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Kaponga Library's future page 4.



What's left when your tractor catches fire. See page 6.



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Jean Roach a true community person. Page 10

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Taranaki Art Awards winners

The Taranaki National Art Awards for 2024 attracted a record number of people keen to hear the winners of the annual event held in Opunake which attracted 262 entries.

This year the Works on Paper category accepted several digital entrees as has been the case in recent times.

The judges were Taarati Taiaroa, Assistant Curator Contemporary Māori Art at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery Len Lye Centre and Aaron Lister, Senior Curator (Toi) at City Gallery Wellington Te Whare Toi.

The painting Award with the top cash prize of \$1750 went to Reyna Henderson from New Plymouth for her study of the female face Sunlight and Shadow.

The judges among their comments described it as a painting that has intrigue and technical skill. "A study of light and shadow, the artist has skilfully modulated the contours of the face and added a layer of complexity with the rendering of the dappled light and deep shadow."

Highly Commended was Kym Gilchrist of Hamilton with her entry entitled In Transit.

The winning work in the Taranaki Artist category went to Myron Bent of Hawera for her work In Nature. The scene of a man whitebaiting was, said the judges among their comments on the work, an observation of an everyday activity but "the painted



Alastair Guthrie of New Plymouth won first place for this untitled piece which clearly charmed the judges.

world churns around him, a maelstrom of purples, pinks and majestic greens that run

to the electric." Highly Commended in the Taranaki Artist section was Chris Fuller from Opunake with his surfing seascape Summer Gem.

Alastair Guthrie of New Plymouth won first place in the Photography section for his untitled piece about cows peering out from a derelict house they'd moved into.

Rhonda Bunyan from Okato was Highly Commended for her black and white photo of a demonstration Stop the Genocide, a topical subject which clearly drew the two judges attention.

After the judging those present were entertained by singer Crystal Starr accompanying herself on guitar.

Commented Megan Symons, Taranaki National Art Awards Chairperson, the 22nd Taranaki National Art Awards has yet again been a resounding success attracting visitors and art appreciators to our slice

of Paradise. "We enjoyed the inspired conversations, surprising observations and perceptive insights of all the people who enjoyed the exhibition. Also, the joy and wonder shared and expressed by the talent and creativity that filled the Sinclair Electrical Events Centre for the past 10 days." She added that the TNAA Committee were also "proud of the time and effort we've devoted to celebrating the arts, culture and creativity in our coastal community. Thank you to all who supported, encouraged and assisted us in a myriad of ways to make the magic happen. A stellar achievement!"

Winners and place getters:
• **Painting**
Reyna Henderson of New Plymouth won first place for Sunlight and Shadow. Kym Gilchrist of Hamilton was highly commended for In



Myron Bent from Hawera won the Taranaki Artist Award with her work entitled In Nature.

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Letters to the Editor

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While we welcome free speech, the views expressed in the Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Opunake & Coastal News. Please limit letters to 350 words as we sometimes struggle for space to fit them all in.

Luxon is struggling

Isn't it high time we all begin to listen to what our Labour List MP for New Plymouth Glen Bennett is now telling us all.

Luxon is wanting to have 50,000 fewer people on Job Seeker by 2030, while at the same time there's over 200,000 people on the benefit costing our country billions of dollars.

Luxon promised to have 500 more police by the end of 2025 but since August this year they're down 104 police officers.

I heard myself that Luxon wants to boost and create jobs in tourism and the health system, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera, but how on earth can this happen when

we have well over 200,000 people on the benefit?

So far Luxon, along with his Mickey Mouse three stooges' coalition government is beginning to show their inexperience, not only working together, but Winston Peters and David Seymour are now bowing to Luxon's inexperience on how to run this country. Peters has a secret agenda, as he wants his political party, New Zealand First not only to be the government, but Peters wants to be PM, with his side-kick Shane Jones as his Deputy PM, so the upcoming election in 2026 will be extremely interesting.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

Gaza

ADELPHOS

Have you ever had to give a speech? For some people this question might trigger conscious or unconscious memories of anxiety or a lack of confidence. Here's one of the shortest speeches that summarised historical events that changed the landscape of world history:

"...I now realise how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts people from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached—how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how

he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree. But God raised him from the dead on the third day. And caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." "While Peter was still

That atrocities were committed on October 7 is not in dispute. What the atrocities were - who committed them and why - is.

Two compilations presenting important evidence of October 7- war-pornography, as propaganda, are available online: (1) 'October 7 was an inside job' by John Hankey <https://www.bitchute.com/video/O5Y3xag4VQQk> and (2) Max Blumenthal, 'Atrocity.inc'. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bFEurGy05ps>.

In addressing this critical issue, we have to acknowledge the recorded role 'atrocity-pornography' and 'false flag attack' propaganda play, initiating and inflating war 'fever.' That is, generating or

manufacturing consent of the public who would otherwise oppose it. This is historically known as the 'casus belli'...an act or an event that either provokes or is used to justify a war. In this case, a genocide. As we extend our thinking, it must also be understood the Zionist intention to cleanse Palestine of all Palestinians (YINON plan. Eretz Israel etc), which began in earnest with Balfour in 1917, reaching first 'attrition' in the 1947-48 NAKBA - and is continuing now, hidden behind the October 7 atrocity propaganda. Obviously, they who control information and media control the narrative. If the reader is seriously interested in atrocities committed while ethnically

Continued on page 3

A surprising speech

speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message."

This was the apostle Peter's short speech in Acts 10:34-44. How could an uneducated fisherman influence both his listeners and two thousand years of world history with one power-packed and politically incorrect speech? God's Holy Spirit of Jesus interrupted Peter's message, convincing his listeners that salvation and forgiveness was now for "everyone" and not just a rebellious Jewish people. Peter had three years of hands-on miraculous experiences with Jesus Himself. He participated in and was an eye witness of His many healings, resurrection and ascension to heaven. Intellectual Jewish theologians and Greek philosophers couldn't prevent the Holy Spirit

persuading those who heard and believed Peter's message.

This same Holy Spirit, who worked in the heart and mind of Jesus and Peter, is compassionately speaking to everyday people amidst global chaos, escalating wars and the heart-racing fear of human extinction. God's Spirit is speaking to different people in various ways—through the magnificence of His Creation, His Word, other people's words and actions or a strong sense of peace. But sometimes, as with Peter's speech, the power of God's Spirit surprisingly interrupts and enlightens us—with the reality of Jesus' unique offer of forgiveness and resurrection life with Him.

Rangimarie Taranaki,
Adelphos

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Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 2.

cleansing Gaza and Palestine, the UN special rapporteur stated in her report of 1 November that 'the violence Israel unleashed against the Palestinians post 7-October is part of a long term intentional, systematic, state organised forced displacement and replacement of the Palestinians from Palestine.'

(3) <https://documents.un.org/doc/undoc/gen/n24/279/68/pdf/n2427968.pdf>

Roger Morris

Oeo.

Don't blame global warming

According to Mr McAlpine the reason why these trees in the Te Henui Cemetery fell

upon those gravestones was because of global variations. Look it's common knowledge that for many years, even decades our city of New Plymouth has always had indigenous and native trees. Also I can vividly remember a tree that stood for some time in our Bowl of Brooklands fell over and after some investigation it was found that the outside looked good but the inside of it had completely rotted from inside right down to its roots, but luckily there was no live entertainment going on.

Look, before mankind ever stepped upon this earth, the whole world was subjected to hurricanes, typhoons, cyclones, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, so maybe Mr McAlpine should not complain to our New Plymouth District Council over this issue, as here in our province it's not very

often we are subject to these elements.

Also our Taranaki Regional Council should be now making really sure that our three councils should always be prepared if anything unexpected comes along at all times. Of course we don't want to be caught with our pants down.

Mr McAlpine must remember this, that mankind cannot control our weather patterns, but it controls us all, as here in New Zealand, we're extremely lucky that we don't get these terrific storms they have in the state of Florida.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Thanks

I've heard that our coastal successes in the DOY have been published in your paper! the 2024 Taranaki Floral Art Designer of the Year event was held on Saturday and Sunday 21/22 September at the Stratford War Memorial Centre.

I was glad to provide the overall results and photos of beautiful designs by our

coastal members. Thanks so much for your support Vanessa.

From the beginning of September through to the beginning of October you have actively worked with us to lift and celebrate the art of 'floral art' in the wider community. Grateful thanks.

Judy Williams
On behalf of the DOY
2024 Steering Committee,

The not so good

The good and not so good. In 2017 funding was given to the Department of Conservation by the Provincial Growth Fund of \$16.8 million for the upgrade on the Pouakai and Taranaki Crossing Treks and infrastructure required to allow for the extra 30,000-40,000 extra visitors is expected to create.

Project requirement: An upgrade to 25 kilometres of tracks, including board walks, bridges, signage and rest stops at geological features.

A new bridge across the Manganui Gorge.

A replacement of the



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Pouakai Hut.

New North Egmont Visitors Centre replacement.

Most of this track work has been completed but the infrastructure around hut accommodation, visitor parking in the park for these extra park-users, extra toilet facilities and upgrade to visitors centres are still to be accessed. During the 2024-2025

summer season park-users to the Egmont National Park will experience long waiting times to get parking up there.

The New Zealand government can provide dollars for these provincial projects but not the infrastructure for them which is required.

Ian McAlpine
New Plymouth

Taranaki Art Awards winners

Continued from page 1

Transit.

• Taranaki Artists

Myron Bent of Hāwera won first place for In Nature. Chris Fuller of Ōpunake was highly commended for Summer Gem.

• 3D

Jonny de Painter of Pātea won first place for Please Like Me. Juliet Larkin of New Plymouth was highly commended for an untitled piece.

• Works on Paper

Gabrielle Belz of Pātea and Cathy Tuato'o Ross of Whangārei tied for first place for Karakia (II) and Māoriland: Caution respectively.

• Fibre Art

Kris White of New Plymouth and Donna Dinsdale of Te Puke Pakanga tied for first place for Correize Tulle and The Heat of Battle respectively.

• Tō Taranakitanga

Ra Gossage of Pākiri won first place for For Taranaki, Arohanui Ra. Maria Brockhill of New Plymouth was highly commended for Ipu for Ngahere o Taranaki.

• Photography

Alastair Guthrie of New Plymouth won first place for an untitled piece. Rhonda Bunyan of Okato was highly commended for Stop the Genocide.

• Special Award Committee Choice

Claire Jensen of Ōpunake for Small Studies

People's Choice Awards x2

'Kiwi Kid' by Bernadette Ballentyne. In the Works on Paper - an incredibly skilled pastel portrait of a young



ABOVE:

One of the more elaborate and certainly interesting exhibits which was joint winner of the Fibre Art Award was this entry by Donna Dinsdale which she said was to honour her mother's uncle, Dudley Lewis who was born in Stratford and passed away in the Second World War.

"He was bombed and suffocated in the trenches in Egypt," said Donna.

He wrote to his mother every day and copies of some of his mother's letters are incorporated into one of the garments. There's also interesting reports that appeared in the Daily News, also photocopied onto fabrics and incorporated into the exhibits. They include a photo of Dudley as a young boy. Her mother would recall that as a child they took him to the train station but he never returned.

Donna's intricate display of two exhibits included a military jacket and a World War II nurses cape, which took her some months to complete was made out of grey army blankets with additional fabrics dyed to fit with the theme.

boy with a Marmite smile.

'Bruno' by Sophia Forsdyke. In Painting - the beautifully captured shaggy Highland bull/steer with the

ornate white frame.

Over 9 days: 950, so 1150 - 1200 people visited the exhibition. Art sales: 36 works, 14% of entries.



The painting award was won by Reyna Henderson for Sunlight and Shadow.

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Community Board ends year at Tumahu Hall

The Taranaki Coastal Community Board ventured into previously untraversed territory when they held their last meeting of the year at the Tumahu Hall. The hall, located at Newall on the Wiremu Road is at the northwest corner of the

Taranaki Coastal ward, and while the board has held meetings in other country halls around the ward this was the first time they had been here.

The board considered several funding applications, including two to the Waimate



The Taranaki Coastal Community Board meeting at the Tumahu Hall.

Plains Development Levy, a fund which allocates funds to community projects in the area taken up by the former Waimate Plains District Council.

The Manaia Golf Club, represented by its president Rod Le Fleming was seeking \$2567 from the Waimate Plains Development Levy for blinds and furnishings for the Winter Lounge of their club rooms. Rod talked about the history of the lounge. It had been originally paid for from a \$10,000 bequest from the widow of the local chemist who had made similar bequests to the town's hockey and cricket clubs and the Manaia Highland Pipe Band.

"So far as I know we're the only club still going," he said.

He said the lounge was opened 50 years ago and the club is wanting to "do it up."

The board voted to grant the full amount being asked for. Deputy board chair Sharlee Mariekura said the club rooms are used by other groups in a town where there is a shortage of available meeting places.

The Auroa Soldiers Hall was also seeking funding from the Waimate Plains Development Levy.

Jill Corbett said they

were seeking \$9000 from the Waimate Plains Development Levy to instal new heat pumps.

"There are several old bar heaters there which are pretty old, and if there's a function on at night you have to go to the hall in the morning to have it heated at night."

The hall is also used by the Auroa School.

"The heat pumps would be great when the school uses it when it gets real hot in there, and it would be great to cool, as well as to heat."

The amount being asked for was based on the quote they had received, and they were in the process of getting a second one. The board voted to grant up to the requested amount of \$9000 subject to receiving a second quote.

The board considered several applications for funding from the local discretionary account. Opunake High School was seeking \$3188.69 to hire the Sinclair Event Centre for the school centenary next year. Community board chair Andy Whitehead declared an

interest and did not take part in the vote or the discussion. The board voted to grant the full amount being asked for. The board also voted \$1000 to the Manaia Community Services Trust towards running the Manaia Christmas Parade, and \$4000 to the Opunake Sports Trust for running an after school/holiday programme.

The board voted to decline a district-wide funding application from the Arts Festival Taranaki Charitable Trust to support a regional arts performance of He's a Rebel by the Up Doos at the Kakarama Hall. The Patea Community Board had already voted to grant \$1500 and the Te Hawera Community Board had voted \$1000. Board member Liz Sinclair said there were people from Coastal Taranaki who went to events like this and she would be prepared to move the board vote \$1500, but there was no seconder. Sharlee Mariekura said she would be more favourable to it if she had more information on whether artists from the

coast were involved. The board voted to decline the application.

Earlier that day the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board had also voted against funding the event.

"I struggle with this one. I don't see how this would benefit our community," said Cr Steffy McKay at the Eltham meeting. Board member Lindsay Maindonald agreed, saying it was often hard to get funding for arts events in the Eltham-Kaponga community.

Janet Fleming and Jane Fleming from the Rahu Sports Community Trust gave an update about plans to plans to upgrade sporting facilities in Rahu.

There was also a presentation from the Taranaki Facilities Commission, a collective of nine partners of which the South Taranaki District Council is one, promoting collaboration, accessibility and sustainability with sport, active recreation and play facilities.

Board support youth inspired mural

A project to paint a mural at the Eltham Skatepark has received a helping hand from the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board.

At their meeting last week the Board had received a funding application from the Eltham Youth Health and Development Trust whose E-Town Youth Centre provides a range of services to young people in Eltham.

The project would see a mural painted on a 40 metre-long stretch of wall at

Soldiers Park.

"The youth wanted to create their own vibrant splash down at the park," said Cr Steffy MacKay, who along with board chair Karen Cave declared an interest and did not take part in the vote.

Steffy said Eltham youth had been working on the design.

"Karen and I had been part of the workshops, but the important thing is it's the youth's ideas.

"When you get youth involved in projects like this

around town it makes a huge difference."

She said projects like this also lead to less graffiti and less vandalism.

Opunake artist Chris Fuller is leading the project, working alongside Fleur Le Bas, and it is hoped everything would be finished in mid-January said Steffy.

The total cost of the project is \$8200 and organisers were applying for a grant of \$1555.94. The board voted to grant the full amount being asked for.



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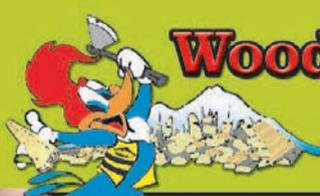
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Déjà vu for Kaponga Library

Problems with a leaky roof means there is a question mark over the future of the Kaponga Library.

The current library is based in a building on the corner of Egmont and Victoria Streets, and eight years ago it closed temporarily when it was found it did not meet earthquake standards. Everything was shifted into the Kaponga War Memorial Hall supper room and the library operated from there until the original building was ready for use again. Now it appears another shift back to the War Memorial Hall may be in the offing.

