



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Vol. 27 No 21 November 8, 2018
www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Published every
Thursday Fortnight
Phone and Fax 761-7016
A/H 761-8206
for Advertising and Editorial
ISSN 2324-2337, ISSN 2324-2345

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Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events.
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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Council rejection welcomed on streets of Opunake

The news that the South Taranaki District Council has decided not to go ahead with a proposed policy on earthquake-prone buildings has been welcomed by Opunake business owners.

The proposal would have seen the CBDs of Hawera, Eltham and Opunake designated as priority areas where owners of buildings deemed earthquake-prone would have had seen the required time to fix things up halved from 25 years to twelve and a half.

Councillors unanimously rejected the proposal at a meeting held on October 29.

The proposal had been particularly unpopular in Eltham, a town which had long seen its heritage buildings as one of their big selling points. Of the 36 submissions on the proposal, 29 were opposed, and 22 of these came from Eltham.

Arguments against the policy included the high costs it would lumber businesses with. This could force many to up sticks and leave, meaning the town centres could end up resembling ghost towns.

Among those who made a submission opposing the policy was Opunake business owner Rhonda Crawford.

"It's good to see that common sense has prevailed," she said. "All our services are going to stay in town, and people can continue with their livelihoods."

"I told the council how it would affect our town, and that there are more pressing issues in the here and now. Mental health is a huge thing for the rural sector and we've



Rhonda Crawford who gave an impassioned address to the South Taranaki District councillors on the consequences of insisting on earthquake strengthening being mandatory on local business owners.

seen a lot with what's been happening in the last season. The rural community needs their small towns, and people like to come in and have a connection with people they know. We definitely don't want to see the community fall apart."

In her submission she said she and her husband owned two businesses in Opunake. The building where her business was based is 104 years old. There had never been a

record of loss due to earthquakes in Taranaki or Opunake, and building owners weren't able to afford the cost of an engineer's report or the work needed to strengthen the buildings, she said.

Similar sentiments were voiced by other business owners spoken to by the Opunake and Coastal News.

Jim Dodunski said the plan which the council rejected would have had dire consequences for places like

Opunake. "It's bureaucracy gone mad. It will probably destroy New Zealand towns. It's hard enough now in the small towns with people with no jobs. We try to keep everything as cheap as possible in our little town. Most of the little shops don't pay much rent."

"It's fantastic the Council's

reversed it and all credit to Rhonda Crawford for making a submission and speaking to the council about it. The Council's been very poor on publicity and there's been a very limited time to put in a submission."

Like Rhonda, he questioned the need for a policy like this in a place like Opunake.

Continued page 3

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Editor: Bernice McKellar
 Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk
 Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith
 Production/IT: Shane Butler
 Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly
 Registered as a newspaper.

Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand



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

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Letters to the Editor

Desperately needed

Can someone help to get our school children that catch the school buses in Pungarehu a bus shelter. We were offered one two years ago, but the donation was not taken. There are about 15 children that catch the buses in Pungarehu. They have no shelter apart from an old drapery that has been turned into a holiday house. When it is occupied they cannot stand under its roof, so they must stand in the wind and the rain. Please can someone help keep our kids dry and warm.

Concerned resident

Stop blaming our roads

After reading Anon's poetry called drivers Beware, it really sums up what some of our province's drivers are really like. Whenever there is an accident causing death, the very first thing people blame are the roads, which is a lame excuse and a load of complete rubbish.

The problem lies in too much speed. Over the last 10 years or so, vehicles are so much quicker and faster. Anyone's speedometer can reach 150kph without any effort and trouble at all, so now the whole problem lies

with all males and females forgetting what our road code states, and not concentrating enough on their driving skills, if any, talking on cellphones, having radios turned up to loud, too busy talking to passengers, and having kids scream in their ears. Or they think they are the only person on the road and try to overtake milk tankers, logging trucks or other vehicles on double yellow lines. They forget to give way or stop at intersections because most drivers are always running late for work. I say, get properly organised. Too many drivers still drive under the influence of alcohol

or drugs. Some drivers really suffer with road rage, or try to race other drivers as they think they are professional Formula One racing drivers when they are not.

Finally I believe all drivers male and female should take a defensive driving course which would improve their driving skills and abilities and driving habits as well as knowing the road code fully.

We still have drivers, both male and female that take driving for granted, as they are the ones who get injured or killed.

*Tom Stephens
 New Plymouth*

ADELPHOS

This is a well known anecdotal story to reflect upon.

"On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur there was a once a crude little life-saving station. It was just a hut, and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea. With no thought for themselves, they went out day or night tirelessly searching for the lost.

So many lives were saved by this little station that it became famous. Some of those who were saved, and others, wanted to be associated with the station and give of their time and money to support its work. New boats were bought and new crews were trained. The little station grew. Some of the new members were unhappy with

The Lifesaving Station

the crude building. They felt the rescued needed a more comfortable place as their first refuge. The building was enlarged, with nicer furniture. Now the life-saving station became a popular gathering place and was re-decorated beautifully and furnished as a sort of club.

Fewer of the members were now interested in going to sea on life-saving missions, so they hired lifeboat crews to do this work. About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boatloads of cold, wet and half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick, and some of them had black skin, and some spoke a strange language, and the beautiful new club was considerably messed up. At the next meeting, there was a

split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to stop the club's life-saving activities as they were unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal life pattern of the club.

But some members insisted that life-saving was their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a life-saving station. But they were finally voted down and told that if they wanted to save the lives of all the various kinds of people who were shipwrecked in those waters, they could begin their own life-saving station down the coast. They did. And the same thing happened to them. If you visit the seacoast today you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are still frequent in those waters,

only now most of the people drown."

Reflection questions. The moral: Christian leaders/elders in their coastal life-saving churches are called to risk their lives in being co-workers with God. They are called to personally offer the life-saving gospel to others. What is hindering church people in their dwindling part-time and non-pastored churches from communicating the gospel to those drowning new young families in our coastal communities? Are they ashamed of Jesus' message? I don't think so. Are they afraid of being rejected or isolated by their lifelong intimate rural community? Possibly/probably in my experience. Do leaders and lay people really understand how to explain the life-saving gospel in 60 seconds? Is the lack of money and aging congregations an acceptable answer? Does this mean more rural churches (life-saving stations) will close?

This message of drowning is about life and death now and in eternity. The simple gospel is about God offering His life-saving forgiveness of sins through Jesus' blood shed on the cross. The cross is always unpopular but it is the life-saving station in our community churches. Christians

RIGHT

Is anyone missing this young male cat who arrived unannounced at Brennan Place, Opunake several weeks ago.

He's very friendly and a bit cheeky.

If anyone's missing him please contact (06) 761 8206.



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1.) Today, why are the persecuted United Methodist Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church and Anglican Church in poor and underdeveloped areas of Africa and Asia rapidly growing in faith and converts?

2.) What did Martin Luther King Jr. mean when he said, "There was a time when the church was very powerful... In those days the church was not merely a thermometer of popular opinion... It was a thermostat that transformed the mores of society"?

Adelphos

A whole school producing good people

Last Thursday at Opunake High School it was a time to look back on the year and say goodbyes to students and staff heading off to pastures new.

At the school senior prize-giving, goodbyes were said to deputy principal James Davidson and long-serving teacher Lynette Bourke.

Mr Davidson has been teaching at Opunake High School for 18 years. Next year he will succeed Nicola Ngarewa as principal of Patea Area School who will be taking over as principal at Spotswood College from Mark Bowden, himself a

former principal of Opunake High School.

Opunake High School Board of Trustees chairman Andy Whitehead said he looked forward to carrying on the relationship Opunake has with the Patea School and continuing to see Mr Davidson in his new role as principal.

Mrs Bourke has been teaching at Opunake High School for the last 24 years.

The Dux for this year is Laura Hickey, daughter of Graham and Janet Hickey. Laura says she plans to study at Massey University next year, but beyond that is un-

sure about her long term future.

This year's best all-round boy was Dylan Coleman and best all-round girl was Katie Sinclair.

An unprecedented three presentations were made for proxime accessit to dux this year. They were Amy Ablanalp, Jacob Symons and Gianni Dear.

With 2018 marking not only 100 years since the end of World War I, but the centenary of the founding of the South Taranaki RSA, the RSA were presenting scholarships to Taranaki High School students, and two of these were presented to students from Opunake High School, Dylan Coleman and Christopher Seyb.

South Taranaki District RSA president Graeme Kempton says the only proviso would be that they would come back in a year and tell the RSA what they had been doing and how that money had been spent. Mr Kempton said the scholarships were part of the programme the RSA had planned for the centenary year, which had included the opening of the Victoria Cross Garden in Hawera and the unveiling of statues to the town's two VC winners, John Grant and Harry Laurent.

The school prefects for 2019 were named, and head prefects Amy Abplanalp and Dylan Coleman said their goodbyes.

"I have been privileged to lead a group of such smart and innovative students," said Amy, who will be studying law at Victoria University.

Dylan will be going to Otago University to study health science next year said he had learned a lot about teamwork and perseverance.

"As it takes a village to raise a child, it took a whole school to grow us into good people to face a rapidly changing world," he said.



Opunake High School dux Laura Hickey with her parents Graham and Janet Hickey.

The guest speaker was Tara Potter who was head prefect in 2013, and whose mother Maria is a former principal of Opunake High School. Tara, who is now regional sports director with the Taranaki Secondary Schools sports Association spoke about her life post Opunake High School.

This was also the first prize-giving with Peter O'Leary as principal, who had taken over from Simon Fuller earlier this year. Before coming to Opunake he had been a deputy principal in Whakatane and his career as a FIFA referee had included control-

ling matches at World Cup and Olympic level.

"2018 has been a busy year, with many changes as change is fast becoming the new norm in education," he said. "One of the most important things in life is to help somebody's dream become a reality. If certain people had not given this poor kid from Ngaruawahia a chance I would never have got anywhere. The most special component of Opunake High School is our students. They are the ambassadors for our community, and we can be filled with pride and satisfac-

tion that our community is in good hands."

Andy Whitehead noted Mr O'Leary's background as an international football referee and said he could have gone anywhere in the country, but he had chosen Opunake as the place where he took up his first position as a school principal.

He said it had been a successful year for Opunake High School which had included the school's basketball teams continuing to excel at national levels. Representative honours had included Isabelle Cook representing New Zealand at the Under-17 Womens Basketball World Cup and most recently Iritana Hohaia being part of the gold medal winning Women's Sevens rugby team at the Youth Olympics in Buenos Aires.

"It is you, the people of Opunake High School who make the difference," he said. "You take the opportunities given and choose to move outside your comfort zones. One area Opunake High School excels is the extension of their students' CQ, their conscious quotient. This determines awareness, honesty and trustworthiness. It is our CQ that gives us our freedom and awareness when interacting with our community and our environment."



South Taranaki RSA president Graeme Kempton with Christopher Seyb and Dylan Coleman.

Council rejection welcomed on streets of Opunake

Continued from page 1

"This town has been here for a hundred years and there's never been any damage due to earthquakes. We haven't had an earthquake do substantial damage for the last 500 years.

"I can understand it in Christchurch as they are on a faultline. Our problem is the volcano. If the volcano blows there's no remedy to fix that."

Steve Corkill said he agreed with the reported comments of Eltham businessman that the policy was "PC bullshit." "It was total kneejerk." Steve said. "The Council came along with a big stick and tried to tell building owners what to do."

Brian Collins agrees. "How many buildings have fallen down in the last 50 years?" he says "If we did have a massive earthquake, you're not going to be able to wrap us up in cotton wool."

Ali Hayward voiced a note of caution.

"Business owners have to be responsible and make sure their buildings are safe," she said. "If you own a home you would have to make sure it's safe."

South Taranaki Mayor, Ross Dunlop says the Council's decision to not introduce priority zones reflected public submissions and was the most sensible way of balancing risk with affordability.

"The reality is that we don't have high enough volumes of pedestrian or vehicle

traffic to warrant declaring priority zones in our District. Given we are in a medium risk zone, which already has established timelines for strengthening, the risk to public safety is very low," he says. "These requirements need to be balanced with the socio-economic impact on our towns and the ability of building owners to pay."

Mr Dunlop added that the Council is able to deal with specific dangerous structures through existing powers without needing to introduce priority areas.



School leavers respond at the conclusion of the ceremony.

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COUNCILLOR'S COMMENT



CLEM COXHEAD

Us humans should try harder to make it better

of art things happening but behind the scenes the local Lions club is celebrating 50 years of service to the area whilst building an extension onto the already famous walkway. It will be around 9 km and be part of what many of us hope will be a nationwide walking and cycle track.

It will take many years but we envisage a walk and cycle way from National Park down to Whanganui (already going) then up to Hawera. From Hawera we will follow the railway line to Normanby (nearly started) then on to Stratford up to the reserve then around and down to New Plymouth. Eventually we will link up with Opunake either via the old coast road or the old railway line. We will need the good will of local farmers who have purchased some of

the old railway line but I am sure we can make it happen. When I was young we couldn't wait to get rid of our bikes to drive cars. Now in less than one generation we have thousands of young people who have no desire to drive a car in the hustle and bustle of big cities but all want the latest in two wheeled motoring so they can explore the world.

I recently sat in the back seat of a car and was unable to participate in the conversation due to the way

modern cars are built. How many children play up in the back seat because they feel totally excluded from Mum and Dad and the sometimes rare chance for family conversation?

The good news about being a cyclist in a group is the feeling of adventure, but how good would it be to be able to have great conversation with every one we meet?

Roll on history into the future. I guess in years to come history will record how three generations of humans started

playing around with vehicles powered by fossil fuel. The end result was vast amounts of pollution, death and vast waste of finite resources. Three generations are not even a blimp on the history of the world, but it has made some significant issues that we need to address.

The interesting point is that if we removed the human race and left it to the animals the earth would balance out within a twenty year period. Methinks us humans should try a little harder to make it

better. Congratulations to Opunake for efforts to become single use plastic free. We also need to fit more recycling bins in all of our towns. One of the biggest issues facing the rising number of tourist and freedom campers is our lack of recycling facilities. They are used to recycling every thing possible and find it strange to come visit the so called "Clean and Green Country" that fails in many areas to walk the talk.

It is a good day to be sitting in the Café with a nice flat white listening to Country and Western music by local artist Wilbur Raikes, live streaming on Facebook.

What a busy week for Taranaki and especially Opunake as it becomes a major centre for Art and the Yarn Bomb.

I sometimes reflect on what makes a small town like Opunake so productive in all sorts of areas.

The area currently has lots



Katie Armstrong is the NPDC Project Manager on the project to replace a quarter of Inglewood's pipes over the next three years.

Inglewood to lead the way

NPDC is spending more than \$44 million over the next 10 years to improve the district's water networks and Inglewood is the first cab off the rank. A project is due to start in Inglewood, where a quarter of the town's pipes will be replaced over the next three years.

"NPDC will be investing about \$2.5 million in Inglewood's water over the com-

ing three years and replacing about seven kilometres of pipes. We look after more than 800 kilometres of water pipes throughout the district and they range in age from new to more than 110 years old, so it's great this important piece of work is under way," says Mayor Neil Holdom.

"Improving the quality and performance of our commu-

nity infrastructure is a major focus for this Council. We have an obligation to provide a consistently high standard of services to our people and we are investing significantly to ensure our water networks meet the needs of current and future generations."

The first phase of the work is to replace the old pipes in the Inglewood urban area which will be followed by replacing the main pipes that

connect the town to the reservoir. The project is expected to alleviate occasional issues with discoloured water.

The pipes will be made from PVC, a durable pipe that is common throughout New Zealand and is suitable for Inglewood's ground conditions.

