finals, a treble he repeated in the senior grade in 2009.

Meanwhile, her uncle John Kirkpatrick is a legend of the sport, winner of more than 200 Open titles worldwide, including World Championship 2017, multiple Golden Shears Open titles and New Zealand Shears Open titles.

There's plenty of other shearing and sporting talent in the Kirkpatrick line.

Jodiesha has already

achieved competitive success too, including third in the junior shearing final and second in the junior woolhandling final at the Central Hawke's Bay A&P Show in Waipukurau in November.

"That's pretty bloody fantastic," Williams says. "To get a place in a final in your division for either wool handling or shearing is an incredible achievement, but to achieve both in the same show at that age is exceptional."

Jodiesha says she finished school at 15 because she knew what she wanted to do

for a living.

"I left school to help my parents with their shearing contract - they needed some more workers - but mostly because I like doing it. Shearing is what I see myself doing in the future."

Shearing is far more than just a job, she says.

"I like that I get to be by myself and do my own thing, and I really like the physical side of it.

"It's good money but it's also a good lifestyle and it can take you heaps of different places, getting you out of your hometown. And working with heaps of older people is cool because I learn a lot from them, and I enjoy hearing their stories."

Jodiesha has already worked as a rousie in the South Island and is keen to shear in other parts of the country. Overseas destinations high on her list include Italy and Australia.

People she's inspired by include her dad, brothers, and boss Tama Niania, who owns the run formerly owned by her parents.

Williams says there's no doubt Jodiesha's one to watch.

"She's a dedicated young girl. She left school early to pick up a profession that will take her all around the world. She's going to go a long way."

Where does Jodiesha see herself 10 years from now?

"Still shearing, going faster," she says.

*Ben Chapman-Smith*

**We welcome your contributions**

**Please send to**

**editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz**

## NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

**For all your  
Livestock requirements  
Servicing the Coast**

*Contact*

**Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511**

**Sheldon Keech - 027 222 7920**

## NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

**WANTED TO BUY**

**Dairy Herds and Dairy Heifers  
for the coming season**

*Contact:*

**Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511**

**Sheldon Keech - 027 222 7920**

**Get your races sorted this summer**

**10 tonne or 1000 tonne!  
We have you covered.**

- Delivery direct to farm
- Deferred split payment over 3 months.

**Grader also available for Hire**

**Phone now to book yours  
0800 707 404 - option 1**

# Recycled posts boost cyclone recovery

In a win for the environment and cyclone-hit farmers, damaged fence posts are being given a new lease of life instead of being sent to landfill.

Cyclone Gabrielle slammed a number of Hawke's Bay orchards and vineyards, including fence posts holding up wire trellis for vines and supporting smaller trees.

To support relief efforts and as part of the Hawke's Bay Silt Recovery Taskforce, Repost Fence Posts have so far recycled and donated 12,400 of these treated timber fence posts.

Repost work to repurpose the posts by grading them, removing nails, clips and plastic, cutting them to size, and then bundling them up ready for farmers' fence lines. The posts include full, quarter, half and strainer posts of 1.6m, 1.8m and 2.4m lengths.

Throughout November, with help from Federated



**Landfill avoided: Repost posts back on duty on a Hawke's Bay farm.**

Farmers, the posts have been donated to rural communities on the East Coast, including at Otane, Pōrangahau, Pākōwhai, Esk Valley, Tutira and Wairoa.

Brothers Greg and Mark Morice, who run an orchard and sheep and beef farm at the top of Dartmoor Valley, Puketapu, say they're "extremely appreciative" of those who've helped to get their operation back on its feet, including Federated

Farmers and the Farmy Army, Commence the Re-Fence, and now Repost.

"We had five hectares of orchard, but when the flood came over the top of the Dartmoor Valley stopbank, we ended up with a couple of hundred tonnes of timber smashing through and wiping out two hectares of trees," Greg says.

"It left the remaining three hectares non-viable to farm." Slips in the hill country

of their pastoral operation damaged or tore out more fencing.

Greg says the efforts of the Farmy Army and Commence the Re-Fence to restore 1.2km of vital fencing, was "seriously cool".

The brothers are using recycled vine posts from Repost for fence repairs up in their hill country gulleys.

"We were given about 80 posts and 20 angles. Buying that stuff new would take quite a bit of money," Greg says.

"It's helped us get our infrastructure back up and running much sooner than we'd have been able to afford to."

Dirk Walden, who runs sheep and beef at Maraetotara, is also grateful for donated Repost fences.

Despite "never experiencing a storm like it before", Dirk says his way of coping with the significant damage to his tracks, fences, culverts and other infrastructure was to keep chipping away at repairs himself.

Nevertheless, the bundles of posts from Repost "was amazing, and I'm grateful", he says.

Repost owner Greg Coppel says that now the dryer months are coming, the ground will be easier for vital rebuild work to get underway.

"The rural community here are really struggling, but we're hoping these donated posts will help."

Repost, started in Marlborough is a sustainable recycling waste solution for broken vineyard and orchard CCA-treated timber waste posts.

To date, they've saved 5,052 tonnes from landfill in Marlborough and are hoping to do the same in Hawke's Bay. They've also supported

farmers nationwide to fence over 4,175km of fence lines.

Darren de Klerk, who heads the Silt Recovery and Waste Taskforce in Hawke's Bay, says thousands of horticultural and viticultural posts have been collected for re-purposing since the cyclone.

"It's great to see the amount of useful wood we've been able to redirect from landfill."

"Typically, with Repost, it costs \$4.50 per post to repurpose based on 1,000 posts per day, significantly cheaper than the estimated \$19 to dispose one post at landfill."

Federated Farmers Hawke's Bay president Jim Galloway says Repost's donation of 12,400 recycled posts for use on farms pummelled by Cyclone Gabrielle is a "fantastic demonstration of support."

"That's enough posts for restoring 40 to 50 kilometres of fence line by the Farmy Army and others, and that work is crucial for farm operations."

Galloway says the priority is to rebuild boundary fences to prevent stock from wandering onto roads, creating a health and safety

risk for both humans and animals.

But fences keeping stock out of waterways and internal farm fences were also destroyed in the cyclone.

"When internal fences are down, a farmer's ability to efficiently manage feed and stock movement is also undermined," Galloway says.

Farmers will appreciate that Repost fence posts have been recycled from orchards and vineyards.

"Farmers are environmentally minded and don't like to see anything wasted. This is a great re-use of a resource that has outlived another purpose," Galloway says.

Simon Edwards

**JUST TYRES**

DIRECT TYRE IMPORTERS

NEW TYRES - NEAR NEW TYRES - PUNCTURE REPAIRS - FITTING & BALANCING - 4x4 - LIGHT TRUCK & CAR TYRES

**SILAGE TYRES**

**FREE DELIVERY**

(Conditions apply)

20 Smart Rd, NP | 06 769 5344  
36 Glover Rd, Hawera | 06 278 3053  
justtyres@xtra.co.nz

## Third place



Oops we were mistakenly misplaced in the last issue of the paper. We are the speed camera elves that placed third in the Taranaki Catchment Communities Farm Art Competition that was located on Surf Highway 45 at Oaonui created by Staci Holmes  
Slow Down people!

**HIRE THE LORD OF THE TREE RINGS**

**TARANAKI'S LARGEST MOBILE LOG SPLITTER!**

Splits more than 50 cu/m in 8 hours just about anywhere on your farm.

Lifts and splits massive rounds straight onto your trailer.

\$200 per hour + GST including operator.

