



Inside...



For sale at the Village Gallery, Eltham at 'clearance' prices. This one is by Paul Burgham. See page 24.



The NZ native bush is as treat to be savoured.



Arthouse cinema at Butlers Reef. See page 23

Happy New Year everyone.
See our publication dates for 2013 page 2.

Earthquake proofing Theatre

With plans to make Opunake's Everybody's Theatre a multifunctional facility available for concerts, dances and other functions Everybody's Theatre could become the focal point of the town believes Egmont Plains Community Board Chairperson Sharon Arlidge.

Stage one of the earthquake strengthening of Opunake's Everybody's Theatre is now nearing completion with reinforcing beams being added to the auditorium area of the historic theatre.

The beams were dropped in through the roof of the theatre by crane. The cost of this massive project, \$221,000, was funded by the Pub Charities.

Everybody's Theatre was "yellow stickered" by South Taranaki District Council engineers following the second big Christchurch earthquake.

Debbie Campbell who is chairperson of the Everybody's Theatre Trust said the second stage of the refurbishment which will follow will be "tidying it up and putting it back together".

The reinforcing of the auditorium has meant that the interior cladding had to be removed. The toilets are also going to be relocated. An architect has been employed to redraw plans for the interior refurbishment.

So next up they will be getting quotes for the fire rated wall linings, fire alarms and upgrading the electrical and lighting system. There are also plans to install a small kitchen. The toilet area which also required reinforcing beams are to also be altered and will be completely refurbished.

They are currently waiting to apply for funding from



Lowering the reinforcing beams into the theatre via the roof.



Vehicle misses bend

Fortunately no one was injured when this car left the road several kilometres south of Opunake recently. Driving rain may have contributed to the accident which was attended by the Opunake Fire Service.

the TSB Community Trust said Debbie. Adding that the second stage of the operation which will also include purchasing a new digital projector has been estimated to cost in the region of \$303,000. Explained Debbie the new projector is required because it is expected that by the end of 2013 all movies will be digital making the old projector obsolete.

The quaint Everybody's Theatre has been a picture theatre since 1921.

The premises were originally built as a general store in 1914.

In 1921 a local family, the O'Rorkes, bought the building and built on the auditorium at the back converting it to a picture theatre which it has been ever since.

In 1980 the community bought the theatre which was then privately owned by Bruce Whiting who had run it as a picture theatre for many years.

Everybody's Theatre has been run by volunteers ever since.

In March 2012 it was yellow stickered. The engineering report said it needed to be earthquake strengthened describing the structural safety of the building as "questionable" and no longer safe for the public.

It is only the auditorium area that's unsafe said Debbie - the part where everybody sits. "The front bit's OK".

The theatre shut its doors on March 9 2012.

So far the community has

Continued page 3

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Letters to the editor

Mayor agrees fluoride dosage exceeds recommendations by US Research Council

I have had a response from Mayor Dunlop with regards to the dosage of fluoride that bottle fed babies are receiving. The mayor has agreed that the dosage exceeds what the National Research Council (top scientific body in the US)

has determined is likely to affect the thyroid. His reasoning of why this is okay appears to be because local GP Dr Blayney says so. The mayor has then advised that I contact other organisations such as the Ministry of Health or the DHB since he really has no explanation of his own even though it is him and his fellow councillors, not

the Ministry of Health or the DHB, that are responsible for administering this medication. It is also interesting that the mayor is relying on local GP Dr Blayney when Dr Blayney could not medicate even one person without their informed consent, yet is encouraging the mayor and councillors to do this to thousands of people.

Parents have a right to know what medications their children are receiving. The fact that their bottle fed baby is being given a dosage of fluoride via the public water supply known to affect thyroid and not even being told, is outrageous and is also unacceptable.

Mary Byrne
 Featherston



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Publication Dates for 2013

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S	S M T W T F S
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SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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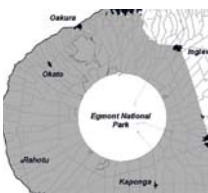
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Do you have a bee in your bonnet about a current local issue? Share it with us in an email to the editor: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz or fax (06) 761 7016

Earthquake proofing for Everybody's Theatre

Continued from page 1

raised \$15,000 in an ongoing fundraising effort. So far the committee has raised \$15,000 from the community.

The Everybody's Theatre Trust last year in mid-June applied for funding from the South Taranaki District Council's annual plan but was turned down as they were unable to get firm quotes on the cost of the work needing to be done. They reapplied in November but still a only able to give estimates were once again turned down. They will be reapplying resubmitting this year says Debbie with firm quotes as to the cost of the building work. Stage three of the refurbishment will be more



The Chairperson of the Everybody's Theatre Debbie Campbell in the foyer of the theatre showing how much the community has raised.

cosmetic and will include upgrading the seating and painting the interior. Debbie said they hoped that when finished the theatre, as well as resuming

its regular screenings could be used for other things such as weddings and dances and concerts. "It'll be for hire for live shows, bands and music."

Debbie said they would also be resuming their popular boutique theatre complete with sofas for those who like to relax in style while being entertained.

She added that there was no Taranaki Film Society now and hinted that it would be nice to see it resurrected but that they would need support. She explained that the film society has access to older films which could be interesting.

If anyone is interested in becoming involved in the theatre or wanting to donate to the project they can contact Debbie Campbell on (06) 761 8192.



In the interior of the auditorium of the historic Everybody's Theatre these decorative feature walls were discovered when the cladding was removed. Hopefully they can be preserved. The reinforcing beams are visible either side.

Earthquake-prone buildings – have your say

The Government is consulting on major proposed changes to how we deal with earthquake-prone buildings in the wake of the Christchurch Earthquakes – Now is your chance to comment.

Currently, local councils make decisions on how Earthquake-Prone Buildings in their districts should

be dealt with, in consultation with their communities.

The Government has proposed replacing this with a consistent national approach. All non-residential and multi-unit, multi-storey residential buildings would have to have a seismic capacity assessment done within

five years. Owners of buildings identified as earthquake-prone would then have up to 10 years to strengthen or demolish these buildings.

This means that all earthquake-prone buildings would be dealt with within a maximum of 15 years, compared with an average of 28 years under the current system,

depending on individual council policies.

The consultation closes on Friday 8 March 2013. You can make a submission online, at www.dbh.govt.nz. A consultation document and explanatory video can also be found through this link.

If you want to ask questions about the proposals, a public meeting will be held on **Thursday 14 February 2013, 5.30 pm** at the Convention Centre, 354 Main Street, Palmerston North. It's free, and everyone's welcome.

BBC (Bible Believers Corner) The need of Christmas

We all know what we want. We could do with a bigger better house, a newer, faster car, plus another, more practical one for the family trips. Money, lots of it, for the gadgets and special treats and those much needed holidays.

Maybe we need a husband or wife. Maybe we could do with several We may know what we want, we are rarely aware of what we need.

Every man woman and child has a soul. A soul is the one link with eternity, the one link with God. We also have a spirit that lives in a human body but the destiny of our soul depends on what the

spirit does. The spirit is our life, the driving force, our dreams and ambitions. If we follow the glitter of wealth, popularity, experiences we fail to provide a legacy for our soul. If we follow the modern path of laziness, sloth, of blaming history and everyone else for our condition we also fail to provide a legacy for our soul.

And we will be judged for what we have done with our soul. There are no excuses. There are no grades. There is only success or failure, life or death.

Our life on earth is our single chance to give our souls eternal happiness, eternal joy, and eternal life. We may

know what we want, but God knows what we need. Our souls need eternal life and a better, more satisfying, richer life here and now as well.

So he provided Himself as a baby boy, a sacrificial lamb. If we give our present lives to Him then He can bring eternal life into our souls. Just as He was physically born in a stable over 2,000 years ago He can be born in our souls now, today.

That is what we need for Christmas. And that is what God offers at Christmas.

Richard Oliver
Pastor Eltham Message Church
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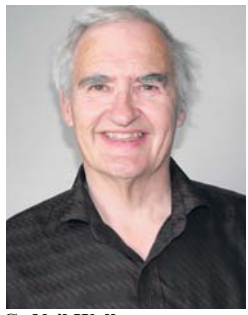
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Councillor Neil Walker's comment



Cr Neil Walker

2013 will be a busy and also a controversial year for the Taranaki Regional Council. However before I begin to talk about that I want to look back to 2012 and acknowledge Anne Hickey who was awarded a QSM in the New Year honours. She had a great ability to cut through all the theory and pomposity and get to the heart of the matter. She never failed to speak up forcefully but politely about issues she thought important. She was meticulous with detail and knew that small matters overlooked can defeat major projects. Moreover she never thought she knew more than the public. Congratulations, Anne, you are an example for all of us.

In 2013 the Taranaki Regional

Council must review its Fresh Water Plan. This will be our second review and will no doubt attract a lot of headlines and comments. Some commentators are already loudly proclaiming how bad things are in our local rivers while others note how much improvement there has been. Once again TRC will hold hearings, receive submissions and get heated comments from vested interests. The end result will be a balance. Farmers who are already making major commitments to fencing and planting streams will be required to step up even further. The TRC is already taking a head line, prosecuting any major incident and applying instant fines if cows are found in waterways. Towns and communities too, have to clean up their handling of waste water and storm run-off procedures as exemplified by the Eltham-Hawera piping of sewerage. However we should all note that rivers and streams are outside in the real environment and will always have wildlife such as ducks and pukeko, and that dust, dirt and vegetation will always get into them.

The question of oxidation ponds will also be a major point of debate and no doubt major headlines.

Another controversy which won't be going away is the Fracking debate where passionate opponents to the process will lock into battle with those who say there are absolutely no bad effects visible or invisible after many years of the process.

As a councillor I am not only a public representative but I have also to act according to a quasi-judicial role in these matters. This means I should be listening carefully to all parties. I should not make decisions upon which side is the louder or which side has the best economic or short term argument but instead look to give the best balanced and fairest response available. Everybody has to respect that. If they lose a debate on some issues it is because their argument was not good enough, not because councillors or officials are corrupt or self interested. We may be wrong and we may not get the emphasis always right, but generally we strive to be fair and to give a balanced outcome. The public are perfectly entitled to be passionate – that's a good thing, but this should never turn into attributing bad motives to those who disagree with you.

Another issue not yet clearly in view will be the Government's review of the Resource Management Act. It is true that this piece of legislation, the framework of our environment law, can result in a lot of cost, considerable bureaucracy, delay and confusion, but on the other hand it is also a vehicle to protect the public's rights and the environment. The trick is to do the latter and cut down on the former. Legislators in Wellington of course try to create the big picture and then leave the Regional Councils to fill in the blank spaces and work out how all this will hang together in practice.

Finally let me give a small plaudit to my fellow councillors. It is great to tackle knotty and complex issues in a good atmosphere with a co-operative give and take approach. We certainly don't always agree but our council functions well because everyone works together to achieve an outcome. I hope we can continue to do that in 2013.

