



## Inside

# Forging closer links between seniors and juniors



Morning emergency in Opunake. Page 2.



Milestone for Country Cricket Club. Page 3.



Ben hangs up the knives. Page 7.



Cross country runner to represent New Zealand. Page 10.



Cinderella will go to the ball. Page 22.

Opunake High School has chosen as head prefects two students from Kaponga who have both represented their school at basketball National level.

On Friday Harry Gibson and Jorja Symes along with the other prefects were at the High School, still dressed in mufti after having just returned from an orientation camp with the Year 9 students.

Harry and Jorja both see forging closer links between the senior and junior schools as being among their priorities for the coming year.

“My big push is creating more relationships between the senior and junior students and encouraging the other seniors to get involved in hanging out with the juniors,” says Harry.

“I want to encourage the juniors to participate in activities like the inter-hapu activities.”

Jorja expressed similar sentiments.

“I want to be a voice for the student body, building relationships so that the younger students can tell us what’s going on, so that they can project their voice as well.”

With Kaponga being a similar distance from Opunake, Hawera and Stratford, the choice of



Opunake High School head prefects Harry Gibson and Jorja Symes.

Opunake as somewhere to attend high school was not an automatic one.

“At Opunake it’s like a community,” says Jorja. “The school is really involved with the community, and it’s like one big whanau. You build really close relationships with the teachers.”

Another shared interest is basketball. Harry was a member of the Opunake High School Boys team which last year won the Small Schools National Basketball title and Harry himself, went on to make the tournament team. Jorja was in the Girls team that came away with a bronze

medal. Her other sporting interests include hockey, where she has captained the Taranaki Under-18 team, and tennis where she has also represented the province.

Jorja says she is unsure of her plans for next year, but has been thinking about studying veterinary science at Massey University.

Harry says he wants to join the air force and train to be a pilot. In doing so, he would be following a similar path to another Opunake High School head boy, Dylan Arlidge, who spoke to last year’s Opunake High School prize giving about his experiences.

Opunake High School principal Andrea Hooper Carr says Harry and Jorja

have been great advocates for the school.

“They are consistently diligent, compassionate and when they do something they do it to the best of their ability. They model excellence in everything they do. They are students of mana and integrity and are very well respected by both our staff and tamariki. Plus, they are awesome fun to be around.”

**Our next issue is Thursday February 23. We hope to have the head students from Coastal Taranaki School featured.**



This year’s Opunake High School prefects.

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## ADELPHOS

Technology is great ... sometimes. Once upon a time we paid a fortune for toll calls. I remember the times that I wrote out a list of the things I needed to talk about when I made an overseas phone call, so that nothing was forgotten, because the calls were so expensive (shows my age). To get a fast message to someone meant reverting to a telegram, often delivered by someone riding a bike. On the other hand, emails and texts these days are almost instant.

One of the most common technological activities at our house is checking the

# The wind of change

weather on the cell phone. How much rain is anticipated each hour of that day? How much sunshine will there be in the next week? What is the humidity level? And best of all, did the weather person get it right? The weather has been pretty accurate lately, but not many would have forecast the recent resignation of New Zealand’s 40<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern. The wind of change.

Wind is the movement of air. It is created by the uneven heating of the Earth by the sun and the Earth’s own rotation. It’s one of those things that is just there and

we don’t tend to notice it unless it does some good, like the turbines down the coast toward Waverly; or it does us some harm, like knocking fruit off our trees before it’s ripe.

In St John’s gospel we are told, “The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going” (3:8). Jesus was having a bit of fun with words, because in the old Greek the word He would have used was *pneuma* and it had more than one meaning. The first meaning, as already mentioned, is air in

motion. The second meaning is breath— as something necessary for life. It’s along the lines of both the Maori meaning of *tehei mauriora*, which acknowledges the very first breath creating human life in both the Maori creation story and the biblical Genesis account.

Jesus, in John 3:8, concludes the verse by saying, “So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” This is the Spirit’s God-breathed *pneuma* offering us a second birth: The wind of change.

Manaakitanga, *Adelphos*

# Woman seriously injured in Opunake crash

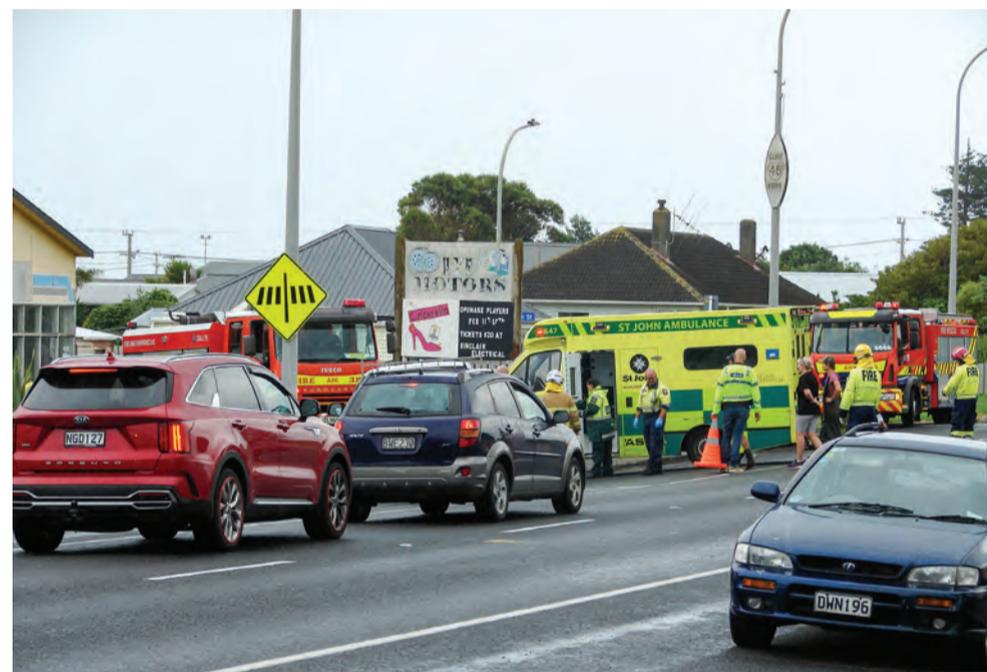
There was a spectacular one-car crash in Tasman Street, Opunake on Tuesday January 31, just after 9.30am, which led to a seriously injured woman driver being helicoptered to Taranaki Base Hospital.

The driver lost control of her green Lancer, after stopping to refuel and it ended up wedged in a creek bed beside the Allied Fuel Service Station.

Many members of the public, including shopkeepers watched with some taking pictures as the rescue helicopter approached and landed in a nearby street. There was a hive of activity with police, St John personnel and Opunake Volunteer fire fighters dealing with the situation, amidst a considerable number of associated vehicles. There was some disruption of traffic flow – aided by fire fighters engaged as pointsmen.

By early afternoon there was no sign of the car, which had been successfully towed away.

We are pleased to report that the injured woman was released from Taranaki Base Hospital the next day and we



**A hive of activity in Opunake on January 31 as rescuers spring into action to help an injured woman driver.**

trust she is making a swift recovery.

There will be no further police action following this accident, according to local policeman Matt Goodman.

It is heartening to see police, fire fighters and ambulance personnel working in concert to ensure a positive conclusion to this accident.



**Embedded in the creek bed is one lonely green car.**



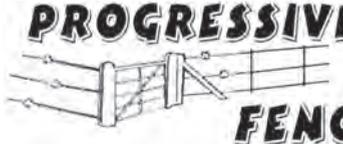
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# Seventy five not out

Norm Johnson's handshake is a firm one as befits the man of the land and veteran cricketer that he is. Norm, who is a hundred years old was at the Auroa Cricket Club 75th Jubilee last weekend. He had just been presented with photos of the Auroa teams which had won the Western Division Championship and Bowman Shield in the 1952-3 and 1964-5 seasons. He was vice-captain on the first occasion and captain on the second.

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

Norm was something of an all-rounder, as a medium-pace bowler and as a batsman who batted in the middle order, although he occasionally opened the batting. There was the time he and Harry Goodin opened against Kapuni where Harry got a century and Norm got 67. Then there was the time against Rahotu where he had



Auroa playing Pihama (in orange colours).

farming identity he still lives on the property on the corner of Skeet and Mangahume Roads which has been home for 93 of his 100 years.

The jubilee was being held to coincide with the Ashes, the annual grudge match with neighbouring club Pihama. On a balmy Saturday afternoon,

The game was followed by a dinner that night with broadcasting legend Bryan Waddle as guest speaker. The celebrations finished up on Sunday with an Old Timers' game.

On Saturday Auroa Cricket Club Richard Muller said he was pleased with the way the celebrations were going, with 120-130 people having

was Harry Goodin, and the club played cricket on his farm before moving to their current base near the Auroa Hall in 1976.

Richard says there is a good spirit in the club which was reflected in the preparations for the jubilee, including a highly successful fundraising Ambrose golf tournament.

"Whenever there's things to do there's always people willing to put their hands up to get things done," he says.

In the last 25 years they have put in a new club house, new double nets and relaid the wicket a number of times.

The club currently has 18 players and two junior teams.

Auroa has kept on keeping on while other country clubs have folded. It has also enjoyed some recent successes, so unlike some

other clubs in similar positions they can't say that their best days are behind them.

"We made the finals eight times on the trot," says Richard. Their first championship was in 2005-6 with Trevor Taunt as captain against Woodleigh. There was an eight year wait before they repeated it again in the 2013-14 season against Inglewood with Steve Fevre as captain. Two years later with Marc Cleaver as captain they beat

Hawera United. In 2019-20 with Kolyn Tai as captain they defeated Marist United in the final, before having a stint playing in the premiers, where they managed to upset New Plymouth Boys High School, Stratford and Inglewood who were then the one day champions.

Richard says the club has also had its share of individual successes like Dean Perrett's 256 stand against Stratford in 2005.



From left. Sean Luttrell, long time sponsor Phil Sandford and life member Allan Hughes.



Norm Johnson with photos of the winning Bowman Shield teams in which he was vice-captain and captain.

amassed 87 runs before team captain Arthur Andreoli declared, leaving Norm 13 runs short of his century.

Norm had arrived at the Auroa Cricket Club in the Chevrolet which he had bought brand-new back in 1952. A long-time local

spectators were enjoying the thwack of willow on ball, but somehow the score did not seem to matter. It was a time to catch up with old friends and celebrate the Taranaki country cricket club which is 75 not out.

registered from throughout the country.

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# Mangatoki WI



Members enjoying an excursion to Palmerston North.

On November 22, 12 members and one friend left on a two day shopping trip. Springvale Garden Centre was the first stop. A lovely Christmas shop in Bulls with many other interesting shops there. Lunch at

Feilding. Another Christmas shop at Milson. Shopping at K-Mart. Shopping at the Plaza in Palmerston North. Visited the Christmas Barn and another Garden Centre. Dinner on the way home at the Brick House in

Whanganui. An enjoyable trip of shopping, fun and friendship.

On December 8, we held our Christmas meeting followed by lunch at the Rough Habits Restaurant, Hawera, which was attended

by 14 members.

We were welcomed by our President Robyn Roberts, then our secretary, Helen Whyte read the minutes and the correspondence and the outward mail. The church at the Pioneer Village had been cleaned and the gardens tended. Six members had attended the Samoan Day and 13 members went on the Christmas shopping bus trip.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Robyn Roberts in the absence of our Treasurer, Cathy Whyte. The raffle was won by Denise Carter.