FOR MORE INFO, CALL JOE GOODIN  
TEL: 027 688 5372



### Prime Coastal Taranaki Dairy Farm

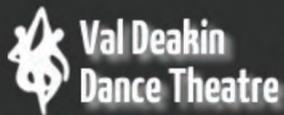
266 Pungarehu Road, Pungarehu

- 192ha of fertile land in four titles
- Currently milking approximately 490 cows, with production an average of 174,790kgMS over the last 3 years
- Very good H-shaped race system and excellent water supply
- Effluent system 8 year's old, permit until 2037 for up to 600 cows
- Travelling irrigator, spraying to 40ha
- 36 ASHB cowshed, several calf rearing/storage and implement sheds
- Four homes on farm; main being a 3-bedroom + office, swimming pool
- Vendors will consider a number of purchasing options from buyers

**For Sale**  
By Negotiation

**Viewing**  
By Appointment Only

 **Blair Burnett**  
021 190 7728



Val Deakin Dance Theatre

Val Deakin Dance School - Oakura Hall - supper room

**Tuesday afternoons:**

2:45 to 3:15 pm Pre school dance classes for ages 3 to 5. A range of fun and varied movements and stories  
3:30 - 4:15 pm Basic ballet class for children aged 5 - 7. Simple exercises, dances and stories . NO exams

**Friday mornings:**

Brand new adult class from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Basic ballet barre and then freer movements in the centre from a range of dance styles. No experience necessary. Dance for fun, fitness and skill.

All classes will start the week of February 19th.

For more information please contact Jane Roseman  
janeroseman@xtra.co.nz  
Phone 06 752 7743 Phone/text 027 694 0933

# Taranaki Year 9 and 10 are CD champions



Happy junior cricketers.

Taranaki's Year 9 and 10 boys' side are undefeated CD champions after a gutsy and thrilling last game win over Manawatu.

In a virtual final, and defending only a modest target of 151, the boys were always behind the game but ultimately proved they were

never out of the fight. With Manawatu requiring just 13 runs for victory, with plenty of overs and four wickets in hand, it looked as good as over, even more so when just two runs were needed with two wickets in hand. Instead, Tommy Ingram knocked over the last two to send Taranaki and their supporters into celebration mode.

Zac Dannefaerd had been the pick of Taranaki's attack, picking up three wickets for a miserly 17 runs off 10

overs, allowing Taranaki to take the pace out of the chase and give themselves a shot at the end. Joshua Taylor took 2/21 off seven, while Ingram finished with 3/31 off five.

Earlier Charlie Broadmore hit a crucial 47 with the bat to help Taranaki to a total that could be defended, after the rest of the top order had failed to fire. Nathan Fleming also contributed a valuable 29.

The team went undefeated through the tournament beating Whanganui in the

pre-tournament week nearest neighbour game, then picking up T20 wins over Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa, Marlborough and Horowhenua Kapiti and 50 over wins against Nelson and finally Manawatu.

The result also means Taranaki Cricket Association has both CD junior boys representative trophies in its cabinets for the winter, with the Year 11-12 boys having also won their tournament late last year.

## Schoolboy rugby players have more injuries the older they get

Researchers analysed data from 66 schoolboy teams from 35 secondary schools in England. Boys playing in under 18s had more injuries (and therefore more lost practice and game time) than their peers in under 15s and under 13s. The study, funded by the Rugby

Football Union, found that concussion was the most common injury faced by every age group, and contact incidents were the source of most (87%) of all recorded injuries. The team says previous research has also pointed to the same age-related trend, including

a large study of rugby-related injury insurance claims in New Zealand. The author team recommends we zero in on preventing concussions and tackles for all age groups.

BMJ Open Sport & Exercise Medicine

# Value Farm Sheds

CLEARSPAN OPTIONS AVAILABLE!

Value Farm Buildings are constructed from quality materials that last at prices you can afford. [Visit our website for full specs.](http://www.valuebuilding.co.nz)

**VALUE** Building Supplies

**BuildLink**  
Buy Better Build Better

**1 KATERE RD, NEW PLYMOUTH** PHONE: 06 759 7435  
**JAMES ST, INGLEWOOD** PHONE: 0800 245 535  
[www.valuebuilding.co.nz](http://www.valuebuilding.co.nz)

## NEXT EVENT

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10TH**

Mountain Motors Taranaki Saloon Champs

Stockcar & Minisprint Best Pairs

Wayne Trott Stockcar Memorial



Plus: Support Classes



**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 17TH**

NEW ZEALAND  
MINISPRINT

zodiac signs Championship Noonan Contracting

Plus: Taranaki Modified Champs & Ginge Hayward Memorial

Please visit our website or find us on Facebook to find more information on each race meeting, what's coming up each week and to see online ticketing options.

[www.stratford-speedway.co.nz](http://www.stratford-speedway.co.nz)



Proudly sponsored by

**MG TARANAKI**

# Opunake Beach Carnival

## Talent show winners



Mighty Muscles.



Sunblock Assassins.



Indiana Waugh sang How far I'll go from the movie Moana and placed first and her brother Gibson played the Star Wars theme on his cornet and placed third.

Rusty Campbell with the winners of the Big Dig.



Pie eating competition.



Candyfloss cuties.

### OPUNAKE BEACH IMPROVEMENT FEEDBACK

How do you think the Opunake Beach area could be enhanced? The Carnival Committee would love to hear your ideas of how to improve the beach area for everyone to enjoy.

Some suggestions so far have been  
Salt water pool/artificial rock pool  
- something off the rocks that fills at high tide and allows habitat for rock pool creatures at low tide. Interactive for kids.

Volleyball court on beach - either summer only or permanently

Love the seats x sand dune retention

Upgrade public toilets x 3

More umbrellas over the pool for spectators too

Shade sails for playground and the grass area

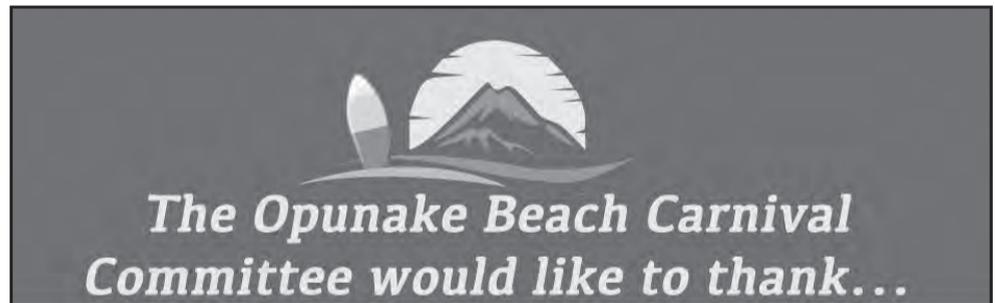
Host more events over summer like a SLC open day or sounds on the sands/Sunday sessions. Finish the reef to fix the surf break

Bring in summer activities an events for all the holiday season. Create an Opunake designation for families

Please send your suggestions to [opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com](mailto:opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com)



Lollies or the Bag drew a huge crowd to compete.



... the following businesses for their support for the 2024 Beach Carnival.

Campbell Contracting, Citizen Leather, Sugar Juice, Gibson Plumbing, Opunake Motel and Backpackers, Karams Clothing, Cecelias on Tasman, Coastal Agri, Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration, Agrimec Autos, Opunake Pharmacy, Turnheads, Country Connections, Hair Razor, Farmlands, Farmsource, Opunake Surf Inn, The Club Hotel, Surf Highway Wash & Dry Laundromat, Soul Kitchen, The Blue Dairy, Coastal Vets, Opunake Outdoors & Service, McDonald's Real Estate, Dreamtime Surf Shop, Classic Auto Repaints, Ihaia Motors, Māwhero Studio, Opunake Motors, Allied Opunake Service Station, Fabulous Flowers, Opunake Foursquare 45, Asian Cuisine Fish & Chips, Opunake Beach Holiday Park, Coastal 45 Goodz, Elite Farm Solutions, Opunake Boardriders Club.

Also thank you to Samantha Smith and Taylah Bright for managing the Pageant, Judges Tania Nixon, Isabella Borostyan and Wilma (Billie) Madison, Stage Presenters Sherrie Flanagan and Monica Willson, Volunteer Katie Sinclair, and Photographer Cleryse McLachlan.