NPDC will be on the streets of Inglewood talking to locals about the details and we thank them in advance for their support.

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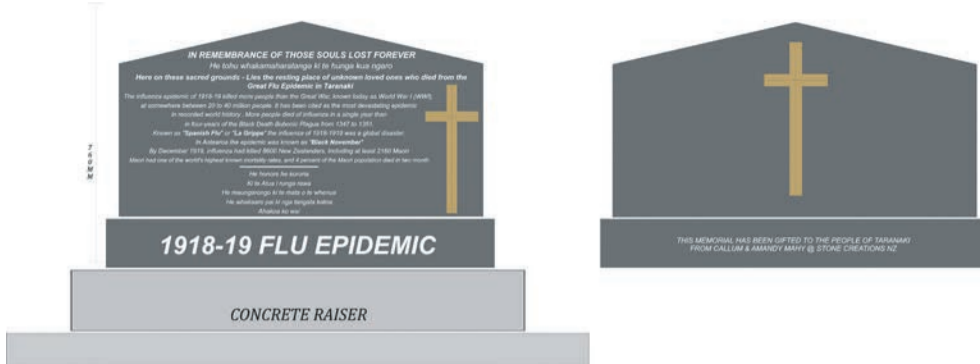
Forgotten dead being remembered 100 years on

In 1918 the elation that accompanied the end of the Great War was offset by the spectre of the influenza epidemic cutting its deadly swathe across the planet.

Estimates as to the worldwide death toll range from between 20-40 million. More people died in the epidemic of what was most commonly known as Spanish Influenza than were killed in the Great War, or died due to the Black Death which ravaged Europe from 1347-51.

In New Zealand the epidemic took 8160 lives, including 2160 Maori. Four per cent of the Maori population were wiped out.

In Taranaki, many of those taken in the epidemic, both



Callum Mahy has been working for a year on a memorial to those buried in unmarked graves during the 1918 influenza epidemic.

Maori and Pakeha ended up in unmarked mass graves at the urupa on the corner of Bayly Road and Ocean View Parade.

One hundred years after the epidemic, Callum Mahy of Stone Creations NZ has been

putting together a memorial for the unknown dead. It is due to be unveiled on Saturday, which will be one day before the centenary of the end of World War I.

Callum said it's not known for sure exactly how many

were buried there. He had first heard about the bodies buried in unmarked graves over a year ago when he was working on a memorial for somebody at the urupa.

"There are definitely graves there," he says. "They came

across them when they were doing a geological survey when they were trying to find oil and gas."

Callum says he also heard stories, which he hasn't been able to verify, about a ship that came into Port Taranaki bringing bodies of those who died in the epidemic which were then buried at the urupa.

Callum says he tried to get the New Plymouth District Council interested in doing something to commemorate those who died without leaving a permanent memorial, but when this wasn't forthcoming, he decided to do something off his own bat.

He said he wanted to thank Value Timber Supplies for

the support they had given the project.

With the urupa being on sacred ground, he needed the permission of the local iwi, and having got that, he set to work.

At the time he was also working on a new Otakeho War Memorial to commemorate those from that area who hadn't returned from the two world wars, and the Bayly Road memorial which faces towards Paritutu has similar dimensions to that one.

Callum says the memorial commemorates those who died in the epidemic and are buried in unmarked graves, not only at the urupa, but in other parts of the country.

Two books at first time book launch

For any writer their first book launch will always be a special moment. In the case of Steph Matuku, her first launch saw not one, but two books come onto the market.

The New Plymouth writer had written Flight of the Fantail, a young adult novel which blended elements of sci-fi and Maori mythology while on Te Papa Tupu, a writing programme run by the Maori Literature Trust and Huia Publishers. The book had been accepted for publication, and while she was waiting for it to be edited and put together, she set to work on a smaller chapter book for children titled Whetu Toa and the Magician.

"I'm a Mum, I'm used to multi-tasking," says the mother of two.

Both books were launched in New Plymouth on October 26.

Steph has iwi links to Taranaki, Ngati Mutunga and Ngati Tama. Although her parents Wi Matuku and Valerie Kirk both hailed from Taranaki, Steph spent the first six years of her life in Kaitiā where her parents taught at the intermediate school.

Steph is the granddaughter of Jock Kirk whose letters home from World War II were serialised in the Opunake and Coastal News last

year.

Steph's mother Valerie is also a writer, and well-known Coastal Taranaki artist Graham Kirk is an uncle.

At her book launch, Stephanie paid tribute to her father Wi, a respected kaumatua who died in 2013.

Steph says that as a child she had loved reading the works of C.S.Lewis and Enid Blyton, but always wondered why there weren't more Maori characters in children's and young adults' fiction.

She says she is often asked, where does she find her inspiration? She replies "inspiration finds me."

Huia Publishing executive director Eboni Waitere



Steph Matuku at the book signing in New Plymouth.



describes Steph as "both talented and hard working."

"I really like the pace and flow of her writing style and her characters are believable."

She had known Steph since 2016 through the mentoring programme Te Papa Tupu.

"It was there that she worked on flight of the Fantail, and the other book she wrote independently. That was a really quick approval and required very little editing. It's hilarious."

Dinnie Moeahu credited

Steph's writing as being a big factor in the success of A Bro's Life, a short film he had been involved with which won the Taranaki regional awards of the 48 Hour Film Competition. From there the film had gone on to the national finals, where Spinoff had named it as the movie to watch.

Steph says she is eager to move on to other projects, like another Whetu Toa book, or a series about Maori children on another planet.

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COASTAL COPS

Burglaries and vehicle incidents keep police busy

Greetings, as the sun shines it's hard to warrant being stuck inside and not being out enjoying the joys of the Sunshine Coast.

We have been kept on our toes lately with a number of reported burglaries in our area including both urban and rural properties. As I have alerted to in previous columns, Rural New Zealand has a reputation for tightknit, supportive communities. You can help us by knowing your neighbours, exchanging contact phone numbers and keeping those numbers handy.

If you live rurally and need to leave the property to investigate something untoward ensure someone knows where you are going,



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

as much as possible about what you're checking and how long you expect to take.

Reduce the risk and opportunity by taking notice of who is out and about.

Keep all your property secure including your houses, outbuildings and farm equipment. Remove keys from tractors and bikes. Keep a detailed inventory of all your property including marking to easily identify your property if it does get stolen.

With the fine weather comes a busy time for local farmers and contractors alike with paddocks being prepared for feed crops and silage being made on-mass. With the large amounts of heavy traffic on the roads we ask that people take care and a message to the numerous tractor drivers please be aware of what is behind you when travelling.

We have attended numerous

vehicle accidents recently as a result of driver's inattention, experience, alcohol and speed. A local teenage female is to be dealt with in Court after taking a family members vehicle for a drive at speed and crashing into a wooden paling fence only a short distance from her home. A young female driver was flown by the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter after being ejected from the vehicle she was the sole occupant in when she crashed on Manaia Road recently. Police also attended an accident on Skeet Road where a young male has crashed into an Armco barrier. This accident had the propensity to have been much worse with the

barrier narrowly missing the driver's window.

Our advice is to drive to the conditions of the weather and our rural roads. Don't drink and drive and drive to the speed limit. It's there for a reason and it's not a target to beat.

We have also been busy of late attending numerous Family Violence matters and as a result a few locals are now currently before the Courts facing various assault charges against their partners. We continue to stress that this behaviour or any behaviour that makes someone else feel controlled and fearful is never OK. Everyone in a family or in a relationship should feel safe. Nobody should be

frightened of their partner or someone in their family. If you are frightened and fear for your safety, call 111 for immediate help.

Police also would like any information about the possibility of an address known and persons known to be involved in the re-birthing of stolen vehicles in our community. Remember, if you have any information for us give us a call we are more than happy to help. Alternatively you can call Crimestoppers at 0800 555111 with all anonymous information.

*Constable Kylie Brophy
Opunake Police*

OKATO COPPERS

Crime on the increase

Hello Everyone Rural Crime has certainly had quite an increase this year and we have already had the same amount of rural crime so far this year that we had in all of 2017 with still 7-8 weeks to go.

Fuel theft has had a large increase and so have farm bikes. With the price of fuel going up there was always the risk that petrol and diesel will be sought after items for thieves. I would urge farmers to rethink their

security around their bulk fuel supplies. Thieves have been rather brazen and are not being deterred by long tanker tracks and are even stealing fuel during the day. A lot of farmers do padlock up their tanks but thieves are cutting locks to access the fuel. There are anti tamper locks that can be purchased rather than the run of the mill type padlock that we all tend to rely on. They are a bit more expensive but are impossible to cut through. Also consider

cameras. Cameras are a lot cheaper now days and can be purchased for the price of a hundred litres of fuel and are a good option for deterring thieves.

Please don't be complacent around your farm security and have that "it won't happen to me" mentality. We are still battling lack of security issues when it comes to rural crime and 70% of our rural crime occurs from unlocked premises.

On the topic of not locking your things, I have over the last few months been dealing with up to eight youths who thought it would be a good idea to target unlocked cars and take them for a joyride around the Oakura area. It



CONSTABLE RHYSCONNELL

astounded me to learn that the cars these young kids took were all unlocked and had their keys left in them. It further astounded me

when they said they would have found at least 20 cars unlocked each night. These young boys and girls have all been referred to the Police Youth Aid Services and some will be doing a bit of labour for the community around the Okato/Oakura area.

We are now smack bang in the middle of contracting season and our local contractors are hard at work doing silage and other contracting work on farms. This means that over the next few months and into next year we will see the increase of tractors on our roads as they travel from farm to farm. Please be patient if following them on the road. Our local guys are pretty good at realising

they are holding traffic up and will move over when it is safe to do so. Finding a suitable place to pull over can be challenging for them, so please exercise a bit of patience and don't feel the need to pass them unsafely. They will not be to blame if you pass them without being able to see what is coming ahead and an accident is caused.

Feel free to contact me at the Okato Station if you'd like to discuss anything I have raised above or if you'd like advice on farm security. Stay safe out there

*Rhys
Rhys Connell
Constable
Okato*

FIRE & EMERGENCY NZ

A quiet Guy Fawkes

At the time of writing this Guy Fawkes night has been and gone with no fireworks related incidents attended by the Opunake Brigade.

While on the subject of attending incidents the Opunake brigade has had a busy time over the past two weeks attending four

callouts. At 7: 15pm on Saturday October 27 the brigade was called out to a grass fire on Beach Road. When the brigade arrived nothing could be found, so they returned to station with no action taken. At 7:30pm the same day the brigade responded to a call to a kitchen flooding. It turned out that the flooding was caused by a leak in the roof. The next callout was on Thursday November 1 to a meter box on fire at Ngariki Road. The Rahotu Volunteer Fire brigade also attended this incident and had it under control by the time the Opunake brigade arrived. Again on the same day, at 9:14pm the brigade responded to a fire alarm activation at the Auroa School along with our friends from the Kaponga Brigade. The crews checked the building out but could

not find the cause of the alarm so returned to station. Last week also saw three of our crew attend and pass a four day Emergency Response Drivers Course. This training is required to be undertaken before they are allowed to drive a fire appliance to an incident under lights and siren. Congratulations to Suzie Pentelow, Craig Dingle, and Chris Harvey on achieving this qualification. The ink was hardly dry on Suzie's certificate when she was required to drive the appliance to the meter box fire.

This week the brigade members have been busy having a tidy up around the station as Saturday afternoon is when the brigade will be putting on a function to celebrate the awarding of Gold Stars for 25 years service to Chief Fire Officer

Rodney Woods and Station Officer Gordon Wells. The brigade is expecting over 100 people to attend.

We are still offering free home fire safety visits to those over the age of 65, those with children at home under the age of 5, or those living with disabilities. Please contact the station or any member of the brigade if you would like to take up this offer.

For those of you living in rural locations we would like you to consider access for fire appliances to your property. We would recommend that a clear area of 4m x 4m be provided for our vehicles.

That's all from us for now. Stay safe out there.

VSO John

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Hawera writer continues to inspire

Ronald Hugh Morrieson once said "I hope I'm not one of those poor blighters who get discovered after they are dead."

When the Hawera novelist and short story writer died in 1972, his novels Scarecrow and Came a Hot Friday had been published, but he had been unable to find publishers for *Predicament and Pallet on the floor*. In the years since, *Predicament and Pallet on the floor* have been published and all four of his books have been made into feature films.

On October 24, the annual Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards, named in his honour were awarded for the 31st time at The Hub in Hawera.

"He was an incredible writer," South Taranaki District mayor Ross Dunlop said. "He was an indigenous writer as most of his experiences were here in South Taranaki."



Open Short story category winner Bruce Finer(left) and South Taranaki District mayor Ross Dunlop listen as judge Mary Anne Scott reads the winning entry.

Mr Dunlop said that when the house in which Ronald Hugh Morrieson had lived had been replaced by a KFC restaurant KFC had put up a plaque honouring the Hawera writer and kept some of his memorabilia on show. Unfortunately these

had been binned during renovations.

Mr Dunlop said Rolland McKellar of the Opunake and Coastal News had alerted him to what had happened. Since then "KFC had to their credit come to the party," and a ceremony was held to unveil a new plaque. It was unusual for KFC anywhere in the world to have somebody not associated with their company being celebrated in this way at one of their restaurants, he said.

"It was a little bit like a story out of one of Ronald Hugh Morrieson's novels." The figure of the Hawera writer who dreaded the thought of only being discovered after he died loomed large that night.

Mary Anne Scott who judged the short story categories described the calibre of the entries in terms that would have resonated with Morrieson and what he had written.

"There were insights into Taranaki I didn't see when

I was here for a week," she said. "Loyalty seeps from every page. There is plenty of death, but in a realistic cycle of life kind of way."

Normanby and Districts Lions Club member Hugh Cameron whose club sponsored the Secondary Schools' research article category said he remembered having been taught music by Morrieson.

Organiser Pam Jones said a large proportion of this year's entries came from people who had never entered before.

"Storytelling of this calibre shapes a community. We're richer for hearing these stories and communities are richer for gathering them," she said.

One of the first time entrants was Year 9 Opunake High School Lexi McQuaig from Otakeho.

"My English teacher told me about it and I thought I'd give it a go," she said. So she entered three pieces of poetry, and *My Normality*, the entry she said she was

less sure about was the one that got her third place.

The evening turned into something of a celebration for the Finer family, beginning with Bruce Finer winning the Open Short Story category with *Heartwood*. Pam Jones said Bruce had first entered four years ago as a way of encouraging daughter Sasha to enter, saying "I will if you will."

Later in the evening, daughter Sasha took out first and second prizes in both the Secondary Schools Short Story and Poetry categories. "Bruce, I think she pipped you at the post," Pam said after the secondary school poetry prizes had been presented.

The winning entry for the Open Poetry section was *Elegy* by Maria Cunningham of New Plymouth. A feature of the awards was the spike in entries for the newest category the secondary schools research article. There had been eight entries when the category was

launched in 2016, and seven last year. This year with the subject being ways in which small town New Zealand has been changed due to technology, there were 23. St Mary's Diocesan School took the top three places. Subjects covered included how doctors have used the internet to treat Patea patients, the benefits or otherwise of cellphones and changes to farming, but the winning entry was Maia-Laine Rupapera Maeke's "I don't use snapchat, but my Dad does."

The Year 12 student said it was the first time she had entered.

"Our class was encouraged to enter. They said you've nothing to lose girls, and I'm glad I did, because it's paid off," she said. "I do enjoy writing, especially if I can make it funny."

Ronald Hugh Morrieson Awards results page 9.