Bad Jelly the Witch enthrals

A group of Opunake young performers recently put on a production of Bad Jelly the Witch, a play adapted from the story book by Spike Milligan.

The play was written by Alannah O'Sullivan and included music by Geoff Davidson. Many will remember Bad Jelly fondly as their favourite book, or often heard on the radio on a Sunday morning children's programme. The play was faithful to the story and followed the journey taken by Tim and Rose to rescue Lucy their cow from the clutches of the wicked Bad Jelly and her bumbling Giant Servant, Dulboot. Along the



Tim (William Andersen-Gardiner) and Rose (Catherine Dahm) are frightened by Bad Jelly (Ellie Hodder).

way Tim and Rose are helped by forest friends, Binklebonk the tree goblin, Mudwiggles the worm, Appletree Policeman, Dinglemouse and Jim the Eagle.

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Mary Nicholas (centre) with, from left, Sharon Arlidge, Ann Smith, Helen Duff, husband David, Elaine Wilson, Barbara Hooper and Elva Symons.

Mary continues her spiritual journey

“I can remember having a strong sense of calling to lead a congregation at Opunake’s Co-operating Parish,” says Mary Nicholas. Already part of the lay ministry team, it was at a day Christian retreat in 1995 however that really set in motion her path.

They were singing a hymn. The lyrics go:

Here I am Lord
I have heard you calling in the night

Here I am Lord, is it you Lord

If you need me I will go.
“They really spoke to me,” said Mary.

The next year she started theological studies.

Ordained on November 4 last year, Mary recently left Opunake, the town she and husband David moved to from Auckland 37 years ago, to take up the position of minister at a parish in Whangarei.

Her appointment is the culmination of a long and interesting spiritual journey.

Already a qualified teacher, Mary began by training as a state school chaplain. She went on to be chaplain of

Marfell School in New Plymouth for 18 months. In 2000 she started a three year counselling training course run by the Bible College of New Zealand. She then became a school counsellor - combining the role with part time teaching - to “sharpen her pastoral care skills.”

It was a valuable insight into troubled teens. “A lot of teenagers issues come out of their uncertainty about who I am, where do I belong, where do I fit in. Generally they came from broken homes where there was the lack of a father who was crucial in forming identity. Often the family background lacked stability,” said Mary. Ninety percent of the kids at high school in counselling were already having issues with drugs or alcohol which helped them with their stress. “My job was to try and encourage them to find other ways to deal with stress.” She added when you could engage the parents there was more likely to be a positive outcome. From 2008-9, Mary was a school counsellor at

Coastal Taranaki School one day a week, a voluntary position.

In 2010 she enrolled as a full time student at Trinity Methodist Theological College in Auckland. Since completing her studies she was stationed in South Taranaki District at Hawera and Patea parishes and Patea Area School, again an unpaid position.

Mary’s new placement by the Methodist Church - “You do get the chance to refuse” - is at St Johns Parish in Kamo Road, Whangarei.

“It’s a parish which is very forward looking and is active in a community action project,” says Mary explaining there is a community house which has an alternative education programme for school days. They also look after the housing of people in the community. A community law office runs out of the parish complex.

The parish has provided a house, which they have now settled into. Son Peter accompanied them to help with the unpacking.

Before she left Opunake,

Mary said the move would mean they’d be closer to daughter Sally who’s in Auckland. A second daughter Jenny is currently in Norway. They also have a lot of their relatives in Auckland where Mary was brought up including Mary’s identical twin sister who lives at Waiheke Island.

David, who retired from teaching where he was Deputy Principal at Opunake High School will, Mary joked, be in a supporting role as “The Minister’s wife.” He played the organ at the Opunake Co-operating church in Opunake for many years. He is keen to continue a musical role in Whangarei.

Mary’s new parish has “an older congregation” and Mary said she was aiming to help bridge the generation gap.

Though excited about the new venture the couple, who have made a huge contribution to Opunake and the wider community, did not leaving Taranaki without regret.

Of Opunake, she said she would miss the friendships she’d made, and added the interesting comment that she learnt what it is to be a New Zealander from living in Opunake.

“Taranaki is the place that nurtured my spirituality,” said Mary. She added her spiritual journey may never have happened had this not been the case as her family were “very hostile to religion”.

She rebelled, however, she said with a smile – and added “It’s been an interesting journey.”

We wish Mary and David, who have made such a positive contribution to Opunake and the wider community,

every success in their new life. We hope their new house and vocation is to their liking. This story was based on an interview made before the couple left Opunake. Mary and David now reside in Whangarei.

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COASTAL COPS Eltham



David Lindsay
Hello people,

Things have been steady around the towns lately keeping me very busy indeed. We have some thieves about at the moment with a lot of minor opportunist thefts being reported. Scooters,

bicycles (a distinctive orange Moto brand child's mountain bike) and phones on the more minor side with a few disturbing house burglaries also.

The most concerning was the house burglary on High Street in Eltham. This involved the theft of high powered firearms, ammunition and bolts. Also the owner's silver coloured Ford Courier utility vehicle registration number AZZ561 was taken along with electrical and jewellery items.

It's clear that the offender had firearms knowledge and considering that burglars are the scum of the earth, this guy has shown he has some real issues. We have some lines of enquiry; however

need information from his associates and members of the public before the firearms innocent. We need public help to get this person back where he belongs.

Kaponga is being dogged by driving problems with people speeding and failing to stop at marked stop signs. It's been in the media a couple of times now and we have had plenty of incidents since, so it looks like a zero tolerance are to be the orders. We almost had a fatal crash there recently so Police won't be listening to the various and colourful excuses for not stopping or obeying simple road rules.

Cannabis season is in full swing and we are starting to relieve some of the local

growers of their prized plants. We are finding them in sheds, greenhouses, gardens and even in wardrobes! Public information has been coming in and it's great to get results for the community and drugs off the streets. Keep the information coming, it's always confidential.

The weather is starting to settle again and there have been some fantastic days to be had at the beach or out fishing. Remember your sun block and life jackets if heading out into the deep blue, and hopefully you'll have a snapper or three for tea.

That's all for now, take care out there.

*Const. David Lindsay
Eltham Police*

Okato



Richard Corry

Hello all, well I have just got back to work after a small break and enjoyed the time away with the family down the beach.

Learned a few things over the holiday period and thanks to one of the local fire guys didn't get to cut up lifting a couple of bails of hay, it's all in the way they are facing. Thanks Bruce.

On my return it is disturbing to see that I have had two separate situations of mindless of stupid acts of wilful damage. Both incidents involve the slashing of silage. The first down Ruakere Rd extension where not only has an idiot slashed silage they have also slashed the tyres of a spreader. The second occurred on the corner of State Highway 45 and Pitone Rd where silage has been slashed.

Now I thought we lived in a pretty good place and are really disappointed with the actions of a few who let themselves down. Whoever is responsible for these acts of mindless damage you need to take a good hard look at yourself and make some changes because you're a clown.

We also have a same old problem with boy or girl racers causing damage and endangering the lives of others. The latest effort is there for all to see on the corner of Bayly and State Highway 45. Now I know that the parents of these kids know who they are as there is always telltale signs, such as old tyres being left behind and tarseal all up the car. We all need to take responsibility for this issue and stop it.

While I am on the subject of road issues please be careful on the roads with the return of school. There will be extra kids on bikes and care is needed around school buses; one thing we all know is how unpredictable kids can be.

Last of all I have been made aware of a party that got out of hand in Oakura. Once again parents this is as

much your fault as the kids if not more. Be aware of what your children are planning and don't advertise parties via social media, as this is a recipe for disaster. If you are planning a party for your kids let me know, and if I can't talk you out of it at least pre-warned is pre-armed.

Well enough of the crime stuff. The rugby season is fast approaching and I expect big numbers to start turning up at Rahotu for club trainings.

Talking about sport, what a turn around for the Black Caps. One week they couldn't hit the side of a barn, the next they win a one day series against the best team in the world. It must be their great management.

Anyway must go. Don't forget to slip slop slap.

Take care, Rich

Opunake Fire Brigade

Happy New Year everyone. We have had a pretty quiet start to the New Year which is good. Please remember to drive to the conditions and slow down when it's wet.

With things drying out rapidly, please be careful if burning anything as it could easily spread. Call outs since Christmas: December 26 - a car versus

power pole on Fox Street. December 30 - an alarm activation in Otakeho. January 15 - an accident south of Opunake where the driver was lucky to walk away.

January 17 - called to the same spot for another accident (both instances it was wet) January 24 - a small scrub fire on Tasman Street.

Publicity Officer

On this month in history

On January 13, 2008 two Australians Justin Jones and James Castrission made landfall at Ngamotu Beach, New Plymouth. They were the first people to cross the Tasman Sea by kayak and set off from Forster, New South Wales on November 13, 2007.

Their kayak was called Lot 41, which refers to the sale classification of a little fancied horse at the horse sales. The horse surprised everyone; it was named Phar Lap.

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Glenn Inquiry seeking input for child abuse and domestic violence project

The Glenn Inquiry continues its ability to attract an impressive line up of experts to work on the inquiry, having announced that 23 New Zealanders from around the country will join the international members selected on its 'Think Tank'.

Director of the Glenn Inquiry, Ruth Herbert, says the Think Tank, an informal networked group of 36 international and New Zealand members, will provide a critical role in the Inquiry.

"They individually and collectively provide extensive expertise that we can draw on throughout the inquiry process. There are names on the list that are well known in the fields of child abuse and domestic violence and there are some new names with outstanding credentials. I'm thrilled with who we have attracted and their passion to get involved and to making a difference."

Similarly to the 13 international experts Herbert says they bring with them an impressive breadth and depth of expertise.

"I'm thrilled to have a mixture of academics and front line people from a GP to a social worker to community workers to those in advocacy roles. Sir Owen Glenn has always been insistent that this would be the People's Inquiry and the make-up of our Think Tank will ensure that."

Sir Owen Glenn says it has been this ground swell of support that has encouraged him that they are on the right

track. "This is not a traditional inquiry; it is very much about the people. It's about the people who have been affected, who work in this area and see it every day, about the views of interested parties. Consequently a panel won't be appointed until we have gone through this information gathering phase, which the Think Tank members will be heavily involved in."

It is estimated this process will take around six to nine months and then a panel will be formed to review the findings and produce the blueprint.

Dr Lance O'Sullivan, a doctor practising and living in his community of Kaitiaki, is one of the New Zealand Think Tank members.

"I wanted to be involved with the Glenn Inquiry because I believe their approach is the right tone. Any strategy has to involve the communities and be culturally appropriate (whanau, hapu and iwi) from the start of its development

through to the implementation. There is no value in a strategy being fully developed in Wellington and then being rolled out by local providers in Kaitiaki. Generally those providing the service don't have buy in to strategies that they didn't have a hand in developing and this is evident by the end user. This Inquiry is desperately needed and I am passionate about being part of it."

