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Oaonui man is Dairy Trainee of the Year. Page 15.



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RATS with a live-saving message

On Friday March 9 Opunake was resounding to the sound of 14 reverberating motorcycles as Riders Against Teenage Suicide (RATS) paid a visit.

After a brief stop for refreshments in Tasman Street they headed up to Opunake High School at 11am to deliver an important message to the students – that bullying is closely linked to suicide. In fact bullying is ranked third in the many various causes of suicide.

The motorcycle riders come from all over New Zealand to support their vital cause, from places as far afield as Christchurch, Hamilton, and Rotorua. The main organiser, who spent his formative years in Rahotu, is Tama Eminukutepua and his speech was spellbinding. He was introduced by OHS teacher Andy Bedford.

The riders, Nigel Scott, Dion Wairepo to name just a couple, sat up the front with their circular green and yellow patches 'Riders Against Teenage Suicide'. The movement, which started in 2012, represents a blend of both the prevention of teen suicide (green ribbon) and mental health in general (yellow ribbon). Some of the riders have also been affected by the suicide of people close to them.

Tama opened with, "I know all about bullying because I was a bully myself and that was because I was bullied."

Early in his address Tama asked a riveting question: "Stand up all those who have been bullied" – and about 90% of the students stood.

He responded, "You are not alone in being bullied." He added, "Bullying is the third most frequent cause of youth suicide."



Tama Eminukutepua of Riders Against Teenage Suicide (RATS) speaks to students and staff at Opunake High School.

He followed this up with a more uncomfortable question: "Stand up if you are a bully or have been a bully."

This time about 80% of the students stood up.

Tama pointed out that bullying came in several forms and locations, mentioning the home, school, on line and workplaces.

He said it was important to share the experience of being bullied with a friend. "A problem shared is a problem halved," he commented.

Near the end of his address Tama asked who was interested in becoming an Ambassador in the fight to prevent teenage suicide. After Tama's main speech was over about twenty students joined him in a huddle up the front as he explained what being an Ambassador involved. He mentioned the phone number to obtain more information 0800 890 142. Tama also named Facebook as another source of information.



RATS en route to deliver their message.

Principal Simon Fuller spoke briefly to the assembled students and mentioned various avenues of support if any student was feeling troubled.

He mentioned mentor teachers, Year Level Deans, Cultural Deans and the Senior Leadership team.

Counsellor comments



Counsellor Sylvia Huitson

Working together to prevent Suicide is the theme recently released by the International Association of Suicide Prevention (IASP), for World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2018. This year's theme is particularly apt. It reminds me of that old concept – it

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More Opunake & Coastal News' out

We have printed more copies of the Opunake & Coastal News. Copies of the paper are now also available on stands at the following places:

- New Plymouth
- The Challenge Spotswood petrol station at Spotswood.
- The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City.
- Westside Grille, Tukapa Street, Westown.
- Waitara
- Outside the North Taranaki Community House Trust, 67 McLean Street.
- Stratford
- Perera's Paper Power, 234A Broadway, Stratford
- Hawera
- Outside First National on the corner of Victoria and High Streets, Hawera.

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March 30 2018



Letters to the Editor

Activist to be prosecuted

Does Amanda Lawson think we the public are utterly and totally stupid when she stated that by taking oil out of the earth and sea will actually cause a catastrophic climate change? To me this is utterly ridiculous.

She totally forgets one thing. In China they have major rain falls, floods, earthquakes and hurricanes, yet there's been no oil taken out of their land or sea, as they have to buy petrol, diesel and many other lubricants to keep their billions of vehicles on the move 24/7. Does she expect we the public to run our vehicles on fresh air?

Our coalition government

has not been threatening, but telling all Greenpeace activists that if they keep breaking the law, not only will there be a \$50,000 fine, but they will spend one year in jail.

It now seems there is a greater level of support for our oil and gas industry, which to me is excellent news, while car designers are still designing fuel efficient engines, so it now seems that Greenpeace is actually fighting a losing battle.

*Tom Stephens
New Plymouth*

Improving Middleton's Bay

With the increasing popularity of Middleton's Bay, it will bring new

and bright challenges all the time, which in turn must help the future of Opunake's township, which is extremely vital.

It's believed the Egmont Plains community Board and the Opunake Boating and underwater Club have had a meeting, which is really great to see.

Now before making any sort of concrete decision, members of the Community Board and the Opunake Boating and Underwater Club, the District Council mayor, plus the spokesperson for the Council's environment infrastructure all have to have an informal meeting together, walk up the beach of Middleton's Bay, discuss

the ideas, then everyone can see firsthand whether the ideas are suitable or unsuitable, while at the same time, discuss Opunake's lake, which isn't far away from the bay.

It's really vital to get certain elements right the first time, as it only takes one mistake to be extremely costly, not only to the Bay itself, but also for the township of Opunake.

Remember this, every town that's around our coast is vitally important not only to everyone, but also for our great province of Taranaki.

*Tom Stephens
New Plymouth*

The Easter Question

really a statement and then a question. Here it is. He first makes a huge claim and then asks everyone the most important question in human history:

"I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (John 11:25) That's Jesus' disarming Easter question: Do you believe this? Do you believe in Jesus?

Easter promise that those who believe in him will be resurrected to eternal life?

Some answer the Easter question with either a definite yes or a no. Others simply avoid answering it. And then others want to say yes but have doubts like doubting Thomas in the Bible, and that's ok. The Easter resurrection message is not rocket science or complex scholarly theology as some unbelieving and overeducated theologians

make out: Jesus died, was resurrected and now lives so that we don't have to hold on to the fear of death in our hearts. Jesus gently asks you, me and a seemingly broken world the same Easter question again in 2018, as he has for the past 2,000 years.

On that first Easter Resurrection Sunday some of Jesus' women disciples found his empty tomb. The angels' message to them is the same today as it was then: "He has risen!"

Adelphos

CORRECTION / APOLOGY

In our March 2 issue our story entitled 'Scott Walden new principal at Coastal Taranaki School' (page 9) there was an inaccuracy. Scott's father is a trustee of one of the Parihaka farms; it was incorrectly stated that he runs one. We apologise for this error.

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The Easter message

We are fortunate to have four Churches in Opunake with one message - we all profess Jesus as the Son of God and our Lord and Saviour. That is why Easter is such a special time for us.

We take turns to host the Easter Friday Service and this Easter it will be held at the Catholic Church Opunake at 10am

We start with a walk through Opunake where believers will carry the cross in memory of what He had done for us. We will start at the cenotaph at 9am and stop at all the churches starting with the Wave then St Barnabas, St Pauls until we reach the Catholic Church at 10am for the service. We invite you to come and join us. Jesus will meet your needs whatever it is - you just have to come.

Here is a short message from all our Spiritual Leaders:



Peace be with you

As we approach Easter, we are navigating through the ups and downs of life, and there have been some major downs with the drought here in Opunake. May you hear the gentle but firm voice of Jesus 'Peace be with you.' Because he died and rose again, you can face tomorrow. He gives power to persevere and the hope to envisage better days.

May you be blessed this Easter

*Jennie McCullough
Mission Enabler
St Pauls Co-operating Parish*

Christ has removed the sting of death

Christ by His dying and rising from the dead has removed the sting of death for all of us. Christ assures is that death

is only the end of birth and we all live in and with Christ in eternal life. This is the confidence and joy we enjoy and celebrate at Easter.

Happy Easter blessings to one and all.

*Father Vijay
Our Lady Star of the Sea
Catholic Church
Opunake*

The Essence of Easter

God sent his Son into the world, not to judge or condemn, but to replace the darkness of evil with the light of goodness and love. The world which God created is the only place where we can experience God's creative and saving love. This, to me, is what every person is looking for and is the essence of Easter.

*Rev'd Ian Sargent
St. Barnabas
Opunake*

The Endless Summer

I for one am enjoying this warm, dry summer, especially after our very wet summer last year. We have two great beaches and a river close by to cool off in. But as they say "all good things must come to an end." This is true for most things, including this great weather, but not all things. That's one thing I like about Easter. It's all about Jesus. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. His love, goodness and faithfulness is everlasting and ever present.

*Pastor Murray McEwen
The Wave Opunake*

*Lynette Blom
St Pauls Co-operating Parish, Opunake*

OPUNAKE CHURCHES

Good Friday Walk of Witness March 30

Starting at Cenotaph at 9am then visiting all the churches.

Finishing with a service at our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church at 10am.

All welcome

Counsellor comments

Continued from page 1

takes a village to raise a child. Maybe it takes a community to prevent suicide. In our community there are many groups and individuals working together and separately, to help prevent suicide. RATS is one such group and there are others - many working together as members of Suicide Prevention Taranaki. Recognising that everyone in the community has their part to play in

reducing suicide figures, which nationwide, are on average, 12 per week. Yes, that is 12 a week nationwide on average. To the family member, work colleague or friend - what can you do to help prevent suicide? Be aware of risk among family and whanau - you may be the first to notice risk. Ask the question - have you thought about suicide? It won't put the idea in their head. Listen to them - hugely important. Support

and help or get help. If they have a plan and the means to carry it out contact the police or your local hospital crisis team. Nationally there is a major conference taking place in the Bay of Islands in May - IASP Asia and Pacific Suicide Prevention Conference (for further details check out iasp.info/newzealand). Le Va is offering suicide prevention training throughout New Zealand. There is plenty being done to preventing

suicide, but plenty more we can do in regards to preventing suicide. By working together we can, and must close the gaps that people sometimes fall through. Working Together to Prevent Suicide. We can make a difference. We all need to know what to do and what to say if we recognise risk, and do it. Just do it.

*Sylvia Huitson
NZ Rep to IASP*

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT



Cr Steffy Mackay

Wow what an extremely hot summer we have had. It is no surprise that our local rural pools have seen a high attendance during the season. It is great to see our facilities being well utilized. I myself escaped to the beach for a very relaxing holiday. No cell phone reception helped there. During my stay I was amazed at how many tourists from overseas have opted to explore our country via mobile homes, vans and cars

with a tent on board. They were all very friendly and extremely interesting to talk to. I found them all to be very respectful of the environment around them, leaving no rubbish or footprint behind. Ironically it was the carload of younger locals partying on the beach and leaving all their glass bottles, cans and rubbish behind for the tide to carry it out to sea for them that annoyed me immensely. Yes I picked it up, with the help of my teenage son, and put it into the bins that are provided for us to dispose of our rubbish. Then was another large group of locals who decided to light a fire to cook their tea on. They totally ignored all the signs around

the camp that says "no lighting fires" as we were in a total fire ban season. It didn't take too long for the Fire Brigade to turn up and douse it out. Then the group decided to cook their tea on the free gas barbecue provided by our Council to use. You wonder why they didn't use this option in the first place, not only considering the huge fine they probably received but also was very little regard to the safety of other camp dwellers if they lost control of their fire.

Upon witnessing all of this it makes me wonder if our overseas freedom campers are getting a bad rap from the actions of our very own New Zealanders. It will be inter-

esting to hear the feedback from our Freedom Camping Ambassadors form about what their experiences were during the summer season. The Council has employed these Ambassadors to first and foremost welcome them to our District and then educate them on our Freedom Camping rules if necessary.

These tourists are a huge boost to our local economy and I believe we need to welcome them with open arms. Although they may not spend their money on motel bills, most of the tourists I spoke to were enjoying visiting our local attractions and were definitely utilizing our local shops, petrol stations etc. So

there are benefits to having them in our area.

So in conclusion I would like to put a few challenges out there for you to seriously consider. Firstly don't leave a footprint behind you, and ensure you dispose of your rubbish correctly. Secondly if you see rubbish around that someone else has left behind please pick it up and put it in a bin. If we all did that it would make a huge difference to our environment. And lastly if you come across a Tourist, say hello and make them feel welcome. And if they are doing something wrong, educate them. You don't know, what you don't know, until someone enlightens you.

Cr Steffy Mackay

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A moody Devon Street New Plymouth at sunset. Photo taken on Sunday night by one of our journalists.

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Kaponga WI hold their annual meeting

A very good attendance of members of Kaponga WI met in February at Kaponga, for the annual meeting.

Another interesting year was reported with members attending meetings and activities organised by South Taranaki Federation. Several had attended the Regional Day organised by Wanganui Federation which was held at Bushy Park and was a highlight of the year. Dorothy Hughes and Rosalie Gibson had embroidery exhibited at Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford.

Reports were made of

previous meetings and activities, the first being the very enjoyable dinner at the Empire Hotel Stratford for a Christmas gathering with husbands /partners. Secret Friends exchanged gifts.

President Dorothy Hughes read the very apt thought "the best vitamin for making friends is B1"

The Roll Call at the November meeting was Your Grandfather's Occupation which reflected those earlier times, as many of them had

been farmers, as expected in our district. Other occupations had been bushman, cobbler, steamroller driver, drover, railways worker, mailman, carrier, tannery worker, taxi and bus driver, and painter / paper hanger.

