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Chris Hipkins visits Len Lye Museum



Candidates square off page 4.



End of an era for Opunake TSB staff . See page 5.



In search of local hero . See page 12



Another national title for High School basketballers. See page 14.



Hot rodders head for Hawera. See page 19.

In his second visit to Taranaki in six weeks Prime Minister Chris Hipkins paid a visit to Len Lye Museum in New Plymouth, on Monday September 25, after earlier visiting other sites which reflected Labour’s environmental policies. He was accompanied by New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett, as well as Cabinet Ministers Dr Megan Woods and Andrew Little. Also present was parliamentarian Angela Roberts.

Upon arrival Mr Hipkins was shown a number of exhibits by the Assistant Curator Contemporary Maori Art Taarati Taiaroa (Ringahapai Kaitatu Nga Toi Maori) and he listened intently to her expert introduction of each exhibit.

Early on Mr Hipkins looked in on some school-age artists, Monty and Yoav, involved in Batik, who were being tutored by Anton Berndt.

The final section of the visit was a prolonged question session, mostly involving Mr Hipkins but also, to a lesser extent, the other Government parliamentarians. Mr Hipkins faced a relentless barrage of questions, but gave a good account of himself. In response he reaffirmed that he would not enter a coalition agreement (if in a position to) with New



From left, Dr Megan Woods MP, Taarati Taiaroa (Assistant Curator Contemporary Maori Art), with Prime Minister Chris Hipkins MP on the right.

Zealand First leader Winston Peters. (The question inevitably arises as New Zealand First looks likely to attain the 5% threshold, to have parliamentary list representation, according to recent opinion polls. “I’ve been very clear about this,” he commented.

There were several question relating to their just released Climate Response policy.

He was scathing about National’s policies; “National are choosing the most expensive way of halting climate change.”

On a sharp note he stated, I agree with Christopher

Luxon that climate change is a major issue – which is why I’m surprised that they (National) want to sabotage our efforts.”

Glen Bennett outlined Taranaki initiatives under his watch, such as the proposed Mt Messenger bypass, which is a three year commitment. “I’m also really excited about our energy policies.” He added, “The economy is continuing to go well.”

Dr Woods pointed out that her Government intends to do much to address the shortage of housing.

“A Labour Government is committed to building many houses.”



Some people who have decided how they are going to vote. The woman on the right (holding placard) is Marie Ardern who is the aunt of former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern.

IN IT FOR YOU.

Glen Bennett
for New Plymouth

glen.bennett@labour.org.nz /glenbennettlabour

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Letters to the Editor

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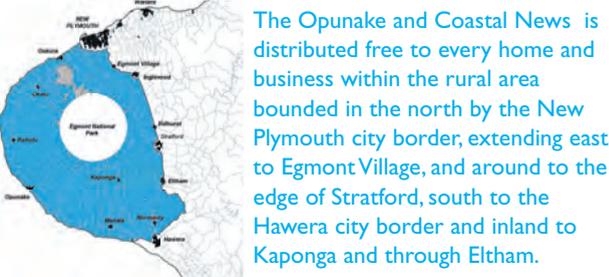
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While we welcome free speech, the views expressed in the Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Opunake & Coastal News. Please limit letters to 350 words as we sometimes struggle for space to fit them all in.

Non - representation

Every three years political candidates pretend they are interested in what ‘us’ plebs think, by holding public meetings to gather votes.

Tell me Steph Lewis (Labour) when were you listening with the maybe hundreds of people you have blocked on your Facebook page? The maybe thousands of comments blocked or ‘shadow-banned’ by you and not allowed into what is the 21st century ‘townhall meeting’ for ‘us’ plebs.

You claimed to my face that you censored for abuse, but then produced nothing to prove this with my personal comments across the last six years. Your fellow MPs and main party page do the same, except Andrew Little, albeit he does not respond. Incredibly neither you, nor

‘Chippie from the Hutt’ or your main party FB page is even viewable through my FB account now.

“Most open and transparent government”, claim by Ardern! What poor quality and even fraud of ‘representation of us’. If the polls are correct a few of you will rightly be looking for new jobs by mid-October.

Max Thomas
Awatuna

Places of work for everyone

Politicians, Election candidates: What came first humans or jobs/work? When humans came to God’s Own there were jobs for everyone. Humans first, then work jobs, now unemployment benefits and sickness benefits handed out throughout Kiwis’ God’s Own. Some

of these humans have been given a lifetime sentence of handouts of benefits from Kiwi taxpayers. With the shortage of the Kiwis to full the job market there are places of work for everyone, unemployed and sickness beneficiaries, part time or full time work. How come beneficiaries can stay on the benefit for life without work?

Politicians, have you got your taringas on?

Ian McAlpine
New Plymouth.

Welfare or Money?

It amazes me that people have such short memories regarding political parties and the flip flop of successful/destructive policies that have been implemented over the decades and centuries.

The social welfare reforms, state housing, neoliberalism, the mother of all budgets, the lockdowns of polio, and more recently Covid, the sale of public assets, health, education and justice reforms and many, many more.

NZ has at present the Labour Party in power, and under Jacinda, the party closed the borders isolating us from the rest of the world and thus saving thousands of Kiwi lives that are alive today and are able to vote in the 2023 elections.

The cost of this and the employment/business scheme came at an enormous cost to our finances – and this year the destruction from climate change expense.

Money, as I discovered at an early age, does not grow on trees. Borrowed money

Continued on page 3.

ADELPHOS

It has been a challenging couple of years with a long list of rapid fire and head spinning changes in the social, sexual, political and cultural arenas. We sense a perfect global storm brewing in: gender and race wars, artificial intelligence worries, extreme left vs. right propaganda, misinformation, disinformation, climate change, cancel culture and ultimately the inexorable ticking of the doomsday clock in Ukraine. Whew!!!

Many wonder what new daunting development will appear on the 6 o’clock news tonight? Media ratings often feed on trauma news. It sells. We saw how

the mass media’s Covid pandemic coverage created a politicised and apocalyptic media spectacle. Reported mental illnesses, phobias and anxiety worldwide soared much higher than the death rates.

So how can we survive the media storm and preserve our mental and physical well-being? One way is to listen to and read different viewpoints. However, our cell phones can be our biggest enemy to well-being. If we google disastrous occurrences our phone is programmed to feed us more trauma. It might be a head on collision involving teenagers or the graphic slaughter of

Ukrainian civilians.

One suggestion is to simply refrain from opening up your phone’s sensational newsfeed headlines. There are positive items you can open up. It’s also helpful not to dwell on traumatic events in conversations with others. Or you can turn the colour off on your phone after 6:00 pm. Colour is used to entice you to open a newsfeed. Black and white is less seductive. This will help your brain to relax during the evening so that you get a healthy sleep. Good sleep hygiene is essential to good physical and mental health. Lastly, much larger TV screens can intensify the impact

of trauma on our brain’s memories. Sometimes we may need to turn off the TV.

Traumatic images in the brain are hard to forget or erase. It’s easier to censure ourselves and not see something. Jesus tells us that, “The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are good your whole body [or well-being] will be full of light” (Matthew 6:22, New International Version). Just a few suggestions to survive the storm and keep healthy in body, soul and spirit.

Peace,
Adelphos

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Okato Takeaways

Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 2.

has to paid back. The Labour Government decided that NZ can replace

money but cannot replace lives.

Winston Churchill had the same vision when he governed a Britain up against a vile Hitler during WWII. Britain was in financial strife taking years to dispel their debts.

How did the British people thank and repay Churchill? They voted him out because the state of the nation caused those citizens still alive 'to do it tough.'

How are NZ voters going to thank and repay the Labour MPs for keeping them alive

by borrowing? Are the voters going to vote them out because NZers are "doing it tough," put a monetary value on lives saved and worship the mighty dollar thus suffering from shortened memory loss as the British did after WWII.

Think carefully when voting; welfare or money for NZers?

Maire Kaire Ngararatuna

Why is right wing populism less popular among university-educated men?

White university-educated men are less likely to hold right-wing populist opinions than white men with no university education in Australia and when they do,

their views are less extreme, according to a small study. Australian researchers interviewed 10 university-educated and eight non-university-educated white

men about their political views to try and get some early understanding of how university education shapes political views. The researchers say university-

educated men were more positive about diversity if they had contact with non-white people, but this did not appear to be the case as much for non-university-educated

men. The researchers also say the university participants believed their institution promoted a pluralistic outlook (the idea that different types of people and

opinions within a society are good), something they say is often incompatible with right-wing populist views. Australian Journal of Social Issues



Born in Tokoroa, raised in Whanganui, I live at Ratana Pā. My iwi connections are Ngati Rangī, Uenuku, Tamaupoko, Ngā Wairiki Ngāti Apa, Ngāti Hāua and follower of te Maramatanga o Ratana.

Labour has made massive investments in Te Tai Hauāuru. We have created jobs, lifted wages, and increased superannuation and benefits. We have delivered funding boosts for marae, protecting the future of Kōhanga Reo, boosts to Māori Education, Whānau Ora, and papakāinga housing. We have

made solid progress in Māori policies that have a real impact in the lives of whānau.

We have too much at risk to stop now. With your support a strong sense of purpose, focus and responsibility I will continue to serve the people of Te Tai Hauāuru.

Kia piki te Marama kia tatou katoa te Iwi Māori – it is important we all vote ✓✓.

Māu mā tātou

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mō Te Tai Hauāuru



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LET'S TAKE BACK OUR COUNTRY

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Authorised by H Howard, 41 Jervois Road, Ponsonby

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New Plymouth electorate candidates exhibit restraint

Four of the six candidates turned up at a well-attended meeting organized by Positive Aging New Plymouth, Grey Power and Age Concern Taranaki. The Thursday 28 September meeting was held (from



David MacLeod and Glen Bennett suss each other out.

industry gets. "Many say our industry is dirty, but we also strive to meet environmental needs." He objected to the myriad of new regulations farmers have to comply with. "Which puts up the cost of living." He considered the cost of petrol was far too high and suggested that if it was refined in our nation (as is the case with fuel in Australia), the cost would be considerably less.

Warren Willetts (NZ Loyal) wanted the New Zealand community to seize control from global interests, which he described as "an elite class." His party sought to establish a 1% transaction tax, which would replace all other taxes and even raise much more revenue. "This would trickle up, meaning more money in the pockets" of New Zealanders. It would also ensure the rich would be paying their share.

He was critical of the Covid mandates which he considered were "forced (on us) by the pharmaceutical giants." He mentioned Pfizer in particular, commenting, "If the vaccine was so safe, why the secrecy?"

Glen Bennett (Labour) outlined positive initiatives which has helped people, such as the winter payment to older people, so they can keep their homes with adequate heating during the colder months, and the lunches in school programme, which has nourished 8,000 school students in Taranaki. "Children had been going hungry before," he explained.

He mentioned that 443 million dollars had been spent to upgrade hospital care, including 30 million on a renal unit.

All candidates spoke very well during this well-organised meeting, with humour never far away and respect for other viewpoints and policies. Was there a winner? Glen Bennett maybe had the edge, with David MacLeod a close second.

waiting time for operations) and the cost of living. "Unashamedly we are focused on establishing control over the cost of living - we have to get inflation under control."

He mentioned people with their first home mortgages having to find hundreds of dollars "just to make ends meet."

He stated that our education system needs to improve. "We are now in the bottom quartile of the OECD nations. We need to do better."

Greg Robinson (New Nation) was critical of the bad press the oil and gas



Greg Robinson (New Nation).

2pm) at the New Plymouth District Council debating chamber, in Liardet Street, New Plymouth.

The candidates included parliamentary incumbent



Warren Willetts (NZ Loyal).

Glen Bennett (Labour), David MacLeod (National), Greg Robinson (New Nation) and Warren Willetts (New Zealand Loyal). Bruce McGechan (ACT) and Hamish Watkins (Animal Justice) were not present.

From the outset it was stipulated by the organisers No heckling will be tolerated and there wasn't any. However, several times the speakers were asked to speak directly into their microphones as some in the audience struggled to hear their voices clearly.

The meeting commenced with a karakia by Richard Anderson who also explained what the Maori words meant in English.

The meeting was well-structured including equal time limits with a warning bell signalling that a candidate's time was nearing its limit. The order of speaking was randomized and questions drawn from a hat.

There was definite diversity of opinion, but agreement prevailed with the proposal to change the nation's name to Aotearoa - there was no support for the move.

David MacLeod (National) spoke on such issues as education, crime statistics, health (especially

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Remembering 60 years of the TSB in Opunake

Lyn Collins remembers manually working out the interest on customers' accounts at the Opunake branch of the Taranaki Savings Bank (TSB).

Lyn, who started at the bank in 1970 and finally left in 2000 was one of several people associated with the Opunake branch who met for a get together at the Vault Café after the Opunake TSB closed its doors for the last time last week.

"It's a disappointment for the community to lose such an asset," says Lyn.

When she started at the TSB they were based on Tasman Street next to Cavaney's Chemist shop. In the time Lyn has been with the TSB they shifted across the road to the site donated by the Yep family.

The Opunake branches of the BNZ and Westpac closed but the TSB kept going.

"So we were really the hub of the community," notes Lyn.

She says when the TSB opened in Opunake in the early 1960s there would only be one male teller on duty.

Weren't there any worries about security? It was a different era, says Lyn.

"Nobody used to lock the doors in those days."

When she started there, she was not only the branch's first female staff member but the first to work alongside somebody else. She remembers manually working out the interest on customers' accounts which would be paid out on March 31.

Lyn had an eight-year gap



Former staff at the Opunake TSB relax and reminisce about old times.



The now empty Opunake TSB branch.

from the bank before coming back, this time as manager. At its height the branch had five staff as well as a manager. She left in 2000 to be secretary to the principal at Opunake High School.

Taking over from her as manager was somebody

who also has longstanding connections to the town. Campbell Third, who was also at the get-together had been through Opunake Primary School and Opunake High School and as a child remembers Lyn and her husband Brian as

neighbours.

Campbell says he enjoyed his three years as manager.

"For me it was about reconnecting with my home town and managing the local bank. There were a lot of people I know who I was able to get into their first

home."

Campbell is still with the TSB looking after residential lenders across the country. He continued to keep an interest in Opunake.

"I love the place and still feel like I'm a local," he says.

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The psychology of youth crime

With the election imminent the Science Media Centre quizzed Dr Armon Tamatea (Rongowhākā; Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki), Senior Lecturer in Psychology at the University of Waikato about the psychology of youth crime.

Dr Tamatea emphasised at the outset how complex the issue is and encouraged people to look at the issue of youth offending as a sort of ecosystem. Young people are involved in a range of systems, as individuals, peer groups, family, whānau, relationships, schools, neighbourhoods, and communities, among others. "There are all sorts of ways that young people get

dissected and carved up and fragmented across various parts of society—rightly or wrongly," he said.

Looking at it in this way meant that there are more opportunities to intervene to prevent offending in the first place.

"The thing I would probably caution against—whether talking crime more broadly or youth crime in particular—are silver bullet, single-hit kind of approaches. We hear about these with things like bootcamps, for example, as a kind of a panacea, supposedly, for dealing with youth crime. And we know the evidence just does not support that, not least because these approaches

tend not to consider the broader systems that young people exist in."

As an example of the complexity of the issue, Dr Tamatea discussed his time working with a gang whānau a couple of years ago.