Similarly to the international appointees, the New Zealanders have generously agreed to contribute their time to the inquiry at no or heavily discounted fees.

Sir Owen Glenn has committed not only funds to this independent inquiry but much of his time also. "I will be in New Zealand a great deal this year. I'm committed to this Inquiry and it is my aim to produce a blueprint, which will be a model for the future that will answer one fundamental question 'If New Zealand was leading

the world in addressing child abuse and domestic violence what would that look like?' We owe this to our children and our grandchildren; we must reverse these ghastly statistics."

Glenn says the calibre of the Think Tank members both from New Zealand and overseas is outstanding. "To have these sorts of people committed is a huge boost but we still have a lot of work to do, we are just beginning. We are not going away, rest assured you be hearing a great deal about this Inquiry in 2013."

The Glenn Inquiry wants to hear from anyone who has personal experience of child abuse or domestic violence or work with those who do or who has time, energy or expertise or wishes to donate financially to help the Glenn Inquiry. People can register their interest via the website www.glenninquiry.org.nz or contact the Inquiry via admin@glenninquiry.org.nz

A WORD OF ADVICE: Dos and Don'ts

The high street may be awash with post-Christmas sales, but every day's a sale online. Websites offering daily deals and group buys have exploded. We can grab, group and treat ourselves all year long. And why not? There's a bounty of choice – and at some undeniably good prices: surf lessons, car accessories, luxury facials; photo canvases, house cleaning services; half-price trip to the dentist anyone?

'Daily deals' run until a specified number of sales is reached or until the end of the day (whichever comes first). Group buying sites work on economies of scale; a certain number of people must sign up for an offer to become available.

It's all good stuff. However not all 'deals' are created equal. Both the Commerce Commission and Consumer Affairs regularly receive complaints from customers who have used these discount sites and have found their hopes of a bargain going askew.

As with anything, exercise a bit of savvy and you're more likely to avoid the common pitfalls. These five do's and don'ts should help you on your way:

Do: Check if the deal is as good as it says it is. It only takes a minute to do an internet search. Find out what the company would normally charge for the same item. Sometimes the discount isn't as much as you're led to believe. If the discount is exaggerated, or any of the other information is misleading, you can report the company to the Commerce Commission. And don't forget to compare the deal with prices from other

companies. You may find a better deal elsewhere.

Don't: stand for poor quality. Even goods and services that are on sale are covered by the Consumer Guarantees Act. That means goods must be of an acceptable quality and fit for particular purpose. Services must be provided with reasonable care and skill. So, if the hair straighteners you bought overheat after just six months, you can ask to have them repaired or replaced – if that's not possible, you can ask for a refund.

Do: Resist the urge to buy on impulse. Daily deal sites rely on our appetite for a bargain. They also create a sense of urgency. This wily combination makes us much more likely to act without thinking. Before snapping up an offer, just take five. Will you really use that Belgian waffle-making set or those retro curling tongs?

Don't: Be fobbed off. If you have a problem with something you've bought, you can ask either the discount site or the provider to put it right. If the discount site sends you directly to the provider, they may be misleading you about your rights – in which case you can make a complaint to the Commerce Commission or take a case to the Disputes Tribunal.

A common problem is when companies are overwhelmed by a large number of orders. For example, you buy a voucher for a fishing trip but, because of the high demand, there are no charters available until after the voucher has expired. If this happens you could ask to use the voucher at a later date, and if that's not possible for your money

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Start to political year sunny and managed



Andrew Little, List MP

You always know when it's time for the school year to start and work to get under way. The weather turns on a blinder.

It's great to wake up to crisp, sunny mornings and to end each day with a balmy summer evening. But the hours in between can be hell if you're putting in the hard slog under an unrelenting sun. It's not

so flash even when you're inside, air conditioned or otherwise.

The political year has started in a managed way. No Dot-com expose. No donations scandals. Just leaders' announcements.

The National government has announced changes to its cabinet and a new policy. The Cabinet changes were notable for the fact that a couple of mediocre ministers were dropped, but the minister at the centre of some of the worst political foul-ups in 2012 was left untouched.

The two demoted ministers, Kate Wilkinson and Phil Heatley, weren't star performers, but they weren't all bad either. Ms Wilkinson had the misfortune to have Pike River happen on her watch as Minister of Labour. Whatever criticism can be

levelled at her for not beefing up a labour inspectorate run down over many years since the 1990s, she at least responded with alacrity in establishing the high hazards unit, a super-health and safety inspectorate, and accepting all the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Pike River. But the truth is her Labour portfolio was never one she showed huge interest in.

Phil Heatley is one of those all-round nice guys, but he struggled when he was on the mat over housing policy. It wasn't obvious he enjoyed his energy portfolio either. And yet, energy is a vital area, as Taranaki well knows.

But the minister who had the worst record for handling political scandals in her portfolio, was Education Minister Hekia Parata.

Ms Parata is a former senior public servant, and it was obvious last year she couldn't help herself slipping into the meaningless and opaque language that is often resorted to by top public servants, usually when they want to hide something. How she survived her performance review is a miracle.

The government's new policy announcement is to accelerate the establishment of more apprenticeships. At last! There has been a trade skills shortage for some years, especially in the building trades. The wonder is that it has taken this long to do something about it.

Let's see what the rest of the year holds. Hopefully, it won't just be a year of fixing problems that were crying out to be fixed years ago.

Looking forward to a busy year ahead



Jonathan Young MP

The year is well underway and many of us are now back at work.

I am looking forward to another busy year as the National-led Government focuses on the issues that matter to our community, and to all Kiwis – a stronger economy and more jobs, better frontline health and education services, a safer New Zealand, and rebuilding Christchurch.

Regarding creating more jobs, the National Government is going to boost the number of people in apprenticeships by combining all apprentices into an expanded and improved scheme called New Zealand Apprenticeships. These new apprenticeships will provide the same level of support and subsidy for all apprentices regardless

of age.

A new single funding rate for all apprentices will simplify the system, and see the Government contribute approximately \$12 million more to supporting more apprentices. We're re-setting apprenticeships at a level 4 qualification, setting clearer roles for industry training organisations, and increasing competition by allowing employers direct access to industry training funding.

We're also raising the profile of, and increasing participation in, apprenticeship training through a reboot initiative. This will see the first 10,000 new apprentices who enrol after 1 April this year collect up to \$2,000 towards tools and course-related costs. Their employers will receive the same amount. We estimate the reboot will create an additional 14,000 new apprentices over the next five years – over and above the 7000 who enrol every year. This is very much part of our building a stronger and brighter future for New Zealanders.

As New Zealanders, we have had a few challenging years dealing with catastrophic events outside anyone's con-

trol – from a global financial crisis to a devastating series of earthquakes in Canterbury. Around the world, the recovery from the Global Financial Crisis is proving the most difficult since the Great Depression of the 1930's; only last week expectations of world growth going forward were downgraded. However, through the global financial environment remains stormy, National has a steady hand on the wheel. We've provided strong and stable government and sound economic management.

The National-led Government remains on track in its four main priorities for this term of government. We're responsibly managing the government's finances, building a more competitive and productive economy, delivering better public services, and rebuilding Christchurch. We're building on the momentum achieved in the last four years, which is more important than ever in the face of continuing global uncertainty.

We are on target to get back to surplus in 2014/15. This will mean we can start repaying debt, reducing New Zealand's vulnerability to

overseas lenders, and build a buffer against future shocks while pushing ahead with wide-ranging reforms to create a more productive and competitive economy. This includes boosting science and innovation, making it easier to do business, and pursuing an ambitious trade agenda. New Zealand is looking at economic growth of about 2.5 per cent over each of the next five years, together with increasing numbers of Kiwis in jobs, and a falling unemployment rate. This is important for our communities, especially for our young people as they leave High School and university and look for employment. Education is a passport to a better life. That's why National is focused on raising achievement for all our kids so we are unrelenting in driving our agenda forward, to see student achievements raised. After a refreshing break with family and friends, I'm looking forward to working with my fellow National Party colleagues in continuing to build the brighter future community and all New Zealanders deserve. I hope you and your family have a happy and successful 2013.

Te Kiri WI include the menfolk

We had a beautiful sunny day and an interesting long drive (plenty of trucks on the road) to our Christmas luncheon and meeting at Maxwell with our hostess Dianne (our secretary) and her husband Nigel. A very special meeting this time with members' husbands invited.

There was a very pretty drive to the house through native bush would be a floral artist's paradise.

After our delicious luncheon we were welcomed by our president Sue Muggeridge,

Our Institute National Day at The Fat Cow was very much enjoyed – Italy was the place selected and Sue and Nita set our entry up which looked great. Thanks to you both. She thanked the members who had supplied articles for the tables.

Kath Perrett had made some lovely Christmas decorations which she showed us, including a lovely butterfly and some birds on a silver string. We decided to have an afternoon next year and make some with Kath as dem-

onstrator. We're looking forward to that although next year seems a long way off.

Fun time and a letter competition: a letter was pulled out of a hat and with three in a team we had to name places, TV programmes and other things beginning with that letter. If another team had the same answer you lost a point. Lots of laughter when the men folk returned from a look around the farm they joined in and won the last game. More laughing and applause as they were given their lollies prize.

After a cup of tea and a piece of Christmas cake our wonderful enjoyable day came to a very happy end.

Thank you to Dianne and Nigel and Sue and Nita and the rest of the committee for all the help over the year. To the members who have given me a ride to our meetings, thank you – very much appreciated. Thank you also to the Opunake and Coastal News for printing our reports.

I wish you all a very happy New Year.

Mavis West

Monarch butterflies aplenty



A close up of one Monarch butterfly pausing on a section of the Swanplant hedge.

Rex Langton has planted so many Swan plants on the lake end of his 3 Layard Street property that they have formed a hedge, which skirts the walkway around the Opunake Lake. The result is a proliferation of Monarch butterflies. About 30 of these colourful butterflies swarm

in the vicinity of the Swan plant hedge. Also to be seen are the large colourful striped Monarch caterpillars, as well as a number of chrysalises.

Rex is keen that as many people as possible see these butterflies, which are natives of North America, particularly Mexico, according to

Rex. They can be seen clearly from the walkway.

Rex is an enthusiast of the butterflies and has been promoting their breeding by planting Swan plants for the nine years he has owned the Opunake property, which is opposite the Opunake Cottage Rest Home. Previous to living in Opunake he also continued his active interest in the butterflies on his farm for a further 20 years or so.

Surprisingly, the hedge plants have only been growing for two years, so the conditions for growth must be optimal to say the least.

Rex says the eggs are laid on the plants as early as August, chrysalises start forming in November and after about three weeks the Monarch butterflies emerge. "It's good for people to see them", he comments.



Although about thirty Monarch butterflies were flying in the vicinity of the Swan plant hedge, they seemed a bit camera shy.