The Committee are actively seeking Secretary and Treasurer and more members to join our small and dynamic group.

Please contact [opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com](mailto:opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com)

With special thanks to the South Taranaki District Council, Opunake Lions Club and Lakeside Lions Club.

OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE AGM

Wed April 17, 7pm

Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Event Centre  
[opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com](mailto:opunakebeachcarnival@gmail.com) | 027 4995203



**PROUD SPONSOR OF THE  
OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL  
OPUNAKE LIONS CLUB BIG DIG**

*Congratulations to the Carnival committee, Opunake Lions, Lakeside Lions, and volunteers for putting on a great day*

AVAILABLE FOR YOUR AUTUMN ON-FARM DIGGER PROJECTS. (14 & 22 TON DIGGERS AVAILABLE)

#### FEED FOR SALE

- Maize Silage • Hay squares & rounds
  - Barley & Wheat Straw • Silage bails
- Sort your feed budget out early and save*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:  
RUSTY - 027 280 0743  
NADIA - 027 555 2038  
REGGY - 027 633 0997

WWW.CAMPBELLCONTRACTING.NZ  
OFFICE.CAMPBELLCONTRACTING@GMAIL.COM

The Opunake Beach Carnival Committee are on the hunt for new members to contribute to our already amazing Carnival Day. We need input from our community to be able to continue to run this event. Please see our ad for contact details or come to our AGM (There will be snacks)

Here are some snaps from Carnival 2024

Enter Now - Will you be the next NZ Rose?  
[www.roseoftralee.ie/apply-to-be-a-rose](http://www.roseoftralee.ie/apply-to-be-a-rose)



2023 Taranaki Rose  
 Sophia Hickman

# Taranaki Rose Selection

Regional Final  
**Saturday 17th February 2024**  
 Plymouth International Hotel  
 New Plymouth 7pm  
**Tickets at Hotel reception**  
**\$40pp includes supper**



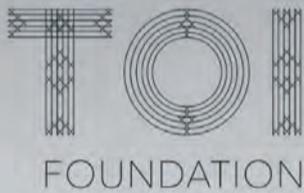
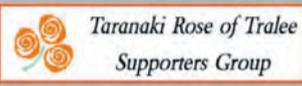
Special guest

Kelsi Wallace 2023 NZ Rose



Enjoy a night of Irish culture

Live Band Dancing  
 Cash Bar Raffles



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

## Publication Dates for 2024

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3						1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				
														31													

MAY							JUNE							JULY							AUGUST								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
			1	2	3	4						1				1	2	3	4	5	6						1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
							30																						

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		1	2	3	4	5							1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				

**DEADLINES:**

EDITORIAL - 5pm Thursday prior to publication.  
 DISPLAY ADVERTS - 5pm Friday prior to publication.  
 CLASSIFIEDS - 3pm Monday prior to publication.  
 Adverts and readers' contributions may be phoned, emailed, posted or dropped into the Opunake & Coastal News at 23 Napier St, PO Box 74, Opunake.  
 Phone (06) 761-7016 or a/h (06) 761-8206, Email: [ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)  
[www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](http://www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)  
 Phone/Fax (06) 761-7016



## Advertise your event in the Opunake & Coastal News

Call our sales team on  
 06 761 7016

## He walks like a man

The New Plymouth Operatic Society is gearing up for the final auditions of their next production, the G.J. Gardner Homes season of Jersey Boys.

Telling the story of Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Jersey Boys features all the classic songs you know and love; Walk like a Man, Sherry, Big Girls Don't Cry, Can't Take My Eyes Off Of You, Dawn, My Eyes Adored You and of course the well recognised, Oh What A Night.

Late in 2023, auditions were held for the leader of the Four Seasons - Frankie Valli and the society is excited to announce the casting of 23 year old Max Beal in the immortal role.

Vocally trained in classical singing, Max studied Voice at the University of Otago before embarking on a career in Musical Theatre. Recent performances include Patsy in 'Spamalot', Rapunzel's Prince in 'Into the Woods', Mickey in 'Blood Brothers',

Richard 'King Dick' Seddon in 'That Bloody Woman' Billy Flynn in 'Chicago' and most recently Mortiz Stiefel in 'Spring Awakening.' The highlight of Max's career has been playing the role of Frankie Valli in the 2023 Dunedin and Invercargill productions of Jersey Boys and he is thrilled to have the opportunity to play the role again.

Relocating to Taranaki, Max works in Insurance and is looking forward to knowing his new home and new work team, whilst in rehearsal for the show.

Auditions for the remaining roles happen on February 10 and 11, and hopefuls are welcomed to register online for an audition time at [www.npos.co.nz](http://www.npos.co.nz)

Directed by Carolyn Murphy, the 2024 season runs from July 4-20 at the TSB Showplace and tickets are available now at Ticketek.

**GOOD HOME** GASTROPUB NEW PLYMOUTH

# Valentine's Day Special

14 FEB, WEDNESDAY

**3 COURSE MENU WITH GLASS OF PROSECCO**  
**FREE GIFT FOR EVERY COUPLE**

**\$135 PER COUPLE**

**BOOKINGS@THEGOODHOME.CO.NZ . 06 758 4740**

**CALL OUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM AT THE**

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**  
 23 Napier St, Opunake  
**06 761 7016**

See how our high readership rate can work for you

# Game that changed a town to mark first 50 years

When basketball first came to Opunake it took the town by storm, and it has continued to do so. A little over 50 years later after the meeting that got things going Opunake Basketball will be celebrating that moment with a 50th Jubilee celebration on March 9-10.

In 1973 the sport now known as basketball was colloquially known as "Indoor" to distinguish it from the game now known as netball.

On March 7 1973 the Inaugural Meeting of the Opunake Indoor Basketball Association was held at the Opunake High School Gymnasium. This was only three months after the gymnasium which was to become the base of basketball in Opunake had been opened by local MP Venn Young. Officers elected at that first meeting were: Patron R.W.Burrow, Chairman Dave Cambie, Vice Chairman Dave Hopkins, Secretary M.Maindonald, Treasurer M.Gamlin. Committee. C.Simpson, J.Long, N.Maindonald, B.Quin, C.Cambie, L.Kensington, L.Clay, H.Gamlin, B.Armstrong. "It actually changed Opunake," says Bryan Roach who has been President of



Bryan Roach at the Opunake High School Gymnasium where the Opunake basketball story began.

Opunake Basketball since 2011. "It was a new sport which nobody before had ever played in Opunake. It was played at night time, under lights and was very popular in the early days. It was a big deal to go to the basketball."

The Association's first chairman Dave Cambie remembers playing basketball as a student at Hawera High School back in 1962. When he and wife

Christine went farming at Aura they would play basketball at Manaia but the court at the town hall wasn't big enough.

When basketball got going in Opunake he remembers players coming from as far afield as Okato, Rahotu, Kaponga and Hawera.

The recently opened Opunake High School Gymnasium was tailor-made for basketball. Bryan Roach said back then money had been short so the high school had had to raise some of the money themselves to get it built with various fund raisers which included a 24 hour disco danceathon where high school students would be sponsored to dance.

The High School Gymnasium continues to host basketball games although the opening of the Sandfords Event Centre (now the Sinclair Event Centre) meant another venue could be added.

Current Opunake Basketball president Bryan Roach has had a long association with the game in Opunake.

"When I was a teenager

forward to it.

Opunake Basketball has produced many successful basketballers who have achieved representative honours in Taranaki, regional and New Zealand teams. Eva Langton is currently in China as a travelling trainee with the Tall Ferns.

Bryan says somebody had told him that it was 50 years since the start of basketball in Opunake and although it was actually a year late they decided to go ahead and organise a jubilee.

Among the events lined up are fun games that will pit schools against schools and Masters against Masters. The Taranaki Mountain Airs and the Thunder representative

teams will also be there.

He says looking to the future, challenges include the increasing costs involved with playing sport and the difficulty of finding volunteers to serve on committees, referee and manage teams.

