



Inside



Opunake meets the
candidates. Page 4, 5



Fire chief farewelled.
Page 6



Young entrepreneurs
in business, above and
below, page 7



Turning trees into
firewood ...fast. Page 28

Everyone “desperate to do something”

It was great, warm and positive said Roger Morris and Marianne Muggeridge from Awatuna who took part in the pro-Palestinian protest march Auckland on Saturday September 13.

“There was a huge range of people,” said Marianne, “all ages and ethnicities, vibrant, noisy, chanting.” Added Roger: “Very focussed.”

The committed couple has been taking part regularly in the monthly pro-Palestinian protests in New Plymouth held on the first Saturday of the month said everyone assembled in Aotea Square in Auckland.

“The front group moved off. We stood for an hour before they could move off,” said Marianne. They could see the crowd at the bottom of Fanshaw Street as they began to walk which gives you some idea of the size of the protest.

The progress of the march was interrupted further ahead by a counter protest in the middle of Queen Street by around 40 people, remnants of the Destiny Church – minus their leader Brian Tamaki. He was in London with others taking part in the march led by far-right activist Tommy Robinson and “ripping up the Palestinian flag” said Marianne. The small group did a haka and then, with police in evidence who had halted the Palestinian protest, stepped aside so they could continue their march.

They were a very good natured, positive crowd said Marianne, “everyone feeling the same and desperate to do something.” A common chant was shame, they said.

The march’s destination was Victoria Park where there were various speeches. “What they’re doing is genocide,” said Roger who had sent in photos he took of the march to the Opunake & Coastal News.

“They’re not very happy with this government,” he added and their lack of action commenting on the feeling generally of the protestors.

He commented, “Hamas



The recent pro-Palestine demonstration in Auckland.

Photo: Roger Morris

is a resistant army against occupation,” referring to the occupation of Palestinian land by Israel which has been happening over many years. He likened it to colonialism as has happened elsewhere in the world including New Zealand but said here “the difference is the treaty.”

As regards the call for a Palestinian state Marianne feels “It’s too late”. The Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu seems intent on reducing the country to rubble to make the Palestinians leave so they can resettle the whole region. “They don’t want to bargain,” and are not interested in peace talks and a diplomatic solution.

The Auckland pro-Palestinian protest included quite a sizable Taranaki contingent according to Roger and Marianne along

with people from elsewhere in New Zealand. There were estimated to be 30,000 in the Auckland protest which was

originally planned to walk over the Auckland bridge. The route was changed however due to gale force

winds.

It joins international protests on the deteriorating situation in Gaza.

Vote Clem for Mayor

- Regroup to our local & rural base
- No more overspending
- Leadership that is relevant
- Build a future for our young people



Authorised by C.T. Coxhead, 40 King St, Opunake

Sinclair
SOLAR
AFFORDABLE ACCESSIBLE ENERGY



SCAN FOR
A FREE
SOLAR
QUOTE



Solar Panel & Battery Storage Solutions,
Installations & Maintenance

sinclairenergy.co.nz

CALL 06 761 8084



Letters to the Editor

Send your your views to:Letters to the Editor
23 Napier Street, Opunake.
email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

“Let’s create your business growth strategy together”
Your only local community accounting firm



HUGHSON & ASSOCIATES

Accounting for the future, today

Hawera & Opunake 06 278 4169
Opunake Office hours:
Mon, Wed & Thurs: 9am–3pm

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Registered office: 23 Napier Street, PO Box 74, Opunake
Phone: Office (06) 761-7016, A/h (06) 761-8206

For advertising, email: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
For editorial, email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
For accounts, email: accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor: Bernice McKellar

Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith

Production/IT: Shane Butler

Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly

Registered as a newspaper.

Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand



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



SOUTH TARANAKI FUNERAL SERVICES



Meet Our Team

Glenn Rogers, Dip. F.D. , Dip.Emb

Managing Director,
South Taranaki Funeral Services.

Over eleven years ago I chose this wonderful community to become my home. Four years ago, My partner and I decided to buy our funeral home from its corporate owners and bring it back to a locally owned and family focused business. Caring for our community is the prime focus of everything we do and our team are dedicated to preserving and celebrating the South Taranaki way of life and its people with over twenty five years Industry experience and qualified expertise.

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.

Too many ministries

I just overheard David Seymour talking of the numbers of ministries in New Zealand compared to Ireland. Ireland has 18 ministries of Government.

NZ has 32 core Government ministries and hangers on, as well as legions of lawyers and litigants all slurping at the Waitangi Tribunal trough, Commissioners of Grocery, Public Service (Three), Human Rights (Five) , a Commissioner for the Environment, three Law Commissioners, four Transport Accident Investigation Commissioners, A board of 5-7 Commissioners in the Commerce Commission, A panel of three Local Government Commissioners, a dozen Regional Public Service Commissioners, 26 Development Contribution Commissioners. If you are wondering just where your tax dollars are going.

David Hancock
Eltham.

NP mayoral candidate wants glyphosphate banned

I wish to add to Peter Marra’s plea and ask how many people have ever researched glyphosphate.

When they do they will be horribly shocked as to how deadly this chemical is. There are pages and pages available on the internet. Several countries and states in the USA have banned it.

It has been traced in food and vegetables and even in mother’s breast milk so that means a baby is ingesting this horrible deadly toxic chemical from day one. Do you then wonder why there are so many illnesses and cancers?

Now our “PM” wants to increase by 10 times the usage. Who does he think he is? He is not worthy of

the title “PM.” Add to the already overloaded hospital system and you can quickly see why we have this medical problem.

There are some who believe this push for more usage of glyphosphate is arranged from overseas; people who have huge vested interests in keeping you sick. They make the chemicals to spray on plants etc and they make the pills to try and cure you.

Sadly these “elected” positions are just puppets to those in Wellington. We the ratepayers elect these people to keep us safe; to ensure we have clean water and our rubbish is correctly disposed of. Yeah right.

Whilst investigating glyphosphate, do the same for fluoride. You will be equally horrified as to where it comes from; how sinister and toxic it is. Do you realise there have been no scientific tests done to see that fluoride prevents cavities.

You are being poisoned to death.

Hawera.

What purpose do community boards serve?

Hello Eltham and Kaponga and farming districts. It’s nearly ‘D’ day for your votes to all be in.

I thought I’d write on “Are Community Boards worth it. How do they work for you.” as constituents in local Government.

Community Boards seem like the poor cousins to councillors, but I believe they do play a major role for you the people. We aren’t tied up too much with red tape, legislation minutes and meetings as possibly the councillors are. We are, as it were, the grass roots, the coalface to you the people, involved in a more practical way with your concerns and funding for the local needs of clubs and ventures. Don’t get me wrong, so are councillors, and the two go

Noel Price

Continued on page 3.

ADELPHOS

We hear so much about world hunger and starvation. Globally, almost one billion people go to sleep hungry and undernourished. Presently the world produces more than enough food to feed everyone, however, this is prevented by wars, corrupt political regimes, unequal access and food waste. Tragically, millions suffer and die. Our hearts break.

One New Zealand study estimates that the average household throws away \$1,326 worth of food or \$2.9 billion annually (*Hello*

Hunger— ‘The Sermon on the Mount’ Part 2

Fresh, Understanding Kiwi Households Food Waste Report, 2024). There are many reasons: use by dates, buying too many on sale items, picky eaters, lack of meal planning or not knowing how to use leftovers creatively. Other Kiwi studies support these research findings.

It is estimated that 20% of Kiwis experience ‘food insecurity.’ The rates are especially high in low-income families. The Salvation Army’s *State of the Nation 2025 Report* estimates that one in four children go hungry with food running out “sometimes” or “often.” The Pacific Island family rate is one in two children going hungry

“often” or “sometimes.”

As a former teacher and guidance counsellor, I know that students need adequate food to learn. Without it they become ‘hangry,’ disruptive and their brains are unable to learn. Every cell needs food to function. Our school lunches programme helps, but isn’t perfect. There are foodbanks and/or free weekly community lunch programmes in Inglewood, Stratford, Opunake, New Plymouth and Eltham just to name a few. But the physical is only part of the hunger picture.

Yes, the Bible emphasises our responsibility to feed our hungry neighbours. Although Jesus miraculously fed thousands to show

compassion and prove that He was the Saviour, He was more so interested in feeding those who desire a spiritual hunger for God as taught in His Sermon on the Mount: “*Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled*” (Matthew 5:6, New International Version). The hunger Jesus is speaking of is a yearning to be satisfied by God’s loving presence and to fulfill His will in our everyday lives.

As ‘The Bread of Life’ Jesus promised to satisfy the spiritual hunger of all who would come to Him (John 6:35).

Adelphos



Grant l’Ami - New Home Consultant
027 809 7060 | 0800 102 104
grantlami@signature.co.nz



Letters to the Editor

Continued from page 2.

hand in hand helping each other on your behalf.

So, how can we, that are voted on to community boards help you? First and foremost, I would encourage people and groups to attend our public monthly meetings (often it is only us in attendance). Farmers, if you have a problem with roading, potholes etc, a concern of legislative interpretation, a group you're involved with that we may be able to help with funding or give advice on the matter. Ring us, come along and speak in the open forum. We're there to help ease your concerns, instead of sitting on your hands and thinking 'I wonder.'

I often get commented "Oh, I didn't think Community Boards could help", "I wish I'd known." The Anzac Memorial at Rawhitiroa, Eltham Soldiers Park children's playground, BBQ area at Kaponga and many other areas and clubs have all benefitted with Community Board funding. You don't know till you ask. I'd encourage you to ask a Community Board member. We are very approachable. Come to the monthly meetings in your areas. We are always delighted with new faces, even if you've got a grumpy concern. I, for one, find it makes my job feel more valued.

Please vote for me again. I look forward to seeing and hearing from you this new term, if re-elected. Thank you.

Authorised by Lindsay Maindonald

Patea water problems

STDC look at your minutes. Twelve years ago there were similar water

problems to what you have now. The engineer at the time suggested that a bird may have crapped in the water system and that was the cause of the e coli. Not so. Has anyone thought to look at where the water is drawn from- an unused land fill? Residents of Patea deserve clean water-and now. Not "we're on to it."

Plus Mayor Nixon should revisit his fix to the pot holes in our town. It is overdue, so out with the old and in with the new.

Garth Weir
Candidate
Te Hawera Ward
STDC.

Herbert Denton, STDC group manager of infrastructure services comments.

"It is important to clarify that no E.coli has been found in the Patea water supply to date. The reason a boil water advisory was issued is as follows: The water supply for Patea comes from deep aquifers (bores) that have served the town well for many decades. Previously these bores were deemed as 'secure' and did not require disinfection. However, new drinking water quality rules were introduced in November 2022 and because of these changes the supply does not have sufficient disinfection levels to fully meet these (Patea's aquifers contain elements like ammonia which can make treatment and disinfection challenging). Untreated drinking water carries a potential risk of microbiological contamination. The Water Services Authority - Taumata Arowai advised Council that a boil water advisory was the only way to completely manage that risk until a sufficient barrier is put in place. Boiling water is a simple

but effective way of killing any bacteria, protozoa and viruses that may be present.

In our 2024 Long Term Plan the Council committed to major investment in Patea and for some time has been working on a range of options to meet the new rules. Over the next 4 – 6 weeks we are installing an ultraviolet (UV) disinfection unit which will provide an effective barrier against protozoa and bacteria. We are also building a new water treatment plant in Patea which will fully meet the new standards. This new plant is currently out for tender and is expected to be completed within the next 12 months."

Regenerative agriculture

At the recent Meet the Candidates hui I have made my pitch for regenerative agriculture, for clean waterways and for thriving rural communities where we grow food to feed families and restore Taranaki's biodiversity. But what is regenerative agriculture?

Regenerative agriculture revolves around building soil, restoring communities, diversifying our production, farming organically and growing food for local families. Instead of getting stuck in global supply chains to produce cheap products for the global commodity market and relying on inputs like PKE from Borneo, blood-phosphates from war-torn Western Sahara and fossil fuels imports, we have been running trials on the Taranaki coast focusing on market gardens and agroforestry systems. We are growing a diverse range of vegetables and tree crops to mimic the local ecology of a temperate rainforest.

With the urea production at Ballance shutting down for months, and eventually forever, it is now time to shift away from industrial farming practices based on chemical inputs that destroy

the soil and instead shift to regenerative approaches that improve soil health, support local jobs and create resilient communities.

Urs Signer
Taranaki Regional
Council candidate

Respecting both cultures

I must really thank Chris Fuller of Opunake and Mary Moore of Manaia on both agreeing about having Māori wards on our local councils and having representation on our province's community committees.

Myself of Māori blood I was somewhat sceptical about having Māori wards, and of course there were many rumours floating around, not only in our province but throughout Aotearoa. Once I saw who was standing, and knowing some of them, they all had experience, knowledge, and have been listening to what our Pakeha brothers and sisters have been saying, then given a chance to have their opinions.

Today our Māori wards have played a huge part in our local councils and community councils as each culture is listening to each other then making a huge joint decision together in harmony. But I am now beginning to wonder how some of our Māori politicians can work for such a Mickey Mouse coalition government.

Remembering growing up I was told and taught not only by my two parents but by my two grandparents, one Pakeha, the other Māori in no uncertain terms that there was good and bad in all cultures, not only in Aotearoa but worldwide.

I do believe that both Māori and Pakeha can work together to improve this country by listening to each other and respecting each other's opinions.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

The Opunake & Coastal News is available at the following locations -
New Plymouth:

Ate Forty One, Tukapa St, Westown
Challenge Spotswood
The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City
The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd

Waitara:
Outside the North Taranaki Community House Trust,
67 McLean St

Inglewood:
Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St

Stratford:
Stratford Knit & Sew, 202 Broadway
First National, Stratford

Eltham:
Eltham Four Square

Hawera:
Hospital Supa Store, 52 Hunter Street
The Sunshine Dairy, 246 South Rd
Glover Dairy & Convenience Store, 187 Glover Rd
Flowers R Us, 158 High Street

Papers are also available at

The Normanby Dairy
Swetes Dairy, Manaia
Farm Source, Pungarehu
Okato Takeaways



FOR ALL YOUR FENCING REQUIREMENTS:
Agricultural & Electric, Fencing & Shelter Belts,
Stockyards, Retaining Walls, Residential,
180 Rev. Post Rammer.

Member FCANZ

Ph Steven on 021 298 5106



EP MASTER
PLASTER LTD
SMOOTH OPERATOR

- New homes
- Renovations
- Skimming
- Gib fixing
- Coving and cornice
- Commercial

E: epmasterplaster@hotmail.com

Ph: 020 4001 3319

STIHL

SHOP

HAWERA

WE PICK UP AND DELIVER TARANAKI WIDE



Love Your Land

STIHL SHOP HAWERA
25 Glover Road, Hawera
Ph: 06 278 4753
Email: hawera@stihlshop.co.nz

STIHL SHOP
Outdoor Power Equipment

www.stihlshop.co.nz

Harris Taylor Ltd

Positive Action + + Positive Results

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

67 High Street, Hawera
06 2785058



The candidates face the public. Seated from left are Clem Coxhead, Caroline Waiwiri, Andy Whitehead, Urs Signer, Monica Willson, Leanne Horo, Murray Dysart, Phil Nixon, Bryan Roach, Janet Fleming, Kirsty Meynell and Aarun Langton. Standing at left is MC Jayden Lane.

Opunake meets the candidates

The future of the Opunake Lake, security cameras, Maori wards and rate capping were among the subjects canvassed at a joint candidates meeting in Opunake.

Candidates for mayor, South Taranaki District Council, Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) and Taranaki Coastal Community Board were at the meeting organised by the Opunake and Districts Business Association and held at Everybodys Theatre.

Candidates were asked if they would make restoring the Opunake Lake a priority. "Every week I've sat at my father's bench looking at the lake and seeing how it's deteriorated over the years," said South Taranaki District councillor Aarun Langton.

He said the South Taranaki District Council did not own the lake so the consent holder had to be encouraged to put more water through the lake. He said the bank on the southern side was in danger of collapsing so there was a need to make sure the trees did not get too big. He said he hoped something could be worked out with the Taranaki Regional Council to make sure consents would go through quicker.

Cr Bryan Roach said the survival of Opunake Beach was tied up with the future of the lake.

"Opunake Beach has changed. The sand is

building up higher and higher. Over time it could be a big issue. It's quite critical, even if we are not generating power that we get water going down there to help the survival of the beach."

Mayor Phil Nixon said the lake has "a complicated history" with most of it owned by DOC, leased to Opunake Power Ltd, some freehold and some reserve. He said the best thing to do would be to get power off the lake and then get freshwater coming through.

TRC candidate Urs Signer said if water was coming into the lake, then the wider catchment of the Waiaua River also had to be looked at.

Several candidates recalled times when the lake was used for activities like jet skiing and water skiing.

Taranaki Coastal Community board chair Andy Whitehead said he would like to see the lake as a "mini Pukekura Park," but this should be up to the community to decide.