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they immediately follow a checking process with every contact point provided. If necessary, the appropriate authority is notified.

Safety Outdoors Director, Stuart Fraser is confident the ease of using this system will improve the safety of tourists and kiwis alike.

"We want New Zealanders to take this on board as part of their outdoors routine, and tourists to be fully aware of the service when travelling. We want to encourage people to be responsible for their own safety."

Whether it's a seasoned triathlete in full-on training mode or a group of friends on casual weekend walks, the service accommodates every level of outdoor activity.

It is a simple and accessible system that Fraser says works for anyone.

"We want this to be as practical and easy as possible. That's why we built the system this way and have spent a lot of time testing it to make sure it works the way it needs to. There have been refinements to ensure every step works seamlessly and we plan to continue with ongoing development."

There are several options available for users of Safety Outdoors for not only registering yourself but also your family and friends. The cost is per activity only and involves everyone in your group, not per person, making this both an affordable and effective new service. www.safetyoutdoors.com

Mangatoki WI gets down to the serious business of cake making

Our November meeting was held in the Mangatoki Hall where Annette Dudley from Annette's Cakes came and demonstrated cake decorating. About 12 members brought their own cakes, then iced and decorated them under Annette's supervision. Nibbles and drinks were served during this interesting

and enjoyable evening.

On November 20 some members and friends, 20 in all, went to Auckland to see the show Mary Poppins, staying overnight and returning the next day. Some travelled by mini bus, others by plane and two by train. This was a very enjoyable trip plus there was time for shopping,

Our Christmas lunch meeting was held at the Black and White Café in Hawera on December 5, with 20 members attending. There was a short business meeting before lunch and afterwards a gift exchange. The raffles were won by Cathy White and Aura Du Toit. Lucy Moger
Mangatoki W.I. Reporter

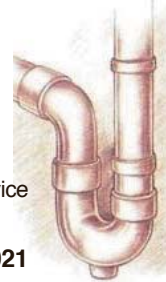
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Maureen's rambles

July required a return to the classroom for six weeks to learn the requirements of the new position within Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. Based at Ruakura, Newstead, Hamilton, the return to a classroom situation with six other newbies, most of whom were the same age as my children, was a new experience. We all got on well but getting the room temperature comfortable for everyone, without being conducive to sleep, was an ongoing challenge. While I was doing this, Maurice had the unenviable job of packing up the shop and all our belongings in preparation for the relocation.

We had to learn about Industry Standards (IS), Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMAR's), auditing principles, Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) and the new Animal Welfare (AW) Legislation and Codes of Practice. This was a very different aspect to what I had been used to during all my years in clinical practice. After six weeks it was September and off to Invercargill to work at Makarewa, a two shift venison processing plant.

We purchased a two bedroom house off the internet. Fortunately I have friends around the country and one of my university friends who lived in Gore was able to check it out for us. We travelled down in convoy with me in the car and Maurice in the campervan and arrived to find our house was of the same era as the house on the farm when I got married; even had the same Formica and the same



Maureen Gatenby

stove so it was like a home coming. Positioned on the main road to Queenstown it was handy too work with a supermarket and bank as well as most other necessities including a doctor within a 250 metre walking distance. A free bus ran between 9am and 2.30pm for visits to Invercargill which was about 3km away. This was an easy walk for Maurice if he chose to go to town for any reason.

As I had not been exposed to deer at any time during my clinical years it was a whole new ball game. However, vets are adaptable people and I soon learnt the process and the requirements.

We returned to Taranaki at Labour Weekend as our best man and his wife were celebrating their golden wedding. This required a flight from Invercargill to Christchurch, to Wellington and then New Plymouth so meant an ardu-

ous and expensive journey. This was a definite disincentive for regular return visits. First week of November is the Tour of Southland Cycle Race. Going to work in the afternoon saw the riders pedalling into horizontal sleet as they covered the route for that year. Certainly an event for the hardy!

December we flew to Australia to visit Colleen and Khyle who had returned from England and were living in New South Wales at a place called Holbrook. The two dogs and the cat had been flown to Australia and were now settled there but were still pleased to see us.

As they did not have a house on their property we slept on a mattress on the shed floor. Australian temperatures made this acceptable.

We then flew to Hobart to board the MV Orion which was to be our home for the

next eighteen days as we did an Antarctic Expedition. We were piped on board by a Scotsman playing the bagpipes and I heard a voice say "Hello Mrs Gatenby". One of the Department of Conservation (DOC) officials on board was Rex Hendry who had previously worked at DOC in Stratford!

The expedition was 18 days and visited MacQuarrie Island, Dawson's Hutt (Australia's equivalent to Scott Base) and the Auckland Islands. We were fortunate to have beautiful fine day when we were due to go ashore so were able to view the flora and fauna of each area. There were penguins of many varieties to be seen, many birds as well as sea elephants and seals at various times.

During our sailing sessions we experienced a storm with nine metre swells so we had one day confined to cabins with only cold food but by the evening the dining room was open but still only cold food. A minimum number of people were present due to sea sickness which had not affected either of us.

Our port of disembarkation was Bluff so we spent the day showing our Australian friends and some of the crew around Invercargill before they left later in the day. The MV Orion then did the return trip to Hobart leaving Bluff at 5pm.

Maureen

PS. The MV Orion doing the same trip has just been involved in the rescue of the 'Round the World' lone sailor.

On this month in history

On January 4, 1958 Sir Edmund Hillary arrived at the geographic South Pole, as leader of his New Zealand team. This was the first overland trip to the South Pole since Captain Robert Falcon Scott in 1912. Sir Edmund's team had taken 80 days to complete the 1,930 kilometre journey, using three tractors, a caboose and two sledges.

The overall expedition leader was Sir Vivian 'Bunny' Fuchs (Britain), who had requested Sir Edmund and his men wait for him at a certain stage, but the New Zealander elected to forge on ahead and was not too popular in some - mostly British - circles. As Sir Edmund reached the South Pole, Sir Vivian was 322km behind him.

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One Stop Shop - A new mobile recording studio for the Coast

Colour Conversions Limited is a mobile recording studio for Video and Sound that will be opening on the coast in 2013.

Ashley and Janet Pedersen are the owners of the business. Ashley says "Our objective is to provide a one stop shop for our clients so that they can go to one place and get everything under one roof, without hunting for the parts of a product and then trying to assemble it themselves. We believe it is more convenient for a client who requires a recording to have it recorded, edited, packaged and completed, ready to enjoy, rather than having all the components done by separate businesses. This simply implies less running around resulting in a more cost effective product."

Janet reads music, plays the piano, does all the administration, and a large proportion of the videography, including video editing for the business.

Ashley is an accomplished musician who writes and creates his own original music in many genres. He is multi-talented and plays keyboards, guitar and bass guitar; in addition he sings all his own lead and backing vocals. He has also provided vocal and instrumental backing for many of the artists that he has recorded in his studio. He is looking

forward to meeting, recording and promoting local artists who also create their own original compilations and need a studio to record them.

Ashley and Janet Pedersen arrived from South Africa about two and a half years ago. During that time they have been busy rebuilding their equipment and studio, and are both very motivated to relocate their video and sound recording business, Colour Conversions here in Taranaki.

"Most of the equipment had to be replaced and rebuilt due to moisture content and corrosion during transit from South Africa to New Zealand," says Ashley, explaining this has postponed the launching of the business. The rebuild included research and development into later technology, hardware and software. "I had to completely rebuild all of our computer systems," says Ashley.

"We're just about ready to go, and we have recorded various events in Taranaki with our replaced equipment, the results have proven successful. We have recorded locally, a wedding, a funeral, a documentary, an advertising and marketing presentation, a live music recording in a busy New Plymouth shopping centre, a live performance recording at the festival of lights, and various other entertainment

events including the Hawera street parade 2011 which was used to assess the event and highlight how it could be improved for the following year," says Ashley.

"We used multi-camera technology for all of these events, recorded in High Definition, capturing the essence and emotions for a permanent memory from different vantage points".

In South Africa they recorded, produced and promoted many black South African artists and have brought these recording to New Zealand. They plan to release some of these recordings as they are still in touch with these artists. They also worked with many people in the poverty stricken areas in an effort to help towards eradicating violence, crime, poverty and pollution.

Ashley and Janet have many impressive examples of the numerous recordings they did in South Africa including an outdoor music festival, featuring over 70 bands, which ran for 5 days, attended by 9000 people.

"We are enjoying our new home in Taranaki and look forward to sharing our experience in the recording industry with others in our local community," Ashley says.

Listen out for local original

music already being recorded by Colour Conversions. Ashley is recording his own CD which will be released in New Zealand in 2013. The compilation will contain songs portraying the

transition from South Africa to New Zealand. I have had a sneak preview of some of the draft compilations; New Zealand is in for a treat.

Ashley and Janet say, "we hope that Colour

Conversions will be fully operational by February 2013."

Watch this space for future developments; you might even hear the drums from Africa!

The installation of gas and electricity

When you're building or renovating your home, getting the gas and electrical installations sorted is one of the big things to tick off your checklist. New electrical sockets may need to be installed, heaters fixed to the wall, cookers wired in and so on. The key thing to remember is safety first.

Before you hire a tradesperson, even for simple repairs or replacement, make sure that they're a licensed electrician or gasfitter. You can ask to see their licence, or check to see if someone is licensed through the Electrical Workers Registration Board (www.ewrb.govt.nz) and Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board websites (www.pgdb.co.nz).

Don't forget to keep copies of certification, receipts and invoices relating to gas and

electrical work in a safe place – and that you'll remember where they are in six months' time!

At the moment, certifying gas and electrical installation work is mandatory for most work, but not for repairs and replacement. However, from July 2013, consumers will always be entitled to get a Safety Certificate for all gas and electrical installation work. This will make it easier for consumers to get redress if any gas and electrical installations and repairs are not up to standard.

New laws will also mean that any work that is classified as high-risk – such as the connection of a new home to a gas or electricity supply – will have to be registered on a new publicly available database run by the Ministry of Business, Innovation and

Employment. So you'll be able to check that you're satisfied with the records being kept for 'high risk' installations in your home.

Registered electricians and gasfitters are audited by their relevant registration boards and other regulators. You have the right to complain to those boards if you're not happy with the quality of work you receive.

If you have any concerns about poor quality or unsafe electrical or gas installation work that has been done in your home, you should first raise it with your electrician or gasfitter. If you can't reach an agreement on how to sort things out, take your complaint to the Electrical Workers Registration Board (EWRB) or Plumbers Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board (PGDB).

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Watch this space →

→ Coming events for local original music.

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Opunake Beach Carnival



Early attendees start to pack the bowl at the Beach Carnival day.

One of the major events is the Campbell Contracting Big Dig: Winners were 8 - 12 years Fazessa Padrutt, 5 - 7 years Sophie Hughes, and 0 - 4 years Rebecca Riddle.