On a more positive note he says has been the setting up of Basketball Taranaki. They administer all regional and national tournaments on behalf of everyone from Taranaki and help out with coaches and coaching referees.

Meanwhile there is the jubilee to look forward to.

"That 50 years has gone pretty quick," says Bryan.

## You asked, we delivered.

### OOS Family Fish & Fun Day!!!

High tide will be at 11 36 so we'll want lines in water fairly quickly. This is specifically for beginners/learners only of ANY age. We will show you how to set-up your line, how to bait & cast & of course, how to reel your fish in & gut it.

There will be 2 prizes on the day:

1. 6ft fishing rod & reel combo & a small tackle box filled with goodies.

This prize is for anyone under 15.

2. 12ft rod & reel combo & a bigger tackle box of goodies.

This prize is for 16yrs & over.

Register at Opunake Outdoors & Service (formerly Collins Sports)



Lorraine Langton said you guys better come along to some of our meetings, and these would be held in the back bar of the Club Hotel."

"It's still the number one sport in New Zealand and the fastest growing sport in New Zealand. In the 80s we would finish at 11 o'clock just to get all the games in. Last year we played four nights a week."

He says that during the 80s and 90s the end of year function was "legendary," and people would look

## OPUNAKE OUTDOORS & SERVICE

### FAMILY FISH & FUN DAY

**LEARN HOW TO CATCH A FISH AND HAVE A CHANCE TO WIN YOUR OWN ROD & REEL**

*Feb 25, 9am start*  
*Kids \$2, Adults \$5*  
*Middletons Bay*

Only catch is .. you must be a beginner  
Register in-store at Opunake Outdoors and Service

Ph 021 306 668

## OPUNAKE INDOOR BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

# Jubilee Weekend

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th March 2024  
games start 10am

## JOIN US for a celebration BUFFET DINNER

Sunday 10th March 6pm

\$50.00 per person for adults and children 13 years and over  
Children 5-12 years \$15.00  
Children under 5 FREE

Reservation and payment to be made by 23rd February 2023 to Opunake Basketball 15-3952-0375583-000  
Use your surname as reference

All events and dinner to be held at Sinclair's Event Centre  
156 Tasman Street  
OPUNAKE

**RSVP TEXT ONLY to 027 630 0640 with all names and numbers or email [opunakebasketball@gmail.com](mailto:opunakebasketball@gmail.com)**  
**FOLLOW us on facebook**

## Looking for a fun activity to do this Valentines?

**Chaddy's Charters has something for all the family!**

**Call 06 7589133**

or book online [www.chaddyscharters.co.nz](http://www.chaddyscharters.co.nz)

**Gift vouchers available**

**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**

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm  
 (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)

**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.  
 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month Liturgy of the Word with  
 Communion at 8.45am.

Thursday Mass 9.30am (subject to change).

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**

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

**The Wave**

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

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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

**Okato Community Church**

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.  
 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

# Taranaki Racing to celebrate 125 years



Enjoying the action at the raceway.

Taranaki Racing Inc, a prominent entity in the world of horse racing, is gearing up for a momentous milestone as they proudly announce their 125th Jubilee Celebration. This remarkable achievement not only marks a significant chapter in the rich history of Taranaki Racing but also underscores the enduring legacy of this esteemed institution in the realm of thoroughbred horse racing. The 125th Jubilee celebrations promise to be a grand affair, bringing together racing aficionados, industry stakeholders, and the broader community to commemorate this remarkable journey at our Jubilee Raceday on Friday February 16 at New Plymouth Raceway.



John Wheeler, trainer.

The festivities are set to include a series of special guest speakers, showcasing the rich history of Taranaki Racing Inc, honouring legendary horses and jockeys, and highlighting the organisation's role in shaping the racing culture in New Zealand.

As part of our celebrations on Raceday we will be holding the inaugural Male vs. Female Jockey Challenge.

Horse Racing, whether as a jockey or trainer is the only sport where gender is a level playing field. Statistics confirm that gender has no influence on the performance of a racehorse. On Friday 16 February, 2024 we will be putting the 2022 findings of the University of Nottingham study to the test.

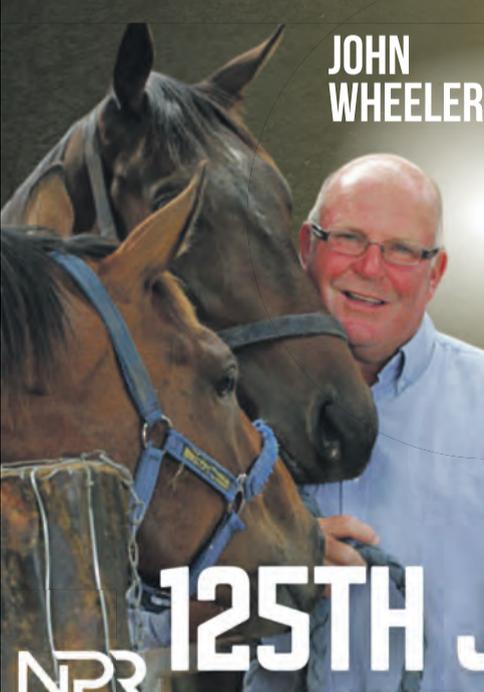
Jockeys from throughout New Zealand will be competing as individuals and teams with the aim of raising a significant amount of money for Breast and Prostate Cancer.



John Wright, cricketer.

TARANAKI RACING PRESENTS

# LUNCH WITH THE JOHNS



**JOHN WHEELER**



**JOHN WRIGHT**

## 125TH JUBILEE CELEBRATION

**FRIDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY**  
 JOIN US FOR A GREAT DAY OF RACING AND COMRADERY

**LUNCHEON - 11:30 AM**  
**FIRST RACE - 1:10 PM**

**\$99 TICKETS | WWW.NEWPLYMOUTHTRACEWAY.CO.NZ**



## BREWER'S UPHOLSTERY

**CARPET OVERLOCKING**  
 LOUNGE SUITES, ANTIQUES, OFFICE FURNITURE,  
 DINING CHAIRS, FRAME REPAIRS, GENERAL  
 UPHOLSTERY, PVC WELDING REPAIRS

**STEPHEN**  
 105 MANAWAPOU RD, HAWERA  
 PH 06 278 4337 OR 027 4491 437  
 brewersupholstery@outlook.com



**Advertise your event in the  
 Opunake & Coastal News**  
 Call our sales team on  
 06 761 7016

# A century of community celebrations

2024 marks the 100 years since the Tataraimaka Hall was built.

In June 1923, the Tataraimaka district had decided they needed to build a hall as at the time, the school was the only building suitable for social occasions and they had to send the children home, which interfered with their schoolwork.

The Tataraimaka Hall was designed by A.O Penwarden, and H.C Riley donated the land for the hall. Within a few months, many people had volunteered their time and contributed to the building of the hall, with the hall being opened on 22 August 1924.



**Tataraimaka Hall.**

When visiting my nana, Marie Richardson (nee Fleming), I asked her about

what she could remember about what events happened in the Tataraimaka Hall.

There were many dances, with a three-piece band up the front with Myra

Thomas being involved. The Tataraimaka Hall was the centre of the community where many meetings were held for the Patua Factory, euchre card playing parties, indoor bowls, table tennis, gatherings that included wedding receptions, farewell parties and 21st celebrations. She also mentioned the famous Christmas parties for the children.

Now, in 2024, the Tataraimaka Hall continues to be used by different groups including the 5 elements Fitness group, gymnastics group, wedding receptions, 21st parties and social events for local residents.

The Tataraimaka district is holding a community

event on February 24 to celebrate 100 years since the Tataraimaka Hall was established.

Throughout the day, a range of events will be held to suit all ages. The celebrations will kick off at 11am with a family picnic and children's games.

At 5.30pm there will be a Bush vs Beach challenge followed by a potluck tea.

For those who wish to stay on, the socialising will continue into the evening.