Mayoral candidate Clem Coxhead also said he would like to see a "Pukekura Park" scenario.

"Probably the old days of jet skis and 3-4 people having a good time are over," he said.

Caroline Waiwiri standing

for the Te Kurae Maori Ward said "I would support anything that supports the beautification of the lake and all the korero that goes with it."

Taranaki Regional councillor Donna Cram said she had been discussing the matter with regional council staff and was hoping something might be worked out by Christmas.

The issue of security and cameras drew a range of responses from candidates.

Clem Coxhead said 25 years ago when he was chair of the Opunake Business Association they had got security cameras for the town, but the police had wanted them, and they never saw them again.

"We need to care a bit more and take a bit more responsibility for our community, not pass the responsibility over to a security camera."

Andy Whitehead said that while he supported security cameras, they would only push the problem somewhere else.

"There's a question of empathy. Trying to reconnect with those who have maybe lost the connection to the community is the key."

Phil Nixon said he would like to see more cameras and would like to see community

patrols as well.

"The police can't be everywhere," he said. "You need to be the eyes and ears for the police, but you can't be the police."

Janet Fleming who is standing for the South Taranaki District Council said she favoured community patrols.

"I would like to see something like that set up in Opunake if people are prepared to put their hands up," she said.

Kirsty Meynell standing for the Taranaki Coastal Community Board said she favoured cameras.

"We don't want the community put in harm's way and think they can go out of their jurisdiction," she said. "This is not 20 years ago when you used to patrol around here and say, Johnny I know your Mum. Many of these people are substance abusers."

Bryan Roach said Opunake needed three police officers.

"Two doesn't cut it," he said.

Taranaki Coastal Community Board member Monica Willson said having cameras would be particularly important when the Green Space is installed.

"It's important to have something there to deter bad behaviour," she said.

HEADSTONES
Forever Memories Your Way
STONE CREATIONS NZ
your local Monumental Mason
0508 76388437
Based in Okato on the Taranaki Coast

FISHER™
WINDOWS AND DOORS

CREATORS OF THE ORIGINAL RANCHSLIDER

Fisher Taranaki
50 Rimu Street, Strandon, New Plymouth
06 758 5068
fisherwindows.co.nz

Powered by
 altus Window Systems
 window & glass association nz member
 Proudly NZ Made & Owned

SCHURR IRELAND
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

NEW PLYMOUTH
p. 06 759 0105

ELTHAM
p. 06 764 8305

www.schurrireland.co.nz

EXCEED ENGINEERING

STAINLESS STEEL & ALUMINUM SPECIALISTS

• CUSTOM FABRICATION • ONSITE REPAIRS & SERVICE
• ALUMINIUM, STAINLESS & COPPER WELDING
• FOOD GRADE WELDING & FABRICATION
• PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Jesse Fowell
Owner

 0273784053 jesse@exceedengineering.co.nz

Opunake meets the candidates

Candidates were asked for a show of hands on Maori wards, and everyone on stage put their hand up.

New Plymouth District councillor Dinnie Moeahu who was at the meeting challenged TRC deputy chair Neil Walker on closing discussion at a Regional Council meeting on whether the Council should oppose David Seymour's Treaty Principles bill. Neil Walker said he opposed the Seymour bill but believed the TRC should be dealing with other matters instead.

Urs Signer said Neil Walker had earlier voted against an option that would have seen South Taranaki keep its three regional council seats with an extra Maori seat also added. Neil said he had done this because it would have meant having a larger council which he did not think would have been a good idea.

There were no takers for the idea of rates being capped.

"Twenty per cent of our people don't even own their own homes. If we want this, what do we give up?" asked Cr Leanne Horo.

"If we're going to cap rates we've got to get a list of stuff the Council is going to walk away from," said Bryan Roach.

Aarun Langton said it was "something that sounded good but didn't really work."

Kirsty Meynell said the Council could work with other councils on procurement strategies to improve their buying power.

Neil Walker said it was a case of "everybody wants to go to Heaven but nobody wants to die." He said changes of government meant new rules and new costs which councils have to



Bryan Roach speaking at the the meeting.

adjust to. "You have people in parliament making decisions and we keep getting flicked



Kirsty Meynell addressing those present.



Murray Dysart with the mic. Monica Willson (left) and right current Mayor Phil Nixon.



Challenging the current mayor is seated at left Clem Coxhead, alongside Caroline Waiwiri, Andy Whitehead and Urs Signer. Jayden Lane is at left.

the bill. This can't go on."

A question on how much the Council spent in Opunake also drew a variety of responses. Andy Whitehead said he liked the Swiss system where 90 per cent of taxes stayed local.

"We're something like 10 per cent," he said.

Clem Coxhead said he would like to see every town have its own drone, "so if you have a leaking pipe a local fixes it up that day, and you're not waiting weeks and weeks and weeks."

Urs Signer said the fact our rubbish was being shipped out of Taranaki wasn't good enough.

"We could be creating a composting hub here in Taranaki," he said.

Towards the end of the meeting Opunake farmer Darrel Hickey issued a challenge to the candidates.

"Effectively raw sewage from this town goes into the sea. None of you is going to stop the shit going into the sea and none of you is going to fix the lake."

Phil Nixon said he wouldn't argue about the Council not being able to fix the lake.

"But we need to work together. We need to be able to do these things with the community. To me these are challenges we need to pick up and run with."

The Cottage

Rest Home - Opunake



- * Respite Care
- * Day Care
- * Meals on Wheels

Enquiries welcome at the Cottage, 1 Layard Street, Opunake or Phone 761 8009



Stratford

Knit and Sew

Haberdashery, quilting materials and supplies. Wool, patterns and needles. Embroidery and cotton.

Open:
10am-4pm Mon-Friday
10am-12pm Saturday

Phone: 06 765 4181
202 Broadway, Stratford
www.stratfordknitandsew.com



Woodward's FIREWOOD

Animal Bedding For
Stand Off Pads
Calf and Goat Sheds
Wintering Barns

- Untreated ground up waste wood —
- Raw material stockpiled then ground to order —
- Pick up or delivered to your farm —
 - 9m³ truck loads —
 - 65m³ truck loads —

06 755 2047

124 De Havilland Drive, Bell Block • office@woodwardsfirewood.co.nz
www.woodwardsfirewood.co.nz

L
A
W
Y
E
R
S

OPUNAKE LAWYERS

Thomson O'Neil & Co.

Our Opunake Office is attended by:

Robert England on Wednesdays & Fridays

for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses;
Trusts, Wills and Estates.

FOR ALL YOUR LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

30 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE
PH: 761 8823

Firefighters honour the life and legacy of Ian Dudley

Firefighters from across the region, along with family and friends, gathered at the Hāwera Fire Station last Saturday (September 20) to celebrate the life of Ian Dudley, who passed away on 9 September 2025. Ian dedicated an extraordinary 50 years of service to the New Zealand Fire Service, now Fire and Emergency New Zealand, across the Manaia, Hāwera, and Kohi brigades.

Respected for his kindness, humour, and quiet strength, Ian began his service in 1970 with the Manaia Volunteer Fire Brigade, motivated by a simple desire to help his community. His commitment saw him rise



Ian Dudley.

through the ranks, including serving as Chief Fire Officer of the Manaia Brigade. In 2005, Ian joined

the Hāwera Brigade as an Operational Support member, after years of balancing brigade duties

alongside his employment. Even after retiring from the frontline, he remained active at the station, always lending a hand. He became known for polishing old helmets and couplings until they gleamed, quietly taking them away and returning them in better condition than ever.

Many firefighters, past and present, benefited from Ian's generosity with his time and knowledge. He guided and supported younger members as they began their journey in the fire service, easing the way for the next generation of volunteers.

Ian's community spirit extended beyond

firefighting. He was a dedicated volunteer with the Hāwera Community Patrol and an active member of the Hāwera MenzShed. His service to others never wavered.

In 2023, Ian's commitment was formally recognised when he received a Kiwibank Local Hero Award. In typical humble style, he downplayed the honour, asking, "What did I do to deserve this?"

Ian's official service record is a remarkable timeline of achievement. He became Station Officer in 1973, Deputy Chief Fire Officer in 1985, and Chief Fire Officer in 1996. After stepping back in 2002, he

later served with the Kohi and Hāwera brigades. In 2023, he retired for the final time — fittingly on the date he was awarded his 50-Year Medal, one of his proudest accomplishments.

As his family, friends, and fellow firefighters reflected, Ian will be remembered not only for his decades of service but also for his humility, humour, and countless hours given freely to others.

Rest easy, Ian. Your duty is done.

Merv Watt
Chief Fire Officer
Hawera Volunteer Fire Brigade

FIRE SERVICE

Two of our volunteer firefighters from Opunake have taken a major step forward in their service to the community, successfully completing the rigorous Station Officer course. Their achievement is not only a milestone for them but also strengthens the brigade's leadership for future emergency responses. Ryan Moss and Steve

Bennett both passed the Station Officer course, a role that places them in charge of incident management and the safety of both their fellow firefighters and the public. Becoming a Station Officer is no small feat. The course demands a high level of knowledge, leadership ability, and decision-making

Milestone for two Opunake firefighters



The two firefighters demonstrating their skills.

under pressure. Station Officers are the ones making critical calls at the scene — whether it's coordinating the response to a house fire, a motor vehicle accident,

or a hazardous materials incident. Well done to both Ryan and Steve.

There have been several major structure fires around the coast over the last couple

of months that have caused extensive damage. There is no one cause to these fires, but it has kept the Opunake, Rahotu and Okato crews rather busy. With spring on

us, grass growth starting to take off and birds building their nests, it is a good time to start checking under the hood of your tractor. The Opunake brigade gets called to at least one tractor fire a year, sometimes its electrical and sometimes its birds. A quick check under the hood before using a tractor is a good habit to get into.

With daylight savings upon us, it is a good reminder to check those smoke alarms and change the batteries. Also consider the placement of them. Do you have enough? if you need advice, visit the FENZ website or get hold of a friendly fire fighter.

Andrew Pentelow (CFO)

Gun-related deaths dropped after gun laws passed

Gun-related deaths in New

Zealand from self-harm or accidents have dropped over the course of this century, especially after tighter gun laws were passed in the early 90s, but rates due to assault have recently been on the rise.

The research team found

most gun-related deaths or injuries happened to men. Mortality rates were highest in those of European ethnicity, followed by Māori, with Māori three times more likely to be victims of firearms homicides than those of European ethnicity.

The researchers found that gun-related assaults have recently increased back to levels last seen in 2006 and said that laws around gun ownership need to be maintained and strengthened.

12 MONTHS INTEREST FREE

www.dominator.co.nz

DOMINATOR

When it comes to protecting your assets and family, you can't buy better than a Dominator garage door.

SERVICE | REPAIRS | INSTALLATIONS | AUTOMATION

CONTACT US FOR A FREE MEASURE & QUOTE

DOMINATOR GARAGE DOORS TARANAKI

contact@dominatornp.co.nz 06 758 3981

*Terms & conditions apply.

EVERY LIFE, A LEGACY

every stone a story

HEADSTONE WAREHOUSE

33 High Street, Hawera
06 278 5518

209 Coronation Ave, New Plymouth
06 759 9975

www.headstonewarehouse.co.nz

15% GUARANTEE

TDS
TRANSPORT & DIESEL SERVICES

Make sure you can **STOP** so you can stay on the **GO!**

WINTER BRAKE TESTING

Don't take chances with your brakes this winter. Get them tested by professionals who use the latest diagnostic technology to keep your truck safe and transport-ready.

- ✓ Fast, accurate brake inspections
- ✓ Advanced testing equipment
- ✓ Peace of mind before you haul

For all your Transport, Light Commercial, Civil and Private Vehicle Solutions, give us a call and see how we can help to keep you moving...

TDS | 28 Glover Road, Hawera | P 06 278 5740

www.transportanddiesel.co.nz | Transport-Diesel-Services

Entrepreneurial sisters with an Obsession

Two sisters Ashley and Caitlin Howard have a dream to build successful businesses focused on quality products and excellent customer service. Based on their family farm on Rowan Road near Kaponga, the young women have a dedicated and hardworking approach and, with the support of their family, everything is going well.

Egg Obsession
Caitlin (17) after talking to their farm nutritionist Grant Richards about the benefits of Pasture Raised Eggs, she decided to try it for herself and has developed this idea into a thriving business called Egg Obsession. Grant has designed a specialised high nutritional value diet including grains, minerals and flax seed oil - along with no animal proteins added to the blend.

Currently Caitlin has 420 Hyline hens, which roost in a specially designed caravan, but spend the day in a spacious fenced off area of lush grassy paddock. They are moved daily to ensure hygiene is optimal at all times. Soon another 700 point of lay hens will be arriving and going into the newest caravan that has been built for her by her grandfather Ray and his friend Rodger Benton who has generously offered his time to help build it over the



Caitlin with some of her hens.

computer that controls the opening of the roll away nest boxes (which keep the eggs extremely clean), doors that close at set times and lighting for 16 hours a day to stimulate laying. During winter, in particular, the lack of daylight hours tends to drastically reduce the output of eggs.

All aspects of the operation are designed for the highest animal welfare, stress free life for hens in a clean environment and the highest quality food which creates the best quality egg. Oyster shell given in the afternoons makes for a hard shell, the whites are compact and the yolks are bright orange - perfect for cafe use. These eggs have tested higher in protein and lower in saturated fat.

Caitlin has recently formed a partnership with Nestor and Jackie Eligado to expand the business and has been audited by QCONZ and is now certified to sell to cafes, restaurants and supermarkets. She also sells these premium

eggs at the Huatoki Plaza Farmers Market in New Plymouth every Sunday 9am to 12noon. Caitlin is very appreciative of Arty Tarts Cafe for being the first business to support her. Caitlin enjoys delivering to her clients as she forms genuine connections in the community.

If you would like Caitlin to deliver free straight to your door please contact Caitlin at 020 4138 3538.

Facebook: Egg Obsession.
Email: eggobsession2025@gmail.com

Cake Obsession

Ashley (18) has been baking cakes from an early age - as young as five actually, so it is no surprise that she has developed this interest into a flourishing business. She makes all kinds of cakes, as well as cookies and slices - chocolate cupcakes are a specialty. Ashley has a commercial kitchen on the property built by her family and is a registered food business. She also uses Caitlin's high quality Egg Obsession eggs in her

baking. One place where Ashley sells her baking is at the Farmers Market at Huatoki Plaza in New Plymouth, each Sunday from 9am to midday. Feedback is excellent and her customers describe her baking as delicious.

Ashley is kept very busy and appreciates that her best friend Charlotte is giving her a hand. Ashley creates beautiful custom cakes for any event, and will work with her clients to form the perfect cake design for the occasion. Ashley is keen to develop other markets. She intends to have a cake stall at the upcoming A and P show (29 and 30 November) You can also expect to sample her mouth-watering cakes at the Stratford Food Market in December.

Please feel free to contact Ashley on 020 4138 3536

Facebook: Cake Obsession
Email: cakeobsession2025@gmail.com



This birthday cake is simply superb.

CAKE OBSESSION
Custom Cakes,
Slices, Cookies,
Brownies & More!



Ashley Howard | 020 4138 3536
cakeobsession2025@gmail.com



020 4138 3538
eggobsession2025@gmail.com
Caitlin Howard



An amazing looking cake.
last two months.

Caitlin is kept busy collecting eggs each day, feeding and monitoring hen health, shifting fences and caravans, along with pest control. The blend is made on the farm and the egg production is high tech with a solar panel powering the

Full range of precast concrete in stock

Box Culverts - bearers – pipes – troughs – inspection pipes – lids – custom made certified bridge decks.

Come and see our engineering staff, they're qualified and ready to help.

Peter Kuriger Engineering & Concrete

889 Upper Kaweora Road – Opunake - 0274 526 718



We are not alone

Farming is at the heart of New Zealand’s culture and economy. While the lifestyle brings many rewards for farmers, it also comes with unique challenges that can take a toll on mental health. For Kiwi farmers, the pressures of fluctuating markets, unpredictable weather, and the isolation of rural life can quickly become overwhelming.

It’s important to recognise that mental health, just like physical health, needs attention and care. Sometimes stress shows up as difficulty sleeping, feeling easily irritated, or losing interest in activities you used to enjoy. If these feelings persist, it’s okay—and even necessary—to



Are you looking for care or support in your own home?

Some of our services include:

- Convalescing
- Post operative support
- End of life care
- Companionship
- Dementia aid
- Post natal support

~ NO REFERRALS REQUIRED ~

We tailor our services to meet your needs - contact Milly Carr
Phone: 027 320 1414 Email: milly@cherish-respite.com



Cherish RESPIRE
In Home Care



ALL DOMESTIC & COMMERCIAL JOINERY



• Kitchens • Stairways • Vanities • Lounge Units • Bench Tops • And more

67B BREAKWATER RD UP NORMA’S WAY • NEW PLYMOUTH
PH: (06) 751 5065
WWW.NEWTONGORDGE.CO.NZ



BARBARA KURIGER MP
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

reach out for help.