Jay Newton with the stingray he caught during the Annual Take a kid fishing competition. Perhaps his success is because his fishing gear all comes from Collins Sports centre (aye granddad)



ABOVE: 2 Sarah, Samantha and Jordan Haden from Pihama enjoying the sun and entertainment at the Opunake Beach Carnival. Sarah won the Junior Miss Taranaki title at the Oakura New Year Carnival.



Local entertainer Dinnie Moeahu hosted the morning session at the Opunake Beach Carnival.



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Kaupokonui Family Fun Day



LEFT: Go! Kaupokonui Big Dig entrants tear up the scorching sand hills in pursuit of prizes at the resurrected beach family day.

Hundreds attended the revamped event organised by a hardy group of campers and supporters. Local identity Peefer commented that it was "bloody great aye!". Co-ordinator Breanne Fergusson was delighted with the crowd attendance. The group hope to build a BBQ for visitors at the beach.



ABOVE: Sun smart cutie young Addison Frost makes sure Mum is well covered at Kaupokonui Beach Family Day.



Matt Clark from Oeo receives his prize from Karl Picard after winning the top prize in the Big Dig sponsored by Campbell Contracting at Kaupokonui.

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DairyNZ supports DCD suspension

Industry body DairyNZ has come out in support of Ravensdown and Ballance Agri-Nutrients' voluntary suspension of sales and use of Dicyandiamide (DCD) treatment on farm land until further notice. However, DairyNZ Chief Executive Tim Mackle is urging the

two companies, government authorities and dairy companies to work on pragmatic solutions that would enable the product to be back on the market and able to be used by farmers. "We support this proactive approach to managing the trade risk, but this is a very useful tool

for farmers in terms of managing their nutrient loss on farms, so we'd like to see solutions worked on as a priority," he says. Dr Mackle says there is a suite of tools farmers can use instead of DCD to manage nitrogen loss and its effect on water quality, so farmers will be

actively focussed on those in the meantime. "We're doing a lot of research on other measures to manage nutrient loss so there are other options. But DCD is a particularly effective one so we hope that a solution can be worked on to enable it to be used."

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Pastoral management software company, Farmax, announced today that it will provide one Lincoln University post-graduate researcher a \$5000 scholarship in 2013.

The scholarship is open to all people eligible to perform postgraduate research at Lincoln University in Canterbury whose research project will utilise Farmax software products. Farmax General Manager, Gavin McEwen, says the scholarship will be awarded to, "someone performing agricultural research that can make use of Farmax's decision support and modelling tools. Farmax allows for planning, monitoring and performance reporting about farm systems - in particular pasture management and animal intake. "The selection committee

\$5000 Lincoln University research scholarship

will award the scholarship to a student whose research has potential to ultimately benefit New Zealand farmers, as this objective aligns with our core company values."

The scholarship application period is now open and closes on 31 March. The scholarship covers a period of 12 months and will start in Term 2. It is open to both current students and those intending to apply to study at the University. Mr McEwen says the com-

pany's backbone is based on decades of research and it wants to encourage the country's next generation of agricultural scientists and rural professionals. "The formation of Farmax as a commercial company in 2002 was the culmination of over a decade of research performed by AgResearch scientists who developed one of the world's leading decision support systems and software for the pastoral industry.

"Our staff, farming clients, ag consultants and even industry good entities have all witnessed first-hand how great research can translate into huge benefits for farmers. That's why we're committed to investing in the next generation of agricultural scientists," he explains. An application form can be downloaded at www.lincoln.ac.nz/scholar or obtained by phoning the Lincoln University Scholarships Office on (03) 3252 811, extn: 8748.

DairyNZ Welcomes new Ministerial appointments

Industry-good body DairyNZ has welcomed the appointment of Levin dairy farmer Nathan Guy to the position of Minister for Primary Industries. DairyNZ Chairman John Luxton says the dairy industry is leading a renewed focus on responsible and competitive dairy farming, with a new Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord about to be released and a Strategy for Sustainable Dairy Farming under development and going to be launched in May. "We know the Minister has first-hand knowledge of dairy farming

and its challenges - and will be able to engage easily with farmers and talk their language," he says. "That's a huge plus when you are doing that job." Mr Luxton, a Minister himself for nine years, including holding the agriculture portfolio, says it's a challenging role because the area is so broad and covers a very wide brief from operational to policy to trade issues. "We thank David Carter for the significant contribution he made to the portfolio and the rural sector including the transition from MAF to MPI. He had the gravitas and industry knowledge

to get through a number of key initiatives including the introduction of the National Animal Identification and Tracing scheme - a huge and challenging step forward." John Luxton says he's also delighted to welcome Jo Goodhew as Associate Minister for Primary Industries. "Both Ministers serve important dairying electorates and I'm sure a close affinity with their communities will be an added advantage. They come into their roles with a good practical knowledge of farming because of where they come from. We look forward to working with them."



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Excuse to pollute appalling

Fish & Game NZ is appalled that the dairy sector is using the removal of nitrogen inhibiting products from the market as an excuse for more pollution to enter New Zealand's waterways. "Fonterra Shareholder's Council has signalled as much," says Fish & Game chief executive Bryce Johnson, "practically demanding that regional councils lower nitrate pollution targets.

"It is utter arrogance for a sector which is already reaping significant environmental subsidies to use this as an excuse for affected farmers to maintain their artificially elevated stocking rates and further pollute the public's freshwater resources. "An environmentally and socially responsible industry would employ alternative measures to compensate, not say 'Oh well, it's back to business as usual boys.'"

The withdrawn products were seen as a means of helping reduce dairying's impact on water by reducing the amount of diffuse nitrogen pollution leaching off farms and into waterways. Mr Johnson says in their absence regional councils must not lower pollution targets and instead should put the onus on the farmers to adhere to environmental guidelines and reduce the impact by other means. "If that requires a reduction in production, then so be it." Lesser options that could assist include using less fertiliser and using it more efficiently, upgrading irrigation systems and increasing riparian margins adjacent to flowing waters," he says. "The individual farmers affected by this should meet the costs associated with ensuring that they aren't polluting the public's freshwater resource. "That's what would be required of any other business - the dairy sector should not be treated as a special case and demands for yet more environmental subsidies should be flatly rejected by regional councils and the government."

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TractorPull NZ returns to Central Districts Field Days 2013



With sand flying this tractor pull competitor throws the might of the tractor into pulling the sled along to the delight of spectators.

Tractor pulling is gaining momentum in New Zealand and is proving to be popular with competitors and spectators alike at Central Districts Field Days.

This year the tractor pull event managed by Tractorpull NZ is being sponsored by Norwood Farm Machinery.

Tractorpull NZ Inc was formed in 2009 after Vaughan Croy saw how popular tractor pull events were at Mystery Creek

Field Days.

"With a few isolated tractor pull events around NZ it was decided to form a society to bring tractor pulling into focus and grow the sport."

Leasing the sled from the National Fielddays Society, Tractorpull NZ takes tractor pulling on the road and into places that have never had the ability or opportunity to host a tractor pull event.

"It's huge overseas. Its growth potential is phenomenal."

With a history of driving

machinery in his blood Mr Croy has merged managing his own IT company and his love of machinery together in the sport of tractor pulling. From the office built into the club's 43-foot semi trailer, Mr Croy and team are able to use the computer system that controls the sled. By using mobile internet connections and remote access software he is able to give a running commentary on what

a competitor is pulling, speed, distance and more. The trailer provides a home away from home for Mr Croy and his team while running events around the country complete with running water and electric jug!

Tractorpull NZ attends about six events annually including the Southern Field Days in Waimumu. "Local shows running on a single day, such as Reporoa, are great events but there is something special about the bigger multiple day events such as CD Field Days. CDFD 2013 will see a new format for the competition.

"Most contractors are too busy to commit their machines for two or three days and miss out, so this year we are running the main event over only one day" Mr Croy said. "Saturday will see the main competition run so contractors only have to take a day out of their busy schedules to compete." "Thursday and Friday will see practise sessions for the main classes along with other competitions, such as the business house competition which was

won last year by RD1 and will no doubt be hotly contested again this year, taking place throughout the day."

When asked why he enjoys running the event Mr Croy said, "Contracting is a lonely job. This gets everyone together – there's a camaraderie element, there is nothing better than having some fun, sharing a beer or two and just catching up with like minded people."

our exhibitors work long hours so we try and make things a little easier around the CD Field days," Cheryl said.

"We like to show exhibitors our appreciation for making the CD Field Days the best day off the farm all year."

Any businesses wanting to be a part of this year's Central Districts Field Days

there are still sites available inside pavilions and outside. This year, the event will be held from Thursday, March 7 through to and including Saturday, March 9 at Manfeild Park, Feilding.

Ms Riddell said she looks forward to the return of Massey University as a major sponsor at the main entrance to Central Districts Field Days is through the South Street at Manfeild Park – Gate One. Anyone travelling north is encouraged to use the car park accessed from Awahuri turn-off into Kawakawa Road – Gate Four.

Gates open at 8.30am each day until 4.30pm on Thursday and Friday. Gates will close at 4pm on Saturday.

For more information concerning sites, contact event manager Cheryl Riddell on 021 222 0482.

JKL

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Photo: CDFD Jan 2013

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The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in Hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974.

That means it only took 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.

Ladies.....Quit Laughing.

NZ representative hot in Aussie



LEFT: Kianai May Thomas Moore wears her New Zealand Kea Under 14 girls sports uniform and proudly displays her medal. Kianai's team won their grade in the Australian Country Junior Basketball Cup with a 65-61 win in the finals over the South

Australian Sharks.

Remarkably Kianai broke and badly injured her fingers but bravely battled through and helped her team secure the title.

She has also recently been named captain of the Aotea U13 Netball team. Congratulations.

Pony Club News

Santa, sun and smiles combined to make Opunake Pony Club's 2012 Christmas rally a sure success last month. The fun day ended a successful year for the club with a bumper mini show being held earlier in the year and, more recently, the club team being placed fourth in the area dressage held at Stratford out of 18 teams, while a composite team with Okato placed tenth. The Christmas rally saw horses and riders dressed in Christmas theme, fun games and instruction while Santa and his present sack visited after lunch. A lolly scramble provided an exciting end to the day.

Head Coach Jenny Collins commented it was

great to see the progress individual riders had made during the year and wanted to wish riders the best with their upcoming competitions and certificate assessments for C+, C, D+ and D.

Opunake Pony Club would also like to congratulate Stephanie Clement and Jacqui Tulloch on attaining a place on the Taranaki Area Dressage Team, which will compete in Taupo for the NZPCA National Dressage. Good luck riders and keep up the training.

The club will be beginning the new year with a camp at Hawera where, amid fun activities, riders will receive instruction and work towards their pony club certificates.

BELOW: Opunake Pony Club members enjoying their Christmas rally.