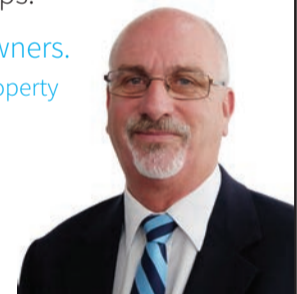
At the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Awards Opunake High School student Lexi McQuaig who finished third in the Secondary School poetry section and her mother Ali.

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One year on for Ardern's coalition government in New Zealand

Shortly before last year's general election in Aotearoa New Zealand, a Morrinsville farmer protesting the then opposition Labour Party's planned water tax held up a placard describing its newly minted leader, Jacinda Ardern, as a "pretty communist."

A year on, Ardern is New Zealand's prime minister, the third woman and the youngest person to have held the role in 150 years. She is comfortably the most popular politician in the land, and one of the brightest stars in the international political firmament.

The Labour-New Zealand First-Green coalition government led by Ardern is celebrating its first birthday. It has been quite the year for Ardern. It is worth reiterating just how far she has travelled since she took the reins as Labour's leader just weeks before the election, igniting a dull campaign and resuscitating Labour's polling.

A contemporary politician Following the election, the conservative National Party looked odds-on to retain office. But on 19 October, after almost two weeks of negotiations, the leader of the centre-right New Zealand First (NZF) party, Winston Peters, surprised virtually everyone (including Labour's front bench) when he used the balance of power to form a government with Labour and the Greens.

In the year since, Ardern has firmly established herself as the government's and her party's most valuable political asset. In an ironic turn of events, Andrew Little, the man who voluntarily stood aside so Ardern could become Labour leader, is also performing well.

An astute and effective political communicator, Ardern regularly uses Facebook Live to apprise the nation of the contents of a day in the life of the PM. The formal set pieces that have helped established Ardern as the dominant figure on New Zealand's political landscape include her speaking on the lower marae at Waitangi, the



Jacinda Ardern campaigning in New Plymouth shortly before the 2017 election.

Photo Graham Kirk

spiritual birthplace of the nation, wearing a Maori korowai while meeting New Zealand's head of state, and taking a seat in the United Nations General Assembly with her child, Neve Te Aroha and partner Clarke Gayford.

The informal, popular-culture moments – particularly those mediated by social media – have been just as important and reflect how Ardern occupies political time and space in a way no previous New Zealand prime minister has. She and Gayford have used Twitter to announce Ardern's pregnancy, triggering stiff nationwide competition for the role of official babysitter. Social media also charted the birth of their child in a public hospital, the PM's taste for mac'n'cheese, and the creation of a special UN pass for Neve Te Aroha.

But swooning international audiences do not vote in Aotearoa New Zealand, and what plays well on the Colbert Show does not necessarily resonate in quite the same way back home. Not all smooth sailing

At times the political management of the coalition has been shoddy. Ardern has already had to relieve two members of her cabinet – Clare Curran and Meka Whaitiri – of their ministerial

duties, to the disappointment of those hoping to see more, not fewer, women at the top table.

Ardern has also been criticised for not taking a stronger stand on the plight of refugees and on questions concerning possible Chinese involvement in domestic politics. While the government has established many reviews, it is taking some time for the material achievements to start racking up.

But there are signs the administration is starting to hit its straps. Finance Minister Grant Robertson recently announced a larger than expected budget surplus, thus meeting his promised public debt/GDP ratio four years ahead of schedule.

Since Ardern's return from the UN, Peters and his New Zealand First party colleagues have looked uncharacteristically focused, although the call at the party's recent conference for a Respecting New Zealand Values Bill was quickly slapped down by Ardern.

Meanwhile, the opposition National party is spiralling into nasty internecine strife that has gone global, may cost the party its leader, and will almost certainly damage its polling.

Changing the culture of politics

Standing back from the detail, what can be said about the political landscape in Aotearoa New Zealand one year on from the formation of the first Labour-NZF-Greens coalition? For one thing, on this side of the ditch we are cautiously re-familiarising ourselves with the idea that the state can be a force for good. The results at this early stage are patchy as you would expect, but this administration's belief that government can be benign rather than benighted feels new and different.

Second, Ardern is normalising a whole bunch of things. Being a prime minister and a new mum, breastfeeding at work, and having a male partner who is a primary carer are all becoming, well, just normal. Third, our cultural politics are changing. Not quickly enough, to be sure, but the symbolism of the fact that Ardern and Gayford's child carries a Māori name and will be raised speaking both te reo Māori and English has been lost on precisely no-one in this country.

Finally, the nation's political stocks in the international arena are appreciating. That is no bad thing for a small, exporting nation. There is a powerful progressive-egalitarian narrative in New Zealand reaching back through the nation's anti-nuclear stance in the mid-1980s to the achievement (or granting) of women's suffrage in 1893.

As is the case with all political narratives, this one obscures as much as it reveals. But in an age of international fear and loathing, many New Zealanders take quiet pride in the sight of the "pretty communist" defending a rules-based international order, in opposition to the

Continued page 9

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Kaponga Lions wish competition winners well



From left. Fergus Muller, Yasiru Sevesintie, Ebony Kalin, Kaponga Lions President David Smith.

The Kaponga Lions Club held its annual Peace Poster and Speech Competition recently at St John's Church in Kaponga. Although the number of competitors was down on previous years for the speech contest, the standard was exceptionally high. The winner Ebony Kalin, second place getter Yasiru Sevesintie and third place getter Fergus Muller are all students from Auroa School. In the Peace Poster competition, there were

21 entries, the winner Quade Ericsson came from Auroa School, while Aidan Campbell who came second and 3rd Jareth Milich who was placed third are both from Kaponga. Kaponga Lions Club would like to thank parents and teaching staff for their assistance in preparing

contestants for our annual Speech and Peace Poster Competitions. The Club extends its best wishes to the winners for the District final to be held in Hawera.

*W Stark
Publicity officer.*

Ronald Hugh Morrison Awards results

Secondary Schools Short Stories. 1. Sasha Finer(Hawera High School). 2. Sasha Finer (Hawera High School). 3. Holly Stewart(Hawera High School).

Secondary School Poetry. 1. Sasha Finer(Hawera High School). 2. Sasha Finer(Hawera High School). 3. Lexi McQuaig(Opunake High School).

Secondary School Research Article. 1. Maia-Laine Rupapera Maeke(St Mary's Diocesan School). 2. Alex

Paish (St Mary's Diocesan School). 3. Monique Radford(St Mary's Diocesan School).

Open Section Short Story. 1. Bruce Finer(Hawera). 2. Chris Purdon(Hawera). 3. Darly Paraha(Hawera). Open Section Poetry. 1. Maria Cunningham(New Plymouth). 2. Stuart Greenhill(Stratford). 3. Michaela Stoneman(Patea).

Highly commended. Alyx Devlin(Eltham). Michaela Stoneman(Patea). Maria Cunningham(New Plymouth).

One year on for Ardern's Coalition Government.

Continued from page 8.

stance taken by the president of the US, a nation that was once the self-appointed leader of the free world. One wonders whether the farmer from Morrinsville appreciated the irony of that moment.

*Richard Shaw
Professor of Politics
Massey University
The Conversation Media
Group Ltd*



At Opunake Market Day

Opunake volunteer firefighters Jozien Hannah and Danielle Bridsen monitor the heat at the barbecue on Market Day in Opunake.

Paywave in paper receipts out

'Tap and go' parking has arrived in New Plymouth, with most NPDC car parking machines in the central business district now accepting Paywave.

It's the first phase in an upgrade that will also see the end to printed receipts as part of NPDC's journey toward Zero Waste 2040.

Before Christmas, NPDC will phase out printed receipts and give the option of an e-receipt instead.

"It's about using technology to cut down our waste and make it easier and faster to park in the CBD," says NPDC Customer and Regulatory Solutions Manager Katrina Brunton.

"We brought in the PayMyPark app nearly three years ago to make parking quick and easy, and now we've added Paywave as an option at the machines.

"NPDC is focused on supporting a thriving central city, and making it simple

to park and pay is a key part of keeping our CBD accessible."

In addition, users can now top up their parking from more machines. Top up your \$1 an hour parking from any other \$1 an hour machine,

and your \$2 an hour parking from any other \$2 an hour machine.

Due to more popular payment options being available, the text-to-park function is being shut down.

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Taranaki's 'practical environmentalism' honoured

Educators, kaitiaki, volunteers, businesspeople, and technical specialists are among the recipients of 14 Environmental Awards from the Taranaki Regional Council.

The winners are all tremendous examples of the Taranaki can-do attitude and highlight the practical environmentalism that's a strong part of the regional culture, says the Council Chairman, David MacLeod. "Their achievements are awe-inspiring and worthy of celebration. And of course, they're just the tip of the iceberg," he says. "We're a region of people who walk the talk. We see what needs

to be done, and we get stuck in and do it. This is the spirit that makes the region what it is." The 14 awards for 2018 were made in five categories. They take the total to 279 since the Council began the annual presentations in the 1990s. The 2018 winners are:

Environmental action in Education. Highlands Intermediate Marine Studies Group for inspiring students through marine education and action. Coastal Taranaki School Native NZ Bird Inquiry for outdoor learning and action to restore and protect native biodiversity by removing predators.

Francis Douglas Memorial College for removing predators and pest plants to



Cynthia Mooney (Opunake) awarded for longstanding volunteer work to control predators to restore and protect native biodiversity at Sandy Bay Reserve.

restore native biodiversity at Paritutu Centennial Park.

Environmental leadership in land management. Roger Pearce (Waitotara Valley) for environmental stewardship, sustainable land management and native habitat restoration. Hansen Family (Huiroa / Matau) for environmental stewardship, sustainable land management and native habitat restoration. Prof B.Clarkson, Dr J.Rapson, B.Hammonds, L.Honnor and J.Hunt for supporting native ecosystems by producing a

series of guides for restoration planting in Taranaki.

Te taiao me te pakihi – Environmental leadership in business. MAIN Trust for providing resources, data management systems and support for environmental groups in Taranaki. GreenBridge Ltd for designing sustainable landscape and environmental solutions for land, homes and communities in Taranaki. Environmental leadership in dairy farming. Robert and Diana Bridgeman (Coastal Taranaki) for environmental

stewardship including riparian, wetland and native habitat enhancement. Stratford Demonstration Farm Society (Inc) for agricultural education and environmental stewardship including riparian, wetland and native habitat enhancement.

Environmental action in the community. Marlene Benson (North Taranaki) for protecting and enhancing the natural environment as kaitiaki and a volunteer for numerous successful biodiversity and

conservation projects. Tony Green for volunteering and advocating to restore and protect native biodiversity through numerous successful conservation projects across the region. Angela and Gary Walls-Renwick (New Plymouth) for actively championing urban backyard trapping to remove predators and restore native wildlife and plants. Cynthia Mooney (Opunake) for longstanding volunteer work to control predators to restore and protect native biodiversity at Sandy Bay Reserve.

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Opunake Lake rainbow trout release

While there is no organised kids' fish-out day at Opunake Lake this year, around 300 two year-old rainbows have recently been released there and the lake will fish well now that

the trout have had a few days to settle. The Opunake power scheme has not been operating since June 1 and the Opunake lake is being held at its maximum (full) level, which means there

is plenty of good quality habitat available. Fishing sites include the boat ramp area off Layard Street, along the walkway off Park Place / Macaulay Terrace and from Aytoun Street.

Please note that everyone requires a licence to fish for trout (and perch). Fishing licences are free to children

under 12 as at October 1 and are available from Collins Sports. Other licences can be purchased online at www.fishandgame.org.nz Fish & Game is a not for profit public body and all licence fees go back into managing the Fish & Game resource.

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Halloween Happenings



St Pauls Church Opunake held a light party where children dressed up and played party games for prizes. Winners of the dress ups were Minion- Levi Donghi (Coolest) Butterfly Kenzie Field (Cutest) Mr. Fox- Charlie Trethewey (Best Dressed) Hulk- Ryan Smith (Best Superhero).



There were some interesting characters moving around on the 31st October Witches and mass murderers at Okato and little monsters Shay and Caleb Ward in Opunake.



Cymanfa Ganu/ Welsh Festival of Song



Welsh Ladies choir with New Plymouth mayor Neil Holdom.

What a great weekend it was. Starting with the weather. Then there were the Red Dragon flags flying. The Welsh Ladies Choir from Geelong together with a group of 24 from Melbourne Welsh Church and Welsh Kiwis from all over Aotearoa came to sing and enjoy Welsh Culture and language over the Labour Weekend. Mayor Neil Holdom, and the Cultural group provided a very warm and emotional welcome. Friday night's Concert, "Why we sing" with Taranaki Male Choir and Geelong Welsh Ladies Choir was well attended with over 200 at the Plymouth International. Saturday night saw a Noson Lawen, (fun evening) a homegrown

concert with impromptu items. The first item was the Taranaki Children's Choir singing in Welsh (they stole the show). The evening included Welsh dancing, to live music on the accordion and the harp (Wales' national instrument) played by Patricia Leonard of New Plymouth. Sunday afternoon was the pearl of the weekend with the Cymanfa Ganu (Hymnfest) at St Andrew's Church Liardet St being full to capacity with 400 people singing in both English and Welsh and the conductor, Dilwyn Price from Wales, a master at getting everyone to "follow Dilwyn". Our very own talented David Codd from New Plymouth was the organist. The Church was so full and warm, cups

of water were distributed to the congregation. The Ddraig Goch/ Welsh Dragon Flag was carried in by 10 youngsters dressed in various Welsh attire. On Sunday evening a dinner was held at the Quality Hotel Plymouth International with the speaker being Dilwyn Price. There was again some impromptu singing. The evening concluded with the Welsh National Anthem. Our overseas visitors and Aotearoa Welsh were impressed with what Taranaki has to offer (including the good weather). A big thank you to locals for your huge support.

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Maori Language Week and Scotland at Opunake Cottage Rest Home

Spring is upon us and another year has nearly past. With lovely warm spring days our residents have been able to get outside and take in the sun,

flowers and views. September was Maori language week. The Residents visited St Josephs and Opunake Primary School and viewed the



The Staff in their new uniforms.

Residents said they love the bagpipes but are not sure about trying haggis.

Residents were treated to an electric bagpipe exhibition, where all residents said it sounded like the real pipe. October was a busy month with celebrating three residents birthdays, along with residents and staff creating items to show at the Opunake Lakeside Lions Yarn bombing and Market Day. Crafts created were bee's wax wraps, reusable bags, wheat bags, seedlings, and decorating the old linen skip.

We are indebted to all our volunteers, who donate their time to entertain, visit and assist the activities coordinator with van outings. Thank you so much from the facility care manager, staff and trust.

If you have a craft, are able to entertain our residents, or just would like some company for an hour or two we would love to hear from you.

A morning tea was held with residents, family, trust and staff to thank retiring Trust Chairman Darrell Hickey. He was presented with a tree and a plaque for all his time and effort to get the resthome to where it is now.

Upcoming events for the month of November and December:

The Cottage Rest Home AGM is on November 27 at 7pm (refer ad). Inter facility petanque visit, DVD Karaoke, Christmas cake making, music by a variety of musicians, quiz morning and afternoons, happy hour, church services, school visits, Christmas tree decorating, Santa visit, Ukulele dragons and much more on the calendar. Please feel free to come and participate

The Opunake Cottage Rest Home Social Club under the guidance of Jayne Muggeridge Registered Nurse and the dedicated staff have been busy this year raising funds to replace aging items in our facility. The team effort, input and continuous support to bring the cottage into the 21st century is very much appreciated. The last fundraising event for 2018 is a Hangi on the November 10. Please contact the Cottage Resthome for more information on 06 761 8009.