"In their particular town, there was a bylaw, which forbade young people from congregating around certain areas in the CBD. An unintended consequence of that was a number of these young folk end up in other kinds of social circles where drugs became the norm. And addictions became part of that picture and mental health issues and suicidality became part of that as well.

"So that's the impact that a community—or even a

community change—can have on behaviour, for example. Things are fragile, things are volatile, which is why this area is so important and this part of development is so important."

When he started as a clinical psychologist at a youth prison more than 20 years ago, there were four youth prisons in Aotearoa at the time. The number of youth prisons has since gone down.

"What's been gratifying to see in many ways has been the decline in young people going to prison or the need for young people to go to prison. There's other options now that have been opened up due to changes in the justice system."

COASTAL COPS

With the weather trying to warm up for us, we start to plan for the busy summer ahead. So, it's our duty to remind you of traffic rules as the roads get busier.

1. Remember to wear your seatbelt. Still, a few of you out there throwing it on when you see us. No good I'm sorry. Put it on when you get in the car.
2. Do not use your cell phone when driving. This includes holding it even if it's on speaker phone.
3. Watch your speed. There is a speed tolerance of 8km/h. Yes, this does mean if you are travelling 108 in a 100km zone you can receive

a ticket. 4. Do not drink and drive. It's not worth the risk. If you're having a drink walk home or have a sober driver.

As you may have seen STDC have put up 30km speed signs around the schools. Please take note as these are permanent at all times. We do not take any speed tolerance around schools.

We are still having the usual problems with idiotic drivers that enjoy ripping up the grass verges in town including those of private residences and the wannabe rally drivers who continue to leave their trademark rubber deposits on the road. While

to some this may be no more than an annoyance it is of real concern and only a matter of time until someone is badly hurt. There are local skid pads where you can go and leave all the rubber you like, otherwise we look forward to catching up, towing your vehicle, and taking your licence. We ask that you take note of these vehicles so we can hold them accountable for their actions and put a stop to this behaviour.

There are rules for a reason, we enforce them for a reason, please stick to them. The worst part off our job is having to come back to the station polish our boots, put my police cap on and tell

family members that their loved one is no longer with us, so please slow down and think about what you are doing, the consequences of your actions and about the job the poor local cops have to go and do.

It's a team effort to ensure we can reduce deaths and serious harm on our roads, if you see any driving that of concern call *555 from a mobile phone to report road incidents which are urgent but not life-threatening.

Chloe Ashton Constable CAJR52 South Taranaki Opunake Station

Projects aim to make SH3 safer

Work has now begun on installing safety improvements on State Highways 3 and 3A between New Plymouth and Hāwera.

The safety improvement programme was launched at Mangorei School, just 400 metres from the intersection of Mangorei Road and SH3/Junction Road.

The works include an intersection speed zone and installation of flexible median barriers immediately north of

Junction Street, and between Junction Street and Mangorei Road, New Plymouth. The 420-metre southbound passing lane at Junction St, which is much shorter than the minimum safe overtaking length of 600m-800m, will be removed as part of these works.

Mangorei School principal Gary Poulgrain is looking forward to the benefits the construction of a roundabout at the intersection will bring.

"Safety is paramount for the school and there's currently a high level of apprehension amongst families as they approach the Mangorei Road/SH3 intersection with vehicles coming from a number of directions, at high speeds. "For many parents on our field trips they predominantly turn left and go down Mangorei Road, as opposed to trying to navigate the 100km intersection if they turn right."

In the lead up to the programme launch, pupils at Mangorei School were invited to draw an image of what their ideal roundabout would look like and what it would include. Ideas ranged from having the school principal in the middle, to a tropical island, to a school playground.

As part of the project, Waka Kotahi is planning the installation of six kilometres of flexible median barriers.



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Thrice weekly bus service boosts Coastal Taranaki links

A new bus service to strengthen transport links around the Taranaki coast is being trialled with the launch of an Ōpunake to New Plymouth (SH45) Southlink Coastal route.

Starting early November, the route will operate on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays with two return trips a day and replaces a previous service which only operated on a Friday.

The boost in coastal bus links by Taranaki Regional Council follows feedback from the community earlier in the year on public transport and comes as the Council seeks views on a Better Travel Choices for Taranaki strategy including improvements to the bus network.

Council Transport and Engagement Manager

Cheryl Gazley says that the feedback from a community conversation in March was vital and is already paying dividends with proposals for improvements and bus service trials.

“We had an absolutely fantastic response to our community conversation earlier in the year when we asked what public transport improvements people wanted to see. We’ve listened to that and we’re delighted to launch a trial of this new service which connects our wonderful coastal communities along State Highway 45.

“We aren’t able to do everything for everyone all at once so we’re prioritising what can be changed to improve bus services for our community. I’d urge people to take part in the current community conversation

as your views will be key to how we plan services that the people of Taranaki want.”

Bus frequency, new bus routes including a link from New Plymouth to the airport, weekend bus services and transport hubs are just a few of the initiatives discussed in the Council’s draft Better Travel Choices for Taranaki strategy.

Ms Gazley says the proposals in the strategy are aimed at refreshing the bus network across Taranaki.

“We need to make sure we’re on the right track, so it’s crucial that current and potential bus users take a look at the proposals and provide their feedback.”

Feedback is currently being sought on:

- Proposed bus routes
- Proposed bus timetable changes

- Weekend and public holiday services
- Airport bus
- Express services
- Community (on-demand) transport

The trial Southlink Coastal bus service will stop at Rāhotu, Pungarehu, Ōkato and Ōākura. A full timetable will be available mid-October on the Council website. For more information and to provide feedback, visit trc.govt.nz/transport. The feedback period closes on 29 October.

At the same time, the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council are asking for feedback on their speed management plans. More information can be found at trc.govt.nz/transport.

Public transport users welcome new Taranaki bus

This week, Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) announced a trial of a new bus service for State Highway 45 between Ōpunakē and New Plymouth – including Pungarehu, Ōkato, Rāhotu and Ōākura – twice on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Taranaki bus users’ group I Love Public Transport Taranaki has welcomed the development.

“Every new service in Taranaki is welcome, especially for underserved areas like the coast. Buses serving rural communities are often well-used – like Taranaki’s Connector – so there’s much potential for this one to be popular,” says spokesperson Suraya Sidhu Singh.

But Sidhu Singh also thinks TRC must get its ducks in a



row to make a success of the new bus.

“The trial needs to be long enough for people to change habits – at least a year is

ideal. The route must be direct, the timetable must fit people’s lives and publicity must be super-strong. We need to see timetables and

posters in every business and community places like marae, schools and churches. Information should be mailed to every home along the route.



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National's traffic light system has child poverty reduction stalling at red light

National's cuts to funding for beneficiaries will once again leave children and their parents with less, says Labour Party spokesperson for Social Development and Employment Carmel Sepuloni.

He Poutama Rangatahi have helped record numbers of New Zealanders off benefit into work - 100,233 in 2022, 25.7% higher than 2017.

"We have prioritised removing harmful sanctions that impacted children. The removal of the section 192 sanction lifted the incomes of nearly 12,000 sole mothers by an average of \$34 per week. This was estimated to benefit 24,000 children.

"We also removed the subsequent child policy sanction which was estimated to benefit over 40,000 children. Our changes have resulted in an 87 per cent drop in sanctions that impact children since June 2017.

"What the National Party have failed to realise, which is doubled down by their



CARMEL SEPULONI
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

lack of evidence, is that sanctions can exacerbate already difficult situations. More than 42% of people receiving Jobseeker support cannot work or are working fewer hours because of a health condition or disability.

"Over the course of our term, we've delivered outcomes and interventions that have addressed the root causes of some of the challenges families face. The National Party seem to want to compound these challenges," Carmel Sepuloni said.

National will also put thousands of Kiwi kids back into poverty by changing benefit adjustments to fund the ever-growing hole in their tax cuts.

"The previous Children's Commissioner said the single best thing we could do to combat child poverty would be to index benefits to the change in average wages each year," Carmel Sepuloni said.

"History shows this is because, despite occasional peaks in inflation, over the long-term wage growth almost always outstrips CPI. In fact, it has only been higher than wage growth in three of the last 20 years.

"In 2020 Labour made the recommended changes, which are estimated to have lifted 5,000 children out of

poverty over the past year. "National's indexation cuts could leave families receiving Jobseeker support worse off by \$315 next year. And, due to the compounding effect, \$1,023 worse off in 2025, \$1,638 worse off in 2026, \$2,135 worse off in 2027, and \$2,621 a year worse off in 2028.

"Taking \$2,600 off children in poverty to pay for their tax cuts for property speculators and landlords is immoral.

"Labour will keep indexation to wages - increasing the value of benefits over time and lifting thousands more

children out of poverty. "National's outdated strategy of bashing beneficiaries to get votes is tired and ineffective. The Labour Party would rather invest in giving people the opportunities to undertake apprenticeships, learn, upskill and work, than on policing extended sanctions that simply don't work.

"Labour will continue to lift incomes, support more people into employment, education and training, and ensure children get the best start in life," Carmel Sepuloni said.

Support for new retailers to increase supermarket competition

Labour will assist new retailers to set up business in New Zealand as part of its drive to cut the price of groceries and increase competition.

"We know that it's tough right now for many people, and the high cost of food isn't helping," Commerce and Consumer Affairs spokesperson Duncan Webb said.

"The inquiry we ordered into competition in the grocery business showed the two big companies who control the grocery industry in New Zealand were making excess profits of around \$1 million a day.

"We need to go further than we have to date to force the type of competition shoppers overseas experience.

"If we're returned to Government, Labour will back credible companies wanting to get into or expand into the New Zealand grocery business.

"This could include finance, making sure land is available, regulatory changes, incubating innovation and accelerating competition.

"Healthy, affordable food is essential for Kiwi families.

Our reforms have already seen new competitors in the grocery market driving down prices on key products.

"This includes appointing a Grocery Commissioner as watchdog over the supermarket duopoly and stopping the two major retailers tying up the best sites for supermarkets to keep competitors out of the market.

"Labour is committed to doing everything it can to cut the price of food, including taking the GST off fruit and vegetables. Getting more competition into the market will help even more," Duncan Webb said.

Actions taken by the Labour Government so far include:

• Introducing a

Grocery Code of Conduct imposing stiff fines (the greater of 3% of turnover or \$3 million) if they don't treat suppliers fairly.

• Appointing a Grocery Commissioner.

• Banning restrictive land agreements that locked new entrants out of locations for new supermarkets.

• Making unit pricing mandatory, so it's easier to compare the prices of different products at the supermarket.

• Requiring major grocery retailers to open wholesale offerings, including home brands, to other grocery retailers so they have direct access to a range of wholesale groceries at competitive prices.

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(Authorised by M. Smith, 155 Winara Ave, Waikanae)

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List MP based in Te Tai Hauāuru



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Authorised by Rob Salmond, 187 Featherston Street, Wellington.

Backing our farmers

Last week saw the end of our election debates and Meet the Candidate sessions. But the final debate in Hawera ended up with a strong focus on rural issues.

Farming is the life-blood of the Whanganui electorate, and there's a strong paddock to plate progression. When the rural sector is doing well, the mood in the towns that support them is much happier.

At the moment however, farmers are very nervous at a downturn in commodity prices and returns and are drowning in a sea of red tape and regulation. Our farmers are the most carbon-efficient in the world and only National will end the war on farmers and back them to do what they do best.

Rural communities rely



CARL BATES
NATIONAL CANDIDATE
WHANGANUI

on farmers having the confidence to invest and grow their businesses, and support other local businesses. One business owner I spoke to last week said it was noticeable that farmers aren't spending at the moment, and in an electorate with a heavy emphasis on supporting the rural sector, that's a worrying trend.

National will rebuild the economy, get inflation under

control, and cut red tape to allow businesses, farmers and the staff they employ to prosper and keep growing our exports, lifting incomes and driving investment into towns across New Zealand. Only a strong economy can end the cost-of-living crisis, lift incomes, lower mortgage rates, and fund the quality public services we all deserve. It was a privilege to remind those at the Hawera forum that the only National Party has the economic plan to address challenges faced across New Zealand, including places like South Taranaki, and get us back on track.

The General Election will be close, and every vote will count. Roll on October 14th.

Carl Bates
National Party candidate
for Whanganui

Two million free hours of maths and literacy catch up

Labour will improve maths and literacy outcomes by funding two million hours of catch-up learning for young people and provide extra training for all primary and intermediate teachers, Labour Leader Chris Hipkins has announced.

The Labour Party manifesto has been released documenting all of the party's policies released to date – including the 10-point cost of living plan to help Kiwis bring costs down.

“We know getting kids to school can be expensive, that's why we've made public transport free for under 13s and half price for under 25 as well as continuing the free and healthy school lunches programmes that serves over a million meals a week, and saves parents on average \$33 a week, per child,” Chris Hipkins said.

“It is also why we're providing 20 hours ECE free for two-year-olds from next year, which will save a family an estimated \$133 a week.

“Taking GST off fruit and vegetables, making prescriptions free and boosting Working for

Families by \$25 a week all takes pressure off the family budget.

“Combine that with increasing the minimum wage, introducing paid partner's leave and free basic dental care for under 30s – and many more Kiwis are a lot better off under a Labour Government,” Chris Hipkins said.

Labour's manifesto includes over \$100 million in additional funding for education, to help support students and teachers with maths and literacy, and better support disengaged youth with pathways back into school or employment. “Labour will build on our free tutoring programme by adding two million more hours to ensure young people in years 7 – 13 have the foundations for success in maths and literacy,” Labour Education Spokesperson Jan Tinetti said.

“Learning has been disrupted over the past three years so it's important we provide extra catch-up support to students who need it. Equally, we want to make sure that what's being taught in maths and literacy is consistent – and so we'll fund training for teachers in

those subjects as well.

“The Government has already announced it will legislate core requirements for teaching maths and literacy. Today we are announcing a maths and literacy training fund to ensure all teachers get the necessary training and guidance; and so we can lift the overall quality of maths and literacy teaching.

“Finally, we will put a further \$43 million into education and training pathways for young people who have dropped out or been expelled from school. These are some of our hardest-to-reach kids – but Labour won't write them off.

This further funding will mean we can do more, on top of the work already underway through the Attendance Service and with our new attendance officers, to get the right services around them and use every lever we've got to get them back to school, into training or work.

“Labour can be trusted to continue to fund education and ensure every child gets every opportunity to succeed,” Jan Tinetti said.



The Old Wharf Opunake.

Photo Samantha Smith

Carl Bates

National Party Candidate for Whanganui

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Authorised by C Bates, 41 Pipitea St, Wellington.

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High explosives

The World War I letters of
Corporal Arthur J. Gilmour
of Manaia, Taranaki

by Natasha McKinney
May 1916 sees Arthur
facing more intensive
frontline fighting - this time
from the trenches in France.
Before describing it to his
sister Mabel, he wishes
her a happy birthday, and
sweetly hopes that she will
have many more. Around
him, the danger is now not
only bullets and shrapnel but
'high explosives', which are
lethal and frightening.

As usual, Arthur tells
Mabel of all the letters he
has received from friends
and family at home. We can
only speculate about 'Miss
McEwan', and the private
letter enclosed for her from
the battlefields of France.
It may be another couple of
months before Arthur gets
leave in Britain.