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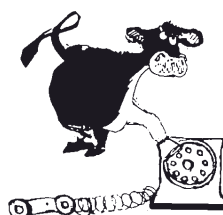
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TET Taranaki Masters Games



This one hundred-year-old woman Ruth Frith from Brisbane broke a record in the World Masters Games in Sydney recently. Age is definitely no excuse so register today for the Taranaki Masters Games.

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The 2013 TET Taranaki Masters Games will be held from March 14-17. The games are centred in Stratford with various events scattered around the region.

Following on from the success of the 2012 games, the TET are again managing the event as well as being the sponsor.

With 22 sports on offer during the weekend there is something for everyone - from team sports to individual pursuits.

The games cater for everyone, from those wanting to give a sport a

try, to those who are training with the goal of beating their previous best time right through to those striving to win a medal.

The Masters Games are for anyone over the age of 20 - that's right if you are over 20 you can at least enter the swimming. For Netball and Volleyball its 25 and for the likes of Athletics, Basketball, Darts, Pistol Shooting and Running/Walking it's 30. Other sports qualifying ages range from 35 through to 50.

For a full list of sports available refer to the advertisement on this page and check out our website for the timetable together

with qualifying ages. You can also download your registration & entry form or look through the e-book version of the Masters Games booklet.

The Masters Games booklets

are available from libraries and information centres throughout the Taranaki region or phone 06 765 0255 or email TMG2013@xtra.co.nz for a copy.



Black Caps need work to win



James Langton

Well done to the New Zealand cricket team, the Black Caps pulled off a surprising one-day cricket test series against South Africa. However, it's always hard to get excited about the Black Caps winning. Over the years we have seen the Black Caps start to produce good results and we think that the team is on its way up... but not this time, not with this team.

The current Black Caps

line-up looks soft and weak-minded and yet they still seem to have the attitude that they are 'the best'. They may be the best New Zealand has to offer, but they don't rate internationally in any format of the game. When is this team going to learn that to be the best you need a winner's work ethic? When we see the Black Caps attitude to training change then we will see a change in their results.

England is on their way

over and I'm hoping for some good results, but more than that I just want to see this Black Caps team show us some guts and determination. I want them to be a national team that we can be proud of.

James Langton

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Parade Winners



Danielle Morgan, Clare Young, Anna Young and Gemma Gray enthusiastically embracing the Christmas spirit before the Opunake Christmas Parade the Opunake High School ensemble included a Truck kindly lent by Sandfords the School van Netball, Basketball, Hillary Challenge and Get 2 Go team members A very loud drummer and Phil Hoopers Engineering boys with the Go Karts built in class for their efforts this group of teenagers took out first place in the parade well done!



Manaia Parade Winners were the Manaia Golf Club Nativity scene including a dog in the manger. Second were The Smaller group of Opunake High School students mostly from the school adventure racing team proudly showing off their hard earned Hillary Challenge Trophy



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Dorothea Henry

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Tupare treats on Waitangi Day

Live music, tasty treats, local arts and crafts, and a chance to explore and learn more about one of New Plymouth's premier heritage properties and its stunning gardens ... all this and more will be on offer at Tupare on Waitangi Day.

Free events at the Mangorei Rd property on February 6 will start with a guided garden walk at 8.30am, followed by a garden fair from 10am to 1pm.

The walk will be led by Tupare Manager Mitch Graham, who will talk about the Arts and Crafts style of Tupare and the use of New Zealand plants in the garden, as well as revealing some of his own favourite plantings.

The garden fair will feature:

- Live performances by local singer-songwriters MissieMoffat (guitar, vocals, percussion) and Juliet McLean (vocals, keys)—a mixture of favourite covers and well-crafted originals, all featuring warm and tuneful harmonies.
- Stalls selling ready-to-eat treats for you to enjoy brunch or a picnic on the spot: coffee, French baking and pastries, chicken souvlaki, bacon and egg rolls, cupcakes, Middle Eastern dips and breads.
- Fresh local produce including blueberries, fresh vegetables, jams, sauces, wines, breads, honey, garlic and lavender products, nuts, and plants — ornamental and



Take some time out on our national day to appreciate the beautiful gardens of Taranaki

vegetable seedlings.

- Handmade art and craft including jewellery, fibre craft, beauty products, toys and books.

The Waitangi Day events are part of a year-round programme of workshops and other events at Tupare,

Pukeiti and Holland Gardens, the three heritage properties owned and administered by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.

For more information, see www.tupare.info, www.hollandgardens.info and www.pukeiti.org.nz. Social media users can also follow the Regional Gardens on Facebook

(TaranakiRegionalGardens) and Twitter (@TaranakiRG). The Tupare guided walk on Waitangi Day is also part of the New Plymouth District Council's Summer Guided Walks programme. See <http://www.newplymouthnz.com/Events/MajorEvents/SummerGuidedWalksProgramme.htm> for more information.

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Robert England on **Wednesday** and **Fridays**, for buying and selling Houses, Farms and Businesses; Trusts; Wills and Estates.

Neal Harding on **Thursday**, for Residential Sales and Purchases; Family, District, and Criminal Court matters; Civil and Business matters.

FOR ALL YOUR LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

**30 Tasman Street,
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+Joan Fitzpatrick Celebration Exhibition
(Accountants on Broadway Gallery)

Opens 1 Feb 7.30 pm
1 Feb - 3 March 2013

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Treasures, Trousers, T.Shirts, Trays, Toys etc. 230a Omata Road. Wed - Fri 1pm - 5.30pm, Saturday 10am - 2pm. 027 5605 186
DRUM SET Excellent condition suitable for learner \$250 txt 027 231 1715.

PROPERTY FOR SALE

AWESOME unique house and lifestyle property plus big workshop with all services. This property has the original wow factor 2.4 acres, private location, panoramic views. Open home Saturday 9th 1-2pm and Sunday 10th February 1-1.30pm. 29 Hobson Street, Normanby. See open2view.com ID 274067 for private viewing contact Helen 027 270 2216.

Coastal Cobra's Junior Rugby League Meeting

Monday 4th February
Sandford's Event Centre
6.30pm

Those willing to contribute to the club for the coming 2013 season will be greatly appreciated
ph Henrietta 06761 8046

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PUBLIC NOTICES

SWIMMING LESSONS

Aquatots And Preschoolers

Opunake Baths

Tuesday Mornings

Ph Sue Pegume 761 8172



Must enroll by Feb 4

Coastal Cobra's Junior Rugby League AGM

Monday 11th February
6.30 pm

Sandford's Event Centre
All Members of our local community welcome
761 8046 Secretary

PUBLIC NOTICES



SPEED LIMIT REVIEW - SUMMARY

South Taranaki District Council - 2013 Speed Limit Review

In keeping with our commitment to provide a safe and efficient transport system, the South Taranaki District Council has reviewed a number of speed limits within the District and wants to know what you think.

The Council proposes to change the speed limits on four Roads: (Fairfield Road, Larlin Drive, Mid-Parihaka Road and Ohangai Road) and in six designated areas: (Wai-inu Beach, Opunake Beach, Middleton Bay, Mana Bay, Waihi Beach and TSB Hub carpark).

Consultation on this proposed speed limit review begins on Monday 7 January 2013 and we need your feedback by Friday 8 February 2013.

How to have your say

Copies of the proposed speed limit changes are available at the Hawera Administration Building, Albion St, Hawera, all LibraryPlus centres throughout the district and the council's website www.southtaranaki.com

A copy of the proposal can also be obtained by ringing the council on 278 0555 or toll free on 0800 111 323.

Your submission or comments can be sent to the Council by:

- Sending an email to speedlimits@sttc.govt.nz
- Completing the hard copy feedback form attached to this document and posting it to us (address below), or dropping it into any LibraryPlus or the Hawera Administration Building
- Writing to Shannon Cox, South Taranaki District Council, Private Bag 902, Hawera 4640
- Faxing us on (06) 278 8757
- Phoning us on 278 0555 or toll free on 0800 111 323 (if you have any questions)
- Going to our website www.southtaranaki.com/Council/Consultation

Remember your comments must be received no later than Friday 8 February 2013.

Opunake Players

AGM

10 February 2013

at "PLAYHOUSE

Layard St, 6.30pm

ALL WELCOME

PUBLIC NOTICES

Earlier Saturday Closing

Will be closing at 1pm on Saturdays from now until spring.

New Life Nursery

183 Tasman St, Opunake



Early Learning Centre For Young Children

Welcome back to all our families

TERM 1 START DATE

Monday February 4

We are now taking enrolments for 2013

Use your 20 ECE Hours here, with no extra fees!

Monday-Friday - Hours: 9am-1.15pm

11 Patu-kukupa St, PO Box 81, Manaia, Taranaki - Phone 06 274 9292 - Fax 06 274 9293 - email: manaia.preschool@xtra.co.nz



OFFICAL PRE-SEASON TRAINING

Thursday January 31, 2013

Rahotu Rugby Grounds 6.30pm

Every Tuesday-Thursday thereafter

Coaches 2013

Sen 'A' Joe Lawn 021 575 296

Trent Oliver

Sen 'B' Richard Cory

Davy Jones

Sen 3rd Muzz Horo

U/21 Ricky Tito

Jeremy Bull

For further information contact Club Captain Peter Burnand 027 244 1586

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

Financial assistance is available to students to undergo tertiary education relating preferably to agricultural or horticultural studies although consideration will be given to other applicants.

Application forms available from:-

The Secretary

P O Box 117

OPUNAKE 4616

PHONE 761-7150

EMAIL: nevisbrewer@xtra.co.nz

Coastal Volunteer Emergency Transport Group AGM

Mon 18 February 2013, 2 pm at
4 Napier Street, Opunake

All members and interested persons are invited to attend.

Contact Debbie Campbell
Secretary

sounds on the sand

Sunday 17 February 2013

Opunake Beach

1.00pm - 4.00pm



Sit back and relax to the sounds of The Blues Buffet.

Bring your beach chair and a picnic or purchase an ice cream or coffee at the Opunake Beach Shop.

For further information contact
South Taranaki District Council Events
@ TSB Hub, Phone 06 278 0646



South Taranaki
Alive with opportunity

WHAT'S ON

COASTAL RUGBY

Thursday January 31 Official Pre-season training at Rahoto Rugby Grounds (6.30pm). Refer advert.

ARTHOUSE CINEMA RETURNS TO BUTLERS REEF

From February 13 to March 8 – many dates to see entertaining films. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

Applications accepted now.

SURF INN

Free pool on Mondays, Tuesdays and Sundays. Pool competition starting Thursday at 7.30pm and Sunday at 1pm.

Poker night on Wednesdays. AND MUCH MORE – see advert.

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club.

OPUNAKE SWIMMING BATHS

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

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

OPUNAKE MODERN JIVERS

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

TREE TRUST

Applications for grants now open (Refer advert).

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Wonderful World of Watercolour. Opens Friday 1 February (7.30pm) Ends March 3 (Refer advert).