South Taranaki District Council group manager community services Rob Haveswood told the Eltham-Kaponga Community Board that the roof on the north side of the building leaks and there have been times when all the electrics have had to be turned off. They have not yet been able to find the source of the problem.

"No one is able to say hand on heart where the leaking is," he said.

A report has been drawn up which will be presented to the Council Policy and



The Kaponga Library could be going back to the War Memorial Hall.

Strategy Committee meeting on November 25 listing three possible options for library services in Kaponga. These are the status quo, permanently moving to the supper room of the War Memorial Hall, or a hybrid service that would see a reduction in library services for Kaponga.

"Our preferred option is Option Two to move into the War Memorial Hall," says Rob.

Community board chair Karen Cave said there had to

be somewhere in Kaponga where people would know the library would be open.

Cr Steffy MacKay noted the work that had been carried out to improve accessibility to the hall and board member Sonya Douds noted the availability of nearby carparks.

Board member Alan Hawkes said one downside would be that the supper room which was well used would be whittled down to make way for the library. Rob Haveswood said it was

likely the library would take up the entire supper room.

The question was raised as to how often the supper room as distinct from the rest of the hall was used.

Mayor Phil Nixon said the Council often used it for events and it had also been used for meet the candidate meetings.

Comments were made about the benefits that libraries provided beyond lending books. Board member Lindsay Maindonald commended the work done by library staff where he lived in Eltham, particularly with the town's older people.

"It extends beyond the books. They really appreciate the way the girls look after them with a chat and a cup of tea."

Karen Cave asked what would happen to the old

library building. Rob Haveswood said that still had to be considered.

The Kaponga Library has had several shifts in its history, having been on four different sites within a radius of 150 metres.

From a small building near the Kaponga Hotel, the

library moved to the former post office building before moving across the road to its present site. Then there was the shift to the War Memorial Hall and back again to its current site.

Now it could well shift again.

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Disney-themed surprise for New Year



Coming to Taranaki-The Disney Wonder.

In a surprise addition to the Taranaki cruise schedule, Port Taranaki General Manager Commercial Ross Dingle has confirmed that Disney-themed cruise ship Disney Wonder will visit on Sunday, 19 January 2025.

The 11-deck, 294m vessel, which accommodates 2,400 passengers and 945 crew,

will arrive from Sydney at 10.15am and depart at 5.15pm, heading back to Sydney.

Mr Dingle said a change of schedule had prompted the Taranaki visit.

"Disney Wonder was looking for a New Zealand port as an alternative stop following a change of

schedule to its Disney Magic at Sea cruise. As a port of first and last call, and the only deep-water port on the west coast of New Zealand, Port Taranaki is uniquely positioned to quickly accommodate vessels coming from Australia,"

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The same night we also recognised some of our firefighters for their years of service to the brigade. Assistant Area manager Clive Lennox of FENZ Taranaki presented Ryan Moss with a Long Service Good Conduct (LSGC) medal for 14 years’ service. Sam Heemi with an extra bar on his LSGC medal for 21 years’ service, and to Beau Le Prou for 35 years’ service. The LSGC medal is a Queens medal and needs to be applied for through the government, so congratulations to these three, who between them have attended well over 3000 callouts and training events.

Recently we have had a couple of tractor fires around Opunake; one while a farmer was spreading urea and another when the tractor was sitting in a shed. While we are unsure of the cause of these two fires, a common cause is bird’s nests, especially at this time of year. Please take a bit of time to check under the hood for any hay around the engine area each morning.

Andrew Pentelow CFO



From left. LSGC Medal recipients, Beau Le Prou, Sam Heemi, Ryan Moss, AAM FENZ Taranaki, Clive Lennox.



Please take a bit of time to check under the hood for any hay around the engine area each morning.

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Prizegiving ends a successful year for “amazing school”

The end of year senior prizegiving at Opunake High School concluded a successful year for the school.

Beginning with the school waiata, then the National Anthem and a rousing haka the Chairperson of the Opunake High School Board of Trustees Andy Whitehead began by saying it was a privilege to be involved with this “amazing school,” and all who contributed to its success. He made special mention of the “warm and fuzzy feeling” aroused in him in being back associated with the school having taken a break for a while.

“Take our dreams, values and refresh them, be diligent, respect yourselves and those facing different challenges,” he urged the departing Year 13 students.

He also though stressed the importance of helping people along the way.

He referred to the centennial of Opunake High School next year the preparation of which will involve the upgrading of classrooms.

We must evaluate the success and future of every student he said before announcing the pupil who will represent the students on the Board of Trustees Gerard Torres.

The presentation of sports awards followed after which former student and guest speaker Jacob Whakatutu gave an inspiring speech which included some exciting video of his chosen career, skydiving.

He played credit to his teachers at Opunake High School and one in particular who, when he was struggling to master one subject, gave him extra tuition which so helped him he said.

Jacob also gave an interesting address at how he came by his unusual career confessing he didn’t know what he wanted to do when he left school. In 2022 he joined the NZ Skydiving School which he said was the only one in the world and discovered he could make a living sky diving. Now living and working in Taupo, he described it as “the experience of a lifetime”. Not really working and “a whole lot of fun,” Jacob is now a qualified instructor. He also spoke about learning to fold a parachute adding chillingly “each representing a person’s life”.

His advice to parting students was to “Follow your passion. Stay curious, never stop learning and don’t fear failure.” Remember that your journey is unique to you.

Next followed a musical interlude, a brilliant version of Pink Floyd’s Comfortably Numb performed by the students with music teacher Jared Hill as the vocalist.



OHS principal Andrea Hooper-Carr speaking at the prizegiving.

It was a great choice with some fantastic lead guitar work, and great vocals by the teacher.

Next came the Arts and Cultural Awards with Caleb Neil winning the Maori Speech Award and collecting the trophy for Senior Public Speaking.

The Head Pupils for 2024 Charlie Carr and Luke Forsyth who clearly enjoyed their time at Opunake High

School then took centre stage. Luke spoke of the “special connection with teachers,” with whom he “could speak about anything”. Referring to the “ups and downs, good memories, bad memories” he advised students to “enjoy your good moments.”

Another delightful musical interlude followed with a performance of The Foo Fighters Everlong. Combining vocals with

great drumming and three guitars it was an invigorating experience.

Opunake High School principal Andrea Hooper-Carr who followed announced that Maths teacher Vincent Edwards would be leaving at the end of the year.

It had been an eventful year the principal said paying tribute to the Year 13 students who, among other milestones, made the trip to Japan a reality.

“The sky is the limit for you. Only you Champion yourselves, believe in yourselves,” she concluded.

A rather novel power point followed with baby photos and current photos of each of the year 13 students.

The prefects for 2025 were announced and the head pupils. Another rousing haka ended the prizegiving.

ABOVE RIGHT: Opunake High School Dux for 2024 Caleb Neil (left) who is heading to Otago University next year with the aim of doing medicine described his final year at Opunake High School as “great” and “challenging” and said he appreciated “the support from everyone around me including the teachers.” A keen sportsperson he enjoys hockey, soccer, volleyball and squash. Deputy Dux Charlie Carr is also going to Otago next year where she intends to do a Bachelor of Science majoring in biology. Hoping to also travel her eventual aim is a career in marine biology. The year had been “pretty busy” but “fine” she said commenting on “the lovely spirit” at Opunake High School. Among her interests are “anything to do with the outdoors”.



The senior school band during their performance of the Pink Floyd number.

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The place to be this time of year

Opunake is the place to be this time of year. November kicked off with the launch of the 2024 Centuria Garden Festival, Taranaki Arts Trail, Fringe Garden Festival and Sustainable Backyards, and I know Opunake was a pin on the map for many gardeners and art enthusiasts visiting the region.

The CBD looked fantastic decorated in colourful yarn, and a sense of optimism was in the air when I spoke with retailers and locals on the main street recently. Shopkeepers told me they were seeing more out-of-towners on weekends which can only be expected to increase as summer draws near.

My recent visits included



DAVID MACLEOD MP
NEW PLYMOUTH

stops at Rahotu and Opunake Primary Schools, a Coffee Catch-Up with constituents at Sugar Juice, and celebrating the winners and entrants of the Taranaki National Art Awards, held at Sinclair Refrigeration Event Centre.

Conversations around

town raised a number of concerns, notably vehicle speed outside rural schools, changes to the school lunch programme, and CBD development. I will continue to work towards outcomes where I can and share your feedback with my colleagues in Wellington.

As my final column of the year, I want to take a moment to reflect on some of the government's achievements and announcements in 2024. Changes to the Resource Management Act and the introduction of the Fast-

Track Bill will cut red tape and speed up delivery of regional and national projects of significance, including 22 renewable energy projects across the country which collectively add up to 3 gigawatts of generation capacity.

We have focused intensely on rebuilding the economy and easing the cost of living with tax relief measures, and we committed to restoring law and order in our communities.

We also prioritised education with revised

curriculums to make sure our tamariki gain the skills they need to succeed.

Further highlights include reversing the ban on offshore oil and gas exploration to bolster our energy security, resetting water management policies, and investing in health, including a much-needed funding boost to Pharmac and investment in cancer treatments.

There's more to be done and I look forward to getting stuck into the mahi in 2025.

Before then, I look forward to the end of year events; the

parades, market days, school galas and prizegivings, and enjoying some time off over Christmas with family and friends. My office will be closed from Monday 23 December 2024 to Monday 13 January 2025.

As always, please reach out if you need information or assistance. I look forward to joining you all for the Opunake Christmas Parade this Christmas Eve.

David MacLeod
MP New Plymouth

Unemployment rising shows the need for a plan

New labour market data released by Statistics New Zealand shows a weak labour market and the need for a plan to deliver positive change, said NZCTU Economist Craig Renney.

"Unemployment rose to 4.8% - which is the highest rate it has been since COVID-19. There are 29,000 more people unemployed since this government took office. Yet there is no plan to help workers - that needs to change," said Renney.

"It's clear that some communities are

increasingly being left behind.

Unemployment for young people is now a real concern, with 20% of 15-19-year-olds unemployed and 8.4% of all 20-24-year-olds unemployed. Māori unemployment is 9.2% and Pacific Peoples unemployment is 9.9%. Unemployment in Auckland is now 5.2%.

"Wages are also reflecting the softer labour market, with 37% of all workers seeing no pay rise, and 50% of workers seeing an annual pay rise less than the 3.8%

increase in household costs reported yesterday. With the minimum wage rising by less than inflation this year, its low-income workers who are bearing the brunt of this Government's policies.

"This was the first time in 37 quarters that the number of people employed in New Zealand fell. A million fewer hours were worked this year. 367,000 people want more work but can't currently get it. The numbers unemployed for more than six months is at its highest level since 1992.

"The headline rate of

unemployment didn't hit 5%, but the underlying data shows that the labour market is as weak as people fear. There have been significant layoffs at sites across New Zealand which won't have regis-tered yet in this data.

"The Government's only plan appears to be welfare sanctions which will only increase hardship for unemployed workers. Workers deserve to know what this government is going to do to ensure everyone has access to good, sustainable work," said Renney.

New bridge and walkway on track for historic Hauranga Pā site

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) with support from local hapū is set to begin building a new bridge and walkway at the historic Hauranga Pā site near Ōākura.

The project combines a new footbridge to replace the bridge destroyed during ex-tropical Cyclone Dovi in 2022 and a path supported by a new rock embankment

that will provide access around the headland at high tide.

"NPDC is required by law to protect the historic Hauranga Pā, so we designed the bridge and pathway together as a great route for walkers to enjoy the coast while still respecting the archaeological and wāhi tapu site," said NPDC Infrastructure project manager Nigel Wilson following a karakia

ceremony to mark the start of work.

"The planning for this work in a sensitive coastal environment has required extensive technical input. We've had widespread community and hapū support for a new bridge and walkway, but the legal consent process, requiring consents from Taranaki Regional Council, the Department of Conservation and NPDC, has taken longer than expected."

The construction window is tight to protect the penguins and other wildlife, but Taranaki Regional Council has approved plans to protect and avoid disturbing wildlife.

Hauranga Pā sits within the tribal area of Ngāti Tairi and was one of the largest pā in the Tataraimaka district. It held significant strategic and symbolic importance to mana whenua before and after European settlement. In recent years, it has been a popular link for walkers and cyclists between the Timaru and Whenuariki streams, and this has damaged the site's archaeological features.

Although it will be a shared pathway, cyclists must walk their bikes around for the safety of other users.

The Hauranga headland where the pathway will run between the Timaru and Whenuariki streams.

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Soul Kitchen closing after losing school lunches



Soul Kitchen closing their doors. The business is for sale.

The business which has been in operation for 13 years is closing its doors following the Government's announcement that they will no longer be using local businesses for providing school lunches.

"We're having to close

because the Government reneged on their promise," said owner Belinda Philp clearly not happy about the decision to have the Compass Group which is based in Hamilton supply school lunches in the future. "We'd been promised two

more years from next year beginning in term 1 by the Government," explains Belinda. Soul kitchen has been supplying lunches for Opunake High School and Opunake Primary School students.

Though they knew they

were going to lose in 2025 some of the lunches for year 7 and above students to the alternative provider, they had been told they could continue to supply years 1 to 6.

When the announcement in late October was made that

the Compass Group were to be the new lunch providers they were "gutted".

"We knew we were losing the Opunake High School lunches and we knew we would be losing years 7 and 8 from Opunake primary School but we thought we were going to retain years 1 to 6.

"We had it in writing and they've completely reneged," said an angry Belinda, "absolutely."

The loss of the lunches has meant they have had to lay off their five staff, all local people she said.

Belinda already has another part time job at the Wave

Church where she has been employed for several years while her husband Todd who also works in the business and was very unhappy at the decision will now be doing farm work.

For Belinda she now just wants to get out of the hospitality trade and is hoping to explore facilitating workshops and speaking engagements and says she is up for hire.

The catering business is for sale and would be viable for an owner operator.

"It is fully set up," said Belinda who, along with providing the school lunches, had been selling meals from the premises and also doing outside catering.

Science cuts take NZ even further backward

NZCTU Te Kauae Kaimahi President Richard Wagstaff says he is deeply concerned about the future of investment in science, following the latest announcement of another 60 jobs cuts at Environmental Science and Re-search (ESR). The Government has now axed more than 500 jobs in the public science sector.

"The Government doesn't seem to believe in the value of science and isn't interested in making the investment required. Instead, it is taking us backwards and slashing funding in favour of tax cuts for landlords and tobacco companies," said Wagstaff. "We should be increasing investment in science and

properly funding Crown Research Institutes (CRIs) and universities. New Zealand is only spending about half the OECD average on science and research and development (R&D) already.

"It's well known that countries that invest a higher proportion of GDP directly in R&D (both private and public) see greater returns economically, socially and environmentally.

"The decision to make these cuts has been made even though the report of the Science System Advisory Group report is due out shortly, which demonstrates the lack of commitment there is to listen to the

evidence on the im-portance of science investment.

"The Government talks about the need to tackle our poor productivity performance, and the need for a longer-term plan to arrest our decline, but their actions continue to take us in the opposite direction.

"It's time we had a serious conversation about science, and we urgently need a government that is prepared to have that conversation and not just bury it's head in the sand," said Wagstaff.

The CTU and several affiliated unions are member organisations of the Save Science Coalition. The Save Science Coalition released a report in July this year. The group is now working on

an update to this report, to account for the ongoing cuts at GNS, ESR and elsewhere. The report will contain more detailed numbers and information and is expected to be released before the end of the year.

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Jean Roach who gave so much to the community

So many people had approached him who had been taught by his mother sometimes with amusing anecdotes, said Bryan Roach following the sad loss of his mother Jean Roach who passes away in October.

As well as raising four boys, she taught virtually full time. She also worked as a defensive driving instructor for many years, helped out on the census and was involved in numerous committees and community groups in Opunake and the district. These included the Egmont Community Arts Council, the Taranaki Fringe Garden Trust, the numerous murals around Opunake and the erecting of a statue to Peter Snell in the town square

said eldest son Bryan.

Jean Roach (nee Slater) was born in 1939 in Birmingham, England.

She trained as a high school teacher. Keen to escape the rat race of England's second largest city and seeking greener pastures, she applied for a job as a teacher in New Zealand she saw advertised in England. It was a three year contract with all expenses paid by the New Zealand Government, including flights. Aged just 21 she and a group of other teachers - all female - boarded at an Air Force Base, a DC-3 aircraft bound for New Zealand. Their most enjoyable stopover enroute was to the Hawaii Army Base Hawaii when the group of young women was greeted by young American



Jean Roach, 26/06/1939-2/10/2024.

men who couldn't believe their luck when these nubile young women poured out of the plane, she would recount. They were very friendly and would do anything for you Bryan remembered her saying.