Lucy Moger  
Mangatoki WI Reporter

## COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT

# What's happening at Eltham-Kaponga

The Eltham-Kaponga Community Board is back into it after the holiday break and we have had our first meeting of the year. I thought I'd share with you some of the things discussed at our meeting that you might find interesting, plus some fun upcoming events.

Coming up on Saturday 11 February from 9 am till 2 pm at the TSB Hub in Hāwera is a Family fun day. Entry is free and there is a food festival with over 30 stalls and a children's scavenger hunt, a fun train, team challenges, and fire and police demonstrations.

Council and Zeal are working together to put on a Paint Party at the TSB Hub. It's a free event and you go along in your white clothes and get sprayed with paint cannons. There will also be bumper balls, ice cream trucks, waterslides, sumo suits, bouncy castles and so much more. It's on Saturday, 18 February at 3 pm to 6pm

Movies in the Park are back on March 25 with drive-in movies at Eltham Primary School. Keep an eye out for more information as the date draws closer.

On a different note,



KAREN CAVE

Council has been thinking about ways that they can reduce the organisation's emissions. Some possibilities include introducing a food scraps kerbside collection service, reforestation of some Council land that's currently used for grazing, and installation of electric (replacing gas) water heating at the Hawera Aquatic Centre. They are beginning work on a decarbonisation plan to work out ways to reduce emissions in community services, assets, and infrastructure throughout the whole district.

The Community Board has a Discretionary Fund to fund small projects within our ward that encourage groups with non-profit making status to develop services, facilities, amenities, or programs for the community. The application

form for this fund is on the council's website which is southtaranaki.com where you will also find more information about it.

Lastly on the Innovating Streets trial/project, you'll be pleased to hear that an agreement has been reached with Waka Kotahi to remove the troughs from Eltham and Waverley. Work is

underway to arrange safe removal and the project should be completed by the end of February. We are hoping that the troughs will be re-purposed in other areas.

That's all from me this time.

Karen Cave  
Eltham Kaponga Community Board

## Big Dig winner



Despite the wet conditions Katie Starr struck it lucky at the Opunake Beach Carnival in January winning this cool bike in the Big Dig pictured here with longtime Big Dig sponsor Rusty Campbell.

The bikes were purchased locally as well from Coastal Sports Centre Opunake.

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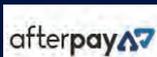


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# Happy New Year from Okato

Kia Ora Koutou, Happy New Year. I trust the festive season treated you all well and you have started 2023 refreshed.

The 'silly season' thankfully didn't live up to its name on the Coast. I thank everyone for making good decisions with respect to keeping yourself and others safe.

I wanted to start the year reminding everyone of the crime reporting numbers. I encourage you to ring 111 in any emergency, and ring 105 to report offences where the offender is not present. Following these processes makes my job that much easier when it comes to attendance or investigation.



CONSTABLE MATT STONE

I encourage you to ring 111 for vehicles driving dangerously also.

You are all probably aware that we seem to have had an increase in boy racer activity on the Coast. Particularly on

the weekends. If you come across any such activity, I encourage you to keep your distance. If you can obtain any registration numbers of the vehicles that would assist Police greatly. I encourage you to ring even if you just hear a large gathering nearby. As Police we will make an assessment about attendance, and an officer may only be a few minutes away.

The other increasing problem is online fraud. The particular increase of late is the scammers getting access to people's bank accounts when the victims click on links through emails and

texts. If you get emails and texts with links, please do not click on them, delete them straight away.

Lastly, we have had some cars stolen from Okato Village recently, I believe by New Plymouth youths. A steering wheel lock will deter this behaviour.

I appreciate your time and enjoy the continued sunshine.

Nga Mihi  
Matt

*Matthew Stone  
Sole Charge  
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## Let's talk road safety.

As we are all well aware Waka Kotahi, police and ministry of transport have a road safety partnership in reducing harm on our roads. While we are aware speed is not always the main factor to a crash it is definitely a huge aggravating factor in the outcome of those involved. Please slow down as it is not worth the calculated risk to your own or others' lives. With that being said, a reminder Opunake Road speed was reduced to 80km/h quite some time ago. You will see an increased police presence in this area. If you are travelling above this posted speed limited expect a ticket.

Tamariki are back to school and we all have an important

part to play when it comes to road safety around schools. We urge drivers to be extra vigilant and keep in mind that children can be highly unpredictable. Remember the speed limit is 20km/h when driving past a stationary school bus and you need to reduce your speed below 30km/h when passing schools.

### Scamming

Please be cautious when it comes to buying goods listed for sale on social media. Our advice is to be alert when shopping via social media, especially with people reselling unwanted gifts.

Make sure the money is in your account before

you hand your items over. Police routinely see fake screenshots are being used to dupe the seller.

We have a number of suggestions for people looking to buy or sell online:

- First and foremost, we recommend using a reputable online site to buy or sell items.
- Check the social media profile of the seller. Is it a new profile or relatively blank? There's a chance it may be a fake profile and are sometimes deleted after you've paid.
- If the trader insists on meeting at an unusual location to make a sale, be cautious. It may be that they are selling stolen items or don't want to be identified

for some other reason.

- Equally, if purchasers are reluctant to meet in person or insist items are dropped off at a location, they may be avoiding being seen or identified.

- Purchasers who are happy to pay full price without trying to negotiate.

- If you are the seller, make sure the money is in your account before sending or handing over items.

- As the saying goes: if it is too good to be true, it probably is.

Stay safe out there.

*Constable Chloe Ashton,  
Hawera Police*

## Nominations open for Matariki Awards 2023

NKo wai ngā whetū kānapanapa o te hāpori? Who are the stars who made a difference in our communities?

Whakaata Māori is calling for nominations for the prestigious Ngā Tohu o Matariki o Te Tau 2023, (Matariki Awards 2023).

Nominations opened January 27.

Attended by luminaries of

Aotearoa, New Zealand, those who shine on our communities.

The awards recognise and celebrate Māori excellence across the fields of education, arts and entertainment, health and science, sports, business and innovation,

community, te reo Māori me ngā tikanga Māori and young achievers.

Whakaata Māori seeks nominations of individuals of all ages and organisations who go above and beyond. Past winners of Ngā Tohu Matariki have included

Tā Timoti Kāretu, Witi Ihimaera, Dame Lisa Carrington, Rob Ruha, Te Rōpū Whakakaupapa Urutā, Six60, Te Māhurehure Marae, Emeritus Professor Whatarangi Winiata, and others.

Nominations cover the period 1 January to 31 December 2022, across all public, corporate, not-for-profit and social enterprise sectors in nine categories.

The nine award categories are: Hiwaiterangi - Young Achievers, Tipuānuku - Education, Tipuārangi - Arts and Entertainment, Waitī - Health and Science, Ururangi - Sport, Waitā - Business and Innovation, Waipunarangi - Te Reo Māori me ngā Tikanga, Matariki - Community, and Te Huihuinga o Matariki for Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations close at 5.00 PM, Monday 27 February 2023.

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# Last Kaponga butcher calls time

After 44 years as the "Kaponga Butcher" Ben Flintoff is hanging up the knives. At the end of February he will be closing his butchery and home kill business ending a family association with butchering in Kaponga which dates back to 1945. Back then his father, also called Ben bought the business off Ken Williams, who had himself taken over the business from his father, Dickie.

It also brings to a close a chapter in the history of Kaponga. The Victoria Street premises from which Ben has been based has been operating as a butchery for as long as the town has been in existence.

"This was built in the late 1800s," says Ben. "The butchers were usually the first other than the blacksmith."

The first butcher in Kaponga was T.R.Exley. In its heyday the town could boast three butcheries. From the end of this month there will be none. "When we were young Dad used to kill for the shop and bring down the offal for the pigs," recalls Ben. "In those days we had fowls that would only be eaten at Christmas and Easter. Now they eat them all year round."

Ben worked with his father in Kaponga before he headed for Australia. He was there for 10 years where he "learned the finer points," managed butcher shops and supervised retail shops for an export company. In 1979 with his father



Ben Flintoff is calling time on his family's nearly 80 years as butchers for Kaponga.

wanting to retire and brother Terry going farming Ben returned to Kaponga to take over the business. That was when the butchery still had a retail arm, but then the dairy factories and the local bank branches closed down, the post office went, and

Hardings Furniture Shop and show room shut its doors. "Once the population dropped off there wasn't much point having retail," says Ben. So from 1983 the retail side of the business closed with Ben continuing to do home kill. In more

recent times Ben's brother Terry has been helping out. Ben says he appreciates the support he has received from the local community through his time in business, and is now looking forward to spending more time on the golf course.



Site where Flintoff's is now, 1892.

The end of an era for Kaponga.

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# I wish all readers a happy and healthy 2023

I have just arrived home from being in the top of my electorate today - thanks for the opportunity for a brief column:

I wish all readers and happy, healthy and successful 2023. Having just returned from the Queen Charlotte Walk and having clocked up 74 kilometres of tramping, I have



**BARBARA KURIGER MP**  
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

been making my resolutions like everyone else to stay as active as possible. Nature is wonderful, and now having been asked to take on the Conservation Portfolio, I can see a few more tracks with good gradients on them being part of my work. It is an exciting portfolio, one where I can walk and work at the same time. I've purchased a

pair of flat sneakers to wear around Parliament so I can use the steps plenty instead of taking the easy ride in the elevator.

It has been a very interesting start to the beginning of election year with the resignation of the Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern. I wish her well for her and her family's future. I welcome

Chris Hipkins as the new Prime Minister and look forward to the battle of the two Chris's as the next nine months play out.

I am hoping to see a much stronger focus by the Government this year on the cost of living as everyone is really struggling with grocery prices and interest rates at present.

We can expect to look forward to a contest of ideas, which the public can engage it. We all hope that our conversations will be dignified and respectful as we live in a wonderful democracy.

*Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country*

## What a start to the year

When Jacinda Ardern announced that she was stepping down as Prime Minister, audible gasps came from around the room. I was sad to lose her as our leader, yet happy and grateful that she did what was right for her and her family. For me, this huge decision reflects the integrity and servant leadership that is Jacinda. I've been blessed to work with a leader that wants to hear from me, the Parliamentary team, and our community. Thank you Jacinda Ardern for your five years of leadership.

Chris Hipkins has stepped up to the role of Prime Minister and Carmel Sepuloni as Deputy. They've hit the ground running, getting out around the country, listening to the issues and possibilities that are important to New

Zealanders. We're privileged to have such a great team leading us into 2023.

Back in 2020 when the Labour Party launched our election campaign, I got together with all the New Plymouth MP's, that is, those who grew up in this beautiful city. Since 2020 many of them have moved into significant Government roles. There's Hon Carmel Sepuloni, now Deputy Prime Minister, Hon Andrew Little, who's just become Minister of Defence (with a long list of other portfolios), Hon Deborah Russell, who is now Minister of Statistics, Dr Liz Craig and not to mention Angela Roberts, who's just stepped up as Deputy Chair of the Primary Production Committee. New Plymouth and Taranaki have strong



**GLEN BENNETT**  
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

links into Parliament and I am working to continue leveraging these, ensuring a strong voice in Wellington.