LYSAGHT WATT GALLERY

'Colourplay'. Exhibition ends Saturday February 2 (Refer advert).

LYSAGHT WATT GALLERY

Monday February 4 Merv Turner's exhibition opens (5.30pm). Exhibition ends Saturday March 2. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION MONTHLY MEETING

Monday February 4 at Opunake Beach for pot luck meal and meeting

COASTAL COBRAS

Monday February 4 Junior Rugby League meeting at Sandfords Event Centre (6.30pm) Refer advert.

MANAIA COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL

Monday February 4 Term 1 starts.

WORLD WETLANDS DAY

Friday February 8. Te Wawa, Oakura (Refer advert).

SPEED LIMIT REVIEW - SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Comments must be in by Friday February 8. Refer advert.

EASTERN PLAYS AT TAHORA

Saturday February 9 – part of Arts On Tour

OPEN HOME

Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 February at 29 Hobson St, Normanby (Refer advert).

CHALLENGE RAFT RACE (OPUNAKE LIONS)

Sunday February 10. Starts at Opunake Lake Boat Ramp at 11am. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE PLAYERS AGM

Sunday February 10 at Playhouse, Layard St, Opunake (6.30pm) (Refer advert).

COASTAL COBRAS

Monday February 11 AGM at 6.30pm. Held at Sandfords Event Centre. (Refer advert).

ST VALENTINES DAY

Thursday February 14. Headlands and Sugar Juice in Opunake have some great special meals to celebrate the special day.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY

Creative Clearance. Ends Friday February 15. Refer advert.

ROCKING CHARITY SHOW (SPCA)

Friday February 15 in Hawera (Refer advert).

SOUNDS ON THE SAND

Sunday February 17 at Opunake Beach, starting 1pm (Refer advert).

COASTAL VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY TRANSPORT GROUP

Monday February 18 AGM. Held at 4 Napier St, Opunake (2pm). Refer advert.

HAWERA REPERTORY SOCIETY –'HARRISMEN'

2-9 March at Repertory House. Collins St., Hawera (Refer advert).

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETINARARY TRUST

Applications in by March 15 please. Refer advert.

WOMAD

15-17 March (Refer advert).



Rebecca Pratt who plays Dorothy.

Talented teen chosen for Hawera Repertory's *The Wizard of Oz*

Later this year Hawera Repertory Society will be inviting you to 'follow the yellow brick road' to the Hawera Memorial Theatre for their production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

The Society has successfully cast this production which originates from *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* a 1900 novel by L. Frank Baum. It has been adapted into several different works, the most famous being the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz* starring Judy Garland. This version by John Kane follows the famous motion picture closely and was presented by the Royal Shakespeare Company at the Barbican Centre in London in 1988.

Directed and designed by Russ Standing, musically directed by Charles Pittams and choreographed by Michelle Glover this production will include as much of the aura of the original film as possible combining the use of visual and special effects not previously used by the Society. It will certainly be one for all the family, well-suited to both reminiscent parents and imaginative children alike.

The role of Dorothy is being played by Rebecca Pratt who from the age of four was imbued with the qualities that emanate from a background immersed in the realisation of the performing arts. Music and dance were part of her life in her formative years and under the tutelage of Claudia Bluett for piano, vocal teacher Julie Cudby, singing, Adele Brett of the Patten Academy of Dance, classical ballet and Michelle Glover's Academy of Dance where she was taught jazz, Rebecca achieved a high degree of skill resulting in cultural triumphs in a highly competitive arena.

Rebecca's first onstage venture for the Hawera Repertory Society was in the Russ Standing production of *Oliver* in 2010 and the following year she was in the Hawera High School production of *Grease*. A glimpse into some of the attainments so far reached by this young lady includes a Dame Malvina Major Foundation grant in 2012 and in the same year first place in Halliwell's Hawera High School Senior Music Awards. With an obvious well rounded per-

sonality, Rebecca's life skills saw her also receive the Natasha Tsao Trophy for Arts Excellence in Performance, Commendation for Cultural Achievement, Commendation in English and Science and Performance Music. Only fifteen years old and in year 11 at Hawera High School, Rebecca enjoys all subjects but has yet to decide where her future lies. The cast includes:

Rebecca Pratt (Dorothy Gale)

Donnella Weir (Aunt Em/ Good Witch of the North)

Mike Powell (Uncle Henry/ Emerald City Guard)

Graydon Richards (Zeke/ Cowardly Lion)

Bergen Raikes (Hickory/ Tinman)

Jym Shaman (Hunk/ Scarecrow)

Samantha Turner (Miss Gulch/Wicked Witch of the West)

Alex Ballantyne (Professor Marvel/Wizard of Oz)

Adult Ensemble: Laura Barbarics, Hauiti Brider, Deborah Clough, Zoe Hall, Linda Jefferies, Chrys Pod-

jursky, Paula Stieller, Ben Thomas, Yvonne Walker, Laura Ward

Dancers from Michelle Glover Academy of Dance

Munchkins: Brittany Barker, Josh Bird, Sarah Bird, Maddison Campbell, Niall Clancy, Niamh Clancy, Sinead Clancy, Jordy Gibson, Jack Gallie, Joshua Godderidge, Emma Goldsworthy, Caleb Hammersley, Samara Harrop, Alexander Howl, Noah Hunt, Megan Jackson, Tamaari Kupe-King, Te Poutakamanawa Kupe-King, Abigail Landsborough, Madison Landsborough, Anne Larcom, Caleb Lewis, Tyree Loveridge, Kate Mackay, Keelah Mitchell, Henry Parker, Lilly Parker, Imogen Perrett, Ada van Riemsdijk, Zoe Snowdon, Jessie-Lee Taylor, Lauryn Terrill, James Weir, Linayawereta, Rosanna Willis

Hawera Repertory Society Inc.

hawerarep@hawera.org

hawerarep.org

Hawera Repertory Society presents

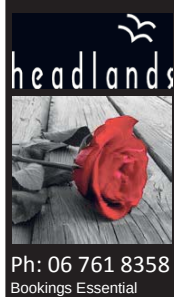
harrismen
three one act plays by
richard harris

Directed by Shane Martin and Hollie Weir

2 - 9 March 2013

**Repertory House
Collins Street, Hawera**

**Tickets available from
South Taranaki i-SITE, Hawera
06 278 8599**



Valentines Day Dinner

Make your Valentines Day a special one at Headlands

Monday 14th February

Receive a complimentary glass of Wine or Beer with your evening meal

Ph: 06 761 8358

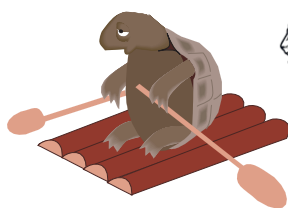
Bookings Essential



PH: 06 761 7062
42 - 44 TASMAN ST
OPUNAKE

Happy Valentines Day
Come dine with us
FREE GLASS BUBBLES!
Kiss. Kiss.

WED. THURS. FRI. SAT 9AM-9PM FOR BOOKINGS
MON. TUES & SUN 9AM-4PM PH 761-7062



Opunake Lions

Challenge Raft Race

February 10 at 11.00 am at

Opunake Lake Boat Ramp

Opunake Lions will challenge all comers to beat our raft

Bring your raft and paddle your best

A free fun family day – soft water bombs allowed

Spot Prizes

Kayaks provided for a kayak race

BBQ at boat ramp

Life Jackets compulsory – some will be provided

More information contact:

Rex Langton phone 7618539 email randallangton@xtra.co.nz

Stephen Mourié 7617224 s.kmourié@farmside.co.nz

Ian Armstrong 7618052 I.Armstrong@xtra.co.nz



Three little goats feel like a little rest on a seat at Stony Oaks, near Inglewood.

Come and visit us at Stony Oaks

Challenge on for the fastest raft

Why not unleash your competitive streak this year, or maybe just come along and have some serious family fun?

Sunday February 10, 2013 from 10a.m. at the Opunake Lake.

Get your family, friends, workmates, classmates, club mates or team mates together and come to this major sporting event in Opunake. Well.... medium event with a major fun factor!

If you don't have any mates, just come along anyway and you'll soon meet some!

The Opunake Lions want to challenge everyone to try to out-build and out-paddle them in the great raft race across their lake.

Build and bring your own raft (and life jackets, though spares will be available) and try your luck!

The more the merrier! Thanks and see you there!



This painting is just one excellent exhibit to see at Hawera's Lysaght Watt Gallery. The exhibition is called 'Colourplay'. The gallery is open 10am to 4pm Monday to Fridays and 10am to 1pm on Saturday. (Closed on Sundays). The gallery is located on 4-6 Union Street, Hawera. The exhibition continues until February 2.

Tree Trust offering funds for winter planting projects

Landowners with planting projects planned for winter may be eligible for assistance from the Taranaki Tree Trust – but they need to act now to secure funding.

The Trust will accept applications between 1 February and 1 March for its first funding round for the year. The Trust makes grants to support Taranaki projects which protect and restore wetlands, bush remnants, the coast and wildlife habitat. It is also keen to support projects which enhance community areas such as marae, schools and reserves.

Grants of between \$300 and \$5,000 will be made. The Trust will contribute up to 75% of the total cost of a school or community group project, and up to 50% for a project on private land. The total cost includes cash, and

the dollar value of any 'in kind' contributions such as labour. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in April and those who secure funding must use it within two years.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Trust's website, www.taranakitree-trust.org.nz, or obtained

from the Trust Co-ordinator, Leigh Honnor, ph 0800 736 222 or email treetrust@trc.govt.nz.

Applicants are strongly advised to discuss their projects with Leigh Honnor before submitting an application.

There will be another funding round in August.

Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park

For the Ultimate Animal Experience

See our new Nubian kid goats, fawns, Highland calves, rabbits, miniature kune kune piglets and hand feed possums, row the boat, take a bushwalk and see the fairies.

Bring a picnic and spend a day in the country. Don't miss close encounters of the Animal Kind.



PH 06 756 7624 for prices and directions

We have an exclusive range of beautiful Gifts for sale at the Gallery.

Lysaght Watt gallery
on the Square Hawera
4-6 Union Street

Merv Turner's exhibition Opens

Mon Feb 4 (5.30pm).

Continues until Sat March 2.



Arthouse coming back to Butlers

SEVEN PSYCHOPATHS

They Won't Take Any Shih Tzu.



All tickets \$12

You can buy your tickets from Butlers Reef - no holding tickets - first in first served, limited seats and no complimentary

Dinner is available and we recommend you phone ahead to make a booking. There will be one special meal deal each movie night

- chef's choice and details will be available the day of the movie.

Feel free to bring your own pillow or blanket but no BYO food or alcohol. There will be ice-creams for sale prior to the movie, no intermission and all movies start at 8.30pm

Arthouse is coming back to Butlers Reef!