When they eventually arrived in Wellington they were each asked in what part of New Zealand would you like to teach. Jean who knew nobody in New Zealand and had no relations here answered, "It doesn't matter, I just want to be close to the sea."

Then she was posted to Opunake she clearly felt her dreams had been answered and she began teaching at Opunake High School.

The young blue-eyed teacher with the English accent soon became the talk of the town. It wasn't long before she was being courted by a handsome young farmer she met at a dance his name was Ron (Pete) Roach.

Recalls Bryan, when they were cleaning out old stuff following Jean's death,

they found a huge stack of letters Jean had written to her mother back in England. Pulling one out at random Bryan, by bizarre coincidence, had picked a letter Jean had written to her mother of her beau and their intention to get married. The couple duly went down to Whanganui and, with a minimum of fuss, were soon married. 9 months later Bryan was the first to arrive. (Jean would write to her mother every month and they have yet to wade their way through the rest of the letters but that will come.)

A further three children - all boys - followed in quick succession as Jean settled into life on a dairy farm just out of Opunake. She did not however abandon her teaching career and indeed once the children were a year or two old it was husband Ron's turn to look after the children who he would take out on the farm as she returned to teaching.

In subsequent years Jean's parents and two brothers would regularly visit New Zealand - in one case her parents staying for a year. "Her brothers loved New Zealand," said Bryan, they loved living on the farm.

It was tough financially in the early days of their marriage, however.

"I remember us living off kina and paua nearly every night," recalls Bryan. They didn't have a fridge for the first year.

Growing up Bryan recalls his mother as "strict" unlike their father.

She was also an outdoors person and Bryan recalls many happy times going skiing trips and tramping on the Mountain staying in huts. These adventures were always led by their mother, their father preferring to stay home milking the cows and watching cricket.

She was not a typical farmer's wife because she had a full time job though the 9 to 3 working hours dovetailed nicely with the farm and milking. It worked financially too Bryan adding that his mother kept in contact with many of the teaching colleagues on that flight, many of whom also settled in New Zealand.

His mother was very strong willed and determined. If she wanted to do something she was a hundred percent committed to it, said Bryan. Her no nonsense approach meant things got done. She had high standards which

Continued page 11



Jean and Ron (Pete) on their wedding day. There were a few jibes about a slater becoming a Roach!

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You will be missed

Continued from page 10.

she expected of others. She was also caring and loving and remembered as a very good teacher.

Malcolm Harding humorously recalled meeting his new teacher Jean Slater in the corridor at Opunake High School her “beautiful blue eyes” complementing “a lovely English accent” sternly wanting to know “where you three little boys think you’re going”.

Despite her years of teaching defensive driving however she was not a great driver said Bryan recalling she had numerous accidents over the years.

She also seemed to quite often have fires in the kitchen, twice burning down the kitchen in their house.

He recalls a particularly funny story. In the early 1970s they had an Austin Cambridge car which had large rust holes in the floor they were warned to avoid. You could see the road below remembers Bryan. Jean had taken Bryan and his younger sibling Neil grocery shopping in Opunake. On the way home Bryan and Neil in the back seat ‘posted’ each item through the rust holes on the floor onto the road.

When they got home, Jean discovering all the groceries gone then had to go back and retrieve “most” of the items noting later she thought they had been “so good” as they were “so quiet”.

Jean leaves four sons Bryan, Neil, Paul and Michael, four daughters in law and 10 grandchildren.

Also, two brothers, and two sisters in law in the UK.

Jean made an enormous contribution to the Opunake district and will be much missed by all who were privileged to know her.



Jean by the statue of Peter Snell

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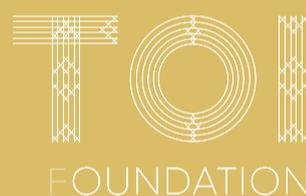
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Coastal Gems for sale

Step up to King Street Style

By Kathryn Mary Stanley

Opunake has been introduced to a new level of excellence with its townhouse at 35a King Street.

This three-bedroom, two-bathroom dwelling has been built and finished to a high standard of quality by GJ Gardner, intended for the discerning purchaser.

This construction was on everyone's lips and it was the talk of the town as to what the finished home would look like. Formerly the section was part of the Opunake Bowling Club green. But walk along King Street and open your eyes to this easy-care brick, single storey townhouse, which is an appealing and comfortable design.

The emphasis is on modern and practical lines. This is a 2024 look which will stand up to the test of time.

The path leads up to the keyless front door which then leads around the corner to newly planted garden and pavement.

On the other side is a single garage which is large enough to store tools and garden equipment.

This garage keeps the house owners safe in inclement weather. There



Airy atmosphere with large doors opening out in the dining area to a landscaped section.

is a door opening into a separate laundry. There has been efficient use of floor space with plenty of room for a washing machine,

clothes drier and built-in cupboards.

From the front door visitors walk past a master bedroom which opens out

onto a garden path, lawn and seating. The high wooden fence wraps up the entire home in absolute privacy. So the sun can shine into the main bedroom and there is peace and quiet for the owners.

The master bedroom has a walk-in wardrobe as well as a large fully tiled ensuite with underfloor heating and a walk-in shower. Wheelchair friendly with wide doors and easy access.

The other two bedrooms are both large and airy and they have good wardrobes and storage with shelving. These bedrooms look outside onto a private, fenced in part of the garden.

One of these bedrooms could be used for an office or a secondary lounge.

The floorplan at the back of the home opens out through

two sliding doors to the landscaped garden complete with ready lawn and mowing strips. This is a home for relaxing and entertaining friends.

The lounge allows comfortable seating for visitors. This area opens out onto the dining table which has two views of the outdoors.

People who like cooking will love the kitchen with the easy access wall oven and electric cooktop, plus the user-friendly double dish drawer - all brand-new Fisher and Paykel appliances. Much attention has been paid to features such as sliding drawers, an extra-large kitchen sink, and a wide servery/bar. The talking point is the walk-in pantry which is large enough to accommodate china,

cooking pots, and food.

This would be a dream kitchen to work in.

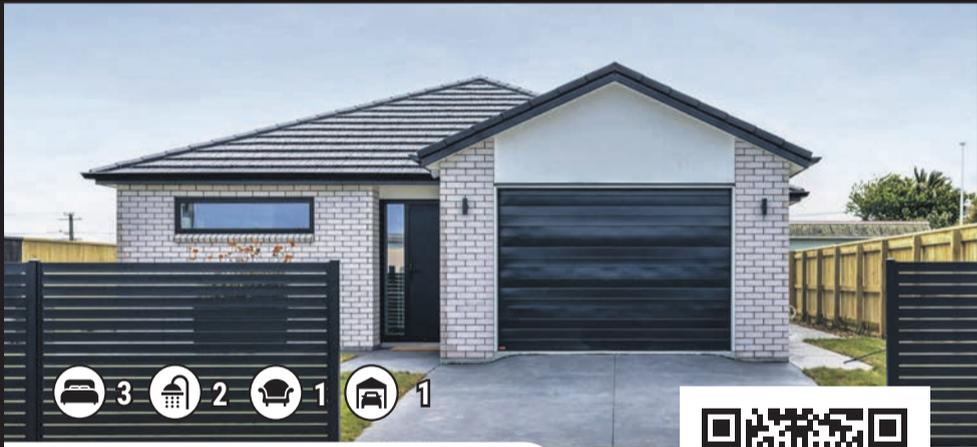
The same, soothing neutral colour scheme has been used to create a restful atmosphere throughout each room.

This would be an easy home to look after and it would be ideal for a retired couple or for a family with young children.

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Weather fails to deter good day out



Jenny Cavaney with Sonia Brown at the St Barnabas Church stall.

The weather didn't appear to be deterring people from looking out for a bargain or enjoying a morning out at the annual Opunake Market Day on November 2. At around 10am the crowds along Tasman Street were starting to build up. "It's been good and steady," said Jenny Cavaney at the St Barnabas Church stall. "The rain has now stopped, but now we've got the wind, but we keep on keeping on." Cardin Harvey was looking at the Opunake Lakeside Lions stall. "It's a lovely day, but it

costs a fortune when you bring your grandchildren," she said. At the Rahotu Wesley Church stall Jan Kelsen had an interesting looking range of gifts on offer. "Just a few Christmas decorations," she said. "We've got gifts for Mum, gifts for Nanna. With these wind spinners you put them in your tree and they go round and round. We've got a bit of everything. They're not expensive as kids don't have a lot of money if they want to buy nanna something." Assisting her was grandson

William Plunkett who had just come back from the United Kingdom on a Blue Light young leaders' exchange programme, where highlights had included helping out as a volunteer at the Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

The Market Day is a time for community groups and organisations to promote themselves, and the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade has become one of the Market regulars, running a sausage sizzle and showing off one of their fire engines.

"It's really good and there's

a lot of positivity with the kids going through," station officer Colin Andrews said as he was taking Janine Jupp and Edwin Jupp around the fire engine.

"We've been getting a lot of donations and the sausage sizzle has been going really well."

Is there any message in particular they want to get out to the general public?

"We've had two tractor fires in three days, so for farmers, check your tractors before starting up. If the nesting gets into your tractor, and then you start it



William Plunkett and grandmother Jan Kelsen at the Rahotu Wesley Church stall.



Station Officer Colin Andrews with Janine Jupp and Edwin Jupp and one of the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade's fire trucks.

up-bang." Things were well underway when there was a half-hour long torrential downpour at around 11am but even then business appeared to be carrying on as normal.

"Opunake is a resilient community," said Opunake Business Association chair Raewyn Cornford. "It would have had to have been a cyclone to stop it.

"There was a gap in the weather but the groups and the charities still made good money. Even with the pouring rain the stalls under the canopies still sold all their wares.

"All in all it was a great success. Roll on next year."

New improved timetable



BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL
for NPBHS, NPGHS,
FDMC & SHGC boarders

Southlink

Coastal bus service

ŌPUNAKE - NEW PLYMOUTH

Effective 1 May 2024



- KEY**
- Bus stops
 - Opunake to NP return
 - i-Site Puke Ariki

Southlink Coastal service is operated by Pickering Motors Ltd with support from Taranaki Regional Council



BUS BETTER WITH Bee



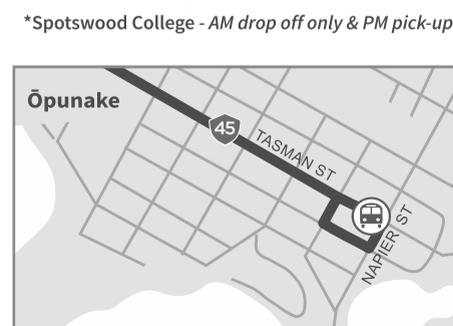
SCAN TO VIEW FARES INFORMATION

Ōpunake to New Plymouth (Mon-Fri)		AM	PM
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	6.55	1.30
Rahotu	Plunket Rooms	7.08	1.43
Pungarehu	Opposite Town Hall	7.13	1.48
Okato	Carthew St. (opp. Sinclair's)	7.25	2.00
Oākura	Oākura Hall	7.35	2.10
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	7.50	2.25
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	7.57	2.32
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	8.00	2.35



New Plymouth to Ōpunake		AM	PM
		Mon-Fri	Mon-Thu
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	11.30	5.05
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	11.33	5.08
New Plymouth	Spotswood College*	11.40	5.18
Oākura	Oākura Hall	11.50	5.20
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	12.00	5.30
Pungarehu	Town Hall	12.10	5.40
Rahotu	Four Square	12.15	5.45
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	12.28	5.58
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	12.30	6.00

Friday only		PM
New Plymouth	FDMC	4.25
New Plymouth	NPGHS	4.40
New Plymouth	SHGC	4.45
New Plymouth	NPBHS	4.55
New Plymouth	Egmont Street	5.05
New Plymouth	Liardet Street	5.08
New Plymouth	Spotswood College (pick-up only)	5.18
Oākura	Oākura Hall	5.20
Okato	Sinclair Electrical, Carthew St.	5.30
Pungarehu	Town Hall	5.40
Rahotu	Four Square	5.45
Ōpunake	Dreamtime	5.58
Ōpunake	Bus stop, Napier St	6.00



*Spotswood College - AM drop off only & PM pick-up only



Opunakē High School

Te Kura Tuarua o Opunakē



GROWING GOOD PEOPLE FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD | HE WAIHANGATANGA O TE TANGATA PAI I ROTO I TÉNEI AO HURIHURI

Principals' Address

He waka eke noa - all in this waka together

A perfect whakatauki to start my thank yous to all the champions of our kura. I love this time of the year, when I have a platform to profoundly thank each and every one of you for contributing to growing our good people of Opunakē High School.

Thank you Parents, managers, coaches, drivers, fundraisers for making us the school of choice, and seeing the importance of education. Ensuring your tamariki attend 90%, anything as less means they miss a day a fortnight, a year over their entire school career. School is the playground for the future where young people become socially intelligent, gain resilience in failure, and feel the joy of success, and acquire the knowledge to navigate the world. All of these factors lead to happy, healthy tamariki, which is really what we all want

To the Home and School, who is always looking for members, plug plug (cake at every meeting care of the fabulous cook Jo Morgan - there's a hook if you need one) who apparently effortlessly make large sums of money for us, yet we know when something looks effortless it takes huge effort, then spend it with aroha on a myriad of student endeavours. Nga mihi kia koutou

To the Board for truly helping to improve the face of the kura from the soon to be opened Wharekura, the battle to weather tighten our tech block, to the development of our working farm, they support all our innovations, exceed our expectations, and see no limitations for our students. The ultimate Board, and with a hugely driven Presiding Member Andy Whitehead, who just won't quit: literally and figuratively - in the best possible way, and to Megan Symons who stepped into the breach. And also a thank you to Liz who has transitioned from presiding member to staff member. Thank you for your support, dedication and aroha for not only each and every one of our students, but also for myself personally.

The staff, well what can I say, they will never give up on our students, even when sometimes the students have given up on themselves. People make a school, not bricks and mortar, and with our staff our foundations are forgiving, solid, maybe a bit old and weathered but steeped in aroha.

On that note Mr Edwards, Vinnie, Eddie and known by many other names will be retiring this year. We acknowledge his quarter of a century dedication to gold star pedagogy, and passion for maths, along with anything with wheels, and each and everyone of our ākongā.

To all our seniors it has been another wonderful year with you at our kura - some days more challenging than others for some of you, but I trust you have taken away knowledge, our DREAMS values, and Mrs Hooper Carr's 3ps - Presence, purpose and practice. With those in your kete the sky is the limit.

Now on to our Graduates of 2024. You were the year group that were two-third boys, compromised by Covid, returned from Covid with me as your Principal - boy did you have it tough. But also the year group who made Japan tour a reality which has been imprinted on my heart as well as many of yours, the year that won the regional rugby, and the year group that is looking to get 90% success at Level 3.

As the Centenary rapidly approaches you know you will have left a little piece of yourselves here, which will continue to shape our kura. But I do hope you will take a little piece of us with you that will also shape your lives.

Only you control your thoughts, desires, actions, there is no one to blame for your failures and to congratulate for your successes but you. So champion yourselves, drive yourselves, believe in who you are as myself and the staff have always, and will always believe in you.

Do not go gently into your future, but boldly and unapologetically be determined to be happy, successful and most of all to love and be loved. And remember we don't see things as they are, we see them as we are. So be awesome.

Kia kaha, kia maia, kia manawanui.

I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples"
Mother Teresa

Arohanui

Andrea Hooper Carr
Principal

Senior Prizegiving 2024



Cultural Award winners
Bailey Cole, Caleb Neil & Justyce Puhi Puhi



Egmont Arts Council Award winners
Bailey Cole (Music), Karolin Ison (Art & Supreme) & Autumn White (Drama)



Mya Caldwell (Runner-up) & Tessa Cook (Top Year 11)



Ben Gasson (Top Year 12) & Ella Danz (Runner-up)



2024 Dux - Caleb Neil (L) with
2024 Proxime Accessit - Charlie Carr

It was a very happy occasion to share our Senior Prizegiving with friends, whanau and the wider community. Well done to all our students on their great attitudes and awhi towards one another. Congratulations to all our award winners on all their achievements in another long and challenging year.

Congratulations to Ben Gasson and Ella Danz (pictured above) on being named Head Boy and Girl for 2024. Alex Moss and Aionee Nuku were named as our Deputy Head students, Daniel Harvey, James Turoa, Zoe Reader and Rhiana Jane make up the rest of our prefect team heading into our centennial year.