I was so excited to see Carmel Sepuloni elected as Deputy Prime Minister, making her New Zealand's first ever Pacific Deputy Prime Minister, alongside the largest Pāšifika Caucus in the history of parliament. Sepuloni's family is well-

known in Taranaki. Her Dad worked at the old Waitara Freezing Works and she attended New Plymouth Girls' High School, going on to play Netball for Tysons Waitara. Life's experiences and Sepuloni's career that followed, have influenced her passion around employment, education, youth issues and the power of mentoring. Some of Sepuloni's biggest successes in her time as a Minister have been, the landmark changes around child support rules, putting birth injuries under ACC cover, and setting up The Ministry for Disability Issues.

Prime Minister Chris Hipkins also lived in New Plymouth in the early 2000s, calling the region "amazing, with so much to offer," not to mention his mother growing up in Waitara.

Chris's opening speech and our Government's number one priority is around the growing cost of living, and ensuring hard-working New Zealanders – particularly families – can live and thrive. We are 100% committed to tackling the challenges of the cost of living that New

Zealanders are facing. We know people are worried about paying their grocery bills and paying their mortgages. We know there's a lot of work ahead of us, and so as Parliament resumes, our Government focus will shift to bread and butter issues facing Taranaki, and the country. In 2023, we want to grow a strong economy to make sure Kiwis can get into good jobs, lift incomes and create opportunities for people to get ahead. We'll keep working hard to strengthen the core public services like health and education.

Here in Taranaki, while dairy is our highest grossing export, our region has so much more to offer such as our food and fibre sector which is one of our most lucrative and rapidly developing industries nationally. Since 2017, we have seen export revenue grow by 39% - from \$38 billion to \$53 billion. This figure is forecast to increase to over \$56 billion by 2026. In the Taranaki region alone, this sector contributes over \$1.5 billion per annum to our GDP.

At the start of 2020, the Government partnered with Venture Taranaki to launch Branching Out, where local

farmers, growers, food manufacturers, marketers, universities, Crown Research Institutes, and investors identified environmentally friendly expansion opportunities within the region. Now moving into Phase two, the Government is investing \$975,000 alongside industry support worth \$1.2 million, into six different commercially viable ventures including hemp fibre, medicinal ingredients, indigenous ingredients, hops, gin botanicals and high-value food crops.

I'm very proud of the work our Government is doing to support our primary sector and I'm very proud to be part of a region championing such positive and innovative change.

The challenges facing our country, cost of living, and climate change won't go away overnight but the Labour team is ready to kick on. Long may we keep producing political talent from this region and celebrate the good that has already happening here. Taranaki, thank you for your trust and confidence.

*Glen Bennett MP for New Plymouth*



**STEPH LEWIS**  
MP FOR WHANGANUI

**We are sorry to learn that parliamentarian Steph Lewis has contracted Covid 19 for the third time. We wish her a speedy and complete recovery.**

# Steph Lewis

## MP for Whanganui

**Keep in touch:**  
[steph.lewismp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:steph.lewismp@parliament.govt.nz)  
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# Half of nation's rivers blocked for migratory fish

Nearly half of New Zealand's river network is partially or fully inaccessible to migratory fish, a new study shows.

NIWA has conducted the first nationwide assessment of river fragmentation, looking for structures that can act as barriers to fish. These structures are often human-made and include dams, culverts, and weirs.

They found that New Zealand has some of the highest densities of barriers to fish passage in the world, with approximately 0.16 barriers/km.

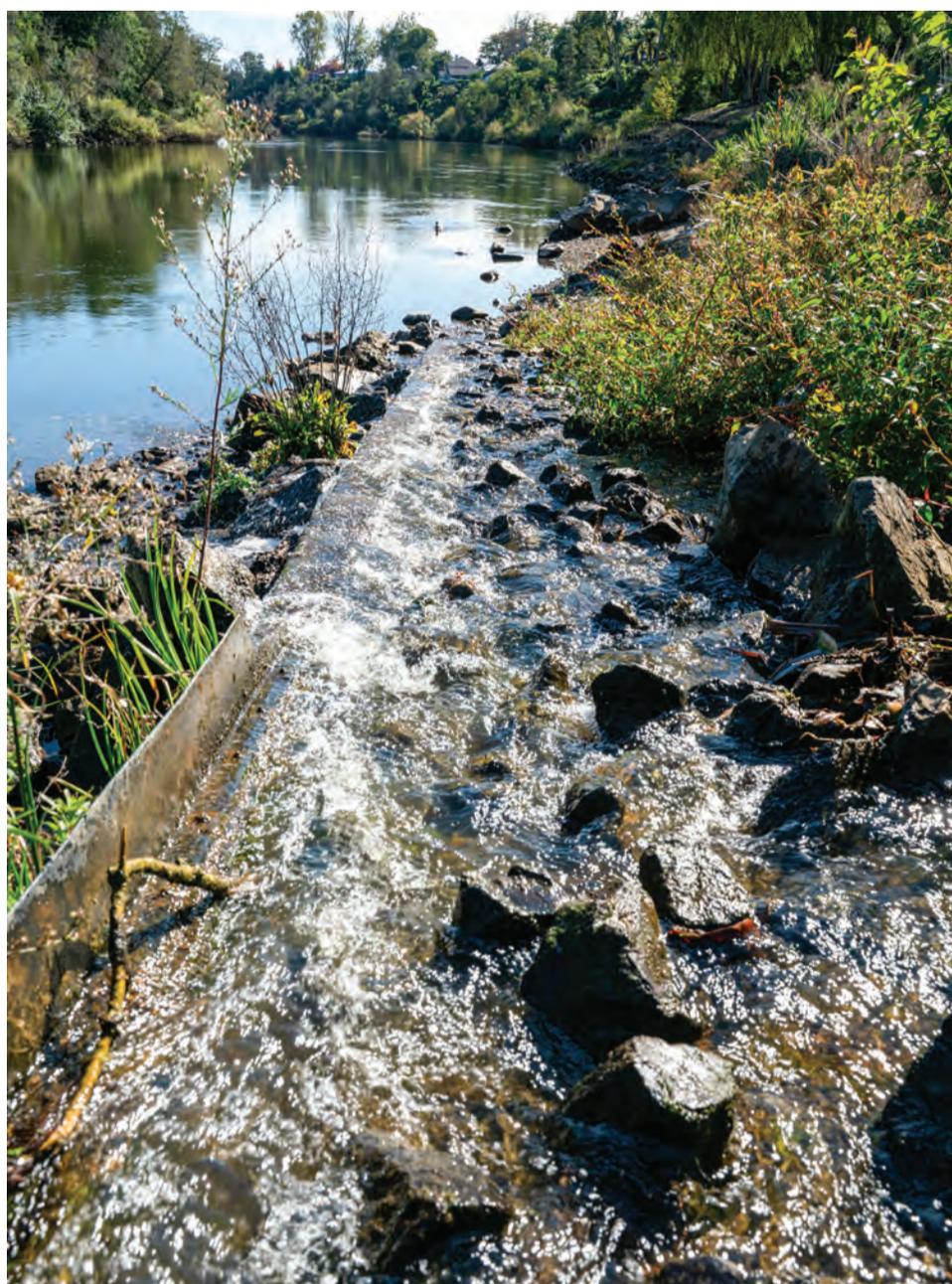
This works out at a minimum of 48% of the river network being at least partially inaccessible to migratory fish, and a further 36% that could be restricted but has not yet been assessed for risk to fish passage.

NIWA freshwater ecologist Paul Franklin says that the fragmentation of river systems is a key driver of freshwater biodiversity loss.

"There are just over 50 native New Zealand fish species, with around 85% of those not existing anywhere else in the world. Many of our iconic fishes, such as eels and the whitebait species, migrate between the sea and our rivers to complete their life cycle.

"However, they often encounter different structures along the way that act as a barrier, stopping them reaching key habitats. This ultimately leads to lower abundances and potentially loss of these species," said Franklin.

To address this challenge, NIWA is studying the swimming abilities of fish and coming up with solutions to help them migrate.



An example of a fish ramp, constructed in 2007, next to the Waikato River. Photo Stuart MacKay/NIWA.

"We put fish into the equivalent of a water treadmill to see what speed they can maintain - we want fish to be able to move upstream casually, not having to fight the whole way. We can then assess what adjustments need to be made to structures in our river networks to help fish pass through these environments more easily," said Franklin.

Culverts, for example, are put in streams and rivers to help people cross safely, while allowing an adequate passage of water. However, they can alter the flow of the stream or river, and therefore the ability of fish to swim through them. "The good news is that many of the solutions are extremely easy to implement. You can install baffles into

culverts, which are basically panels placed inside the tube that help to slow water down and create resting areas, so that fish can pass through into the stream above," said Franklin.

"It's small changes like this that can make a big difference. If we don't start

addressing the threats that environment, these precious we've placed into their fish will one day be gone."

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## On this month in history Alexander Selkirk born

On this month Alexander Selkirk was born in Lower Largo, Fife, Scotland in 1676. He was a Scottish privateer and officer in the Royal Navy.

In September 1704 he quarrelled with his captain and was put ashore (at his own request) on Mas a Tierra

Island in the Juan Valparaiso cluster, 640 km west of Valparaiso, Chile where he remained for four years 4 months until rescued by an English ship captained by Woodes Rogers.

His time as a castaway inspired the novel by Daniel

Defoe entitled *Robinson Crusoe* (1719). Later, in the same year, Defoe published *The Farther Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*.

Alexander Selkirk died at the age of just 45 on Cape Coast, Ghana.

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Opunake Surf Inn Bar  
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NEW PLYMOUTH ELECTORATE



Authorised by W Durning, 41 Pipitea St, Wellington.

# Competing against world's best

As she prepares for the World Cross Country Championships Sarah Drought says she is in the best form she has ever been in. On February 18 she will be one of the 26-strong New Zealand team competing at Bathurst in Australia.

Sarah grew up on a farm near Opunake. She now works as a principal policy advisor for the Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment in Wellington where she lives with partner Dave and sons Freddie and Jacob.

"As a non-professional athlete from New Zealand I've been offered a great opportunity to line up against the best in the world from places like Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda," she says.

These include an Ethiopian woman who is the current world record holder for the 10,000m and half marathon, and is viewed as the front runner.

"New Zealand has a proud history going back, but for us it's a long way to travel, so New Zealand hasn't always sent a full team," says Sarah. "Over recent years the three African teams of Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda have

been very hard to beat. The Australian team is certainly a quality team."

Sarah says at primary school she regularly competed in the Taranaki Cross-Country championships. Her interest in cross country continued to develop as a student at Sacred Heart Girls College in New Plymouth where she recalls training alongside Courtney Stevenson and others.

"I started to venture out and go to New Zealand events," she says. This included two sixth place finishings at the National Secondary Schools' Cross Country Championships and road and steeplechase medals at the New Zealand Track, Field and Road Secondary Schools Championships.

Further success followed after shifting to Wellington, winning bronze at the Senior Women's National Cross Country and gold at the New Zealand Road Championships in 2012. This was followed by a

3000m national bronze medal on the track in 2013.

She had to cut back on her running for a time because of injuries, although she has enjoyed several successes in the last year. These included a win and Personal Best in the Wellington Half Marathon and silver at the National Road Championships.