Three members of the Hawera Women's Club Play Reading Circle entertained with two hilarious skits, presented by Cynthia Stone, Noreen Harris and Faye Taylor. Fiona Collins read

an amusing piece.

Lunch was then enjoyed at Kaponga Cafe. Competition results. Most points: gardening Sharyn Hurley, miscellaneous Gillian Frandsen, handcraft Margaret Arbuckle. Overall winners: Jubilee Cup: Gillian and Sharyn equal. Morrissy Cup: Margaret Arbuckle and Fiona Collins equal. Joy Eliassen Cup: (handcraft) Margaret Arbuckle. Thanksgiving Trophy: (gardening) Sharyn Hurley

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Wedding at Pihama

On Saturday February 24, Alison Sandford (daughter of Phil and Jen Sandford, Auroa) married Shannon McMillan (son of Darren McMillan and Tracey O'Rorke, Opunake) at Peter and Jen Trolove's gardens on Patiki Road, followed by a reception at the Pihama Cricket Club.



RIGHT: Shannon and Alison (nee Sandford) McMillan.

Photograph: Amanda Ritchie photography.



Bridal party - from left: Dylan Cooksley, Crystelle Deegan, Tony Campbell, Anna Young, Shannon and Alison McMillan, Mark Walsh, Sarah Sandford, Joel Hook and Bailey Church.

Photograph: Amanda Ritchie photography.

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Thank you Craig for your 25 years

It seems winter is fast approaching so now would be a great time to pull out your electric blankets and check them over. If they show signs of wear or you stored them folded up, have them checked by an electrician. When a blanket is folded, the tiny wires can easily be broken so you are asking for trouble if you don't get them tested. When they do make it to your beds, always lay them flat on the mattress, and make sure the cords and controls are not twisted.

For your personal safety, always turn your electric blanket off before hopping into bed. Never sleep on an electric blanket or a water bed that is on. Some people say that there could be a link between the electromagnetic field created by electric blankets and water beds, and leukaemia. I personally, don't think it's worth the risk.

Craig Dingle clocked up 25 years of service recently and was awarded a Gold Star medal at a ceremony at the Opunake Fire Station on Monday March 5. It was



Area Manager Pat Frizzell (left) presents Craig Dingle with his 25 Year Badge.

fitting to have the outgoing Area Manager Pat Fitzell on hand to present Craig the medal on behalf of the United Fire Brigade Association, as well as a beautiful wooden and glass statue on courtesy of Fire and Emergency New Zealand (the old New Zealand Fire Service). Our new Area Manager was also on hand and said a few kind words regarding Craig.

The Taranaki Provincial Fire Brigade Association Junior Vice - President, our own Andrew Pentelow, gave Craig a commemorative wall plaque to mark the occasion. Craig's wife Andrea was presented with a lovely bouquet of flowers and a framed certificate for the sacrifices she has made and for the support she has given Craig over the past 25 years. Their children Ariana and Lopez and a family friend were on hand to witness this milestone.

Being chairperson on the Egmont Plains Community Board, and running the Dream Time Surf Shop with

his business partner has not slowed his enthusiasm for the brigade. Recently he put himself forward for the position of, and was subsequently appointed, Senior Station Officer in the brigade. Thanks also Craig for bringing the NZFS Surfing title home to Opunake and for your knowledge when a National surfing competition was being held locally.

Craig and his family were picked up for the event in a red and white classic car and were dropped back home again after the function in a red and white fire engine. An enjoyable evening was had by all and we thank Craig for his unselfish service he has given our community.

The only call out we have had over the past fortnight involved power lines and a residence on Surf Highway 45, Pihama. From my understanding, our crew stood guard until the power authority arrived.

Secretary Beau

Taranaki Energy Watch fundraises for Environment Court case on proposed oil and gas rules

Taranaki Energy Watch is continuing their ongoing fundraising for their upcoming Environment court case against South Taranaki District Council's proposed oil and gas rules.

Sarah Roberts, spokesperson for Taranaki Energy Watch, said they appealed in 2016 and have been fundraising since the first hearing. The appeal filed with the Court includes opposition to seismic surveys using explosives as a permitted activity and support the use of separation distances to avoid risk to health, property and the environment. Strat-

ford District Council, New Plymouth District Council, and representatives of the oil and gas industry have joined the appeal.

"As a grassroots community group, we are thrilled to have raised almost \$40,000 from our members and supporters. They are 100% behind us in what we are trying to achieve," Sarah Roberts said.

"In addition we have considerable pro bono support from our legal team and experts for which we are very grateful.

"Energy Watch also received \$40,000 from the Ministry for the Environment Legal Assistance Fund. In evaluating our application

the Panel stated that while a regional issue it has wider implications in terms of oil and gas exploration and processing and could also be considered a nationally significant issue. They noted the outcome could provide useful case law for other Councils managing the oil and gas industry.

"The money we raise goes directly to pay for our witnesses for the council hearing, appealing the decision to the Environment Court, and the ongoing court process.

"We are continuing to fundraise for the case. Appeals to the Environment Court are very expensive. Further information about what we

are doing and how to donate can be found on our website, on Facebook, and our Give A Little page," said Ms Roberts.

The court case will be held for three days from 19th March (20th and 21st) at the Courthouse in New Plymouth and members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Courthouse is on the corner of Robe Street and Powderham Street, New Plymouth.

For further information contact:

Sarah Roberts 027 3362 611
Taranaki Energy Watch

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OPUNAKE COPS

Be careful out there

Hello from the windswept and interesting Coastal Coppers.

A busy time for many in our area after Cyclone Gita caused havoc around Taranaki with the Coast bearing the brunt, and emergency services having to deal with Power lines and trees down across roads causing power outages and road closures.

A truck and trailer unit had the misfortune of succumbing to Gita's power with the



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

trailer flipping on its side just north of town. Emergency

services were unable to unhitch the trailer from the truck and it remained strewn across the road until a crane was able to move it the following day.

There would not have been many people unaffected, with a number of building / sheds and fences destroyed. This had the potential to cause serious harm with iron sheets flying through the air but fortunately there were no reports of injury.

A reminder to treat all pow-

er lines down as 'live' regardless of whether you saw your neighbour drive over it and he was sweet. Stay well clear of them and report down lines immediately.

A timely reminder is when police close a road with signage and/or cones, that means it's closed and it means to all road users. So many times we had people driving around cones or removing cones and driving through or over hazards because they think that it

doesn't apply to them. Road closed is not a suggestion or a challenge – it has meaning.

As we continue to see people continually in breach of the graduated licences and flouting the traffic laws, take this as a warning. In the coming weeks and months police teams from around Taranaki including the Opunake staff will be conducting a number of operations in and around our township. They will be watching for intersections

and those not wearing seatbelts, or distracted by using cellphones.

That's about it from us, stay safe and look after each other out there.

Please remember, all information provided will be treated as anonymous unless requested otherwise and alternatively you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Kylie Brophy

What's happening at the Cottage Rest Home

Opunake Cottage Rest Home is forging ahead in the right direction. Back in November a decision the Trust decided to restructure in the management area. This was completed and implemented in December by The Opunake Districts Rest Home Trust. In January, internal appointments were announced, with Sandra Deegan to be Care Facility Manager, to be assisted by clinical coordinator/registered nurse Jayne Muggeridge, Sharon Tapiki will be the Administration Manager.

On a lighter note during the month of December the residents enjoyed entertainment by a variety of musical acts and a visit from Santa. Family members joined their loved ones for the festive day. Client/residents numbers are slowly increasing, and we have welcomed three new permanent residents since January. The community is utilising the facility. Where possible, we are able to provide equipment for families to provide quality care to their loved ones in their own familiar environment.

The Cottage Resthome provides respite care to allow clients/residents and families who may require assistance when recovering from surgery, unexpected illness, or accidents, or allowing the main carer to have a break. This could be private or funded. If you are unsure of how to access this please contact Sandra, Jayne or Sharon who will assist with this. We welcome people on a daily basis to participate in the activities programme, dine with our clients/residents, go on outings or just for companionship. Our activities coordinator can pick any person who would like to partake in the daily programme, which changes monthly. There is a small fee for private people, or a referral from your GP to Needs Assessment Community Services (NASC) to apply



The recent garage sale.

for funding to cover the cost. The Cottage offers meals on wheels for anyone requiring a nutritious home cooked two course meal. It can be delivered to your door hot and ready to eat around noon Monday to Friday (except Public Holidays) by community volunteers, or privately picked up arrangements can be made with Sharon, the administration manager. The meals are available to all in our Community. We have a professional lady whose hours sometimes does not allow time to cook regular meals, orders Meals on Wheels from the Cottage and selects her choices and collects frozen.

"I love my meals on wheels," says one person

who buys meals on wheels. "Over the past few years I've found myself adopting bad habits and often having a sandwich or something similar for dinner. When you live on your own, cooking often ends up at the bottom of my to-do list. I was delighted when I found out I could order meals from the Cottage Rest Home – they are nutritious, ideal for re-heating and affordable. Many think meals on wheels are just for the elderly, but some of us may need some temporary assistance – it may be an injury, new baby, or sick relative. Whatever the reason, meals on wheels could be a good solution to ensuring you still eat well – if you or someone you know could benefit from

these meals in the freezer, I suggest you give the Opunake Cottage Rest Home a call on 06 761 8009."

Residents and Staff hold monthly meetings, At the January meeting it was decided to plan and implement an Open Day and Garage Sale with proceeds to provide entertainment, activities and update clinical provisions for the clients/residents of the Cottage Rest Home to maintain optimum health.

On February 17, we opened our doors for the public to come in and check out what we can offer a potential resident. At present we have three rooms available of various sizes. If any families require information please contact the facility, or check out our facebook page opunake cottage resthome.

All our staff are competent, able and willing to assist.

In conjunction with the Open Day we had a successful Garage sale, cake stall, sausage sizzle and raffles.

For those affected by the February cyclone, we are sorry if we missed you on our rounds of checking our community folk who we knew were without power. If you know someone who we should call on, please contact us at the Cottage Rest Home and we will gladly go and visit.

We are fortunate to have a generator that keeps us

going in time of unforeseen weather.

Upcoming events in March. The Cottage rest home is hosting the Inter Resthome Quiz Challenge at Opunake Bowling Club on March 16 starting 11am. There is also the Residents shopping trip, inter-rest home petanque challenge, meals on wheels invitation to lunch, three client/residents birthdays, walkway picnic, Taranaki anniversary, St Patrick Day and Easter celebration.

Please come and say hello to all our clients/residents when you visit Opunake.



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Time for Government to act on freedom camping

Even though summer is drawing to a close, the issue of freedom camping isn't going away – Taranaki, like the rest of the country, still gets visitors in the 'off' season. There's no doubt the rise in popularity of freedom camping is bringing people who are spending money locally, but that rise means there's also a need to provide more facilities for them. The South Taranaki District Council has



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

been addressing the issue for a number of years and has allocated areas for freedom camping. Councils around the country are grappling with the issue and the National Party's Tourism spokesperson has called for action.

Last week Jacqui Dean said it's time for the Government to stop setting up working groups and take some actual decisions to improve the be-

haviour of freedom campers.

National has released a Private Members' Bill from East Coast MP Anne Tolley which will put into law a policy announced by the Party at the last election. The Bill contains serious practical steps which have already been road-tested with councils and agencies around the country.

It will prohibit Freedom Camping more than 200

metres from public toilet facilities, provide more organisations with the right to restrict freedom camping, and provide for instant fines that have been issued to be collected by rental car companies. Passing this bill through parliament would have an immediate positive impact on the behaviour of freedom campers. It will also give local authorities, NZTA and LINZ an easier way to

collect instant fines.

We want tourists to come to New Zealand in general and Taranaki in particular, and freedom camping could be a big part of the tourism industry. However it needs to be well managed and the Government needs to take the lead in the best interests of everyone.

Jonathan Young MP

Ngāti rangi signs settlement with the Crown

The Crown has signed a deed of settlement with Ngāti Rangī, settling the historical Treaty of Waitangi claims of Ngāti Rangī, the Minister for Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations the Hon Andrew Little has announced.

Friends and whānau gathered at an emotional deed signing ceremony at Raketepauma Marae in the Ruapehu District.

"Today is significant for the people of Ngāti Rangī, and for all of New Zealand. I would like to acknowledge the enormous amount of work that has been achieved by the Central North Island tangata whenua and the government to get us to this point.

"Ngāti Rangī say they have always been a friend of the Crown. Through this settlement the Crown aims to rebuild its relationship with Ngāti Rangī, and reinforce that it is based on mutual respect and honour.

"The Ngāti Rangī deed of settlement outlines a range of redress to be provided to the iwi, including a Crown acknowledgement and apology, cultural redress including a statutory recognition and governance arrangements for the Whangaehu River, and financial and commercial redress with a total value of \$17 million.