And help there is. I have the privilege of being the national patron of Craig “Wiggie” Wiggins’ innovative and incredibly successful Lean on a Gate programme, which seeks to safeguard the ability and the opportunity of rural communities to get together to support each other.

Wiggie does an incredible job, and recently I was pleased to see that he has even more resources behind him with the announced collaboration with MATES in Construction, who have extensive experience in looking after construction workers in New Zealand.

There are also other support networks, such



The Parliamentarian at a sheep farm.

as Rural Support Trusts, offering confidential help, connecting farmers to resources and friendly faces who understand the challenges. Talking to friends, whānau, or a trusted adviser can also provide relief and fresh perspective.

Looking out for one another is vital. If you notice a mate isn’t themselves, check in and let them know you care. A supportive community

can make all the difference in tough times.

Prioritising mental health is not a sign of weakness; it’s an essential part of keeping Kiwi farms and families thriving. By fostering open conversations, seeking support when needed, and caring for each other, New Zealand’s farmers can continue to weather life’s storms, both on and off the land.

If you would like to learn more about the Lean on a Gate and other support services available to farmers and their families, feel free to drop me a line to Barbara. Kuriger@parliament.govt.nz and I will happily get back to you with the information you need.

*Barbara Kuriger
MP for Taranaki-King Country.*

Iwi and unions announce Ra Whakamana national day of solidarity

The National Iwi Chairs Forum and the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions Te Kauae Kaimahi have announced that on the 28th of October there will be a national day of solidarity, Rā Whakamana, to reaffirm the tino rangatiratanga of Tangata Whenua and protect the rights and wellbeing of all workers.

The 28th of October

marks the signing of He Whakaputanga o te Rangatiratanga o Nu Tireni in 1835 and the first Labour Day demonstrations in 1890 that helped secure the eight-hour working day.

Iwi, unions, and activist groups are calling for mass mobilisations across the country at 12pm on 28 October to send a powerful message.

“Rā Whakamana is

a tikanga-led stand for cultural wellbeing, dignity, workers’ rights, mana wāhine, rangatahi, and tino rangatiratanga - guided by iwi leadership in partnership with the union movement,” said iwi spokesperson Dr Kenneth Kennedy.

“Despite the defeat of the Treaty Principles Bill, this Government continues its anti-Tiriti and anti-worker agenda. They are undermining Te Tiriti o Waitangi, removing Treaty clauses from law, pushing the Regulatory Standards Bill, blocking pay equity for wāhine, and eroding workers’ rights and protections while costs keep rising,” said iwi spokesperson Na Raihania.

“Rā Whakamana is about keeping the pressure on. We will continue to mobilise and disrupt until this Government stops attacking Māori, dividing communities, and damaging the cultural health and safety of Māori workers,” said union spokesperson Laures Park.

“Together as iwi, as unions, as Tangata Whenua and Tangata Tiriti, we are not just resisting, we are creating a future where tino rangatiratanga is real for everyone and Te Tiriti o Waitangi unites all communities,” said union spokesperson Grant Williams.

Events will be held across the country.

Your Taranaki MPs are here to help you.

Barbara Kuriger MP for Taranaki-King Country

barbara.kurigermp@parliament.govt.nz
barbarakuriger.national.org.nz/



David MacLeod MP for New Plymouth

david.macleodmp@parliament.govt.nz
www.national.org.nz/davidmacleod



Carl Bates MP for Whanganui

Whanganui • South Taranaki • Stratford
carl.batesmp@parliament.govt.nz • www.national.org.nz/carlbates





Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised by Barbara Kuriger, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



CERTIFIED

Plumbing, Gasfitting and Drain Laying

Plus! Roofing, Wood Fires and other Heating Solutions

06 761 8757 027 445 7164
gibson.plumbing@xtra.co.nz

The human need to control - and how to spot when you've gone too far

"Sometimes we're gripping the wheel so hard we forget the joy of the drive."

Humans are complex creatures. Perhaps one of our most stubborn traits is our need to control. We like to think we're at the helm of the ship, steering life with the precision of a Taranaki dairy farmer backing a ute and trailer into a tight cowshed. Sometimes we are – but sometimes, we're gripping the wheel so hard we forget the joy of the drive.

Why is it some people are so hooked on control?

Elkay Roofing LIMITED



Liam Kupe

Ph: 0272106939

Email: elkayroofingltd@gmail.com

197 Parihaka Road, Rd35, Pungarehu

SEYMOUR WINDOWS & DOORS



FOR ALL YOUR ALUMINIUM JOINERY NEEDS - NEW BUILDS, RENOVATIONS, INSERT JOINERY, RETROFIT DOUBLE GLAZING, RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL

VANTAGE

WINDOWS & DOORS

3 Sunley St, Borrell Park, New Plymouth

06 753 6910 | info@swd.nz | www.swd.nz





- Quarry Products
- Crushed Metal
- Race Fines

- Rocks
- Drainage Chip
- Bedding Sand

1017 Wiremu Road, Opunake

OPEN 7AM TO 5PM

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Phone Gareth: 027 476 3709 or Grant: 027 278 6912

www.smartaggregate.co.nz | smartagg@outlook.com



Richard Hall.

What happens when we, or they, take it too far, and how can we develop the self-awareness to ease up before life gives us a metaphorical flat tyre.

Why we love control so much

At its root, control is about safety. Our brains have evolved to scan for threats, and plan ahead. If your great-great-granddad didn't keep a sharp eye on the weather rolling over the mountain, he might have lost the kūmara crop – and no one wants to go hungry. In modern life, the risks are different, but that ancient wiring remains the same.

Control gives us:

- Predictability – Knowing the plan helps calm our nervous system.
- Competence – We feel capable and effective when we can direct outcomes.
- Comfort – Having the remote firmly in hand (and not letting anyone change the channel) just feels right.

But the need for control can quietly over-inflate our 'tyre' and line us up for a puncture. One moment you're setting a healthy

routine, the next you're barking at your partner again because they've hung the towel up in the bathroom 'the wrong way.'

When control crosses the line

There's a difference between being organised and being a control freak. One makes life smoother; the other can make that person unbearable to be around.

Signs you might be taking it too far include:

1. Micromanaging – Telling someone how to butter their Vogels because "there's a system."
2. Catastrophising – If things don't go to plan, you assume disaster. A late courier becomes "the whole business is ruined."
3. Rigidity – Plans changing makes you as uncomfortable as sitting in wet togs on a windy winter's day at Opunakē Beach.
4. Strained relationships – Friends, colleagues, or family quietly start falling away or doing things without you, not out of malice, but because it's easier than facing your constant 'corrections' or your 'it's my way or the highway' attitude.

Taken to extremes, the need to control can fuel anxiety, perfectionism, and even burnout. Like over-fertilising the lawn, what starts as good care can end up choking growth.

Why we struggle to let go

Part of the issue is that we confuse control with security. "If I hold everything tightly, nothing bad can happen." The irony is, the more tightly we grip, the less flexible we become. Life throws curveballs, such as traffic jams, unexpected bills, teenagers with strong opinions, and control can't block them all.

In Taranaki terms, it's like trying to stop the mountain from getting a fresh coating of snow. You can shake

your fist at it all you like, but nature will do whatever it wants.

Cultivating self-awareness So, how do we notice when our need for control has tipped from helpful to harmful? It starts with self-awareness – pausing long enough to notice our own patterns.

Here are some practical ways:

1. Check your body signals – Tight shoulders, shallow breathing, jaw clenched like you're biting through toffee – all are red flags.
 2. Listen to feedback – If you're hearing phrases like "just relax" or "let someone else choose," that's the social equivalent of a flashing engine light.
 3. Test your flexibility – Let someone else drive, even if they don't 'indicate' like you would. Notice how it feels – uncomfortable maybe, but totally survivable.
 4. Ask, "What's really at stake?" – Sometimes control is less about the situation and more about the feeling underneath.
- Practical tips for loosening control
- Letting go doesn't mean giving up responsibility – it's about balance. Think of it as learning when to paddle hard and when to let the current carry you.
- Prioritise – Not every hill is worth dying on.
 - Practice trust – Delegate small tasks and let others surprise you.
 - Reframe uncertainty – Instead of "I can't handle it if things change," try "I'll adapt when they do."
 - Build tolerance for mess – Life is messy, like a pair of gumboots after a muddy paddock.

A Kiwi perspective on control

Here in Taranaki, we know we can't tame everything. The mountain hides in clouds one minute and

beams at us the next. The surf looks calm, until a rogue wave knocks you over in the shallows. Farmers know that no matter how well they plan, the weather still calls the shots.

Maybe that's the lesson: control what you can – your effort, your choices, your attitude, and make peace with the rest. Trying to control everything is like trying to stop the wind from knocking over your deck chair.

And if you recognise yourself as a 'controller' then 'role reverse' and think: could I put up with somebody who is constantly calling the shots like I am? Reflect on what it must be like for your friends and family ('challenging' might be the word you are looking for).

Conclusion

The human need to control is natural – it keeps us safe and organised. But when we clutch at it too tightly, it can strangle joy, relationships, and even our health. Self-awareness is the tool that helps us spot when control has turned from helpful habit to heavy burden.

So next time you feel yourself gripping the wheel too hard, remember: life's a bit like Taranaki weather. You can plan the picnic, but you can't stop the rain. Sometimes the wisest move is to pack a raincoat, laugh when the sandwiches get soggy, and trust that tomorrow the sun and our maunga will show their faces again.

"There's a difference between being organised and being a control freak" – so be the former not the latter, share the control, and ensure all are getting their own control needs met – and see what a positive life change that makes.

Richard Hall
Mind Support
Opunake

HAWERA GLASS AND PANEL LTD

FOR ALL YOUR AUTOMOTIVE GLASS & PANEL BEATING REQUIREMENTS

Windscreen Replacements | Chip Repairs | Tinting Vehicles

Panel Beating Insurance & Private | Rust Repairs | Radiator Repairs

23 Princes Street

Ph 06 278 5628

info@haweraglasspanel.co.nz

www.haweraglasspanel.co.nz



Smith & Smith

SINCE 1875

 **AUTHORISED DEALER**

Legacy of Patea Works continues to resonate

Russ Standing says his latest book weighing in at 424 pages takes three days to read.

On September 13 The Works: A History of the Patea Freezing Works was launched at a function at the Hunter Shaw building in Patea.

The freezing works had been a big part of Patea from its origins in 1877 right through to its closure in September 1982 and beyond. “Thousands of people worked for the works, but we’ll never know how many thousands,” said Russ. “It would be getting to tens of thousands or very close.”

The audience at the book launch were asked how many had worked at the Patea Freezing Works. Seven hands went up. One of these was Chris Schimanski who now lives in Christchurch and was there for the book launch. His father Paul had been at the works and Chris had done a season here, but after that “a better job came up at the Kakaramea Dairy Factory.”

“I spent a lot of time here from 1962 to 1977. I was the paper boy and got to know the people here. I heard about this through my brother-in-law in Palmerston North who has friends in Hawera.



Vicki How with her copy of The Works and the book’s author Russ Standing.

I stopped for a coffee in Palmerston North and he said there’s this fella selling books about the freezing works so I said I’ve got to get a bit of that.”

Also back for the launch was Vicki How who worked in the industrial office when the works closed, and was then offered a transfer to head office in Wellington. She now lives in New Plymouth.

“I grew up in and around Kakaramea where Dad had a trucking business,” she says. “I have lots of fond memories of the works and Patea.”

Jim Baker of the Patea Historical Society which is publishing the book says they had been fielding lots of inquiries.

“We have a lot of people saying they would like to have the book because their father worked here.”

He had recently fielded an inquiry from Australia.

Well known in Hawera as a thespian, Russ has also written several histories of groups and organisations as varied as the Farmers Mutual Group, Allied Farmers, Ohangai School and the Manaia Fire Brigade.

He recalls being asked why he had never written a history of the Patea Freezing Works.

“The simple answer is that I knew nothing about the Patea Freezing Works, but I knew it still resonated in Patea’s history,” he said. “After making a few inquiries I was intrigued that no one had researched the history of the works, so I decided I’d pick up the gauntlet and give it a go.”

He said he was fortunate in knowing Livingston Baker who had been one of the leading lights behind setting

up the Patea Museum in 1974 and his son Jim. Both of them had supported the project. He recalls emptying cardboard boxes of material which they had given him, but finding nothing in them about the works except for a single minute book from the 1940s. He said he assumed previous records must have been destroyed by fires or taken when the last owners, the Vestey Group packed up shop.

The book took 15 years to research and write. In 2023, having completed two commissioned histories, Russ said he “made one last effort to finish.”

Patea Historical Society president Jacq Dwyer spoke about the Patea Works and its influence on the history of the town. The works had always been based at the same site by the Patea River. In the early days directors were not paid and often mortgaged their own businesses so that the works could keep going. The Vestey Group took over in the 1930s. Jacq said without them the works would have closed much earlier. They brought in the chain gang and doubled the carrying capacity.

Industrial unrest in the 1970s and 1980s prompted Vestey to close the works in 1982. Sue O’Dowd who worked as a journalist at the time spoke about the closure, which she said had come as an unexpected shock to the town despite earlier warnings that this could happen.

Russ spoke about the “influence of this colossal Vestey organisation.”

“Poor old Patea had to deal with something which was really outside their range,” he said.

Have your say on speed limit change for SH3 Waiwhakaiho, New Plymouth

NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (NZTA) is seeking public feedback on a proposal to lower the speed limit on a busy stretch of State Highway 3 (SH3) in Waiwhakaiho, New Plymouth.

The proposal would reduce the current 80km/h speed limit on the 0.9km stretch of State Highway 3 (Devon Road) from north of Vickers Road to east of the Egmont Road intersection.

This change would extend the existing 60km/h zone further north of New Plymouth.

NZTA Director of Regional Relationships Linda Stewart says there have been several crashes at the SH3-Egmont Road intersection, prompting strong community concern.

“The proposed lower speed limit aims to make it safer and easier for drivers to turn at Egmont Road by reducing traffic speeds and improving reaction times.

“While longer-term infrastructure upgrades are being considered for the intersection, these depend on national priorities and funding. In the meantime, a lower speed limit is a practical step to improve safety now and, in the future,” she says.

Community feedback is a vital part of the decision-making process. People can find out more and share their views on the NZTA website <https://www.nzta.govt.nz/sh3-waiwhakaiho-speed-limit-review>

Consultation closes at 5pm

on Friday 10 October 2025.

All feedback will be considered alongside safety, technical and cost-benefit information before any recommendation is made on whether to change the speed limit.



Houghton's

Plumbing, Heating & Gas Ltd
Master Plumbers, Gasfitters & Drainlayers
Servicing Central & South Taranaki



☐ Bathrooms ☐ Kitchens ☐ Laundries ☐ Wood Fires
☐ Gas Hot Water & Heating, Domestic, Commercial & Industrial
☐ CCTV Drain Inspection, Hydrovac Septic Suctioning & Drain Clearing

Contact us today! **PH: 06 278 8883** info@houghtonsplumbing.co.nz

www.houghtonsplumbing.co.nz



JSL

Juffermans Surveyors Ltd



Allen Juffermans
Surveyor
Juffermans Surveyors Ltd

Prospero Place
STRATFORD
06 765 4122

South Taranaki offices are at:

Te W'anake The Foundry,
High Street, **HAWERA**
06 278 4135

32 Ridgeway Street, WHANGANUI
06 345 0333

www.jsl.nz | info@jsl.nz

COASTAL CURIOSITIES

Carlton ware lobster cabbage leaf salad bowl.

Carlton Ware was a pottery manufacturer based in Stoke-on-Trent. The company is known for its tableware, often in the form of highly decorated leaves or fruit, and the ceramic toucans it made as promotional items for Guinness. It produced hand-painted domestic pottery in high art deco styles during the 1920s and 1930s.

The company was established in 1890 by James Frederick Wiltshaw, William Herbert Robinson and James Alcock Robinson trading under the name of Wiltshaw and Robinson. The trademark “Carlton Ware” was introduced in 1894, and the company’s factory was renamed the Carlton Works.

Carlton Ware concentrated on the decorative giftware



designs included stylised dragons, birds, and a series of Oriental-inspired patterns of which New Mikado and Chinoiserie were the most popular. Mottled, mostly pale blue lustre-ware was also sold under the separate “Armand” brand.

The famous script “Carlton Ware” trademark was introduced in 1928. At the more mundane end of the market, Carlton Ware introduced the first “Oven to Table” ware in 1929.

During the late 1930s Carlton Ware introduced a new series of tableware, with boldly embossed floral and foliage patterns such as foxglove and anemone. This series continued in unbroken production into the 1960s, although later designs were progressively simplified to reduce the high cost of hand-painting.

BUILDER

- Hay Barns • Garages • Sheds
- Roofs • Gutters • Bathrooms
- All building maintenance

Local builder
Dion
Ph 021 027 06657

Carlton tableware as seen at Cecilia’s on Tasman.

end of the domestic pottery market throughout most of its career. Its earliest works included typical decal and hand-painted table-ware in a range of mostly floral patterns as well as items inspired by Wedgwood and other respected potters.