"I'm 34, nearly 35 with two young kids and I can say I'm in the best shape I've been in," she says. "A year ago I would never have thought I would say that of me."

This is not the first time she has represented New Zealand. She was part of the New Zealand team at the Ekiden Relays in Japan 10 years ago, where she says she came to represent that country's running culture.

Her preparation for the World Championships has included training for running in hot conditions.

"Cross country is challenging," she says. "You have an unknown course which itself will have some surprises."

**We welcome your contributions  
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Sarah Drought is representing New Zealand at the upcoming World Cross Country Championships.

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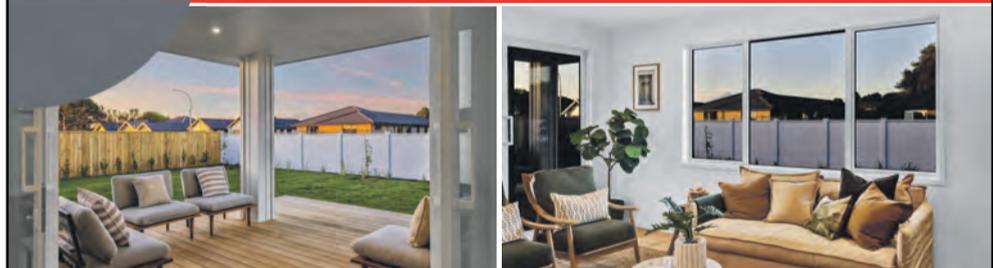
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# Society looks to autumn after summer success

With a successful Summer Flower show under their belt Hawera Horticultural Society members are looking forward to their autumn show in May.

The Society hold a Summer and a Spring Show every year. They had their Summer Show in the weekend at the Hawera Community Centre. Planning is underway for the Autumn Show which will be their first in 33 years, and will also include the National Chrysanthemum Show.

“We’re hoping we can use this as an opportunity to resurrect the autumn show,” says Hawera Horticultural Society president Paul Lander. “A lot of societies used to have four shows, one for each season.”

Last year the Society hosted the National Dahlia Show as part of their Summer Show. Paul says hosting shows such as this is a good way of promoting the club and the area with growers from outside the region.



**A flash of colour for summer.**

insect pests, with how warm it has been. Each section is different. It’s like farming. You have got to roll with the punches a bit.”

There was already something of a queue waiting when the show opened on Saturday.

“People said there wouldn’t be many entries, but I would

he had grown which had never previously been on the market or had even been seen before. He says he had earlier seen a young girl with her aunt admiring a couple of the dahlias he had brought.

“I asked her name. She said Isabella. I said Isabella which of these two do you like the best? She picked one and said I love the colour combination, the way it goes from lemon to apricot to salmon.”

Dennis says he was immediately impressed with her description. He asked her what was her second name. On learning that it was Grace he decided to name this dahlia Isabella Grace after her.

Meanwhile Phyliss

Malcolm had been judging the shrub section and said she was impressed with what she saw.

“Considering all the rain we’ve had the standard is very high and there’s lots of entries. It seems there’s more than last year,” she said. She pointed to the “beautiful hydrangea” from Dorothy Hughes which won the best exhibit from the shrub section.

“This one here is a common hydrangea, not a hybrid. The blooms are so perfect.”

Longstanding Manaia nurseryman David Self was admiring the children’s section.

“This is the best I’ve seen for years,” he said.



**Phyliss Malcolm admires Dorothy Hughes’ winning hydrangea.**

He says this may be reflected in the number of dahlias on display this year, as well as the number of outside exhibitors taking part. Exhibitors had come from as far afield as New Plymouth, Whanganui Feilding and Wellington.

“The roses and the dahlias are really important,” he says. “Growing conditions have been great, but there has been more trouble with

estimate there would be over 500 entries,” Hawera Horticultural Society member Robin Quillinan said. “I think we’ve done damned well.”

Among those judging was Dennis Rodgers from Feilding, a past president of the National Dahlia Society. He says he has been coming to the Hawera show since he was a teenager. He had brought along some dahlias



**Dennis Rodgers, and Isabella Ogle holding the Isabella Grace dahlia named after her.**



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## How to grow feijoas

There's nothing quite like being able to walk out to the garden and pick fresh fruit straight off the tree. If you're thinking of adding a feijoa to your garden, there are loads of feijoa varieties to choose from.

Want large fruit? Try Golden Goose, White Goose, Antoinette, Den's Choice, or Mammoth.

Prefer small to medium-sized fruit? Try Bambina, Gemini, Kakapo, or Ponamu. Have a small garden? Try compact varieties Bambina, Kakapo, Opal Star, Unique, Wiki Tu

Want to grow feijoas as a hedge? Try Apollo or Triumph

Feijoas will tolerate most soils from heavy clay through to sandy soil. Dig a hole around double the depth and width of the container the plant came in, then fill the hole with a mixture of your existing garden soil and a good quality compost. Add blood and bone to stimulate growth. A layer of Mulch

around the base of the shrub will help retain moisture and suppress weed growth.

Stake newly planted feijoas to keep them steady and protect them from wind.

Feijoas are frost hardy and will survive temperatures as low as -10°C. Their ideal growing environment is full sunlight and protection from strong winds.

Keep your feijoa healthy by adding an NPK fertiliser in early autumn, May, and again in summer.

Feijoas are fairly pest and disease free but recently guava moth has been doing damage to feijoa fruit across the country.

Prune feijoas straight after fruiting. Feijoa can be pruned to maintain a certain shape and to stimulate new growth. You can also prune to open up the shrub so birds and insects can have easier access for pollinating. Remove any weak or damaged branches by pruning back to the main trunk.



Golden Goose.



Mt View Lions Club members Joyce Muschamp, Lynley Amo and Elsie Newell were recently awarded Melvin Jones awards.

Hawera Mt. View Lions Club celebrated thirty years in Lions with a pot-luck dinner. During the evening, three members were recognised for their contributions to the Club and Lions International. District governor, Steven Barr presented each member with a Melvin Jones Fellow, the highest award in Lions. Joyce Muschamp has served 30 years, Lynley Amon, 31 years, and Elsie Newell, 30 years, a total of 91 years' service to the Club. Each member has held every position in the Club. Joyce is presently Projects Convenor, Lynley is Bulletin editor, and Elsie is Almoner.



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**Palmer's**



The winning South Taranaki team. From left Cherol Filbee, Don Walls, Ricardo Pintor, Ricky Clement.

# Park player pulls off upset



## Don Walls.

A croquet player from Hawera who took up the game two years ago beat all comers to win a national tournament.

Don Walls won the Croquet NZ Golf Croquet 3+ Handicap Tournament at Levin on January 20-22. The tournament was open entry for players with handicaps of 3 and above. It was Don's first time playing croquet outside Taranaki and he was seeded 14th out of the 16 players taking part.

Don, who is a member of the Park Croquet Club

credits fellow members Ricardo Pintor and Nik Budd-Clement for getting him interested in the game.

"I'd played rugby, cricket and bowls, so my hand and eye were alright. It was just a matter of working out the tactics," says Don.

At the end of round robin play fellow Park Croquet player Ricardo Pintor was at the top of the table with Don placed fourth. In the Top 8 knockout round Don defeated a player from the Levin club, setting himself up for a best of three

matchup against Ricardo for a place in the final. Ricardo won the first round, only to lose the next two to Don. It was the first time Don had beaten Ricardo, who went on to win the play-off for third and fourth places. Meanwhile Don defeated Ian Poole from the Heretaunga Club in Hawkes Bay who he had previously lost to in the round robin to take the cup.

"I'm surprised and relieved that those three days are over," says Don. "And I'm stoked for the club."

# Back to back for South Taranaki

The Croquet South Taranaki team have successfully defended their Lower North Island title.

Last year the South Taranaki Croquet Association had won the Lower North Island Teams Event played at Waikanae. On January 28-29 it was South Taranaki's turn to play host, with games played on the Park Croquet Club and Hawera Croquet Club grounds. Taking part were four player-teams from the Taranaki, South Taranaki, Wellington, Wairarapa, Manawatu-Wanganui and Hawkes Bay Associations.

South Taranaki topped the table with 21 wins ahead of Wellington with 18, Taranaki with 17, Manawatu-Wanganui with

15, Hawkes Bay with 11 and Wairarapa with 8.

The only member of last year's winning South Taranaki team playing this year was team captain Ricky Clement. Other team members were Cheol Filbee, Don Walls and Ricardo Pintor.

The winning margin was closer than the figures suggested, said Ricky.

When the doubles games had finished on Saturday South Taranaki was tied with Wellington on seven games each, ahead of Taranaki on six, meaning it all came down to the singles played on Sunday.

"There were very tight games," said Ricky. "In our team everybody had wins and losses. I won three of my own on the last hoop. On the last one I had to do an

awesome jump shot to win from the side line."

The tournament was held on the same weekend that heavy winds buffeted the North Island, so successfully completing the tournament was seen as something of an achievement. On Friday the Park Croquet grounds were being dubbed Lake James Campbell after the park where the club is based. Although there was light rain on Saturday morning the situation was looking better and play went ahead.

"If the wind keeps up it will keep it dry," noted Ricky. "There are some advantages to living in Taranaki."

Finer weather on Sunday meant that the tournament was completed on time and there were hugs and hand shakes all round as the visiting players departed.

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# Venture Taranaki announce six new curious minds projects



## Curious Minds Taranaki 2020 Haurapa Kiwi Maunga Field Trip.

Te Puna Umanga/Venture Taranaki, the regional development agency, has announced six new community-based science projects have secured funding through the Curious Minds Taranaki programme. This brings the total number of projects funded to 72, with \$1,218,164.41 in funding distributed since 2015.

Led by Venture Taranaki and funded by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and

Employment, the first round of 2023 Curious Minds projects tackle a diverse range of scientific questions through collaborative, community-led research.

“Curious Minds Taranaki empowers our communities to investigate scientific issues that directly impact their lives. This particular group of projects covers an exciting range of topics including sustainable energy, improving our

ability to track kiwi with drones, artificial intelligence, and the health of our awa (rivers) and moana (ocean),” explains Kelvin Wright, Te Puna Umanga /Venture Taranaki Chief Executive.

The Curious Minds Participatory Science Platform aims to nurture grass-roots science by providing communities with a means of accessing expert knowledge and resources to carry out real-world

research. The Platform brings together community groups, scientists, schools, hapū, and industry experts to build science engagement and capability around the region.

The new projects span from the Paraninihi marine reserves in the north through to waterways in Waverley and include students from Auroa School in South Taranaki to Waitara High School and Devon

Intermediate students.

“School engagement is a strategic focus for Venture Taranaki. By enabling students to undertake relevant scientific research and solve problems that matter to them, we’re fostering the next generation of innovative minds and aim to create learners eager to choose STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, Mātauranga) related career pathways,” says Wright.

Thom Adams, Curious Minds Coordinator adds, “What’s exhilarating about science is that you never know which discoveries will be a major catalyst for change. A single project can have a remarkable impact on the lives and communities of the people it affects. We encourage anyone with an idea for a locally-relevant research project to contact us and see if it can be made into a reality.”

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# South Taranaki Rural Health appoints Nurse Manager

South Taranaki Rural Health's (STRH) new Nurse Manager, Nicole Sim says she is thrilled at being able to combine her passion for looking after people with her love of the rural life.