"Ngāti Rangī is one of the iwi that will take part in the collective negotiations over Tongariro National Park, due to commence later this year. "Legislation to enact the deed will be introduced to Parliament later this year," says Andrew Little.

Cultural redress includes special recognition of the connection between Ngāti Rangī, other local iwi, and Te Waiū o Te Ika (the Whangaehu River) and a new framework for governance over the river and its catchment.

Defence Force land at Waio-



Hon Andrew Little delivers the Crown apology (local Te Tai Hauauru MP Adrian Rurawhe is seated at left).

uru will be vested in Ngāti Rangī who will then gift it back to the Crown for the people of New Zealand.

On the last month in history Keith Holyoake retires from prime ministership

On February 7, 1972 Sir Keith Holyoake left office as prime minister after 11 years and 140 days in the position.

John Marshall (later Sir) was the new prime minister and leader of the National Party. Mr Marshall beat Robert

Muldoon (later Sir) after a caucus vote. Mr Muldoon became deputy. However, at the General Election the

government were beaten by Labour, led by Norman Kirk. Mr Marshall, now Leader of the Opposition, was soon

visited by Mr Muldoon who told him he had the numbers to become leader, whereupon Mr Marshall resigned.

Sir Keith Holyoake later became Governor General, the first politician to have held both senior positions.

MP APPOINTMENTS

Friday 24th November • 10-11am
CoastalCare Meeting Room
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Rare 15th Century books donated to National Library

A collection of rare books printed more than 500 years ago and valued at nearly \$200,000 have been donated to the Alexander Turnbull Library in Wellington.

The 20 books, printed between 1472 and 1512, were bequeathed from the estate of John Barton (1931–2016), a book collector from New Plymouth, who named his collection the Dalberton Library. The books include works on theology, Latin classical texts, the lives of saints and astrology.

One volume, a history of the world to the end of the 14th Century by Archbishop Antoninus of Florence (1389–1459) and printed in Lyon, France, is one of only eight known in the world.

“We were delighted to receive this very generous offer and the library is privileged to accept these volumes into the national collection,” says Anthony Tedeschi, the

Alexander Turnbull Library’s Curator Rare Books and Fine Printing.

“These books are rare, particularly in Australasia. Four of the books were printed within 25 years of the Gutenberg Bible – the very first book printed in Europe using moveable type. Most of the books are the only copies of these specific editions in New Zealand. They will be of particular interest to scholars and researchers of late medieval and early modern history. Some include handwritten notes by their early owners, offering us a window into the thinking of centuries-old readers,” Tedeschi says.

The Alexander Turnbull Library has a long history of collecting rare books, starting with the library’s founder and namesake, Alexander Turnbull, almost 100 years ago. The books, to be known as the John Barton Collection, will be available for request from mid-July.



Anthony Tedeschi with the rare books.



A close up of one of the books.

Working group to look at freedom camping

Tourism Minister Kelvin Davis has announced the establishment of a working group to develop solutions to freedom camping issues.

This Mr Davis has met with 32 mayors and deputy mayors from across the country about freedom camping.

“The meeting was very productive and I want to thank the mayors and deputy mayors for sharing their views and experiences. It was really valuable. The issues with freedom camping are not insurmountable and there is a clear willingness from everyone to work together and find solutions.

“Freedom camping is a complex area. Freedom campers bring economic benefits to our regions, but the behaviour of a small percentage and the sheer increase in volume of freedom campers is causing real problems for some councils.

“The mayors talked about the need for a more consistent approach, including around enforcement and signage, more infrastructure needed in some areas, and the need to look at the Freedom Camping Act.

“The mayors fully supported the establishment of

a working group – made up of central and local government, the tourism industry, and other stakeholders – to discuss and work through the issues.

“I am keen to get the working group established as quickly as possible. We need to come up with some solutions in time for the next summer peak season. Other issues, such as looking at the Freedom Camping Act, will take more time.”

Local Government Minister Nanaia Mahuta has welcomed the establishment of the working group.

“This is a significant issue for many local authorities who face significant stress and challenges to respond to

seasonal influx of freedom camping.

“The Government recognises that tourism is an important industry – it’s our biggest export earner – but it’s also important that councils have the necessary tools and powers to respond when their communities are feeling the impact of high visitor numbers.

“Collaboration is key in this situation and it’s great to see central and local government are committed to working together, with the tourism industry and other stakeholders.”

The Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, in consultation with other agencies, will develop

a terms of reference for the working group.

Over the last two years, international visitors who did some freedom camping spent an average of around \$4,700 and stayed around 51 days in New Zealand, compared with the average for all visitors of \$3,200 and 18 days.

Over the past ten years, the number of international visitors doing at least some freedom camping during their stay has risen from around 30,000 to 115,000 annually.

In December the Government announced \$14 million funding for 32 infrastructure projects through the Tourism Infrastructure Fund. The next \$10 million round of the fund will be launched soon.

A good morning for church market

On Saturday March 10, a Market Morning was held at St Barnabas Church Hall and Grounds

It was a little windy and chilly but remained fine. We had twelve Stall Holders from Opunake and one from Wellington. Two were outside on the lawn, one with a gazebo, and one with various stands, displaying her wares of wooden outdoor decorations.

The other eleven were in the hall, with various merchandise, such as quilting, floral displays, plants, felting, soaps and gifts, baby clothes and woodwork, ink stamps, Easter eggs, leather belts and sandals, baking, preserves and much more. Plus an Easter Raffle – winning ticket 90A.

We opened at nine o’clock and closed at midday. We placed our new Open flag

at the ground entrance. This will be used again for similar functions.

St Barnabas had their own stall. Tea/ coffee, and a pikelet or scone was served to the stall holders at a cost of \$2.

It was a busy, happy morning. We would like to host a similar event again sometime in the future with the support of stall holders.

Maureen Martins
St Barnabas

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TET funding boost for Inglewood's destination park

The Taranaki Electricity Fund (TET) is giving \$83,000 towards the cost of developing Jubilee Park as a "destination" park for visitors.

The TET award will cover the cost of landscaping, paths, seating, a picnic table, signs and a drinking fountain.

"This is a fantastic boost towards making Jubilee Park a district-wide attraction," says New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) spokesperson Jacqueline Baker.

"We're working with the Inglewood Community Board and locals, so the whole community is involved and has a sense of stewardship for the project."



TET Stadium, Inglewood.

Inglewood Community Board Chairman Kevin Rowan is welcoming the TET contribution to the project.

"This allows the plans to be finalised and construction work to commence," says Mr Rowan.

The NPDC redevelopment will also include a new playground and skatepark.

Inglewood Lions Club is planning an 18-hole mini-putt course at the park after the NPDC drew up a concessional ground lease for a site next to the play area.

Work on the redevelopment is scheduled to start in October and be completed early next year.

The plan is to keep as much of the park as possible open during the work.

NPDC is budgeting \$285,000 for the project and TSB Community Trust has granted \$60,000 for the skatepark. The New Zealand Community Trust has given another \$40,000 for specialty equipment that children with disabilities can play on.

NPDC received seven designs for a new children's playground after consulting with locals and Inglewood residents voted for their preferred design in October last year.

Neighbourhood match fund to help bring locals together

A regional fund encouraging local people to become more connected with each other in their own neighbourhood is being promoted in Taranaki this month.

The Neighbourhood Match Fund was established by TSB Community Trust in 2017 in partnership with the Stratford, South Taranaki and New Plymouth District Councils.

Match Funding is a type of community grant made by a funder to match the effort put in by a group of individuals in a neighbourhood. The group do not need to be a formal community organisation. For example, locals organising an open event might give volunteer time and resources (such as food), while the funder matches it with a grant to cover other

costs. The Neighbourhood Match Fund has already proved effective for one Taranaki community. In 2017, a group of Oaonui people organised the Oaonui Hall 'Tea 20'. Local Andy Whitehead said, "it was a fun evening with dancing and community interaction". It all started with a Match Fund grant used to pay for a

juke box and food. That led onto a monthly event Andy said, "has been an incredible success, bringing the whole community together". Match funding schemes already exist in several other places in New Zealand. In Taranaki, TSB Community Trust provides the funding, while each Council administers it in their own area. To qualify, activities must take

place within the Trust's current boundaries. Applications are considered by the councils on a case by case basis. Most grants will be small. However, neighbourhood groups may also apply for larger projects which may take longer and may need to gain consents and approvals. This year the Fund is being promoted ahead of Neigh-

bours Day Aotearoa on March 24-25. Maria Ramsay, TSB Community Trust Chief Executive said "this is a great opportunity for local people to get together, organise an activity and do something really positive for their local community". Groups of neighbours with ideas for projects can contact their Council to find out more.

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- Smelly wind
- Coated tongue
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- Indigestion



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Bristol Stool Chart

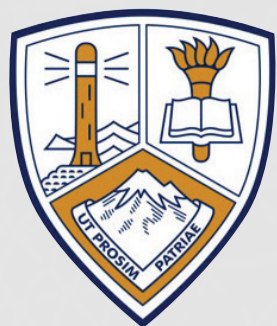
Type 1		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
Type 2		Sausage-shaped but lumpy
Type 3		Like a sausage but with cracks on the surface
Type 4		Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
Type 5		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges
Type 6		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces. Entirely Liquid

Your Guide to healthy bowels

1 - indicates constipation. We recommend an increase in fibre, hydration and magnesium.

3 - indicates ideal stools which are easier to pass.

5 - shows loose stools. Indicative of an irritated gastrointestinal tract. We recommend digestive enzymes, an increase in fibre and avoiding wheat.



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GOOD TIMES AT THE GALA

The forecast looked a little bleak, but the outlook once the 2018 Opunake High School Gala got underway was all smiles and good times - unless you were unfortunate enough to spend five minutes in the cattle truck jail, but even that didn't seem as smelly as in the past.

New features at the Gala such as the Zorb Balls and Cookie's Gumboot Toss were popular with most people. We also hope people weren't too freaked out by the scares in the Haunted House. As always the quick fire raffles and auction items were snapped up by an eager crowd.

A quick count-up by the team behind the scenes, estimates the funds raised by the 2018 Gala to be approximately \$10000, to which everyone at Opunake High School can only say thank you to anyone who contributed. The money raised will be going towards outdoor furniture for the students, as well as more filtered water fountains placed more conveniently around the school grounds.

RAFFLE RESULTS

Awhina - Groceries	1 st Phil Hooper	2 nd Ana Horo
Karo \$120 Opunake Business Voucher	Cobie Paterson	
Rimu - Chocolates	1 st Sara Bracken	2 nd Simone Cook
Totara - Firewood	Jacob Symons.	

Braith Castle, won the \$50 voucher for the student selling the most raffle
Congratulations and once again thank you for all your support.

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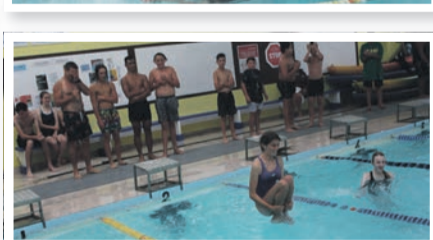
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Club Hotel	McDonalds Family Restaurant, New Plymouth	Sinclair Electrical
Coastal Driftwood Creations	McDonald Real Estate, Opunake	Soul Kitchen, Opunake
Coastal Veterinary Services	Mitre 10 Mega	Stony River Hotel
Collins Sports Centre	Mountain View Pharmacy, Hawera	Stratford Mountain House
Countdown Spotswood	New Life Nursery	Subway, Hawera
Country Connections	Norrcom	Sugar Juice Cafe
Dawson Falls Mountain Lodge	Opunake Auto Repairs	Taranaki Rugby Football Union
Dreamtime Surf Shop	Opunake Back Packers	Tegal Foods
Elite Farm Services	Opunake Dairy	The Good Home, New Plymouth
Events Cinema New Plymouth	Opunake Four Square	TSB Bank
Fabulous Flowers, Opunake	Opunake Holiday Park	Viking Officeworks
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WHAT DO THE YEAR 9'S THINK OF OPUNAKE HIGH?



KYAH NEWTON

What do you think of OHS?
Really good, I like having the different classes rather than just the same teacher. I love the canteen.

Are you enjoying the new curriculum for Year 9 & 10s?
I really like that we have the choice to follow our hobbies and interests.

This trimester, Kyah is taking Journalism, Stomp (Music), Fitness & Nutrition, Blood (Sports Science), International Foods & Transform Me (Geometry)



KYEDON BREWER

What do you think of OHS?
I like how chill it is, I like that the teachers let me get on with my work.

Are you enjoying the new curriculum for Year 9 & 10s?
I like that I get to do the things that I want to do.

This trimester, Kyedon is taking Design & Build A, Fitness & Nutrition, International Foods, Pallet Projects, Holes & Obstacles (Measurement) & Journalism



KEESHA CRAIG

What do you think of OHS?
I am really enjoying it so far.