France
27th May 1916

*My dear Mabel,
So tomorrow will be your
birthday and I am not even
able to send you a message,
however you will be in my
thoughts and at least I hope
you will have plenty more.
I have received quite a lot
of mail lately & chocolate
etc from home & from
Wellington. Also I received
letters from Kittie, Maggie &
M- [?] and Miss McEwan.*



**Arthur J. Gilmour of
Manaia. PAColl-9454-01,
Alexander Turnbull
Library, Wellington, N.Z.**

*I am not going to write you
a long letter this time since
I want to get as much sleep
as possible. I shall be up at
2.30 in the morning to go on
fatigue in the trenches. This
will make nine nights out of
ten that my sleep has been
broken and I am getting
more than the usual share of
bed tonight.*

*We have not undressed for
almost a week now as we
have been up in the firing
line and now are back in the
subsidiary lines or reserves
& have to be ready at a
moment's notice.*

*The firing line here or
anywhere near it is a bit
hotter than at Gallipoli &
we have been exposed to
plenty of danger during the
last week. We will have two
more days in the reserves &
then go back to the billets for*

*eight days. I will see Boyd
when we get back there as
he lives only a few hundred
yards from our billet.*

*Willie is getting on well I
believe & expects to go to
England for three weeks
when he is convalescent.*

*We are all getting leave in
turn to England & each man
gets eight days. I should
get my leave in a couple
of months and provided I
do go hope to visit London
& Glasgow & perhaps
Edinburgh. Neil McDonald
wants me to go to Glasgow
as he has a married sister
there. His home is on the
Isle of Uist on the North
West of Scotland. One could
not expect to see much in
that time, but what a change
to get decent meals, a bed
& hot baths again & away
from military discipline for
a while; not that the latter
troubles me much as I am
not in the habit of getting
in to trouble, but discipline
becomes monstrous at times.*

*We have had our nerves
a bit rattled lately; last
Wednesday afternoon we
were bombarded in the front
line trenches & had shrapnel
& torpedo bombs from
trench mortar guns tossed
at us.*

*The latter scare the wits
out of everybody as they are
High Explosive & make such
a tremendous hole in the
ground when they go off.*

They make great

*concussion & have a great
moral effect on anyone close
by. No one was hurt. One
landed a dozen yards from
me & made a tremendous
hole in the ground.*

*I just sat tight and smoked
my pipe while the earth
came pouring down on top
of the dug-out (with only a
corrugated iron roof). This
dug-out of ours is shelter
against rain only. I write
this from a different dug-out.
This one is proof against
anything bar high explosive.*

*To-night we were shelled
by high explosive back here.
The shells all passed straight
over our heads & the nearest
was about thirty yards off.*

*One poor chap, Burgess by
name, received a bad smack
in the back & is not expected
to live.*

*Bullets & shrapnel never
frighten me but the H.E.
will frighten anybody. I
will enclose a P.L. for Miss
McEwan in this letter as
I am short of envelopes.
Don't bother sending any
writing material, we can get
it when we go to the billets.*

*I will write more fully in a
few days. Hoping you are
all well at home.*

*I remain,
Your affectionate brother
Arthur.*

*P.S. I understand that
Jimmy Anderson has gone
to hospital. Charlie Winters
is well, saw him a few weeks
ago.*



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Toothaches shouldn't be treated in EDs

People are showing up to
emergency departments to
treat their toothaches, dental
abscesses, and other non-
traumatic dental problems.
Researchers found there were
more than 900 of these non-
traumatic cases presenting
in Christchurch Hospital in
2020, most of which were
of low severity and managed
by non-dentally trained

staff. They say EDs aren't
the right place to manage
these issues because patients
might not get optimal care
there, which in turn may
contribute to increased
healthcare costs, blocking
access for time-critical
patients, and inappropriate
prescribing of opioids and
antibiotics. Failings in
primary healthcare services
must be addressed to enable
routine and urgent dental
care, they write.

New Zealand Medical
Journal

Call for single gender hospital rooms

The practice of placing
men and women in the
same hospital room has
been prohibited in the UK
National Health Service
for over a decade, but
recent research shows the
practice is common and
increasing in New Zealand.
Reports and complaints
show it also occurs in
Australia. University
of Otago researchers
outline how mixed gender
hospital rooms go against
the fundamental human
rights of personal security
and dignity, and call

for a ban of the practice.
Additionally, they highlight
that transgender patients
should be admitted to rooms
that align with their gender
identity, while decisions can
be made on a case-by-case
basis for those who identify
as non-binary or gender
diverse. They argue that both
groups should have priority
for single occupancy rooms
and that ultimately, hospitals
should be designed with
single rooms as the standard
of care for all patients.

Journal of Medical Ethics

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Hey Chris - what about supporting a prostate cancer early detection trial?

"Hey Chris and Chris, how about supporting men's health and publicly announcing your support of a trial for prostate cancer early detection as well?" says Prostate Cancer Foundation President Danny Bedingfield.

"That would show some real leadership by our political leaders in men's health, which can sometimes be overlooked.

"Work by NZIER suggest a trial in two regions would cost about \$1.6 million a year."

"It was great to see

both major political party leaders, Chris Hipkins and Chris Luxton, commit to expanding existing bowel cancer screening going forward on last night's leader debate on Newshub moderated by Paddy Gower.

"Everyone accepts that the earlier you know you have a cancer issue, the better the clinical outcomes. No one disagrees.

"So New Zealand already has early detection schemes for breast cancer, which sees 3400 diagnosed and 600 deaths each year; cervical cancer, which sees 160 women diagnosed and

50 deaths; and colorectal (bowel) cancer, which sees 1500 women and 1700 men diagnosed, and 1200 deaths.

"But what about prostate cancer? Currently 4000 are diagnosed, and 700 men die.

"Do our political leaders value their lives as well? Don't they matter too?"

"Current opportunistic PSA testing results in men being diagnosed too late and subsequent lower quality of life, unnecessary health treatment and deaths.

"Whatever cancer you are diagnosed too late with, and die of, you're still dead.

"The Prostate Cancer

Foundation wrote to all political parties back in May seeking, amongst other things, an initial trail for early detection prostate cancer. We've been engaging with all parties since.

"Work commissioned from NZIER suggests that a prostate cancer early detection pilot in Waitematā and Tairāwhiti would require an investment of around \$1.6 million a year (\$6.4 million over four years) but could potentially be expected to return over \$100 million to the health system in cost savings and generate over half a billion in health

gains for Waitematā and Tairāwhiti men over their lifetimes. Nearly \$1 million in personal income loss to working-age men could also potentially be expected to be avoided

"It's just common sense. If it makes sense for other cancers, why not prostate cancer? Don't men's lives matter too?"

"So it would be great to see both Chris' publicly support an early detection trial for prostate cancer on the next debate," Mr Bedingfield concluded.

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NPDC opens game-changer in waste reduction



New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom and NPDC Manager Resource Recovery Kimberley Hope at the opening of The Sorting Depot in Colson Road.

NPDC's new commercial waste sorting facility 'The Sorting Depot' on Colson Road will make it easier and cheaper for Taranaki businesses to do the right thing by the environment.

An estimated 45,000 tonnes of Taranaki's yearly landfill waste comes from businesses, and this new facility, which was officially opened on September 20, allows any local business to drop off their commercial waste to be sorted for reuse and recycling - for less than the cost of taking it to landfill.

Costing \$1.2 million to

build, of which \$420,000 was funded by the Ministry of the Environment, NPDC is aiming to divert 5,000 tonnes of materials in the Sorting Depot's first year.

"Up to 60 per cent of the region's landfill waste comes from the commercial and industrial sectors - if we can make it available for reuse or recycling, it'll be a huge step forward in cutting the amount we send to landfill and make it easier and cheaper for businesses to help build a greener, cleaner future," says NPDC Manager Resource Recovery Kimberley Hope.

some materials also going to national recycling markets, and only metals sent overseas."

NPDC's Zero Waste goal is to end waste from our District going to landfill by 2040. This will be only the third commercial waste sorting facility in New Zealand, after depots in Marlborough and Auckland. The Marlborough facility has diverted 30 per cent of waste from the landfill.

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Memories of Sir Peter Snell sought

Peter Snell, who was named New Zealand's greatest sportsman of the century, was born in Opunake and lived in the town until the age of nine. He won three Olympic gold medals and two Commonwealth Games gold medals in middle distance running and set seven world records. Once retired from athletics, he completed a science degree, later a doctorate and became an acclaimed scientist (Associate Professor Snell) and an authority on sports medicine, while living in the

United States. When his Opunake statue was unveiled in an impressive ceremony in 2007, he and his second wife Miki came over from their Texas home to be a vital part of the celebrations.

I am interested in hearing from anyone who has information about Peter Snell or had personal contact with him and his family. For example, it would be great to hear from anyone who went to school with him at Opunake Primary School, or his neighbours. This information is sought for a major project on the great Olympian/scientist.

Please email rtdmckellar@xtra.co.nz or phone 06 752 4377.

Alternatively, you could just call by at the Opunake Coastal News office in Napier Street, Opunake.

Rolland McKellar



Peter Snell.

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Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



Looking after your lavenders

Lavender is looking gorgeous here at Palmers and attracting bees which we like very much. Lavenders are ideal in containers, for the flower border or even as a hedge. There are three groups of lavender – stoechas (Mediterranean), angustifolia (English), dentata, pinnata, pedunculata (French). Lavender stoechas

Major is one of Palmers' best sellers. It produces an abundance of rich dark purple flowers and puts on quite a show from early in spring through summer with strong stems and brilliant flower heads. Another to try is Lavender stoechas Bee Brilliant. We find that Lavender stoechas is better suited to Taranaki's humidity. Plant lavender in full sunlight and well-drained soil. Lavender will not survive being waterlogged. To keep bushy, prune regularly by removing spent flower spikes. Only trim by a third and not into the wood or this will kill your plant. Feed with slow-release fertiliser three or four times a year. Lavender



Lavenders looking gorgeous at Palmers.

Munstead and Lavender Lady are varieties of English lavender, available at Palmers as small plants in punnets. These are good for edging. Lavender Munstead looks especially lovely

planted beside a gravel path. We sell Lavender dentata as part of our herb range as many people choose this variety for medicinal or therapeutic purposes.

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Cruises coming to Taranaki

In a significant step forward for Taranaki's burgeoning cruise tourism industry, a comprehensive Taranaki Cruise Strategy has been developed to ensure there is a coordinated, region-wide approach to sustainably grow the business in the region.

And the strategy has a lofty five-year target - 28 cruise vessel visits in 2028.

"We're calling it '28 for 28'. It's ambitious, but we've got a record seven cruise ship visits in 2023-24, our region's reputation is building, and we believe Taranaki has plenty to offer international visitors who are looking for a unique and memorable experience," Port Taranaki general manager commercial Ross Dingle said.

The Taranaki Cruise Strategy was developed by Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki in partnership with Port Taranaki, iwi and hapū, New Plymouth District Council, New Plymouth iSite, Taranaki Chamber of Commerce, Puke Ariki, tourism operators, and the Department of Conservation.

Former Tourism New Zealand director of marketing Tony Rogers drafted the strategy



People gather on the Lee Breakwater to farewell Europa 2 from Port Taranaki earlier this year (2023).

Photo: Supplied

following input from 27 participants, and a steering group has been formed to guide the development of the strategy and its ongoing implementation.

The Taranaki Cruise Strategy mission is to "proactively attract and serve high-quality cruise visitors seeking new and different experiences in a uniquely Taranaki way".

It has four strategic priorities - improve cruise capability, develop relevant product, proactively attract cruise ships, and ensure cohesive planning and action.

"We believe that through acting on this five-year strategy and having a region-wide, coordinated approach, we can develop our vision of a high-value cruise tourism offering that's sustainable, consistent, respects the environment, boosts the economy, adds vibrancy to the community and nurtures cultural enrichment," Te Puna Umanga Venture Taranaki general manager destination Brylee Flutey said.

"We want to ensure our tourism, retail and hospitality businesses benefit, the community is involved, and we bring

the public along with us so that the cruise industry is regarded as beneficial to our region."

Mr Dingle said Port Taranaki had the ability to cater for increased cruise vessel numbers.

"As we're relatively new to cruise in Taranaki, we have an opportunity to grow the business in a sustainable way, with a focus on smaller premium upper-end, luxury and expedition-type cruise ships, and preservation of the environment - the sea and harbour, and our parks and natural areas," he said.

Ngāti Te Whiti hapū has been involved in the development of the strategy and is a member of the steering committee.

Chairperson Julie Healey said the hapū was supportive of the sustainable growth of the cruise industry in Taranaki.

"We tautoko what Port Taranaki and Venture Taranaki are doing to bring cruise vessels to the region. It gives opportunities for Ngāti Te Whiti and tangata whenua to showcase our rohe, Ngāmotu, and history to the world, and to share our stories with visitors," she said.

"At the same time, growing it sustainably recognises

the need to preserve the environment and keep our waters clean so hapū can continue to gather kaimoana and fish off Ngāmotu, as our ancestors have done for generations."

Supporting the strategy, Port Taranaki and Venture Taranaki are actively engaging with the cruise sector, recently attending the New Zealand Cruise Association annual conference in Christchurch to meet with cruise line representatives and distribute a high-quality brochure promoting the port, region and visitor experiences.

"There's a lot of interest in Taranaki from cruise lines because we're new and different," Mr Dingle said. "The strategy acts as a guide in support of the development of new and unique products and experiences so that passengers leave happy, cruise lines want to return, and new cruise lines want to include Taranaki on their itineraries."

Ms Flutey said global trends show cruise is a fast-growing tourism channel for New Zealand, representing more than \$500 million to the New Zealand economy annually, and a potential \$10.5 million a year for Taranaki.

"There are also so many positive community benefits to be realised, including job security, story-telling and the opportunity to share authentic stories with manuhiri [visitors], as well as the potential to highlight our unique biodiversity and the mahi we're doing to preserve our place.

"Furthermore, it serves as an ideal platform to showcase our region's rich history of innovative food production. This has the potential to facilitate on-ship food procurement and generate added value through both direct and indirect spending," she said.

"The cruise sector can foster the development of new and captivating experiences for visitors and serves as a powerful promotional tool for positioning Taranaki as a sought-after destination."

Seven cruise ships are scheduled to visit Taranaki during the 2023-24 summer season, with the first, the Noordam, arriving on Sunday, 17 December.

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News is coming out on October 19.



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Opunake High School Girls prevail for title number four



Catherine Cook, Liz Gasson, Paige Taylor, Jessica Holmes, Holly Gasson, Tessa Cook, Lilly Bright, Angelo Hill. Front row: Zariah-Jay Forlong, Jorja Symes, Arna Bright, Beth Cook, Corie Lowe and Charlie Carr.

The Opunake Girls Basketball team won the Secondary Schools A Championship title for the fourth time, beating Aquinas (from Tauranga) 59-43 in the final. A team from the school also won in 2011, 2016 and 2017. The tournament was held in Palmerston North from September 25 to September 28 and eight

teams contested the title. The team is coached by Angelo Hill, a highly successful coach, who was also at the helm at the three earlier successes. He was aided, in this recent campaign, by Assistant Coach Liz Gasson and Manager Catherine Cook. Angelo admitted that the lead up to the success was not easy: "This year the team had to work hard to become a team. It took a while for the team to adjust to me and learn the new plays and systems."