Nicole was born and raised in Okato and lives on a dairy farm with her husband in Warea.

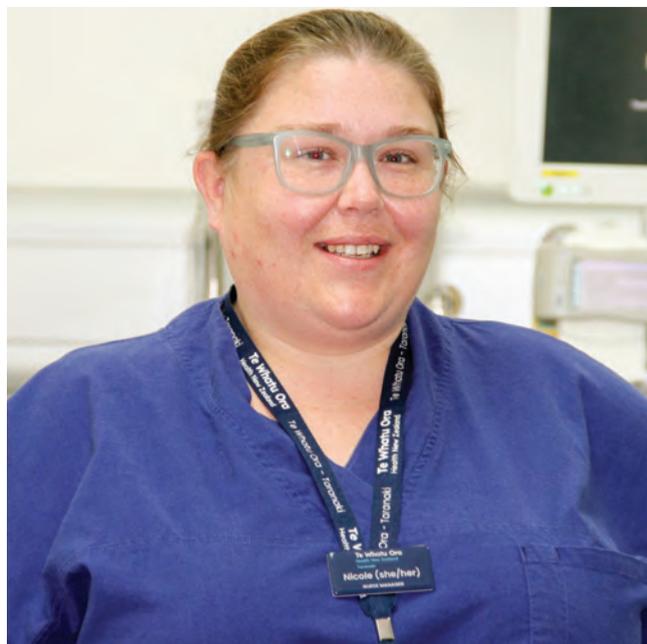
"I trained at the Western Institute of Technology at Taranaki (WITT) and undertook my new graduate year in 2008 at Middlemore Hospital in Auckland," says Nicole.

"I then spent until the end of 2012 working in acute orthopaedics."

Orthopaedic Acute Care provides specialist acute orthopaedic assessment and management of bone and muscle injuries.

"I came home at the end of 2012 to work at Taranaki Base Hospital as a registered nurse and then became a clinical nurse manager. More recently I've helped establish the fracture liaison service and have been working in the community health services team."

"As an owner of a herd



**Nicole Sim.**

of cows and helping to run a farm, I love coming to work with people who understand rural life," says Nicole. "The STRH team are friendly and welcoming, and every day is different. I have family connections to South Taranaki as well, which is a bonus."

Having just finished a Masters' degree in nursing, Nicole's new role involves overseeing the nursing team and working to develop the nursing and health care

assistant workforce in South Taranaki.

When Nicole is not looking after humans, she is looking after animals on her Warea farm.

"I have many friendly cows, three dogs, two cats, and one goat. I am also involved in the business portion of our farm, so am kept busy. When I do get time off, I return to my interests of baking, cooking and art."

# Graduate nurses and doctors swell Taranaki front line staff

Frontline health care staff at Te Whatu Ora in Taranaki are welcoming 34 graduate nurses as well as 16 first year doctors for the start of 2023.

The graduate nurses range in age from 21 to 50 years, and have just graduated from WITT, ARA Institute of Canterbury, WINTEC, Nelson Marlborough Institute of Technology, Southern Institute of Technology, and UCOL in Whanganui, says Gill Campbell, Te Whatu Ora interim Hospital Lead - Hospital and Specialist Services in Taranaki.

"As one of the highest intakes of graduate nurses to Taranaki hospitals in recent years, we welcome these new graduates to start their careers within the District," says Campbell.

"It's wonderful to see the range of people that have chosen nursing as a career."

The 16 new doctors, also known as house officers, are among 504 to have started work at Te Whatu Ora hospitals across Aotearoa.

"We're also really pleased that we have 18 year five medical students starting

with us on their internship as part of their training to become doctors," says Campbell. "They will receive practical experience required for their degree as well as help our medical teams with the high numbers of inpatient presentations we are continuing to experience."

An added bonus is that once they graduate, they often want to return to work in our hospitals for the Taranaki lifestyle they enjoyed during their training."

In the coming fortnight, Campbell also expects 20 new registrars to join. Registrars are doctors that are in at least their third-year post graduation. Many are participating in specialist training programmes.

In addition to the graduate nurses and doctors, across the motu Te Whatu Ora is actively working to improve staff shortages with such initiatives as its Return to Nursing Workforce Support Fund, which removes financial barriers for nurses who wish to return to nursing but need to complete additional training due to time spent out of the nursing

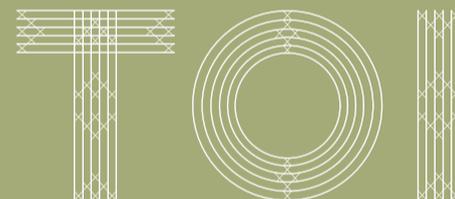
workforce.

The fund supports New Zealand-based nurses without an annual practising certificate, and overseas nurses working as a healthcare assistant or support worker in New Zealand, by providing up to \$5,000 to assist with the costs of returning to practice.

More than 225 applications have been approved since the fund was launched. A new funding round recently opened, and applications will be reviewed monthly, says Campbell.

"We are very keen to help nurses wishing to return with their applications to join us at Te Whatu Ora in Taranaki. Anyone considering a return can contact the hospital to talk it through," says Campbell.

As of 16 January, Te Whatu Ora has received 324 candidate applications from the international recruitment campaign, and 113 new applications through the international generalist nursing campaign. The campaign page has been visited over 260,000 times.



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# Opunakē High School

## Te Kura Tuarua o Opunakē

**CONTACT DETAILS**

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# Principal's Address



Our focus for this year is to be excellent in all that we do at the kura. 'Excellence is the next five minutes'. In order to have a successful and fulfilling future, the positive change we need to make is immediate. Success and achievement does not sit out in the future waiting to happen. Excellence is gained through every korero/ conversation, lesson, meeting, sports game, practical and challenge being performed to the best of one's ability. If the 'next five minutes' is excellent, undoubtedly so will the future of our ākonga.

We celebrated at our initial success iwi our NCEA results, which are currently sitting around 93% at level 1, 96% at level 2, and 90% at level 3. These are amazing outcomes for our kura on the coast, and all our tamariki should be incredibly proud of their academic and vocational achievements.

With a focus on excellence we need a plan to get there. So, introducing Mrs Hooper Carr's 3Ps: 'Presence, Purpose and Practice'. In order to achieve at a high level in any pursuit students need to be mentally present (along with physically), in other words having 'phones off, and brains on', and engaging in the moment. Everyone needs purpose during their time at school. This strengthens motivation, drive, and timelining and is a benchmark on which to gauge achievement and reflect on failure. Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly.

As we all know achievement is 10% inspiration, and 90% perspiration, so to be an academic expert, an athlete, a master chef, a master builder, an artist, a musician you need to dedicate the hours practicing your craft. The more you practice, the luckier you seem to get!!!

So this is the focus of our staff and students for 2023. And we look forward to celebrating our excellence with our rohe/community through swim sports, athletics days, parents' evenings, meeting the teachers, gala night, and korero over many a tasty hangi.

Below are students who gained endorsements in 2022. We are proud of each and everyone of them for their outstanding achievements.

**Level 1 Merit:** Jessica Holmes, Zoe Kruse, Karolin Ison, Ryan Harkness, Luke Forsyth, Cheska Centeno, Enzo Kerr-Slater, Jasmine Stewart, Asha White, Jackson Reader, Caris Bradford, Ashley Howard, Brenae Evans, Alyssa Smith, Kaeden Garvey, Paige Taylor

**Level 1 Excellence:** Charlie Carr, Caleb Neil

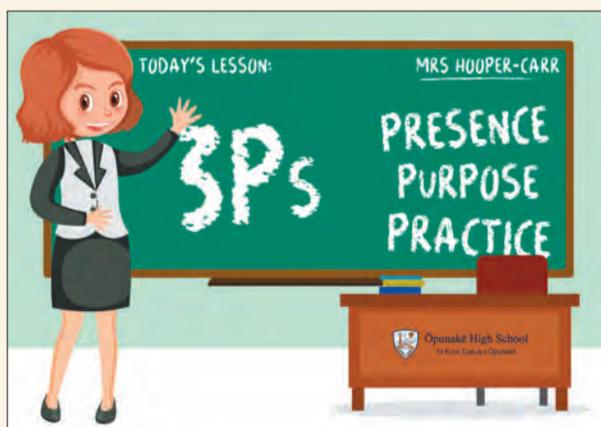
**Level 2 Merit:** Teague Mullin, Charlotte Manley, Aria Brophy, Grace Fowler, Jaree Summerfield, Caitlin Paddon

**Level 2 Excellence:** Jaunte Churchill, Caleb Neil, Jorja Symes, Bethany Cook, Holly Gasson, Harry Gibson

**Level 3 Merit:** Richmond Hughson- Howe, Kyla Coleman, Liam Kidd, Miriama Roach, Kade Forsyth, Cameron Quinnell, Philippa Gasson, Thomas Tito Green

**Level 3 Excellence:** Lorin Symons, Keesha Craig, Lexi McQuaig Ngā mihi

**Andrea Hooper Carr**  
Principal



## Year 9 Orientation Camp

What an amazing start to 2023 for our Year 9 and Year 13 students and staff. After all of the formalities of our welcoming Powhiri, we whipped 120 students and staff away to Te Ngutu o Te Manu, Okaiawa for an overnight camp.

Matua Phil and Whaea Puihi Nuku welcomed us all onto the site and spoke about the significance of the area. Sharing their knowledge and passion for Aotearoa history was quite special. After setting up tent city, all the Year 13 students led some games before dinner. Once it was dark, a couple of games of Spotlight rounded off the first day.

2am is when the rain arrived and a few students woke up to wet feet and beds but it didn't put a damper on the camp. All of the students showed amazing resilience and despite having to call it off a wee bit earlier than we planned, they all had a great time.

We left a koha in the area and planted some makomako trees for the regeneration of the whenua and as a thank you to the hapū for supporting our Orientation for 2023.

## Meet some Year 9s



Name: **Wyatt Dobbin**

Came from: **Auroa Primary School**

Looking forward to: **Learning how to build stuff in woodwork, Tiny Homes and stuff like that.**

First Impressions of OHS? **Good school with good people**

Trimester One subjects: **Distorted Selfies (Art) Cooking Passport, Music 101, English, Maths, Social Science**



Name: **Ngaire-ana Marsters-Peita**

Came from: **Te kura kaupapa Māori o Ngati Ruanui**

Looking forward to? **Going to art class and trying a bit of dance.**

First Impressions of OHS? **The teachers are pretty good**

Trimester One subjects: **Dance 101, Art 101, Mahi me te reo Māori, English, Maths, Social Science**



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# Opunake High School begins 2023



popularity of the school which is reflected in the increasing number of new students enrolling every year. This year the school is welcoming 90 Year 9 students, compared to 75 last year, and 55 the year before that.

“We’re growing our school and promoting our school and catering for anybody who wants to come,” she says. “We have whanau who travel in from Hawera as they know how supportive we are.”

As well as new students the school has four new staff members this year, teaching English, Music and IT.

Assistant Principal David Hughes says as well as the increased number of Year 9 enrolments there are more new students coming in at the Year 11 level. Some of these are new people coming into the region, but there has also been more from the “middle areas” like Manaia and Kaponga choosing to enrol at Opunake.

“We’ve had people from Hawera and Eltham. The furthest we’ve had is from Waitotara. I guess our name is getting out there and the growth has been great.”