Are you enjoying the new curriculum for Year 9 & 10s?
It is really good, my favourite subjects so far are Reproduction and International Foods.

This trimester, Keesha is taking Literary Vice Squad, Awesome Aotearoa, International Foods, Journalism, Ngā Toi Māori (Maori Arts) & Human Reproduction

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A day for the children

Former cyclone Gita wasn't going to stop the Hollards Family Fun day from going ahead. With March 4 being International Children's Day, Hollards Gardens near Kaponga was the ideal place to host the event. Hollards is one of three gardens run by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of Taranaki, the others being Pukeiti and Tupare.

Before the Fun Day could go ahead, there was a small matter of clearing up debris left by the former cyclone when it cut its swathe across Taranaki.

"We had lot of tree damage 10 days ago," regional gardens event facilitator Clare Mews said. "Five very big trees came down, but our gardeners did a marvellous job of moving everything around and cleaning things up."

In previous years Hollards had hosted a Country Fair based on the age-old tradition of autumn celebrations to mark the end of the growing season. This time, with the event being held on International Children's day, the emphasis was on children and their families.

"We're trying to do things that families can enjoy together. We have entertainment, music and



Stevie Muggeridge and Lizzie Muggeridge entertain at Hollards Gardens.

fun in this beautiful garden which we hope children will make their community garden," Clare said. She estimated that around

700 people would have come through the Gardens that day.

The Regional Council had worked with groups like Kindergarten Taranaki and the Kaponga Play Centre to put the day on, and the Kaponga Lions had put on the sausage sizzle.

Lions Club member Shelley Pope said that they had come with 400 sausages and these had all sold by 1pm. "It's been a lot busier than year," she said. "It's been



Four year-old Jade Christmas enjoys a ride on Prickles the pony, being led by Christine Evans.

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A day for the children



A happy Hunter Pennington (three and a half) of Kaponga picks up a balloon.

a really good family day, and it's been good to see families come along with their picnics and stuff."

Among those taking advantage of the pony rides was four-year old Jade Christmas from Bell Block, enjoying a ride on Prickles the pony.

Her mother Karen Thompson said they had come over with friends for the day, although Kaponga was an area with which their family is familiar, her husband having grown up just a short distance away from the gardens.

"This is an awesome experience," she said.

In charge of the ponies was Christine Evans of the Eltham Pony Club. She and her family have been in charge of the pony rides for the last five years. Next year she will be handing over to Lisa Bartley of Little Pony Parties, who was helping out that day.

They were there with four ponies, though with between 150 and 200 children wanting rides, they could have done with more.

"We could have done with six ponies today," Christine said.



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Taranaki Dairy Industry award winners announced

The 2018 Taranaki Dairy Industry Awards Share Farmer of the Year winners hope the win will help them to achieve their future farming goals of farm ownership or equity partnership.

Owen Clegg and Hollie Wham say that entering the dairy industry awards

enabled them to learn about themselves and how much they actually know. "We don't give ourselves enough credit," say the couple. "Meeting industry professionals who can guide us, our business and career, means we can recognise our strengths and improve

our weaknesses, ensuring we are on the right track to achieving greater things."

Owen and Hollie believe their strength lies in their team approach to business. "We work together well, regardless of the task. We know each other's strengths and weaknesses, when to lend a hand and when to step back," they say. "We make a good team both outside on the farm and inside doing accounts!"

The couple are in their second season herd-owning sharemilking on Murray and Edna Saxton's 56ha Patea property, milking 180 cows. Hollie (25) holds a Bachelor of Business Studies, majoring in Management and has completed two papers towards the PrimaryITO Diploma. Owen (26) has studied all stages of PrimaryITO, and began his career in the dairy industry at the age of 16 as a Farm Assistant.

Playing squash and golf gives the couple time away from the farm and an opportunity to relax.

"We are both members of the local Young Farmers

club and enjoy attending touch rugby games or events," says Hollie.

Future farming goals include an equity partnership or farm ownership of a 250 cow farm, and to continue to improve their business efficiency.

"We know our goal is a massive one but we try to work hard and smarter each day to get us one step closer," they say. "We have strong determination and drive to achieve our goals, because we know the end result will be very satisfying."

Runner-up was 33 year-old Patea sharemilker Conna Smith who works on Robert and Verna Bourke's 58ha property, where she milks 194 cows.

Third place went to Benjamin Abbot who is a 29% Sharemilker on Alistair, Stephen and Imelda Abbot's 92ha Hawera property, where he milks 317 cows.

Winner of the 2018 Taranaki Dairy Manager of the Year competition is 26-year-old James Holgate, who was the Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year Runner-Up in 2014. James

is currently Herd Manager for Tony and Lorraine Lash, on their 130ha Midhurst property.

"My first experience of farm life was with my first job as a Farm Assistant when I was 18," says James. "Coming from a town background has presented some challenges however I really enjoy farming, I'm always learning and no day is the same. I enjoy the lifestyle and industry."

Next year James and his partner Tracy will be contract milkers on the same farm, and would like to be 50:50 sharemilkers in five years on a similar size farm.

Hawera Senior Farm Assistant Matthias Hipp, placed second in the Dairy Manager competition, and works on Steve and Maria Poole's 800-cow, 210ha property.

Third was Carl Hooker(45) who is currently Dairy Operations Manager on John and Roslyn Weir's Toko property.

The winner of the 2018 Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year competition, comes from a dairy farming family

and grew up on the farm he manages now, and entered the Dairy Industry Awards to benchmark himself against others in the industry.

Andrew Trolove spent his childhood summers bale stacking and relief milking for his father. Having spent time as a sales rep for an agriculture company and travelling overseas, he returned to the family farm last year. "Being on a family farm, I wish to prove to myself that I have the ability to succeed on my own merits," he says.

"I'm really proud of making it through my first spring on the farm, which was also the wettest on record, followed by a very challenging dry summer," says Andrew.

The 24-year-old is Farm Manager for Mark Trolove, on his 210ha, 610-cow farm in Opunake.

Herd Manager Michael Gilligan (20) came second. He works on Kevin and Diane Goble's 160ha property milking 550 cows.

Chayce Bailey(19) was third. He is Farm Manager on Neil and Kim Bailey's 52ha Opunake farm.

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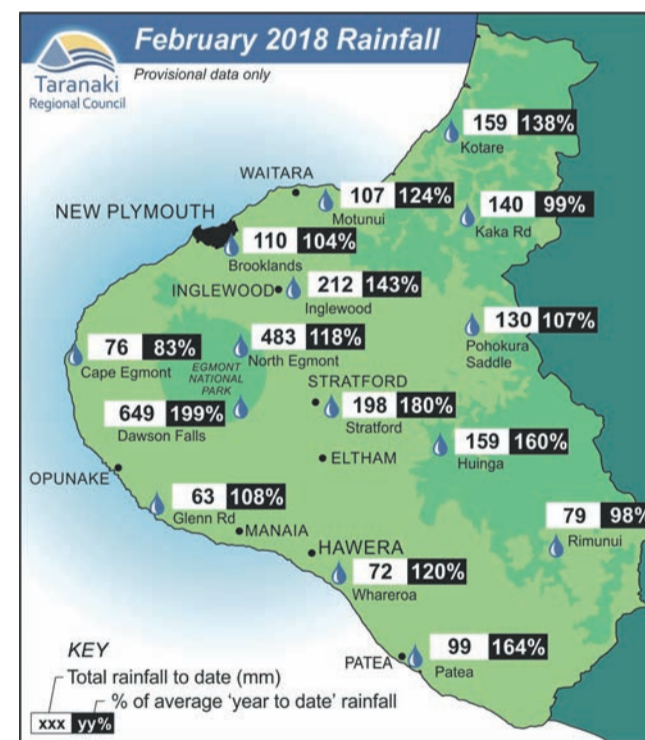
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Figures reflect less rainfall for coast sites

Rainfall for February was between 83% and 218 % of normal, with the average being 139 % of normal, according to Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) figures.

Three sites recorded below normal rainfall and these were Cape Egmont 75.6 mm (83 %), Rimunui 79.0 mm (98 %), Okoki 139.5 mm (99 %). There were three significant rainfall events which occurred on the 1st, 11th and 19th February. These events contributed to Kahui Hut recording more than double its February rainfall with 218 % (453.0 mm).

Year to date rainfall ranged between 85 % and 237 % of normal, with the average to date being 146 % of normal. Cape Egmont and Te Kiri are the only sites to record below normal rainfall with 85 % and 97 % of normal



respectively. Omaru more than twice their normal (Charlie's Clearing) and Dawson Falls have recorded and 215 % respectively.

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Maintaining family tradition brings reward

An Oaonui farm manager is the Taranaki region's Dairy Trainee of the Year. Andrew Trolove who works as a farm manager for his father Mark on the Arawhata Road took out the title at the Taranaki awards held in Hawera last week. He will represent the region in the national awards to be held in Invercargill.

The farm he manages has been in the family for a long time. His great great grandfather bought it over 100 years ago, and his grandmother Jenny Trolove (nee Strong) grew up here. Jenny married Peter Trolove and the two of them farmed at Pihama, where they still live, and are well known for their gardens which have become an integral part of the Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival. Their son Mark later took over the Strongs' family farm, and it was here that Andrew grew up. At that time there were only 250 cows being milked here. Since then more land has been added, and Andrew, who has two other people working for him milks 610 cows on 210ha.

From the window of his house, three cowsheds can be seen which reflect the farm's history, an 18 bale herringbone, now used as



Andrew Trolove on the farm that has been in the family for over a century

a calf shelter, a 32 bale rotary, and the 60 bale rotary currently used for the farm's operations.

After attending Francis Douglas Memorial College and working at Farmlands he headed overseas to play rugby in England.

"I then asked Dad if I could come back and go farming, and he said, yeah, so I started managing here."

He says his grandfather

Peter and father Mark have both been strong role models for him.

"Both have been farmers all their lives. Dad has been an absolutely outstanding mentor to me. Ninety per cent of my farming knowledge I learned from him."

This is the first time Andrew has entered the Dairy Industry Awards. Last year, good mate Shaun

Neal, won the Taranaki Dairy Manager of the Year, and suggested Andrew might have a crack at the awards next time round. The following year Shaun gave Andrew a nudge when nominations were called for.

The past season had been a tough one, with a wet winter, followed by a drought.

"It's been an interesting season and quite a

challenging one, from extreme wet to extreme dry," Andrew says. "The older ones are saying how miserable the season has been, but this is my first year so I don't know any different. Everyone's in the same boat, so to see if you can shine in a year like this, you must be doing pretty well."

Production has been down running at 10 per cent behind, but he believes it could have been worse if more feed had not been brought in.

"We've been in feed deficit all year round. All you can do is import feed and hope you have sufficient feed on hand. In spring we were buying in palm kernel, hay and straw, then in late spring we had some grass growth and we were out of deficit, then we were back in when the rain stopped in November-December."

He has just finished feeding out turnips, which he says was one of the things which got him through a dry January-February. He is now feeding out fodder beet.

The season has also meant having to take out empty cows earlier than he otherwise would have done.

Then, of course there was

the matter of former cyclone Gita which wreaked its wrath along Arawhata Road.

"That was just another kick in the guts for the season," he said. The farm sustained some tree damage and generators had to be used as they were without power from Tuesday night to Thursday afternoon.

Andrew's partner Hannah Major works as an accountant in New Plymouth. Next season Andrew is looking at going contract milking on the farm he is now on, and eventually move up the ladder to owning a farm of his own.

As well as the Trainee of the Year title, Andrew also picked up the practical skills and community involvement awards. He credits his 10 years as a volunteer lifeguard with the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club as being a factor in picking up the latter award.

We welcome your contributions. Please send to editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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Vintage machinery club stage successful weekend

Peter Kuriger from Opunake has had a long association with a certain stone crushing machine. As a High School student he would work on the 15 x 9 Collett Double Toggle Stone Crusher when Dick Bell from Stratford used it to crush metal at the quarry at Glen Nui at the back of Eltham.

Twelve years ago Peter saw it in a sawmilling yard in Waitara, bought it and then set to work restoring it. Last weekend he was showing it off at the Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club's Vintage Machinery Working Weekend at Turuturu Road Hawera.

The machine was built around 1914 by Collett and Sons Engineers in Dannevirke. Driven by a stationary steam engine, it had been used by the Eltham County Council before Dick Bell acquired it and used a kerosene-powered Allis Chalmers tractor to power it.

"I worked on it as a high school boy," Peter recalls. "I used to bike out from Mangatoki and Dick Bell would come and pick me up."

Years later he had been wanting to make a model of this machine and bought the original when he saw it for sale so he could use it as a reference point.

"I thought it was too good to scrap, so I refurbished it and made it PTO driven so you can drive it with a tractor. I use it at home to crush broken concrete as well."