During the early 1900s they became a supplier of “crested ware” for the tourist market.

During the 1920s the company introduced new methods of production where the decal and hand-painting work was applied

to high-glaze substrates. Amongst the first of these were a series of designs inspired by the artwork discovered in Tutankhamen’s tomb, which can be fairly said to represent the beginning of the art deco pottery movement. Other popular

The availability of new techniques using automated high temperature kilns allowed improved high-lustre table ware in the “Royale” brand to be introduced in 1949, and this continued to be produced into the early 1970s.

People overestimating power of supplements

When a supplement is marketed as supporting ‘brain function’ or ‘heart health’, consumers are likely to mistake this for meaning they can prevent specific diseases, according to international research. Supplements often use generic claims like these because, in legal terms, they don’t imply their

supplements prevent or treat a disease. To test how these claims are interpreted, US researchers conducted two online surveys asking people to assess the benefits of supplements. In one survey, half were shown a fish oil supplement without any health claims while the other half were told it “supports heart health.”

Without health claims, 53.9% and 50.7% of those surveyed said it prevented heart attacks and heart failure, respectively. With the health claim, 62.5% and 59% believed it prevented heart attacks and heart failure, respectively. The researchers saw similar

results for a survey about a made-up vitamin and say this shows these types of health statements may not be doing enough to avoid customers misunderstanding what they’re buying and why.

JAMA Network Open

Antiques collectables retro etc
"Soak up the memories of goods that will give you a warm fuzzy feeling of the past as you step inside."
NOSTALGIA

CECILIAS ON TASMAN
89 Tasman Street Opunake.
OPEN WEDNESDAY TO SUNDAY AND ALL PUBLIC HOLIDAYS :
10 AM – 3.30PM | PH 027 2468 604

QUALITY, DURABLE SHEDS & SHED HOMES AVAILABLE NOW

With over 50+ years building sheds, we can design a shed to match your needs, and stand up to Taranaki’s harsh conditions. From haysheds to implement sheds, workshops to storage, Lifestyle and American barns we can do it all!

STRATFORD

For shed homes pop in store and see Amy or contact via phone or email

Pole Sheds - 06 765 7800
enquiries@itmstratford.co.nz
www.itmstratford.co.nz

2 bay shed with one bedroom dwelling

Prices from \$280K*

1 bathroom 1 bedroom pole shed

2 bay shed with two bedroom dwelling

Prices from \$374K*

1 bathroom 2 bedroom pole shed

3 Bay shed with two story dwelling

Prices from \$600K*

1 bathroom 3 bedroom pole shed

*Prices Exclude: Concrete floor (shed), Geotech Reports, Council Fees, Service Connections outside Building

RENTAL VEHICLES

- CHARTER BUSES
- VANS
- TOUR BUSES

ALUMINIUM SCAFFOLDING FOR HIRE

\$35 per day, \$50 weekend.
More than 6 days \$30 per day.

WATERBLASTER FOR HIRE

Petrol 3000 psi 15L/minC
Cost: Half day \$90, Full day \$120, Weekend \$130. Friday after 3pm return Monday 9am.
Bond for waterblaster and scaffolding \$50.

For more information contact Tracey or Linda at

PICKERING MOTORS

11 TENNYSON ST OPUNAKE Ph 06 761 8363
0800 22 11 20 Email: pickering.motorsltd@gmail.com

Purveyor of All Sorts marks one year

A carnival atmosphere soon became apparent on Friday evening (September 19) as Licorice-Purveyors of All Sorts celebrated one year being open in Opunake.

The shop which in its earlier incarnations had been a bakery, fruiterer, dance studio and video store quickly filled up. It was a chance to look at the shop's varied merchandise while partaking of the drinks, hors d'oeuvres and nibbles being taken around the shop by family and friends of the owners which included somebody previously well known in town as the local police officer.

"I was really terrified no one was going to turn up," business owner Bernadette Forsdyke said to good natured laughter. "We wouldn't be here today if we didn't have you guys coming



Bernadette (centre) with sister Clare, brother-in-law Arthur, daughter Sophie, Murray, sister Teresa and son Adam.



Wendy Smith and Heather Jensen admire the merchandise.

in."

Bernadette acknowledged her family as well as "my Girl Wednesday Chantal who has become one of my dearest dearest friends."

The flow of punters appeared to be enjoying the evening.

"Something like this doesn't happen often in Opunake," said Kay

Fleming.

Bernadette opened Licorice after she and husband Murray shifted to Opunake from the Kapiti Coast. After buying a holiday home here they were tired of making the trip every couple of weeks so decided to make the shift permanent and settle in Opunake.

The name Licorice seemed

to fit well with a shop selling "all sorts" of merchandise so that's the name that stuck.

They do sell licorice but they also sell lines that haven't previously been available in Opunake.

The owner of one of the new products available at Licorice was the guest speaker that night.

Ness Dickie spoke about her That's It range based on manuka and kanaka being grown on the Waverley farm where she lives with husband Ben and their three children. They have installed their own distillery and have their products tested before going on the market. There are nine products so far. The hot rub which they launched four months ago has already become one of their top sellers. She is looking forward to the launch of their 100 percent natural insect repellent and there is also a sunscreen which is currently being tested. They are due to

feature on Country Calendar on October 5.

She said it's community that makes the difference for the success of small business.

"Here's to Bernadette for making this annual milestone and to everyone else for supporting her," she said.

Murray Forsdyke who is also chair of the Opunake Business Association said he looked forward to similar

events for other businesses in Opunake.

"We should do this for any

business that's celebrating something big," he said.



Chrissy Bercich, Kay Fleming and Tania Jones.



Ness Dickie (right) talks to Janice Burnnand about her That's It line of products.

Flooring Design

flooringdesign.co.nz

Free

MEASURE & QUOTE

06 758 0981 | 218 St Aubyn St, New Plymouth

POWER CUTS – CAN YOU AFFORD THE RISK?

INDUSTRIAL GENERATOR

- Direct PTO driven (no gear boxes or belts)
- Heavy duty construction (including drive shaft)
- Dials facing cab (one person operator)
- Designed and assembled locally for rugged conditions!
- Three sizes to suit all sheds: 37.5KVA, 62.5KVA and 93.75KVA
- Lower RPM models available

Ask about our range of SILENT DIESEL GENERATORS

Sized for:

- Cow sheds
- Pump sheds
- House standby

TRAILER OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Specialists in Dairy Automation Solutions

0800 10 7006

www.corkillsystems.co.nz



Find us at 56 Whitcombe Road, Opunake
Session Times - Monday to Friday 9-3pm during the school term
Ph: 06 761 7440 | Email: opunakekindy@xtra.co.nz | Like us on Facebook to find out more and keep up-to-date on our latest news.

COMMUNITY CONNECTION – LEARNING LOCALLY

Community connection or local learning refers to the ways that early childhood settings intentionally link children, whānau (family), teachers (kaiako), and the wider community in the learning process. A key principle in Te Whāriki (the NZ early childhood curriculum) is Whānau Tangata (Family & Community) emphasises learning as relational, involving whānau, respecting culture and identity, and making sure children feel a sense of belonging. Learning is not just inside the centre; it involves people, places, traditions, culture, and the local environment. The setting acknowledges and draws on the children’s home lives, cultural identity, geography, local history, and community resources. These promote:

- Sense of belonging & identity: When children see their local culture, stories, language, and people reflected in their learning, they tend to feel more secure, valued, and proud.
- Relevance and motivation: Learning that connects to what children already know, to things in their neighbourhood or lives, tends to be more engaging.
- Stronger relationships: With whānau, community people (e.g. local iwi/hapū, heritage sites, businesses), other ECE and school settings. These relationships enrich learning and help children transition more smoothly.
- Holistic learning: Local learning often brings together multiple domains — language, science, social studies, arts — in authentic contexts. It supports children’s socio-cultural, emotional, environmental learning.
- Empowering families: When families are partners (not just recipients), their knowledge, aspirations and cultures shape what happens in the ECE setting. This is beneficial for children, families, and kaiako.



Above Left and centre: School visits help whānau and tamariki become familiar with new learning environment, form relationships with the school and support transition from Kindy to school.
Above right: Library visits provide interactive learning opportunities, help tamariki develop early literacy.

LIVING LANDSCAPE

"Living Landscapes" refers to the EnviroSchools initiative that focuses on connecting young children with their natural environment and fostering sustainability through hands-on learning and exploration. This approach encourages kaiako and tamariki to become kaitiaki (guardians) by engaging with local ecosystems, learning about Māori concepts of Papatūānuku (Earth Mother), and developing a deep appreciation for nature's role in providing food, water, and life. At Kindy, our living landscape offers magical world for tamariki to explore, play and imagine, providing a wealth of valuable learning experiences.

Living landscape offers numerous advantages:

Connecting with Nature - It's about providing rich, natural experiences for young children to interact with the natural world on a regular basis.

Environmental Education - It introduces children to the interconnectedness of living things and the importance of caring for the environment.



Above left: **Promoting Sustainability** - The initiative promotes sustainable practices, such as growing food and managing resources responsibly.
Above right: **Fostering Kaitiaki (Guardianship)** - Children learn to become kaitiaki, or guardians, of the environment, understanding their role in nurturing and protecting living creatures and ecosystems.
Left: **Hands-on Learning** - Through activities like exploring the soil, planting gardens, and building habitats for creatures, children learn by doing and through multi-sensory experiences.

BILINGUAL IS BEAUTIFUL, MULTILINGUAL IS MAGNIFICENT

Bilingual Is Beautiful
Multilingual Is Magnificent

Kia ora

Social-Emotional Development

Maintain strong ties with family, culture & community
Developing identity
Make new friends
Create strong relationships
Better self control

Cognitive Development

Understand math concepts
Develop strong thinking skills
Using logic
Focusing, remembering and making decisions
Thinking and learning other languages

Long-term Success

More job opportunities
Participate in global community
Obtain information from more places
Learn more about others

नमस्ते
Namaste
Γειά σου
Geia sou
Ciao

안녕
Anyeong
வணக்கம்
Vanakkam

كلمة
Kumusta
Talofa lava
你好
Ni hao

سalam
السلام

Opunake Primary School's open days are a great success



Deputy Principal Kelly Ogle (Whaea Kelly) is pictured with Milton Read beside some intricate jewellery, coasters and other creative items.

Opunake Primary School have had many open days over the years and the theme of the one held this month was Market Day. One of our reporters paid the school a visit on Wednesday September 17 and was certainly impressed. While looking at the many colourful and thought-provoking displays, the accompanying music added to the positive ambience. Much of the music was well known waiatas. This time much of the students work was displayed in the corridor, although


some was in the smaller rooms adjacent to the main classrooms and some of the classrooms. Principal Anna Stockman (Whau Anna) was heartened by the output of quality work. She was resplendent in an eye-catching outfit, which featured many dogs, with welcoming expressions. Jackie, a live dog sat beside her. “The kids have done an amazing job and are very excited,” she enthused. She shared that the teachers had spent much of their

against an appealing pink brickwork background. There were a number of screens with interesting information to digest. For those with money to spend there were quite a few things on offer, such as bookmarks, music shakers, coasters and even earrings. For \$5 you could buy a 3D magnet.

Not everything had a price tag – there were free pats of the dog Jackie, for a specified time. The Toy Store had a variety of appealing options such as puzzles, spinning tops, playdough and origami. Here and there were inspirational slogans such as The journey of a thousand



Tukutuku panels on display.



CENTRAL ENGINEERING
TARANAKI

- Design /Consultation
- Quotation / Estimation
- Fabrication / Installation
- Mechanical Engineering

- Diesel Mechanical Repairs
- General Engineering
- Taranaki wide

Shaun Cadman
14 Castle Street, Eltham | 027 645 0162
centraleng2018@gmail.com



Principal Whaea Anna and Leonie, with Jackie the dog. Wonderful art is in the background.

last weekend at the school - ensuring everything was displayed to a high standard. Milton Read (13) was one who appreciated the effort of the teachers. “The teachers have put in lots of hard work – it all looks amazing,” he commented. As is always the case on these occasions there was almost too much to take in; however here are a few comments. Specially striking was the Toi/Art Gallery & Music Studio entrance, the legend of which was attractively and colourfully outlined

miles begins with a single step. For the adventurous there was Prisoncraft where you can never escape. For \$2 you could try to prove them wrong. The tukutuku designs were remarkable. Well done to the students including Zoe, Eva, Geeva, James, Deakin, Sally, Lorelei, Donnacha, Sienna, William Narz and Taavi – and others. Congratulations to the students, staff and everyone who contributed to such an excellent event.



Manou, Kelly, and Leonie pictured beside the inviting Toi/Art Gallery & Music studio.



SAVVY GAS
PLUMBING AND DRAINAGE

Switch to a Heat Pump hot water cylinder and save up to 75% on your electricity bill

Contact us for your free quote.

0-1% Finance options available through ANZ, Westpac and BNZ*

**Rinnai**

*Eligibility and conditions apply



NEW STYLE HOMES
BY NICK CHILDS

READY TO BUILD?

Welcome to New Style Homes by Nick Childs building - one of the most respected home and commercial builders in Taranaki.

As a local family business, we've earned a solid reputation in the building industry as an affordable, innovative builder of award-winning quality homes, commercial and farm buildings.

Each building by New Style Homes showcases the highest standard of quality and workmanship.





027 349 4954 office@newstylehomes.co.nz www.newstylehomes.net



Talking Taranaki

September 2025

It's time to vote for the TRC decision makers

Voting papers have been delivered so it's time for residents to make a call on who they want to make the big decisions in Taranaki.

There are 19 candidates standing for Taranaki Regional Council in four constituencies. The Māori Constituency candidate has been reelected unopposed.

Voters have until 12 noon on 11 October to make their choice and pick who will shape the region for the next three years.

The Council's mission is to protect the environment and its work programmes include freshwater management, flood protection, biodiversity and biosecurity, caring for three regional gardens and providing public transport.

Chief Executive Steve Ruru says: "There are some major decisions to be made over the next three years around the Council table so it's vital we get as many people taking part in the elections as possible and residents know who they are voting for."

"By having your say and casting your vote, you'll be picking the people representing you and making the calls about where your rates money should be spent and what our priorities for taking the region forward should be."

"We've seen voter turnout falling over many elections and we would be delighted to see that trend reverse as we want all voters to engage with the democratic process and make their voice heard."

Find out more

For candidate bios and Q&As, head to taranakirc.nz/candidates

How and where to vote

Voting documents can be returned by post or hand delivered at the following locations between 9 September and 10 October during normal business hours, and on Saturday 11 October between 9am to noon:

New Plymouth District Council

- New Plymouth District Council, Civic Centre, 84 Liardet Street, New Plymouth
- Bell Block Library and Service Centre, 188 Parklands Avenue Shopping Centre, Bell Block
- Inglewood Library and Service Centre, 46 Rata Street, Inglewood
- Waitara Library and Service Centre, 15a Queen Street, Waitara
- Puke Ariki Library, 1 Ariki Street, New Plymouth
- Ōākura Library, 16 Donnelly Street, Ōākura
- Urenui Library, Takiroa Street, Urenui (open Tuesday 9am – 2pm and Friday 12pm – 4pm).

South Taranaki District Council

- Council's Administration Building, 105-111 Albion Street, Hāwera
- Te Ramanui o Ruaputahanga, 121 High Street, Hāwera
- Eltham LibraryPlus, 102 King Edward St, Eltham
- Kaponga LibraryPlus, 42 Victoria St, Kaponga
- Manaia LibraryPlus, 22 South Road, Manaia
- Ōpunakē LibraryPlus, 43 Tasman St, Ōpunakē o Pātea LibraryPlus, 128 Egmont Street, Pātea
- Waverley LibraryPlus, 58 Weraroa Road, Waverley

Stratford District Council

- Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford
- Stratford District Library and Visitor Information Centre, Prospero Place, Stratford
- Wai o Rua - Stratford Aquatic Centre, 53 Portia Street, Stratford.

2025 Candidates

● North Taranaki: 2 seats
● New Plymouth: 5 seats

● Stratford: 1 seat
● South Taranaki: 2 seats



Tama Blackburn



Mike Davey



Leedom Gibbs



Lee Kennedy



Christopher Wilkes



Tom Cloke



Craig Foltz



Susan Hughes



Louise James



Rusty Kane



John Maxwell



Nicola Ngarewa



Craig Williamson



Jonathan Young



Brendan Attrill



Alan Jamieson



Donna Cram



Urs Signer



Neil Walker



Bonita Bigham

Taranaki Māori Constituency
Elected Unopposed



Māori Constituency referendum

Under the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Act 2024 we are required to hold a binding referendum alongside this year's election.

The Taranaki Māori constituency, for electors on the Māori roll, was brought in in 2022 after a

public consultation and will be in place for the 2025 election.

Electors have a 'yes' and 'no' box on their voting papers to decide whether to keep or not to keep the Taranaki Māori constituency for the 2028 local elections and future elections.