You can search the Tataraimaka Hall facebook page for further updates.

*Laura Richardson*

# Egmont A & P Show has something for everyone

This year's theme for the 2024 Egmont AMP Show is Number 8 wire. This could be taken figuratively or literally.

This year's show has something for everyone. Not only are we bringing the country to town with Alpaca, Pig and Miniature Horse showing, but our free entertainment includes Franklin Farms Freestyle Moto X performing again on Saturday. These daredevils will be supported by a selection of local Moto X riders showcasing their talent, holding their own competitions.

Billy Black will be here on Saturday and Sunday to entertain and educate with his Kiwi Culture Show. Taranaki Young Farmers are holding Farm Olympics events, including Reel & Standard timed challenge and a water trough challenge for youth in the oval, along with wood chopping displays by Taranaki Axemen's Association and Tug-O-War competitions. Taranaki Rugby will also be at the show on Saturday, so it's a great opportunity to meet our local NPC Rugby heroes.



**Freestyle MotoX is at the show on Saturday.**

Under the grandstand local artisans and crafters are holding workshops that will interest and educate. Bookings for these workshops are essential and can be made by contacting the tutor. There will also be some free educative chats and demonstrations at various times over the weekend. Local singing and musical talents are being showcased in the Expo Hall theatre, all throughout the weekend.

With the support of Tu Manawa, we are able to provide lots of free, fun Childrens entertainment all weekend long, including Bumper Balls, Mini Golf, Inflatable activities and for a small fee the Neighbourhood

Support Train will be travelling around the grounds.

Again, this year, we have a great selection of food trucks with so many different cuisines to tempt even the fussiest of eaters. Our Show Parade kicks off at 6pm on Saturday night, so why not make the most of free entry into the show from 5pm, watch the parade and enjoy your dinner in the showgrounds? Mahon Entertainments are remaining open until 8pm on Saturday night.

Along with all the excitement on offer, there will be a great display of Farmall tractors on site to help celebrate their 100 years. This is alongside the vintage machinery display. Our Small Animal tent will feature lots of animals for all to interact with and enjoy cuddling. In the Edna Wills Hall, the Leisure, Pleasure, Treasure section will display entries in many different show competition categories, it's still not too late to get your entry sorted and entered, especially our annual Scarecrow competition.

On Sunday, Hyway 45



**Tug-O-War competition.**

Cruisers are parking up, so there will be lots of unique and unusual vehicles for people to enjoy. So, if you're looking for something to do on February 24-25 come down to the Egmont A&P Show, Burnside Avenue, Hawera.

For further information regarding the Show, Parade, Workshops or becoming a member of the Association, please contact the Showgrounds Office 06 2788613, info@egmontshowgrounds.org.nz

## 24 & 25 FEB 2024

# EGMONT A&P SHOW

---

**Small Animal Tent**

**Tug-O-War**

**Carnival Rides**

**Vintage Machinery**

**Food Trucks**

**Kids Zone**

**Arts & Crafts**

**Workshops**

**Wood Chopping**

**MotorCross**

**Farming Comps**

**and soooo much more!**

**FREE ENTRY** from 5pm Saturday, Show Parade 6pm through the Showgrounds

**SCAN HERE FOR MORE**

Adults \$15

Seniors \$10

Under 18 with ID Free

*Celebrating 100 years!!*

## Tataraimaka Hall Centennial

24th February 2024

11am-2pm kids games & picnic  
Historic information & 1924 sign unveiling  
5.30pm Adult 'Bush vs Beach Challenge.....  
6.30pm Potluck Dinner  
Music and socialising to follow  
Free event, all welcome

**What can I bring?**

- Kids Picnic: picnic blanket & lunch, also kids...
- Bush vs Beach: sneakers & your game face!!!
- Potluck: a dish ready to share (dinner &/or dessert)
- BYO drinks, plates & cutlery
- Koha if wish

For more information visit our facebook event page or contact Peter 0273192631

Artist is Linda McFetridge

# Offshore Renewable Energy Forum returns to propel Aotearoa's low-emission future

This March, Ara Ake and Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki will host the 2024 Offshore Renewable Energy Forum.

It will be the fourth offshore energy event since its inception in 2020, and aims to bring together Iwi, key sector stakeholders and the broader community to discuss the opportunities that offshore renewables present Aotearoa New Zealand.

This year's theme is about recognising the interconnectivity of a future energy ecosystem, bringing together discussions about social licence, energy security, infrastructure, technology, consumer equity and job creation into one, holistic conversation.

"At past forum's we've discussed the rapid growth in offshore renewables and where New Zealand could be placed in this global movement. As New Zealand's future energy centre we are delighted to host this year's event in South



Jonathan Young.

Taranaki, alongside Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki," says Jonathan Young, Offshore Renewables Lead at Ara Ake.

Hosted in Hāwera, Taranaki, the two-day forum will cover international and domestic updates, social licence considerations, environmental factors, regulation, infrastructure, and industry capability.

"Renewable energy is a key part of our region's long-

term vision for a resilient, high-value, low-emissions economy. To realise this vision, and to make the most of both our industry expertise and immense offshore wind resource, we need strong collaboration between key stakeholders. This forum provides a critical platform to do that," says Kelvin Wright, Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki Chief Executive.

"We're excited to welcome new and returning industry players to Taranaki, including government, community and Iwi

representation, to progress the conversation."

The 2023 forum brought together more than 35 domestic and international speakers, with a diverse range of expertise to present ideas about the future development and research opportunities in offshore renewable energy. Last year's forum also looked closer at regulatory developments, environmental considerations and infrastructure planning, among other topics.

The 2024 Offshore

Renewable Energy Forum will take place at the TSB Hub, Hāwera on Wednesday 20 - Thursday 21 March 2024. Attendees can join the conversation either in person, or online, and will hear from a range of national and international experts over the two days.

Please contact Matt Lamb, matt@venture.org.nz, if you are a tertiary student wishing to attend this event (either in person or online), for free registration.

To purchase tickets, visit [www.eventbrite.co.nz](http://www.eventbrite.co.nz)

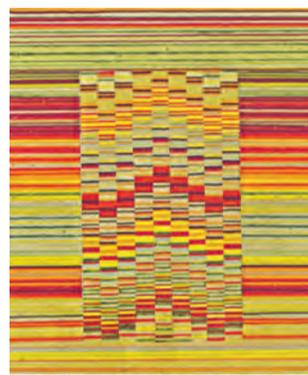
Ara Ake is Aotearoa New

Zealand's future energy centre. New Zealand Government-sponsored, it is focused on accelerating New Zealand's transition to a low-emissions energy future. Ara Ake is the national hub of new energy knowledge and development, connecting and collaborating with many different parts of the energy ecosystem. Ara Ake collaborates across the energy ecosystem to enable energy solutions to become commercially viable, to support the decarbonisation of Aotearoa New Zealand.

## Rosalind Fitz Patrick – Fused Glass Artist Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera

Supreme Winner of the Lysaght Watt Trust Art Awards 2023, Rosalind Fitz Patrick, Whanganui, presents a solo exhibition 805° at Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hāwera, February 5 – March 2, 2024. A previous background in the Auckland fashion and textile industry continues to heavily influence Rosalind's practice in fused glass art after graduating with a Diploma in Art & Design from UCOL in 2018. It was during studies at the college she was inspired by well-known Whanganui glass artist and tutor Kathryn Wightman.