Peter's stone crusher was one of many pieces of vintage machinery on display at the Lintern family's Turuturu Road farm on the outskirts of Hawera. It was a time to see how farming used to be done with demonstrations of ploughing and haymaking, as well as enjoying a day of family entertainment.

Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club secretary Lance Mullin said it was an ideal way to celebrate the



Hannah Corrigan tries out Peter Kuriger's stone crushing machine.

club's 30th anniversary. In previous years they had run a Hay Day. This time the emphasis was more on seeing machinery at work.

"It's been fantastic," he said. "Everyone's really enjoyed getting their gear out. It's been great to see kids, mums, dads, grandparents come through the gates. I want to give a huge thank you to the Lintern family for hosting us. To have this paddock to play with has been amazing."

As with previous events, once expenses had been paid, any money made would go to charity. In other years, schools, hospices, Rural Support Taranaki and men's health had been among the causes they had supported.

Alf Christian was towing rides around the hay paddock on a miniature version of a 1912 Aveling Porter traction engine, with

the original 6 HP version parked nearby. Peter George of New Plymouth said the larger machine had spent all its working life with Grey Brothers in Greytown where it had done agricultural contracting and a lot of road haulage work. When his family acquired it, the brass work had gone and it was need of significant repair. After much TLC it has become a familiar sight around Taranaki events, as well as having made it further afield to the likes of Auckland and Otorohanga.

Also supporting the day, with 14 vehicles of their own was the New Zealand Military Vehicles Club. Club member Kevin Longshaw said the club has 250 members, with 25-30 in Taranaki

One of these is Andrew Adlam of Bell Block who was there with his 1941 Ford

CMP (Canadian Military Pattern) Cab No 12 truck.

"There were probably several hundred of them back in the army days but they are now very rare," he said.

The truck has a certificate saying it had been refurbished in England in 1946, indicating it may have been used in World War II, Andrew said.

When he salvaged it from a

paddock 10 years ago it was a "pile of rust."

He then got to work restoring it.

"Most of the guards and the roof are all original, it's got new edges and doors. I've driven it to Armistice Day three times from Bell Block."

Also there for the weekend was John Mitchell of the Wellington Vintage Machinery Club, showing Brian Olsen of Eltham how a 1930 hand pump-operated Speedway washing machine worked. John had picked it up from a second hand shop in Paraparaumu 20 years ago. For the last 15 years it has been showing it at shows like this one.

"It uses three cups. It doesn't even have an agitator," he says. "Believe it or not it does a surprisingly good job. These overalls have been through it several times."

John says he knows of three others in the country like this one, though concedes there could be more.

"It's good to see the kids interacting with it. You see them walking around and looking at stuff, but here they can do something."



Andrew Adlam and his 1941 Ford CMP Cab No 12.

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Vintage machinery club stage successful weekend



The Lintern property provided a back country setting for the Vintage Machinery Working Weekend.



John Mitchell (right) shows Brian Olsen how clothes were washed in the 1930s.

Rural recycling a no-brainer

Supporting farmers and growers to clear more waste and preserve New Zealand farms for future generations is the mission of the rural recycling programme, Agrecovery.

In tackling the plastic used by our rural communities, the leading product stewardship programme recycles over 300 tonnes per year. "That is enough plastic to cover a rugby field six feet high," says Agrecovery General Manager, Simon Andrew.

When a plastic agricultural container takes 700 years to degrade and burning plastic wreaks havoc on our environment, it makes sense to use Agrecovery's service to recycle empty agricultural, animal health and dairy hygiene containers. This service is free for products from participating brand owners.

Farmers and growers are able to drop off empty plastic containers at close to 80 drop-off points across New Zealand, including a new site launching in Opunake in March. For those with high volumes, or for more than three large plastic drums, on-farm pick-ups can be arranged.

"It makes recycling your empty containers and drums a no-brainer," says Andrew.

Since the programme commenced, it has diverted over 2,000 tonnes of plastic. This plastic is then

repurposed in New Zealand as underground cable cover.

"It's a completely sustainable, 100 percent solution," says Andrew.

"We don't ship it to another country for recycling, so there is also minimal impact on the environment," he says.

The programme also offers safe disposal of unwanted or expired agrichemicals and has collected over 100 tonnes of them so far. "We want to make sure that old chemicals are disposed of correctly," Andrew says. Agrecovery is a great example of how manufacturers, industry, government and consumers can work together to reduce the harmful impacts of plastic waste on our environment.

"The programme is growing year-on-year, with a 40 percent increase in the volume of plastic recycled in just the last 12 months," says Andrew.

It is accredited by the Ministry of the Environment as a product stewardship initiative and is supported by seven primary industry trustee organisations who govern the programme.

The initiative is made possible through 60 participating agrichemical brands who voluntarily pay a levy on all the products they sell so that farmers and growers can use this service

for free.

"These companies show a commendable commitment to product stewardship and sustainability by helping their customers responsibly dispose of leftover chemicals and packaging through the Agrecovery programme," says Andrew.

But we can't rest on our laurels. More needs to be done to support farmers to rid of their waste.

Andrew asks farmers and growers to buy from participating brand owners.

"If you buy from those who aren't participating in the scheme, talk to your rep about getting them to be part of the solution," he says.

The recycling programme is also pursuing options for capturing other waste, such as fertiliser packaging, by delivering a cost-efficient and convenient recycling service.

So join the other 11,000 farmers and growers who recycle through Agrecovery, buy agrichemicals from participating brands – or ask others to join, and do your bit to support our environment.

Simon Andrew

Simon Andrew is general manager of Agrecovery, New Zealand's solution for the safe disposal of unwanted agrichemicals, and the recycling of empty containers, drums and IBCs.

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Membership booms for Young Farmers

A Kaponga dairy farmer will continue leading Taranaki's booming NZ Young Farmers clubs.

Contract milker Matthew Herbert has been re-elected for a second term as district chair.

"It's been a stellar 12 months for Taranaki's five NZ Young Farmers clubs and I'm keen to continue that momentum," said Matthew.

A new club was launched in South Taranaki last September and Central Taranaki was named New Zealand's best Young Farmers club.

"We've doubled our membership in the last 18 months, which reflects the hard work being done by our clubs," said Matthew.



From left, Guy Harvey, Jessie Waite, Matthew Herbert, Dylan Brunton.

"We've gone from 60 to 130 members. That's clear evidence of a huge resurgence of NZ Young Farmers in Taranaki."

The district's annual

general meeting was held at the Waimate Hotel in Manaia.

Dylan Brunton, who's a herd manager on a 500-cow farm at Cardiff, was elected vice-chair.

Taranaki Federated Farmers' Jessie Waite was elected secretary and Kaponga contract milker Guy Harvey was elected treasurer.

Matthew Herbert sought

member approval to create a new position of club development officer.

"I see it being an advisory role, helping our clubs continue to grow their membership base," he said.

"My goal is to have 200 members in Taranaki by Christmas."

Long-serving members Kenzie Bellringer and Nick Brown were elected to share the role.

NZ Young Farmers clubs play an important role in connecting and upskilling young people in the agri-food sector.

Members also support AgriKidsNZ and TeenAg competitions, which highlight career opportunities in the primary industries.

Brad Markham

Razzle moves indoors

It began with Ambrose Golf at Pungarehu and ended with a morning of indoor games at Opunake.

The last of three Rural Razzle events aimed at giving farmers a chance to get away from the farm and connect with others was held at the Opunake Golf Club last week.

Rural Razzle is an initiative bringing together the Rural Support Trust, Farm Source, Dairy NZ, Dairy Women's Network, Taranaki Young Farmers, MPI Rural Wellness and Sport Taranaki in an effort to help farmers cope with a year that has included a wet winter, dry summer and more recently the effects of ex cyclone Gita.

"Production is down and cracks are starting to show, in relationships, in contracts and in no contracts," Marcia Paurini of the Rural Support Trust said.

Gita only added to farmers' problems, as they had to face the problems of falling trees and what to do with them.

"It's like the cyclone hit the mountain, then spun around Opuā, Waiteika, Mangawhero and Rowan Roads," she said. Rural Support were checking on farmers and providing help where possible. Marcia said 8000 trees had come down and they were looking for help from skilled volunteers who could help farmers clear up the mess the storm had left on their farms.

Rural Razzle golfing events had been held at Pungarehu and Manaia, and golf had been initially planned for the final event at Opunake, but a combination of Gita



Chris Cathie lines up a shot.

and inclement weather meant this wasn't possible, so everything was moved inside.

There were games of darts and pool. An osteopath provided consultations free of charge, and there were also free sessions with a masseuse.

Members of the Rapid Relief Team, a global charitable organisation set up by the Plymouth Brethren Church in 2013 were there to provide lunch. Carl Prestidge of the Rapid Relief Team said supporting an event like this was something new for them.

"Our aim is to support everyone in need with care and compassion, so farmers are filling that role at the moment," he said. "They've been hit very hard."

The Opunake Golf Club had taken a hit from Gita with fallen trees meaning golf wasn't being played there until the mess could be cleared up. Jo Cathie of the Opunake Golf Club said about a hundred trees came down. Gita had come at a bad time for them, as

they were only just getting back from the effects of a previous storm.

"It's demoralising. We had just got cleaned up after the last time and everything was looking good again."

Nevertheless they were looking forward to getting things back to normal. Jo said they had a strong membership and were always looking for new members.

"You don't have to be a good golfer to come out and play," she said.

Janet Fleming of Sport Taranaki said the first Rural Razzle golf event at Pungarehu had gone well and had led to some expressing interest in joining the Pungarehu Golf Club.

The nine-hole golf played in Manaia had taken place soon after Gita, so some who had been planning to come weren't able to make it, as they were waiting on generators to get the milking done, or busy clearing up their tracks and trees. Nevertheless those who did come had enjoyed themselves, she said.



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3. Jinny, On a Mission. 3.34. McDonald Real Estate, Crayfish. 1. Malcolm Sayer, Scotts Mist. 2.20. 2. Robert Shirtcliffe, Pure Pleasure. 2.17. 3. Harry James, Duck Dive. 1.84. Collins Sports Centre Rod and Reel raffle. Leon Van Vuuren. Top Boat Trophy - E Fish n C.

Linda Corkill

Competition Organiser David Cathie, presenting Craig Lock with the first prize for the Shell Taranaki and Sandford's Snapper.

The Opunake Boat & Underwater Club held their annual Shell Taranaki Fishing Competition from January 27 to February 10.

There were some great days fishing and a lot of fish caught and weighed in. This year we had 96 anglers and 16 divers with 34 skippers, so it was a busy bay on the fine days and great sea conditions. Once again it was a closely fought contest with the leader board changing right up to the final weigh-in times. A fantastic kai dinner was served prior to prizegiving, and thank you to all those that contributed towards the meal which included venison and wild pork as well as mutton and beef. A big thank you to all those that helped make this a very successful competition. On behalf of one our

members and competitors, Malcolm Sayer, we would like to say a huge thank you to all those that helped Malcolm out and ensured his speedy recovery. Times like these makes us appreciate even more the great supportive community that we live in.

Results. Shell Taranaki and Sandfords Snapper. 1. 10.62 Craig Lock, Big Blue. 10.62. 2. Steve Corkill, Big Blue. 10.34. 3. Tony Campbell Bounty Hunter. 10.28. 4. 10.20 Paps Klaassen, Reel Time. 10.20. 5. Michael Corkill, Big Blue. 10.16. 6. Mark Neal, Payne Relief. 10.15. 7. David Lee, E Fish n C. 9.75. 8. Tony Moir, E Fish n C. 9.25. 9. Garry Northcott, E Fish n C. 9.24. 10. Robert Shirtcliffe, Pure Pleasure. 8.84.

Corkill Systems, John Dory. 1. Steve Mourie, Just do it. 2.62. 2. Fiona Climo, Big Blue. 2.20. 3. Geoff Campbell, Cantiki 2.09.

Malcolm Campbell Livestock, Blue Cod. 1. Terry Sullivan, Recession. 2.13. 2. Garry Northcott, E Fish n C. 2.07. 3. Dodo, Bounty Hunter. 2.04.

Ecolab, Kahawai 1. Geoff Campbell, Cantiki. 3.44. 2. Jackson Cathie, Simply Red. 3.17. 3. Terry Flintoff, Pure Pleasure. 3.11.

Campbell Contracting, King Fish. 1. Garry Northcott, E Fish n C. 15.96. 2. David Lee, E Fish n C 14.64. 3. Ross Woolford, Buglee. ASB and Farm Source,

Tuna. 1. Magoo, Pure Pleasure. 9.48. 2. Garry Northcott, E Fish n C. 9.25. 3. Paddy Walsh, Big Blue. 8.70.

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Opunake Bowling Club

On January 6, the Ladies Championship Triples were held. After the first round there were three teams with two wins each, so a draw was done. Joy Collins' team got the bye, and Bev Robinson's team played Chris Commane's team, with Bev's team winning

the first semi final before playing Joy Collins' team in the final, which Bev and her team of Joan Barrett and Val Langton won.