Opunakē High School
Te Kura Tuarua o Opunakē

Centenary
Celebration

100

7-9th March 2025

Taranaki Anniversary Weekend

16 weeks to go

Centenary event page on Facebook and school Website

CENTENARY CELEBRATION UPDATE:

STOP PRESS!
Tickets are on-sale NOW.
Use the QR code (left) to head to Eventbrite (our ticketing outlet)

KEY DATES:
12th November 2024: Registration opens via Eventbrite Merch on sale, via online portal
7-9th March 2025: Opunake High School Centenary Celebration

INFORMATION:
For information and updates, look for the Centenary Event page on Facebook (go to the Opunake High School page, search up events)
Connect with our Alumni page on Facebook, currently with over 2800 members, this is another good place to stay up-to-date on whats happening.
There is a Centennial Page on our school website as well, along with an FAQ which is updated regularly.
We have an amazing Event Co-ordinator, former student Tara Fevre (nee Potter). For help with registration and information, or if you'd like to contribute to the event, Tara can be contacted via email: centenary2025@opunake.school.nz

Remembrance Day remembered in Opunake

Throughout the world the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month is remembered as when what was then known as the Great War came to an end. While in New Zealand there is more focus on April 25 as the day to remember this country's war dead,

Armistice or Remembrance Day is still commemorated at 11am in different parts of the country.

In Opunake on November 11 there was a small gathering in the square outside Library Plus. Students from Opunake High School raised and

lowered the New Zealand and Australian flags, and in what has become a regular feature of remembrance services in Opunake oversized poppies lined the street. These had been made from old vinyl records and then heated in the oven, with a painted CD in the centre.

"Eleven poppies for eleven hours for eleven days," commented Andy Whitehead.

The Rev Ian Sargent said the Armistice was meant to last for 36 days, and it kept getting renewed until the First World War officially ended with the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

Originally intended to remember the fallen of World War I November 11 is now seen as a day for those who have died in all conflicts.

"Within the Commonwealth the name has since been changed to Remembrance Day," said Mr Sargent.

There were prayers, scripture readings, Reveille was played and the Ode was recited.



From left. Opunake RSA president Rodney Woods and Rev Ian Sargent.



Poppies lined the street. They were made from old vinyl records.



Opunake High School students raised and lowered the New Zealand and Australian flags.

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 Now \$39,990 2018 Ford Ranger WILDTRAK 2 owners, great condition, leather, Tow Bar, 95kms	 From \$24,990 19/20/2023 Toyota Corolla GZ Top Specs, From 5kms, 3 to choose, Silver/Black/Red	 Now \$39,990 2021 Mazda CX-8 TAKAMI NZ new, 4WD, Sunroof, 2.2L, Diesel, Full leather, 54kms	 \$13,990 2018 Ford Escape AMBIENTE FWD 1 owner, Excellent condition	 From \$47,990 2015/19 Range Rover s HSE/Sport, Petrol & Diesel, Grey/White/Champagne
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 \$23,990 2016 Ford Focus ECO BOOST 6 Spd Manual, 1 owner, As new, Must be seen	 \$45,990 2021 Toyota RAV4 G SPEC 2.5, Auto, 33kms	 From \$17,990 2013/15 Honda Odyssey ABSOLUTE 7 Seaters, full spec, black/dark blue	 From \$13,990 2009/12/17 Toyota Vellfire 2.5, 3.5, V6, 4 to choose, 7/8 Seater	 \$52,990 2022 Hyundai Santa Fe LTD AWD 2.5, 7 Seater, 1 owner, As new

Building's future strikes discordant note

Nine years after the Opunake Post Office closed questions are being raised about the building's longer term future.

The building occupies a strategic site in the Opunake CBD on the corner of Tasman and Havelock Streets where traffic drive to and from Opunake's popular beach.

The post office was opened by postmaster-general Mick Moohan in 1960, but the building, which is owned by Chorus Ltd has been vacant since New Zealand Post

closed in March 2015.

"It's such a shame to see one of our major buildings boarded up and left unused and unmaintained when there are so many opportunities it could be used for," says Taranaki Coastal Community Board chair Andy Whitehead. "It would be a great opportunity for Chorus to come into a community partnership."

He says that with a nearby bus stop planned as part of the South Taranaki District Council town revitalisation programme the building

would be an ideal place for something welcoming visitors into town.

Chorus community relations lead Jo Seddon says Chorus are looking at what to do with all their properties and have not yet decided what to do with the Opunake building.

Last week the building was being boarded up.

Jo Seddon says work needed to be done on the wall on the side of the building which had the mural of a stamp depicting a wave. At that stage Chorus



Work gets underway on boarding up the Chorus building.

began working with the South Taranaki District Council to board up the front façade of the building and prepare the building for a new community-driven mural.

South Taranaki District Council communications manager Gerard Langford says this will help the building integrate positively with the streetscape.

"The planned boarding

work involves only minor, temporary measures focused on the building's glazed sections, which will enhance the appearance and security of the site without interfering with the Taranaki National Art Awards, Garden and Arts Festivals, Yarn Bomb, Market Day, or any other local activities," he says.

Jo Seddon says a wrap-around mural is envisaged, which will be the first time

this has been done on any of their buildings anywhere in the country and will enhance the attractiveness of the town.

Others prefer the building be used for business space. Opunake and Districts Business Association chair Raewyn Cornford says she would like to see Chorus gift the building to the Opunake

Continued page 17.



The building's existing murals respect aspects of Opunake's past, including the town's original post office.

TENDER

Premium Puniho Dairy Farm With Scale

764 Puniho Road, Newall

Located on the Puniho Road and comprising of approximately 195.8 hectares of flat to easy contoured land this farm has some serious scale in a strong dairying area.

With an outstanding fully automated 50-bail rotary cowshed with in-shed feeding, a large fed pad and effluent system all built new in 2017 this farm has excellent infrastructure in place. Currently milking 460 cows with 480 wintered, production has been increasing over recent seasons and last year exceeded 212,000 kgMS.

Quality housing comprises of a large and tidy 4-bedroom home, a tidy 3-bedroom home and the option of an extra 3-bedroom home should three homes be required.

With a number of quality sheds on farm there is more than enough storage for hay, implements and ample shedding for all your calf rearing purposes. With an excellent H-shaped race system, the farm is also well fenced with a reliable water source.

This dairy farm has quality infrastructure already in place, is well subdivided and ready for a new owner to take it to the next level.

Viewing is sure to impress any buyer and will confirm the opportunity available here.



Tender Closes

4pm Friday, 6 December 2024 (unless sold prior)

Open Day - Today!

Thursday 14 November 11:30am - 12:00pm



Blair Burnett
021 190 7728

TENDER

Strong Coastal Taranaki Dairy Farm

152A Pungarehu Road, Pungarehu

Located on Pungarehu Road this 124.09ha (306.62 acre) dairy farm is milking approx. 315 cows through a tidy 25-aside herringbone cowshed with in-shed feeding and has averaged 127,148 kgMS over the last 3 years.

The farm is predominantly flat to easy in contour with some Lahar, there is a large amount suitable for the making of supplements or growing crops.

With excellent race systems this farm is also well subdivided into 50 paddocks, has tidy fencing and a reliable water supply.

The main home is a 4-bedroom weatherboard with open plan kitchen and living. The second is a 3-bedroom cottage. Both homes are set back from the road in private settings.

Two concrete silage bunkers, a barn and large sheds take care of the supplement, calves and storage.

This is very good dairy land in a strong dairying area and with four titles and motivated vendors.



Tender Closes

Thursday 28th November 2024 (unless sold prior)

Open Days

Wednesday 13 November 11:30am - 12:00pm

Wednesday 20 November 11:30am - 12:00pm



Blair Burnett
021 190 7728

Building's future strikes discordant note

Continued from page 16.

community.

The timing of the work has been criticised with the boarding up work taking place when the garden festivals, the Taranaki National Art Awards, the Yarn Bomb and other events attract an influx of visitors to town.

She had written to the South Taranaki District Council suggesting the work be deferred until April next year.

"November 2024, is particularly problematic and disruptive. These dates coincide with several important local events: the Yarn Bomb annual event, the Garden Festival, follow the hooves late night shopping event, and the National Art



The town of Bushmills in Northern Ireland has come up with a novel way of beautifying empty buildings and turning them into tourist attractions along the way.

Awards," she said. "These all occur in November and are annual events in our

Opunake Township. Garden festival and National Art Awards run through to the end of November. We believe that proceeding with construction during this

period will be detrimental to these events, causing

harm and disruption to both participants and attendees. We urge the Council to reconsider the timing of the construction to ensure the continued success and enjoyment of these cherished community activities."

Jo Seddon says no time would ever be completely ideal.

"If we don't start then we don't finish. We had been asked to put it on hold which we did. We have to work in with our service company."

The subject of the building's longer-term future came up for discussion at last week's meeting of the Taranaki Coastal Community Board.

"I'm really disappointed that that's all we've got to with this building," said board member Monica Willson. "It brings down the feel of our town centres when we have buildings not in use for a long time."

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon said the Council does not own or control the building. They had tried to see if the building could possibly be leased or sold off but the

owners hadn't shown any interest in this happening.

"I believe that us as a council have exhausted what we could do with the building."

Would Chorus consider sub-dividing the building?

"That's not as simple as it sounds," says Jo Seddon. "Our property people need to look at how the networks go into the buildings and if the building is up to existing earthquake standards. Not only are there copper and fibre networks but there are also major connections to all around the country. Whoever takes on the building needs to realise that our people will be coming and going."

She says that rather than bringing down the feel of the town centre, what Chorus plan to do will enhance the attractiveness of the town.

She cites the example of the town of Bushmills in Northern Ireland where a combination of artwork and graphics on derelict buildings have produced a 3D effect which have become a tourist attraction in their own right.

Mangatoki WI

On October 2, 14 members and two grandchildren met at Te Ara Pae Trust on High Street, Hawera, where Dianne explained to us about the work they do which covers counselling for family violence, trauma, grief management, anger management and other counselling.

One counsellor works with very young children and their families and last year saw a record number of cases. About 8 or 9 counsellors are employed at Te Ara Pae and they do home visits for cancer patients and for families who have lost a family member.

Logan talked for a short while on the work he does with young people.

Knitted teddies and clothing made by Bev Marx and Jos Trounce over the winter months were presented for young children. Olwyn, our

president thanked Dianne and her fellow workers and presented her with a gift. We were then given a tour of the facility. We then went to Indian Zaika for a very nice Indian lunch. While we waited for it to be served, the business meeting was held. We were welcomed by President Olwyn Duthie, the minutes were read by Secretary Denise Carter and the Treasurer Cathy White read the bank statement. There was a discussion on the preparation of food for the morning tea and lunch for the Federation meeting, the Fun and Friendship Day, to be hosted by Mangatoki WI on October 15 in the Mangatoki Hall, names and numbers for the November bus trip and payment, names and numbers for the House and Garden Trip in New Plymouth in March, and the Mangatoki Church and

garden clean up on October 9 at 9.30am at the Pioneer Village followed by coffee at Ink Pot Café.

On October 9, I went to the Riverlea WI meeting held in the Riverlea Hall. Where Leslie Dowding gave a talk on her association with their link WI of Cherry Willingham, Lincolnshire, England. She also talked about her latest book which was for sale that day.

The meeting was well attended by other WIs and later afternoon tea was served and much talking done as catch ups were made.

On October 15 about 12 of our members helped with the morning tea and lunch for the Fun and Friendship Day, held in The Mangatoki Hall, which was very well attended by other South Taranaki WIs.

The speaker for the

morning session was one of our WI members, Karen Johnson, who spoke on her work in Samoa during the measles epidemic there and then about working in Niue during the covid epidemic a few years later.

After lunch, badges were awarded for 70, 60, and 50 years membership to WI members and competition results given. An enjoyable day was had by everyone. Many thanks to the organisers and participants.

Lucy Moger
Mangatoki WI Reporter

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News comes out on November 28.

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MIND MATTERS

One month ago, *MIND MATTERS* introduced the concept of the unconscious mind. Let's start with the conscious mind, which is what you're aware of - the thoughts and feelings that occupy your attention at any given moment. It's easy to assume that this is all there is, but it's only a fraction of your mind. The larger part is the unconscious mind.

You may recall *MIND MATTERS* using the iceberg model of the mind: the small portion above the water represents the conscious mind, while the vast, unseen part below the water represents the unconscious.

A key concept introduced earlier is "subjective experience," which refers to how you perceive and feel about the world from your unique internal perspective. These experiences are highly personal and cannot be fully understood or measured by others. Your subjective experience is internal, while the external world consists of everything you interact with, including your physical body.

In this edition of *MIND MATTERS*, we delve deeper into the concept of the unconscious. We explore evidence that demonstrates the existence of the unconscious mind - the part of the iceberg hidden beneath the surface.



DR. ROBERT SHAW

Evidence for the existence of the unconscious mind comes from many sources. There is your everyday experience of living - what you can observe and reason about yourself. This is where we will start.

Have you ever driven to a destination, only to realize you have no memory of the drive itself because your mind was elsewhere? Despite not consciously thinking about it, you managed to steer, stay within speed limits, and use the brake and accelerator effectively. This skill comes from the unconscious part of your mind, which takes over much of the driving process. While we're often told to focus on, and think about, our driving, our unconscious mind handles it well. If something goes wrong, our conscious mind takes over to address the issue.

Have you ever seen

someone get overly upset about something trivial, only to later apologize and say, "What came over me? I usually don't get rattled over little things. I just wasn't myself!" This is another example of the unconscious mind at work. An unconscious trigger brought forward emotional energy, and once the person realized their behaviour was unreasonable, their conscious mind took control, allowing them to become reasonable. The word "reasonable" comes from the Latin "rationabilis," meaning "endowed with reason" or "rational."

Sometimes, the unconscious mind becomes active when we daydream, creating fantasies that capture our attention. We might imagine winning the lottery, impressing someone, or being a hero. These daydreams aren't real; they're stories our unconscious mind creates to make us happy. Perhaps they appear to take us away from the problems of the day, to give us a wee break.

There are also actions we perform without thinking, like, for example, rescuing a child from a river. In such situations, our unconscious mind sets us in motion, making decisions faster than our conscious mind could. This programming to help

others is beneficial for our species and has been passed down through generations.

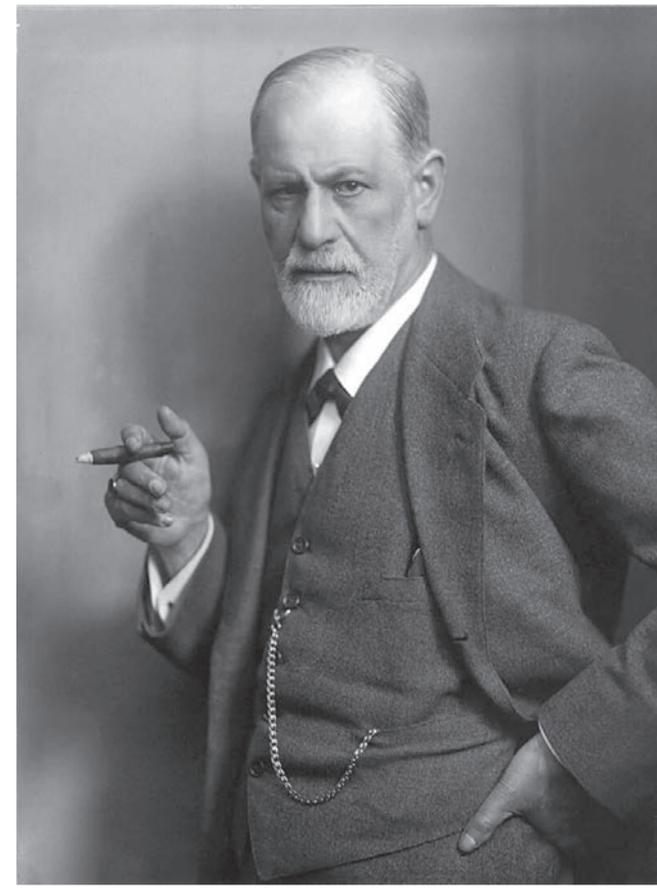
Have you ever suddenly remembered something from your distant past without knowing why? Try as you will, you cannot understand why this distant thing came to you at this moment. This is another example of the unconscious mind at work. It influences how we feel and react, even though it's hidden from our conscious awareness.

You may well remember at some time making a mistake and using the wrong word when talking to someone. These mistakes Freud saw as being meaningful. They came from your unconscious. A slip of the tongue is not a silly error. What is the truth it hides?

Long-term partners sometimes can communicate without words, their unconscious minds are in tune with each other. Mothers and babies also communicate unconsciously. In this process the mother teaches the baby how to be a human being. We used to think the bond between the mother and the baby was all about milk. It is much more than that. It is about the mother teaching the baby how to recognize the feelings of human beings, how to influence people and get one's needs satisfied. These human skills advance our species. If the mother cannot establish the right kind of relationship with the child (usually because of drug use or violence), we must be concerned about the child's future.