Angelo is the Year 11 Dean, Health and PE at Opunake High School. He is also Director of Basketball and Sports Council Chairperson. The co-captains of the team were Beth Cook and Arna Bright, who was also named Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the tournament. Both co-captains, as well as Paige Taylor, were selected for the Tournament Team as a reflection of their outstanding play. The other

players who contributed to this triumph included Lilly Bright, Charlie Carr, Tessa Cook, Zariah-Jay Forlong, Holly Gasson, Jessica Holmes, Corie Lowe, and Jorja Symes. Well done all of you.

It must be noted that the road to victory was not without its reverses. In fact they were beaten in pool play by Aquinas 62-46 and ended up ranked second in this part of the tournament.

However, they won their other two pool games: they beat Greymouth 64-41 and Stratford 87-41.

In the Quarter Final against Manakura they won comfortably 62-38. However the Semi Final against Nga Taiatea was much closer, but they prevailed 54-49 to advance to the final. Yet earlier in the game Opunake were behind by 13.

On reflection Angelo considered his team's defence their strongest aspect, but their shooting accuracy could have been

greater. "I am very proud of this group as they have shown our school's DREAMS values." He concluded, "There is no secret ingredient (to the team's success), but their form is likely due to the support and resources in the community. He is grateful for all the community support during the year, as well as Brian and Monique Sinclair at Electrical for their sponsorship.



Arna Bright Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

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Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home & 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 Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga & Eltham. We want to be involved with your business. Call today and discuss your marketing options with us.

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Thomson O'Neil & Co.

Our Opunake Office is attended by:

Robert England on Wednesday & Fridays for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills and Estates.

Mark Utting on Thursdays for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; Trusts, Wills, Estates and refinancing matters.

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Preparing for the future

Taranaki Regional Council Summary Annual Report 2022/2023



Charlotte Littlewood, Chair
Taranaki Regional Council

Kia ora koutou

We are pleased to present Taranaki Regional Council's 2022/2023 Annual Report. This report looks at what we have achieved over the last year and how that compares against what was set out in the 2022/2023 Annual Plan and the 2021-2031 Long-Term Plan (LTP).

Although it's only been three years since that LTP was developed and two years since it came into effect, the world we're living in has changed dramatically in those years and that has presented the Council with a number of challenges as we strive to continue improving lifestyles and supporting livelihoods.

The economic conditions we're experiencing after the Covid-19 pandemic with the subsequent major hike in inflation and the cost of living, has meant we've faced cost pressures on the delivery of services to our community. We all know from visiting the supermarket that prices have risen a lot, particularly over the last 12 months, and those inflationary pressures have made it challenging for the Council, along with everyone else.

These conditions come at a time when there is massive change in many of the areas we look after. In particular, parts of the Government's Essential Freshwater reforms are now coming into force and we have had to ensure we're ready to deliver the changes needed to protect freshwater and continue to improve our precious waterways. A major piece of work coming out of these changes is the creation of a Natural Resources Plan for Taranaki.

The Government is also replacing the 32-year-old Resource Management Act with the Climate Adaptation Act, the Spatial Planning Act and the Natural and Build Environment Act. This radical shake-up of how resources are managed will change how we operate and we are starting to adapt to work within this new regulatory environment.

As we've seen this year, with Cyclone Gabrielle on the East Coast and severe flooding in Auckland and Northland, major weather events are likely to occur more regularly because of climate change and that's something we have to mitigate against and consider when putting in place plans and long-term strategies to protect our region. We will be including more information and seeking feedback on how we might address these issues in our 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan.

These changes and challenges represent opportunities to ensure we have the right systems and people in place to ensure we are ready to deliver the numerous regulatory reforms and remain fit for purpose to continue our work in taking Taranaki forward.

We couldn't continue that work to preserve our environment now and for the future without the help from our community and working in partnership with tangata whenua. Our focus on working collaboratively is one of the key ways we've been able to continue to deliver services across the region.

We were delighted to welcome back our community to Yarrow Stadium and the return of big games to the New Plymouth venue. The 2022/23 financial year saw major strides towards the goal of creating the best regional stadium in Aotearoa/New Zealand with the final repairs of the West Stand finished including the installation of a new roof.

Our three regional gardens – Pukeiti, Hollard Gardens and Tūpare – had a busy year with more than 123,500 visits and nearly 40 events for visitors while public transport continued to rebound after Covid-19 with nearly 700,000 bus passengers – a 27.6% increase on the previous year.

We held two major community conversations to find out what Taranaki people thought about the visions for transport and freshwater. Your views are key to developing our plans and policies and we were pleased to get so many of you engaged and taking the time to have a say on these key issues. The feedback and responses from further consultations will shape the ongoing work on the Natural Resources Plan, a new transport strategy called Better Travel Choices and the next Regional Land Transport Plan.

We provided more than 300,000 riparian plants for land owners to plant along the region's rivers and streams.

We're continuing to see positive results across our Towards Predator-Free Taranaki initiative. We received \$2.5m in funding to double the size of the Zero Possum project, and we added 15,000ha to the rural mustelid (stoats, weasels and ferrets) programme while the urban project goes from strength to strength.

Biodiversity plans were prepared for a further 19 Key Native Ecosystems (KNEs) on 1,357ha of privately owned land. There are now 228 KNEs with biodiversity plans on private land covering more than 13,000 hectares.

We also secured \$3.6m in Government funding for the next four years for our STRESS (South Taranaki and Regional Erosion Support Scheme) programme which helps farmers control erosion in the hill country. More than 210,000ha of hill country is now covered by land management plans.

To ensure we're meeting our commitment to protect our environment, we monitor rivers, streams, wetlands and other habitats. The last financial year saw the completion of 20 flood control projects while our compliance teams carried out checks on nearly 1,800 dairy farms and 406 industrial inspections.

We recorded a 2022/2023 deficit of \$1.35m. This is slightly behind the overall budget and has been influenced by the cost pressures on the delivery of services to our community along with the significant increase in Council work programmes.

We successfully held local elections in October. A number of councillors returned while four new faces now sit around the Council table. With the decision by David MacLeod not to stand, the election marked the first change in Chair for more than 20 years with Charlotte Littlewood named as Chair and Neil Walker chosen as Deputy Chair.

The election was also the first since the decision to create a Māori Constituency for Taranaki. The election of Bonita Bigham and increasing efforts to engage with iwi and hapū on all aspects of Council builds on continuing work to create a platform for closer engagement, understanding and kōrero with Māori.

Finally we also acknowledge the efforts and achievements of our staff who are effectively and efficiently dealing with the many changes and challenges the Council is facing while ensuring we're providing value for money for ratepayers with the delivery of first-rate services and excellent amenities to our community.

Charlotte Littlewood, Chair

Deloitte INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE READERS OF TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL'S SUMMARY OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

The summary of the consolidated annual report was derived from the annual report of the Taranaki Regional Council (the Regional Council) and its subsidiaries (the Group) for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The summary of the annual report comprises the following summary statements on pages 2 to 4:

- the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023;
- the summaries of the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, statement of changes in net assets/equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended 30 June 2023;
- the notes to the summary financial statements that include accounting policies and other explanatory information; and
- the summary performance information.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the major matters dealt with in the annual report; and

- the summary statements comply with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Summary of the annual report

The summary of the annual report does not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary of the annual report and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full annual report and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary of the annual report does not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full annual report.

The full annual report and our audit report thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the Council and Group information we audited in the full annual report for the year ended 30 June 2023 in our auditor's report dated 19 September 2023.

Council's responsibility for the summary of the annual report

The Council is responsible for preparing the summary of the annual report which includes preparing summary statements, in accordance with PBE FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary of the annual report represents, fairly and consistently, the information regarding the

major matters dealt with in the full annual report and whether the summary statements comply with PBE FRS 43: Summary Financial Statements.

Our opinion on the summary of the annual report is based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. In addition to our audit and our report on the disclosure requirements, we have carried out engagements in the areas of trustee reporting, greenhouse gas emissions inventory report assurance readiness review and qualitative climate risk assessment & scenario analysis, which are compatible with those independence requirements. Other than these engagements we have no relationship with or interests in the Regional Council or its subsidiaries and controlled entities.

Matt Laing, Partner
for Deloitte Limited
On behalf of the Auditor-General
Hamilton, New Zealand
19 September 2023



123,554 visits
to Tūpare, Hollard and
Pukeiti regional gardens
[2021/22: 110,000]



12
Submissions made
on key policy issues
[2021/22: 15]



12.6KM
Sustainable land
management
fencing to protect
marginal land
[2021/22: 18km]

32 comprehensive
farm plans
developed
[2021/22: 30]

State of environment

All freshwater SOE monitoring
programmes reviewed
to improve systems
[2021/22: 100%]

Governance
Local election in
October 2022

Taranaki at a glance

Predator-free Programme

\$2.5M secured to
double the size of the
Zero Possum project
[2021/22: \$0M]



15,000HA
added to rural mustelid
programme
[2021/22: 22,918ha]

425
responses
to Public

requests for advice
around biosecurity,
biodiversity and
predator-free
[2021/22: 353]

1,755
inspections

for dairy effluent
compliance monitoring
[2021/22: 1,600]



406 compliance
inspections
of small industrial operations
[2021/22: 392]

Habitat Protection

79

potential KNEs
assessed
[2021/22: 73]



18

new biodiversity plans
for KNEs completed
[2021/22: 24]

59

regionally significant
wetlands now protected
[2021/22: 59]



Ensuring clean air

99%

air-discharge
consent-holders with 'good'
or 'high' consent compliance
[2021/22: 99%]

Environmental heroes

19

recognised at annual
Environmental Awards
[2021/22: 16]

203,000

visits to TRC website
[2021/22: 167,000]

Environmental education

16,000

tamariki and rangatahi
participated in education
programmes
[2021/22: 11,000]

Resource consent Processing

307 consent
applications
[2021/22: 225]

100% met RMA
requirements
[2021/22: 100%]



Yarrow Stadium reopened for events

- West Stand opens doors after repairs completed
- Main field replaced with new hybrid turf
- East Stand design completed

Pest Plants

417

pest plants infestations
identified and controlled
[2021/22: 233]

2,780

property inspections
to control pest plants
[2021/22: 660]

Regional soil quality

20 sites
sampled
[2021/22: 20]



Port Taranaki

\$8M dividend
received
[2021/22: \$8M]

2

Marine oil spill exercises
[2021/22: 2]

Public engagement

31,000

likes, shares or reactions
on social media
[2021/22: 25,000]

500+
responses

to kōrero on
visions for
freshwater

1,805

surveys, comments,
and feedback on
future of transport

Self-help Possum Programme

232,000HA
covered Taranaki-wide
[2021/22: 232,000]



4,234

properties in
the programme
[2021/22: 4,227]

Public transport



27.6%
increase on
previous year
[2021/22: 40%]

694,895

passengers on buses
[2021/22: 544,588]



57,874

Total Mobility Scheme
passenger trips made
[2021/22: 43,632]

Planting and fencing streambanks

7.9M

planted
since 1996
[2021/22: 7.6M]

300,524

plants purchased
by landowners
[2021/22: 418,312]



Sustainable land management

\$3.6M STRESS
funding
secured until June 2027
[2021/22: \$0M]

232,225HA

covered by
land management plans
[2021/22: 217,469]

Water quality monitoring

22 freshwater
sites
[2021/22: 19]

18 marine sites
[2021/22: 17]



Enforcing environmental standards



99

infringement
notices issued
[2021/22: 103]

162

abatement
notices issued
[2021/22: 147]



Flood Protection

20 river control projects
undertaken
[2021/22: 31]

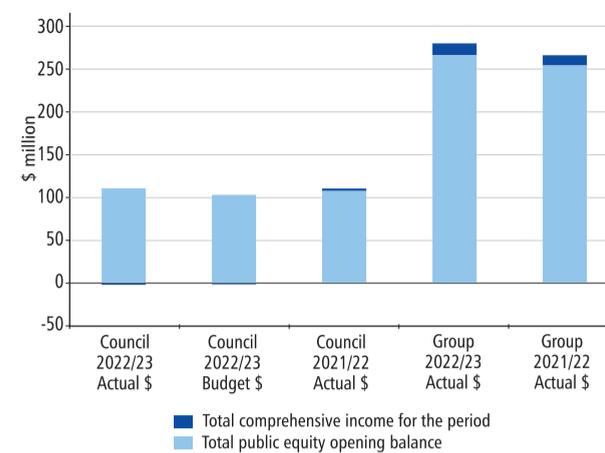
100% of schemes
maintained
[2021/22: 100%]



Comprehensive revenue and expense

	Council 2022/23 Actual \$	Council 2022/23 Budget \$	Council 2021/22 Actual \$	Group 2022/23 Actual \$	Group 2021/22 Actual \$
Total expenses	45,518,407	47,004,286	41,220,878	81,493,271	78,561,040
Total income	42,232,241	45,855,978	41,594,543	100,106,769	92,114,983
Operating surplus/(deficit) before finance income and expenses and taxation	(3,286,166)	(1,148,308)	373,665	18,613,498	13,553,943
Finance income	1,770,404	655,659	558,150	1,091,072	406,339
Finance expense	(774,759)	(455,659)	(207,031)	(1,815,611)	(853,640)
Operating surplus before taxation	(2,290,521)	(948,308)	724,784	17,888,959	13,106,642
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of buildings	-	-	-	1,365,646	(1,296,058)
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of investment properties	(195,000)	-	1,144,000	(195,000)	1,144,000
Impairment of assets	-	-	-	-	(91,939)
Income tax expense	(10,266)	(10,000)	67,917	(5,367,017)	(4,040,721)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the period	(2,495,787)	(958,308)	1,936,701	13,692,588	8,821,924
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit and loss when specific conditions met.					
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	1,141,333	-	675,360	100,855	1,812,360
Change in cash flow hedge	-	-	-	103,984	1,180,954
Total comprehensive income for the period, net of tax	(1,354,454)	(958,308)	2,612,061	13,897,427	11,815,238

Comprehensive income



Changes in net assets/equity

The Council's equity fell by \$1.35m in 2022/2023 to \$109.2m. At a Group level, the total community ownership of the Council and the Group grew by \$13.9m to \$279.5m.

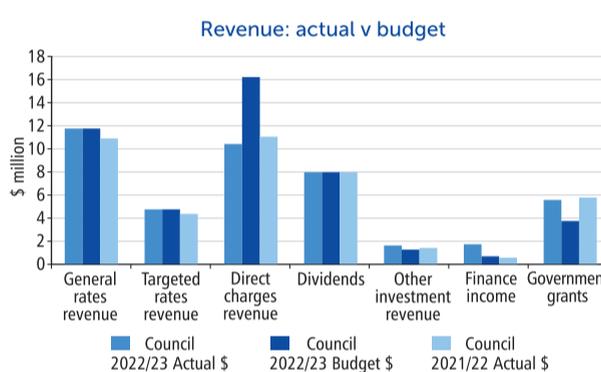
The Council's total equity of \$109.2m (Group – \$279.5m) is made up of retained earnings \$69.9m (Group – \$168.8m), special purpose reserves \$32.2m (Group – \$32.2m), asset revaluation reserves \$7.1m (Group – \$76.9m) and a cashflow hedge reserve of nil (Group – \$1.6m).