Fundraising efforts to date have allowed for the purchase of new staff uniforms and badges for health care assistants, the maintenance, activities coordinator and administration manager, and equipment for personal care of the residents, as well as kitchen/laundry items.

The Trust, Management and Staff thank everyone whom, have supported us in any way to allow the Cottage Resthome to remain open.

students performing Kapa Haka. Te Kura o Opunake High School Te Haumoana Kapa Haka group came to The Cottage Rest Home to perform in the residents' lounge. This was enjoyed by all our residents with toes tapping and hands clapping.

Residents and families were treated to a tradition meal (hangi) to coincide with Maori language week, which they had for tea, which was the topic of conversation for days to follow.

On show at the Cottage were two korowai, (Maori cloak), one belonging to Diane James and the other to Newton Collins' granddaughter who received it for her 21st birthday. Residents were treated to a weaving lesson by Rose Nuku.

The Cottage residents participate in inter-resthome monthly petanque challenges with Eltham Care Rest Home, which saw us win back the trophy. Well done residents and Melanie Brown our activities coordinator.

The topic for October was Scotland. The conversation with the residents focussed on bagpipes and haggis.

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Located minutes from Opunake and Rahotu on the Witiara Road is this immaculate 82.1512 hectare (202.9956 acre) dairy farm currently milking approximately 180 cows through a tidy 20 bail rotary cowshed.

Largely square in shape this property is flat, centrally raced and has a high pressure ring mains water system along with quality outbuildings.

This would make an ideal first farm purchase, you could add to your existing dairy farm portfolio or alternatively it would make a superb runoff/grazing block.

Adding to this package is a lovely large and sunny 4-bedroom home and gardens with a detached sleep out, tennis court and double garage.

This farm is sure to impress and for the fisherman/diver a bonus is the coast on your doorstep.



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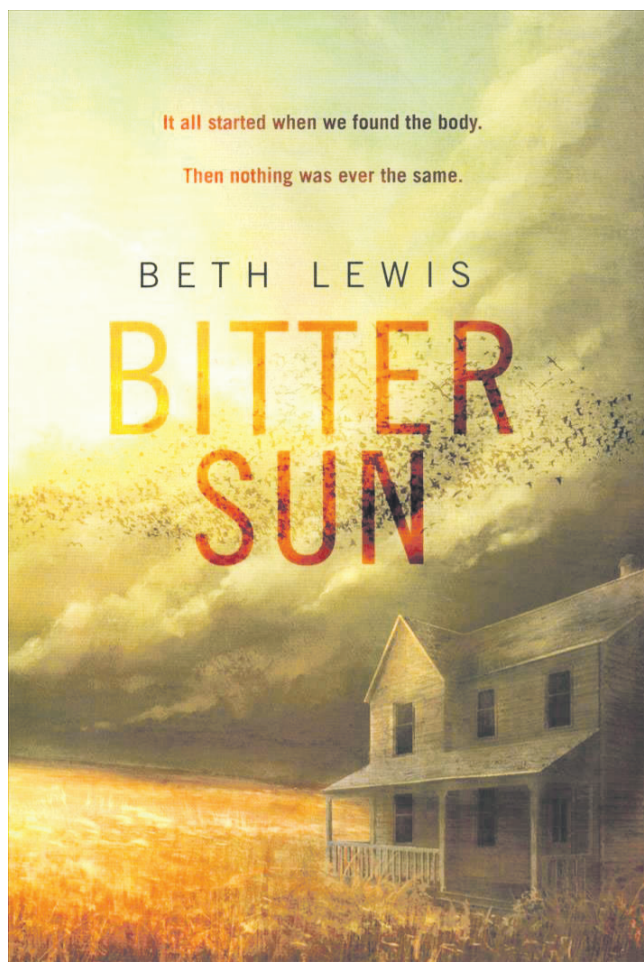
Bitter Sun by Beth Lewis

This book is quite a different read from what you might expect and happily so. Maria read it in one sitting on Sunday afternoon as the more she read the less likely it became that she was going to be able to put it down. This is an excellent coming of age story set in 1971 in a small Midwestern town in America. Like many small towns during the Vietnam War era the town of Larson is in an economic crisis. It is also filled with small town corruption, a heatwave that is ruining crops, unemployment, paranoia, rumours and simmering violence. The story is narrated by the main character John. He and his sister Jenny plus their two best friends Rudy and Gloria find the body of a young woman by the lake and she has been murdered. Unable to help themselves they start investigating the

murder by themselves not realising for a moment just how deep of a hole they will dig into. They uncover secrets and lies plus abuse, violence and alcoholism and dysfunctional families. John comes under suspicion and the friends are suspected of holding back vital information and clues. The tide of the town turns against them as John's worries increase, with his mother fuelling her life by drink and her relationship with her children, particularly his sister becoming like ice breaking under their feet. As the truth starts to float dangerously to the surface John has no idea who can be trusted anymore. And then something happens to Jenny...

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Everything revealed in one act play

Producers and also hostesses Noreen Harris and Lorraine Wilkie provided much humour and drama at the recent Play Reading evening held at the Hawera Women's Club, with Lorraine's three skits and Noreen's play. "The Scarf" was presented by Cheryl Woodmass and Kaye Rodbard. This skit had a plot that showed how a restaurant could overcome the problem of running out of a popular item on the menu. The customer was told that various items of her clothing had caused other diners to complain,

and of course she left the venue, highly offended, most likely never to return. This highly improbable plot was handled well by Cheryl and Kaye.

The second skit, performed by Lorraine Wilkie and Charlotte Fraser was also very entertaining. Two ladies were applying for the same job, but neither waited to be interviewed as each lady was concerned about an unpleasant odour that she believed was caused by herself. This was very funny and well presented.

Next on, and also with a highly improbable plot set

in a restaurant, was "Guinea Pig." Lorraine and Cheryl kept the audience amused with their great handling of this most amusing skit.

The entertainment continued with an excellent one act play produced by Noreen Harris called "The bare facts" by Janet Munroe.

A group of four girls from the same office arrive at a Health Camp to spend their three week holiday. However, all is not as they had thought, as it soon became clear that it was a Nudist Camp, not a Health Camp as had been advertised. This very

funny play was presented by Cynthia Stone, Cheryl Jamieson, Kaye Rodbard, Felicity Willis, Effie Gallie and Jocelyn Tong.

Instead of packing up and going home, these office friends decide to stay on and become nudists for their three week holiday.

The skits and the play were very well received as the comedies were very crisply acted, and enjoyed by an appreciative audience. Hostess Rayleen McDonald served supper provided by herself, Noreen and Lorraine.

Out and about



Rusty and Charlotte Campbell enjoy an afternoon out at Pihama Lavender Market Day.



TENDER | DAIRY FARM WITH SCALE

157 Wataroa Road, Pungarehu

This 165.5884 hectare (409.1689 acre) farm is currently milking approximately 400 cows through a modern 44 bail rotary cowshed, with ACR and in-shed feed system. Contour is a mix of flat, easy and lahar, there is plenty of mowable contour for supplements. The farm is well raced, fenced, has a new bore and there is a rings mains water system to 58 paddocks. With two tidy homes, very good infrastructure and a handy location to New Plymouth this is a great opportunity for those looking for a little more scale. Biosecurity systems are in place and clean vehicles only please. To appreciate this property viewing is highly recommended.

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FOR SALE | SUPERB OKATO DAIRY FARM

132 Goodwin Road, Okato

Located on the Goodwin Road this quality 104.6113 hectare (258.4945 acre) summer safe dairy unit is currently milking approximately 280 cows through a very tidy 30 AS herringbone cowshed. The current owners have completed considerable contouring over the years and being very well raced, fenced and with a good water supply, this farm is a dream to manage. The contour is largely flat to easy with a little Lahar. With the first cut of silage off, this farm is really growing grass and is on target to produce 115,000 kg milk solids. With two homes on their own separate titles there are further options for the discerning buyers and being close to Okato and New Plymouth make this a great opportunity. The hard work has been done, this farm is in excellent heart and inspection is recommended.

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FOR SALE | OKATO DAIRY FARM/RUN OFF

276 Hampton Road, Okato

Located only minutes from Okato on the Hampton Road, is this lovely 58.2907 hectare (146.5073 acre) dairy farm currently milking approximately 170 cows through a tidy 18 ASHB cowshed.

This property is well fenced, has two main race systems a reliable water supply and has been substantially regressed over recent years.

Local farmers looking for a runoff or supplement block, should consider this property could well be split in two, an approximate 96 acre block with home, cowshed and associated buildings on the Hampton Road and a 50 acre block on the Perth Road, both with their own water supply.

Being largely flat to easy in contour with some sidlings, this farm could be kept in dairy or alternatively this would make an excellent runoff.

An opportunity like this needs consideration and viewing is a must.

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TENDER | QUALITY KINA ROAD DAIRY FARM

574 Upper Kina Road, Oaonui

Located minutes from Opunake on the Kina Road is this extremely tidy 76.5462 hectare (189.1456 acre) dairy farm currently milking around 200 cows through a tidy 16 ASHB cowshed.

This property is square in shape and centrally raced into 44 paddocks, has a reliable water supply and ample quality outbuildings. There are two very good homes, a 4 bedroom brick home with attached double garage and a 3 bedroom + office home with detached double garage.

With a solid production history this would be a great first farm, an addition to an existing platform or as a runoff/grazing block.

On the market for the first time in over 50 years this will prove to be popular.

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National Art Awards and yarn bomb

The annual Taranaki National Art Awards in Opunake once again proved a major attraction in a week crammed with activities timed to coincide with the garden festivals. These included Opunake's Market Day, the Great Opunake Yarn Bomb and a New Zealand Film Festival at Everybodys Theatre. Other attractions included an afternoon of food and music

at Pihama Lavender.

Introduced by South Taranaki's Deputy Mayor Phil Nixon, the art awards were judged by Reuben Friend who has a Master degree in Maori Visual Arts and Sian Van Dyk, an art curator and writer based in Wellington.

Of the 250 exhibits, Reuben commented: "It's not just the technical ability" they judge but also "to celebrate artists

who introduce topics that we would not normally discuss". He added "This exhibition certainly does this," he said referring to some "really challenging works...works that are conceptually and intellectually and also technically accomplished." He acknowledged that their judgements were however "predicated by our own experiences and training."

The results were then



South Taranaki District Council's Deputy Maor Phil Nixon (left) introducing the National Art Awards as MC James Davidson looks on.

"We sacrificed the lands, we sacrificed the water ways. We also recognised the value and the costs of dairying."

Runner up in this category was an intriguing piece entitled 'Letter' by Jeanette Verster from New Plymouth which incorporated text woven into fabric of an early settlers reaction in 1841 to Taranaki. The work showed the artist had researched of the archives, said the judges who were clearly taken by the large work.

The Painting Award went to MiSun Kim from New Plymouth for her large work entitled Flowers in Universe which clearly impressed the judges. Runner up was Jason Burns from Masterton with his work 'Simon Said'. The judges described both works as "unconventional landscapes" in their own right. The runner up was "a brave and provocative painting".

The two judges commented that they had debated their choices "for quite a number of hours."

After the results were announced, Master of Ceremonies James Davidson paid tribute to Clare Moss who along with Natasha Sefton-Zachan has co-ordinated the Taranaki Art Awards. Clare is to stand down after five years.

announced in the seven categories beginning with the To Taranakitanga Award. Runner up was Jordan Quinnell's clever exhibit of a series of works depicting "The Mark of a Peacemaker, Te Whiti". The winner was Ngahina Hohaia's carvings of people. They were "both very smart ways of representing the

land and a smart way of looking at the land," said the judges.

The newly created Taranaki Artist Award which attracted 59 entries was won by Joshua Sands, his golden cow entitled 'Cult of the Cloven Hoof' impressing the judges. A ceramic piece in gold, Reuben commented "This is quite a smart work. At first I thought it was funny." Then "other layers came out," he continued adding

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Matthew McIntyre's winning 'Work on Paper'.



MiSun Kim's exhibit which won the 'Painting' category.

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highlights of South Taranaki Artfest

She was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a gift for her sterling work over the years.

Other results:
 3D award: Winner Paul Moriarty, New Plymouth; Highly Commended Volker Hawighorst, New Plymouth,
 Works on Paper: Winner Matthew McIntyre Wilson, Wellington; Highly Commended Jan Fredrickson, Stratford
 Fibre Art: Winner Georgina May Young, Dunedin; Highly Commended Margaret Hill, Foxton

Photography: Winner Monica Wilson, Opunake; Highly Commended Jessie Pilcher, Auckland

Committee Choice winner: Maria Brockhill, New Plymouth.

The People's Choice award went to Nathan Hull for his arresting piece entitled "The Rearing Unicorn".



Joshua Sands with his winning work in the Taranaki Artist category 'The Cult of the Cloven Hoof'. The idea for the polymer clay work came from a local community gallery which every month has a group show. The theme was 'Cows' and Joshua did a small sculpture for the group show, on which he based his more elaborate winning work submitted in the Taranaki National Art Awards. He explained, the cow is an old Egyptian deity and also has biblical connections as in the Golden Calf. Another of Joshua's sculptures achieved a Highly Commended two years ago in the Taranaki Art Awards.



Jordan Quinnell from Opunake was runner up in the Taranaki Artist category.



RIGHT: Bob Clark, President of the Opunake Business Association "framed" in the yarn bomb.

The whole of Opunake's main street was truly a picture.



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Summer is just around the corner and with that comes the risk of facial eczema (FE).

If you have treated cows for this disease, you will know how unpleasant it is. Unfortunately, the damage it causes to cows' skin is just a symptom of what's

occurring internally to the animal's liver.

Now is a good time to get a plan in place to make sure you're prepared to mitigate the risk of FE.

The disease is most prevalent in January to May, when warm, moist conditions make it ideal to grow the fungus (*Pithomyces chartarum*) which produces the toxin in the pasture that causes FE.

With no cure, the best way to protect your herd is through prevention.

There are a couple of different approaches you can take. Both include monitoring pasture spore counts and either dosing animals with zinc or spraying pastures with fungicide.

If you notice an upward trend in your own farm spore counts, that's a clear sign you should begin using your preferred FE prevention method. Anything over 15,000 is considered a risk, and over 60,000 a high risk. Aside from using zinc or fungicide, another good approach to protect your cows is to avoid grazing below 4cm pasture height



Chris Glassey

using supplements when appropriate.

It's important to note, FE is just like an infestation. If one cow has FE symptoms, it's likely more are affected, even if they're not showing signs.

Some indicators to look for in your cows include restlessness, seeking shade, licking their udder and reduced milk production.

Breeding cows that are more tolerant to FE is a long-term solution, and some farmers that have gone down this path are already reporting the benefits. This is probably our best strategy to manage this challenging disease in the long-term.

The sheep industry has been breeding for FE tolerance for the last 30 years with great success. I think it's something for us to aim for.

Wouldn't it be great if we could put an end to this nasty disease once and for all? Now that's something I would love to see happen in my lifetime.

Chris Glassey,
DairyNZ farm systems specialist.

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New facial eczema research

New research shows facial eczema (FE) may be an even bigger problem than we first thought.

VetEnt veterinarian and researcher Emma Cuttance who led the study, which involved eight dairy farms who had cows with evidence of liver damage across Taranaki, Waikato,

Northland and Bay of Plenty in autumn this year, found there was a lot of unseen damage that farmers didn't know about.

Generally, it was thought that there wasn't a lot of FE seen last season. However, the study found there was substantial damage, even in

herds attempting prevention.

Emma found 41 percent of the cows studied were impacted by FE, despite only three percent showing symptoms. This goes to show that just because you can't see it, doesn't mean it's not happening.