There were seven teams in the annual Fours and Twos tournament held on February 15. First. Val Fleming, Yopi Half, Anne Duggan



The winners of the Cucumber Stakes. From left. Brian Brophy, Rodney Woods, Marlene Clement and Paddy Deegan.

and Chris Hobin. Second. Valda Rowan (Paritutu). 3. Val McEldowney (New Plymouth).

The Men's annual Cucumber Stakes was held in a cool and welcome breeze on February 25.

First. Rodney Woods, Paddy Deegan, Marlene Clement and Paddy Deegan. Second. Bev Robinson, Chris

Commene, Joy Collins and Rita Davey. Third. Bruce Peacock's team from Okato.



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Manaia Golf results

Clytie Vine Tournament held at Manaia. 1st Manaia No 3 (Jackie Higgins, Michelle Furness, Fay Ford, Agi Poole). 2nd. TeNgutu. 3rd. Urenui. 4th Hawera.

Ladies Midweek Pennant. Manaia five and a half against Pungarehu half. Ladies Weekend Pennant. Manaia four and a half. Westown one and a half.

Saturday. March 3. Men. Nett. 1. Grant Gibbs. 2. Paul Hann. 3. Colin Koch and

Denis Hurcomb. End month. 1. Gary Dowdle. 2. Margaret Putt. 3. Shaun Kalin.

Juniors. Drives. Boys. 1. Oliver Symes. 2. Carter Symes. 3. Nat Budd. 4. Tyler Thomas. 5. Carter Thomas.

Girls. 1. Hannah Symes. 2. Chantel Wong. 3. Paige Thomas. Chipping. Boys. 1. Carter Symes. 2. Nat Budd. 3. Tyler Thomas. 4. Oliver Symes. 5. Connor Thomas. Girls. 1.

Paige Thomas. 2. Hannah Symes.

Monday night Ambrose. 1. Triple Boggey. 2. Nigel & Friernds. 3. Auroa Hackers. Men. Saturday March 10. Bogey. 1. Gary Dowdle. 2. Greg Elliott. 3. Craig Jones. 4. Paul Hunn.

Twos. Trevor Larsen. Carolyn Koch. 18 hole Ambrose. 1. Otakeho Hackers. 2. Winks Rd. 3. Golfing Gibbies.

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Chairman's chat



Take a look and let us know what you think

Kia ora tātou katoa, greetings to you all. The summer break already seems a distant memory as we immerse ourselves in another busy year. And on top of everything else, we had the disruption caused by Ex Tropical Cyclone Gita last month. Special greetings to those still dealing with the impacts of the storm.

As part of our work in taking Taranaki forward, we at the Council are reaching out for community comment and feedback on two important documents – our Long-Term Plan 2018/2028, and the Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki.

The Long-Term Plan sets our direction of travel for the coming decade, with full details of



budgets and programmes for the next three years. The Coastal Plan sets out community priorities for our precious coastline, what we aim to achieve and the policies and rules we'll use to get there.

All submissions will be carefully considered before both these documents are finalised and adopted. Please take the time to look through the information we've made available on each of them, and let us know what you think.

Go to www.trc.govt.nz and you'll see links to each document near the top of the page. We look forward to hearing from you!

David MacLeod, Chairman

Around & about the region

Region's pests in new focus

Taranaki has a new Regional Pest Management Plan that includes enforceable rules covering a variety of pest plants as well as possums. The Council adopted the new Plan after an extensive consultation process and it came into effect on 3 March. Alongside the Plan is a new Biosecurity Strategy that sets out regulatory and non-regulatory approaches to all harmful organisms, not just the ones covered by the rules in the Plan. The Council will distribute specific requirements and advice to relevant regional sectors.

www.bit.ly/TRCPestPlan

Economic anchor-point

Port Taranaki remains a vital element in the regional economy despite ups and downs in its key freight commodities, a new economic assessment report shows. Its important role as a business enabler is shown in estimates that its users will generate \$353 million for the regional GDP this year and more than 900 jobs.

The Council is the 100% shareholder of Port Taranaki Ltd. "Its economic and strategic importance is front and centre of our thinking and decision-making," says Council Chairman David MacLeod, a port company director.

www.bit.ly/PortTaranaki

Transport options widen



Subsidised door-to-door transport is now available for wheelchair users in South Taranaki under the region's Total Mobility scheme. A wheelchair-hoist vehicle is part of the two-van fleet of South Taranaki Passenger Services Inc, the new Total Mobility provider in Hāwera. People with impairments that prevent them using public transport are eligible for assistance under the Council-administered Total Mobility scheme, which provides a 50% subsidy up to maximum of \$20 (half of a \$40 fare).

www.trc.govt.nz/total-mobility/

Supporting livelihoods

Feast and famine ... and fallout

From wet to dry to destructively stormy ... Taranaki Regional Council hydrological monitoring data highlights the way the weather has been testing the regional community – those making a living from the land as well as those in urban areas.

The Council monitors rainfall at 27 sites across the region. The data is constantly updated and available on our website, along with wind measurements from seven sites.

Here's what we've been seeing over the past nine months or so:

- A very wet winter – rainfall from June to August 2017 was not far from one and a half times normal at many sites. For example: Motunui 136%, Inglewood 142%, Stratford 122%, Cape Egmont 136%, Whareroa 127%.
- A very dry spring-summer – rainfall from October to December 2017 was half or less than half of normal at many sites. For example: Motunui 51%, Inglewood 46%, Stratford 43%, Cape Egmont 37%, Whareroa 47%.
- Destructive winds in February 2018 as cyclone systems from the tropics crossed the country. Gita brought widespread power and phone outages as well as extensive water-supply disruptions. Gusts of up to 140km/h were recorded in South Taranaki and 120km/h in North Taranaki.

"Data like this is essential, whether for tracking extreme events or monitoring trends over time," says the Council's Director-Environment Quality, Gary Bedford. "We all know when it's wet, when it's dry and when it's windy, but reliable data is vital to good decision-making, whether it's about the environment, land management or a host of other fields. It can also feed into wider decisions about assistance for those affected by extreme events."



A Council hydrologist checks and calibrates equipment at a monitoring station in the remote eastern hillcountry.

Council data online:
www.trc.govt.nz (scroll down to map)

Improving lifestyles



All seasons and all reasons

Regular visitors to Tūpare know how beautiful it is all year round – and now digital magicians have compressed the seasonal kaleidoscope into a short but stunning video. Check it out.

Tūpare and the Council's other public gardens, Pukeiti and Hollard Gardens, not only look great on any day of the year, but they are also venues for mostly free events that cater to a wide variety of interests. There's something for everyone.

Events over the next couple of months include a fundraising concert for Taranaki Symphony Orchestra (Tūpare, 15 April), a rainforest walk and talk (Pukeiti, 15 April), a 'show and tell' session on maple trees (Tūpare, 20 May), and a workshop on chickens and the home garden (Hollard Gardens, 27 May). See you there!

Video: www.bit.ly/TupareSeasons
Also see www.trc.govt.nz/gardens/
and www.trc.govt.nz/whats-on/

Your Councillors

New Plymouth Constituency

Tom Cloke	tom.cloke@trc.govt.nz
David Lean	david.lean@trc.govt.nz
Charlotte Littlewood	charlotte.littlewood@trc.govt.nz
Bev Raine	bev.raine@trc.govt.nz
Craig Williamson	craig.williamson@trc.govt.nz

North Taranaki Constituency

Mike Davey	mike.davey@trc.govt.nz
Donald McIntyre	donald.mcintyre@trc.govt.nz

South Taranaki Constituency

Michael Joyce	michael.joyce@trc.govt.nz
David MacLeod (Chair)	david.macleod@trc.govt.nz
Neil Walker	neil.walker@trc.govt.nz

Stratford Constituency

Matthew McDonald	matthew.mcdonald@trc.govt.nz
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March 30

RAFFLE RESULTS

OPUNAKE COTTAGE REST HOME

Garage Sale and Open Day Raffle Results.

Painting donated by: Edward Eves. Winner: A. Gibson.

Decorated Cake donated by Janice Mullin: Winner: M. Sayer

2 \$100 note raffles donated by Rex Langlands: Winner: Janelle Brown, Sandra Deegan.

Trailer load of firewood donated by Mathias Mugeridge: Winner: B. Gopperth

Guess how many lolly teeth in jar: Winner: L. Corkill
Amount received from our open day and garage sale totalling: \$2700.00

The residents, staff and trust, are thankful to the Community for all donations we received which made it such a successful day.

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St 9.30am every Sunday and the Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month
Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Opunake Catholic Church

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea) Other areas
Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am All welcome

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Youth Group 7pm Friday
Come along or contact Pastor Murray 027 688 7378

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

Okato Community Church

Meets 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

What's not to like?



PUBLIC NOTICES

Rahotu Home and School Association AGM

Wednesday 21st March
7pm
Rahotu School Staffroom
All Welcome



TARANAKI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Taranaki Geological Society will feature Roger Brand, visiting from Northland via WOMAD. His talk: "Social Responsibility for Geosciences in the unconventional world" is both topical and relevant, not just to us here in Taranaki but also a matter of global concern.

Date & Time: Mon. March 19, at 7.30pm
Venue: NPGHS Social Sciences Block Rm O6 All welcome.

Contact Robert Park (021 1038573) or Mark Robbins (06 753 9930) for further details.



MANAIA & DISTRICT RETURNED AND SERVICES ASSOCIATION A.G.M.

Monday 19 March 2018 at 7.30pm
To be held in lounge of the Gibson Hall
All Welcome
G. Chisnell - Secretary



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Next month's meeting
TUESDAY APRIL 17 AT 5.30PM

- Security Cameras
- Buy local
- Freedom Campers
- Anything else on your mind

Hughson & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake

Our next issue is due out on March 30.
Call us on 06 761 7016 to be in it!

SITUATIONS VACANT



Board of Trustees

Casual vacancy for an elected trustee

A casual vacancy has occurred on the board of trustees for an elected parent representative.

The board has resolved under section 105 of the Education Act 1989 to fill the vacancy by selection.

If ten percent or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the board to hold a by-election should write to:

Chairperson
Board of Trustees
Coastal Taranaki School
PO Box 8
Okato

by: 20 April 2018

PUBLIC NOTICES



What's On Listings



**Good Friday
Walk of Witness
March 30**

Starting at Cenotaph at 9am then visiting all the churches.

Finishing with a service at our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church at 10am.

All welcome

**Taranaki National Art Awards
AGM**

1pm, Wednesday 11th April 2018
Sandfords Event Centre, Opunake
Further Information at
contact@taranakiartawards.co.nz

**PIHAMA
INDOOR
BOWLING
CLUB**

2018 Opening Night

Pihama Hall
Monday March 26
7.30pm

Everyone welcome

M. Clement - Sec.

**RAHOTU
RECREATION
RESERVE &
RAHOTU
CEMETERY
BOARD**

Triennial meeting will be held at Rahotu Domain
Sunday March 18
at 7.30pm.

To elect a board of management for ensuing three years.

Everybody welcome.

Wendy Mullan - Secretary



**ARE YOU RECENTLY
Married?**
We would love to share your special day with our readers! Send in your photo and details of how you met etc, to: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Gita slams the coast

Simon Bridges new leader of National Party

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JONATHAN YOUNG

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young? Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. Refer advert for details. For more information phone: 06 7591363 Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month. April meeting to be held on Tuesday the 17th April. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE - LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

TAI CHI BASICS

Thursdays 9am - 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

OPUNAKE SURF INN

Every day free pool. Every Sunday afternoon. Pool comp

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

PREGNANCY HELP TARANAKI

Is now in OPUNAKE! Are you pregnant? Do you have a baby or young family? To hear more, like us on facebook www.facebook.com/preghelptaranaki/. Please come and meet us and find out how we may be able to help you.

OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

Meeting last Monday of each month in Opunake Town Hall at 1.30pm. All welcome.

TAINUI DAY CENTRE - 141 Tasman Street Opunake.

Each Monday at 10:00 12:30. \$2 donation. Recreational & Social Friendship. To those of more mature years. Come yourself or bring a friend. A warm welcome, have no fear. Happiness & laughter we intend.

More information call Jenny 06 7618080 or Glenys 06 655802

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Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable and ad for details..

TRC GARDEN EVENTS IN FEBRUARY

February 4 to March 30

At Tupare and Pukeiti.

PUKEITI BUFFET LUNCH GARDEN TOUR

February 7 to March 30 at Pukeiti.

BLUE LIES COLLABORATIVE EXHIBITION

'Fluid Realms' by Cathy Carter & 'Homage' from Amanda Hewlett. At Percy Thomson Gallery in Stratford March 2 - 25.