Unconscious material often appears in dreams. Sigmund Freud, in his book "The Interpretation of Dreams," called dreams the "royal road to the unconscious." First published in 1900, this book introduced Freud's theory of the dynamic unconscious, which continuously operates in our minds, shaping our thoughts, feelings, and behaviours.

It was mentioned earlier



Sigmund Freud

that there are numerous lines of evidence suggesting the existence of the unconscious mind. These can be grouped into: (1) Phenomenological Evidence: This involves your subjective experience—what you actually encounter in your daily life and what it feels like to be you. This type of evidence includes automatic behaviours and intuition, as highlighted in the first part of today's *MIND MATTERS*. (2) Clinical Observations: These are the insights I gather during sessions with clients, where I look for signs and patterns that indicate the workings of the unconscious mind. (3) Psychological Experiments: These studies show that people can be influenced by stimuli without being consciously aware of it. (4) Neuroscience: This includes the use of MRI machines to show that specific brain areas are active during tasks that do not involve conscious thought. Additionally, research on patients with brain injuries (such as those involved in split-brain

studies) demonstrates how different parts of the brain can function independently of conscious awareness.

These different lines of evidence collectively reinforce the concept of the unconscious mind. The unconscious mind is a marvellous universe of hidden forces, energies, and intelligence. It holds aspects of our personality and is the secret source of much of our thought, feeling, and behaviour. In an upcoming edition of *MIND MATTERS*, we will delve into the history of the unconscious, explore how it emerged as a pivotal discovery, examine the various models designed to help us comprehend the unconscious, and discuss their significance in the treatment of individuals facing mental health challenges.

Dr Robert Shaw
Registered Psychotherapist
opunake@mail.com

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS



**Our Christmas Issue
will be out on the
12th of December.**



The deadline if you would like to wish your customers and clients a Merry Christmas or feature your business in the Christmas issue is November 28. Get in touch with us now!

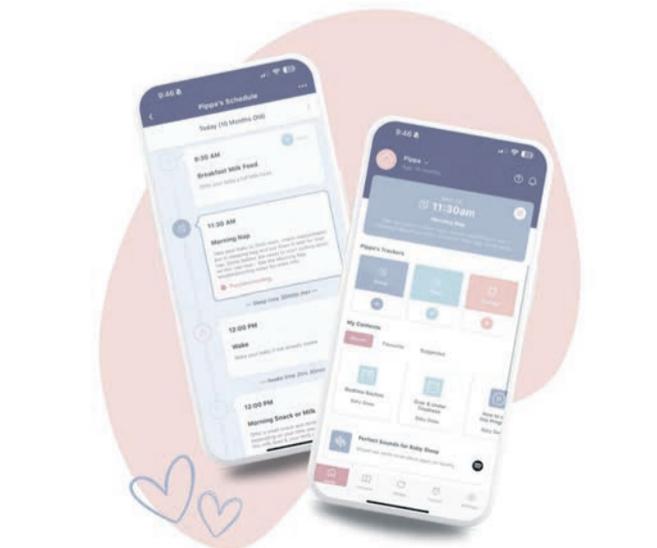
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in baby sleep for over 8 years, supporting parents across Australasia and around the world.

Nominations open for Dairy Woman of the Year

The Dairy Women's Network (DWN) is excited to announce the opening of nominations and applications for the prestigious 2025 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year Award.

This award celebrates outstanding women who have made significant contributions to the dairy sector, showcasing their passion, drive, innovation, and leadership.

2025 will be the 14th year for the award and the DWN encourages people to nominate leaders who go beyond the farm gate.

The award is open to nominations and applications for women who support the wider dairy sector and its people, are

committed to giving back to their communities, and have a vision to add value to the future of dairy through their leadership aspirations.

This year's recipient Katrina Roberts demonstrated her passion and commitment for the sector through her role.

"As a dairy vet, I believe that we are an integral part of the farm team and the strong relationships with our clients contribute to the success on farm. What drives me is helping my farmers and my community - giving my time and serving others," said Roberts.

Jenna Smith, DWN Trustee and Lead Judge says "the judges will be looking for a Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year who demonstrates



Anne Douglas (Group Director, Farm Source), Katrina Roberts (2024 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year), and John Nicholls (Director, Fonterra). Supplied by DWN;

lifelong impact and validates the work that they do within the sector.

The 2025 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year will receive a scholarship to the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme, which includes the programme fee, travel, and accommodation mentoring and access to DWN and Fonterra platforms to share their research.

The recipient will also join previous recipients include Barbara Kuriger (2012), Justine Kidd (2013), Charmaine O'Shea (2014), Katie Milne (2015), Rebecca Keoghan (2016), Jessie Chan

(2017), Loshni Manikam (2018), Trish Rankin (2019), Ash-Leigh Campbell (2020), Belinda Price (2021), Donna Cram (2023), and Katrina Roberts (2024).

Find out more and apply or nominate at: <https://www.dwn.co.nz/fonterra-dairy-woman-of-the-year/>

Applications and nominations close 28 February 2025.

Government must pour cold water on pine planting proposal

Federated Farmers is calling for the Government to urgently distance itself from a new pine planting proposal released by the Climate Change Commission late last week.

"The proposal would see large swathes of productive farmland sacrificed in the name of emission reductions," says Federated Farmers meat and wool chair Toby Williams.

"That would be the death knell for sheep farming as we know it in New Zealand, but also our small towns, rural communities and the families who call them home."

Williams was responding to advice from the Climate Change Commission about how New Zealand could achieve a new Paris target of a greater than 50 per cent

emission reduction.

New Zealand currently has a Paris Target of reducing emissions by 50 per cent by 2030, but the Government has been asked by the UN to come up with a new 2035 target by February.

"New Zealand needs to have a serious conversation about these targets and how much they are going to cost us as a country - and I'm not just talking financial costs," Williams says.

"If the only way we can meet our international obligations is to plant entire communities in trees, undermine our productive sectors, or buy offshore units, then we have a serious problem.

"I think most reasonable New Zealanders would absolutely reject any future for our country that involves

planting some of our most iconic rural landscapes in a blanket of pine trees."

The Commission envisages that by 2035 New Zealand will have 12 to 15 per cent fewer dairy cows and 18 to 24 per cent fewer sheep and beef stock.

They also assume that between 2021 and 2030, 322,000 to 437,000 hectares of pine trees and 135,000 to 412,000 hectares of native trees will be planted.

"This all may sound good to some policy analyst sitting in Wellington playing with a spreadsheet, but in reality it will be a total disaster," Williams says.

"When you dig into the numbers they might add up, but that doesn't mean they make sense, particularly for

Continued page 20.

diverse leadership talents. She will embody the skillset needed for the current and future state of dairying in Aotearoa - a blend of community engagement, environmental stewardship, professional expertise, and commercial insight. This woman will know how to

influence change and have the courage to steer down the challenges and opportunities our sector presents."

Previous finalists say that going through the award process and being named as a finalist is a very humbling experience, a significant honour that can have a

APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS NOW OPEN

Be a part of the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme.

If you or someone you know has contributed to the dairy sector with commitment, drive, and passion, make sure to apply or nominate them to become the 2025 Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year and receive a scholarship to be part of the Kellogg Rural Leadership Programme.



For more information about the award and how to nominate or apply, visit dwn.co.nz.

Nominations close on 28 February 2025.



DairyNZ chair and deputy chair confirmed

Tracy Brown and Cameron Henderson have been confirmed as Chair and Deputy Chair of the DairyNZ Board, respectively. Tracy Brown had previously been announced as Chair-elect in June 2024 when former Chair Jim van der Poel signaled his impending retirement from the role.

Tracy says she's enthusiastic about the new direction and future of DairyNZ. "We are changing things at DairyNZ to focus more on the long-term success of the sector, as opposed to the day-to-day farming that farmers already do so well."

"We represent all 10,600 dairy farmers and have a powerful data set and science base with which to crack our future challenges. Our new strategy focuses on key issues such as genetics, climate resilient pastures, reduced greenhouse gas emissions and strong biosecurity systems," she says.

Cameron says he's excited by the appointment and looks forward to bringing the positive, progressive and pragmatic approach that he uses on farm to his board leadership role. "I am excited to take on this role



Tracy Brown.

during an important time for the dairy sector where we continue to do more with less" he says.

"Milk production average for the past decade is slightly up and cow numbers are slightly down. We are building resilience into our systems, facing up to the current challenges and we are harnessing opportunity. Technological uptake, Kiwi innovation and a commitment to sustainable

grass-fed farming will continue to deliver a bright future for us," he says.

DairyNZ's Board of Directors is made up of five farmer elected Directors and three Independent Directors.

Tracy holds a BAgSci (Hons) degree and was first elected to the DairyNZ Board in 2019. Tracy has been involved with leading environmental change for dairy through her roles as DairyNZ Dairy Environment

Leaders chair, Ballance Farm Environment Awards Alumni chair and as a Dairy Women's Network trustee.

Tracy has been dairying with husband Wynn on their Waikato farm 'Tiroroa' for 25 years. Originally from Northland, Tracy lives near Matamata on a 680 cow, 310ha (240ha milking platform) system three farm 'Tiroroa' which won the Waikato Ballance Farm Environment Supreme Award in 2010.

An AWDT 'Escalator' Alumni and Nuffield Scholar, she was a finalist in 2017 Westpac Women of Influence Awards and won a Sustainable Business Network's 'Sustainability Superstar' award in 2018. She has previously held two Cabinet appointed roles, one to the Essential Freshwater Independent Advisory Panel and the other to NAWAC.

Cameron was first elected to the DairyNZ Board in 2023. Together with his wife Sarah, two young kids and their farm team, Cam milks 750 cows on 240ha near

Oxford, North Canterbury. They also lease a further 250 ha for dairy support and arable.

Cameron has worked in various roles to improve outcomes for farmers. Starting with his time at Fonterra in supply chain strategy, then later at DairyNZ as a farm systems

developer. He has served as provincial president for Federated Farmers and advised on regional policy with Environment Canterbury. Nationally, he was the only working farmer on the He Waka Eke Noa steering group and currently sits on the board of Ballance Agri-nutrients



Cameron Henderson.

Government must pour cold water on pine planting proposal

Continued from page 19.

our small towns and rural families being surrounded by a wall of pine trees.

"More trees will mean fewer sheep, fewer cows, fewer jobs, fewer people, and billions of dollars less export income every year. That's a recipe for nothing but total economic ruin."

The most recent Beef + Lamb NZ Stock Number Survey showed, in just a 12-month period, ewes and beef cattle numbers fell 3 per cent, while hogget numbers fell 7 per cent.

"The Government needs to take urgent action to stop the needless destruction of New Zealand's once-thriving sheep and beef sector," Williams says.

"The last thing they

should be doing is signing up to new, and even more unrealistic, climate targets, particularly when they don't even know how we will meet our current target.

"Instead, they should be focused on urgently reviewing the badly broken ETS settings that distort the

market and encourage the mass planting of pine trees on productive farmland."

Federated Farmers says the Government should follow through on their campaign promise and limit on farm conversions to forestry to protect local communities and food production.

Maybe tomatoes can go in fruit salad after all

Scientists have figured out how to genetically engineer a sweeter tomato, without affecting its size. It's been a long-sought goal of modern tomato breeding, after thousands of years of selective breeding resulted in tomatoes that are bigger, but less sweet than their

wild ancestors.

The researchers report that by turning off two genes, they see a 30% increase in fruit sugars, with the side effect of fewer and lighter seeds.

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Coaching veteran gives helping hand

James (Batman) Langton is calling in some heavyweight support for his fighters as they prepare for the Barbwire Fight Club Event 104 in Stratford on December 13.

Veteran boxing coach Keith Belcher has been asked to give a hand to fighters from Barbwire Boxing and Fitness in Opunake as they prepare for the big event.

Until recently Keith Belcher owned two gyms in Auckland. His association with boxing goes back to the 1970s. In 1976 he started out at the late Gerry Preston's gym in Mangere who had trained among others David Tua and Jimmy Thunder (aka Jimmy Peau).

"Gerry nominated me to go coaching. It was seconded by John McKay and I've been doing it ever since in one form or another," says



Barbwire boxers gear up for Event 104. From left. Keith Belcher, Bobby Katene, Sandra Gargan, James (Batman) Langton, Beau Petley.

Keith. He has been to Opunake often and likes what he has seen, so much so that he has bought a section and is hoping to move here.

He has been following the progress of Barbwire Boxing and James' boxing career since the early years.

"I came down here for the first one and I thought it would be hay bales and a few strings for the ring, but it was as good, if not better than anything in Auckland."

He has been to all the Fight Club events and says he likes the concept James has developed of online voting which makes the audience more involved in the event.

James says he had invited Keith to spend a week coaching the Barbwire boxers who would be fighting on December 13.

Keith likes what he sees of the local fighters.

"Bobby (Katene) of course has massive potential and is going from strength to strength. Leilani

(Leatherby) is doing an amazing job and she'll be a force as well.

"The thing I like about Taranaki is that while they haven't got the numbers, the fighters have got sheer determination and sheer grit. These guys all train hard and are real fit. What I like about what James is doing is that he's getting recognition for the area. He's getting people down from Auckland and up from Wellington for these events."

James is looking forward to Event 104, with fighters coming from Wellington, Auckland and Palmerston North. He says he is hoping to get over 10,000 views online.

"It was one year ago this month since we did our first Fight Club. I'm really looking forward to seeing how this event plays out," he says.

Goodman to play for Tall Blacks



Oscar Goodman

Having played in the New Zealand Under-17 Men's Basketball team, Opunake basketballer Oscar Goodman is making the step up to the Tall Blacks. This month he will be in the New Zealand team at two upcoming Asia Cup qualifiers, in the Philippines against their national team and against Chinese-Taipei in Christchurch.

His parents are former

rowers Matt and Andie Goodman. His family shifted to Taranaki from Coromandel when Oscar was 12. He later attended New Plymouth Boys High School.

The 17-year-old is currently based in Canberra, where he completed his high school years after having been scouted and offered a scholarship to play under the NBA Global Academy.

Oscar, who plays power-forward has been playing basketball since he was 11 years old.

Last year he played for the Taranaki Airs in the National Basketball League.

Earlier this year he was

in the New Zealand Men's Under-17 team which finished fourth in the FIBA Under-17 World Cup in Istanbul, losing out to host country Turkey 101-78 in the play-off for third place. Oscar was named in the All

Star Five team.

In December he will be in Orlando, Florida for the NBA Global League Winter Showcase before beginning a Basketball Scholarship with the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in January

next year. At this stage he doesn't know what he wants to major in. He will start off by taking introductory university papers and decide later on where his course will take him.



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Making the most of a summer with the Shield

For the first time in 60 years the Ranfurly Shield is spending summer in Taranaki. Having taken the Log 'o Wood off Tasman late in the 2024 season Taranaki gets to hold the Shield over summer which leaves plenty of time for Taranaki rugby followers to see the Shield for themselves. Two weeks ago Manaia rugby supporters were doing just that when the Ranfurly Shield made a two-day visit to Yarrows the Bakers.

Yarrows has been a sponsor of Taranaki rugby for around 35 years, and director John Yarrow was glad to see it there.

"It's good to see it back in our community," he said. "It's a great thing for Taranaki to win something like that."

In the first morning the Shield had been at the retail shop visitors had included two minivan loads of trampers and a local ladies' group from Manaia, John said.

"We had someone who came out from Hawera

expecting to see it the day after we won it."

Yarrows' time as sponsors have included four of Taranaki's previous Shield tenures.

"We'd have seen the Shield a few times back in Taranaki, but not often enough," said John.

The Ranfurly Shield, named for the New Zealand governor, the fifth Earl of Ranfurly was first awarded in 1902 to Auckland, who were the dominant provincial team that year. Taranaki had to wait 11 years before it held the Shield from 1913-14. It was a long time between drinks before they held it again with two great Shield tenures from 1957-9 and 1963-5. There was to be another long wait before they took it from Auckland in 1996 only to lose it later that season. Three more brief tenures followed in 2011, 2017 and 2020 before their current reign as holders kicked off with their win against the Tasman Makos.

Among the customers admiring the Shield was Kaupokonui dairy farmer

Tony Landers. A keen follower of Taranaki rugby he had played prop for the local Waimate rugby

club senior team back in the 1990s. The demands of dairy farming had meant he wasn't always able to follow

Taranaki's previous shield defences but he will be taking an interest in seeing how Taranaki defend the

Shield next year. "It's good to have it in the region over summer," he said.



Kaupokonui dairy farmer Tony Landers with the Ranfurly Shield.

Growth within Taranaki Community Rugby

Taranaki Rugby is excited to announce continued growth in the community game in 2024. After a substantial increase of 13% in playing numbers in 2023, playing numbers have remained steady in 2024.