She also measured the impact this had on loss of

production by comparing the average amount of milk collected from healthy cows and cows with FE. She found cows with liver damage produced about eight percent less milk per day.

Another study also measured the impact of FE on young stock growth. It found 19 percent of the 1050 heifer replacements at 17 various locations were found to have severe liver damage. Another 21 percent had some liver damage. Damaged animals were 15kg lighter on average at first calving compared to their peers. This can have a long-lasting impact including lower in-calf rates, later calving and lower milk solid yields.

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The figures speak for themselves

The call for dairy farmers to prepare now for a future with a smaller herd of higher producing cows than today is dependent on access to dairy sires which are superior to their contemporaries of even a year ago.

In the United States and around the world, farmers are recognising that genomic sires are light years ahead of daughter proven sires because they have been selected for the traits farmers need today, and tomorrow – not yesterday.

Hank Lina, General Manager of World Wide Sires New Zealand, says demand for genomically proven bulls in the United States is now greater than for daughter proven.

“That’s not surprising. World Wide Sires began genomically proving bulls in 2009 based on one of the largest base populations in the world comprising more than one million genotyped animals. The size and depth of that dataset provides a very high level of accuracy in genomic prediction – and that has led to the confidence we are now seeing amongst American farmers.



Hank Lina.

“The New Zealand experience with genomics is at odds with the rest of the world – largely because this country simply doesn’t

have the large dataset of genotyped animals needed to generate strong and consistent daughter performance.”

“In the United States, UK and Australia genomic sires now account for more than 65% of World Wide Sires’ sales – and this percentage

is increasing year on year because those bulls are delivering.”

“Genomics technology has allowed the industry to shorten the generation interval very aggressively in the last five years – and the increase in the number of animals being commercially DNA tested has expanded the genomic database increasing the reliability. This explains why US dairymen are switching more of their breeding to genomic sires. However, there remains a strong demand for proven bulls for farmers who prefer homogeneous genetic progress over maximum speed so World Wide Sires is still delivering these proven bulls to the market with reliable calving ease and semen fertility information.”

Hank Lina said the Productivity Commission’s report, highlighting the need for the herds of the future to be smaller and more productive, reinforces that farmers need to be using sires selected for that purpose.

“Three or four years ago, when many of the daughter proven sires on offer to Kiwi farmers today were selected,

the breeding imperative was different; we were still in a growth phase. A quick look at the latest Dairy Statistics confirms the productivity of the New Zealand national herd is increasing slowly eg 20 years ago average kg milksolids per cow was 301; ten years ago it was 330 and today it is ‘only’ 380 kg ms.

“Contrast that to the genetics World Wide Sires’ parent AB cooperative, Select Sires, has generated – upwards of 550 kgms per cow per year. And those cows are bred to last.”

“The figures speak for themselves - milk 414 (average NZ herd size) cows doing (the average) 381 kgms or fully feed and milk 286 cows and produce 550kgms. Less cows, less animal health and feed costs, less stress, a smaller environmental footprint – and more profit.”

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Excellence award for Taranaki woman

A Taranaki woman is one of three NZ Young Farmers members who have won national leadership awards.

Jessie Waite, Michael McCombs and James Goodwin are the 2018 recipients of the NZ Young Farmers Excellence Awards.

The awards are designed to recognise members who are leaders, achievers and role models.

"This year's winners are shining examples of young people who are stepping-up and making a difference," said NZ Young Farmers Board chair Ash-Leigh Campbell.

"The trio epitomises everything our Excellence Awards stand for."

Jessie Waite, 26, works for Taranaki Federated Farmers, managing the organisation's regional office in New Plymouth.

A savage drought last summer saw her help mobilise a big relief effort and hit the road to deliver it.

A series of family BBQs were held in drought-ravaged communities to entice weather-weary farmers off their farms.

"Having a summer holiday was the last thing on my mind when the welfare of Taranaki's farmers was



Jessie Waite

taking another hit," said Jessie, who's a member of Central Taranaki Young Farmers.

A nomination submitted by the organisation's farmer executive said the BBQs would not have happened without Jessie.

"It was because of her hard work that over an extremely stressful time hundreds of

struggling farmers were able to get off the farm and forget about the dry for a while," it said.

Jessie said she was humbled by the win.

"I definitely don't do what I do to get recognition, but when I do it's a nice pat on the back," she said.

Michael McCombs, 26, contract milks 400 cows at

Kimbolton and has been a volunteer firefighter for four years.

"Parents look at how close they are to schools when considering a job, but I look for the nearest fire station," he said.

The Marton Young Farmers chair and former Taranaki Dairy Trainee of the Year said he was stoked

to even be nominated.

Kimbolton's chief fire officer Tony McIntyre said New Zealand needs more volunteers like Michael.

"He's bloody brilliant. He's 100 per cent committed and he's always there," he said.

"It's an ongoing struggle to find volunteers, so our brigade is extremely lucky to

have someone as dedicated as Michael."

James Goodwin, 31, has been recognised for his role convening the 50th FMG Young Farmer of the Year Grand Final in Invercargill.

The headline-grabbing event was described as "the best grand final ever".

Fellow committee member Steve Henderson said James' award was extremely well deserved.

"It was no mean feat pulling off that grand final. I'd hate to think how many hours James put in behind the scenes, which meant time away from his family and farm," he said.

James runs his family's Gore sheep farm which has 3700 ewes, and is a long-time member of Waitane Young Farmers.

"It's a bit overwhelming to think that there are people within NZ Young Farmers who think what I have done is extraordinary," he said.

There were 15 nominations submitted for this year's awards.

The winners will be presented with their awards at the NZ Young Farmers Conference Week in Christchurch in February.

Brad Markham

Free trade boost for Kiwi agribusinesses

New Zealand kiwifruit, beef and wine producers will benefit most from the Comprehensive and Progressive Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, along with smaller agribusinesses such as those producing mussels and cherries, Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor said.

As Trade and Export Growth Minister David Parker said the CPTPP

will enter into force for New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, and Singapore on December 30 now six nations have ratified the trade pact.

"The CPTPP will, for the first time, provide us with preferential access to the world's third largest economy Japan, as well as fellow G20 members Canada and Mexico," Damien he said.

"It places our primary

sectors on equal footing with exporters from other countries with lower tariffs in these markets.

"Kiwifruit growers in particular will be \$26 million better off as tariffs disappear on produce to their biggest market, Japan. This will level the playing field with Chile, which has duty free access.

"The CPTPP will also immediately remove

Australian beef exporters' current tariff advantage over New Zealand in the Japanese market. This has been costing our red meat sector millions in potential revenue.

"New Zealand small and medium agribusinesses will also be better off.

"Our wine producers will gain immediate duty-free access to Canada, our fourth largest wine market; the

removal of the buttercup squash tariff into Japan is expected to save a total of \$1.5 million a year; with a further \$19,500 a year in tariff savings for each of the 90 commercial growers of onions exporting to Japan.

"CPTPP will also provide improved access into Mexico, including eliminating tariffs for mussels and cherries and phasing out tariffs on beef, apples and wine.

"Exporters now have the opportunity to diversify the range of products they supply and focus on producing higher-value products that see our farmers and growers get more from what they do now.

"This supports thriving, sustainable regions that drive productive economic growth to the benefit of all New Zealanders," Damien O'Connor said.

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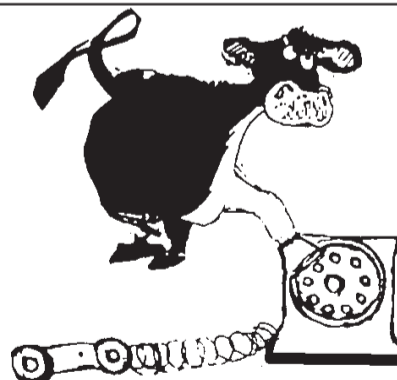
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Tackling invasive wilding pines

Millions of hectares of productive and precious land have been cleared of New Zealand's number one weed, wilding conifers, but more work is needed, Biosecurity Minister Damien O'Connor said. Mr O'Connor was speaking at the New Zealand Wilding Conifer Group annual conference at Omarama.

"Wilding conifers are a seriously established pest in New Zealand and out-compete native plants and wildlife for light and water, infest farmland and native ecosystems and spoil the unique character of iconic natural landscapes such as the high country," he said. "Hardy, prolific and carried by wind, wilding conifers cover five per cent of our landscape and without intervention would have covered an estimated 20 per cent by 2035.

"The National Wilding Conifer Control Programme has now treated half a million hectares of land and searched a further million hectares for outliers, with 40,000 hectares of dense and moderate infestation removed - meaning control work has been completed on over a quarter of affected land.

"Priority areas will now be targeted across another 150,000 hectares in Canterbury, Otago, Southland, Marlborough and the Central North

Island.

"We know the cost of control operations increases if wildings are left to spread so early intervention is the best option. For example, treating light infestations can cost as little as \$20 a hectare and dense infestations up to \$2000 a hectare.

"Our success to date is due largely to collaboration. Everyone from central and local government through to landowners, farmers, iwi and community trusts have got stuck in together to control

the spread of these invasive trees," Damien O'Connor said.

To date, the Government has spent \$12.4 million on wilding conifer control, with \$5.8 million from other parties. By 2030 the programme aims to have contained or eradicated all wilding conifers.

**We welcome your contributions. Please send to
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CMK to sponsor Taranaki men's sevens

Stratford-based firm CMK Chartered Accountants is backing the growth and development of the Taranaki men's sevens campaign by signing on as the key sponsor for the summer.

The deal will support the Taranaki men's sevens team in the Central Regions Qualifying Tournament on December 1 in Levin and the Bayleys National Sevens Tournament on December 15-16 in Tauranga, a month earlier than last year.

The one-year deal continues CMK's strong ties with Taranaki Rugby after the firm already sponsors the local club rugby competition and the U19 side.

CMK Principal and chartered accountant John Dazley said the business is proud to have sponsored Taranaki Rugby for a long time and have a strong working relationship with the Union.

"We have a strong, reliable and focused team of people who are helping to grow and support rugby on and off the field. We are happy to be able to help these young men to play the game and sport that we all love," he said.

Dazley said sport is



From left, Geoff Hitchcock, Warwick Lahmert, John Dazley

a major part of life in Taranaki and New Zealand and it builds more than just sporting skills.

"It helps to build communities and relationships and forms

lifelong friends."

Originally from the United Kingdom, Dazley has a firm connection with Taranaki rugby – he arrived in Taranaki 20 years ago to play rugby for Stratford and

never left.

"Rugby has given me a lot over the years – I've been

able to meet different people and make life-long friends, so it's great to be able to give

something back."

He said the agreement is an opportunity to promote CMK whilst helping a sport that they are passionate about.

Taranaki Rugby Commercial Manager Geoff Hitchcock said the support from commercial partners such as CMK was critical to the ongoing success of the sevens campaign.

"It is fantastic to have CMK continue their support towards Taranaki Rugby. They have supported the community game for a while now and to have their added support is much appreciated."

Last year, Taranaki finished third in the regional qualifying tournament and has consistently qualified for the nationals, finishing in the top four last year.

This year, Taranaki will be coached by Johnny Weston and Tim Stuck after a strong tenure by 2010 Commonwealth Games gold medallist Ben Souness who stood down from the head coaching job.

Taranaki last won the nationals tournament in 2013 under coach Willie Rickards.

Taranaki Rugby under one roof at Pukekura Raceway

For the first time in nearly 12 months the Taranaki Rugby Football Union is all under one roof, located at the Pukekura Raceway in New Plymouth.

The commercial and community departments have moved into the racecourse's Tuson Stand joining the high performance team, who have occupied the stand since March this year.

The Union has been split across two separate sites after being evacuated from Yarrow Stadium in November last year due to safety concerns. The commercial and community

team have been located at Sport Taranaki, until now.

Taranaki Rugby Chief Executive Officer Jeremy Parkinson says he is thrilled the staff are all under one roof and appreciated the support of the Pukekura Racing Board and Sport Taranaki.

"It's been a challenging year for us, but now we are all together in the same building for the first time since we were evacuated from the stadium.

"We would like to thank Carey Hobbs from the Pukekura Racing Club and Howie Tamati from Sport

Taranaki for their support and housing our various operations," he said.

Parkinson said being in the same premise would ensure staff can re-connect with a lot of cross-over between the various departments.



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Opunake Surf Life Saving Juniors – rearing to go



Surf lifesaving under six members at training on Opunake Beach.

Our Junior Surf programme kicked off officially on November 4, after a successful registration day on October 28. There were a number of new families and we still can welcome anyone else looking to join our club.

This Sunday, we had our juniors in age groups, Under 6, 8, 10 and Over-

9 confident in the water. Our parent volunteers who coach our younger groups kept the kids busy with beach activities, sprints, flags and fun games. Some of the kids ventured into the chilly water to experience the (quite frequent) waves, surges and splashes.

Our older 9years and over juniors have an experienced

coach, and John was busy showing them tips and techniques when on their boards.

Our rookie lifeguards (14 years and over) who are 'going' for the bronze medallion and lifeguard award also trained.

We applaud all the kids who tried so hard today. The weather had some squally

showers come through, the wind was strong and the waves were frequent, but the smiles say it all on the photos.

If you are keen to join our club, we have surf training from 10am – 12pm on Sundays. We also have a pool (squad like) training on Wednesday from 6.30 at the Opunake Pools. Please come

along or get in touch through our facebook pages.

Remember, our patrol starts later this month on Saturday November 24. Until then, always swim at the north end of the beach in front of the tower. Never swim at the tail

race/south end of the beach. This is a very dangerous spot and although there are 'no swimming' signs, people often swim there.

Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club

Opunake Bowling Club

The mixed Farm Source Tournament was held on on October 1. Although the greens are quite heavy, a nice day of bowls was held in lovely sunny weather. 1. Joy Collins, Pauline Davy, Val Coombe and Heileigh Hemara.

At the Peg Barrett Memorial on October 14, there was another friendly day of bowls, with Pauline Davy, Harry Davy, Eddie Eves and Levi Davis coming first.

Only two teams played at

the Club Triples on October 17. Winners. Joy Collins, Heather Radford and Val Coombe. Runners Up. Bev Robinson, Pauline Davy and Pat Barrett.

At the Club Fours on October 31, two teams played in cool conditions with the green running better. Winners. Pauline Davy, Eileen Rothwell, Val Coombe and Pat Barrett. Runners Up. Joy Collins, Heather Radford, Val Langton and Kay Fleming.

Manaiia Golf results

End of month tournament. Men. 1. Jamie Johnston. 2. Bruce Duffus. 3. John Oliver. Women. 1. Jackie Higgins. 2. Margaret Putt. 3. Michele Furness.

October 27. Men. Nett. 1. Nathan Ngere 64. 2. Shelton Symes 66. 3. Jim Ngere 67 and Joe Gibson 67. 4. Blake Symes 68.

Nett Eagles. John Oliver 9th. Blake Symes 16th. Quintin Symes 7th. Craig Jones 4th.

Shelton Symes 1st, 2nd, 3rd. Caleb Symes 6th, Nathan Ngere 6th, Colin Koch 12th, Joe Gibson 9th.

November 3. Men's. 1. Noddy Symes. 2. Rod Le Fleming. 3. Jim Ngere. 4. Quintin Symes. Twos. Rod Le Fleming 15th. Gary Dowdle 9th. Ambrose. 1. Paul's Crew. 2. Koonmatata. 3. Butchers & Chopper. 4. Left Overs.