Special votes

For those not yet enrolled and who did not receive voting documents in the post, they can cast a special vote at the New Plymouth, Stratford or South Taranaki district council offices or email Election Services

specialvotes@electionservices.co.nz or phone **0800 922 822** for a special vote to be posted out.



Centuria
TARANAKI
Garden
FESTIVAL

Visit Pukeiti, Hollard Gardens and Tūpare
31 October to 9 November
 gardenfestnz.co.nz

☎ 0800 736 222
✉ info@trc.govt.nz
🌐 www.trc.govt.nz
📍 TaranakiRegionalCouncil



Working with people | caring for Taranaki

LOCAL ELECTIONS 2025 - MEET THE CANDIDATES

Monica Wilson



Standing for Taranaki Coastal Community Board.

When you raise children in a community, you see how important it is to make decisions that support its future. This personal connection drives my passion for choices that are both strategic and sustainable.

In our family, we value honesty, respect, kindness, responsibility, and service to others. These are the same values I bring to the community board.

I am standing for re-

election on the Taranaki Coastal Community Board after a rewarding first term, where I've contributed to local projects, supported community-led initiatives, and worked alongside others who care deeply about our rohe. Being active has allowed me to listen to what people genuinely want and need - such as advocating for the pump track to be placed in a safe, accessible location and supporting the installation of accessible beach showers.

I believe in leading by example and have spent years volunteering - from local events and school activities to community projects. I understand the importance of listening, collaborating, and putting community first.

With your support, I will keep working hard to advocate for a community that is built to support our future.

Mahia te mahi, hei painga mō te iwi.

Work for the betterment of the people.

Monica Willson

Steve Francis



Standing for NPDC District-wide ward

Vote Steve Francis #1 for NPDC, to benefit from a unique, necessary set of skills:

- Financial stewardship
- Community Heart
- Future Focussed

Council needs proven financial skills to guide NPDC through the current testing times. I have these skills. I am a former Finance Director of a 400+ employee company, ex-Board Audit Chairperson of

an international NGO and previous General Manager of Sustainable Taranaki, expanding considerably its activities over several years.

I have a big community heart. I am involved in Marfell Community Garden, a regular predator trapper in the Kaitake Ranges and co-founder of Community Energy Taranaki.

Any decision I make is future focussed, considering what is best for our environment, economy and infrastructure, from the point of view of current residents but also our youth and mokopuna. I will work collaboratively for positive, value-for-money, solutions to achieve this.

I am an NPDC Sustainability Working Party member, so familiar with council processes and people.

I am a proud Taranaki parent, with a multi-cultural whānau. I combine international experience with deep local roots.

So if you think NPDC needs my unique, necessary set of skills -

Vote Steve Francis #1 for NPDC.
www.steve4newplymouth.nz

Don't forget to vote!
Polls close 12 midday
Saturday October 11.

Vote ✓

Ngawai

HERNANDEZ-WALDEN

TE HĀWERA GENERAL WARD

Authorised by Ngawai Hernandez-Walden, ntaawalden@gmail.com

Andy Whitehead

for

TARANAKI COASTAL COMMUNITY BOARD

Proven success and energy to make a difference. Connecting people together to grow a stronger community

Make sure your vote is counted.

Authorised by Andy Whitehead, 93 Lower Kina Road, Opunake

Diversity of opinions aired by candidates

There was a local body candidates meeting at the New Plymouth District Council on Monday September 15. The meeting started at 5pm, and continued until 7pm, concluding with a supper and mingle and meet. The meeting was organised by Enabling Good Lives Taranaki.

The organisation adheres to several principles including beginning early, mana enhancing, person centred, easy to use, relationship building, maintenance first, self determination and ordinary life outcomes.

After a welcome there was a karakia conducted by Dinnie Moeahu, one of the candidates.

The New Plymouth District Council candidates were allowed two minutes to speak and the Mayoral candidates three minutes. There was a good muster of candidates, although also a few apologies. In all, 27 candidates had their say.

Nine candidates are standing for mayor, which includes Sam Bennett, Max Brough, David Bublitz (who has been endorsed by outgoing mayor Neil Holdom), Graham Chard, Sarah Lucas, Greg Mackay, Peter Marra, Bill Simpson and John Woodward.

A total of 17 candidates seek one of the five positions as a NPDC New Plymouth District wide councillor.

For the NPDC Kaitake-Ngamotu General Ward 19

candidates seek one of six positions as councillor.

With such a huge number of candidates it is only possible to mentions a brief selection of views – apologies for that.

Amanda Clinton-Gohdes suggests her wide experience should aid her to continue to be an effective councillor and “make progress and make progress fast.” She spoke well of mayoral candidate Sam Bennett. “If re-elected (and even if not) I will continue to argue that inclusive services and public spaces are not a ‘nice to have’ they are essential.”

EJ Barrett spoke harshly of politicians, “I know politicians mess it up and

Continued page 18.

There are only a few days left to vote. Have your say.

Vote for an experienced, local, inclusive and trusted leader for our South Taranaki District.

Vote PHIL NIXON for MAYOR

Authorised by Phil Nixon, 136 Rainie Road, RD11, Hawera 4671

NEIL WALKER

RUN WITH WALKER

FOR TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL

Approved by Neil Walker
357 High Street, Hawera 4610

Diversity of opinions aired by candidates

Continued from page 17.

don't engage well with the community." She sought money for the disabled and for library services.

Long standing councillor Gordon Brown pointed to the positive difference made over the years. "I've seen first hand the differences we've made." He concluded, "I'm proud of the work I've done." He also spoke well of Sam Bennett's contribution.

Dinnie Moeahu spoke of his personal experience of special needs, including the situation of a relative confined to a wheelchair. Dinnie is well known for his opposition to seabed mining, as is Amanda Clinton-Gohdes.

First time councillor Bryan Vickery says he is "humbled



Bryan Vickery.

and privileged" to serve. He

admits that times are tough but that he will "walk the talk to do my very best." He is known for his close contact with communities such as, very recently, Okato.

Nikki Truman points out that not all disabilities are visually apparent. "We must consult." She concludes, "True sustainability is that no one is left behind."

Moira Irving George shared that she had lost a child to cot death and that she had suffered, "a major breakdown." She advocates for better care for those in need.

A continuation of Sam Bennett's work was the pledge delivered by Ross Johnson. A compassionate man he advocates the mentoring of young people at risk. "Everyone has an up side," he comments.

The lowering of rates is the gist of Christine Fabish' address. "Rates are so high it's a struggle for people to live," she asserts.

She would also like to see better maintenance of footpaths and kerbs. "I

know of people with knee replacements who struggle to get up pathways."

Teresa Goodin, who is a Buddhist advocates that wholistic thinking must be to the fore when making decisions. "Decisions should be, not just from the head, but also from the heart."

A resounding laugh was heard when Mullet Muzz McDowell said, "I don't wear hats because it would cramp my hairstyle. More seriously, he said, "It would be an honour and privilege to serve as a councillor."

Pete Buis said, "I'm here to listen to the people. We need to get back to basics, good road and footpaths." He concluded, "I'll do my very best for everyone."

The first mayor candidate to speak was Sarah Lucas. She spoke of challenges her sister had which made her determined to do something constructive. "The system is badly designed." She is keen to see the Age and Accessibility Working party upgraded to sub-committee status.

The local RSA president Graham Chard spoke and said his experience would help him if he was elected mayor. He shared that he has some deafness with associated tinnitus, which he has to rise above. "There are disabilities that you cannot see. Imagine what it is like to be one of these people." His message is to ensure all these people be well looked after.

The recipient of the most compliments, from other candidates, was Sam Bennett. Since 2019 he has led the Age and Accessibility Working Party and Chaired Age Concern Taranaki. "We need a mayor who's progressive, an



Dinnie Moeahu.

intergenerational visionary with a proven track of inclusive action."

The considerable Council debt situation is something that troubles Greg MacKay. He wonders if the Perpetual Fund could help the situation. He shared that in 2020 he broke his back and was in a brace for nine months, so understands what it is like to be disabled. "I'm a straight up person. I

believe a mayor should have community consent - they don't own the position."

He advocated restraint, although conceded, "The footpaths need fixing." He concluded, "I don't want to see any more projects and monumental buildings."

Peter Marra wanted to see land stolen from the iwi returned to Maori. He also

Continued page 19.



EJ Barrett.

Aarun Langton

Standing for
Taranaki Coastal Ward
South Taranaki District Council

- Community Focus
- Approachable
- Taranaki Proud



Vote for experience
and a rural voice

Authorised by Aarun Langton, 223 Arawhata Rd, Opunake



DONNA CRAM

REGIONAL COUNCIL

Sustainability

Approachable

Proven Leadership



Authorised By Donna Cram 1505 Auroa Road, Awatuna

Mayoral candidates face off at Grey Power meeting

On Monday morning last week (September 15), the two men vying to be mayor of South Taranaki faced off against each other at a meeting organised by Grey Power South Taranaki.

Phil Nixon has been mayor since 2019 when he defeated Craig Baylis and Clem Coxhead. This time round Coxhead is Nixon's sole challenger, and the meeting organised by Grey Power was the first to feature only the two mayoral candidates.

The candidates spoke and then answered questions from the Hawera audience of about 60 people.

"We're looking at a whole new ball game," said Coxhead. "Our young people won't be interested in the things that we are interested in. It's a whole new situation and it won't be the same as it has been for the last 60-70 years. In the next three weeks every single voter in New Zealand is going to have to choose someone who has a vision



MC Murray Hogg takes questions, with Clem Coxhead and Phil Nixon.

for the future and who is going to have the courage to make decisions."

Nixon spoke of his links to South Taranaki.

"We live in a fantastic place here in South Taranaki. There's a great lot of councillors we work with and real committed staff members. I really enjoy the privilege of being able to lead."

One man asked about the state of the roads in Nolantown.

"I read that Nolantown became part of Hawera in 1924," he said. "The roads were in a shocking state a hundred years ago and they are still in a shocking state."

Coxhead said roads need to be fixed properly, rather than

just taking a "she'll be right" approach.

Nixon said councils' roading performances were often judged by how people perceived the condition of state highways. He said Council satisfaction surveys indicated public perception was improving. He encouraged anyone with concerns to make submissions to the next Long Term Plan.

"You guys in Nolantown should tell us what you want. Be the squeaky wheel."

The candidates were asked about cemetery fees and charges. The Funeral Directors Association of New Zealand have expressed concern about the increased costs and charges associated with cemetery plots. Association figures showed New Plymouth topping the list with \$7207 for a double plot. Coxhead said he would like to see costs reduced by having local people rather than outside companies carry out burial work. Nixon said a burial fee for South Taranaki comes in at just over \$2600. He said it came down to a matter of how much should be subsidised and how much should be user pays.

The user-friendliness or otherwise of local streets for those on mobility scooters drew several questions. Mayor Nixon acknowledged that much of the town's

infrastructure had been built at a time before the needs of mobility scooter users were considered. One questioner said there was no consistency from kerbside to kerbside and she would like to see the gutters cleaned and a grate bridge installed to make it easier to cross the street. Coxhead said he believed a grate would be "a pretty cheap solution."

Nixon encouraged mobility scooter users to contact the Council if they felt there were areas of town that needed attention. Using the antenno app was one way to do this.

"We sort of have a drone. That's all of us who use the antenno app."

Safety for mobility users was another issue with a couple of speakers citing near misses from vehicles pulling out of driveways. Coxhead said this was something he thought the Council road safety department could look at.

Candidates were asked their views on the Maori wards. Coxhead said he saw them as something that divided people. Nixon said having Maori wards had worked well and he supported their retention. Both said they would accept and work with whatever was decided in the referendum.

Diversity of opinions aired by candidates

Continued from page 18.

wanted to see more housing for Maori people and for the disabled. "If elected I would employ a disabled person to ensure all NPDC planning is disabled accessible and be a voice for the disabled at the Council."

John Woodward spoke with a strong voice and pointed out that he had a police background. He intends to "learn and listen." He admits that he the not have all the answers.

Finally, he comments, "We must simply do better – you are the experts and I will listen and rely on consultants."



Sam Bennett



Tim Taylor

For Councillor Eltham/Kaponga Ward



What I stand for:

- Sustainability
- Accountability
- Fiscal responsibility
- Community

What I want to change:

- Health and safety overkill
- Improvements of services

It would be an honour to serve the Eltham/Kaponga Ward as Councillor.

BRYAN ROACH

standing for

Taranaki Coastal Ward

South Taranaki District Council

HAVE YOU VOTED YET?



Authorised by Bryan Roach, 296 Opua Road, Opunake



GARTH WEIR



- Against Maori Wards
- Against long term investment fund being used as a private bank
- All potholes should be filled immediately on reporting
- Newcomers to our towns should be made welcome
- Every town should have drinkable water

027 442 6985

New shuttle for Hato Hone St John

People travelling from Hawera to New Plymouth on the Hato Hone St John Health Shuttle will now make the trip on a new set of wheels. A larger Toyota vehicle which replaces the Volkswagen Caddy which had been used until now was dedicated at a ceremony in Hawera on Friday (September 19). This will not be the end of the road for the faithful Volkswagen Caddy which has clocked up 208,000km. It's on its way to Winton where it will take locals to medical appointments in Invercargill. "Over the last 12 or so months we've noticed an increasing demand for our services," Hato Hone St John community transport manager Leigh Herewini told everybody. Hato Hone St John have 61 services and over a hundred vehicles delivering shuttle services across the country. This compares to just 26 services eight years ago.

The shuttle has a crew of two- one driver and a companion for the clients. "At the end of the day we can't do what we do without our volunteers," said Leigh. The Hawera Shuttle has been operating since 2011. Taranaki Area secretary Max Hutchinson who was there



St John members, friends and supporters with the new Health Shuttle.

from the start spoke about its history and paid tribute to the support they had always had from the South Taranaki community. At the initial Information session 15 people had walked through the door and 11 had signed up. Another three joined up shortly afterwards.

"Over the years we've had 36 volunteers and we've still got 18 people in our team," says Max. Max says clients are typically aged 65 to "ninety plus," are people who aren't able to drive, not happy to drive the distance to New Plymouth or not able

to make the trip to New Plymouth. About 70 per cent of the clients make the trip from Hawera, while others might get on board at Eltham or Stratford. "Whenever they go to their appointment, they know that when they have had their appointment the Health

Shuttle is going to be there." Max says the Shuttle costs about 80 cents per kilometre to run, of which clients pay about 25 cents per kilometre. "Some donations are generous, others are zero. We make no judgments," says Max. A blessing and prayer

was led by Hato Hone St John chaplain Captain Rob Gardiner and the Rev Pat Scaife. A message was read from team leader Roger Bent who wasn't able to be there. South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon paid tribute to the work done by the Health Shuttle. "Where would we be in our community without our volunteers?" he said. "This gives so much comfort in so many ways." He had already had a ride in the new shuttle. "What a lovely vehicle. It enables more people to utilise the service," he said. The ceremony also included awards to two local volunteers. Alan Quinn received his award for 15 years' service to Hato Hone St John, although he had also been with the Wellington Free Ambulance for 19 years before coming to Taranaki. Peter Williams received his five-year badge. Max says many people might be surprised at just how many things Hato Hone St John is involved in. "We're quite a diverse organisation and we keep evolving," he says. "The community is important to us and I like to think we are important to the community."

Unsettled spring weather likely to spark asthma and allergy flare-ups

Spring has sprung, and with it comes the annual surge in sneezing, wheezing, and asthma flare-ups as unsettled weather drives pollen into the air. This year's season is already

proving unsettled, with strong winds and fluctuating temperatures stirring up allergens - and more change is on the way. Asthma and Respiratory Foundation NZ Chief

Executive Letitia Harding says these shifting conditions make spring one of the hardest times of year for people with respiratory conditions. "Pollen loves warm, dry weather, and when the wind picks up, it gets everywhere,

which is why this time of year can be so tough for people with respiratory conditions." "For people with asthma and allergies, that can quickly trigger symptoms." It is important for asthma patients to ensure their

medication is up to date - and is always on hand, Ms Harding says. "Being prepared and taking some simple steps can make all the difference." Earth Sciences NZ principal scientist Chris Brandolino says this spring will be a season of two halves - typical of La Niña weather conditions. "The first part will be a bit like a teenager - lots of mood swings and ups and downs. "We'll see plenty of windy days, and a blend of cooler and warmer-than-usual days, and a fair bit of rain," he says. "But the second part of spring will pivot and bring

more settled weather across the country." La Niña will bring high pressure, which Brandolino calls "happy weather" in the second half of spring - less wind and rain, more sunshine, and warmer temperatures. Up to 80% of asthma is associated with allergies, with one in eight adults and one in eight children in New Zealand affected. Top tips for the spring allergy season

- Avoid going outside when the pollen count is very high (midday is usually peak)
- Keep windows closed - at home and in the car - to avoid pollen coming inside with the breeze
- Dry your clothes indoors because pollen will stick to them if they are outside
- Invest in an air purifier with a HEPA (High-Efficiency Particulate Air) filter
- Keep your medication to hand in case of an emergency
- Do a spring clean using allergy-friendly products
- Take a shower at night to wash the pollen off.