Comprehensive income

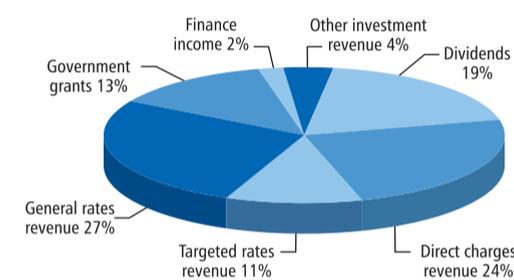
The Council made a net operating deficit (other comprehensive income) of \$1.4m (2021/2022 surplus of \$2.6m) compared to a budgeted deficit, before transfers to and from reserves, of \$1.0m. The entire operating deficit is from continuing activities.

Revenue

Total Council only revenue (including finance income) was under budget for the year by \$2.5m.



Operating revenue

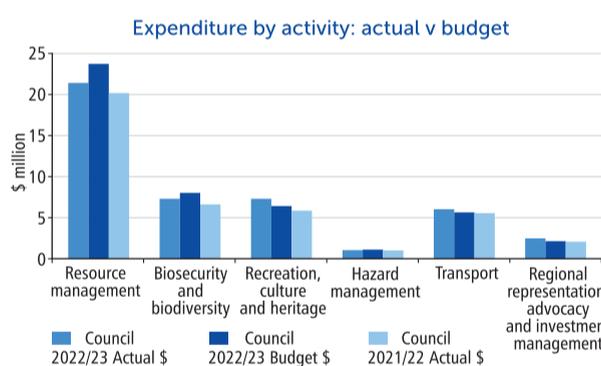


Expenditure

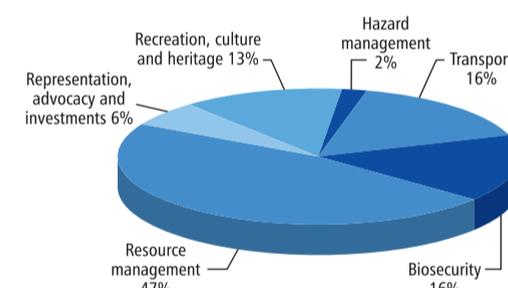
Total Council only operating expenditure (including finance expense) was under budget for the year by \$1.2m.

Cash flows

The Council's cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$2.0m during the year. Net cash outflows from operating activities was \$2.2m, net cash outflows from investing activities was \$4.8m and net cash inflows from financing activities was \$5.0m. At a Group level cash balances decreased by \$1.1m to \$6.1m in total.

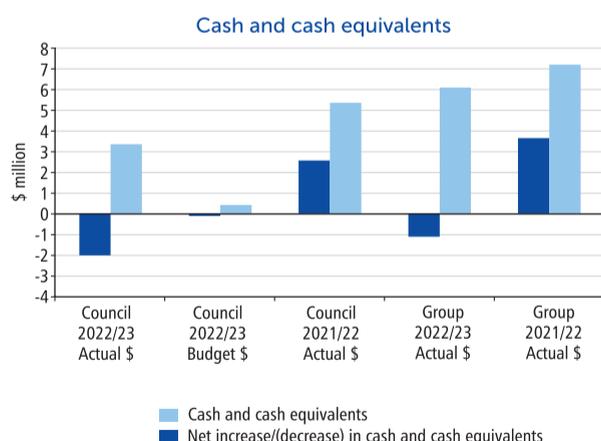
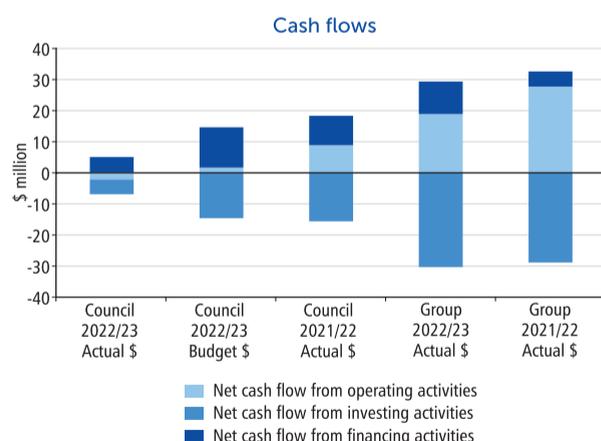


Expenditure by groups of activities

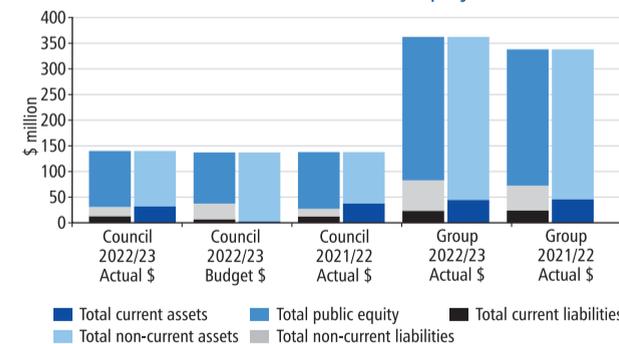


Financial position as at 30 June 2023

The assets grew by \$2.2m for the Council and by \$24.2m for the Group. Liabilities increased by \$3.6m for the Council and increased by \$10.3m for the Group. The Council has \$19.5m of public debt.



Assets, liabilities and equity



Notes

These summary financial statements have been prepared in compliance with "Financial Reporting Standard No.43 (PBE)" issued by the External Reporting Board. The summary report cannot provide as complete an understanding as the full Annual Report, which is available free of charge from the Council offices (ph 06 765 7127) or email publications@trc.govt.nz or visit the Council's website www.trc.govt.nz.

This summary financial report has been extracted from the Taranaki Regional Council 2022/2023 Annual Report dated 19 September 2023. The Council and Group received an unmodified audit opinion. The opinion was dated 19 September 2023. The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars. The Summary Annual Report was adopted and authorised by the Taranaki Regional Council on 19 September 2023.

Taranaki Regional Council is the ultimate parent of the Group and controls two entities being Port Taranaki Ltd and Taranaki Stadium Trust. There have been a number of transactions between Port Taranaki Ltd, the Taranaki Stadium Trust and the Taranaki Regional Council during the year in the normal course of business.

The primary objective of the Taranaki Regional Council is to provide goods or services for the community or social benefit rather than making a financial return. Accordingly, Taranaki Regional Council has designated itself and the Group as public benefit entities for the purposes of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). The full set of financial statements included in the Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP. The full set complies with IPSAS, and other

applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for public benefit entities. These summary financial statements are in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of IPSAS but do not comply with the presentation and disclosure requirements of IPSAS. The summary financial statements are in respect of the Council and Group's IPSAS full financial statements. This summary annual report has been prepared in accordance with Tier 1 Public Benefit Entity (PBE) standards.

Events subsequent to balance date: For the Council, there have been no material events subsequent to balance date. For the Port, on 17 August 2023, the Board resolved to pay a fully imputed final dividend of \$4.5 million at 8.65 cents per share on 10 October 2023. For the Trust, there have been no material events subsequent to balance date.

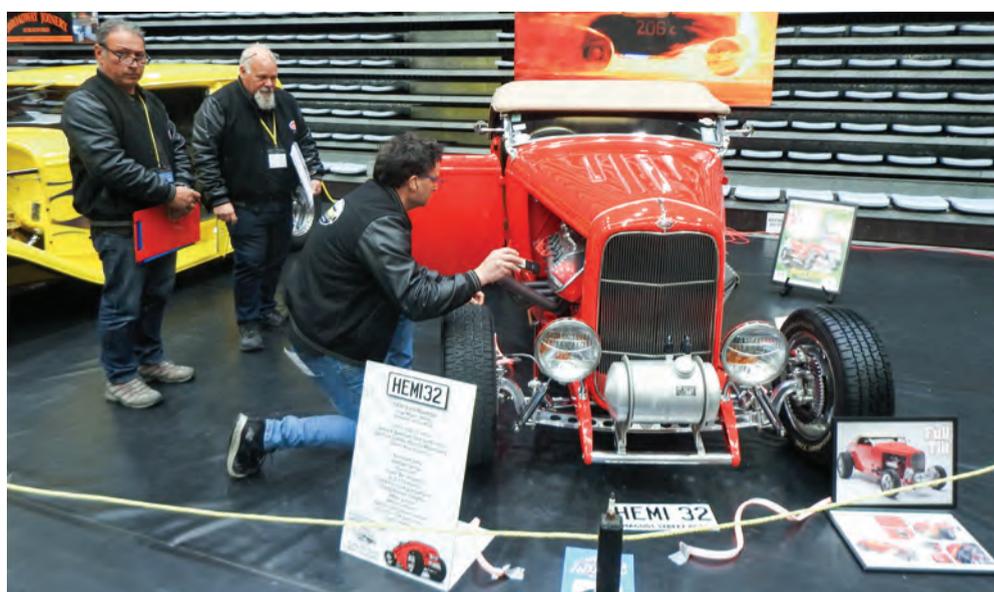
Hot rods prove a hit in Hawera

Twelve years after the Egmont Rod and Custom Club last hosted the National Hot Rod Show they did it again.

The National Hot Rod Show is an annual event and this year was held at the TSB Hub in Hawera from September 30-October 1. The Stratford-based Egmont Rod and Custom Club last hosted the show in 2011.

On Saturday, despite the inclement equinoxial weather there was a good flow of people coming through to view around 60 vehicles from throughout the North Island. The quirkier exhibits included the Grim Reaper and a Batman-themed Ford Anglia.

"We did the show 12 years ago and we said to ourselves that we would put some money aside and do the show again," said club president Hamish Heistand. "One of the clubs down Wellington way couldn't do it so we picked up the ball. We're in a small town with a Hot Rod Club with a growing membership. With the number of helpers we've got and the sponsors we've



Judges Phil Goodin, Kevin Birtwistle and Craig Bennett assess one of the 61 entries.

Stables said some of the cars which had featured in the 2011 show were back again alongside others which were making their first appearances at the show.

"There's a bit of everything, from a cool 60s chopper bike through to hot rods and street machines, later models and dragsters"

He said he had restored a 1970s dragster which he had entered.

"One guy spent all day

Stratford was there with his 1930 Ford Tudor Delivery which he had picked up three or four years ago. Back then it had no interior and he has been working on it ever since.

"It's still only a work in progress," he said. The upholstery was finished only three weeks ago, and this was the first time it had been out with all the upholstery

as a man who never married and devoted all their energies into the hotel.

Also admiring the cars was Robin Wilson of New Plymouth. He said he didn't have anything there himself although he had purchased a 1938 Vauxhall 10H three weeks before and was looking to do it up in its original colours.



Visitors Mike and John Petry.

done.

"I've changed it quite a lot to make it what I want but you've got to stick to the rule book and not vary the certification.

He says he has always been interested in cars and he has other projects he is working on.

Brothers Mike and John Petry were enjoying the show. Mike had made the trip from Morrinsville especially to be there. The brothers' Taranaki connections include an uncle, Clive Petry who had been manager of the Criterion Hotel in New Plymouth when the young Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh stayed there in 1954.

"I slept in the same bed as the Queen," says John.

They remember their uncle

"There's some beautiful

cars here. You can see how dedicated people are the time and effort people and the time, effort and have put in. It's absolutely compassion they have put beautiful," he said. "It shows into their vehicles."

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Robin Adams' 1930 Ford Tudor Delivery.

been able to pull off such an event with entries from all over the North Island. We've got younger people joining with their Escorts and Cortinas, and we might do it again if the younger people coming into the club want to pick up the ball."

He said having the show was an incentive for club members to work on their cars and enter themselves.

Show manager Grant

yesterday cleaning his car and it was already clean when he got here," he said.

There were 34 trophies up for grabs and judges Phil Goodin, Kevin Birtwistle and Craig Bennett could be seen giving the cars the once-over.

"There's a great calibre of vehicles on display which is making our job I tell you," said Phil.

Robin Adams from



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GREEN GOLD ENVIROSCHOOL INITIATIVES LEADING THE WAY AT OPUNAKE COMMUNITIES KINDERGARTEN

The Moana Room has been reducing our carbon footprint by introducing cloth nappies for all their tamariki. The tamariki are arriving in nappies from home (either cloth or disposable) and these are being replaced by cloth nappies at Kindy. The tamariki are returning home in the nappies the whaanau supply. We have supported one whaanau to trial cloth nappies at home whilst another is using them all the time. It is amazing at how much we are helping Papatuanuku with such a small change. Imagine if all nappies were cloth nappies, that would make an even bigger impact. We would like to thank all our whaanau for supporting this

REUSABLE NAPPIES USAGE

WK/T	W7/ T2	W8	W9	W10	W1/ T3	W2	W3	W4	W5	W6	W7	W8	W9	W10	Total
Cloth Nappies Used	23	36	29	23	40	45	42	38	37	36	30	23	21	NA	423

We have also been using cloth wipes for quite a while now. We use small cloths and warm water at nappy changes and this has reduced the amount of waste we used to create with wipes which whaanau used to provide



from home. We have also been using cloths to dry our hands. Nora sourced some sheets which she cut up and overlapped into squares and we use these now to dry our hands. These are easily washed and reused! Such a simple change has made such a big impact. No more paper towels are being added to our compost bins and we only have a few going to landfill as they have been for most part been replaced with cotton cloths. These also dry really quickly on the line, so we are not needing to finish off the drying process in the dryer. If they are a little damp, they dry quickly as we hang them up for use for the next day.



Left: Ethan dries his hands and adds his cloth to the box to be washed later. The tamariki were keen to embrace this initiative which we were inspired by when we visited another centre on our teacher only day.

Diane will be swapping with Meera in the Moana Room next term. So if you want to pop in and see her this is where she will be. Meera will be supporting Diane's tamariki in the Maunga Room. if you haven't met her before, please introduce yourself.

The four year olds had an amazing trip to Nora's house and learned about how she captures the rain water off her roof and stores it to water her garden later on when it hasn't been raining. Nora has kindly donated two barrels for us to use at Kindy when hers are dry. At this stage we plan to put them in the food forest. This is supporting our ENVIROSCHOOL focus "Water of Life".



We even saw Nora's chickens and walked over the bridge listening to the stream and up to a secret garden where we found some beautiful lemons. We were covered by trees and the sun was shining through the spots. It was really magical. We had our picnic on Nora's lawn.

Meera has been bringing the Moana Room tamariki over to the Maunga Room to investigate how we

capture and save water as well as visiting our food forest. Here Meera, Bowie and Jono explore our water tank which is replenished by the water which runs off our playground roof in the Maunga Room. We have a catchment trough under the tank so that any water that doesn't make it into the watering can, can be scooped up later. This supports the least amount of water being wasted.



Far left: Nora, explaining to the tamariki how the water runs off her garage roof, into the spouting and down into a pipe which is connected to a large barrel which she has put a tap on to enable her to access the water easily when needed to water her garden.

Left: Jess pumped the water that Nora stores for a later date out of the big barrel and the tamariki have a turn filling up their containers and watering a plant which needs extra nourishment.