A Powhiri to welcome new students and families to the school was held last Thursday.

It’s all systems go for another year at Opunake High School. Year 9 students were welcomed to the school with a powhiri held on Thursday February 2.

“This kura is the best kept secret in Aotearoa,” Opunake High School principal Andrea Hooper Carr told everyone. “You are walking on the

shoulders of giants. The students before you left a legacy. The whole point of your journey is to become extra ordinary. To get success in the future you

have to change the now. Everything you do is now. You need to be bold. You need to be courageous, and the most courageous are the most vulnerable. Everybody

is watching you. It’s only when you are feeling vulnerable that you will find that courage.” Year 9 director Rachael Taylor noted the growing



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# Stan's effluent system needed the extra resource

There's been quite a few changes on Stan Dravitski's dairy farm as it's evolved over the years, and he's become an expert at adapting and finding new uses for old infrastructure. His old effluent management system has served him well over the years, but Stan could see it has reached its capacity and needed a helping hand.

Located in Stratford, South Taranaki, Stan Dravitski's farm stretches over flat to rolling land. A new cow shed has been built, with the old shed now being used for calving and stock yards.



We needed to upgrade our system to spread over hills and other parts of the farm the irrigator can't get to.'

So they contacted Nevada about a slurry tanker.

'We've seen the Nevada slurry tankers in action and liked how they are well built and easy to tow so any of the staff can jump in and take a load out when we can.'

A 12,800L tandem axle was an ideal size for their needs, so they ordered one and the rest is history.

'It's been a great investment. Just what we needed. Staff love it, and any of them can use it. We've cut right back on synthetic ferts, and don't need to get the contractors in to clean out the ponds.'

*Nevada*

## Nevada is a hit with Stan Dravitski's staff.

Effluent from the new shed runs into a sump which is then pumped out to a Cobra travelling rain gun. Excess effluent is pumped into a PermaStore® glass-fused-to-steel tank when needed. The

old shed is connected to two holding ponds which Stan would get contractors in to empty.

Understandably Stan had plenty of storage, and plenty of effluent nutrients

available, but the irrigator system could only pump so much over a limited area.

'The nutrients were getting wasted just sitting there until we got a contractor to come and empty the ponds.'

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# Call to halt decline of wetlands

New Zealanders are being encouraged to consider creating and preserving wetlands to help halt the decline of these threatened habitats across the country.

Just nine per cent of the country's original wetlands remain, and Fish & Game is urging landowners to recognise the value of wetlands

'Wetlands are one of our most threatened habitats,' says Corina Jordan, chief



**Corina Jordan.**

executive of Fish & Game NZ.

'We have lost most of our small wetlands. This has a significant environmental impact because they provide a buffering function for waterways by trapping sediment and filtering nutrient run-off, and they have an important role in flood management by slowing pulses of water flow.'

'What's more, wetlands play a role in mitigating climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide and filtering greenhouse gases, and they are essential habitat for both indigenous plants and animals as well as our valued introduced species.'

'Southland is an interesting case study. The

Environment Court recently found that their rivers have degraded water quality. A forum commissioned by Environment Southland concluded the most cost-effective way to improve that was to develop five per cent of modified land into wetlands. The greatest potential water quality benefits are associated with on-farm wetland construction.'

Jordan agrees there are huge opportunities on private land to create, enhance or develop more wetlands and help halt the decline of these vital ecosystems.

'We know farmers have a deep affinity for the land and recognise the potential the 'swampy bottom paddock' may have as a wetland,

although many may still be unsure how to go about restoring and enhancing it.

She says over the past 30 years, Fish & Game has been the lead agency in New Zealand when it comes to wetland conservation.

'Not only have we been the strongest advocates for better protection of wetlands in legislation, but Fish & Game has helped farmers with hundreds of wetland projects across the country.'

'Since 1993, the Trust has raised and disbursed \$2.3 million on wetland habitat projects, resulting in an annual average of 31ha of restored wetlands every year.'

However, Jordan says all New Zealanders must take greater responsibility.

'Up until recently, the value of wetlands has not been recognised. They were perceived to be unproductive parts of our landscape that were drained and cleared.'

'We want the Government and regional councils to look again at their wetland policies, many of which are getting in the way of landowners wanting to do more to establish, manage and even maintain existing wetlands.'

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Based on that average fixation rate, Ruru grows enough extra yield to give you up to 14 kg nitrogen per hectare per year than some similar clovers.

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Your animals benefit, too. They love clover. It tastes great and keeps them thriving during late spring and summer with ample protein and the highest energy level of any pasture species.

In warm weather, when grass is not always at its best, Ruru's prolific growth makes cows, sheep, cattle and deer happy and productive.

Fun facts – research has shown if a cow eats one kg of ryegrass and one kg of

clover, she produces 30% more milk from eating the clover compared with the ryegrass. . And pasture with high clover content grows lambs at 50-100 grams liveweight per day more than pasture with low clover.

Sow with confidence  
Ruru has extra tricks up its sleeve to help power your farm system, including high grazing tolerance, strong spreading growth and good tolerance of clover root weevil.

New Zealand grown seed is available for sowing this autumn. Order yours from your seed merchant today, and get your pastures pumping.

Bruce Paterso, Barenbrug.

## RMA will be even bigger monster-Feds

The Natural and Built Environment Bill and Spatial Planning Bill will make resource management issues worse and should be withdrawn, Federated Farmers has told the Environment Select Committee.

"Farmers agree the costly, slow and unpredictable processes under the RMA need fixing, but in getting rid of the old dog the government risks replacing it with an even bigger monster," Feds national board member and RMA spokesperson Mark Hooper says.

"We are very concerned that the NBE is riddled with new, amorphous terms, like upholding the interconnectedness of the environment, and a focus on well-being will launch New Zealand into a decade of court cases trying to understand what anything in the Bill means."

Federated Farmers argued that requirements for decisions to promote 18 different system outcomes, alongside future well-being and interconnectedness, create an impossible maze for a Minister to navigate when setting new regulations.

"We could accept the pain of going through this process if we thought the new bills would lead to a better outcome in the end. Unfortunately, after a decade of court cases, farmers will be left with a regime that looks very similar to the one they have now, if not worse," Hooper said.

"While the Minister has been singing 'Stronger, better, faster', I can't help but think of The Who's 'We Won't Get Fooled Again'.

"When the current RMA was introduced we were told it was 'world-leading.' Thirty years on, no-one else in the world has followed our lead in bundling all environmental law together. Under the new bill all the frameworks are still essentially the same and farmers will still need a costly resource consent for all the same things they do now."

There are also some really concerning aspects to these bills for rural communities and local democracy. The bills propose to shift all planning decisions away from New Zealand's 67 city and district councils to 15 new Regional Planning Committees. These Regional

Planning Committees will have a mix of council and iwi or hapū appointees, none of whom will be directly accountable to the towns and districts they set the rules over, the Feds submission said.

This would mean decisions relating to transport, parks, and urban planning in a place like Taupō would happen in Hamilton, Masterton would see decisions made in Wellington, and Timaru would be planned out of Christchurch.

"This of course happens fast on the heels of decisions to strip district councils of responsibility for Three Waters. If we aren't careful, there won't be much left for district councils to do but organise the Santa parade," Hooper said.

"If the Government is serious about shifting New Zealand from our current three tiers of government to two, this should be done transparently. We don't accept a situation where district councils are stripped of responsibility piecemeal.

"Federated Farmers knows the Government has put five years into this reform, so it won't be easy to just start

again. But we are also of the view that these bills need a fundamental rethink.

"The song the Minister should be singing is perhaps Kenny Rogers, Know when to hold, Know when to fold, and when to walk away."



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# Spurring tech and development through Fieldays

Research and product development are long-term investments and Fieldays has been the platform for launching innovations in

Aotearoa New Zealand for more than 54 years.

While most economists predict a downturn this year, if history repeats

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Steve Chappell (middle) discusses an Innovation Award entry in the Fieldays Innovation Hub.

itself, the silver lining is that innovation thrives as a solution to challenging environments.

With entries now open for Fieldays June 14 – 17 2023 and a total prize package of cash, services and product worth more than \$60,000, Fieldays Programme Manager Steve Chappell said they predict a high calibre of entries this year.

“We expect to see development in all areas, especially Agritech, autonomous systems, software developments, robotics in manufacturing, and solving worker

shortages” says Steve.

“Innovation in these areas usually reflects the climate we are in, and often we see companies needing to think smarter and be more efficient when times are harder. Data collection and measuring tools, management apps, and a big focus on environmental reporting are also topical currently.”

The Fieldays Innovation Awards is a globally renowned award programme and innovation in the agricultural and primary industries provides a stable growth market with plenty of opportunity.

Fieldays Innovation awards represent the innovation lifecycle in three categories: Prototype, Early-Stage, and Growth & Scale. Special recognition is also given to younger innovators, with an award for the Fieldays Young Innovator of the year award.

“The short turnaround since Fieldays 2022 means this year’s entries will really be hot of the press. We expect entries from all around the world in the food and fibre sector”.

The Fieldays Innovation Awards are an opportunity to showcase an idea or

innovation, receive feedback from Fieldays visitors, and connect with potential partners, distributors, investors and the New Zealand innovation ecosystem.

Entries are encouraged from across the Primary Sector, which refers to: Dairy, Meat & Wool, Forestry, Horticulture - including Viticulture, Seafood - including Aquaculture and Fishing, Arable, and Agri Tech - including Food Tech and Green Tech.

The Young Innovator Award is now for entrants 19 years and under.

Fieldays wants to showcase the amazing innovations coming from school-age entrants. “So many great ideas are coming through that deserve acknowledgement, and we expect a lot of competition”, said Steve.

The Growth & Scale category is now for innovations commercialised in the last four years and for sale in at least two countries, one of which must be New Zealand.

Entrants can now add additional information to their entry once it is accepted into the awards to ensure the judges have the most up-to-date information.

A new rotation system will be introduced to the awards judging panel, with new judges joining the existing broad range of experts from across the innovation ecosystem.

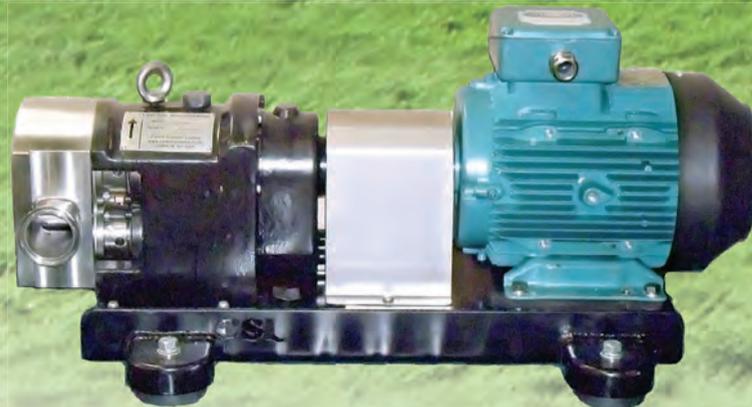
“These changes will continue to ensure the Fieldays Innovation Hub will again be buzzing as the centre of the Innovation ecosystem at Fieldays,” says Steve.