POWER SUPPLY
Rural & Residential

Design, upgrade and repair
overhead and underground
power supplies

- Powerco Approved Contractor
- Network connections
- Powerline maintenance
- Vegetation control around powerlines
- Fault repair
- Specialists in rural power servicing and installation
- High voltage installation
- Street lighting design and installation
- Underground utility detection

0800 877 746
powerworx@obertech.co.nz

**LIVING AWAY FROM
OPUNAKE BUT WANT
TO KEEP UP WITH
WHAT'S GOING ON?**

Subscribe to the Opunake & Coastal
News and we'll post you a paper as
soon as it's out!

06 761 7016

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS**

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

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS**
06 761 7016

Foundation benefits from Melbourne windfall

Lions clubs from throughout Taranaki have banded together to give the Taranaki Health Foundation a helping hand to the tune of \$29,400.

It started back in June 2024 when the Lions International Convention was being held in Melbourne. Among those attending was Denis Hurcomb, Kaponga Lions Club member and the then district governor of Lions District 202D which extends from Uruti in the north to Foxton in the south and inland to Ruapehu. A draw was being made for seven grants of USD\$1000 from the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) for district governors to use in their districts.

“My name came up,” recalls Denis. “They gave out seven of these around the world and I happened to get one.”

He said Joyce Lawrence from the Eltham Lions Club told him that the Taranaki Health Foundation were looking for donations and support for the new hospital wing at Base Hospital in New Plymouth and things moved from there.

Denis had to put a proposal together as to what the money would be used



Lions Club members from around Taranaki were in Stratford to present a cheque to the Taranaki Health Foundation.

for. He said he could easily have just handed the money out, but he decided to do something different.

“I thought let’s grow it,” he said. He approached the Lions clubs in Taranaki and they pitched in as well, so that the USD \$1000 grew to NZD \$36,900.

Denis says that as diabetes care is a cause which Lions Clubs throughout the world have pushed it was decided

to get three or four blood testing machines for diabetes which would come up with instant results rather than having to wait four or more days.

A past district governor Steve Barr was told these machines could be bought at a discounted rate so it was decided to get five of these. These would go to the Palmerston North and Whanganui Hospitals and to

the mobile medical screening services or GLOBs which the Lions use for carrying out health checks at various events around the country.

The rest of the money went to the Taranaki Health Foundation.

On September 12 representatives of the 14 Taranaki Lions clubs were at the Holy Trinity Church in Stratford to present a cheque representing \$29,400 to

Taranaki Health Foundation manager Grant Carter.

Denis told Grant that the savings made on the diabetes machines meant they were able to give an additional \$2900.

Grant thanked the Lions and said the money would be split between the Emergency Department and the Cancer Centre.

“From Day Dot when I started four years ago the

Lions have been amazing,” he said.

He spoke about recent developments at the hospital including the opening of the new renal unit and the mental health rehabilitation department. In November the Taranaki Cancer Centre will open.

“This will be exciting,” said Grant. “This will be bringing radiotherapy to Taranaki for the first time. No longer will the Palmerston North trip be necessary.”

The current Lions district governor Mike Powell said he was “really really proud to be a Lion.”

“Denis did a great job in putting this together,” he said. “The thousand US dollar grant from LCIF allowed us to get to our clubs and ask are you prepared to help? In 202D we have 34 clubs and every club was happy to get involved.”

Denis said he was “rapt” at how everything had come together and thanked everyone who had been involved.

“This project has exceeded my expectations by miles. Please be proud of what has been achieved, because I am incredibly proud of all 975 members in our district.”



MOUNTAIN MOTORS

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

COME CHECK OUT OUR NEW PRICE STRUCTURE,
WITH FAIR PRICES, FRIENDLY SERVICE AND A RELIABLE TEAM

We can carry out Servicing of any vehicles, Warrant of Fitness, Trailer Repairs, Air Conditioning, Steering Suspension Specialists, Suspension Upgrades, Tyres, Parts & More



Scan the QR code to find us on Facebook or search Mountain Motors 2025

We have a Spring Special happening till the end of October.

06)7656059

MOUNTAINMOTORS2025@XTRA.CO.NZ 30 MIRANDA STREET, STRATFORD

Nathan Dodunski

P. 027 902 8684

E. mmsolutions25@outlook.com



• MOTORBIKE REPAIRS & SERVICES

• WOF REPAIRS • DIAGNOSTIC

• ALL VEHICLE SERVICES

CALL OUR FRIENDLY SALES TEAM AT THE



OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS

23 Napier St, Opunake

06 761 7016

See how our high readership rate
can work for you



Simple But
Significant

a
simple
cremation
& burials

Helping Taranaki families with a range of simple, professional funeral services. With affordable caskets, urns & jewellery.


 0800 236 236 233 Carrington St
www.asimplecremation.co.nz New Plymouth



Taranaki-wide sales, hire and service.
Free delivery, competitive prices.

MOBILITY SCOOTERS
and all living aids - we'll help you
with whatever you need.

Kevin & Marilyn Bromell
154 PRINCES ST - HAWERA
Ph: 06 278 8072 - Freephone 0800 765 763
www.mobilityandmore.co.nz



Proud Print Provider for Taranaki
Get 20% off your next print job if you mention this ad!

116 Molesworth St, New Plymouth
06 757 3210 office@razzprint.co.nz
www.razzprint.co.nz

YOUR
Local
PRINTERS
DESIGNERS



Wonder Woman near Okato.

TRC adopts Annual Report

The completion of the Stadium Taranaki project, new in-depth reports on environmental issues and the flagship riparian scheme hitting 8.25 million plants were among the key achievements for Taranaki Regional Council in the last financial year.

The 2024/25 Annual Report which was adopted at an Ordinary Council meeting, also details how the Council is responding to challenges and evolving legislative changes while still delivering value-for-money services for 130,000 residents in the region.

The Council's work streams include restoring native habitats, checking the health of waterways, protecting biodiversity, supporting sustainable land management, controlling predators and pest plants, providing public transport, maintaining three regional gardens, monitoring the

climate, investing in Stadium Taranaki and owning Port Taranaki.

"It's been a momentous year for the Council not least because we achieved our goal of creating the best regional stadium in the country with the full reopening of Stadium Taranaki," says Chair Craig Williamson.

"That project was the biggest we've ever been involved with and we're quite rightly proud of delivering a fit-for-purpose venue suitable for sport and entertainment and for use by communities across the region.

"The environment also remained front and centre with a number of success stories demonstrating our continued stewardship of Taranaki's waterways, air and land."

The operating deficit of \$987,000 (total comprehensive income net of tax) was better than the budgeted deficit of \$4.2m. This was achieved by solid cost control, postponement of work due to Government policy change and higher than expected asset revaluations.

"This result is pleasing given the difficult economic conditions, and the major and ongoing policy changes coming from central government," adds Mr Williamson.

"The one constant we face is change as legislative frameworks are updated when priorities shift with new governments.

"The replacement of the Resource Management Act, in particular, will alter how we work, and we will have to adapt to this new legislation to ensure we continue to achieve our mission of supporting livelihoods and improving lifestyles."

The last financial year saw more than 771,000 patrons use bus services provided by the Council while the Council's three regional gardens – Pukeiti, Hollard Gardens and Tūpare – were visited by more than 137,000 people with around 10,000 people enjoying events organised by the gardens team.

Key policies and strategies developed or adopted included the Better Travel Choices Strategy and a review of the Climate Change Strategy and

Roadmap was completed.

There were more than 1,000 contributions to community conversations, 242,300 visits to the Council's website and the public got the chance to watch the big decisions being made around the Council table with the livestreaming of meetings.

"More than ever before, we've been listening to our community and what their aspirations and hopes for our amazing region are and that is directly shaping what we're doing," says Mr Williamson.

"While the year has not been without its challenges, we're looking forward to learning from a review into Council decision-making processes and putting recommendations into practice to improve how we work with iwi and our wider community."

This year saw the passing of councillor David 'Daisy' Lean who had served for more than 30 years. Mr Lean's strong advocacy for the environment will leave a lasting legacy and his mahi has had a huge, positive impact on the Council and the region.

People moving further away from coastlines

A study looking into patterns of human settlement near coastlines across the world has found that people are moving further away from the coast in over half of the regions examined, while a small proportion is moving closer to the coastline. The study used night-time light

changes between 1992 and 2019 to look at which groups of people had moved closer to or further away from the coast. They found that there was a weak link between communities retreating from coasts and previous experiences of coastal climate hazards. They also

found that communities that stayed close to the coast tended to have more structural protections, such as flood levees, and a greater ability to adapt, while retreat was faster in regions with greater vulnerability to coastal climate hazards.

Nature Climate Change.

Tātari atu Taranaki ki te Tonga

Sort it out, South Taranaki

Spring 2025 edition



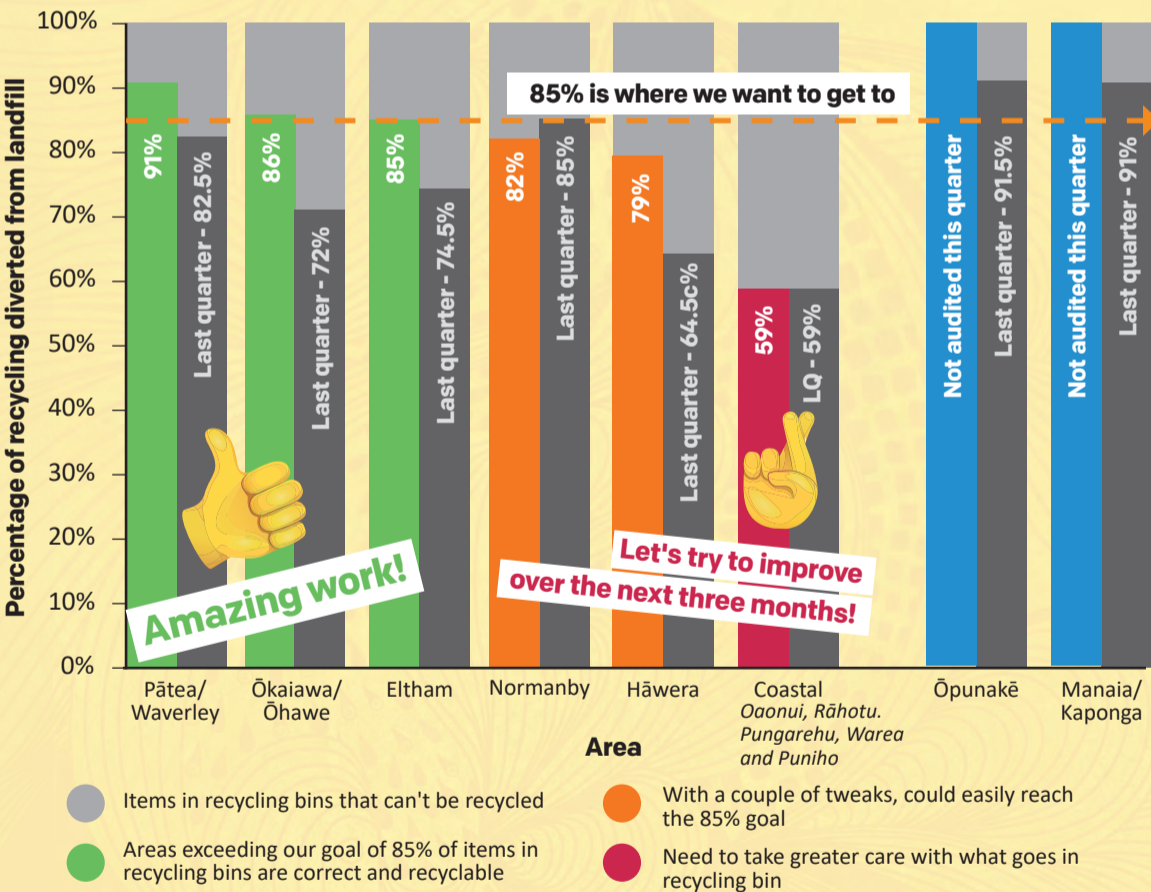
Recycling needs
to be left loose
in your yellow-
lidded bin - do
not bag them up

Quarterly Recycling Review

We're Recycling More!

Since the last quarter, most areas have improved in the amount of acceptable recycling going into their recycling bins! Congratulations - that's an incredible effort! The graph below shows both the Spring (on the left) and Winter (on the right) figures for each area (with the exception of Ōpunakē and Manaia/Kaponga which haven't yet been audited again).

Recycling diverted from landfill



Food Scraps

Don't forget - your food scraps bin is collected weekly and can make a huge difference to the amount of room in your general waste (red lidded) bin.

✓ You can put the following in your food scraps bin



Fly Tipping



Fly tipping (illegal dumping) is currently on the rise! Residents are reminded that dumping rubbish illegally is against the law. Fines can apply regardless of the amount, so please do the right thing and dispose of waste properly. If you find fly tipping/illegal dumping, please call Council on 0800 111 323.

Do not look through the litter. We know you're just trying to help - but this isn't a good idea for several reasons, not only is it a health and safety hazard, but if evidence is found, we can not prosecute unless it is found by a warranted officer. So the best thing you can do is just let Council know and we'll deal with it.

Weekly Reminder



Have you downloaded the **Antenno app**? We'll be sending weekly reminders straight to your cellphone!

www.southtaranaki.com/antenno

Maunga the motivation as conservation veteran heads to retirement

From a young age, Dave Rogers was destined to work on Taranaki Maunga.

Dave - a 50-year conservation hero and veteran who will retire in February - was born, raised, and schooled in Stratford, beneath the maunga. He affiliates to Ngāti Mutunga, Te Atiawa, Taranaki Tūturu, Ngāti Ruanui and Maniapoto iwi – and he points to the stories told by his mother Miria, and one of his grandfathers, Taikomako – of his whakapapa connecting him to the maunga.

“After I left school I worked in a local tannery near Stratford, for two years. I used to look at the mountain from my workstation every morning, and I would tell everybody ‘I’m going to work up there one day,’ he says.

Dave’s first role in the national park was in 1975 as part of a winter seasonal work scheme for unemployed people – he quit the tannery job to secure the opportunity with the Egmont National Park Board.

“I was working on tracks, mowing lawns, and servicing amenities – it was what our staff do now, ranger work.”

He recalls a lot of time spent living in the bush, living out of a backpack and carrying out hard graft: “It’d be into the hut



Dave Rogers, taken at The Camphouse in Te Papakura o Taranaki.

on a Monday morning, come out on a Friday afternoon – running down steps, racing your mates...real hands-on stuff. I learned heaps.”

He became the park foreman in the early 1980s, responsible for all park operations and up to 40 staff. He learned to manage people and how to get them into the right teams.

Dave says “putting a Māori

lens” on management of the park was important to him – and helped raise his professional profile early in his career: “All of a sudden, I was being inundated with strategies and plans, with the request ‘Dave, can you run your eye over this?’”

Dave says the creation of DOC in 1987 was a smart move – bringing various conservation organisations

together under one umbrella and working more closely with Māori – and in the early 1990s he made a conscious decision to shift to an office-based role so he could influence strategic park planning and management more directly.

He’s particularly proud of his effort to connect DOC and iwi. He sees a lot of similarities between

Credit. Lesa Bevin, DOC

his Māori values and DOC values and says he’s constantly “walked both paths” through his career.

He looks fondly on work he’s done or supported to enhance and protect the story-telling connected to some of the district’s sites significant to Ngā Iwi o Taranaki – work often driven by his enthusiasm for history and whakapapa.

The Pou Whenua at Dawson Falls – installed for the park’s centenary and the subject of some debate - is one example he points to.

One of the biggest changes he’s seen is the type of visitors in the national park. When he started it was bushmen and hunters, before the emergence of trampers and back-packers and now foreign tourists and day-trippers out for a walk. Visitor numbers have shot up to more than 370,000 visitors a year.

He says the conservation sector needs to be careful in how visitor numbers are managed “in these special places”: “It’s important we never lose sight of what we’re conserving, and who we’re conserving it for.”

Dave says although the conservation sector has changed a lot, much of the work remains the same.

“We’ve still got to cut tracks, we’ve still got to clean toilets, we’ve still got to maintain huts,” he says.

“I still clean the odd DOC toilet now – because I’m the only ranger down here in South Taranaki... it’s easier for me to go and it saves someone driving from New Plymouth.”

It’s a testament to his character and commitment to the maunga and the park.



TE AHO POUTIAKI FUNDING APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN NOW

This community rangatahi (youth)-led funding is available for Pātea, Ōpunakē, Eltham, Manaia, Waitara, and West Ngāmotu (including Marfell, Westown, Moturoa, Lynmouth, and Blagdon).

With \$300,000 available, we want to hear your ideas on how best to support these communities from seed to established initiatives, ensuring funding reflects local aspirations and creates a lasting impact.