New IEA report a warning that National must abandon offshore oil drilling policy

Following the release of the International Energy Agency (IEA) 'Net Zero Roadmap Update', Greenpeace Aotearoa says that the National Party is out of touch with its promise to reverse the 2018 ban on new offshore oil and gas exploration. Greenpeace is calling on leader Christopher Luxon to heed the report's warning and to ditch his policy of overturning the ban. "Even the conservative International Energy Agency is clear that we cannot - and do not need to extract more oil and gas out of the ground," says Greenpeace climate campaigner Christine Rose. "New Zealanders are watching in real time

as climate disasters are unfolding here in Aotearoa and around the world. Scientists say we cannot afford to burn most of the oil and gas that we already know about, let alone go searching for more. "The release of this IEA report is a strong signal that Christopher Luxon should show climate leadership by abandoning the National Party's retrograde policy of bringing back offshore oil and gas exploration. This election, we need all political parties to commit to phasing out the polluting fossil fuels that are causing climate devastation around the world." The IEA report, Net Zero Roadmap: A Global Pathway to Keep the 1.5

°C Goal in Reach - 2023 Update, is an update of their 'Net Zero by 2050' scenario published in 2021. The 2021 report concluded that no new oil and gas fields should be approved for development, as well as no new coal mines or mine extensions. It also included a pathway with many benchmarks for fossil fuel phase out and solutions phase in. The updated report will feed into an IEA climate and energy summit, taking place in Madrid and to the COP28 climate conference in December 2023, where governments are expected to take decisions on speeding up the energy transition away from oil and gas. "On top of the climate

impacts of oil exploration, there's also the harm to wildlife from seismic blasting and the additional risk of oil spills," says Rose. "Exploration is the riskiest phase of oil development. Here in New Zealand, it also inevitably means deep water drilling which puts us at increased risk of a Deepwater Horizon scale disaster - one that New Zealand is completely unequipped to handle. "Nobody wants to see oil spilling onto beaches and threatening precious marine wildlife. For the sake of the climate and the ocean, the National Party must drop its offshore oil drilling policy and commit to ending fossil fuels for good."

Protected animals' heads removed in spate of horrific incidents

Department of Conservation investigators say they're shocked and horrified by several incidents in which protected native animals have been decapitated.

In one recent incident at Auckland's Muriwai beach, a group of people filmed themselves riding a dead great white shark being towed behind a 4WD, before the animal's severed head was worn by one of the individuals involved.

DOC investigated the group, after they shared the footage to social media, and issued two people involved with infringement notices.

Other incidents recorded in the last 18 months have included the beheading of two different fur seals, a decapitated penguin and several red knots (migrant shorebirds) with their heads removed and their bodies left abandoned on beaches.

Dylan Swain, DOC's Investigations Team Leader, says the incidents are grotesque and barbaric - and breach several pieces of conservation legislation DOC administers.

"Even a dead native animal is protected by the Wildlife Act, as we saw with the shark head case," he says.

Advice from DOC science



A decapitated seal.

staff who've seen the images is the decapitations are the result of human actions - and not predation by another species.

"In a couple of incidents, the heads of these animals have been removed with some sort of implement. There are no teeth or bite marks or signs the animals have been attacked by another species."

Although DOC staff acknowledge some of the animals may have been discovered dead on the beach - there is still no acceptable justification for removing the animals' heads.

"It's not acceptable for people to tamper with

deceased animals, and it's illegal to remove a protected species' head to have it as some sort of trophy."

"If you find a dead native animal on a beach, please leave it alone and call 0800 DOC HOT, so our staff can attend."

DOC has a range of enforcement tools available for punishment of wildlife crimes, including fines, infringements or a prosecution through the

courts which can lead to a jail sentence.

In recent weeks DOC has publicised other incidents of harm to seals and sea lions. In late August an unrestrained dog was seen with a young seal in its mouth on a Wellington beach, while a well-known adult female sea lion was shot dead near Dunedin.

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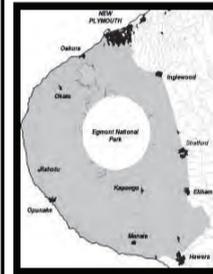
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Gamble pays off for former dairy farmers

With panoramic views of the Mountain and Kaitake Ranges and distant sea views, The Garage which celebrates five years in business must certainly be one of the more scenic mechanical repair places in Taranaki.

Perched on the top of a hill in Tataraimaka, Jason and Kristy Strachan started the business

from scratch following the closure of the local garage in Okato.

“We looked for somewhere on the main road to suit dairy farmers and townspeople,” says Kristy.

Adds Jason, who is a qualified mechanic, it had to have room for growth.

Eventually they settled on 15 acres of bare land positioning their huge workshop – formerly the Okato Bus lines shed – at the highest point of the land with fantastic views. Something of a gamble, it has clearly paid off.

“It’s been a challenge,” admits Kristy.

“There’s been ups and downs but more ups,” says Jason.

The Garage does warrants,

servicing and full garage repairs for vehicles, tractors, four wheelers and all types of farm equipment. Recently they also introduced a breakdown service truck kitted out with tools a generator and welder etc for field work.

The couple had previously been farming in Wiremu Road for 20 years.

“It took a bit of nerve to leave the monthly dairy cheque behind – a stable income – for potentially no or some income,” says Jason. There was some trepidation when they first opened for business. “You don’t know if anyone’s going to drive up the driveway,” he said but “straight away” someone did.

And it’s been onwards and upwards ever since.

The business has steadily grown and the couple clearly have absolutely no regrets about their gamble.

Initially only Jason worked in the business but Kristy who was then also employed in a full time job, came fully on board and now employs three full time staff and one part timer.

“We’ve got our own



From left Jason and Kristy Strachan, Farron Lowry, Shaun Whenmouth and Kim Sole from The Garage.

roles,” says Kristy though acknowledges “Jason is the boss” though they both add laughing, or is supposed to be the boss.

For Jason who began as an apprentice mechanic at the Egmont Dairy factory in Opunake dealing largely

with trucks and tankers. When the dairy factory closed, he went on to work at the Pungarehu Garage, then at the Warea Garage and part time for Murray Gorge, the latter building race cars before running the family dairy farm with

Kristy for 20 years. His agricultural background is useful. He prefers however running the business he and Kristy founded over dairy farming. “You’re actually in control,” he says adding with farming you’re at the mercy of the elements and

the payout.

There are plans over the Christmas holidays to concrete the driveway bordered by pohutakawa trees leading up to the workshop and other buildings they’ve also added including an office and tea room.

Would you pay a tax on meat to help curb climate change?

Meat taxes and other livestock emissions regulations may be feasible, acceptable and effective, argue German and UK scientists. They highlight the lack of existing regulations to cut agricultural greenhouse gas emissions, which they

attribute to politicians’ fears that voters will quickly turn against them if the price of meat goes up. Europe’s ‘Green Deal’ policies, which introduced carbon pricing, do not include or affect agriculture, for example. They say that to meet

climate targets, some form of emissions pricing is needed in agriculture, and that it may be possible to win the public over. They suggest using

money raised from taxes to subsidise low-income households or climate-friendly foods, taxing large companies while protecting

small producers, taxing meat based on how carbon-intensive it is to produce, and highlighting the health benefits of eating less meat

to consumers, as well as the environmental benefits of reduced agriculture.

PLOS Climate

Convicting a climate activist rather than the real criminals

Climate activist Rosemary Penwarden has been found guilty of forgery and sentenced to 125 hours of community service. Climate Justice Taranaki members say they are relieved that there is no jail sentence but find the conviction cruel and unjust. “Who are the real criminals here? Fossil fuel companies have known about the impacts of burning coal, oil and gas on our climate for many decades.

Yet they did nothing about it but to employ PR firms to deny, distract and delay any efforts that could have averted the global climate crisis we are in now,” said Catherine Cheung, member of Climate Justice Taranaki. “Here in Taranaki, drilling and fracking for more oil and gas continues to be relentless. So much so that the toxic wastes produced are filling up the many euphemistically termed ‘landfarms,’

contaminating precious soil and groundwater. Since 2018, three offshore drill rigs had been and gone, having completed OMV’s various drilling campaigns. For over four years, Beach Energy have known about a leaky gas well at Kupe field, but done nothing to fix it, as far as we know. These two companies and their many partners are destroying our life-supporting climate and oceans, jeopardising the

survival of our children. Yet there is no court case, no conviction.

Unjustly, there is a worldwide trend to criminalize climate activists and earth protectors who speak the truth. At the same time the real climate criminals, the oil and gas corporations, are enabled to continue their destructive behaviour” concluded Cheung.

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Feedback sought on next steps for Taranaki freshwater

Taranaki Regional Council has launched its latest community conversation that will help shape how it manages the region's freshwater.

The public's views are being sought on key environmental goals for the region's rivers, streams, groundwater, lakes and wetlands and setting a long-term vision for six Freshwater Management Units which would care for the precious resource.

Council Chair Charlotte Littlewood urged the community to have their say as the 'Next Steps for our Freshwater' conversation will inform the development of specific targets and limits in a new Natural Resources Plan in order to protect and restore Taranaki's waterways and ecosystems.

"Our wai is vital and we need to hear from people across the region about how we safeguard freshwater now and for future generations," says Mrs Littlewood.

"We have to make sure that we're putting in place the right targets and limits to achieve positive outcomes for our rivers, streams and lakes. This will help make them more swimmable and provide greater protection for native plants and animals

and the ecosystems they live in.

"The Council's mission is to work with our community as we care for Taranaki. We'd urge everyone to spare time to share their views as your kōrero will directly affect how we carry out this mahi and how wai is managed ki uta ki tai (from source to sea)."

The Next Steps for Our Freshwater conversation is asking the public about four areas:

- How an objective in the Natural Resources Plan will give effect to Te Mana o te Wai (the mana of the water);
- The aspirations in a draft long-term vision for the six Freshwater Management Units;
- Environmental outcomes for a range of 'values' including ecosystem health, human contact, drinking water, fishing and commercial and industrial use;
- Establishing principles for how targets are set.

The Council is creating the Natural Resources Plan in response to the Government's Essential Freshwater reforms introduced in 2020. These nationwide reforms aim to



Managing the region's water.

stop further degradation of freshwater, start making immediate improvements and reverse past damage to bring waterways and ecosystems to a healthy state within a generation.

After holding a kōrero with the community in 2022 on the proposed freshwater management units and what people thought were important values in those areas, the current consultation will feed into the development of the

Natural Resources Plan next year.

The public will again have a chance to provide feedback before hearings into the Plan, which is set to become operative at the end of 2024, in a community conversation on specific targets and limits in February.

"We have an extensive process to go through to establish how freshwater is managed and what targets and limits are set but it's vital we get this right as the

Natural Resources Plan will be a generational strategic document which will guide how we protect and manage physical resources," says Mrs Littlewood.

The community conversation runs between 25 September and 23 October. To have your say, head to trc.govt.nz/freshwater.

The six proposed FMUs for Taranaki are the Northern Hill Country, the Pātea Catchment, the Waitara

Catchment, the Coastal Terraces, the Southern Hill Country and the Volcanic Ring Plain.

Every waterbody in the region needs to be contained within an FMU.

Within each FMU the Council will set time-specific freshwater goals aligned with community and iwi aspirations to build better environmental outcomes and plan and prepare for the future.

Catchments of similar types (for example, Volcanic Ring Plain catchments vs Hill Country catchments vs Coastal Terraces catchments etc) will be grouped together. Catchment rather than river boundaries will be used.

The Natural Resources Plan for Taranaki will replace the Regional Freshwater Plan and other statutory documents such as the Regional Policy Statement, Regional Air Plan and Regional Soil Plan.

Feedback from the public will guide targets, limits and rules in the Plan.

The Plan will help Council to promote the sustainable use, development and protection of our natural and physical resources, and will be publicly notified in mid-2024 prior to formal submissions and a hearing process.



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Progress Cavity vs Floating Centrifugal Effluent Pumps

If you are looking to upgrade or replace your current effluent pump, there are a couple of options that are available. While we recommend a progressive



An Electric Stirrer Pondboom Centrifugal Pump-lined pond.

up or slow down the motor to adjust the flow rate. For a variable speed drive to know what to run at, you will need to install a flow meter so the pump can compensate for each paddock to be irrigated properly.

Along with a variable speed drive and flow meter, the pump will require the additional cost of a PondBoom™ or a pontoon. Keep in mind if a pontoon requires servicing at any stage, it will need to be retrieved onto the shore, which puts farmers at great risk. For a safer option, we suggest utilising a PondBoom™ or investing in a shore-mounted progressive cavity pump.

Floating or long-shaft centrifugal pumps are an option for smaller inground sump situations, used with a chopper for a feedpad, or as a transfer pump. It is a reliable option for certain setups but is not a long-term option in terms of high performance and efficiency.

Shore-mounted multi-stage or single-stage centrifugal pumps are sometimes used for pumping filtered effluent. They overcome the need for a Pontoon or PondBoom™, but still require a variable speed drive and flow meter. They have proved unreliable with raw effluent that has solids or any small fibrous/stringy material.

Ready to upgrade your effluent pump?

We have been in the business for years helping dairy farmers develop smarter systems to suit their effluent management needs. While floating and long-shaft centrifugal pumps have a place for certain situations, we encourage you to upgrade your system to be more efficient with a progressive cavity pump. If you are ready to upgrade or replace your pump, get in touch with our team today. www.nevadagroup.co.nz

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cavity (PC) pump for most situations, we know there are a few reasons why you might keep a traditional floating centrifugal pump for your setup.

To know which is the right option for your farm, let's look at what each pump has to offer.

Progressive Cavity Effluent Pump

A progressive cavity pump is a shore mounted option that is safer, service efficient, and longer lasting. The optimal performance ensures a consistent flow rate and greater efficiency for lower running costs. Progressive cavity pumps are also self-priming, which avoids any issues with dry starts or lack of flow.

If you have a long pipeline or are pumping uphill, then a

progressive cavity pump is a good option for operating at a high pressure to deliver the power needed for irrigation. At Nevada, our progressive cavity pumps are designed with a less steep rotor and high-quality materials, which means it will get less wear over time.

Intelligent Pump Controller

One thing to be aware of is that progressive cavity pumps must not run dry. In the past, farmers may have had poor experiences with progressive cavity pumps due to issues of the pump starting up dry and burning out. Today, this issue is remedied by an intelligent pump controller that is able to recognise flow as soon as the pump starts. If there is no flow within a few seconds of the pump starting, it will shut down the pump and send a warning. It also can detect leaks, blockages, or

any loss of flow while in operation.

At Nevada, we care about setting up the pump correctly and ensuring you have a well-designed pump chamber that stays wet and operates efficiently. With a PC pump you can operate with higher pressure and more control with automatic and manual operation options.

Floating Centrifugal Effluent Pump

Floating centrifugal pumps are a traditional kind of pump that are reliable for the right situation. Rather than being shore mounted, it is submerged in effluent and operates at a lower pressure. Due to the low pressure, it is often limited in its ability to manage most effluent systems.

Variable Speed Drive

To compensate for the issue, you need a variable speed drive (VSD) to speed

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Pioneering US tech gets Kiwi funding boost

AgriZeroNZ, a joint venture of major New Zealand agribusiness companies and the government, is the lead investor in a US start-up developing probiotics and natural enzymes that reduces methane while improving cow health.

The joint venture has invested \$4.1 million (NZD) into Hoofprint Biome, in Raleigh, North Carolina, in its pre-seed funding round (total USD\$3.75M) to support development of its probiotic into animal trial proof-of-concept stage.

Wayne McNee, executive director of AgriZeroNZ, says the investment allows the venture to be involved from an early stage and drive development towards a solution for New Zealand farmers.

“Hoofprint is developing novel technology with potential to be a real breakthrough to help meet our country’s climate goals. We’re really pleased to be backing Hoofprint as the lead investor, and secure this opportunity for New Zealand farmers so they can be at the forefront of its future success.”