The continued growth of the game within the Taranaki community is reflective of all the hard work by volunteers, clubs, schools, committees, communities, and Taranaki Rugby staff in 2024. New Zealand Rugby have recently released registration data which shows growth within the community game across a

variety of areas nationally on to Taranaki.

Total registered players have grown from 5446 in 2023 to 5461 in 2024.

Junior primary registered players have increased by 206% from 496 to 1518 participants. Junior club registered players have remained steady on last year's numbers. Teenage registered players have increased by 13% (Females have increased by 29% and Males by 9%). There are 1,349 registered senior male and female players in Taranaki, which is a 5% increase on senior playing numbers pre COVID (2019). There has been a 61%

increase in registered coaches from 198 (2023) to 318 (2024). Taranaki currently has 48 active registered referees

TRFU Community Operations Leader Ben Hitchcock comments, "After another year of working around the maunga we are pleased to see growth and a stable playing/volunteer base across various ages and grades throughout Taranaki. The TRFU has a committed community team who work alongside kura, clubs, organisations and groups around the maunga, building relationships to ensure we create memorable

experiences for all. Whilst we have experienced growth in various areas of the game, we still have areas of focus that we will continue to work on in 2025.

Rugby holds a special place within the Taranaki region and we are committed to growing the game, ensuring it is accessible to all in our province. As a union we strive to ensure rugby is a vehicle to growth on and off the field, we are extremely grateful for the support from our funding and commercial partners which will allow the game to continue to grow and prosper in the years to come."

Keegan graduates for the third time



Keegan Grey.

In May Keegan Grey graduated from Otago University with a Master of Sports Development and Management from Otago University. In December 2022 he had graduated with a post-graduate Diploma in Sport Development and Management, and in December 2021 he graduated with a Bachelor of Applied Science majoring in Physical Education, Activity and Health.

His parents are Kim Alchin and Mathew Grey, and he had attended Rahotu Primary School and Opunake High School.

He now works for Southern Football in Dunedin as a football development officer.

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Speedway finally gets a start

After two failed attempts at getting the 2024/2025 Speedway season underway with rain affecting the previous two weekends, the team at Five Star Liquor Stratford Speedway were at last able to host their first racing of the new season on Saturday night with the opening night being combined with the Hinton Contracting Fireworks Spectacular.

With clouds hanging around all afternoon and rain forecast for later in the evening, organisers were nervous but an efficient race program saw the event scrape through with the fuse lit for the spectacular fireworks display by Michael Keats of Theatre Lamp and Lighting just as light drizzle started to fall.

Prior to that though, there was plenty of racing on a smooth and drivey race track with competitors in four of the seven classes racing for their City of New Plymouth Classic trophies.

Tyler Walker was in good early season form and



Carl Hinton (No. 2) and Newton Gordge race wheel to wheel during Modified racing on Saturday night.

Images Matt Julian/Contact High Photography.

dominated the racing in the Stockcar class to win the trophy after winning all three races from grids six, fifteen and eight, scoring maximum points to stand on the top step of the podium

unchallenged. Ben Wilson had a great night, recording two third places and a fourth along with Codey Wilton who finished fifth in race one and then second in the next two. The pair were tied

on points and raced a four-lap run off to settle second and third places with Wilson taking the lead at the start and being unchallenged to run four clear laps to finish second overall.

New Zealand Champion Duane Hickman ran a great first race to finish third behind Erin Uhlenberg and Cameron Hurley after starting from the rear of the field and continued with great pace all night to win race two and come home third in race three to easily win the Minisprint City of New Plymouth Classic by a six-point margin from Cameron Hurley and Erin Uhlenberg.

A solid field of fourteen Superstocks graced the track to race for their trophy. William Hughes blasted away from the field to win race one from a grid five start, placed third in race two and fourth in race three to amass a thirty-five-point total, enough to win

overall by just one point from the always quick Blair Uhlenberg who had scored a first, second and fifth over the three races. Hamish Booker and Wayne Moss were third equal.

The mighty Modifieds were the fourth and final class to race for their Classic trophy. Although there were just six cars, the racing was tight and fast with New

Zealand number two Carl Hinton at one point riding the turn two concrete wall whilst attempting a daring outside pass on Jason Kalin. Kalin won the first race and Newton Gordge the other two. Gordge's wins, along with a fourth place saw him to the top step of the podium with a two-point margin over Jason Kalin. Braith Kalin was third.

Adult Ministocks, a combination of Saloons and Super Saloons and Youth Ministocks completed the race program.

Adult Ministock races were won by Jade Symes, Ashley Lewis and Lukah Phillips. Blake Hooper won two Saloon races whilst Palmerston North driver Paul Hosking romped away from the field to win the other. Youth Ministocks were split with the experienced drivers and learner drivers racing in different groups. Riley Symes and Liam Cronin-Prouse won the experienced races while Quin Turner and Mitchell Lewis won the newbie races.

The next event at Five Star Liquor Stratford Speedway is on Saturday November 23.

Jarrod MacBeth



Tyler Walker dominated the racing in the Stockcar class, winning all three races.



Erin Uhlenberg (No 85) and Regan Ogle (No 5). Erin placed third in the Minisprint City of New Plymouth Classic.

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Turkey The Bird brings "Men, Fish, Boat" home to Taranaki

The wait is nearly over for Taranaki fans as folk trio Turkey The Bird wraps up their North Island tour with three highly anticipated shows in their home region. Following a successful series of performances throughout the island, *Turkey The Bird* will bring their new album *Men, Fish, Boat* to Taranaki stages this November. Audiences can expect an intimate, lively musical experience featuring the trio's signature folk tunes, rich harmonies, and infectious energy.

After weeks on the road, Turkey The Bird will play three shows in Hāwera, New Plymouth, and Ōpunake, inviting hometown fans to celebrate the success of "Men, Fish, Boat." This album, which includes 13 tracks and a special collaboration with Auckland's ukulele band

"The Nukes", has already captured the hearts of listeners with its engaging storytelling and feel-good melodies.

Taranaki show dates:-
Friday, 9 November – Hāwera Repertory Theatre.



Don't Miss Turkey The Bird in Taranaki.

Friday, 15 November – 4th Wall Theatre, New Plymouth.
Saturday, 16 November – Lakeside Playhouse, Ōpunake.

Ticket links are available at www.turkeythebird.co.nz

A folk trio with global roots and local heart, Turkey the Bird is made up of Switzerland's André Manella (guitar, bass, ukulele, percussion), Ireland's Adrian Whelan

(guitar, mandolin, bass, spoons), and New Zealand's own Sol Bear Coulton (banjo, ukulele, slide guitar). Turkey The Bird brings together an eclectic range of musical influences and

global backgrounds. Often described as a mix between "Simon & Garfunkel" harmonies and "Mumford & Sons" energy, their music has a uniquely Kiwi folk charm, capturing the spirit

of the local community.

Critics Love "Men, Fish, Boat"

- "How can you turn on a light in the room if there is no switch? Play some Turkey The Bird" Chris Chick from Muzic.net.nz

- "Injects hoedown-showdown fun, fun, fun and the harmonies shine like diamonds." – *Paul Cook, Joyzine UK*

- "That's Turkey The Bird, great band, just love them." – *Jesse Mulligan, RNZ*

- "Refreshing Kiwiana newgrass, this is not your typical sad cowboy Americana." – *Patrick Loughran, Muzic.net.nz*

Don't Miss Turkey The Bird in Taranaki.

Each Taranaki show will feature new tracks from "Men, Fish, Boat", along with favorites that have made "Turkey The Bird" one of the North Island's most beloved folk acts.

Fans are encouraged to grab their tickets now for an evening of music, stories, and memories in the making.

Farewell Autumn at The Village Gallery

Upcoming Exhibition: "Farewell Autumn" The Village Gallery Eltham. 20 November - 14 December

In the upcoming exhibition, artist Ambury Hall presents a deeply personal exploration of loss, inspired by the universal experience of saying goodbye. Drawing from the sentiment behind Farewell to Stromness, a musical piece symbolizing the sorrow of leaving one's homeland, Ambury's installation delves into

various forms of loss: from loved ones and pets to relationships and even the sense of home.

This installation invites viewers to reflect on loss as an integral part of life's journey, something that shapes us rather than something we simply "get over."

Rejecting the typical grey, sorrowful depictions of grief, Ambury instead chose vibrant colours.

"I wanted to reverse the

sorrowful associations with loss," he explained. "Bright colours are my way of celebrating the impact of those we've lost, lifting up the experience rather than dampening it. It's not about making grief a 'happy' occasion, but about honouring the ways loss becomes part of us."

A key aspect of the work is Ambury's desire to create a shared space for reflection and encouragement.

"We all experience loss in different ways, and there's no fixed timeline for healing," he said. "My hope is that people who view this piece feel less alone, seeing that loss, in its many forms, is a universal experience. When you encounter someone else with that same feeling, it's as if the burden lightens."

Autumn leaves feature prominently, symbolising this shared experience.

"Leaves falling in autumn represent a gentle passing, something all cultures understand. I used leaves as a common symbol,

a recognisable, global metaphor for separation and change," he says.

Ambury also draws upon historical examples of art and its healing potential, referencing Renaissance paintings that depict loss and grief through expressive faces.

"These famous works acted as mirrors, helping viewers feel less isolated in their sorrow. Art has this ability to resonate with our inner lives, offering a mirror to our emotions. Without that reflection, we feel alone in our experience."

Creating this installation was, in Ambury's words, "an emotional and exhausting journey," as he revisited memories of past relationships and transformations. "Creating this wasn't just cerebral; it was about feeling, about opening up emotions I might normally guard. It's a risk, because there's always the potential for rejection, but it's a risk I felt compelled to take. Art allows me to

normalise my experience of grief and to share it."

This exhibition, generously sponsored by Ken Robertson and Vonny Aldridge, is both a tribute to the resilience found in grief and a reminder that, through shared experiences, we find strength. In Ambury's words, "I don't want pity; I want people to see that we all carry these memories. My hope is to help others see

their own journey in these bright colours, perhaps remembering their own losses, and finding strength to carry on."

Invitation - Panui
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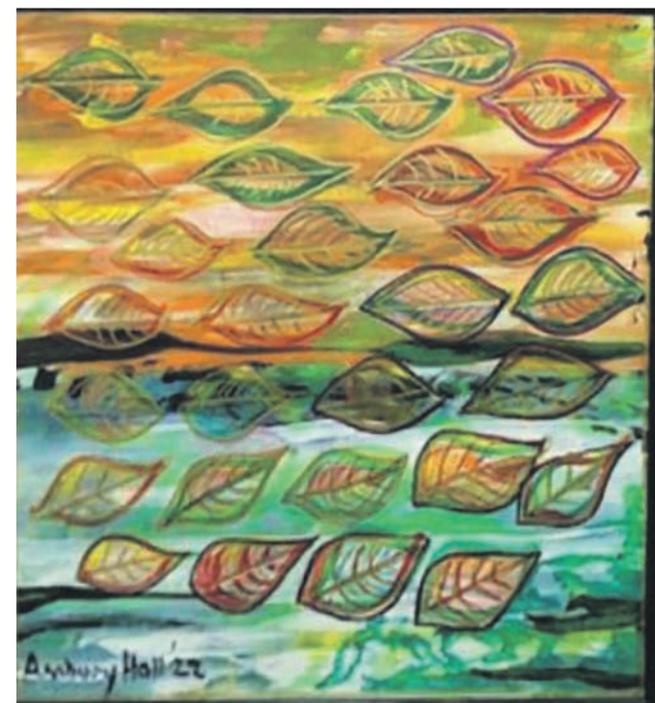
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Special Opening and Gallery Gathering
November 24th from 2pm for 'Time'.

This is an international juried exhibition that explores how we think and feel about Time. All are very welcome to this free, catered event - a great chance to meet some of the exceptional artists with works in the show.

'Time' is at the gallery from Nov 21st to Dec 30th

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Farewell Autumn Opening at The Village Gallery.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Wolfy Woes and Troll Troubles – Teamwork



Gretel (Indiana Waugh) gets stroppy with Troll (Alistair Cook) at a recent rehearsal of "Wolfy Woes and Troll Troubles" which opens at Opunake Lakeside Playhouse on Thursday 21st November. Whoops! Last issue I said Ava Bennett was pictured with the Blackbirds when in fact it was Michelle Elsmore the choreographer. Sorry Ava and Michelle.

The Wolves and Troll in Opunake Players latest production, "Wolfy Woes and Troll Trouble – A Hansel and Gretel Story" use teamwork to try and make a meal of Hansel, Gretel and the pigs. Likewise, the blackbirds and goats have to use teamwork to try and stop them. And, like any theatre production, teamwork is needed to get the show on stage in the first place.

"Theatre is the ultimate team sport," says Lynelle Kuriger, Players member and Big Bad Wolf. "If one person is missing it can't go forward. This show has a great team."

A team puts many hours into producing a show like "Wolfy Woes and Troll Troubles," often doing little things that people don't necessarily think about. Examples from this show: finding the perfect sound for a storm, getting the right feathers for a hat, choosing the right colours for the set. As Lynelle says, "We need

to think of everything, right down to the last hair on a pig's chinny chin chin."

The number of hours people put in can be quite staggering. Lynelle estimates if one person was doing all the work, they'd be employed full time for a year. (1920 @ 40 hours for 48 weeks in case you're wondering.) Not included would be time on stage, Mum or Dad taking kids to rehearsals, the rehearsals themselves, auditions to get the cast... (can we count the sleepless hours each night the director has?)

Who's doing this work? Far too many to mention here without the possibility of leaving someone out. So come along to "Wolfy Woes and Troll Troubles," read the programme (that someone had to organise), check the names and enjoy the show. See the advert on this page for show dates and booking details.

Paul Anderson-Gardiner.

Reviving community dances

Reviving community dances is being considered by the owner of Dance Connexion who is hoping to hold dances in halls around the mountain.

Originally from Auckland, Kiel deBuisson is the principal and head teacher at Dance Connexion in New Plymouth.

He is holding a traditional style dance with live music and a supper at the Oakura Hall on November 23 and, depending on how it goes, is hoping to extend the concept to community halls around the mountain. They may also include some dance performances from competitive dances such as the quickstep and the foxtrot during the evening.

"I used to run social dances in New Plymouth before Covid," says Kiel. Covid however put a spanner in the works he says. "They were quite successful, with the dancers well-packed with people" and he decided it would be an idea to extend the dances around the mountain.

He says he first got the idea of running dances from an exhibition of dance hall days at Puke Ariki.

"There's lots of old halls around the mountain," he commented, adding that he went to a wedding at Inglewood Hall a while ago. "It was a lovely old hall."

Attending a dance is a nice evening out, he said, and was an opportunity for older people to re-experience their past and also for younger people to experience dances which were once very popular.

The first dance at the Oakura Hall on November

23 will have the Ritz Big Band playing a selection of Jazz, Swing, Rock n Roll, Ballroom and Latin American tunes from the golden era of the 1940's and 50's.

"They're quite excited to be able to play dance music," said Kiel, adding they like the idea of people dancing to their music.

He also hopes to be able to attract men to dancing. In the dance school he runs he says there's a lack of men which means women often end up dancing with each other.

He'd like to change the perception that dancing is not macho. Ballroom dancing is a timeless tradition, where men are gentlemen, treat their partners with utmost care and etiquette is taught to ensure a safe environment for all. Former All Black stars such as Norm Hewitt, Josh Kronfeld and Glen Osborne all raved about the physical benefits and rewards of dancing during their time on Dancing With The Stars, with Glen Osborne still active in his dance studio in Whanganui.

"It does take a brave man to take to the dance floor, and these NZ legends have done a great job to help encourage this," Kiel adds.

Dancing is also a great way to meet people he

says, adding "I've had people in my dance classes meet or reconnect after many years and who have ended up getting married." In addition, dancing is a perfect, enjoyable, low-impact physical activity is good for the mind, body and soul. Dancing provides stress release, boosts self-esteem and sharpens cognitive abilities with proven benefits to age-related cognitive decline.

"Men may not be keen to come along because they can't dance or are not confident."

Kiel takes a Beginners class on Fridays at the Oakura Hall at 6:15pm to help those people "with 2 left feet" and urges people to come along to develop their confidence.

"Anyone can pop along."

The first dance at the Oakura Hall is a chance for music and dance lovers to dress up, dust off their dance shoes and re-ignite a culture that was once a big part of Taranaki life. He urges that this event is not just for dancers; "If you love live music, and would love to get out and experience the years gone by, with like minded people, this is the event for you."

"If our opening event is well supported we are aiming to make this a regular

occurrence Taranaki-wide once again."

Supper, and entertainment in the form of dance performances will also be part of the opening night.