We’ve designed the process to be simple and accessible.
You can apply in the way that works best for you — written, video, audio, or even a phone call.

For more information, please email us at teahopoutiaki@toifoundation.org.nz or call us on 0800 7699 471.

APPLICATIONS CLOSE ON THE 9TH OF NOVEMBER

Ig Nobel Prizes awarded for pigeon-guided missiles, butt-breathing pigs and swimming dead trout

By Anna Salleh

In short:
Annual Ig Nobel awards presented by genuine Nobel laureates celebrate quirky scientific research that makes people think.

The 10 prizes cover a range of topics including anatomy, physiology, chemistry, biology, probability and peace.

Winning research included pigeon-guided missiles, dead trout swimming, painful fake medicines and coin flipping.

An experiment that trained pigeons to pilot bombs and another that explained how dead fish can swim upstream are among a slew of bizarre research that was awarded Ig Nobel prizes this week.

Organised by the magazine *Annals of Improbable Research*, the annual prize ceremony held at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, celebrates hilarious research that spurs interest in science. And the awards are presented by genuine Nobel laureates.

Among the other eight winners was a team that showed how the hair on your head swirls in a different direction depending on whether you live in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere.

A study showing how painful side-effects can make fake medicine more effective, and another revealing a flipped coin is more likely to land on the same side it started on, also got a gong.

As did scientists who popped paper bags next to a cat standing on a cow, and those who revealed how mammals can breathe through their anus — in an emergency.

‘Kamikaze’ pigeons

The psychologist and inventor BF Skinner is best known for his theory of “operant conditioning”, that says you can use rewards to teach behaviour.

It’s an idea he put into practice in the 1940s, when he trained pigeons to guide bombs to their target.

Dr Skinner obtained pigeons for his experiments from racing fanciers and a farmer. One of Dr Skinner’s daughters, Julie Vargas, a behaviour analyst herself, explained:

“During World War II, my father wanted to help the war effort.

“Pilots were having a hard time hitting enemy ships. They had to get so low to hit the target properly they often lost their lives.”

Enter the top-secret Project Pigeon.



Kamikaze pigeons.

While pondering missile guidance systems, Dr Skinner became inspired by the deft manoeuvring of birds in the sky.

He thought they could be used to pilot bombs and initially tried training crows, “but they were too aggressive”, Dr Vargas said.

Project Pigeon was funded as part of America’s war effort.

So Dr Skinner decided to train a set of “kamikaze” pigeons, and built a contraption that fitted on the front of a missile to accommodate avian pilots.

He then used movies to train each pigeon to steer a missile towards a ship. The bird had to peck repeatedly on the image of a ship as it got bigger in the screen (as it would in real life as the bomb fell through the air) to be rewarded with food.

Despite initial scepticism, Dr Skinner got several grants for his feasibility study.

Although electronic guidance systems won out in the end, the same kind of methods have been used to train birds to identify survivors at sea, Dr Vargas said.

Dr Skinner’s work was eventually declassified and described in a 1960 issue of *American Psychologist* where he wrote:

The ethical question of our right to convert a lower creature into an unwitting hero is a peacetime luxury.

In recognition, his work was awarded the 2024 Ig Nobel Prize for Peace.

Hair in the hemispheres

There’s been a lot of debate over the decades whether water spirals down the plug hole one way in the Northern Hemisphere and another in the Southern Hemisphere.

But what about whorls of hair, which grow in a circle from a central point?

In April this year, a French team published a study that found a link between the direction of hair whorls and the side of the equator you live on.

“A higher prevalence of counterclockwise whorls in the Southern Hemisphere most probably indicated a potential role

of environmental factors,” the researchers wrote in the *Journal of Stomatology, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*.

Whether your hair swirls clockwise or anticlockwise has been linked to what hemisphere of the planet you’re in. (Getty Images: Macbrian Mun)

“We plead for large-scale epidemiological assessments of hair whorls in several Northern and Southern Hemisphere populations to confirm these surprising findings.”

It will be interesting to know who might fund that.

The researchers state their findings may be explained by the Coriolis force, which is responsible for cyclones spinning one way in the north and the other in the south.

Any such link would not be straightforward, they emphasised, and factors like maternal health, maternal nutrition, and prenatal hormone exposure should be considered first.

Their work was awarded the 2024 Ig Nobel Prize for Anatomy.

Emergency anus breathing
Several aquatic organisms including fish called loaches are able to survive low-oxygen environments by breathing through their intestines.

And you might have heard about Australia’s own bum-breathing Mary River turtle.

In a 2021, Japanese researchers decided to study if mammals could do this too.

They found that when rodents and pigs were unable to breathe normally — using their lungs — they could benefit from what’s called “enteral ventilation”.

A diagram from the study, showing the experiment and



possible applications of the findings. (Supplied)

Oxygen-rich fluids injected into the anus were able to prevent severe respiratory failure in the animals.

Human patients suffering respiratory distress, such as from COVID-19, could also benefit from this approach, the researchers suggested, although more research was needed.

The study was awarded the 2024 Ig Nobel Prize for Physiology.

Coin flip surprise

When you flip a coin, it should come up heads exactly 50 per cent of the time, right?

Well, a team from the Netherlands says it ain’t necessarily so.

They tested a theory proposed in 2007 by American mathematician Persi Diaconis that a flipped coin would be more likely to land on the same side it started on — because it spends more time in the air with its initial side facing up.

Despite a bevy of coin-flipping experiments showing an equal chance of heads or tails, the theory remained truly untested. Such experiments did not record which side of the coin faced up before it was flipped.

What makes a coin toss fair?

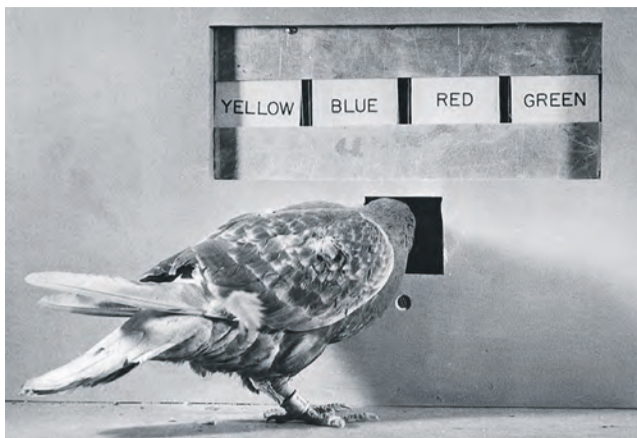
(Getty Images: Monty Rakusen)
“Previous data had only collected the landing position of the coin,” said researcher Frantisek Bartos, a PhD candidate at the University of Amsterdam and lead researcher in the study.

Mr Bartos and his colleagues went to the trouble of getting 48 people to flip coins a massive 350,757 times, and recorded both the start and landing position of the coin.

Their results, yet to be published in a peer-reviewed journal, found the coin landed on the side it started on more often than not.

“Diaconis estimated the probability of a same-side outcome to be about 51 per cent. Our data lend strong support to this precise prediction,” the research team wrote.

There was, however, variation among the coin



Dr Skinner’s experiment.(Getty Images: Bettmann/Contributor)

tossers, with some showing no bias at all, something that has implications for getting a fair toss of the coin, Mr Barton said.

“Our experiment suggests it’s not [up to] the coin, but the person flipping the coin.” Their perseverance with coin tossing was rewarded with the 2024 Ig Nobel Prize for Probability.

Exploding paper bags next to cats on cows

And reaching back into the scientific annals of early last century, this year’s Ig Nobels also awarded a experiment carried out in the 1930s by agricultural researchers Fordyce Ely and William Petersen that sought

to “frighten” cows.

In describing their methods, the researchers wrote:

Frightening at first consisted in placing a cat on the cow’s back and exploding paper bags every 10 seconds for two minutes.

Eventually, though, they realised they popping bags alone was enough to frighten the cow.

Later the cat was dispensed with as unnecessary.

And why exactly did they do this?

All in the name of science, of course: to test what effect stress would have on the cow’s milk production.



Opunake Chinese Takeaways

Ph 06 761 8087

- Hamburgers, \$5.50
- Chicken Burgers, \$6.50
- Fish Burgers, \$7.50
- Beef Burgers, \$8.50

Open everyday



Realising potential in every hectare.

TARANAKI
RURAL VALUATIONS
06 757 5753

Christian Hipp
christian.hipp@cbre.com

Fraser Grant
fraser.grant@cbre.com

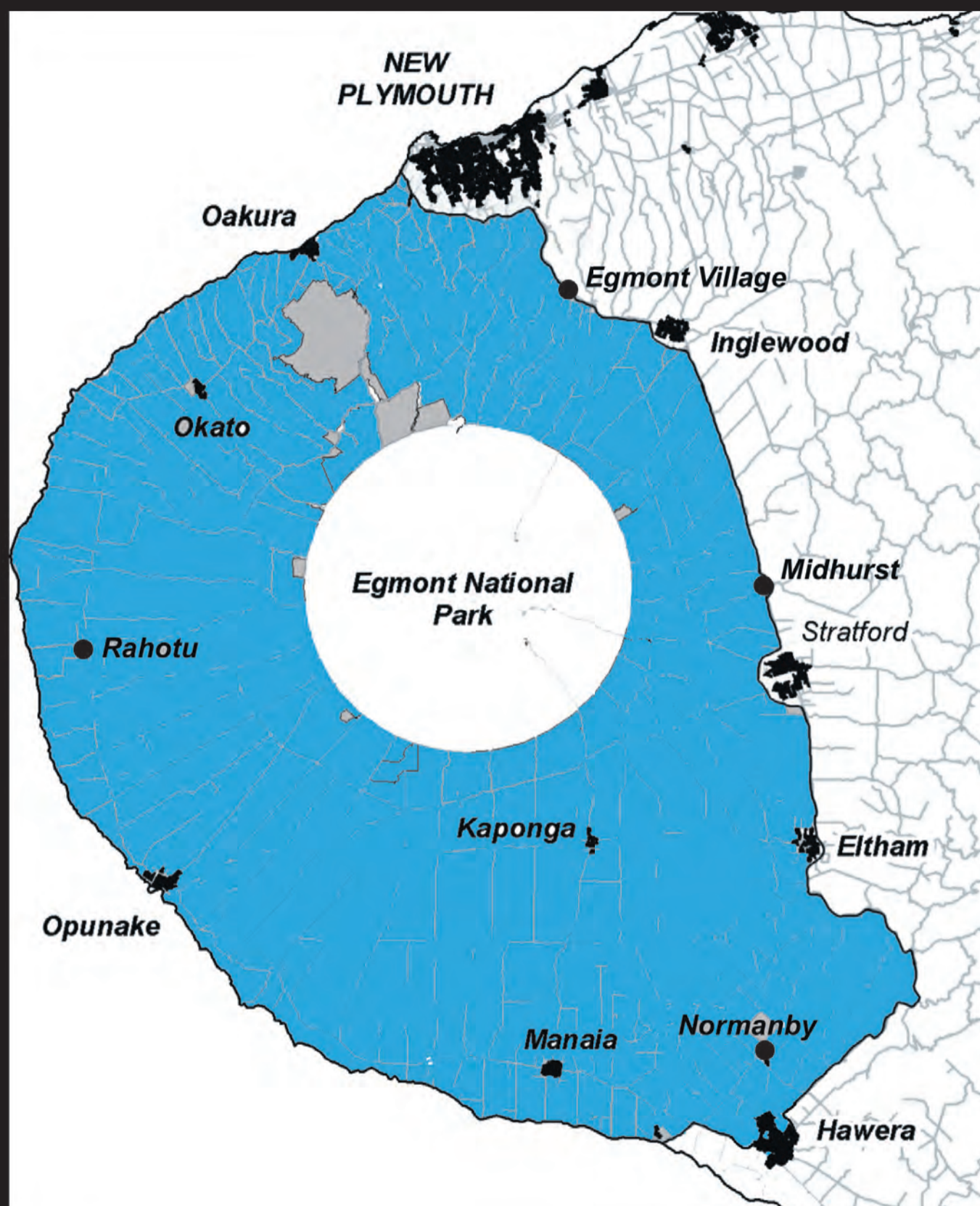
CBRE

Our team of rural property valuers have the insights and resources to provide expert valuation advice for all your rural real estate and property needs.

From valuations and leasing assessments, through to estate planning.

cbre.co.nz/rural

WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA? TALK TO US



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

We are an independent paper based in Opunake, which is targeting both the towns' and rural communities. We aim to have news coverage within all the areas of our distribution.

We want to be involved with your business. Call today and discuss your marketing options with the team.

**COVERING THE
COAST**

**Promote
your business
or event
in our area
call us on
(06) 761-7016**

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS**

• 23 Napier St, Opunake • Ph/Fax 761-7016
• email: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Board members re-appointed

DairyNZ directors Tracy Brown and Chris Lewis have been re-appointed unopposed to the DairyNZ Board.

DairyNZ deputy chair Cameron Henderson says this year's Board of Director nomination period reflects the confidence farmers have in their current leadership.

"Tracy and Chris are both proven leaders who bring substantial governance experience, knowledge, passion and a clear focus on representing farmers," says Cameron.

"The fact they were unopposed recognises the trust and respect they've



Tracy Brown.

built with farmers across the country, who see the value they add to the Board and

the wider sector."

Tracy Brown, who farms in the Waikato, has served

on the DairyNZ Board for two terms since 2019, and was announced as the Chair-elect last June before officially becoming chair in October 2024. She is known for her leadership, community engagement and focus on sustainability on-farm.

Chris Lewis is a well-known and respected Waikato dairy farmer and former Federated Farmers national Board member, who has served one term on the DairyNZ Board since 2022.

"Both directors have made a strong impact during their time on the Board and will continue to play a vital role as we continue to deliver

DairyNZ's strategy and support farmers through research, new solutions, advocacy and extension," says Cameron.

"We're fortunate to have farmers of Tracy and Chris's calibre, helping shape the future of our sector. Their re-appointment provides farmers with strong continuity as DairyNZ remains focused on supporting farmers and progressing a positive future for New Zealand dairy farmers."

The DairyNZ Annual Meeting will be held in Hamilton on Thursday, November 6, 2025, where Tracy and Chris' re-appointment will be formally

acknowledged.

Additionally, two nominations were received for the Directors' Remuneration Committee (DRC) vacancies. The DRC reviews and recommends changes to directors' fees. As only two vacancies exist, Shirley Trumper and Ellen Barnett are re-appointed as committee members.

In early October, all levy-paying dairy farmers will receive DairyNZ's Annual Report and a voting information pack on the other resolutions for members to consider and vote on, including a Biosecurity Response Levy consultation.

Dairy sector outlook remains steady

DairyNZ's latest Econ Tracker update shows the sector is in a relatively stable position, with strong milk price payout forecasts continuing to offset ongoing high farm costs.

The breakeven milk price (BEMP) has been revised to \$8.66/kgMS, up slightly from last season's \$8.45, but little change from DairyNZ's June forecast. The predicted average payout also remains steady at \$10.30/kgMS.

DairyNZ Head of Economics, Mark Storey, says the update reinforces the fact that current market fundamentals remain stable.

"Costs continue to remain elevated, but with high expected milk price payouts, the revenue outlook is still relatively strong, which is helping counterbalance cost pressures," says Mark.

"There continues to be uncertainties in the wider economy and the

international geopolitical environment, but overall, the dairy sector is in a good position."

Farm working expenses have edged up slightly to \$5.91/kgMS, reflecting ongoing cost pressures.

StatsNZ's Farm Expense Price Index shows electricity prices are up 12 percent and freight costs are up 10 percent compared to last year, while fertiliser and feed costs are still elevated, with no relief expected in

the near term.

However, Mark says easing interest rates are helping farmers manage these increases.

"Falling interest rates are offsetting some of the extra costs and helping to keep breakeven milk prices stable. Looking ahead, further OCR reductions are forecast, which should ease debt servicing pressures, although this also points to a broader economic

slowdown."

DairyNZ Chair, Tracy Brown, emphasises that farmers are focused on what they can control, including careful planning and improving production.

"The season's production has started relatively well, with national milksolid production up by 18% in June, and up by 2% in July, compared to the same period last year," says Tracy.

"While it's early days, that's a positive sign - but as

always, we'll need to see how the season plays out over the coming months."

The breakeven milk price is the milk sale price per kilogram of milksolids to cover a farm's costs in a season, excluding capital expenditure and principal repaid on loans. The forecast average payout is based on the estimated milk receipts for the specified season, along with dairy company dividends.




osflo
N.P.K.S. FERTILISER
The Complete Natural Fertiliser

Maximise yields
Build soil health
Spread pre-ploughing and save
T&C Apply

PHONE. 0800 467 356
EMAIL. sales@osflo.co.nz
www.osflo.co.nz



SPREAD SMARTER ON THE COAST
Tractor spreaders available

- Low impact
- Granular product only
- 10T capacity

0800 432 866
fbt.co.nz





KRONE
ROUND BALER CLEAR OUT
0% P.A.
FINANCE
FOR 60 MONTHS ACROSS THE KRONE ROUND BALER RANGE

Transag CENTRE
Farm machinery since 1986

16 GLOVER ROAD, HAWERA
06 278 5119

Turning trees into firewood cheaply and fast

Toted as Taranaki’s largest mobile log splitter that can turn unwanted or dead trees into firewood cheaply and fast has been busy on the coast.