Hoofprint Biome, a spin-out of NC State University, was founded by Dr. Kathryn

Polkoff and Dr. Scott Collins. As two biotech entrepreneurs with backgrounds in animal agriculture, they saw the unique potential for microbiome engineering to benefit ruminant agriculture and tackle the climate crisis.

The pair had discovered enzymes that naturally reduce rumen methane emissions, and delivery of these patent-pending enzymes with probiotics will result in long-lasting efficacy.

Ingested as a supplement in a small dose, the Hoofprint probiotic aims to reduce enteric methane emissions by over 80 percent while simultaneously increasing milk and meat yield by over 5 percent.

Dr Polkoff, co-founder and CEO, said they are excited to develop the solution for Kiwi farmers.

“We’re bringing next-gen probiotics to ruminant agriculture in our mission to cut methane emissions while improving animal health and profitability.

“This investment offers a unique opportunity for Hoofprint to partner with New Zealand farmers, who have been leaders in sustainable agriculture, and to tackle the climate crisis together.”



Dr Kathryn Polkoff and Dr Scott Collins, co-founders of Hoofprint Biome in Raleigh North Carolina, are developing a probiotic which aims to reduce enteric methane emissions by over 80 percent while simultaneously increasing milk and meat yield by over 5 percent.

AgriZeroNZ was established in February to accelerate the development of tools and technology to help farmers rapidly reduce their emissions, while maintaining

farm productivity and profitability, to support New Zealand’s climate goals and meet increasing demands from global customers.

“New Zealand farmers are the most efficient in the

world but the importance of reducing agricultural emissions cannot be understated and technology like this needs to be part of the solution.” McNee said.

“We’re looking all over the

world for opportunities that will work on New Zealand farms, we’re moving fast to reflect the mandate for urgent action from our shareholders, and we’re taking calculated risks to significantly accelerate efforts made by Kiwi farmers to date.”

McNee says the investment aligns with the aim to ensure all farmers in Aotearoa have equitable access to affordable, effective solutions to reduce emissions, with a goal of supporting a 30% reduction by 2030 and enabling development and adoption of solutions to drive towards ‘near zero’ by 2040.

“Farmers will need at least two or three proven tools and technologies in widespread use by 2030 to meet this goal so that’s what we’re working to deliver.

“We’ve been tasked with making some bold investment decisions to support the continued success of New Zealand agriculture. The Hoofprint probiotic is in early stages but if development continues to progress we look forward to supporting it through New Zealand’s regulatory process and getting it into farmers’ hands,” he said.

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New tool revolutionising drought forecasts

A newly launched tool developed by NIWA and the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) to predict dryness and drought will help farmers and growers be better prepared for challenging weather conditions.

Using the latest in artificial intelligence and long-range weather modelling, the free tool provides week-to-week predictions of rainfall, dryness, and potential drought 35 days into the future.

The outlook updates daily, capturing the latest changes in the climate system. It also offers long-term forecasts

at a much higher spatial resolution than previously available.

The launch of the tool comes after official confirmation that the El Niño weather pattern has developed in the Pacific. El Niño events typically come with an increased risk for abnormally dry conditions across many regions of New Zealand, particularly in the north and east.

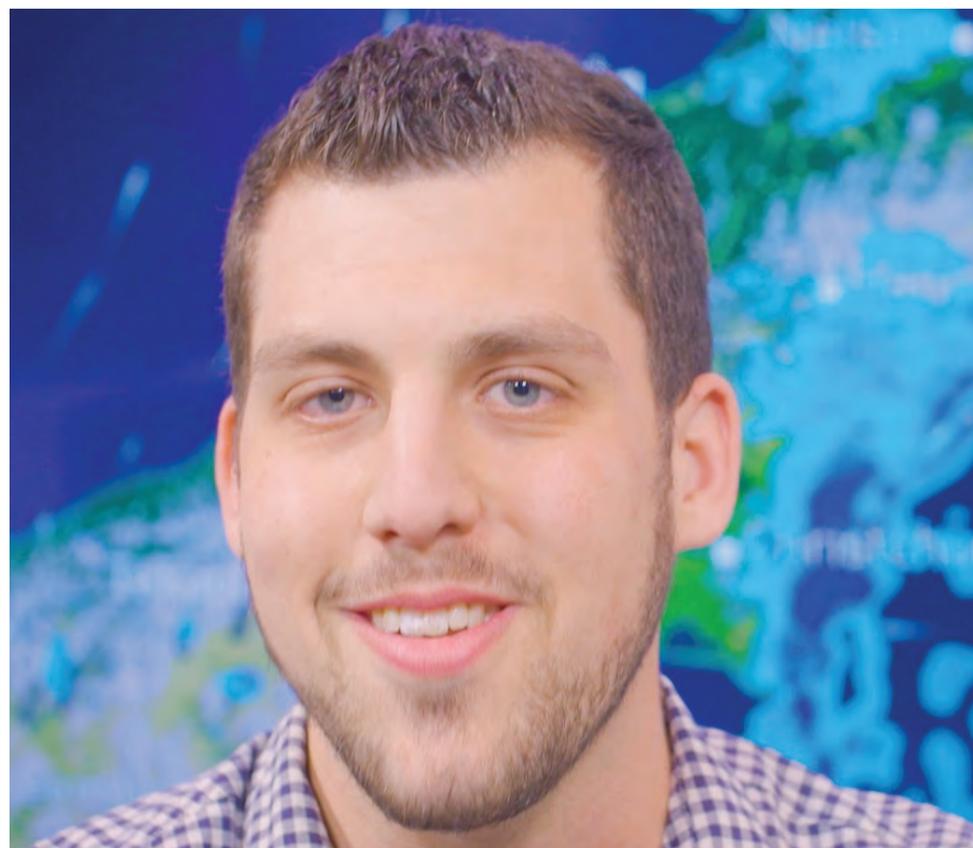
NIWA meteorologist, Ben Noll, said the new tool is already making a big difference.

“This tool enables us to give more frequent and district-level predictions

of rainfall, dryness, and drought. Providing advanced warning of future dry spells will be invaluable,” said Noll.

MPI’s director of Rural Communities and Farming Support, Nick Story, said the new software programme will be invaluable.

“The tool has been tailored for the primary sector and we’ve collaborated with farmers and growers over the last three years to ensure it provides useable information. Farmers and growers can utilise this tool to prepare in advance for drier than normal weather and the impacts this might



NIWA meteorologist Ben Noll.

have on production, pasture growth, and animal welfare,” said Story.

Maniototo farmer and Irrigation NZ director, Emma Crutchley, said that any forecast, short or long-term, is good.

“What we find is if we can get a more accurate medium-term forecast, then that enables us to respond rather than working off a short-term forecast where you’re making reactive decisions all the time. Having as much information as we can around an uncontrollable thing, which is the weather, is really helpful to resilience in the farming business,”

said Crutchley.

The drought forecasting tool is underpinned by the NIWA35 platform, combining a 35-day, global forecast model from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (USA) with data-driven techniques to improve the model’s predictive capacity on a local level across Aotearoa New Zealand.

The tool is a companion to the NZ Drought Index (NZDI), an observational tool launched with MPI in 2017 that measures the current state of dryness and drought. Its users include much of the primary sector,

as well as government and industry bodies.

Ben Noll said a lot of work has gone into making sure that the data is available in a way that works for those who need the tool.

“With climate change, the leading cause of increase in drought risk is the temperature-driven increase in atmospheric water demand. This leads to drier soil conditions, water stress for vegetation, and low hydrological flows. Having this new tool on our belt will hopefully help the country be more prepared for and resilient to potential droughts, both now and in the future,” said Noll.

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El Nino is here

El Nino has arrived, according to NIWA's Seasonal Outlook for October-December.

There's around a 100% chance of it continuing during October-December and over a 95% chance that it will persist through summer.

For the Central North Island, Taranaki, Whanganui, Manawatu, Wellington, this is likely to mean that temperatures are equally likely to be near average or above average (a 40% chance of each). Dramatic temperature swings from well above average to well below average are likely, particularly in October.

Rainfall totals are about equally likely to be below normal (45% chance) or near normal (40% chance). Seasonal wind speeds

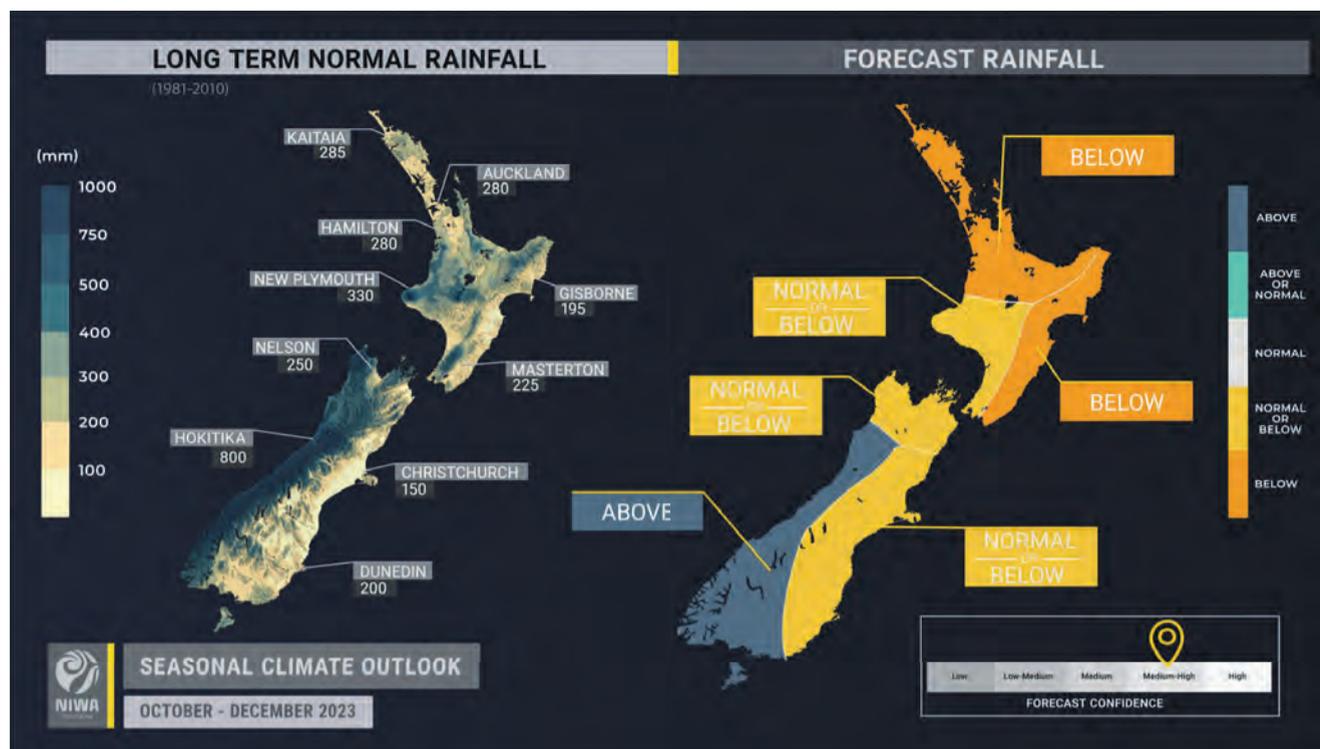
are expected to be much stronger than normal.

Soil moisture levels and river flows are about equally likely to be below normal (45% chance) or near normal (40% chance).

Air pressure is forecast to be above normal to the north of Aotearoa/New Zealand and below normal to the south of the country, leading to more westerly quarter winds than normal.

Seasonal wind strength is forecast to be above normal across most of the country because of a stronger than normal pressure gradient (difference in pressure over distance) near New Zealand. This will come with periods of potentially damaging winds.

Temperatures are most likely to be above average in the east of both islands and about equally likely to be near average or above



average in all other regions. The country will likely

be exposed to dramatic temperature swings. Spells

of unseasonable warmth from Australian air masses will likely be followed up by

sharply colder southerlies, with little middle ground.

Farm planning essential to manage months ahead

DairyNZ is encouraging farmers to plan for the months ahead, amid increasing costs and an expected El Niño weather pattern potentially bringing a variety of challenges on farm.

DairyNZ's general manager of farm performance, Sarah Speight says right now farmers need to focus on growing and utilising as much pasture as possible, as it remains the cheapest source of feed.

"Farmers are faced with high costs, so attention to detail and a focus on financial outcomes ahead of production will drive better business outcomes," says Sarah.

"This is especially important at this time of year where pasture cover and getting cows back in calf will determine financial and production outcomes,

not just for this season, but into next season too."

Being cost-conscious is particularly important with DairyNZ having updated the national breakeven forecast to \$7.78kg/MS, an increase from \$7.51kg/MS. The breakeven milk price is the milk sale price per kilogram of milksolids to cover the farm's costs in a season, excluding capital expenditure and principal repaid on loans.

This is above DairyNZ's forecast average payout received of \$7.31kg/MS, which is based on the estimated milk receipts for the 2023/24 season, as well as dairy company dividends.

DairyNZ head of economics, Mark Storey says the breakeven figure has been updated based on new pricing information, tax changes and in response to milk price and dividend

payment announcements.

"Outside the breakeven milk price, we have seen farm expense forecasts increase, impacting overall costs, while revenue expectations have shifted with high dividend payouts, accompanied by decreasing milk price expectations for the 2023/24 season," says Mark.

"It's also important to understand your overall business. The breakeven milk price is one indicator, however operating profit margin, debt-to-asset ratio and return on assets are all part of a farm's overall business picture.

The expected El Niño weather pattern is also important to plan for now, with budget restrictions in mind and the possible summer feed deficit. "It is a balancing act between ensuring you are prepared

for the months ahead, and not spending unnecessarily in a high-cost, low-payout environment," says Sarah.

"Look to use the most

cost-effective ways to meet shortfalls, including culling cows early, strategic nitrogen use, buying any required supplementary

feed, planting summer crops or considering the use of deferred grazing as an option."

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Heritage Month: 1 October to 5 November 2023

Heritage Taranaki held its inaugural Heritage Month in October last year. We wish to again engage with other interested parties in presenting a Heritage Month in October this year.

It is our wish that a month-long programme of activities will honour and build greater awareness about this region's shared heritage.

Heritage is a key component of our unique identity in its diversity, it is what we value in our past and what we seek to promote in the present and future. It forms the backdrop and character of how we understand one another in our community. Heritage is continually being redefined.

The month is focused on growing an understanding of our shared past and our appreciation of the value of heritage now and into our



The Aotea Waka Memorial in Patea was unveiled in 1933.

move to make Aotearoa New Zealand History a compulsory element of the school curriculum?

But then, who gets to tell the story? Who owns history? Whose history is it anyway?

We will host a panel discussion on Friday October 6 which will consider these questions.

Our panel discussion in last year's Heritage Month drew a large and diverse crowd. Over 300 people listened to our panellists, chaired by Dr Ruakere Hond, discuss the questions: What is Heritage? Whose Heritage?

The other activities include engagement with all museums, historical societies and other such organisations.

28 October is the day in 1835 of the Declaration of Independence and has been identified as a National Day on which to commemorate the New Zealand Wars, Te Pūtake o te Riri.