The title of her upcoming exhibition reflects the 805° Celsius temperature many of her 90COE glass art works will reach to get to full fusing point in the kiln. On her



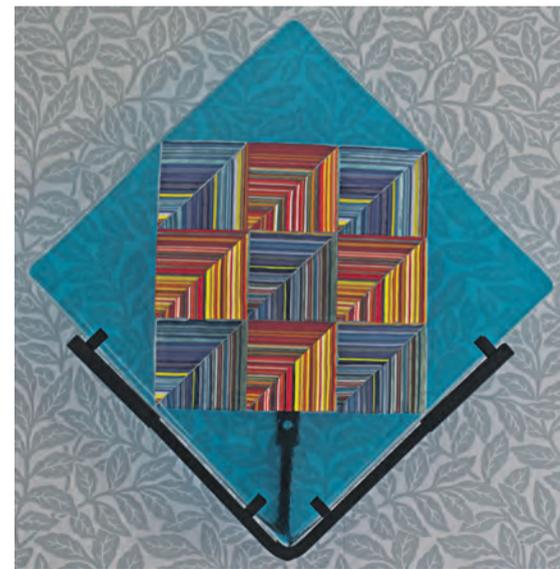
migration from the fashion and textile industry to fused glass art, Rosalind observes: 'Thread can be woven into patterns. Sand, in the form of glass can be melted into patterns. In textiles the loom is used to form patterns, in glass the kiln is used'. To create a new work, Rosalind may place pieces of coloured glass to form a chosen pattern often with clear glass over the top or experiment with a range of other techniques to create unique works of art. Alternatively, glass pieces are linked together with chain to create intricate wall hangings.

All artworks are designed and created in her 'somewhat messy and chaotic' home studio in St

John's Hill, Whanganui which sits separate to her house and garden. Most of the works are geometric in design and can be displayed on plinths, as wall panels or as wall hangings. In late 2023, the artist travelled to Australia to take part in a four day workshop run by accomplished studio glass artist Diana Wendt's Blue Dog Glass Art Inc in Melbourne. It was here that she learnt how to make pieces using pattern bars and thicker glass up to 2cm. Other important inspiration

has been through workshops with glass artists Carmen Simmons and Claudia Borello closer to home in Whanganui, a city well known for the decorative glass arts.

So, mark the exhibition dates in your calendar and come along and be inspired by Whanganui glass artist Rosalind Fitz Patrick. Lysaght Watt Gallery, 4-6 Union Street, Hāwera. Opening hours: 10-4 pm, Monday – Friday; Saturdays 10 – 1 pm, February 5 – March 2, 2024.



# 805°

## ROSALIND FITZ PATRICK FUSED GLASS ARTIST

FEBRUARY 5 – MARCH 2, 2024

4-8 UNION ST, HAWERA  
Open: Mon - Fri 10am - 4pm  
Sat 10am - 1pm  
[www.lysaghtwattgallery.co.nz](http://www.lysaghtwattgallery.co.nz)

**10TH FEBRUARY**

**LIVE BAND**

*Faultline*

4PC BAND COVERING ALL GENRES

Coming to the **Kaponga Hotel**

**10th February 9pm!!**

Gold Coin Entry

---

Annual LIFE FLIGHT Fundraiser

THIS YEAR WE ARE HOSTING A EAT A PIE,  
SINK A PINT & CHEW A CHILLI RACE FROM  
4PM TEAMS OF 3 \$5 EACH ENTRY  
7PM FRIENDLY POOL COMP \$5 ENTRY  
ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LIFE FLIGHT

**CONTACT THE  
PUB TO ENTER**

**06 7646 770  
OR PM**

**PRIZES, RAFFLES,  
FOOD ALL DAY**

## 2024 Offshore Renewable Energy Forum

**20-21 March 2024**

**TSB Hub, Hāwera**

[araake.co.nz/oref-2024](http://araake.co.nz/oref-2024)

hosted by

Future Energy Development

Te Puna Umanga

Tickets on sale now

MIND MATTERS

The editor of our local newspaper, Bernice McKellar, asked me if I would like to write about mental health issues in South Taranaki. We were in the Coastal Greengrocer at the time and I was trying to buy a burrito bowl for lunch. She suggested the readers of her paper might have questions they would like to ask. I like a challenge and so here I am. Let's see how it goes.



DR. ROBERT SHAW

Couples therapy is common these days. When people come to see me about their partner, they often say things like "she always blames me for ...", "if I ask him, he just ...", "he storms off and goes to work, nothing is ever settled...", "she will not talk about the real problems..."

"it was she/he who had the affair...". These sentences suggest the couple have a settled way of arguing.

They have a set pattern – a series of steps – which appears in every argument. What the argument is about may be a bit different from time-to-time, but the way it goes is always the same. Why is this? What can be done to help couples to see things in a new light?

There are different ways therapists might approach this situation. Often clients say, "just give me the tools," meaning that they want to learn how to fix the problem themselves and quickly! It is easy to buy a hammer, but it is real hard work to hammer on a roof all day. So it is with the tools – or

When couples argue

psychological steps one might take to improve a relationship which involves arguments. Knowing what to do (having the tools) and doing it (working on the problems) are two different things.

Many couples like the techniques of "Transactional Analysis" (known as TA). Therapists find Transactional Analysis easy to teach to their clients. TA is based on the idea that what we say, and what we do, may be classified into three categories: child, parent, adult. If someone storms out of an argument, their child self is in action (they are throwing their toys out of the cot). If someone says "you should ..." their parent self shows and their partner

feels they are being treated as a child. If someone yells louder and louder (swears probably) then their child self shows as they try to bully you (the child throws a tantrum). You have to find your adult self to recognize their child self and respond in a mature way.

In therapy, it can take about an hour for a couple to work through a single argument – we analyse it sentence-by-sentence. This simple process often reveals something of what is going on between the couple. It is a starting point that can be easily understood and reveals to people how others see their actions. This alone can help people to reflect and to take more care when they speak.

The theory and practice of TA is vast. I do not mean to suggest it is a quick fix, but it is a place to begin if you want to find out about your patterns. Check out TA on the internet.

TA was developed by Eric Berne MD in the 1950s. He was an American psychiatrist. Perhaps it was his two divorces which motivated him to find practical ways to assist couples. His popular book, "Games People Play", is still in airport bookshops and you can buy it online.

Dr Robert Shaw  
Registered Psychotherapist  
opunake@mail.com

The Village Gallery to carry on

The Village Gallery 166 High Street. Eltham 4322

The Village Gallery Committee invites you to come along to celebrate the changes made to the Gallery over the holiday break. We would love to show you the new set-up and let you enjoy the first exhibition of the New Year.

Please join us for the Opening on Sunday, February 11 at 4.00 pm

Taranaki Printmakers Exhibition - 11 February to 9 March 2024

The first exhibition is by eight members of the Taranaki group of PCANZ (Print Council Aotearoa New Zealand) with some beautiful mahi on display, made using a variety of techniques with each individual print being hand-pulled. The 'prints' you will see here are not photographs, copier or giclee prints.



Tarata Landscape #2 by Dorothy Andrews.

A New Direction

At the Special General Meeting held to discuss the difficulties faced by the Committee last year, the future direction of the Gallery was discussed, with the members present being adamant that the Gallery should carry on. Several willing and dedicated people have since joined the

Committee to help to run the organisation and various ideas and options have been discussed.

It was decided the first step forward was to change the Main Gallery exhibition space into the Community Gallery Shop area, making it an interesting and exciting place to visit, the aim being to keep it an inviting, eclectic

and always-changing space. This change has now taken place and walking through the door is a joy; the variety of art on display includes something for everyone.

The previous Shop and Members display area beyond the Main Gallery is now set up for smaller exhibitions where established or emerging individual artists or groups can display their mahi under similar arrangements as for those previously held for four weeks at a time in the Main Gallery. The exhibition programme for this year still has one or two spaces – please enquire if you or your art group wish to hold an exhibition

from 10.00 am until 3.00 pm.

Please check out our Facebook page for updates.