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Brazilian Jiu Jitsu success in Los Angeles



Rhiannon, Marley and Witz with medals and Professor John Ouano from Los Angeles

Three members from the Hawera Tsunami co45st Brazilian jiu-jitsu Team represented New Zealand at the SJJIF World Brazilian jiu-jitsu championships in Los Angeles on October 27-8, bringing home six gold medals, two silver and one bronze.

Whitz Rhiannon Tito and Marley

Kerehoma fought in their respective weight divisions for the Gi and No Gi comp with Rhiannon also competing in the Women's Open events on both days and an exhibition fight, bringing home five gold and four world titles.

Whitz won one world title and one silver and Marley one silver and one bronze.

The girls have only been practising BJJ for two years and have already made a massive impression nationally with their growing medal tally.

Rhiannon recently took out the Paddy Manu Junior award and Overall award at the recent awards ceremony at The Hub, Hawera in August.

James awaits decision day

Opunake boxer James Langton says he wants the Opunake Sport and Recreation Trust to come up with a decision on whether to include his name on the Honours Board at the Opunake Event Centre when they next meet on November 26.

"It's been nine weeks since I sent the Event Centre my application to be acknowledged on the Honours Board," he said. "I'm very disappointed I've not had a response after such a long period of time."

The Honours Board is open to sportspeople who have lived in the area from Otakeho to Okato and have represented New Zealand in their chosen sports. Among those currently on the board are household names like Peter Snell, Don Clarke and the Barrett brothers, alongside names who are not so well known.

James won the New Zealand National Boxing Federation cruiserweight title before a home crowd at the Coastal Rumble in Opunake in 2015, which he later lost to Monty Betham. Last year he went up to heavyweight and won the New Zealand Pro Boxing title at the Hawera Rumble.

The Trust had previously argued that James did not meet the criteria to be on the Honours Board as he had not represented New Zealand.

James argues he did so in 2016 when he fought Mark Flanagan for the vacant International Boxing Organisation Oceania cruiserweight title. He says he did so again earlier this year when he fought Matthew Davoren for the vacant Australian National Boxing Federation cruiserweight and World Boxing Federation Asia Pacific cruiserweight titles.

"They said I could be on the Honours Board if I won the New Zealand cruiserweight title. I have done that and represented my country overseas to fight for the IBO Oceania cruiserweight title," says James. "I went away and won the New Zealand heavyweight title and represented myself overseas for New Zealand. I asked to be acknowledged on my heavyweight title and they declined me."

"I fought for the Oceania NZNBF cruiserweight title and asked to be acknowledged on the Honours Board after that, and my request was ignored. I've gone to the lawyers like

I said I would."

Looking ahead he said he would like at some stage to defend his heavyweight title, preferably in front of a home town crowd.

"I've had to delay my upcoming fight through injury. I have approached Monty Betham to live up to his contract of the two fight agreement, but he hasn't responded. I've asked David Letele, but he's declined," he says.

"I got very frustrated at the lack of communication coming out of the Event Centre. I would dearly love to defend the New Zealand heavyweight title in Opunake, but this is getting extremely difficult. It would be one of the biggest sporting events Opunake has ever had, not to mention the money that would be coming into the community."

With the Trust due to have to their next meeting on November 26, he says he hopes they will settle the matter then.

"I would ask them to show the same kind of leniency they showed for Peter Snell and for the Clarke brothers who had left the area at a young age."

"I want to encourage the Event Centre to be strong on this decision, as I would not want it to go any further as I believe it is continuing to be a bad look for the Event Centre. I have been approached by other media and asked what's going on, but I have declined to comment at this stage."

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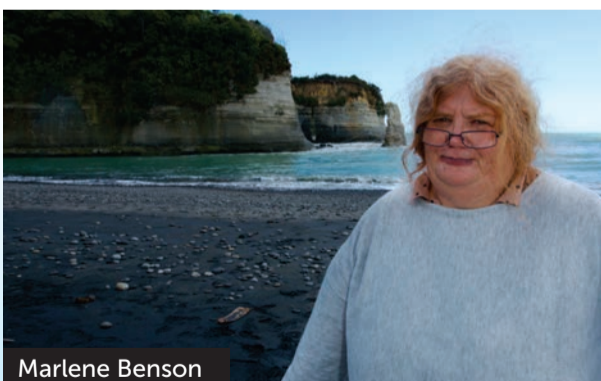
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Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays
Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

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
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St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato
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Tuesday 20th November 2018, 6pm
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Opunake Beach
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TSB
COMMUNITY TRUST

TSB Community Trust is calling for Expressions of Interest for two Trustee vacancies.

The Minister of Finance is charged with the responsibility of appointing Trustees, and each year the Minister invites the TSB Community Trust to put forward nominations of suitable people to be considered for appointment as a Trustee. As well as seeking nominations from the TSB Community Trust, the Minister can also receive nominations directly from any other interested party.

TSB Community Trust is looking to diversify its board and encourages individuals with strong knowledge of tikanga and connections to iwi networks to apply.

As well as the above, well developed social sector knowledge is required for at least one of these positions.

Experience in the area of impact investing would also be an advantage.

If you reside within the Trust's legislative boundary (refer to the Trust's website), have significant networks within Taranaki and a passion to see our region succeed, you may be motivated to become part of the Trust.

Applicants should also be able to demonstrate alignment to the Trust's Core Values. To find out more visit the Trust's website www.tsbtrust.org.nz

Expressions of Interest close at 5pm on the 14th November 2018



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

MONDAYS

Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:230 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025

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

Opunake Business Association: Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

TUESDAYS

Club Hotel Pool: Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

WEDNESDAYS

Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

Schnitzel Night: Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker: Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

Opunake Embroiders Guild: Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.

THURSDAYS

Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker: Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

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

FRIDAYS

Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

WEEKENDS

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

MONDAY OCTOBER 22 TO FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16

Pottery Plus Exhibition at the Village Gallery: An exhibition of Pottery and Mixed Media at the Village Gallery Eltham. Refer ad for details.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27 TO SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11

The Great Opunake Yarn Bomb 2018: In the Opunake CBD.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 30 TO SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10

CUE Theatre Presents 'Death Knell': At the CUE Theatre. Refer advert from previous issue for details.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10 TO 17th

Stratford on Stage presents 'The Nuncrackers': A Christmas musical at the Castle, Regan Street, Stratford.. Refer advert for details.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11

Armistice Day Commemorations: At the Services Cemetery, Anderson Rd, Eltham at 10.30am; and at the Opunake Cenotaph at 10.57am. Refer articles and adverts for details.

Walk 2 D'Feet MND 2kn fun walk: Starts at 10.30am at East End Skating Arena, New Plymouth. refer advert for details.

'They Shall Grow Not Old' movie: At Everybody's Theatre at 1pm. Refer advert.

MONDAY NOVEMBER 12

Everybody's Theatre AGM: At the Theattre staring at 7pm. Refer advert for details.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 13

Opunake Board Riders Club AGM: At the OBR Clubrooms starting at 6pm. Refer advert from previous issue for details.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14

Country Connections 20th Birthday Party Party: Refer advert for details.

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 15

Oaonui Water Supply AGM: At the Opunake Golf Club, 7pm. Refer advert for details.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16 & SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

Egmont A&P Show: At the Egmont Showgrounds, Hawera. Refer advert for details.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

Sonic Delusion Single Release Show: At Oaonui Hall. Cash Bar operating. Refer advert for details.

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18

Pihama Lavender Market Day: At Pihama Lavender from 10am to 2pm. Refer advert for details.

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 20

Kneeboard Surfing NZ AGM: At Opunake Boardriders Clubrooms at opunake Beach at 6pm. Refer advert for details.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24

Fair and Garage Sale: At St Barnabas Church Hall and Grounds, 141 Tasman St, Opunake. Please see full details in next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News (Nov 22/23).

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 25

The Ladykillers Audition: At CUE Theatre, Matai St, Inglewood. Refer ad for details.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 28

Opunake Cottage Rest Home AGM: At Coastal Care Meeting Rooms 7pm. Refer advert.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 1

Opunake Lakeside Lions Christmas Homes on the Coast: From 9am to 4pm. Refer advert for details.

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 5 TO SATURDAY DECEMBER 15

Three One Act Plays + a little more: By Hawera Repertory Society at Reper.tory House, Hawera. Refer advert for details.

SATURDAY DECEMBER 15

Christmas for Little Fighters Trust: At Soul Kitchen. \$69pp. Proceeds from ticket sales donated to Little Fighters Trust. Refer advert for details.



The Ritz Big Band returns to Opunake again this year on Sunday November 25.

Ritz Swing Band playing in Opunake

The Ritz Swing Band is playing in Opunake again by popular request. They will be performing at Everybody's Theatre in Opunake, so keep this date free - Sunday November 25, from 2pm on. The 18 piece band is led by Robin Wells. Glenn Miller and the Big band era (1930s and 1940s) will be the focus. There will be a few new numbers performed this time including 'New York, New York' and 'Don't Get Around That Much Anymore'.

The main vocalist will be the well-known and respected musician Mike

Gordon, in conjunction with talented songstress Unity Wara.

Instruments will include trumpets, trombones, piano, guitars (rhythm and bass), drums, not to mention Robin Wells' soulful saxophone.

There will be door sales only with adults just \$10 and youngsters (children under 12) \$5 - this has to be amazing value for money.

Once again, next year, the Ritz Swing band will perform at the prestigious Festival of Lights in New Plymouth.

The band plays just four gigs a year, so the chance to

experience them should not be missed. Explains Mike Gordon, "We play for the love of music - not money."

The band was formed about a decade ago, but re-formed just two years ago after disbanding for a while due to some members heading overseas for a time.

"We had such a warm reception last time that we knew we really wanted to come back and perform again at Everybody's Theatre," explains Mike. Make sure you keep November 25 free to give the iconic band a rousing Opunake welcome.

Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events. Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.

editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
 Phone: 06 761 7016
 23 Napier St, Opunake

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

THE RITZ BIG BAND
 coming to Opunake

Come and listen to music from the 18 piece Big Band led by Robin Wells ... Puttin' on the Ritz, In the Mood, Making Whoopee and many more!

With Vocals from Mike Gordon and Unity Wara

Everybody's Theatre, Opunake, Sunday 25 November 2.00 pm start

Door sales only. \$10.00 Adult and \$5.00 child. NO EFTPOS

Advertisers who put in public notices and display adverts in the What's On Section for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos FREE OF CHARGE, to help promote the event.

CALL OUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM AT THE

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

See how our high readership rate can work for you

Lots to see and do at the Egmont A & P Show

Continued from Page 32

beasts, little lambs in the TSB Centre and the RDA Paddock. On Saturday the woolly alpacas will be shown in the TSB Centre.

BTW Company equestrian section and Harris Taylor Fei World Cup round - Experience the excitement of Show Jumping in the main oval and the beauty of the showing classes. The premier event of the show this year will be in the Jumping arena. Top riders will come from all over the North Island to contest the International class, which will be held at 4pm on Saturday in the Oval so get your seat in the grandstand.

Paper Plus leisure pleasure & treasure section - This section offers a vast array

of competitions visit the Edna Wills Hall to see crafts, photography, model building, flowers, vegetables and cooking. Taranaki Tucker Bag and this year's new attraction A Potato in a bucketjudging are on Saturday morning.

The Clydesdales are coming. You'll enjoy a ride on a wagon drawn by these beautiful and gentle giants - just watching them move is magic.

The Roadsafe climbing wall - is back come and test your skills.

Billy Black - Ane educational one of a kind agricultural tribute show, a story about the pioneer farmers of the world. The audience participate throughout this story, beginning with hand sawing a log.



Above, at left and below: Images from last year's Egmont A&P Show. There are lots of activities and fun for all again this year. See you there on Friday the 16th and Saturday the 17th of November.



The Design Principle at the Egmont A & P Show

Bronwyn has been advising residential and commercial property owners in Taranaki since 2000 when working at Resene, New Plymouth. Since leaving Resene, she has helped many friends and family with their décor decisions, finally setting up a part-time business in Otaki, 2013. Her business grew with great results and word of mouth advertising. A move to Hawera for her husband's work meant leaving a growing clientele behind. The last 18 months has seen Bronwyn studying for her Diploma in Interior Design and returning to her passion for design and decorating. The BPW Women's Expo at this years Egmont A&P Show ses

the launch of her business in Taranaki. Providing services from colour advice through to working with clients and their architects, Bronwyn offers a broad service with a 'there's no problems, only solutions' attitude. Determined to bring her clients awesome spaces they want but don't know quite how to get there, Bronwyn provides stress-free support that delivers amazing results. Whether redecorating, renovating, or building your home or business, Bronwyn has solutions to your decorating challenges. See her at Stand 9, make sure you enter the competition to win five free hours

Egmont A&P Association



Old Boys, friends of the school, and prospective boarding parents are welcome to come and see the staff at the show.



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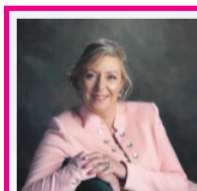
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STAND 9, EGMONT A&P SHOW WOMEN'S EXPO

ENTER THE DRAWER TO
WIN 5 FREE HOURS

Egmont A&P Show

entertainment

Wonkey Donkey

“Join in the fun as Craig Smith performs infectious songs from his much-loved books *The Wonky Donkey*, *Kaha the Kea* along with new releases *The Drizzly Bear* and *Scariest Thing In The Garden*. Come to one of two sessions packed with singing, dancing, and humour, led by APRA award-winning musician and author Craig Smith. Each is aimed at ages 3 to 10, but irresistible to the whole family.”

Billy Black

An educational one of a kind agricultural tribute show, a story about the pioneer farmers of the world.

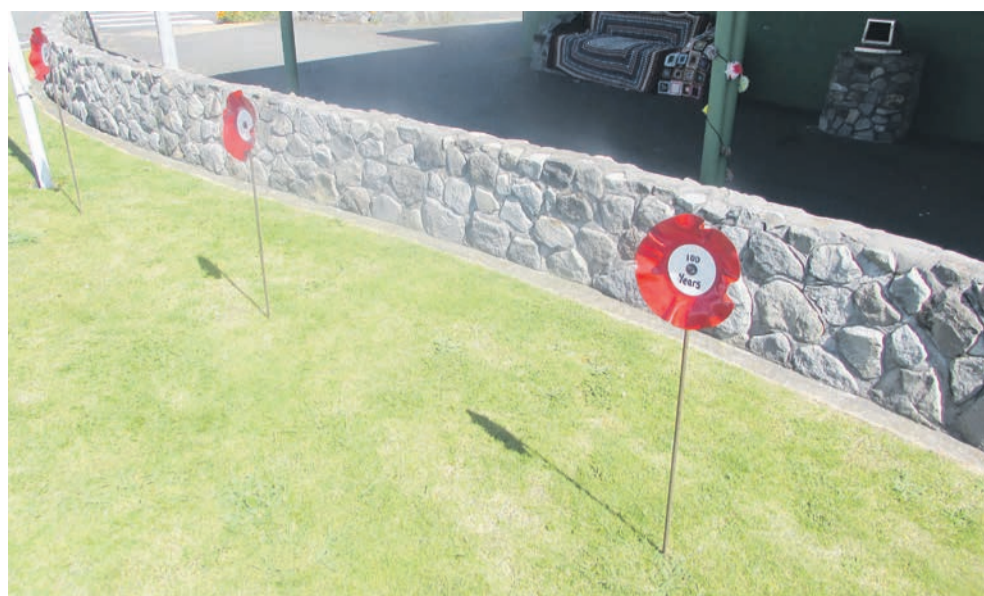
The audience participate throughout this story, beginning with hand sawing a log. Through Billy's acting and quick sleight of hand it looks as though the unsuspecting audience members have nearly cut him in half during this tree felling demonstration. There is further excitement, as Billy with the help of the audience appears to have almost blown up everyone in a blasting gun demonstration, which shows how the pioneers made their fence posts. The story of the pioneer farmer continues, with two more audience members getting to help shear a sheep with an 1896 Chicago hand turned

shearing machine as Billy shows his professional sheep shearing skills in great style.