All tickets \$12

Wed 13 Feb - To Rome With Love, 8.30pm

Fri 15 Feb - Seven Psychopaths, 8.30pm

Wed 20 Feb - Seven Psychopaths, 8.30pm

Fri 22 Feb - The Sapphires, 8.30pm

Mon 25 Feb - You've Been Trumped, 8.30pm

Tues 26 Feb - Rolling Stones Cross Fire Hurricane, 8.30pm

Wed 6 March - Hysteria, 8.30pm

Fri 8 March - Sightseers, 8.30pm

Ph: (06) 752 7765



Coffee and scone THURSDAYS

Bring a friend

Buy a coffee and scone combo and get another combo **FREE**
Coffee and muffin only \$6.50

Rhubarb

158 High St, Eltham, 4332. • Ph 06 764 8101



World Wetlands Day coming to Te Wawa

An example of the importance of wetlands and the challenges involved in their restoration and enhancement will be on public show to mark World Wetlands Day on Sunday February 3.

Te Wawa Wetland, just north of Oakura, will be the venue for a field day

allowing visitors to inspect the area first-hand and to hear about its value and the work that still needs to be done.

The 4.8 ha wetland, on properties leased from PKW Incorporation by John Washer and Neil Maulder, is the habitat of a number of threatened and endangered bird and

reptile species, including the Australasian bittern, the spotless crane and the gold-striped gecko. Its vegetation includes raupo reed and flax, as well as a small coastal forest remnant containing kawakawa, mahoe, karamu and lancewood. It is also close to a pa site.

A major priority at the wetland is management of pest plants and further investigation of native animal life, particularly fish and aquatic invertebrates. This work forms part of a Conservation and Biodiversity Plan for the property, drawn up by the Taranaki Regional Council in consultation with the owners and leaseholders.

Te Wawa Wetland is listed as a Regionally Significant Wetland and a Key Native Ecosystem by the Council.

As well as a tour of the wetland, Sunday's field day will include addresses by the Taranaki Regional Council Chairman, David MacLeod, who is also on the board of PKW, and representatives of Forest and Bird, QEII National Trust, Taranaki Tree Trust and the Department of Conservation.

The field day starts at 10am. The property is on Koru Road, off SH45 north of Oakura, and will be signposted from the highway. Bring good walking shoes, hat and sunblock, and water or juice.

For advertising
phone
(06) 761 7016



ABOVE:
The wetlands area at Te Wawa, just north of Oakura. Don't miss the event held at the Koru Road property on World Wetlands Day, Sunday February 3.

TARANAKI
NEW ZEALAND
WOMAD
THE WORLD'S FESTIVAL

15-17 MARCH 2013

TICKETS FROM JUST \$70!

COME FOR THE EVENING, ONE DAY, OR THREE!

BRING THE FAMILY.

UNDER 12-YEARS FREE (ONE PER PAYING ADULT)

Details at WWW.WOMAD.CO.NZ

TICKETEK

HOST CITY PARTNER



To Kaunhera-Kohu o Ngāmotu
NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL
newplymouthnz.com

COMMUNITY PARTNER

TSB Community Trust



PROGRAMME PARTNERS



EVENT SUPPORTERS



PRODUCED BY



Eastern concert at Tahora

The Eastern will be playing at Tahora on Saturday Feb 9 (they are touring with Arts on Tour to out of the way places). There will be the usual camping facilities available and a BBQ meal for sale on the Saturday evening. Tickets are \$20 and are available from Vinyl Countdown in New Plymouth (for those of you who live locally) or at the gate if you come from further afield. The ticket price covers gig and camping. We should probably get eftpos, but bring cash in case we don't! The gig is on, rain or shine, in the shearers' quarters.

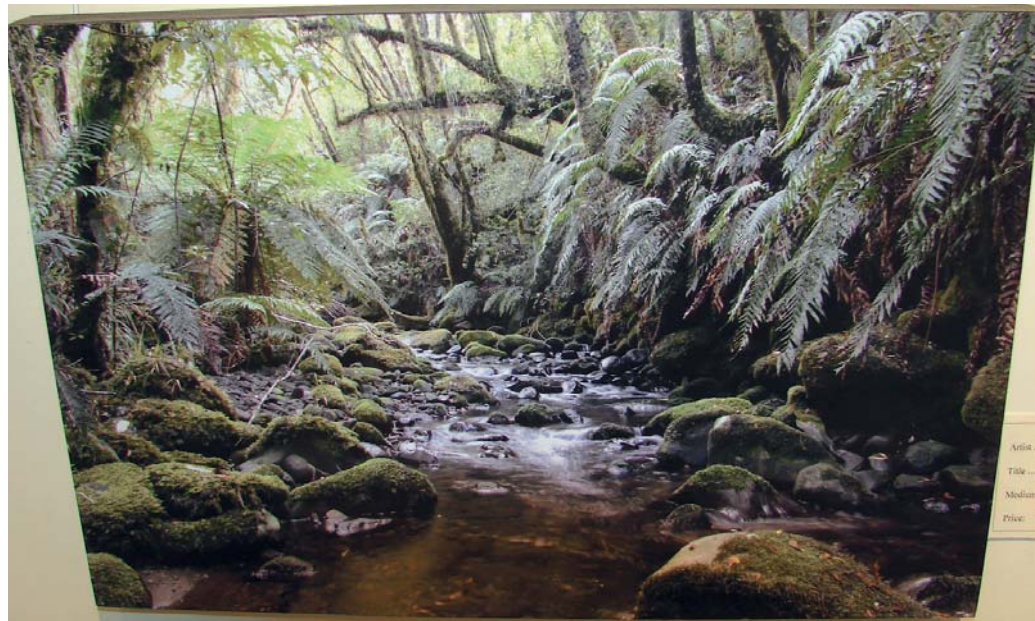
Kids - if they're old enough to be at the gig, they're \$20 and if they will be tucked up in bed not long after dinner, then they're free as long as someone's responsible for them.

No dogs. No BYO in the venue.

There will be a cash bar and support acts and the whole gig doodah, probably horse rides or horse-shoe tossing or some other country pursuits in the afternoon also.

For updates on any of the above, check out this Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/TheGazeboGirls>



Another exhibit for sale at The Village Gallery's Creative Clearance (See story below). This photograph is by Eltham's Paul Burgham and is entitled 'The Stream'.

Creative clearance at the Village Gallery

You need to be quick for this one. Ending February 15, The Village Gallery in Eltham has some excellent art for sale at drastically marked down prices. There is a wide range of art on offer from such talented artists as Paul Burgham, Maree Liddington, G Hotter and Karen Waterson. There are paintings (acrylic and oil),

pottery, patchwork and knitting, mixed media, felting, tapestry weaving, decoupage and photography and much more.

There are a few paintings by the late great Jim Hayward and these are now becoming harder to obtain.

Don't miss out your chance

to obtain original art at bargain prices. The Village Gallery is situated at High Street, Eltham are open Monday to Saturday 10am to 3pm.



An acrylic painting by G Hotter entitled 'The Summit'.

Rocking charity show in Hawera

Mark this date in your calendar - Friday February 15, from 7.30pm to 10.30pm. 'A Rocking Charity Show'. Presented by Charity Museum, Eltham this event will be held at the Memorial Theatre, Hawera - your chance to hear some great music from artists such as Nigel Keelan, KD - Mr Elvis, Russell Wicks and Tip Tekira. It's all in aid of a good cause too; all proceeds go to SPCA, South Taranaki. The MC is Coast Radio's Bryan Vickery.

Sadly, the flipside of the joys of Christmas is that a number of pets are abandoned or simply not wanted. The

money raised can be used by SPCA to find new homes for these animals and care for them until a home is found.

Tickets (just \$14pp) can be bought at I-site in Hawera, the SPCA Op shop, Eltham Library or you can contact Lisa Wicks (Eltham) phone 06 764 7511 or email loun80@gmail.com. You can also contact Win Tekira (Levin) for south of Taranaki sales by phoning 06 367 0384.

It'll be a great night. As well as the music acts, soft drinks and chips are for sale and quickfire raffles will be conducted with great prizes

to be won on the night.

There is something for everyone. Organisers Tip Tekira (Levin) plays a mean lead guitar, while fellow organiser Russell Wicks, a singer/songwriter plays catchy Eldorado Rock on his rhythm guitar. The band lineup includes Jeff Jones (Palmerston North) on drums. Guest artists include rock n roller KD - Mr Elvis, famous for his Elvis Museum in Hawera.

Be quick, don't miss out. Door sales are possible but only if tickets are not sold out beforehand. For out-of-towners bus trip discounts are available.

On this month in history

On January 21, 1930 an alpine guide Teddy Blomfield and four women died on the Tasman Glacier near Mt Cook. This was New Zealand's worst alpine tragedy up until that time.

The guide was in his early twenties and was also a medical student. The mystery was how the party succumbed so quickly and

early theories that exposure caused the deaths have been challenged by others suggesting that lightning was the main factor.

New Zealand Memories (Issue 89 April/ May, 2011) has a more comprehensive article written by Rolland McKellar, a relative of the guide.

The next
issue of the
Opunake
&
Coastal News
will be on
February 14.



What's happening @ The People's Pub.....

28 Tasman Street
Opunake
06 761 8387

(Opposite Karam's Clothes
on the Coast)

Monday	FREE POOL
Tuesday	TIGHT ARSE TUESDAY • FREE POOL • GREAT DRINK SPECIALS • \$10 LUNCH MENU • FREE KIDS MEAL* • 2 PIZZAS \$22.00**
Wednesday	\$10 LUNCH MENU • POKER NIGHT CRACK 2 WOODY'S FOR \$10 • FREE KIDS MEAL*
Thursday	\$10 LUNCH MENU • HAPPY HOUR FROM 4.30pm POOL COMP STARTING @ 7:30pm • (cash and bar prizes) FREE KIDS MEAL*
Friday	\$10 LUNCH MENU • FREE JUKEBOX • FREE BAR SNACKS FREE KIDS MEAL*
Saturday	ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN! ☺ • \$10 LUNCH MENU FREE KIDS MEAL*
Sunday	FREE POOL • \$10 LUNCH MENU • POOL COMP STARTING @ 1pm • FREE KIDS MEAL* • 2 PIZZAS \$22.00**
Everyday	Beer garden, jukebox, pool tables, darts and all the sports to watch with 3 sky decoders
TAB AND GAMING	TAB Pod with 5 monitors and 8 gaming machines
BOTTLESTORE	A good selection of wines, RTD'S, beers, spirits and liqueurs Homemade curries and other meals available outside restaurant hours
Tuesday - Sunday	LUNCH 12pm - 2pm
RESTAURANT	DINNER Sun & Tues 5:30pm - 8:00pm Wed to Sat 5:30pm - 9:00pm
* Free kids meal for children up to 12 years with any dinner main meal purchase when dining in (not valid for takeaway) **excludes \$18 pizzas. Available 5:30pm - 8:00pm	