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# Riding Club success at Taupo

On January 7-8, six members of the Coastal Adult Riding Club travelled to the national event (NZRC South And North Island Teams Event), held this year at Taupo and came away with a handful of trophies, placing first in four out of six phases and emerging as the overall winners against 12 teams from all over New Zealand.



The Coastal 'Hardcore' winning Team. From left, Maree Collins (Ollie), Emily Perrin (Ruby), Nikki Spedding (Mac), Tina Egan (Rescue), Jade Egan, Glenda Schumacher (Kim).

The phases were Riding Club Mount, which included Turnout and an Obstacle course. In the afternoon there was the Quadrille,

which involves four riders working together, telling a story to music and their theme was "Buzzy Bees" This was followed by a show cross derby, which is a combination of cross country and show jumping and this took place in pouring rain.

there were Team Mounted Games, so after a very busy weekend, the Coastal "Hardcore" Team members were delighted to find that they had won overall.

On Sunday morning the team placed first in the Gambler's Stakes, a show jumping event where only the bravest can tackle the "Joker" and this was followed by Team Formation Jumping, in which again they placed first. Finally,

Most of the team members come from the Stratford area. They were Glenda Schumacher (riding Kim), Maree Collins (Ollie), Emily Perrin (Ruby), Nikki Spedding (Mac), Tina Egan (Rescue) and Jade Egan. The team Manager was Jill Benton.

# Taranaki Air Rifle Club

It couldn't have been much wetter with a big low pressure all over the North Island on January 28. A keen bunch of Air Rifle enthusiasts turned up to shoot indoors 25 yards bench rest paper. Scores were of 40 shots with handicap added. The most improved shooter to win was Nigel Kay with 417.39 . Second was Keith Zehnder and Frank

Eustace a distant third.. With scores with handicap close to 400 or just over it made a very level playing field for everyone. After a cuppa some shooters stayed for a further 40 shots. A perfect 200 score was shot by Frank to finish on end on 396 followed by Geoff Coubrough second and third Keith Zehnder. Scores

with handicaps were: Nigel Kay 417.39, Keith Zehnder 408.71. Frank Eustace 406.15, John Costain 403.34, Geoff Coubrough 400.69, Paul Kuriger 400. Mark Evans 385.32. Karen and Brian Cook had scores off the rifle of 255 and 323 , Some scores were affected by low air pressure and double loading. With

the threat of disqualifying if shooters shot on wrong targets there was a lot of care to try and make sure that did not happen. I would have to say that the bar of expectation was raised. What we used to shoot no longer cuts the mustard. On February 4 it was a real hot Saturday, and so to shoot indoors was a relief

from the burning sun. Geoff Coubrough had a return to form shooting some tight groups . Mark Evans was the man of the day Having a tight group with his handicap to score 138.75 closely followed by last week's winner Nigel Kay leaving Geoff Coubrough on third . Grouping scores were : Mark Evans 138.75,

Nigel Kay 222.35, Geoff Coubrough 792.6, John Costain 1063.35, John Chandler 1190.5. Other shooters tried outside on the 50 metre range. The best of those was Keith Zehnder and Shane Roberts . Those two will be a force to reckon with next time a competition at 50 metres is held. Frank Eustace.

# Beware of sea lice and other biting ocean critters

Beach-goers heading to cool off in the sea this summer are being warned to act quickly if they are nipped by sea lice and other minuscule ocean critters.

and other marine creatures too tiny to see. Abby Matthews, Taranaki Regional Council's Director-Environment Quality, says the creatures are more prevalent and active in the summer months with the warmer sea temperatures and urged people to act quickly if they had suffered a bite or stung while paddling or swimming.

"Our region has some fantastic beaches and the awesome weather we've been having means they've been really busy with people cooling off and enjoying a swim," says Ms Matthews. "While we're not warning people to stay away, we're reminding beach-goers that there are hazards to be aware of. This includes marine creatures that can bite or sting and that can result in a pretty painful rash that will put a damper on your summer break or trip to the coast."

the rashes and itching should ease after a week. Dr Jonathan Jarman, from the Taranaki Public Health Service, said that they had received several reports of itchy rashes following swimming in the sea. "The best thing to do if you start to notice an itchy rash after swimming is to get out of your swim suit as soon as you can and then have a shower. That way you'll remove any remaining stinging cells that remain on the skin. Togs will also need to be washed in hot soapy water and dried thoroughly to make sure all the stinging

cells are removed or inactivated completely. "The rash can be quite annoying but can usually be managed by over-the-counter medications from a pharmacy. Phone Healthline at 0800 611 116 or talk to your doctor if you are worried." Sea lice (or isopods) typically grow up to 1.5 millimetres long and tend to live in warm shallow sand or rock pools, or near the shoreline. A swimmer might feel a bite from a sea lice as they can be painful and leave itchy red dots on the skin -

similar to a mosquito or flea bite. However, beach-goers only tend to be aware of jellyfish stings after they have left the water when their skin develops an itchy rash that can sometimes blister and weep. Microscopic jellyfish can leave a skin rash around and under swimwear where there is potential for them to become trapped.

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News comes out on February 23 2023

# Sandfords Manaia Golf Club results

February 4. Saturday Men. 1. Adrian Hayward. 2. Grant Hastie. 3. Gary Wallis. 4. Mike King. Seven Manaia ladies played at Te Ngutu in the Taranaki 36/18 hole strokeplay on Sunday.

Carolyn and Michelle were placed in the silver division, and Dinny and Jackie in the bronze division. February 6. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Rejects. 2. Hakuna Matata. 3. Where are my Keys. 4. On Call.

Reactions to stings and bites can vary with some people experiencing mild itching and rash, while others may develop intense itchy rashes or other symptoms such as pain, fever, nausea or diarrhoea. In most cases,

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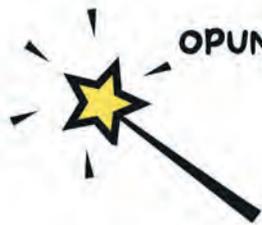
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OPUNAKE PLAYERS INC PRESENTS

# Cinderella

By Amanda Stone



February - Saturday 11th 7pm  
Sunday 12th 1pm (Matinee)  
Thursday 16th 7pm  
Friday 17th 7pm.

Adults \$20 5-13 yrs \$10  
4yrs and under free on parent/guardian lap  
Show starts 7.00pm

Tickets available at  
Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Ltd, Opunake



Why is Prince Percy looking so perky? Because Cinderella is back on and he can impress you with his enormous talent, along with the rest of the cast as well.

## Cinderella Is Back

Covid be gone! Opunake Players had to reluctantly cancel performances of their end of year panto "Cinderella" due to a pesky little virus. However, we may have been down, but we are not out and, we are back. "Cinderella" will play this February for four performances only. And the dates are.. February 11 at 7pm, matinee February 12 at 1pm, Thursday February 16 and Friday 17 at 7pm.

Tickets are available from Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration. Adults \$20, Children \$10, preschool free on a knee. We are looking forward to performing this hilarious panto for you, at long last. Be in quick!

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Book a 2-hour time slot (3 spots every 15 minutes) at our interactive event which includes 2 practical driving sessions (emergency braking and cornering). Cars will be supplied,

Pukekura Raceway, New Plymouth  
Pick a time on either Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> February 10-4pm or  
Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> February 9-3pm

Instructors including ex NZV8 Championship driver Phil Blythe

Call 0800 111 323 to book a spot or  
Text your name & preferred day & time to: Suz 027 477 8361 or  
Email your name & preferred time to: [info@roadsafetaranaki.nz](mailto:info@roadsafetaranaki.nz)



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AUSSIE AUSSIE AUSSIE - 11 FEBRUARY 2023



# EVENT

# TBA

UPCOMING...2023

# Zeal partners with STDC to host Great Skate



Zeal are rolling with the youth of Hawera.

Youth not-for-profit Zeal will roll into Hawera next month, hosting The Great Skate Competition for local teenagers, in partnership with South Taranaki District Council.

A large amount of local youth are expected to attend at the Hawera Skatepark on Saturday February 11 from 11am – 3pm, where they will get the opportunity to bust out their favorite tricks in the hope of taking home

the top prizes.

The competition is open to intermediate and high school aged youth, and there will be three categories – beginner, intermediate and advanced for the more seasoned and experienced skaters.

Zeal is a national youth organisation that creates communities of belonging and creativity, supporting young people to find and shape a healthy identity and to know their innate worth.

The organisation, which was a finalist for Community of The Year in 2016, provides creative youth development services in regions across the North Island and was welcomed to Taranaki in 2018 by the New Plymouth District Council and TOI Foundation.

Regional Manager Luke Galley says he is proud to lead Zeal's work in Taranaki: "I'm so excited about this event, summer is so great for

skate comps and they are so much fun whether you are just learning to skate, have a few years under your belt or are incredibly experienced.

"A range of young Taranaki artists will be taking to the stage too to provide entertainment throughout the afternoon, so

we are delighted to be able to provide this platform to showcase local talent too."



The competition is open to intermediate and high school aged youth.

**NPR**  
NEW PLYMOUTH RACEWAY

**SUMMER AT THE RACES**

**FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY!**

**FREE ENTRY**

FIRST RACE 12.26PM  
LAST RACE Aprx 4.30PM  
BAND AFTER THE LAST - SUPER FLY

**ZEAL**

**PAINT PARTY!!!**

Paint Party, Zorb Balls, Bouncy Castles, Water Slide, Face Painting & more!

**Sat 18th Feb 3pm-6pm**

**TSB Hub, Hāwera**

Koha Entry  
All Ages Family Event

# Sunshine Boys come to Little Theatre



Morris West as Al Lewis and David Rohe as Willie Clark.

New Plymouth Little Theatre's next show is The Sunshine Boys and Opening Night is April 12. Tickets come on sale mid-February.

David Rohe who plays Willie Clark is from Opunake and travels to New Plymouth three times a week for rehearsals

The Sunshine Boys is about Al Lewis and Willie Clark. Lewis and Clark were once a successful vaudevillian comedy duo known as the Sunshine Boys. During the later years of their 43-year run, animosity between the partners grew to the point where they ceased to speak with each other. Eleven years prior to the events of the play, Al retired from show business, leaving Willie struggling to keep his career afloat.

Willie, now an old man struggling with memory loss, reluctantly accepts an offer from his nephew Ben, a talent agent, to reunite with Al for a CBS special on the history of comedy.

The Sunshine Boys is directed by Vivienne Baty.

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**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

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NEW PLYMOUTH LITTLE THEATRE PRESENTS  
**THE SUNSHINE BOYS**  
A CLASSIC COMEDY BY NEIL SIMON  
APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>  
2023  
DIRECTED BY VIVIENNE BATY

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A COMMUNITY THEATRE PRODUCTION BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUAL FRENCH & THE NZ PLAY BUREAU

Current operating hours:  
Wednesday to Sunday:  
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Reserve your table online at [www.thefestoon.co.nz](http://www.thefestoon.co.nz)

### CLASSIC COVER AMERICARNA

22-25 FEBRUARY 2023



TARANAKI

CLASSIC COVER

### WED 22

ŌPUNAKĒ BEACH  
11:30am - 2:30pm  
Cars on display

### THUR 23

WAITARA CBD  
12:30pm - 3:00pm  
Cars on display

INGLEWOOD STREET PARTY  
4:00pm - 8:00pm  
Cars on display

### FRI 24

STRATFORD CBD  
9:45am - 12:45pm  
Cars on display

HĀWERA CBD  
1.30pm - 5:15pm  
Cars on display  
2:30pm  
Acceleration Display on Albion Street

NEW PLYMOUTH CBD  
6:30pm - 9:30pm  
Devon Street Cruise

### SAT 25

NEW PLYMOUTH  
10:00am - 3:00pm  
Americarnival

FREE Childrens Activities at Puke Ariki Landing

Cars on display Show 'n Shine & Free Family Day

# Americarna returns for 2023 and celebrates 15<sup>th</sup> event in Taranaki

With the 2022 event becoming another Covid casualty, Americarna and the Taranaki Vehicle Events Trust (TVET) are gearing up for their biggest event yet.