With Jonah the Kune Kune pig making a special appearance to show his rugby playing skills in his own clever little act, fun, laughter and excitement flow throughout this stage performance

In a grand finale, Billy's life is put on the line, with yet another unsuspecting audience member involved in applying a 450-degree blow torch to his trademark uniform, the woollen shirt that he is wearing. With a mix of factual information and fun, this segment further educates his audience about the wonders of wool fibre.

White for peace



The white painted poppies in Opunake represent hope for lasting peace.

The poppy has long been a symbol of death, renewal and life. Its seeds can remain dormant in the earth for years, but will blossom when the soil is churned up, as it was on the fields of Flanders a century ago.

Since 2017 over-sized poppies lining the main street of Opunake have become an integral part of that town's ANZAC Day commemorations. The poppies were made from old 33 records heated in an

oven with a painted CD in the centre and funded by the Egmont Plains community Board.

With 2018 marking a hundred years since the end of the First World War the 40 poppies are putting in an appearance in time for Armistice Day on Sunday.

The poppies are the brainchild of Oaonui farmer and Egmont Plains Community Board deputy chairman Andy Whitehead.

Like many, he can claim

a family link to the war that at the time was wrongly dubbed “the war to end all wars.” A great uncle, Bernard William Potroz of Kaimata was killed at Passchendaele.

This time round, with it being Armistice Day, the poppies are painted white in the centre.

“White represents the hope for peace, and we still haven't quite got there yet,” says Andy.

Opunake Lakeside Lions Christmas Homes on the Coast

Be sure to keep Saturday from 9-4pm, December 1 free to visit nine beautifully Christmas decorated homes, two churches and Everybody's Theatre.

Opunake Lakeside Lions have again organised this event, with proceeds from the ticket sales to go to Motor Neurone Association NZ.

All the monies raised are being used to support the services provided by the Taranaki area support nurse

Successful similar previous events have raised funds for the Mellowpuff Trust and Hospice Taranaki.

The nine houses will be decorated in a variety of themes, from traditional country Christmas to modern contemporary.

The houses themselves vary greatly as well with an historic old wooden villa, former Dairy factory, California bungalow and 1930's farm homesteads, family homes and three recently built homes with outstanding modern features.

Some of the work from the Great Opunake Yarn bomb will be featured in the garden of one home.

St Pauls Church will have open their traditional

Christmas Display with a focus on the stable scene. St Barnabas Church will be lightly decorated with the Nativity Angel, white doves and wreaths.

There will be coffee/teas and refreshments for purchase in St Barnabas Church hall along with displays from our sponsors and The Motor Neurone Association. Opunake Lakeside Lions Christmas Hamper tickets will also be on display here.

Everybody's Picture theatre will be decorated and open all day with old fashioned glass slides playing, as well as their small shop/museum being open to browse the display of film memorabilia, guaranteed to bring back fond memories. In the evening (7pm) the theatre will be screening a Christmas themed movie.

So why not make a day of it and enjoy a meal at one of the popular local eateries beforehand?

Tickets \$25 will go on sale on Saturday 27 October at the following venues:

Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Opunake and Stratford,

Sentiments Florist

Moturoa, The Christmas Village Egmont Road

Peta M Hawera.

Or contact Opunake Lakeside Lions at sinclairlect@xtra.co.nz

Watch our fb page for further details: Opunake Lakeside Lions

Looking forward to seeing you and thank you in advance for supporting this worthwhile cause.

Come and have a day out on the coast, recharge your creative juices and relax in a friendly Christmas environment.

Opunake Lakeside Lions



YES CHADDY'S CHARTERS ISLAND TOURS
Mountain Bike, Kayak and Paddle Board Hire

Fun to share with friends and family
8.30am to 4pm

Open Daily
Ph: 06 758 9133

OPUNAKE LAKESIDE LIONS

Christmas Homes on the Coast

Saturday 1st December 2018 9am - 4pm

9 Homes - 2 Churches

Everybody's Theatre Display & Christmas Movie in the evening

\$25 a ticket

Raising funds for
MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE NZ (MND NZ)

Ticket Sellers:

- Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Ltd, Opunake
- Sinclair Betta Electrical, Stratford
- Peta M Gifts, Hawera
- The Christmas Village, New Plymouth
- Sentiments Flowers, New Plymouth

PIHAMA
Lavender

Growers and Makers

MARKET DAY

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18 10am - 2pm

Armistice service will be a first for Eltham

On November 11, it will be 100 years since the war wrongly dubbed the War to end all Wars came to an end. Although the final peace treaty at Versailles wasn't signed until 1919, hostilities had officially ceased on the eleventh hour of the eleventh month in 1918.

To mark the centenary, commemoration services are set to be held in centres big and small all around the world, including Eltham.

The Eltham service which will take place at the Services Cemetery on Anderson Road will be, as far as he knows, the first time an Armistice Day service has been held in Eltham, says Eltham RSA padre Lindsay Maindonald.

Eltham RSA vice-president Ray Willey says the service will go ahead rain or fine.

"The soldiers went through a lot worse, so we will be there," he says.

Lindsay says he hopes local schools will be involved in the ceremony and that parents would bring along their children.

"We're going to be inviting members of the public whose grandparents or great grandparents fought

in wars overseas. Both of my grandfathers fought in World War I. One was a sergeant major who was twice decorated for bravery. The other grandfather was a stretcher bearer. Both came home. For me it's very significant that I have that link."

Lindsay says that as there is now no one living who fought in the First World War, it is easy to overlook the significance of the conflict. Nevertheless it had a big effect on every part of the country. He cites the example of the nearby settlement of Maata which sent 24 of its young men off to fight in World War I, and a quarter of them did not return.

The Services Cemetery east of Eltham has long been the venue for ANZAC Day services and is a place of which the Eltham RSA is very proud.

Lindsay says the tree-lined walkway is an ideal setting for a Remembrance Day service.

The service will be starting at 10.30am in time for the traditional two minutes silence at 11am. The first

Armistice or Remembrance Day commemoration was held in 1919 when King George V entertained

the French president at Buckingham Palace.

The two minute silence is a sign of respect. The first

minute is for the roughly 20 million people who died in the war, and the second minute is for those left

behind, including wives, children and families.

Cousins mark twenty years at Country Connections



Leigh and Patrice are gearing up for a busy Christmas.

On November 9, 1998 cousins Leigh Heemi and Patrice Andrews went into business together and took over Country Connections. Twenty years and three landlords later they are still there.

"It started off as a trial," says Patrice. "We thought we would give it a go, and we have been able to build our lives around our business, and our business around our lives."

Family members have been a big help in keeping the business going, she says.

When they took over Country Connections, Leigh and Patrice had six young children between them, with the youngest just having started school. Twenty years later they have eight

grandchildren between them.

"It's a job we could do while we were raising our families and still be involved in what they are doing," says Leigh.

Thirteen years ago, with her daughter Rebecca being a competitive swimmer, Leigh says they had difficulties getting high performance swimwear in Taranaki, so they brought in speedo swimwear, which they continue to stock all year round.

From being mainly a craft shop when they took it over, Country Connections is now marketed as a gift shop, although some of the crafts are still there.

Locally made wooden toys have been a longstanding

feature of their business, and Patrice and Leigh have fond memories of the contributions made by the late Barry and Bev Waterhouse.

Locally knitted baby wear has been another of their popular stock in trade.

In 20 years they have seen items that were once popular become popular yet again, whether it be paua jewellery, dolphins or dragons.

"We like to please people so we carry a lot of varied stock and hopefully they can get what they want," says Patrice.

They are open six days a week and the only time they haven't been able to open for business was during the flooding which inundated the town in August 2015.

"The water was across the road and everywhere," recalls Patrice.

With Christmas coming up they are entering their busy

time, which they say carries on through till Easter and Mothers Day.

"A lot of older people come in as they don't have to worry about parking," says Leigh.

In the last five years they have noticed more tourists coming in.

Some things though have never changed. They still use the cash register which Brian Peat used when he operated out of this shop many years ago.

"Leigh and I wouldn't change that," says Patrice. They also still use tailor's scissors and sellotape.

For Leigh and Patrice family has always been important.

"We've always tried to juggle their activities and our shop," says Patrice.

"We are still juggling but we are getting there."



OPUNAKE LAKE TROUT FISHING

250 2-YEAR-OLD RAINBOW TROUT HAVE RECENTLY BEEN RELEASED INTO OPUNAKE LAKE TO PROVIDE ANGLING OPPORTUNITY THIS SUMMER

THERE IS NO ORGANISED CHILDRENS FISHING EVENT THIS YEAR

FISHING LICENCES ARE FREE TO CHILDREN UNDER 12 ON OCTOBER 1 2018

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT FISH & GAME ON 06 7579676

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS



Our Christmas Edition and Holiday Guide will be out on the 20th of December.

If you would like to wish your customers and clients a Merry Christmas or feature your business in the Holiday Guide, get in touch with us now.

Email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
Ph: 06 761 7016

Leigh & Patrice warmly invite everyone to their

20th Birthday Party

Wednesday 14th November
12noon 'til 8pm

Birthday Cake | Balloons
Giveaways | Sampling
Lucky Shoppers
Layby Available

A Great time to start Christmas Shopping

Country Connections

80 Tasman St, Opunake. 06 761 8171



Celebrant on the Coast



Murray Neir
Celebrant

Ph 027 376 6268

celebrantonthe coast@gmail.com

9 Dorset St, Opunake

A Celebrant for all occasions

Armistice Day Commemoration at Opunake

The Opunake District RSA would like to extend an open invitation to members of the public to attend a commemorative service to remember Armistice Day at the Opunake Cenotaph this Sunday, the 11th of November.

The service will begin at 10.57am.

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front, at 11am on the 11th November 1918. The "eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" has become universally associated with the remembrance of those who died in the First World War.

In total, 148 men from the Opunake District which includes Awatuna, Te Kiri, Pihama, Opunake, Oaonui, Pungarehu, Rahotu and surrounding areas have been killed in armed conflict since 1914. The service will include the reading of each of the fallen.

The following men are remembered on our District's memorials:



The Opunake Cenotaph on top of Opunake Beach.

- Jarrett, W.
- Julian, M.D.
- Julian, E.O.
- Kappely, H.
- Kappely, W.
- Keasberry, J.C.
- Kelly, R.
- Kelly, R.S.
- Kirk, W.
- Lampard, J.
- Laurenson, G.S.
- Lawn, M.
- Lawn, W.
- Looney, W.G.
- Lothian, S.O.
- Mawhinney, A.
- Mawhinney, R.
- Morgan, T.
- Morrow, J.
- McGarvie, R.
- McLeod, R.
- Owen, G.
- Parkinson, H.
- Paterson, D.
- Peters, W.
- Pierson, C.
- Pierson, F.
- Phillips, J.
- Phillips, J.H.
- Quickendon, T.
- Rae, R.E.
- Raynor, W.
- Rowland, E.D.N.
- Sharrock, H.
- Shefford, J.
- Simmonds, H.
- Simpson, A.
- Slater, C.
- Smith, A.
- Smith, D.
- Smith, D.D.
- Smith, H.
- Smith, W.
- Stephenson, J.H.
- Stevenson, W.
- Stevenson, W.L.
- Stitt, A.M.
- Stratton, W.
- Tindle, G.W.
- Tindle, J.G.
- Travers, J.
- Trotter, C.A.
- Twomey, H.M.
- Vincent, M.
- Wall, P.
- Ward, W.
- Warner, A.R.H.
- Wells, H.
- Wells, D.K.

Wheatley, M.

WW2 1939-45

- Alvis, W.
- Brewer, P.D.
- Conaglen, W.P.
- Dawson, R.G.
- Farquhar, T.C.
- Forsyth, D.W.
- Honeyfield, J.H.
- Jackson, R.
- Kirk, A.D.
- Mitchell, M.
- Morris, W.M.
- Rangi, W.W.
- Tyrell, H.E.
- Walker, A.C.

Vietnam 1964-72

Gatenby, J.R.

In addition to these men whose names have been included on our District's

public memorials, Opunake High School have indicated that the following ex-students also appear on their Honours Board as having been killed in World War 2:

- Baker, W.
- Blomfield, L.
- Bosworth, L.A.
- Brewer, D.
- Dawson, R.
- Dobbin, L.
- Farquhar, C.
- Hughes, W.
- Kirk, D.

The Opunake District RSA looks forward to seeing you all on Sunday the 11th of November.

Lest we Forget

Shane Butler
President

Opunake District RSA

WW1 1914-18

- Affleck, D.
- Aitken, A.J.
- Allan, A.
- Baker, H.
- Barlow, E.
- Barlow, H.
- Beach, J.T.
- Beech, J.T.
- Bewley, J.
- Billing, A.E.
- Billing, F.R.
- Birkett, H.L.
- Bourke, J.
- Bowman, H.F.
- Breed, H.A.
- Burrows, J.H.
- Buchler, F.J.L.
- Buchler, J.W.
- Byrnes, R.
- Callaghan, C.H.L.

- Cameron, T.
- Campbell, W.J.
- Connell, S.
- Connell, W.
- Cooper, G.
- Cooper, W.G.
- Coupe, J.
- Coupe, J.W.
- Crofskey, J.
- Corkery, F.
- Corkery, T.F.
- Duckworth, R.F.
- Duff, C.
- Ewan, G.T.
- Ewen, J.P.
- Fareh, J.F.
- Fennell, J.J.
- Fitzsimmons, E.J.P.
- Friday, E.J.
- Gibson, W.
- Gilbert, S.
- Graham, A.

- Graham, G.
- Graham
- Guild, W.A.
- Harrison, E.
- Harrop, C.A.
- Hall, E.
- Hall, F.R.
- Hall, R.
- Hannah, F.
- Hannam, F.
- Hawton, L.V.
- Hill, R.S.
- Hodgson, A.F.
- Hodgson, H.F.
- Hodgson, R.
- Holmes, W.J.
- Howell, W.
- Hurst, C.J.
- James, S.
- James, S.G.
- Jackson, H.
- Jarrett, W.A.

SONIC DELUSION
SINGLE RELEASE SHOW

INSTRUCTIONS:
8PM DOORS OPEN
9PM MUSIC STARTS
AT OANUI HALL
5142 SOUTH ROAD
OANUI NEAR OPUNAKE
CASH BAR AVAILABLE
PRE SALE TICKETS \$20
ON EVENT FINDA.CO.NZ
OR \$28 ON THE DOOR
R18 FULL BAND SHOW
SUPPORT ACT:
SERIOUS HAPPINESS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT PASTIMES & ONLINE
SATURDAY 17TH NOVEMBER
OANUI HALL
CASH BAR AS FUNDRAISER FOR
HALL INTERIOR DECORATING

Val Deakin Dance Theatre Trust presents
JUST IN TIME
TICKETS \$20, \$15, \$10

A celebration of women, dance and the 125th anniversary of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand
DANCE CENTRE
306 St Aubyn Street, New Plymouth

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 9 7.30PM
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 10 3.00PM & 7.30PM
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11 3.00PM

Kindly sponsored by
GRAPHIX
leaf and lum

cue theatre
TET Cue Theatre
AUDITION NOTICE

The
"Ladykillers"
By Graham Linehan
(adapted from the film screenplay by William Rose)

Written in 1954 for film, the stage version opened in 2011 and received rave reviews

Actors required to play:

- Louisa Wilberforce (60-80ish)
- Jane Tromleyton (40+) a cameo role
- Constable MacDonald (ageless)
- Professor Marcus Major Courtenay
- Louis Harvey Harry Robinson
- One Round (ex boxer)

These are a bunch of inept bank robbers ages 30+

Directed by Joan Ertel

Sunday 25th November 2019
Commencing at 2.00 pm

Cue Theatre on Matai Street, Inglewood
PRODUCTION DATES: APRIL - MAY 2019

For further details phone:
Joan Ertel - phone 06 7567 120
Email: joaneertel@gmail.com

OPUNAKE DISTRICT RSA
The Opunake District RSA
invites the communities of Awatuna, Pihama, Te Kiri, Opunake, Oaonui, Pungarehu, Rahotu and surrounding areas to join us to

Commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the end of World War I

This Armistice Day
Sunday November 11
at the **Opunake Cenotaph**

Remembrance Service commencing at 10.57am

To be followed by a lunch at the RSA Club Rooms at Opunake Fire Station

Inquiries to Sec Rev. G Williams, 06 761 8510

Surprise and variety from Hawera Rep

Will the Titheridge sisters ever gain from the early death of their father? Will the couple ever find true love during their lunch hour and will Little Nellie prove that Sir Putrid is the father of her son?