To be added to the guest

list for the Ritz Cabaret please don't hesitate to email

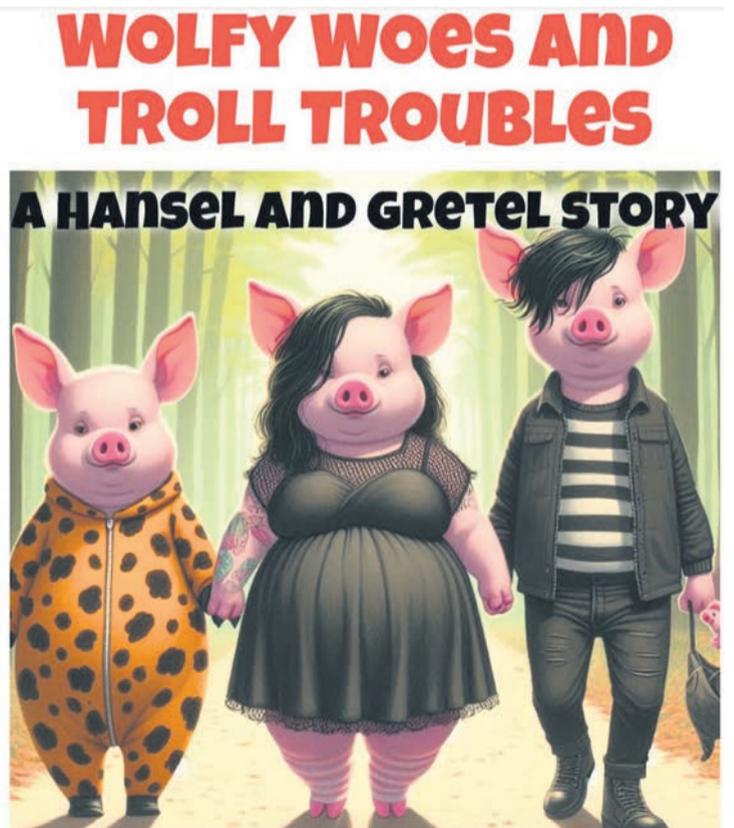
RitzCabaretNP@gmail.com.

If you are interested in beginning or restarting

dancing please visit their Studio website

www.DanceConnexion.co.nz or email

danceconnexioninfo@gmail.com



Coming to the Lakeside Playhouse on Layard Street, Ōpunakē.

Show Dates & Times:

Thurs 21 Nov, Fri 22 Nov = 6.30pm

Sat 23 Nov, Sun 24 Nov = 3.30pm

Weds 27 Nov, Thurs 28 Nov, Fri 29 Nov = 6.30pm

Tickets available 29th October 2024 at Sinclair's Electrical.

Ticket prices: Adults = \$20

Under 16s = \$10

Under 5s = Free on a knee!



Oakura Hall on November 23 will have the Ritz Big Band playing.

Stratford promises all the fun of the show

It's show weekend in Stratford on November 30-December 1, the A&P's 114th where town and country people come together for the competitions and the fun filled excitement on offer. The participants in the many competitions love the Show, love the nice, friendly and relaxed atmosphere and tell us it's a great weekend and worth the trip, as many travel from all over the North Island, says the President Paul Vanner.

"I am so proud of the volunteers, committee, members, judges, stewards, community groups, businesses and the sponsors for their efforts and contribution to make the



Show weekend come alive and help with the thousands

of people that come through the gates. I can't say a big enough Thank You to you all and my fingers are crossed for a fine weekend," says Paul.

A&P are proud to host the many local groups and organisations who use the Show for promotion and fundraising that in turn support our community folk. Farmers, ensure you visit the Health and Wellbeing Hub, find the Glob Caravan and tick off the Check (up) list.

A letter from Santa has been received to say he will attend the Show to say hi to the many children and hear what

the wish is for Christmas. The Show provides lots of opportunities for the younger generation to have hands-on experience.

We welcome you to the Show, have fun, enjoy all the activities, exhibits and animals that will be on display. Bring the whole family, we aim to cater for everyone.

Big news. Come along and see the best monster truck in New Zealand, see the huge jumps, massive stunts, crushin' n smash-in', loads of fire, it doesn't get better than this.

Stratford A&P Show 2024, this year the weekend

of Saturday 30 November and Sunday 1 December, 9.00am to 4.00pm. The biggest Agricultural and Pastoral Show in Taranaki is on and you won't want to miss it!

V Jagersma, Show Secretary

Our Christmas edition is due out on the 12th of December. The dead;line for contributions to this issue is November 28. Call us now to be in it.



A & P
EST 1910
Agricultural & Pastoral Association (Inc)

SHOW

Sat 30 Nov & Sun 1 Dec

Find us on Facebook
Flint Rd, Stratford

Public invited to launch of regional Action Plan



The Tapuae Roa 2025/26 Action Plan will be presented at a launch event in New Plymouth.

A collective effort between Taranaki mayors, iwi, sector and community leaders, has updated the key priority actions for the region over the next three years. These actions will be presented at a launch event in New Plymouth at the Devon Hotel, on Thursday, November 28 from 12-1.30pm.

The development of the Tapuae Roa 2025/26 Action Plan has been facilitated by Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki, the regional development agency, and builds off the collective visions of the Tapuae Roa - Make Way for Taranaki regional economic development strategy, and Taranaki 2050, a strategic roadmap co-designed by regional leaders and the community through public consultation.

The Tapuae Roa 2025/26 Action Plan consolidates input from key stakeholders from across Taranaki and seeks to leverage key opportunities for the region.

"This plan represents our commitment to a shared vision for the future of Taranaki - one that

prioritises smart, sustainable growth, and the transition to a resilient, equitable, low-emission economy", said Mayor Neil Volzke, current chair of the Mayoral Forum.

"Our progress relies on collaborative action and forward-thinking investment. We're dedicated to working with central government, Mana Whenua, business leaders, and the community to build an economy that drives quality of life and opportunity for everyone in Taranaki."

The Tapuae Roa 2025/26 Action Plan focuses on key priority areas including energy, food and fibre, tourism, Māori economic development, and new industry and investment.

One of the actions, for example, include exploring the impact of an Economic Innovation Zone (EIZ) in Taranaki to stimulate economic growth, attract investment, and foster collaboration between businesses, research institutions, and governments.

Another includes developing a publicly available land diversification

toolkit to support the practical steps required when considering alternative land use opportunities.

Kelvin Wright, Chief Executive of Venture Taranaki, said, "The actions focus on pragmatic actions that Taranaki can do right here and now by tapping into our talent and regional strengths. With limited local and central government funding available to support the regional actions, the majority will need to be delivered from existing resourcing within the region, reinforcing how vital it is that we're all on same page when it comes to our regional priorities."

"To ensure that our regional strategies remain relevant in a fast-changing world, an audit of the action plan will occur yearly, with a more substantial update planned for every three years. Importantly, future updates will align with the council Long-Term Planning process to ensure actions are considered to be funded and resourced."

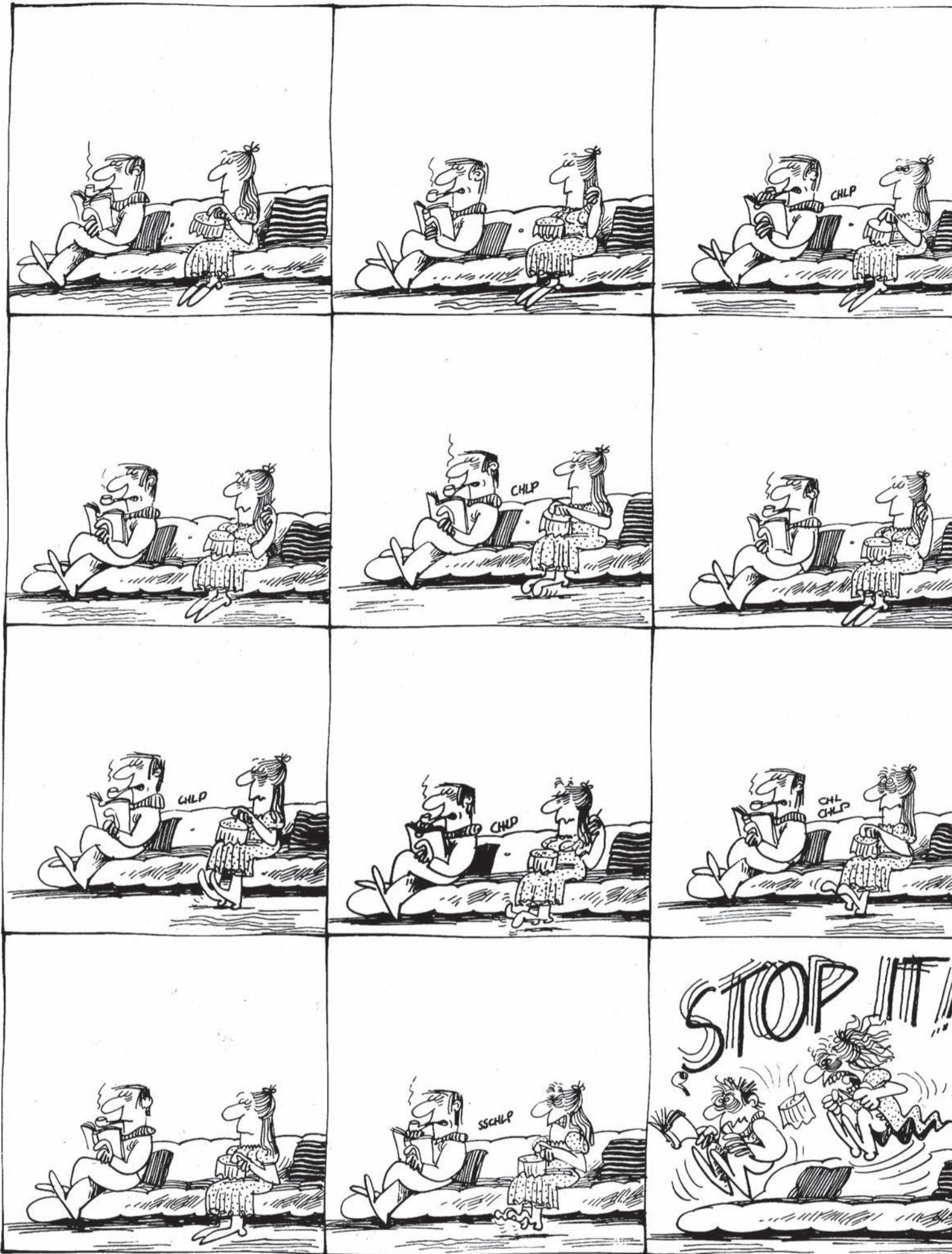
The Tapuae Roa 2025/26 Action Plan will be published online following

the launch event. The Action Plan has been guided by the collective visions of Tapuae Roa - Make Way for Taranaki (TR 2017) regional economic

development strategy, and Taranaki 2050, a strategic roadmap co-designed by regional leaders and the community through public consultation. Both

provide a long-term vision for a transition to a resilient, equitable, low-emission economy.

What's On Listings



ONGOING

Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

MONDAYS: The Barnabas Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:30 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025

Beginners Social Dance Classes: Central School Hall, New Plymouth, 7pm.

TUESDAYS

Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.

Pungarehu Golf Club Twilight: Tee-off between 4.30 & 6.30pm.

Opunake District RSA: Meet 1st Tuesday of every month at 5.30pm at the Opunake Fire Station. Financial Members are welcome to attend.

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.

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

Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4pm to 5.30pm.

Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.

THURSDAYS

Egmont Euchre Club: Every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club. Inquiries, 06 761 8337 or 06 761 8607.

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

FRIDAYS

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

Beginners Social Dance Classes: Oakura Hall, 6.15pm.
AT THE CLUB HOTEL THIS WEEK:
Monday: Burger special \$15, Happy Hours 3pm- 6pm;
Tuesday: Pork ribs \$20, Pool Tournament 7pm; **Wednesday:** Pizza night 2 for \$24, Poker night \$30 buy in; **Thursday:** Steak night for \$20, Poker Night \$27 buy in; **Friday:** Pensioners lunch \$15, Lamb Shank \$20; **Saturday:** Chicken Schnitzel \$20; **Sunday:** Roast night \$20 Complimentary dessert for dine in customers.
NOVEMBER 15
Turkey the Bird new album release - Men Fish, Boat: 4th Wall Theatre, New Plymouth, 8pm. See article in Whats On. Tickets available at www.turkeythebird.co.nz. Door sales available.
NOVEMBER 16
Turkey the Bird new album release - Men Fish, Boat: Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake, 8pm. See article in Whats On. Tickets available at www.turkeythebird.co.nz. Door sales available.
NOVEMBER 18
Grey Power South Taranaki General Meeting: Senior Citizens Hall, Hawera, 10am
NOVEMBER 20

Taranaki Regional Strategy Action Plan Update Launch Event: Devon Hotel, New Plymouth, 12pm.
NOVEMBER 21
Tui Ora Drop In Clinics: At Heartlands Hub, Opunake, 11am.
NOVEMBER 20 - DECEMBER 4
Ambury Hall presents Farewell Autumn Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham.
NOVEMBER 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28 & 29
Wolffy Woes & Troll Troubles: At the Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake.
NOVEMBER 21 - DECEMBER 20
Time Exhibition: At the front of the blue gallery, Opunake. Special opening event Nov 24, 2pm.
NOVEMBER 22
Late Night Shopping in Opunake: 4.30 - 8pm.
NOVEMBER 25
Opunake Sport & Recreation Trust AGM: At Sinclair Event Electrical Events Centre, Opunake, 6pm.
NOVEMBER 30
Orimupiko Reserve Trust AGM: Sinclairs Electrical & Refrigeration Events Centre, 10am.
NOVEMBER 30 & DECEMBER 1
Stratford A&P Show: Flint Rd, Stratford.

DROP-IN CLINICS

Thursday 21 November 11:00am - 2.30pm
Tui Ora Heartlands Hub Napier St

Come and say kia ora to our friendly nurses!
 They can help with:

- Immunisations
- Flu vaccine and COVID boosters
- Cervical screening self-tests
- Respiratory checks
- Hepatitis C screening

TUI ORA

Local dancers success at NZ Open Ballroom Dance Championships

Over Labour weekend four local dance pairs travelled to Nelson for the 73rd New Zealand Open Dancesport Championships.

Dancesport is the sport of the art of Ballroom dancing, and although dancers are dressed in tailor made suits and beautiful dresses, with hair immaculately groomed, competitive dancers' bodies and minds are put under strenuous physical and mental conditions and stresses similar to 800 metre athletes.

In an event historically dominated by Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch couples Taranaki was represented superbly by local couples David and Jacqui Rood, Grace King and Anouk Rood, Sandy Ellice and Christine Berridge, and Lisa Smith and Vanessa Hopgood.

In reading these names you may have noticed that three of these couples are female-female couples and one married couple. It has been a challenge to attract and keep men involved in Dancesport, especially in the smaller regions like Taranaki.

In order to overcome the shortage of men, six ladies decided to pair up, with one person in each couple taking the role of leader and one as follower.

Over the last few years same-sex couples have been included in dancesport events all over the world, with one of New Zealand's leading dancers, Mathew Nicholson claiming the world title in the UK last year.

With gender roles removed as a barrier to competing, all Taranaki's dancers



The Dance Connexion Couples.

achieved huge success with all couples receiving finalist placings (top six in NZ), podium finishes and most impressively, a first placing.

Lisa Smith, an Oakura resident, and Vanessa Hopgood, from Normanby were in pure shock and their eyes filled with tears of joy as they were named the NZ champions in the Masters 2 C grade Latin American event. "We just have so much fun dancing together and performing together, which must have been evident in the judges' eyes," Lisa says.

Frustrated with not being able to find men to dance with, Oakura resident Sandy Ellice teamed up with her good friend and long-time dance enthusiast Christine Berridge to take on the competitive sport. Both ladies have danced for many years, starting with Modern Jive and Rock n Roll, before dancing with their teacher in pro-am Ballroom events and medal tests before they decided to make dancesport their shared sport.

"We love dance sport because it's a perfect blend of teamwork and artistry. It challenges us to grow", said Sandy.

Oakura husband and wife team, David and Jacqui are now seasoned, well-established competitors in their age category who love travelling across the country and Australia to compete together. Ballroom dancing is a joy that brought them together over 20 years ago in South Africa before having children and moving to New Zealand. After a long break from the dance floor they found dancing again and are hooked once again.

Commented Jacqui, "When I was a little girl, I watched Anastasia, and one scene has stayed with me ever since. In it, she returns to her palace, now in ruins, and steps into the ballroom. Closing her eyes, she envisions the grand celebrations of the past and begins to dance like a princess. I always dreamed of dancing at a ball just like that. Now, whenever

I dance, I can still feel that moment in my mind—floating on air, twirling like royalty, and leaving behind the stresses of daily life. In those moments, I can forget everything, if only for a while, and drift away like I'm dancing on a cloud."