We're looking forward to seeing you at The Village Gallery in Eltham

TARANAKI PRINTMAKERS EXHIBITION

11 February to 9 March 2024



An exhibition by eight members of the Taranaki group of PCANZ (Print Council Aotearoa New Zealand) All welcome to the opening on Sunday 11 February 4pm.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM  
OPEN WED-SAT 10AM-3PM

FAREWELL from Dr. Rachel Volcani



It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter to say farewell to each of you, my patients, after more than five wonderful years serving this small, close-knit community. I want to express my deepest gratitude for your warm welcome, coming here from a foreign country, and unwavering trust in me throughout these years. It has been an honour and a privilege to be part of your lives, helping many of you navigate your health and well-being. As I embark on a new chapter to develop other skills and pursue different opportunities, please know that the memories and connections forged here will always hold a special place in my heart. The bonds we've formed extend beyond the confines of a medical office, and I am truly grateful for the privilege of being your healthcare provider. While I say goodbye for now, I hope that our paths will cross again in the future. Until then, please take care of yourselves and continue to support one another. Your resilience and team spirit have made this community truly exceptional. Thank you once again for allowing me to be a part of your lives. Wishing you all continued health, happiness, and prosperity.

Yours,  
Rachel Volcani, GP



The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on the 22nd of February. Contact us on 06 761 7016 to be part of it.

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE OPUNAKE

72 Tasman Street, Opunake | www.everybodystheatre.co.nz

<b>The Beekeeper</b> 1hr 41mins   R16 Thu 08 Feb 7PM   Sun 11 Feb 7PM	<b>Mean Girls</b> 1hr 52mins   M Fri 09 Feb 7PM
<b>The Jungle Bunch World Tour</b> 1hr 29mins   PG Sat 10 Feb 1PM	<b>Argyll</b> 2hr 19mins   M Sat 10 Feb 7PM
<b>The Iron Claw</b> 2hr 12mins   R16 Sun 11 Feb 1PM   Sat 17 Feb 7PM	<b>Priscilla</b> 1hr 53mins   M Thu 15 Feb 7PM
<b>Bob Marley: One Love</b> 1hr 44mins   M Fri 16 Feb 7PM   Sun 18 Feb 7PM	<b>Inspector Sun</b> 1hr 28mins   TBC Sat 17 Feb 1PM
<b>Madame Web</b> 30mins   TBC Sun 18 Feb 1PM	<b>Force of Nature: The Dry 2</b> 1hr 52mins   M Thu 22 Feb 7PM

**The Beekeeper**  
Violence, offensive language, drug use & suicide | 1hr 41mins | Rated: R16  
Thu 08 Feb 7PM

**Mean Girls**  
Offensive language & sexual references | 1hr 52mins | Rated: M  
Fri 09 Feb 7PM

## 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

## 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.

## 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 8277 or 06 761 8337

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

## FRIDAYS

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

## 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 \$20, 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.

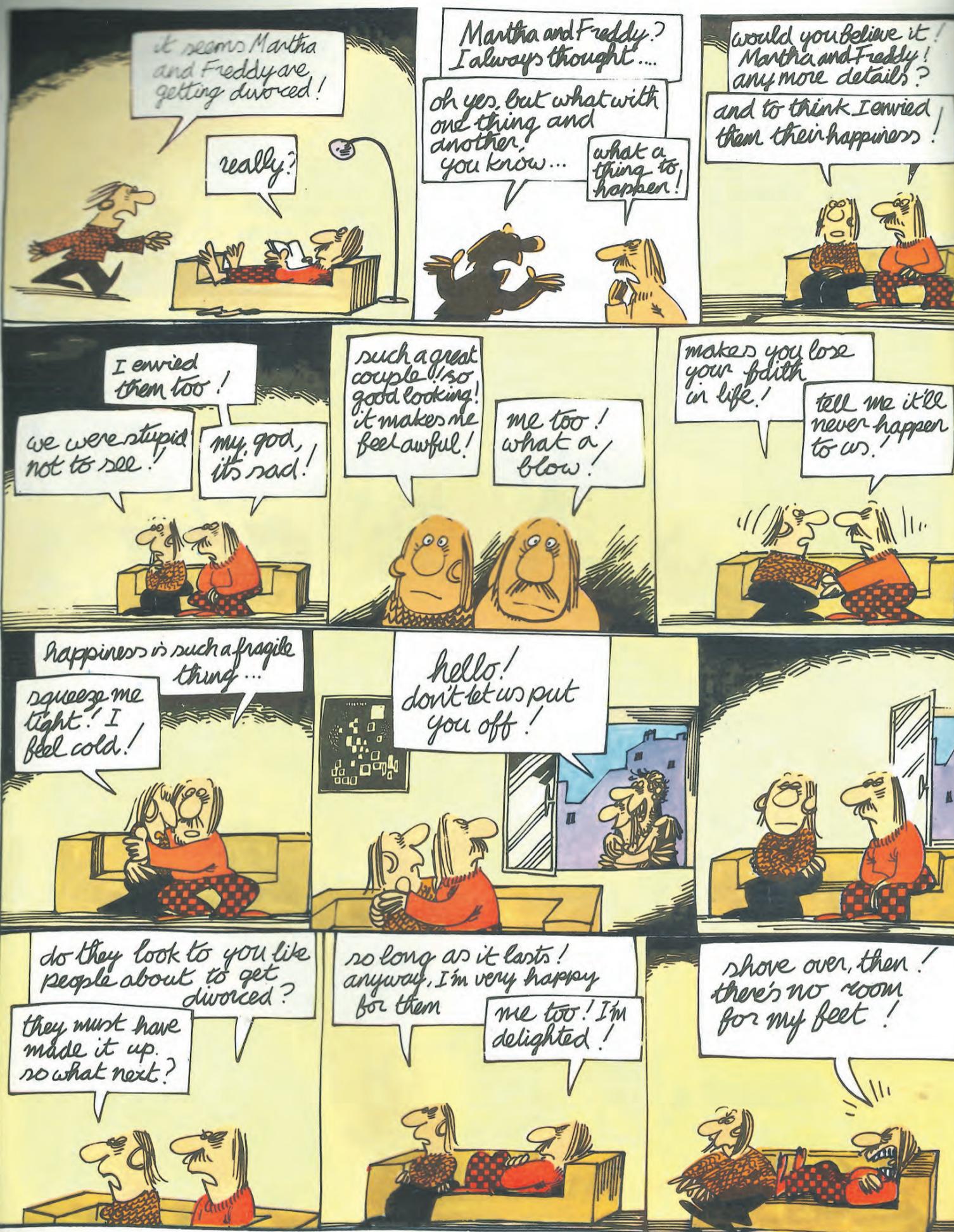
## FEBRUARY 5 TO MARCH 2

**Rosalind Fitz Patrick Exhibition:** At Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera.

## FEBRUARY 10

**Annual Life Flight Fundraiser:** Kaponga

## UP AND DOWNS



## Taranaki National Art Awards

### Annual General Meeting

Thursday 29 February 2024 at Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Events Centre.

Commencing 7 p.m. with supper to follow and a child - friendly area will be available.

We welcome current and prospective committee members, exhibition helpers, and welcome all feedback and ideas.

For more information email:

contact@taranakiartawards.co.nz

Or phone Megan Symons : 0275007722

Hotel. See ad for details.

Stratford Speedway: See ad for details.

**FEBRUARY 11 TO MARCH 9**

Taranaki Printmakers Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

**FEBRUARY 16**

Lunch with the Johns: New Plymouth Raceway. See ad and editorial for details.

**FEBRUARY 17**

2024 Taranaki Rose Selection: At the Plymouth International Hotel, 7pm.

Stratford Speedway: See ad for details.

**FEBRUARY 24 & 25**

Egmont A&P Show At the Showgrounds. See ad and editorial for details.

**FEBRUARY 24**

Tataraimaka Hall Centennial: See ad and editorial for details.

**FEBRUARY 25**

OOS Family Fish & Fun Day At Middleton Bay, 9am.

**FEBRUARY 28**

Fight Club Online with Barbwire Boxing

**MARCH 2**

Matchbox 20 with Goo Goo Dolls: Bowl of Brooklands, New Plymouth

**MARCH 9 & 10**

Opunake Indoor Basketball Association 50th Anniversary Weekend: See ad and editorial for details.