The final week of our Heritage Month will consider both war and passive resistance as two responses of Māori to the ongoing encroachment of Pākehā on their lands and cultural heritage. We aim to engage school students to consider their local history and reflect on our Taranaki past.

From this year, 2023, New Zealand History is to be a core component of our schools' National Curriculum.

It is our belief that

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future. We wish to engage the public, both local and regional, in considering.

- What is our Taranaki heritage? This will clearly mean different things to different people. It depends on who's "lens" we are looking through.

- What are the main events of our past that might best help us to understand our Taranaki culture?

- Taranaki has a complex and rich history which we believe would be of benefit to the community if it were to be carefully and sensitively surfaced and examined.

We believe that an honest gaze to face these matters is well due. Is this not the motivation behind the



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Next Week: What's On – When – Where

Fri 6 October – 5.15 pm Start – Who owns History? Who gets to tell the story? – Plymouth Hotel Ballroom

Listen to our panel discuss these questions. Andrew Coleman, Jay Ruka, Richard Shaw, Peter Adds, Tamzyn Pue, Liana Poutu – Chaired by Ruakere Hond

Sat 7 October – 10.00 am start - Reconciliation Journey – Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary

Hear Dean Jay Ruka and Ngāti Te Whiti's Damon Ritai speak of the exciting challenges now being managed here.

Sat 7 October – 2.00 pm - Managing Cultural Landscapes – Te Whare Hononga. Taranaki Cathedral Hear Carolyn Hill, lecturer in

environmental planning at University of Waikato reflect on interviews with heritage policy makers as a community tackles the issues of preserving the past in the most meaningful way for our communities.

Sun 8 October – 2.00 pm start. Hāwera Cemetery Walk. – Gladstone St entrance. – A guided tour. Hear of the fascinating characters of Hāwera's past

Go to www.heritagetaranaki.com for the full month's programme. There you will find live links for registrations as required

through exploring these conversations and sharing of experiences we will be better placed to find relevance and meaning in our heritage. Heritage Taranaki is keen to promote all such initiatives that will be coordinated over the proposed Taranaki Heritage Month.

History is a continuous thread. Contemporary issues that influence our lives can often be linked to past events. People's actions today shape history tomorrow. - NZ History Curriculum

Heritage Taranaki

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

CHURCH SERVICES



Church Services - Manaia, Kaponga, Opunake, Pungarehu, Okata, Oakura

Opunake Co-operating Parish

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

Okato Co-operating Parish

Okato - St. Paul's - Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Oakura - St. James - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Mid-week 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: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday
Other areas
Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)

St Patricks Catholic Church, Kaponga

2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month Mass at 6pm. However during winter the time will be 5pm i.e. Saturday 10th June, 24th June and 8th July. After this date the time will revert back to 6pm.
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month Liturgy of the Word with Communion at 8.45am.
Thursday Mass 9.30am (subject to change).

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

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

Taranaki Offshore Partnership named as Rescue Helicopter Winch sponsors

Taranaki Rescue Helicopter is delighted to welcome Taranaki Offshore Partnership (TOP) to their family of sponsors to support the vital emergency response service for the region and its communities. TOP's sponsorship is specifically for the Rescue Winch, which is critical during missions where the helicopter cannot land.

An important piece of equipment, the winch ensures the crew can carry out rescues in situations where landing would be difficult or hazardous, such as from the water or in alpine areas that Taranaki is known for.

Giacomo Caleffi from Taranaki Offshore Partnership says that their sponsorship reflects TOP's commitment to the local community as it investigates the potential for an offshore wind farm in the South Taranaki Bight.

"While we're still only in the feasibility investigation stage, we know from our experience of developing offshore wind farms around the world how important local communities are to getting things right and unlocking the benefits."

"Our proposed offshore wind farm would not only deliver renewable energy at scale to support the decarbonisation of the New Zealand economy, but also at the local level, create skilled jobs and help to smooth the regions transition away from emissions intensive industries," says Mr Caleffi. The Rescue Winch



Left: Chris Hall (TRHT Pilot), Evan Cottam (Chairman TRHT), Giacomo Caleffi (Taranaki Offshore Partnership), Darren Muggeridge (Trustee TRHT), Joe Ganley (Crewman).

sponsorship helps to cover the cost of annual winch training that is needed for Taranaki Rescue Helicopter crew and pilots, while also contributing to essential maintenance for the winch and cable.

Chair of the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter, Evan Cottam, says it's thanks to the commitment and support from local sponsors that the rescue helicopter can continue to provide this life-saving service 24/7, 365 days a year.

"It's fantastic to have Taranaki Offshore Partnership come on board as the new naming sponsor for the Rescue Winch, we greatly appreciate the generosity and the ongoing commitment from local businesses which help to keep our vital life-saving service available for our

community," said Mr Cottam.

In the past year, the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter has completed more than 300 missions, armed with life-saving equipment, rescue personnel and trauma-trained medics.

TOP's sponsorship will be acknowledged with branding on the rescue helicopter and the rescue winch will now be known as the 'Taranaki Offshore Partnership Winch'.

Taranaki Offshore Partnership is a joint venture between Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners and New Zealand Super Fund. Its vision is for offshore wind to provide transformational and scalable clean energy for future generations of New Zealanders.

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New Zealand	Mon 18 Dec	Wed 20 Dec	
Australia	Wed 29 Nov	Mon 11 Dec	Mon 18 Dec
South Pacific, North America, Asia, UK, Europe	Fri 24 Nov	Fri 8 Dec	Fri 15 Dec
Rest of the World	Mon 20 Nov	Wed 29 Nov	Wed 13 Dec

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Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken
1hr 31mins | PG Sat 07 Oct 1PM

PAW Patrol: The Mighty Movie
1hr 28mins | G Sun 08 Oct 1PM | Sat 21 Oct 1PM

River of Freedom
2hr 34mins | E Thu 12 Oct 7PM

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem
1hr 39mins | PG Sat 14 Oct 1PM

Uproar
1hr 50mins | M Sun 15 Oct 7PM

Sound of Freedom
2hr 11mins | TBC Sat 07 Oct 7PM

A Haunting in Venice
1hr 43mins | M Sun 08 Oct 7PM | Sun 15 Oct 1PM

The Creator
2hr 13mins | M Fri 13 Oct 7PM | Sat 21 Oct 7PM

The Exorcist: Believer
30mins | TBC Sat 14 Oct 7PM

Stylebender
1hr 42mins | M Thu 19 Oct 7PM



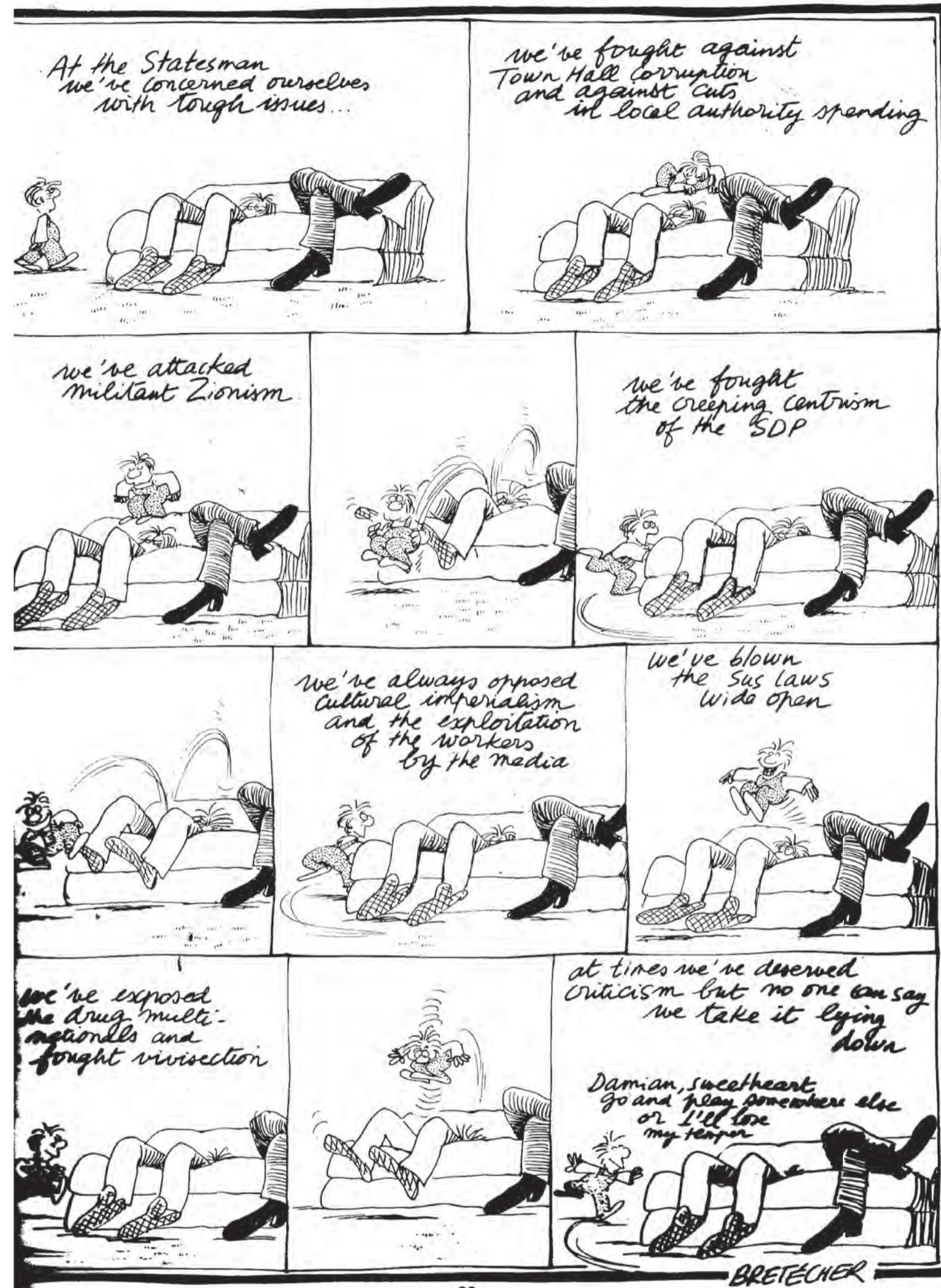
Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken
Violence | 1hr 31mins | Rated: PG
Sat 07 Oct 1PM



Sound of Freedom
Child sexual abuse themes | 2hr 11mins | Rated: TBC
Sat 07 Oct 7PM

What's On Listings

TOUGH TALKING



23

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

TUESDAYS

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

WEDNESDAYS

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

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

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

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

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

THURSDAYS

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

Egmont Euchre Club: Every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club. Inquiries, 06 761 8277 or 06 761 8337

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

FRIDAYS

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

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

AT THE CLUB HOTEL THIS WEEK:

Monday: Pizza - 2 for \$20; **Tuesday:** Order online for 30% off; **Wednesday:** Pizza night- 2 for \$20;

Thursday: Pensioners Lunch, \$15, Steak Night for \$20; **Friday:** Pensioners Lunch, \$15, Fish & Chips \$20. **Saturday:** Chicken Schnitzel \$20. Club Hotel Pairs Cup; **Sunday:** Roast Night with complimentary dessert for dine-in customers.

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APRIL 7 TO NOVEMBER 6

State of Nature exhibition: PukeAriki Museum, New Plymouth

SEPTEMBER 18 TO OCTOBER 14

Are We There Yet? A solo show by Deb Williams: At Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera.

OCTOBER 5 TO 15

Cirque Olio: At the TSB Showplace.

OCTOBER 8

Toroanui Marae Komiti Parihaka Trust AGM: Toroanui Marae, 10am.

OCTOBER 14

Te Kahui o Taranaki Trust AGM: Puniho Pa, Tarawainuku Marae, Warea. 10am.

OCTOBER 27 TO NOVEMBER 5

Taranaki Garden Festival: Around Taranaki

Taranaki National Art Awards: At Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Event Centre, Opunake.

PUBLIC NOTICES

TRADES & SERVICES



Ngaruahine Iwi Health Service

is proud to announce that its GP clinic 'Te Whare Hauora o Ngaruahine' is now accepting enrolments and will open its doors shortly.

Enrolment forms can be collected at the clinic site **16 Tauranga-A-Ika Street – Manaia – Ph: 06 243 4010** or requested by e-mail at gpclinic@ngaruahine.org

All enrolments will be accepted and sorted by order of priority, based on health and social needs. First appointments will be offered to enrolled patients during the 2nd half of October.



SOUTH TARANAKI DISTRICT PLAN CHANGE 2

In accordance with Clause 5 of the Resource Management Act 1991, the South Taranaki District Council has adopted a private plan change request from Todd Energy Limited to the South Taranaki District Plan. This Notice is to advise that the community can now make submissions on the proposed change.

Plan Change 2 seeks to:

- Amend three existing District Plan Maps (Rural Map 08, Rural Map 09 and Special Map 03)
- Add three new Special maps (Proposed Special Map 03A, 03B and 03C).

The proposed map amendments and new maps are designed to introduce nine new Petroleum Activity Risk Contours and one new Petroleum Flare Alert Area. Two Petroleum Activity Risk Contours will be deleted.

The plan change does not propose any new objectives, policies or rules. No consequential amendments to objectives, policies or rules are required because of the proposed map changes.

More information:

The proposal can be viewed at www.southtaranaki.com/our-council/consultations. If you have any questions about the proposal or process, please contact the STDC Planning Team at planchange@stdc.govt.nz or on 0800 111 323.

Submissions:

Anyone can make a submission on the proposed plan change. Submissions must be in accordance with Form 5 of the Resource Management (Forms, Fees and Procedure) Regulations 2003, which is available online at www.southtaranaki.com/our-council/consultations or at the South Taranaki District Council office or your local LibraryPlus.

Submissions close at 4.00pm on Friday 27 October 2023

Next Steps:

After the close of this submission period, the Council will prepare and publicly notify a summary of new or amended submissions. There will be an opportunity for anyone to make a further submission in support of, or in opposition to, any of those submissions. A hearing will then be arranged to consider all submissions and recommendations. Any submitter will have the right to attend and speak at any hearing. Any person who has made a submission has the right to appeal the decision to the Environment Court.

Joni Atk

Signature Block of the CE



Next Meeting is on
Monday October 9, 2023
at 5.30pm

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

Public notice of application for ON Licence

Section 101, Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012

ROBERTS TRIBE & CO LIMITED, 42 Brecon Road, Stratford, Stratford, 4332, New Zealand has made application to the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee for the issue of an ON licence in respect of the premises situated at Tasman Street, Opunake, 4616, known as Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Centre, Opunake.

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

The days on which and the hours during which alcohol is (or is intended to be) sold under the licence are:

Monday to Sunday 10.00am to 12.00am

The application may be inspected during ordinary office hours at the office of the South Taranaki District Licensing Committee at 105/109 Albion Street, Hawera, 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, Hawera, 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 first publication of this notice.

This notice was first published on: 05/10/2023

GRAZING

GRAZING AVAILABLE for Weiner Dairy Heifers. Phone Richard 027 510 9667.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE IS DUE OUT ON OCTOBER 19

HAWERA BUDGET Advisory Service. Wed 9am to 12pm. Coastal Care, Opunake by appointment. Starting Feb 8th 2023 and fortnightly thereafter. Contact us by phone: 0800 333 048 (free from mobile). Facebook page: Hawera Budget Advisory Service. Email: info@hawerabudget.co.nz

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

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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