'BEING KNOWN' SOLO EXHIBITION BY JANA BRANCA

At Percy Thomson Gallery, Miranda St in Stratford March 2 - 25.

J.D. REID GALLERY SHOWCASE 2018 ART EXHIBITION

Open March 3-April 7 (except Good Friday). Monday-Friday 10am-5pm. Saturday 10am-3pm. Sunday 10am-2pm. At 33A Devon St, New Plymouth.

'RECLAIM' MIXED MEDIA EXHIBITION

At the Village Gallery, Eltham. March 12 to April 6. Refer advert for details.

ROADSAFE TARANAKI & NP AUTOCITY FREE DRIVER TRAINING

Egmont A&P Showgrounds, Hawera. Sat March 17 and Sunday March 18.

PIHAMA LAVENDAR MARKET DAY

Sunday March 18 at the old dairy factory at Pihama. 10am to 2pm. Refer advert.

TARANAKI GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

March 19, 7.30pm, NPGHS Social Sciences Block. Refer advert for details.

MANAIA & DISTRICT RSA AGM

Monday March 19 at 7.30pm. At Gibson Hall. Refer advert for details.

RAHOTU HOME & SCHOOL AGM

Wednesday March 21 at 7pm at the Rahotu School Staffroom. Refer advert.

ROMAN RUDNYTSKY CONCERT PIANIST PLAYS AT ELTHAM TOWN HALL

Friday March 23 at 7.30pm. Refer advert for details.

THE WAVE PRESENTS THE 'ENDLESS SUMMER SKATE/SCOOTER COMP'

Saturday March 24, Sandfords Event Centre from 2-5pm. Great prizes to be won. Refer advert for details.

SALSA, BACHATA & ZOUK DANCE WORKSHOPS & PARTY

March 24 at Ferndale Hall, New Plymouth. Refer advert for details.

PIHAMA INDOOR BOWLING CLUB OPENING NIGHT

Monday March 26 at 7.30pm at Pihama Hall. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE CHURCES GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS

March 30. Assemble at the cenotaph at 9am. Refer advert for details.

2018 TARANAKI ROSE OF TRALEE SELECTION

Enter Now Online www.roseoftralee.ie/apply

Easter Mon 2nd April - Interviews and Race Day, Hawera

Sat 7th April - Rose final - Dinner, dance, Live Band, Irish Dancing.

Tickets at Plymouth Hotel Reception.

www.facebook.com/taranakiirishclub

Contact Louise Buhler 06 274 8494

TARANAKI NATIONAL ART AWARDS AGM

Sandfords Event Centre, 11 April at 1pm. Refer advert for details.

MOTEL CALIFORNIA - EAGLES TRIBUTE SHOW AT BUTLERS REEF

April 21 from 8pm to 11pm. Butlers Reef, SH45, Oakura. Refer advert for details.

Top concert pianist to play at Eltham

For one night only, International concert pianist Roman Rudnytsky returns to the Eltham Town Hall on Friday March 23 at 7.30pm.

This performance is being organised by 'The Friends of the Eltham Town Hall' – A volunteer Eltham community group.

Born in New York into a prominent Ukrainian musical family, he began the study of piano at age 4 and gave his first full recital at age 7. He is a graduate of the famous Juilliard School in New York and also did

additional studies at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, Maryland and at masterclasses in Austria (the "Mozarteum") and Italy.

Rudnytsky is a prize-winner of 10 piano competitions, including such prestigious ones as the International Leventritt Competition (New York) and International J.S. Bach Competition (Washington) and, in Italy, the "F. Busoni" and "A. Casagrande" International Piano Competitions. He has made numerous recordings in Poland, Australia and the



Roman Rudnytsky Concert Pianist ELTHAM TOWN HALL

One night only
FRIDAY 23 MARCH 2018 at 7.30pm



International concert pianist Roman Runytsky returns to the Eltham Town Hall Friday 23rd March 2018, 7.30pm.

All Tickets GA - \$25.00 (Including Supper)
Tickets available Eltham Library or
Email davemarie@xtra.co.nz

Roman Rudnytsky returns to the Eltham Town Hall on Friday March 23 at 7.30pm

United States. In addition to his many recitals, Rudnytsky has also appeared as a

soloist with many orchestras around the world. To date, he has played over 45 different works for piano and orchestra with them. A great honour indeed, he gave the British, Latin American and Australian premiere performances of the recently-discovered Liszt "Concerto No. 3 in E Flat" between 1990 and 1993. He also conducts master classes and workshops for local piano students and teachers during the course of his travels.

The settings for these range from universities to small, rural towns and villages. Since 1984, he has played concerts and conducted master classes in more than 35 countries. Since 1972, Mr. Rudnytsky has been a member of the piano faculty of the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio (U.S.A.). He is a recipient of that institution's "Distinguished Professor Award" in recognition of

his concert activities. He previously served on the piano faculties of the Indiana University School of Music (Bloomington, Indiana) and the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory, in addition to being "Artist-in-Residence" at two Australian universities.

All Tickets GA - \$25.00 (Including supper). Tickets available Eltham Library or Email: davemarie@xtra.co.nz

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Mauri stone a guardian for those who come and go



The beautifully carved Mauri stone.

The first stone has been laid on New Plymouth Airport's new terminal, fixing the building to the land and its people and embodying the hopes for its future.

The mauri stone, specially carved for Puketapu Hapū, was buried at the site of the planned terminal's main entrance.

Shaped like a traditional Maori anchor stone, it represents the wishes and hopes of the people.

"This mauri is here as a kaitiaki, as a guardian for those who come and go," Puketapu speaker John

Eriwata told a gathering of hapū members, airport and construction workers, and representatives of New Plymouth District Council and the board of the airport company, Papa Rererangi i Puketapu.

The laying of the mauri stone for a new building is an ancient custom that reflects the hopes and desires of the people who will use it.

The stone was carved from a large rock from the Waiongana River, the main river associated with Puketapu Hapū.

A second mauri stone from

the same rock will be carved and mounted as a feature in the new terminal.

The design of the new terminal has been created in partnership with Puketapu Hapū to promote their cultural narrative and local heritage.

New Plymouth airport is the fourth busiest regional airport in New Zealand, and about 430,000 people use it each year.

Built in 1967, the terminal is being regenerated at a cost of about \$25 million. Construction starts in April 2018 and will be completed by August 2019.

'Reclaim' a unique exhibition at The Village Gallery

'Reclaim' is the combined exhibition of two uniquely talented artists, Terri Millar (from Eltham) and Richard Hide (from Inglewood), at The Village Gallery, Eltham. The exhibition continues until April 6 and truly is one not to be missed. The key message is creative recycling.

The official opening was on Monday March 12 from 5pm to 6.30pm. The artists were introduced by Lorna Davies, who is Chairperson of The Village Gallery.

Terri explained her artistic philosophy as reflected in her exhibits including mixed media, photography, painting, drawing, handcrafts and sculpture. Richard, a self taught luthier and music lover played the unique range of stringed instruments he has made from such items as a toilet seat, LP records, a paddle and an century old piece of wood. He made his first one back in 2011, but most have been made since 2017. "I don't make them for any reason than I want to and it's fun," he explains.

I could add that, despite "never having had a music lesson in my life" he is a brilliant musician.

Unusually, Richard welcomes patrons handling



Richard Hide playing one of the instruments he has made.

and even playing the instruments. "Please handle the instruments and, if you like, I'll teach you to play," he commented.

I was especially intrigued by the instrument made with LP records (Neil Diamond on the front and Tom Jones on the back). It is described

as 'vinyl on wood.' He admitted making this one was "a challenge." Asked if he had played the records before his unique recycling, he replied, "No, I'm a digital kind of guy." His instruments all had names - this one was called 'Neil'. You'll have to use your

imagination to work out what the one incorporating a toilet seat was called!

Terri says she sees the beauty in everything, even rust and decay - and recycling is paramount. "We like to make things - we don't like waste." She also said, "I am eclectic and

rambling. I like so many different mediums." At this exhibition she has examples of many mediums including 'acrylic on canvas' (entitled 'Time'), ironwork ink and pen', photography, mixed media (entitled 'A thread of Hope'). She has been an artist since the age of 15. Her exhibits are diverse, skilful

and thought-provoking. You can see more of this excellent artist on Facebook (Artist Rantings of Terri Antoinette).

Make sure you visit this outstanding dual exhibition at The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Eltham. They are open weekdays (and Saturdays) 10am to 3pm.

PIHAMA
Lavender
Growers and Makers
MARKET DAY
SUNDAY MARCH 18TH 10am - 2pm

NEW! **RECLAIM**
12 March - 6 April, 2018
Mixed Media Exhibition
by eclectic artist, Terri Millar, and luthier, Richard Hide

Old Truck by Terri Millar
Kingswood by Richard Hide

THE VILLAGE GALLERY, 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM Open Mon. to Sat. 10 am - 3 pm



Taranaki Home and Lifestyle Expo coming to Taranaki.

Home and Lifestyle Expo providing inspiration

The Taranaki Home and Lifestyle Expo is back again from 13-15 April at TSB Stadium.

Whether you are renovating or buying, landscaping or decorating, furnishing or building, this is the show that will put you in front of the experts.

It's a highly anticipated three day annual event and provides inspiration to thousands of home makers and potential home buyers. With over 100 products and services in one location, it's your one stop shop for everything home and lifestyle.

Take advantage of show only specials from market-leading exhibitors, demonstrations of the latest home products and, with

25% of stands taken by new exhibitors, you're sure to find something to enhance the fabulous lifestyle Taranaki offers.

This year the expo is also introducing an all new Lifestyle/Wellness marquee including:

- Health and well-being tools
- Holistic and traditional taster classes
- Mind, body and soul experiences

A programme of wellness experts in their fields, such as a Mind-set Coach, Personal Trainers and a Mindfulness Guide will be scheduled in the Lifestyle/Wellness Marquee. These taster experiences will be available between the hours of 11am - 2pm on Friday, Saturday & Sunday. It will

also be a place where people can chill out with family and friends, there will be artificial grass, bean bags and lots of greenery.

To kick the weekend off, the expo offers a two for one deal on Friday so two friends can explore the expo together at half price. Children under 16 can attend for free and Saturday and Sunday adults pay an \$8 entry fee. Gold card holders pay just \$5.00 to spend the entire day exploring exciting options and fresh innovations.

And one lucky person will be walking away with a \$2,000 Resene voucher.

Publicity Officer
Taranaki Home and Lifestyle Expo

TARANAKI
HOME & LIFESTYLE EXPO

Mountain to Sea
Te Rauwharua ki Te Kohu o Ngāi Tahu
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more stuff

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13-15 APRIL

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homeandlifestyleexpo.co.nz

International speaker Darren Chettle to speak in Opunake

Opunake is about to receive an international speaker as guest to The Wave Church - Darren (Daz) Chettle is known for being fearless, inspiring and challenging, and he loves to surf. Speaking from his own life experience, he has a gift for connecting with the lost and lonely, as well as those who have their life together. Quite simply, he has a passion for people.

While Daz is shamelessly and passionately in love with Jesus, he respects those who don't hold his beliefs, and impacts both believers and non-believers alike through his gift of passionate, personal and professional communication - Humour is a strong tool.

Daz doesn't fit the classic image that many people have of a 'Christian.' Covered



Darren(Daz)Chettle

in tattoos and crowned in an impressive head of dreadlocks, he lives a life that many would describe as "out there."

"They tried to tame me, and put me in a box, but I blew the sides out", he laughs.

"Twenty years ago I was a drug addict lunatic in the gutter. I had a powerful encounter with God while I was on a surf trip. My life was totally transformed. Now, I am 44 years old, a father of four amazing kids, and I have a beautiful wife named Bree. We own and run our own company in Christchurch. We attend Living Waters Christian Centre," he says.

Daz is one of the most passionate and positive people you'll ever meet. Straight up, you're fascinated to find out what makes him tick. He's so full of life and energy, it's hard to imagine life has ever been less than totally awesome for him.

Growing up in middle-class New Zealand, his dad was a workaholic, and his mum was emotionally unavailable for him. He grew up a very lonely, shy and insecure boy. Reading was hard for Daz. They didn't know he was dyslexic. One day when he was six-years-old he was sitting on his grandfather's knee, struggling to read a book. Suddenly his grandfather pushed him off his knee and spat, "You're thick, just like your father." He believed the lie and his school reports

compounded it.

By age 20, life was a party, and Daz was the life of the party. Addicted to LSD and Cannabis, he partied all week hiding behind a mask so he wouldn't be hurt anymore. Darren's solution to the pain in his life was sex, drugs, drinking and fighting, not knowing it was all desperate attempts to be loved.

Daz doesn't miss an opportunity to tell people about Jesus, whether it's in an aeroplane, a shopping mall, a Masonic Lodge or a Mosque. While some may view this as 'bible-bashing,' his gift of communication is most often received with respect for his boldness, and the very real experiences he is so brave to share.