**MARCH 15-17**

WOMAD: Bowl of Brooklands, New Plymouth

**MARCH 20-21**

2024 Offshore Renewable Energy Forum: TSB Hub, Hawera.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



# Hawera Orchestral Society Charitable Trust

The Trustees of the Hawera Orchestral Society invite applications for financial assistance to be granted from the Trust to assist instrumental tuition costs. The main objective of the Trust is the advancement and encouragement of skills of musical students in or about the South Taranaki area. Priority will be given to residents of the South Taranaki area.

Application forms can be requested by emailing [hos.charitabletrust@gmail.com](mailto:hos.charitabletrust@gmail.com).

Please return all Application forms to: The Trustees, Hawera Orchestral Society Charitable Trust, C/- Mr C Pittams, 5 Morrissey Street, HAWERA 4610

**Applications open on the 1st February 2024 and close on the 31st March 2024.**

## TE RURU COASTAL MARKET

Valentines Market  
Wednesday 14th February  
4 - 7pm Hempton Hall Okato



**Opunake Players**  
**AGM**  
Tuesday February 22  
7pm at  
**The Lakeside Playhouse**  
17 Layard St  
Contact Lynelle  
027 337 8899

**TRADES & SERVICES**

**GARAGE SALES**

**KAPONGA GARAGE & CARBOOT SALE.**

Sat 10th AND Sun 11th Feb  
15 Egmont Street 9am - 3pm  
Mega haul: Power tools, hand tools, garden tools & general hardware. Antiques & collectables. No fee for sellers.

**TRADES & SERVICES**



**KORU**  
PLUMBING & GAS  
IAIN HISLOP  
027 755 0055  
KORUPLUMBING@GMAIL.COM



**HCL**  
Heartland Construction Ltd  
**Builders**  
Contact Toby Watt - 027 4598 020

**LAWNMOWING,** and section maintenance by local contractor SOS. Free quote. Ph 027 605 8437.

**CARPETS** second hand, large selection After Disaster Ltd 223 Devon St West, NP. Phone (06) 769 9265

**HCL BUILDERS** for all kitchens. Ph 027 459 8020..

**GRAZING**

**GRAZING AVAILABLE**  
May to May for Dairy Heifers. Phone Richard 027 510 9667.

**WANTED TO BUY**

**SCRAP METAL** - for all scrap metal Taranaki wide, give us a call. Molten Metals (06) 751 5367. [www.moltenmetals.co.nz](http://www.moltenmetals.co.nz)

**HCL BUILDERS** for building houses. Ph 027 459 8020.



**EtherNetworks**  
Information Communication Technology  
**RURAL DATA SOLUTIONS**  
Telecommunications | Computer Networks  
Surveillance Cameras | Broadband Connectivity  
Starlink Installations | Cellular Coverage  
TARANAKI WIDE SERVICE & SUPPORT - 06 769 5734  
Email - [office@ethernetnetworks.co.nz](mailto:office@ethernetnetworks.co.nz)

**HAWERA BUDGET** Advisory Service. Wed 9am to 12pm. Coastal Care, Opunake by appointment. Starting Feb 8th 2023 and fortnightly thereafter. Contact us by phone: 0800 333 048 (free from mobile). Facebook page: Hawera Budget Advisory Service. Email: [info@hawerabudget.co.nz](mailto:info@hawerabudget.co.nz)

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on Thursday February 22. Phone us on 06 761 7016 to be in it.

**AGED CARE**

# Care is finding the perfect shade of pink

**When your loved one can no longer manage at home, you need a place with care you can trust**

At **Summerset at Pohutukawa Place** in Bell Block, we know the little things can make a big difference. Care isn't just about scheduled doses, it's knowing sometimes laughter is the best medicine. Care is having a dance to their favourite song and talking about the town where they grew up.

Taranaki's newest premium care centre, including specialist dementia care, is now open at Summerset at Pohutukawa Place.

**Summerset at Pohutukawa Place**  
[summerset.co.nz/pohutukawaplace](http://summerset.co.nz/pohutukawaplace)  
06 824 8532



**CARE YOUR LOVED ONES DESERVE**

# meritcars

## with distinction

VISIT WEBSITE MERITCARS.CO.NZ

493 DEVON STREET EAST, STRANDON, NEW PLYMOUTH  
CALL US TODAY 06 281 1925

ALL ON ROAD COSTS INCLUDED PLUS TANK OF FUEL. ONE STOP SHOP FOR FINANCE, WARRANTIES & FREE SMILES

**2010 Toyota COROLLA**  
NZ New 6 Speed Manual  
2WD, Stability Control, VVT-i, 1798cc, Petrol,  
102kms



**VERY POPULAR ONLY**  
**\$12,995**

**2015 Suzuki Sx4 S-Cross GLXH 1.6**  
5 SPD 4x4  
4WD, Cruise Control, Stability Control, Alloy  
Wheels, 1586cc, Petrol, Manual, 73kms



**\$15,995**

**2022 MG Zs T ESSENCE**  
LATE MODEL, LOW KMs  
Cruise Control, Parking Sensors, 360 degree  
cameras, Tow Bar, Panoramic Sunroof, 1298cc,  
Petrol, Auto, 14kms



**\$29,995**

**2014 Holden Captiva LT**  
Great Value Low Km's SUV, 2WD, Auto Headlights,  
Roof Rails, Cruise Control, 2384cc, Petrol, 6 Speed  
Auto, 96kms



**\$14,995**

**1993 Nissan Datsun 4WD Utility**  
NOT NZ NEW, EXPORT EX JAPAN,  
4x4 with Hi/Low Ratio, Flat deck, Tow Bar, 2663cc,  
Diesel, 5 Spd Manual, 114kms



**\$9,995**

**THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL:**  
**2010 Nissan Dualis 20G**  
LOW KMs, 4x4, Reversing Camera, Dual Climate Air  
Conditioning, Keyless Entry & Ignition, Sunroof. 200cc,  
Petrol, Auto, 118kms



**\$12,995**

**2017 Mazda CX-5 GLX PTR**  
Collision Avoidance, Traction and Stability Control,  
Autonomous Emergency Braking, i-STOP, Keyless  
Start, 1998cc, Petrol, 6 Spd Auto, 47kms



2018 2.5 Low kms  
\$32995  
**NOW \$29,995**

**2017 Skoda Octavia**  
FAMILY SIZED WAGON  
1.8 Petrol, Auto Full Option Alloys and Spoiler 97km



**ONLY \$21,995**

**2009 Mazda MPV**  
8 SEATER, Power Sliding Doors, Reversing Camera,  
Traction & Stability Control, Rear Ventilation, Turbo,  
2260cc, Petrol, Auto, 144kms



**\$8,995**

**2013 Volkswagen GOLF TSI 66KW**  
NZ NEW LOW KM  
Cruise Control, Turbo, Climate Control A/C. Stability  
Control, 1400cc, Petrol, Auto, 91kms



**\$12,995**

**2015 Mazda CX-3 GLX SW**  
NZ New. i-Stop, NA Navigation, Keyless Start,  
Reversing Camera, Traction & Stability Control,  
1998cc, Petrol, 6 Spd Auto, 55kms



**GREAT VALUE & CONDITION**  
**\$22,995**

**2008 Toyota HIGHLANDER**  
7 SEATER, AWD, Cruise Control, descent  
Mode, Tow Bar, V6, 3456cc, Petrol, 5 spd  
Auto, 313kms



**\$9,995**

**2010 Ford Fiesta**  
5 Door, 5 Spd, 1.6, M S:  
Full optioned alloys, Spoiler, Manual, Petrol



2015 FEISTA  
SPORT ONLY  
\$13995  
**ONLY \$9,995**

VEHICLES ARRIVING DAILY - SEE ONSITE SPECIALS  
VISIT MERITCARS.CO.NZ



**LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED**

Ph 06 281 1925 • Chris Elliot 027 471 5972  
Ph 06 757 3585 • Jamie Henry 021 556 223