2023 will celebrate the 15th Americarna event held in Taranaki, a proud milestone for everyone involved. This accomplishment and the 2023 event simply could not have been achieved without the support of long serving sponsors, councils and funding providers.

Entries are near capacity with over 900 vehicles registered to take part in scenic cruises throughout

Taranaki and stopping in local towns including Waitara, Inglewood, Opunake, Stratford, Hawera and New Plymouth.

Americarna is a huge celebration of American car culture from old, classic, modern and everything in between. Entrants come together to share their passion and unique vehicles with other participants, the Taranaki population and our out-of-town visitors.

Whilst the event has grown, the key principles have remained the same – to develop an event the whole of Taranaki could enjoy at no cost, to provide significant

benefit to businesses from the number of people visiting the region, and to establish a family-friendly offering that all age groups can enjoy.

Americarna 2023 will see the return of international guests and will be hosting Gabe Lopez Sr of Gabe's Custom Interiors. Gabe is one of the leading custom upholsters in the United States of America with numerous industry awards including the Hall of Fame.

Gabe will be accompanied by his son Jesus Lopez. Passionate from a young age, Jesus has worked in his families shop and in 2021 he founded his own – Lopez

Performance.

Fletch from Classic Restos TV Australia also returns to Americarna in 2023. Classic Restos is an Award Winning, Lifestyle Automotive TV Show that has amassed over 700 episodes to date. It has been in continuous production for 15 years, going to air across various Television Networks in seven countries every week including Sky TV and Indian TV New Zealand, as well as on-line mediums.

The event will once again be a major boost to the Taranaki economy especially after a tough few years for many. A projected \$3 million will go back into local communities and several industries still recovering from Covid related damages.

**Key dates:**

- Wednesday 22nd February 2023 – Opunake Beach
- Thursday 23rd February 2023 – Waitara and Inglewood
- Friday 24th February 2023 – Stratford, Hawera and New Plymouth's Main Street Cruise
- Saturday 25th February 2023 – Americarnival New Plymouth CBD



*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 Service – Okato – St. Paul's – Pew for You, every 3rd Thursday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm

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**Opunake Catholic Church**  
St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month  
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)  
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am  
All welcome

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**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**  
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

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**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



Americarna is back. Check out the displays around Taranaki.

**EVERYBODY'S THEATRE OPUNAKE**

72 Tasman Street, Opunake - [www.everybodystheatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodystheatre.co.nz) Phone 027 383 7926  
Adults \$12, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$10, Under 4 free

---

<p><b>THE FABELMANS</b> Drama   1hr 30mins   M: Violence Thursday 9th February 7pm</p>	<p><b>MY OLD SCHOOL</b> Doco, Drama   1hr 44mins   E Sunday 12th February 7pm Sunday 19th February 7pm</p>
<p><b>MAGIC MIKES LAST DANCE</b> Comedy, Drama   1hr 50mins   M: Language, sexual references Friday 10th February 7pm Saturday 18th February 7pm</p>	<p><b>WHAT'S LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT</b> Comedy, Romance   1hr 49mins   M Thursday 16th February 7pm</p>
<p><b>TAD THE EXPLORER - CURSE OF THE MUMMY</b> Animated, Family   1hr 29mins   PG Saturday 11th February 1pm</p>	<p><b>THE WHALE</b> Drama   1hr 57mins   M: Suicidal Themes Friday 17th February 7pm</p>
<p><b>THE SON</b> Drama   2hrs 3mins   M: Self harm Saturday 11th February 7pm Sunday 19th February 7pm</p>	<p><b>MY FAIRY TROUBLEMAKER</b> Animated, Family   1hr 19mins   G Saturday 18th February 1pm</p>
<p><b>WE ARE STILL HERE</b> Drama   1hr 30mins   M: Violence Sunday 12th February 1pm</p>	



**GOT COWS THAT AREN'T QUITE... ALL THERE?**

	<p>Kane Barrett 027 403 6469 <a href="http://www.affco.co.nz">www.affco.co.nz</a></p>	<p>ANZCO, AFFCO, and Silver Fern Farms are working with CoastalCare to help you take care of your "special animals", donating proceeds to CoastalCare Health Trust to help us with the building extensions we need to get closer to our fundraising target!</p>
	<p>Brendon Kelly 027 664 6605 <a href="http://www.silverfernfarms.com">www.silverfernfarms.com</a></p>	
	<p>Bruce Thompson 027 445 5285 or Nigel Corbett 027 453 7602 <a href="http://www.anzcofoods.com">www.anzcofoods.com</a></p>	

## A STAR IS BORED



22

## What's On Listings

### ONGOING

#### Movies at Everybodys Theatre in

**Opunake:** Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

**MONDAYS:** Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street  
**Opunake:** Each Monday 10 am - 12:230 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.

### WEDNESDAYS

**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

**Coastal Young Farmers:** Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.

**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.

**Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth:** Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.

### WEEKENDS

**The Historic Cape Light & Museum:** Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

### JANUARY 23 - MARCH 3

**Creative Clearance Exhibition:** At the Village Gallery, Eltham.

### JANUARY 28 - FEBRUARY 12

**Opunake Boat & Underwater Club Annual Competition**

### FEBRUARY 11

**Aussie, Aussie, Aussie:** At Butlers Reef, Oakura.

### FEBRUARY 11, 12, 16 & 17

**Opunake Players present Cinderella:** At the Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake.

### FEBRUARY 17

**Summer at the Races:** At the New Plymouth Raceway. First race, 12.26 pm.

### FEBRUARY 18

**Zeal Paint Party:** At the TSB Hub, Hawera. 3pm. See ad and article for more info.

**Ngati Tara Hapu Hui:** At Te Potaka Marae, Oaonui. 11am

### FEBRUARY 18 & 19

**Free Driver Training with Roadsaf Taranaki:** At the Pukekura Raceway.

### FEBRUARY 22 TO 25

**Americarna:** Events around Taranaki. See ad and article for more details.

### APRIL 12 & 22

**New Plymouth Little Theatre presents The Sunshine Boys:** See ad and article for more details

## Nicky Moran Concert

Li'l ole Inglewood Town Hall is in for a giant two hour evening of entertainment with Nicky Moran from 7-9 pm on Sunday, March 19. Her 10th Gospel album "Unlocked", released during the 2021 and 2022 covid season, incorporates a wide range of country/gospel, 70s nostalgia/disco and folk/rock flavour. Something for almost everyone. Nicky's performances have a natural flow with her keyboard reflecting Elton John and Carole King styles. She also really enjoys playing many

other instruments especially acoustic guitar, bass, electric ukulele and drums. Nicky shared that, "My songs are about life, love, how precious we are, the journey of hope and healing and how to get to know the Almighty." She loves fronting or playing in bands on any instrument singing lead or backup, but, usually her shows are sole multi-instrumental live looping with lots of fun and harmonies.

As a small child Nicky has always wanted to sing and record songs. Throughout her

early life she was plagued with allergies which she says caused her to have an 'ugly duckling' vocal sound, so she taught piano instead. Through tormenting health issues in her 30s she encountered what she called "Divine Inspiration" and her songs kicked in with hope, healing and light in that dark place. Nicky shared that she discovered that, "... the 'swan' was her true heart voice. She was led to prolific songwriting, recording and releasing and touring since 2008. Nicky decided to give up her part-

time job as a forensics mental health nurse and said, "Now I am convinced of my call to sing to hearts to bring hope and healing." She has clocked up hundreds of concerts, and tours New Zealand prisons almost every year since 2014. Nicky is currently on a 62 gig community tour from mid-January—early May 2023 in prisons, pubs, churches, rehabs and Aglow meetings with her uplifting solo concerts.

This is one concert you won't want to miss, put it in your diary. Entry is by koha.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**The Opunake Beach Carnival Committee would like to thank...**

... the following businesses for their support for the 2023 Beach Carnival.

Campbell Contracting, Thomson O'Neil & Co, Barbwire Boxing, Pastimes, Gibson Plumbing, Kinatai Bach Stay, Opunake Motel and Backpackers, Karams Clothing, Cecelias on Tasman, Coastal Agri, Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration, Agrimec Autos, Opunake Pharmacy, Turnheads, Country Connections, Hair Razor, The Rock Shop, Farmlands, Farmsource, Everybody's Theatre, Opunake Surf Inn, The Club Hotel, Rahoitu Tavern, The Vault, Surf Highway Wash & Dry Laundromat, Soul Kitchen, The Blue Dairy, Coastal Vets, Opunake Chinese Takeaways, Coastal Sports Centre, McDonald's Real Estate, Dreamtime Surf Shop, Classic Auto Repaints, Ihaia Motors, TSB, Māwhero Studio, Opunake Motors, Fabulous Flowers, Opunake Foursquare 45, Opunake Beach Holiday Park, Coastal Greengrocer, Coastal Supermarket, St Pauls Op Shop, Coastal 45 Goodz, Elite Farm Solutions, The Good Home, Opunake Fish Chips and More.

Also thank you to Samantha Smith and Trish Mackenzie our Judges and Taylah Smith for helping manage the pageant.

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

**Ngati Tara Hapu Hui**

Te Potaka Marae, Oaonui  
Saturday 18 Feb 2023 at 11 am

- Agenda:
- Mihi/Karakia
  - Whanaungatanga
  - Ngati Tara Hapu
    - Past, Present & Future
    - Hapu Development
    - Establishing hapu governance structure
    - Kawenata with TKoT (PSGE)

- Election of interim Hapu reps
- Energy Sector Update
- Rahui Update
- Next Steps
- Whakamutunga
- Shared Kai

Enquires: TeUraura Nganeko 0210739157



**THIRD RATES INSTALMENT**

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third instalment of rates for 2022/2023 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 22 February 2023**.

FM Aitken  
Chief Executive

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Su Hammond, 027 632 0495

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Wed 9.00 am to 12.00pm

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

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**SITUATIONS VACANT**



There could be a position for someone, preferably  
who has worked on newspapers, to help run the  
Opunake & Coastal News.  
Familiarity with the various aspects of putting  
together a newspaper helpful, including a willingness  
to be involved in the crucial area of marketing, which  
of course finances the paper.  
Please send CV in the first instance to the editor at  
bernice@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz



Next Meeting is on  
Monday February 13, 2023  
at 5.30pm

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



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- Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St
- Stratford Knit & Sew, 202 Broadway
- First National, Stratford.
- Eltham Four Square
- Outside First National, Cnr of Victoria and High Streets, Hawera
- Outside Nursery Rhyme, 158 High St, Hawera



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The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is  
due out on the 23rd of February, 2023. If you would like to contribute, or  
advertise, call us on 06 761 7016.

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