Daz has travelled internationally with his speaking and ministry. In the last few months he has witnessed some amazing healing miracles. Come along and hear these incredible accounts.

Daz Chettle will be the guest speaker at 'The Endless Summer Family Fun Day' being held at 2pm on Saturday March 24 at The Rec, Tasman Street, Opunake.

He will also be speaking at The Wave Church, Domett Street, Opunake at 10.30am on March 25.

Believers and non-believers are guaranteed a very good laugh, and a boost of positivity for their week ahead.

Endless Summer

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or email ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Everybody's Theatre needs your help

Watching a movie at Opunake's Everybody's Theatre is a unique experience. Described as "in a league of its own" on TripAdvisor, the fully restored historic building boasts brand new luxury seating and the latest in digital screen technology, combining the best of the present and the past.

Everybody's Theatre plays new releases and also hosts boutique nights, where a variety of classic, foreign and fringe films are played. There is a shop at the theatre where you can purchase popcorn, drinks, lollies, ice creams, and other delicious snacks, and on boutique nights you can also purchase alcohol. For anyone with an interest in cinema memorabilia, the shop also features a variety of historic cinematic items, including a Century JJ projector. The building is also available for venue hire and makes for a great night out for anyone with an interest in local history or movies. There are kitchen facilities available onsite, and catering options available.

The theatre is run by a charitable trust, and they are always on the lookout for volunteers as projectionist, cashier or in the shop. If

you are interested in getting involved with a great local charity you can find forms in the box outside the theatre at 72 Tasman Street, Alternatively if you would like to help but don't want to volunteer we always welcome donations as we are a charity.

Your help is also needed with Everybody's Theatre's 'Throwback Thursday' series, which will run from April through to the end of June. We welcome your suggestions of your all-time favourite movie, and you may get to watch them on the big screen. get the gang together and swing down for that trip down memory lane.

If you'd like to learn more about Everybody's Theatre and what's currently playing, please visit our website <http://everybodystheatre.co.nz/index.html>. The theatre always has posters on display to show you what's screening and what's coming, so you can also wander past the building at 72 Tasman Street, or check out us out on Facebook.

To Volunteer, put in Throwback Thursday suggestions or if you have any questions contact Aretha Lemon on 027 383 7926, or 0800 EVERYBO.



Advanced Driving Course 2018

Young drivers, and anyone holding a car drivers licence, are invited to register for Roadsafes Taranaki's free Advanced Driving Course in Hawera on either Saturday 17 or Sunday 18 March.

The weekend is a great opportunity for young drivers to improve their driving skills and gain some practical experience.

Instructors from NZ Advanced Driver Training (including V8 Championship driver Phil Blythe) will work with participants to improve their confidence and get a better understanding of how to stay in control of their vehicle during an emergency situation.

The course is free for anyone with a learner, restricted or

full drivers license and is being held at the Egmont A & P showgrounds, Burnside Ave, Hawera. The cars to be used for the course have been generously supplied by Max Pennington Autocity.

Each registered driver will enjoy two practical courses;

- Course 1 - what to do in an emergency and how to brake safely,
- Course 2 - improving cornering skills and understanding understeering and oversteering.

Parents are encouraged to come along and gain a better understanding of current laws and regulations, while local driving instructors will be on hand to answer questions and

offer advice. There will also be interactive activities and local partners Students Against Dangerous Driving (SADD) and NZ Police will also be on site to offer guidance, advice and support.

Drivers are asked to book a time to attend with the course taking up to two hours to complete. The first scheduled time available is 9.30am and

Artists from around the world respond to call

WordART. 37 artists from around the world responded to the call to make art with or about words. They've sent a total of 66 artworks, and it's fascinating to see the different interpretations. Do have a look, on www.tart.co.nz

It's a big exhibition, so I'll

last time available is 4pm each day. The course is to be held at the Egmont A & P showgrounds in Hawera on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 of March. To register for this free course, contact Roadsafes Taranaki on 0800 111 323, email roadsafetaranaki@stdc.govt.nz or text your name, preferred day and time to Marion 027 279 2662.

rotate it every couple of days, to give everyone a chance at the top. All good fun. And I'll let you know when the book has been printed.

Life is short, art is long. Yes? cheers Dale Copeland



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MARCH 2018

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale No Eft-Pos	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. ID required for all R movies
<p>BLACK PANTHER Drama Sci Fi, Action 2hrs 14mins M: Violence After the death of his father, T'Challa returns home to the isolated, technologically advanced African nation to succeed to the throne and take his rightful place as king. When a powerful old enemy reappears, T'Challa's mettle as king—and Black Panther—is tested. Fri 16th Mar 7pm Wed 21st Mar 7pm</p>	<p>HIBISCUS AND RUTHLESS Comedy 1 hr 36mins PG Following Hibiscus, a young woman who tries to keep her head down in university work. However, with young men looking to impress her, she calls on her rugged friend Ruth for guidance. Sat 17th Mar 7pm</p>
<p>FIFTY SHADES FREED Drama 1hr 05mins R16: Violence, Language, Sex scenes Believing they have left behind shadowy figures from their past, newlyweds Christian and Ana fully embrace an inextricable connection and life of luxury. But new threats jeopardise their happy ending before it even begins Sun 18th Mar 7pm Wed 21st Mar 1pm</p>	<p>LADYBIRD Comedy, festival 1hr 34mins R13: Drug use, sex scenes, language Christine "Lady Bird" fights against but is exactly like her wildly loving, deeply opinionated and strong-willed mom. Set in Sacramento, in 2002, amidst a rapidly shifting American economic landscape, Lady Bird is an affecting look at the relationships that shape us Fri 23rd Mar 7pm Sun 25th Mar 7pm Wed 28th Mar 1pm</p>
<p>!!!ARTHOUSE!!! THE MUSIC OF SILENCE Drama, True Story, Biography 1hr 15mins PG Andrea Bocelli's biopic told through Bocelli's alter ego, Amos Bardi. Born in a small village near Tuscany with the gift of a beautiful voice but an illness which left him almost blind. Despite everything, Amos refuses to give up and his incredible voice wins him worldwide adulation. Wed 28th Mar 7pm Arthouse - Wednesday 4th Apr 1pm</p>	<p>GAME NIGHT Comedy, Mystery 1hr 40mins TBA Max and Annie's weekly couples game night gets kicked up a notch when Max's charismatic brother, Brooks, arranges a murder mystery party, complete with fake thugs and faux federal agents. But neither this "game" nor Brooks are what they seem to be. Sat 24th Mar 7pm Fri 30th Mar 7pm Sat 7 April 7pm</p>
<p>WINCHESTER Horror, Thriller, True Story 1hr 39mins M Sarah Winchester is convinced that she is haunted by the souls killed at the hands of the Winchester rifle. Sat 31st Mar 7pm - Wed 4th April 7pm</p>	<p>TAD JONES THE HERO RETURNS Adventure, Animated, Kids, Comedy 1 hr 25mins G Sat 17th Mar 1pm Sat 31st Mar 1pm</p>
<p>THE JUNGLE BUNCH Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids 1hr 37mins G Sat 24th Mar 1pm</p>	

Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun
	16 The Black Panther 7pm	17 Tad the lost Explorer - 1pm Hibiscus & Ruthless - 7pm	18 Fifty Shades Freed - 7pm
21 Fifty Shades Freed - 1pm Black Panther - 7pm	23 Ladybird - 7pm	24 The Jungle Bunch - 1pm Game Night - 7pm	25 Ladybird - 7pm
28 !!!ARTHOUSE!!! Ladybird - 1pm The Music of Silence - 7pm	30 Game Night - 7pm	31 Tad the lost Explorer - 1pm Winchester - 7pm	

Artists explore diversity through art

A new exhibition at Hawera's Lysaght Watt Gallery will showcase recent work by a number of South Taranaki artists. Diverse Locals brings together work by 45 artists with the aim to showcase the wide range of skills, creative strengths and scope of subject and media they use.

Exhibition curator, South Taranaki District Council Arts Co-ordinator, Michaela Stoneman, says the visual arts can show us a lot about identity; how art can help to define who we are and how we respond to where we live, either in the context of rural communities, New Zealand or globally.

"We have a very clever bunch of artists working in

our communities. I'm constantly blown away by their commitment, their contribution to our social framework and the vast range of skills they demonstrate through their work," says Michaela.

Works include painting, sculpture, weaving, printmaking, fibre, photography, glass, assemblage, drawing and collage. A school programme will engage local schools with exhibition

tours and hands-on art activities in response to the work. The featured artists live throughout the South Taranaki district, including Waverley, Oeo, Warea, Ohawe, Patea, Opunake, Hawera, Eltham, Pungarehu and Whenuakura.

"This show extends on the spirit of Te Ngira: New Zealand Diversity Action Programme run by the Human Rights Commission, to consciously recognise

the cultural diversity of our society, promote the equal enjoyment by everyone of their civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, and foster harmonious relations between diverse peoples. The work of artists can actively express what inspires them while reflecting who they are," Stoneman says.

The South Taranaki artists featured in the exhibition are: Aaron Tippett,

Barbara Clegg, Beck White, Bianca Mitchell, Bonita Bigham, Bonnie McIntee, Carl Fairweather, Caryl Murray, Cath Sheard, Cherie Do Vale, Cecilia Russell, Celeste & Mike Cole, Claire Jensen, Claire Whiston, Dale Copeland, Dimmie Danielewski, Dora Baker, Erryn Willcox, Errin Rita, Gabrielle Belz, Gaby Mullholland, Gail Thompson, Jennifer Laracy, Jimi Walsh,

Jonny de Painter, Karen Dey, Lisa Walsh, Maree Liddington, Maree Stowe, Marianne Mugeridge, Mark Bellringer, Milli Purpil, Myfanwy Morris, Nicky Gray, Paul Burgham, Paul Hutchinson, Philip Nuku, Puhu Nuku, Rachael Johnson, Rhegan Brooks, Roger Morris, Scot Hayman, Terry Ashford and Viv Davy. The exhibition opened on March 6 and runs until March 29.

Taranaki Harvest Feast coming soon

Mark this date on your calendar – April 1st at the Stony River Boutique Hotel, 2502 South Road, Okato. From 3pm until late, many

will be on hand to celebrate Taranaki Harvest Feast in a multitude of ways, including craft and produce stalls, delicious food of all varieties,

Morris Dancers, music (bagpipes and Swiss Alpine horn), flag throwing and examining vintage harvest machinery.

The event will be officially opened by the Mayor of New Plymouth Neil Holdem.

There will be prizes for the best scarecrow and the biggest

marrow. Stepping Stones will be running some great games for the youngsters, so they won't miss out.

As well as hosts Heimo and Renate Staudinger, there are many groups involved in the staging of this event such as Okato Lions, the Swiss Club, Taranaki Young Farmers, the Taranaki Vintage Machinery Club, to mention just a few, with TMS (Traffic Management Systems) ensuring optimal safety with the expected increased flow of traffic. There will be plenty of parking, with the area beside Stepping Stones (to the south) being also available.

"This event is a real tradition in Europe. After the hard work to do with harvesting is over, there is feasting and dancing," he explains. "Young farmers are also involved in the European events," he adds.

The event has plenty of food stalls, but there is still room for more craft stalls; phone 06 752 4454 and ask to speak to Renate.

A lot of work and effort has gone into the planning of this family-orientated event, the first Harvest Feast held in the province. The organisational process goes back to October 2017. If you'd like to know more have a look at their Facebook - 1. Taranaki Harvest Feast.



Heimo pictured with the two scarecrows he and Renate constructed.



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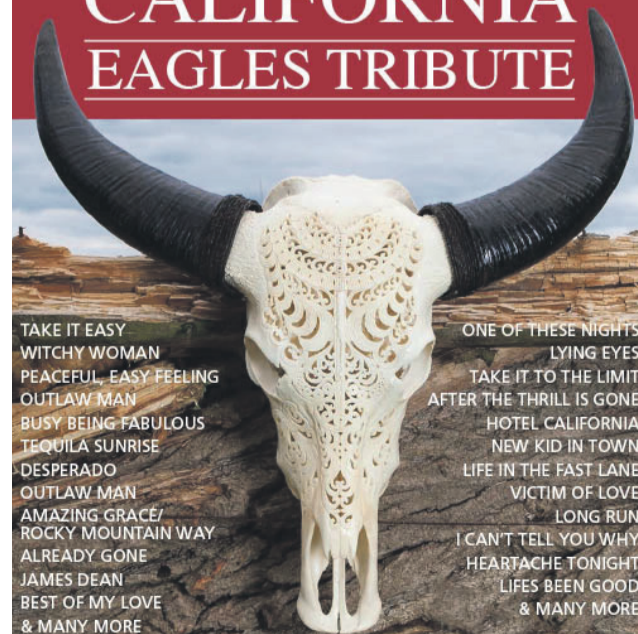
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