The love of dance is certainly in the Rood DNA, as their daughter Anouk and her partner Grace have been dancing together for the last year and wowed the audience and judges at this year's NZ Open. Their two sons also dance, with Ruan and his girlfriend enjoying social classes, and Caden (now residing in Auckland), a NZ champion and now one of Australasia's top youth competitors.

All four couples train most days and many hours each week with Dance Connexion. Dance Connexion has two locations

in Taranaki, Oakura Hall and Central School and cater to all, right from those taking their first steps to top competitive couples.

Studio principal and teacher Kiel deBuisson says it has been his goal to re-ignite and develop social and competitive dancing in Taranaki.

"It has been extremely rewarding seeing not just the development of individuals' confidence and dancing, but

also the effects that the love of dance has socially, physically, mentally and emotionally within the community," he states.

The effects of Covid 19 have definitely been an obstacle, with in person classes having to be cancelled and class numbers shrinking, "but we adapted and came through with relief and anticipation on the other side."

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

dance connexion PRESENTS
BEGINNERS Social Dance Classes
FOXTROT-CHACHA & MORE!

OAKURA HALL
Fridays-6:15pm
CENTRAL SCHOOL HALL
Mondays-7pm
(Casual & course rates available)

Oakura Hall
Main Rd-State Highway 45
Central School
40 Lemon St
E: danceconnexioninfo@gmail.com
Ph: 021 051 0608

COASTALCARE Health and Community Centre

Christmas is fast approaching. Be in early to ensure your mail and parcels reach family and friends by Christmas. We have a great range of Christmas stock in store. Coastal Printers can create personalised greeting cards or canvas art with your photos. Pop in and check us out!

Christmas Sending Dates:	Economy	Courier	Express
New Zealand:	Wed Dec 18	Fri Dec 20	
Australia:	Mon Dec 2	Mon Dec 9	Mon Dec 16
South Pacific, North America, Asia, UK, Europe	Sun Dec 1	Sun Dec 8	Fri Dec 13
Rest of the World:	Mon Nov 25	Mon Dec 2	Wed Dec 11

Send up to 1kg to Aus for ONLY \$20*
*Oct 14 - Dec 2. T's & C's apply.

Also in the building:
OPUNAKE PHARMACY, OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE, ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE, PLUNKET, HEALTH BOARD SERVICES

For a full list of services and happy
Find us on Facebook
or visit us at www.coastalcare.co.nz
CONTACT ARETHA LEMON
Facility Manager on 06 761 8488

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE OPUNAKE
72 Tasman Street, Opunake | www.everybodystheatre.co.nz

Lee 1hr 57mins M Thu 14 Nov 7PM Sun 17 Nov 1PM	Memoir of a Snail 1hr 34mins M Fri 15 Nov 7PM Sat 23 Nov 1PM
Despicable Me 4 1hr 34mins PG Sat 16 Nov 1PM	Gladiator 2 2hr 28mins M Sat 16 Nov 7PM Sun 24 Nov 1PM
Here 1hr 44mins M Sun 17 Nov 7PM Thu 28 Nov 7PM	Never Look Away 1hr 49mins R16 Thu 21 Nov 7PM Sun 24 Nov 7PM
Red One 2hr 3mins PG Fri 22 Nov 7PM	The Critic 1hr 39mins M Sat 23 Nov 7PM

Lee Holoocaust imagery, sexual violence references & offensive language 1hr 57mins Rated: M Thu 14 Nov 7PM	Memoir of a Snail Violence, drug references & sexual references 1hr 34mins Rated: M Fri 15 Nov 7PM
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TRADES & SERVICES

GAM**Compact Tractor Contractor**

For all your small tree cutting down and chipping
Average to large garden rotary hoeing
Lifestyle block paddock topping and mowing
Horse paddock harrowing
Gravel driveways and raceways graded

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✉ tractor1boat2@gmail.com

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✉ Hakatea@htgconstruction.org

☎ 027 904 9796

- ☰ New Builds
- ☰ Renovations
- ☰ Extensions
- ☰ Decks
- ☰ Fences



BUILDER. Hay Barns, Garages, Sheds, Roofs, Gutters, Bathrooms. All building maintenance. Local builder. Dion 021 027 06657.

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

QUALITY SEMI-RETIRED painter decorator available for residential or farm work. Has self-contained motorhome for remote work to save on travel costs. Excellent references available. 45+ years experience, responsible for national award winning work. Ph Ken Carston 027 478 1606.

New exhibition on Virtual Tart

This month's exhibition on the Virtual Tart website at <https://tart.co.nz> is "New Paintings by Tony Rumball."

Twenty new paintings, all

done in 2024 - Inspiring to artists, and a joy for the viewer..

cheers, and thank you for being there.

Dale Copeland



Cool Taranaki-Tony Rumball

Follow the hooves

This Christmas season the retail shops of Opunake's main street welcome the community and surrounding districts to a late-night

festive shopping event. Our beautiful little township will keep its shop doors open till 8pm on the evening of Friday November 22 for

your Christmas Shopping needs.

We invite the township and surrounding districts to come and experience

our shops after-hours and to shop local, we aim to build a vibrant shopping centre on Tasman St where independent shop owners are focussed on customer service and unique products.

Each store will be offering an instore experience on the evening and we will have free packets of reindeer food for the kids to save for Christmas Eve. Free gift wrapping, and of course lots of unique giftware that you just won't find in the big brand shops.

Come and support the sausage sizzle with all proceeds being gifted to the Paton family to help support them through a tough time.

Shop local, Support your unique town and walk away with the festive feels that a community brings and of course unique giftware for your friends and family.

4.30-8PM

FRI 22/11/2024

TASMAN ST
OPUNAKE

"FOLLOW THE
HOOVES"

JOIN US!

Free gift-wrapping
+ free reindeer food packets for the kids.

'Santa novelty ice-creams' at Coastal Supermarket's Ice-cream parlour.

'Wine & Cheese' + table decoration display at Cecelia's.

'Bubbles & Bags' at Citizen Leather.

'Santas Post Box & Licorice' at Licorice.

Country Connections will be hosting their Annual Christmas Shopping & Samples Event the same evening.

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake Co-operating Parish

Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month

Okato Co-operating Parish

Okato - St. Paul's - Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Oakura - St. James - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Mid-week open church - Okato - St. Paul's - Pew for You, every 3rd Wednesday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm

Opunake Catholic Church

St Martins, Pungarehu: Temporarily closed - no Masses
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday

Other areas

Sacred Heart, Manaia - Temporarily closed - No Masses
St Joseph's, Hawera - Every Sat at 5pm; Every Sun at 9am
St Patrick's, Patea - 4th Sunday of month; 11.00am
St Francis de Sales, Waverley - 2nd Sunday of month; 11.00am

St Patricks Catholic Church, Kaponga

Sunday Mass 8.45am.
Thursday Mass 10.00am (subject to change).

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - weekly

The Wave

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

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

Okato Community Church

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.
Everyone welcome

St John's Community Church. Kaponga

Cnr West and Egmont Streets.
Sunday Services 10.30am followed by morning tea

Manaia Union Fellowship

Terou St. Manaia.
Meet 10am every 3rd Sunday of the month with communion

Friend & Fellowship Group

Thursdays @ Manaia
Support our Faith and support each other with Prayer and Bible study
Encouraging interactive discussion and Praise
All are welcome
We would love it if you could come
Rodney & Val 274 8550 or 0272384187

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

90 Regan St., Stratford,
9:00am Sunday: Breakfast and Study
10:30am: Breakfast is followed by "Coming Together Worship Service"
Thursday: Study Group at 2 pm at 96b Brecon Rd., Stratford.
Contact Rev. John Mattock 027 2039799

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EVENING

In conjunction with the Opunake Business Association 'Follow the Hooves'

- Come and sample our Christmas treats
- Great for Christmas gifts

When: Fri 22nd November
From 4.30pm

Where: Country Connections, 80 Tasman St,
Opunake. Ph 06 761 8171.

Please take this opportunity to visit us. Bring a friend. Laybuy now for Christmas. Every purchase is valid for an entry into a draw for a \$100 gift voucher.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Grey Power
NEW ZEALAND FEDERATION INCORPORATED



GREY POWER
SOUTH TARANAKI

General Meeting
18 November, 10am
Senior Citizens Hall
81 Victoria St Hawera
Speaker: Jess Ward, Egmont Power
All welcome
Jackie Morrow, Secretary



Auroa School

734 Auroa Road, RD 28, Auroa, 4678
office@auroa.school.nz

Applications for Out of Zone Pupils

Auroa School is a decile 8 full Primary School (includes year 7/8 students) located in South Taranaki. Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

The Board has determined that there will be 15 vacancies available for year 1-8 for Term 1, 2025.

Applications can be made by applying in writing to the school by either post or email and by visiting the school office.

The deadline for applications is 3pm, Wednesday 11th December, 2024.

If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot.

Claire Gargan, Board of Trustees

Public notice of application for OFF Licence
Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

KUMAR VENTURES LIMITED, 14 Corsham Grove, Churton Park, Wellington, 6037, NZ has made application to the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee for the issue of an OFF licence in respect of the premises situated at 5794 South Road, RD 34/Rahotu, Opunake, 4684, known as Rahotu Super Mart.

The general nature of the business conducted (or to be conducted) under the licence is **Grocery store.**

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is (or is intended to be) sold under the licence are:
Mon-Sunday- 6am-8pm.

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee at 105/109 Albion Street, Hāwera, 4610.

Any person who is entitled to object and who wishes to object to the issue of the licence may, not later than 25 working days after the date of the first publication of this notice, file a notice in writing of the objection with the Secretary of the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee at:

The Secretary, South Taranaki District Licensing Committee, Private Bag 902, Hāwera, 4640.

No objection to the issue of a licence may be made in relation to a matter other than a matter specified in section 105(1) of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

This is the second publication of this notice.
This notice was first published on: 31/10/2024

OPUNAKE SPORT & RECREATION TRUST

AGM @ 6pm

Monday 25th Nov
At Sinclair Electrical Events Centre, Opunake

The OSRT governs the Sinclair Electrical Events Centre.

We are seeking new committee members to govern our communities sporting and recreation facility due to members retiring.
Phone 06 7617 534 for further enquiries.

GRAZING

GRAZING AVAILABLE
Phone Richard 027 510 9667.

FOR SALE

DID YOU KNOW we stock moon cups, detox foot pads, flea flea, wheat bags, herbal tobacco and cigarettes, diatomaceous earth, pet calm and pet muscle, enema kits, magnesium spray and cream, kefir, stevia, plus plus plus, we also do hair analysis, bowen and adrenal tests. If we haven't got it, we will do our best to get it for you. The Health Shop in Centre City. We care, Ph 06 758 7553, we deliver.

YOU ARE WHAT you absorb, if your gut is working correctly you cannot absorb the nutrients from your food as good as it should. Have a look at the new Gutsi product for digestion, bloating, excessive farting, constipation problems etc. At The Health Shop in Centre City. Ph 06 758 7553.

SYSTEMWELL the most comprehensive and complete herbal formula for immune support. Designed to target the seven different mechanisms for immunity. 45 tabs free with 90 tabs. The Health Shop in Centre City. Ph 06 758 7553. We deliver.

RAFFLE RESULTS

St Barnabas Market Day Raffle Results

1st Draw - Groceries
Ticket # 067 - Bev Oakey
2nd Draw - Groceries
Ticket # 144 - Jackie Smith
3rd Draw - Corona Ice Bin
Ticket # 159 - Graham Payne



SECOND RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the second instalment of rates for 2024/2025 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 27 November 2024.**

FM Aitken
Chief Executive

SITUATIONS VACANT



Opunake High School
Te Kura Tuarua o Opunake

ŌPUNAKĒ HIGH SCHOOL

We have the following part time opportunities available:

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

We need a person to prepare resources for science classes. Previous laboratory experience would be helpful but not essential as training will be given. An opportunity also exists for you to assist in the Technology faculty to support teachers. This position is for two hours per day, 10 hours a week.

PART-TIME CLEANER

We are looking for a part-time cleaner to work after school hours 5 days per week. Must be reliable and honest.

REGISTERED TEACHERS FOR DAY RELIEF

We are in need for registered teachers to relieve on an intermittent day to day basis for 2025.

Enquiries welcome, applications should include a covering letter and CV.

The Principal
Opunake High School
PO Box 4
Opunake 4616
admin@opunake.school.nz

Applications close Friday 22 November, 2024

WANTED TO BUY

Stevenson Calf Rearing

MILK & COLOSTRUM WANTED

Picking up 24/7

Our tanker handles large volumes

Ph. Mark or Trish on 0800 350 340 or txt

027 495 2897 E: markstevo@extra.co.nz

Troy Stevenson 027 469 7636

E: troystevo@gmail.com

KANE BARRETT LIVESTOCK

CALF MILK WANTED

Any volumes - 24/7

027 4036469 | kanebarrettlivestock@outlook.com



Call us on 06 761 7016 to advertise here.

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



The Opunake District Foodbank needs your help!

You may have seen recent news items about the pressure on Foodbanks around new Zealand and how they are having to close. In Ōpunakē, we are in the same situation with record numbers of people needing food parcels which has cleaned out all our supplies. This shows just how hard it is for people to make ends meet.

If there is anyone able to assist us in assisting others that would be wonderful, we are happy to take any sort of donation you can make.

If everyone who is able; gave just a small amount, we could, as a community, make it through these tough times.

Please drop off any donations to CoastalCare on Napier Street.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Aretha on 06 761 8488

Thank you Opunake for helping us to help our community.



The Opunake & 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 border of Hawera township and inland to Kaponga and through Eltham.

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2014 Toyota COROLLA GX HANDY HATCH

Reversing Camera, Sports Mode, Tiptronic Auto,
VVT-i, 1798cc, petrol, CVT



\$14,995

2016 Toyota COROLLA GX NZ NEW

Reversing Camera, Tow Bar, Parking Sensors,
Cruise Control, VVT-i, 1798cc, Petrol, CVT,
103kms



\$14,995

2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross LOW KMS, NZ NEW SUV

Adaptive Cruise Control, Tow Bar, Heated Electric
Leather Seats, Turbo, Tinted Windows, Collision
Avoidance, 1499cc, Petrol, CVT, 29kms



\$24,995

2018 Honda Jazz S

Stability Control, Electric Mirrors, Parking Sensors,
Reversing Camera, 1317cc, Petrol, CVT, 32kms



\$17,995

2007 Toyota Blade SPORTY HATCH

Keyless entry & ignition, Spoiler, Tinted Windows,
Electric Seats, Stability Control, Driving Lights,
2369cc, Petrol, CVT, 199kms



\$8,995

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL: 2011 Cadillac CTS

WHAT A CAR!

Auto Headlights, Memory Electric Seats, Reversing
Camera, Twin Exhausts, Alloy Wheels, 2990cc, Petrol,
Auto, 122kms



\$16,995

2009 Honda Jazz 1.5S NZ NEW SPORT

2WD, 5 Door Hatch, Cruise Control, Spoiler, VTEC,
1496cc, Petrol, Auto, 139kms



\$9,995

2008 Toyota HIGHLANDER 7 SEATER AWD

Tow Bar, Alloy Wheels, Descent Mode, Roof Rack,
V6, 3456cc, Petrol, Auto, 257kms



\$13,995

2021 Haval Jolion LUX HIGH SPEC, LOW KM's

Collision Avoidance, Driver Monitoring System,
Heated Electric Seats, Turbo, Descent Mode, Sports
Mode, Alloy Wheels, 1497cc, Petrol, Auto, 44kms



\$24,995

2011 Nissan X-Trail Roof Rack, Descent Mode, Cruise Control, 2488cc,

Petrol, CVT, 209kms



\$10,995

2016 Holden Captiva LT 7 SEATER, 4WD

Driving Lights, Side Skirts, Keyless Entry & Ignition,
Descent Mode, Roof Rails, 2997cc, Petrol, Auto,
94kms



\$17,995

2016 Mazda Cx-5 GLX POPULAR NZ NEW SUV, Alloy Wheels, i-Stop,

Electric Parking Brake, Keyless Start, Sports
Mode, Traction Control, 1998cc, Petrol, Auto,
127kms



\$18,995

2007 Suzuki SX4

Alloy Wheels, Body Kit, Tinted Windows, Auto
Headlights, 1490cc, Petrol, Auto, 130kms



\$7,995

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

LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Ph 06 281 1925 • Chris Elliot 027 471 5972

Ph 06 757 3585 • Jamie Henry 021 556 223