Hawera Repertory's latest production Three One Act Plays + a little more! includes a black comedy Strawberry Jam by Bruce Fisk, a melodrama The Tram-Track Tragedy or Little Nellie's Bloomers

by Patricia and Peter Ariss, a drama Lunch Hour by John Mortimer and a little something not yet seen on the Hawera stage.

The cast includes - Ron Scott, Kristy Logan, Diane Fagan, Samantha Turner, Deborah Clough, Cherol Filbee, Cathy Ogden, Carole Hosie, Grayson Richards, Richard Baylis, Katrina Fraser and Todd Woollett.

Not only will you be entertained by these plays over three acts, the bar will

be open, eftpos available and grazing platters will be served during the intervals. What could be better - entertainment, food and drink.

Tickets are \$28 and on sale from TicketDirect or South Taranaki i-SITE. Book now as seating is limited.

Performances December 5-15(Wednesday to Saturday) at Repertory House, 59 Collins Street, Hawera.

The Coastal Community Transport Service needs your help

Coastal Community Transport (CCT) takes people with no means of transport from Coastal Taranaki to medical or social service appointments in New Plymouth, Hawera, Stratford or Eltham.

The organisation works in partnership with New Zealand Red Cross who does the administration driver co-ordination and compliance needs for the service. The drivers' time is voluntary, but they are reimbursed for their vehicle running costs. It is a non-profit organisation and relies

entirely on donations and funding to operate.

Anyone wishing to donate there are two options

Coastal Community Transport - donations can be made to support the local Coastal Community Transport service - these can be given to any of our drivers, posted into New Zealand Red Cross, P O Box 1002, New Plymouth, or given to Aretha at the CoastalCare. These donations are used solely to keep the service operating for the local community.

New Zealand Red Cross

- donations can be made to National Red Cross where funds are used in local, national and international humanitarian services and programmes and make it possible to prepare for disasters, and in times of emergency provide immediate humanitarian care to those who need it most. People can sign up to make regular monthly payments. This can be done either when the Red Cross Project Partners are door knocking in your local area, or through the New Red Cross website.

Armistice Day - Peter Jackson comes to Town - well his latest movie is

At 11am on 11 November this year, Aotearoa New Zealand will mark the centenary of the armistice that ended the First World War in 1918. On that day 100 years ago, after four years of brutal conflict, war finally gave way to peace.

The First World War had taken a huge toll on New

Zealand. Around 100,000 New Zealanders - or ten percent of the population at the time - served overseas during the war, and over 18,000 lost their lives. Families and communities back home felt these losses acutely.

When news of the Armistice reached our shores

it was met with thanksgiving, hopefulness and joyous noise. To celebrate we have Peter Jackson's latest Movie - They Shall Not Grow Old.

This is a one off screening we are very thrilled to have the opportunity to join in the remembrance of Armistice Day. They Shall Not Grow Old is Peter

Jackson's latest Film legacy - A documentary about World War 1, known as the "war to end all wars" - all the more reason for history to remind us. With never-before-seen footage to commemorate the centennial of the end of the war, Jackson dedicated this film to his grandfather who served in the war.

Hawera Repertory Society presents



THREE ONE ACT PLAYS
+ a little more!

5 - 15 December 2018

Repertory House
59 Collins Street, Hawera
Adults - \$28
(Booking fees apply)





Tickets on sale from **TicketDirect**

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE

For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre
Check out our website at www.everybodystheatre.co.nz - Phone 027 3837926

NOVEMBER

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
 TEEN TITANS GO TO THE MOVIES Animated, Family 1hr 29min PG We find our egocentric, wildly satirical Super Heroes in their first feature film extravaganza - a fresh, gleefully clever, kid-appropriately crass and tongue-in-cheek play on the superhero genre. Sat 10 th Nov 1pm Sat 24 th Nov 1pm	 PAW PATROL: Mighty Pups Animated, Kids, Family 44mins G In this new short feature from the all-powerful Paw Patrol franchise, our search and rescue dogs are given super-powers after a mysterious meteor lands in Adventure Bay. Sat 17 th Nov 1pm	 THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD Documentary 1hr 39min R16: Graphic content may disturb "I wanted to reach through the fog of time and pull these men into the modern world so they can regain their humanity once more. "By using our computing power to erase the technical limitations of 100 year cinema, we can see and hear the Great War as they experienced it." Wed 11 th Nov 1pm	 MĀUI'S HOOK Documentary, Drama 1hr 31mins RP13: Deals with Suicide Hostage to his own pain, Tama, a disturbed young man, travels the destructive road of no return as five grieving families, broken by suicide, struggle with the painful loss of a loved one. Sun 11 th Nov 7pm
 SHE SHEARS Documentary 1hr 19min NR In the gruelling world of competitive sheep shearing there is no women's section. Women and men compete together. She Shears is the story of passion, purpose and determination and five women for whom shearing is not just a job. Fri 16 th Nov 7pm Sat 24 th Nov 7pm	 AN INTERVIEW WITH GOD Drama 1hr 37min M Paul Asher is an up-and-coming journalist who returns from Afghanistan and discovers that his life is falling apart. His marriage is failing, and he is gripped in a personal crisis. His faith is challenged when he interviews someone who claims to be God Sat 17 th Nov 7pm Sun 25 th Nov 7pm	 A SIMPLE FAVOR Mystery, Suspense 1hr 56min M Stephanie seeks to uncover the truth behind her best friend Emily's sudden disappearance from their small town. This thriller filled with twists and betrayals, secrets and revelations, love and loyalty, murder and revenge Sat 10 th Nov 7pm Wed 14 th Nov 7pm Wed 21 st Nov 1pm	 KING OF THIEVES Crime, True Story 1hr 46min M:Offensive Language King of Thieves is the incredible true story of the spectacular Hatton Garden diamond heist, the biggest and most daring in British history. Sun 18 th Nov 7pm Wed 21 st Nov 7pm Fri 23 rd Nov 7pm
Wed	Fri	Sat	Sun
	9 Scott Dixon 7pm	10 Teen Titans go to the Movies 1pm A Simple Favour 7pm	11 They shall not Grow Old 1pm Maui's Hook 7pm
14 A Star is Born 1pm A Simple Favour 7pm	16 She Shears 7pm	17 Paw Patrol 1pm An Interview with God 7pm	18 King of Thieves 7pm
21 A Simple Favour 1pm King of Thieves 7pm	23 King of Thieves 7pm	24 Teen Titans go to the movies 1pm She Shears 7pm	25 An Interview with God 7pm

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE OPUNAKE

14-18-NOW IWM DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY PETER JACKSON BBC FILM

THEY SHALL NOT GROW OLD R16

Sunday 11th November @ 1pm

Celebrating Armistice Day



TRAPALGAR HOUSE

Supporting people living with MND and their families

All around the country Kiwis are raising awareness, support and money for the Annual Walk 2 D'Feet Motor Neurone Disease on Sunday November 11.

Motor Neurone Disease is a fatal neuro degenerative disease and can strike active Kiwis often in middle age - changing lives overnight. Over 300 people are living with MND around the country. As this muscle wasting disease progresses it robs people of their movement, speech and eventually their lives.

People living with MND, their families and carers all need support as they face the daily challenges of this debilitating disease. The disease moves quickly, and people usually live between three to five years after diagnosis.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association of New Zealand support team provides free, personalised support and advocacy for almost every person with motor neurone disease in New Zealand, from Stewart Island to Northland.

They work together with people living with MND



The Annual Walk 2 D'Feet Motor Neuron Disease is this Sunday.

and their families to enable them to have the best quality of life possible.

MND New Zealand Chairperson Lucy Haberfield says, "We provide essential information and support services to people with MND, their families and carers. It's a difficult time for families and our services are highly valued. Delivering services costs money and unfortunately our contribution from Government funding agencies makes up less than 6% of what it costs us to deliver those services."

A recent study from the University of Auckland shows New Zealanders have the highest known rate of motor neurone disease of any country in the world.

Each year more than 100 people die from MND in

New Zealand, and over time it has affected thousands of New Zealand families.

"With more people being diagnosed each year in New Zealand we want to be able to reach those affected and provide the best support for people living with MND and their families," says Carl Sunderland, general manager MND New Zealand.

The 2K walk starts at 10:30 am at East End Skating Rink on Nobs Line, East End Beach.

Money raised helps continue to offer free support to families affected by MND and fund vital research to help find a cure.

Local MND walk organiser Tim Jackson says, "Everyone is welcome to take part, wet or fine we go ahead. The theme for the

walk is Blue and it's about having fun."

Walks 2 D'Feet MND are being held all over New Zealand as the main annual fundraiser for MND New Zealand. Half of the funds raised go towards providing support for people with MND and their carers. The other half goes to supporting MND research in New Zealand.

Lucy says, "We need your help! We need people to continue to volunteer in our fundraising efforts and we need you to dig deep to help those dealing with this terrible disease."

Register or donate online now: www.mndwalk.org.nz where you can also create your own Walk 2 D'Feet MND fundraising page.

Walk's 2 D'Feet MND will be held rain or shine. You may also register on the day from 9:30 am at located at East End Skating Rink on Nobs Line, East End Beach. Dogs are welcome on the walk with a leash. If already registered come and pick up your T-shirt and other merchandise. The walk is suitable for children, prams and wheelchairs.

Val Deakin Dance Theatre performs 'Just In Time' - a celebration of Women's Suffrage in New Zealand



CoastalCare

Haumaru ki Tai Health and Community Centre
Delivering essential community health and social services now and into the future....



DID YOU KNOW?

CoastalCare offers for hire, quiet, private, well-appointed room's for meetings, training opportunities and social gatherings. This will seat up to 60 people or it has the flexibility to be divided into two smaller rooms. The facilities include a lounge area & kitchenette for self service of coffees and tea

Permanently residing in the building are:
OPUNAKE PHARMACY,
OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE,
ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE,
PLUNKET,
HEALTH BOARD SERVICES,
COASTAL PRINTERS

CONTACT:
ARETHA LEMON or
ELAINE SPENCER,
Facility Managers on 06 761 8488

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

- COASTAL PRINTERS**
Wednesday and Friday 9am - 5pm
- TAYLOR DENTAL PRACTICE**
Offering full dental services every Thursday from hygiene treatments to dentures
- LISA KEEN - AUDIOLOGY**
Every Wednesday
- BUDGET ADVICE**
By appointment
- TARANAKI PODIATRY**
Every 2nd Wednesday
- MIHI'S PLACE**
Every 4th Thursday
- NP PHYSIOTHERAPY**
Tues and Fridays 12.30-5.00pm
- COUNSELLING**
Various providers and specialties including, relationships, drugs, alcohol, quit smoking, change support, family violence and anger management
- DAIRY NZ**
once a month course

Join us for a Sunday morning stroll



Proud supporter of the upcoming

Walk 2 D'Feet MND

Motor Neuron Disease

2km Fun Walk

Sunday 11 November

VENUE: East End Skating Arena

ROUTE: Along the Coastal Walkway



Online Registration | \$10
see mnd.org.nz for details

On the Day | \$15

Registration Opens | 9.30am

Walk Starts | 10.30am



Lots to see and do at the Egmont A & P Show

The Hits Kidzone – in its own tent this year beside the small animal tent.

Vintage machinery and steam engine rides - Venture across the bridge over the lake to the Pony Club paddock to see the rumbling old machinery and catch a free ride on the huge steam engine.

The Wonky Donkey Man - Clive Smith – will be live on stage in the Tairoa Lodge Café and between shows he'll be roaming in the Kidzone.

The Big Dig - Dig for hidden medals in our oversized sand pit near Kidzone. You could take home prizes and cash twice a day.

Claas pedal tractor races - Exercise and fun for children as they pedal these kid sized tractors at the Claas site while Mum and Dad admire the real thing.

Agrikids NZ - Friday is the AgriKids NZ have-a-go day, giving school children an opportunity to experience agricultural activities. The action is near Williams Ave

gate.

Mahon's Amusements - The thrill of the side shows, Mahon's Amusements will be in their normal place with a variety of exciting rides, food and entertainment for people of all ages.

Trade sites and food stalls - Vendors come from all over the North Island to trade at the show, from a new tractor to an ice-cream you will find lots to see in the trade area and Expo Hall. There is a café in the Hall and food stalls outside offering many yummy treats.

Dog trial - Skill, training, suspense and surprises are the ingredients of the Dog Trials, behind the Grandstand on Friday.

Fred & Eunice Rodie charitable trust small animal tent - Visit the tent in the trade area to get up close to a variety of animals. There is always something big and hairy, small furry and cute to see in the Small Animal tent. There will be shearing and cow milking demonstrations, and the opportunity to watch baby chicks hatching.

Live music and entertainment - There will be three stages of live music and entertainment at this year's show. Find them at Williams Ave Gate, in the Café and on the Shearing Stage.

Fowlie Builders and Placemakers D.I.Y challenge - Watch family groups nut out a do it yourself project together. What will they have to make? Come to the grass outside the Edna Wills Hall to watch this fun family challenge, 3pm Saturday.

The Alpacasrstyle alpaca sections - See the bovine

Continued on Page 26

Right: Scenes from the 2017 Egmont A&P Show in Hawera. This year's show opens Friday November 16.



Hawera Auto Court Egmont Show 2018



FRIDAY 16th & SATURDAY 17th NOVEMBER, EGMONT SHOWGROUNDS

Gate entry by Gold Coin Donation

Maire St Carpark \$2 per car
Primo Wireless – free wifi

COMPETITIONS

- ESNZ Dressage
- BTW Company ESNZ Jumping - including Harris Taylor FEI World Cup Jumping Round
- RAS Showing Section
- AlpacasRstyle Alpacas section
- Dog Trial
- Tree Awareness Management Limited Woodchopping
- Paper Plus Home Industry Section
- Placemakers / Fowlie Builders Family D.I.Y Challenge

LIVE MUSIC

THREE STAGES WITH LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
Williams Ave Gate
In the Cafe
On the Shearing Stage



ATTRACTIONS

- Large Trade Area
- Small Animal Tent
- NZME Kidzone
- Mahons Amusement Carnival Rides
- Clydesdales Wagon Ride
- Steam Engine Rides
- Vintage Cars
- Wonky Donkey Man Craig Smith
- The Hits Kidzone
- Billy Black

FOR THE FULL ENTERTAINMENT TIMETABLE AND COMPETITION SCHEDULES GO TO www.egmontshowgrounds.org.nz