Says Craig Cursons, the owner of Rung ‘n’ Split, his main customers are farmers who have trees which have blown over or are suffering wind damage. “I clean it up and turn it into firewood.” Or take it away if that’s what’s wanted. He’ll also fell trees if needed.

Demonstrating the entire operation, the vehicle which looks like a large truck and is amusingly sign written Lord of the Rings, Craig explains the tree is “ringed up into sections” using a chainsaw. The rounds of wood are then individually lifted onto a metal plate. When triggered, a hydraulic ram with cross blades descends and splits the wood. The chunks of wood which land on a conveyor belt are then

deposited either into a trailer or truck or just end up in a large heap.

They do 15 cubic metres an hour. With a cubic metre of wood retailing at anywhere from \$180 to \$250, that’s a profitable hour’s work.

Craig who was “born and bred in New Plymouth” travels “anywhere round the mountain.” His customers are mainly farmers and lifestyle blockers, he says.

Generally, they’ll start around 8:30am and finish around 3.00pm.

In the three months he’s been doing it Craig says he’s “met some good people.”

He admits he had to get used to lots of grubs and spiders. “I wasn’t too good with the spiders,” he confesses though says he’s now come to terms with the spiders as long as they’re not on him.

Logan Blackburn who works for Craig and recently moved to Taranaki from Wellington really enjoys



Four and a half hours work splitting wood.

the work. “It’s good for my fitness and mental well being,” he says adding he likes working outdoors and loves the views.

In perfect spring weather with the backdrop of the mountain it’s certainly a picturesque pastoral scene.

Says Craig “It’s a physical job. We enjoy it.”



The splitter in action.

General Engineering & Heavy Equipment Repair
Portable Line Boring

027 687 0007

JOHN BARKER
Admin@EgmontEarthmoversLtd.Com

SKYWORK™

AGRICULTURAL SERVICES:

- Topdressing (Bulk & Bagged)
- Liquid Fertilising
- Seeding
- Weed Spraying
- Pasture/Crop Spraying
- Forestry Spraying
- Spot Spraying
- Aerial Lifting
- Aerial Survey

ANTI-DRIFT SPRAY TECHNOLOGY
DIFFERENTIAL GPS ACCURACY

CONTACT US
06 755 1685 021 324 283
taranaki@skyworkhelicopters.com

COASTAL LTD SPRAYERS

ALL YOUR CROP AND PASTURE SPRAY NEEDS

- Latest in GPS Guidance
- Shed Inspection Compliance all in one form
- Gun spraying for Gorse, Ragwort & More
- Prices from \$55 per ha.

Ph 027 339 7364 | office@coastalsprayers.co.nz

NZ FARMERS LIVESTOCK

Bryan Goodin & Sheldon Keech
SERVICING FARMERS
ON THE COAST

Dairy stock - Herds - Heifers - Calves

- Service Bulls • Beef Cattle
- Pigs & Sheep

Weekly Wednesday Stratford Sale

Goodie: 027 531 8511
Keechy: 027 222 7920

Stadium Taranaki’s new accessible audio link sounds like a winner

Listen up – now you can plug straight into the audio action at Stadium Taranaki.

The stadium is the first in Australasia to offer Bluetooth’s Auracast audio system to visitors with coverage of the stadium’s official audio and announcements for visitors to the TSB Stand (the east stand).

“Auracast streams the venue audio, including official announcements, straight to your earphones or headset and cuts out the background noise. It’s free and no downloads needed – just bring your Bluetooth-



TSB Stand completed.

most people have a problem hearing at some time, whether you’re sitting in a noisy crowd cheering on the Bulls or at the back of the room at a private function.”

Taranaki Regional Council Director of Corporate Services Mike Nield says the new TSB Stand was designed to improve accessibility for those attending games and events and this included improving the facilities for those with hearing impairments.

Taranaki bowls players to represent New Zealand

Bowls New Zealand have announced the selection of Camron Horo (Rahotu) and Briar Atkinson (Oakura/Paritutu) for the World Junior Championships in Northern Ireland in December.

The tournament, set to take place in County Antrim, Northern Ireland, will see Atkinson (21) and Horo (20) compete in the Singles and Mixed Pairs events against some of the world’s most promising young bowlers.

Atkinson, from Paritutu Bowling Club in Taranaki, made her debut for the Blackjacks earlier this season. She has enjoyed a strong run of form over the past few years, claiming the National Champion of Champions Singles title in 2023, followed by the National Under-21 Singles title in 2024. Now entering her eighth season, Atkinson is still considered relatively new to the sport, but her skill and determination have already set her apart.

“I’m incredibly honoured to have been given this opportunity to represent my country at the World Junior Indoors in Northern Ireland,” said Atkinson. “It’s an incredible experience and will be a great challenge going up



Camron Horo.

against some of the world’s best youth bowlers. I’m excited to give it my all and make everyone proud.”

Horo, who also represents Taranaki, claimed the 2025 National Under-21 Singles title, defeating Atkinson in the final. He is equally excited to join the national squad and compete on the world stage.

“I’m truly honoured to be selected to represent New Zealand in Northern

Ireland and excited to wear the Silver Fern,” said Horo. “I’m looking forward to the challenge ahead and to competing internationally for the first time.”

New Zealand Head Coach Mike Kernaghan said the selection was a reflection of both athletes’ commitment and recent performances.

“The selectors are delighted for Briar and Camron to have this opportunity. Both have displayed excellent

form and delivered strong performances over the past 12 months,” Kernaghan said.

enabled listening device and link in,” said NPDC Stadium Taranaki Lead, Jonnie Orrell.

“While this makes events at Stadium Taranaki much more accessible for the hearing-impaired, it’s important to remember that

“The upgraded stadium is an amazing facility, and we want it to be used by everyone in the community which is why we’ve made improvements such as a the Auracast system to make it a more inclusive and welcoming arena,” said Mr Nield.



BUY 1 GET 1
50% OFF



Conditions apply, see online for details.
On selected Bridgestone and Firestone tyres



147 GLOVER ROAD
HAWERA
PHONE 06-278-4992
AFTER HOURS:
027 555 1869

“Make mow time, me time”



Aspire R4

With over 15 models to choose from, they can mow any yard.



\$4990

TS112

Husqvarana Series Engine - 13.8HP - 38" Cutting Deck

\$1599



Aspire P5 Pruner

18V - 5' Bar - 1/4" Chain

Kit Price

Your local authorised Husqvarna Dealer:

134 Broadway North, Stratford
06 765 6770
stratfordmowers.co.nz



5 YEAR DOMESTIC WARRANTY#


#Terms and Conditions apply, see HUSQVARNA.COM for details.

Stratford
Mowers & Chainsaws


visit husqvarna.com today




Briar Atkinson.



THE POWER OF GREEN



2024 MODELS IN STOCK NOW



VENDRO TEDDERS

IN STOCK:


560

620


680

BE IN QUICK FOR OUR REMAINING MOWERS

ENQUIRE TODAY FOR A GOOD FINANCE RATE



RAYMOND MUGGERIDGE 027 444 8861
PAUL STANTON 027498 7277
06 278 5119



Transag
CENTRE
Farm machinery since 1988

16 GLOVER ROAD, HAWERA

Smalls & Balls - Covers for Causes

Eltham's First Bra & Jocks Art Competition

Eltham is about to get a little cheeky – for a very good cause. From September 30 to October 25, The Village Gallery will host the Eltham Lions Smalls & Balls - Covers for Causes Art Competition and Exhibition.

This unique event was dreamed up by Janine, Eltham Lions' Health & Community Concerns Chairperson, who was inspired by the popular Hāwera Mt View Lions 2024 Bra Art Competition supporting breast cancer awareness. Having one foot in the Lions Club and the

other firmly planted in the creative world of The Village Gallery, Janine saw the perfect opportunity to bring both organisations together, and to give Eltham its very first bra art competition.

But she didn't stop there. "Since the competition launches in September, which is Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, I didn't want to forget the men," says Janine. With that, the idea took on a playful twist, not just bras, but jocks too!

Artists, creatives, and anyone with a sense of humour are invited to decorate, paint, sculpt, or completely reinvent a bra or



September 30 to October 25, at The Village Gallery.
a pair of jocks, transforming everyday underwear into works of art. Each entry can choose to support Breast

Cancer Foundation NZ, Prostate Cancer Foundation NZ, or both.

Entries close Friday September 27. All artworks must be delivered to The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Eltham, between 10am and 3pm on the 27th (or earlier during gallery hours). The entry form can be found on Eltham Lions Club Facebook page and The Village Gallery Facebook page, or by emailing Janine directly who can email the link: jonesat314@gmail.com

Artists also have the option to sell their artwork, with a voluntary 10% commission going towards the breast or prostate cancer organisation they choose to support. A special thanks to Carl Bates, MP for Whanganui, and Joyce Lawrence from

Eltham Lions, who have kindly donated their time to judge this one-of-a-kind event.

Prizes Up for grabs, thanks to the generosity of local sponsors.

The result? A colourful thought-provoking, and often hilarious exhibition that shines a light on two incredibly important causes – and invites the community to rally behind them.

So, whether you're an artist looking to submit your masterpiece, a supporter keen to back the cause, or just curious to see what Eltham's creative minds have dreamed up, make sure to visit The Village Gallery during the exhibition. It's not every day you get to see bras and jocks raising awareness and funds in such a bold way!

Mini Putt, Luge and Museum open every day during the school holidays 10am-4pm

683 Egmont Rd, NP | 027 447 0708

CALLING ALL CREATIVES!

Get cheeky for a cause with the Eltham Lions Smalls & Balls - Cover for Causes Art Competition & Exhibition!

Support Breast Cancer Awareness Month & Blue September with your creativity!

Entries close Friday 27th September – deliver your masterpiece to The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Eltham between 10am–3pm.

Don't miss your chance to be part of Eltham's very first Bra & Jocks Art Competition – get creating today!

THE VILLAGE GALLERY 166 HIGH STREET, ELTHAM
OPEN TUES-SAT 10AM-3PM

Mason Brothers to play in Hawera

After playing shows in Eltham, Patea, Waverley, Stratford, Opunake, New Plymouth, Inglewood, Tikorangi, Whangamomona, Uruti, even Mangamingi, the Mason Brothers finally make their first appearance in major centre of Hawera at the Repertory Rooms in Collins Street. The same weekend they will make their Whanganui debut at St Peter's Church, Gonville. The Hawera Repertory will be the perfect cosy venue for the brothers' acoustic sound and good-natured autobiographical banter.

Wayne Mason has played at the venue before, including a show with the Laura Collins Blues Band. Meanwhile, younger brother Paul Bowers-Mason continues to hang out with his almost famous brother in the hope they will both become famous one day. Wayne's storied NZ career (Fourmyula, Rockinghorse, Warratahs, APRA Silver Scroll, composer of NZ's no. 1 song "Nature") will take the audience on a time-machine sort of musical experience through a wide range of easy listening

genres from pop to blues to country from the late 1960s right up to his latest compositions.

Mason Brothers Hawera Repertory Rooms 11th October, 7.30pm Admission: \$25

New stickers for 2025/26 Greenwaste Kerbside Collection

Stickers for the Council's green waste kerbside collection service, which runs from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026, will be available for purchase from Tuesday 16 September.

The Council's green waste collection is a fortnightly green waste kerbside collection service that urban residents (and rural residents

already receiving the full kerbside collection service) can opt into.

"You can sign up for this service by visiting the Council's Administration Building in Hāwera or any LibraryPlus centre throughout the district and buy a sticker that goes on the front of your 240L wheelie bin," says South Taranaki District Council Works

Delivery Manager Rahul Sharma.

Green waste bins that do not display the new sticker will not be collected from 1 October.

"Stickers can be purchased at any time during the year, the price of which reduces each month, so you only pay for the months you use," says Rahul. "Gold card holders

can also enjoy a discount of 20% when you come to purchase the sticker."

You can currently buy a 240L bin for \$98 and have it delivered to your door within five working days if you don't have one.

For more information go to www.southtaranaki.com/greenwaste or call us toll free on 0800 111 323.

Our **African Adventure** fully escorted small group tour consistently rates as the "best trip ever" by many a seasoned traveller. Join us in June 2026 on this trip of a lifetime visiting Botswana, Namibia, Zimbabwe & South Africa over 24 adventure filled days. Limited to just 14 guests, you're guaranteed a very personal experience as you explore the top attractions of Southern Africa. See our website, read our reviews and call us today, space is limited. Departs New Plymouth 5th June 2026.

On Safari Limited
W: onsafari.co.nz | E: clyde@onsafari.co.nz | T: (06) 753 4809

Cue Theatre Inglewood presents

The **OPPOSITE** SEX

An Adult Comedy by David Tristram and Directed by Christine King

Two couples have just one thing in common... and when they find out what that thing is... well, all hell is about to break loose!

Book now, for a hilarious night out at Cue Theatre

CUE THEATRE | 8-18 OCTOBER | trybooking.co.nz

Preserving South Taranaki's rich history

South Taranaki District Museum Trust is to hold its Annual General Meeting on the 9th of October 2025

Under the umbrella 'Aotea Utanganui', Museum of South Taranaki, the South Taranaki District Council and the Museum Trust work in partnership to provide an appropriate exhibition venue for the Districts taonga, (artifacts), as well as employing knowledgeable staff with a passion for history.

The Museum Trust plays a pivotal role in maintaining 'Aotea Utanganui.' It is responsible for providing a suitable environment for the Museum collection as well as an appropriate working environment for Museum staff.

Museum Trustees are proud of their achievements, including those of former trustees, which include the rebuilding and opening of the Museum main building



Aotea Utanganui, Museum of South Taranaki.

in 2011. That was a massive undertaking and continues to be admired by visitors and appreciated by Museum staff and its volunteers.

More recently, the Museum Trust raised significant funds

to construct a purpose-build building for the exhibition of its sizeable machinery collection.

On the 5th July 2025, with appropriate pomp and ceremony, the purpose-

built building was officially opened and is proving to be an excellent asset in displaying Taonga mainly associated with the District's agricultural history.

With the AGM to be

held in October, the Trust is seeking interest from individuals throughout the District who would like to play an active role in the preservation of the District's taonga (artifacts).

It is imperative that trustees are committed with the integrity and passion to contribute to the ongoing development of 'Aotea Utanganui.' If you have an interest in preserving the history of South Taranaki's rich and vibrant multicultural heritage, then we encourage you to consider this unique opportunity. We would like to encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds who can contribute their skills and experience to the Museum Trust.

We particularly encourage applications from Tāngata Whenua, younger members of our community, and other diverse backgrounds.

If you have an interest and would like to know more of what is involved as a Trustee, please join us at the Museum Trust AGM at 7pm on the 9th October 2025 at Aotea Utanganui, Museum of South Taranaki, 127 Egmont Street, Patea.

New rubbish and recycling calendars now available

It's been a year since South Taranaki switched to the fortnightly rubbish and recycling system, and most people seem to have the hang of it now.

To help you stay on track, new collection calendars

are now available for the upcoming year — from 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2026. These calendars show whether it's a red week or a yellow week, so you'll know which bins to put out.

Although the current calendar runs until December, we're changing the schedule to match the green waste subscription year (October to September). That means all new calendars are now released at the same

time.

The easiest way to get reminders is by downloading the Antenno App. Just add your address as a place of interest, and you'll get a notification at 5pm the night before your collection day,

telling you which bins to put out.

If you prefer a physical calendar, you can:

- Download and print one from www.southtaranaki.com/calendar (there's also a property

search tool to check your zone), or

- Pick one up from your local LibraryPlus or the Hāwera Administration Building.

Stickers for 2025/26 Greenwaste Kerbside Collection available

Greenwaste stickers are now available for purchase from the Hāwera Administration Building or your local LibraryPlus. It costs \$161 for a fortnightly kerbside collection (for those already receiving the full kerbside collection service). Use your 240L bin - if you haven't got one, touch base with Council and we can have one delivered to you within 5 working days (a new bin will cost \$98).



20% discount with Gold Card

If you are a Gold Card holder, present your Gold Card to receive a 20% discount on the price of your Greenwaste sticker.

Please note that this discount only applies to the property where you live.

Find out more about this service by visiting www.southtaranaki.com/greenwaste



Three easy ways to stay bin-day ready!

Download the Antenno App to get a reminder the night before your rubbish day with which bins to put out. All you need to do is save your address as a place, and Antenno does the work for you!

Scan the QR code or go to southtaranaki.com/antenno



Download and print the new 2025/26 calendar by going to www.southtaranaki.com/calendar (There's also a property search there if you're unsure which Zone you're in).



Pick one up - Head to your local LibraryPlus or Hāwera Administration Building to pick up a hardcopy of the new calendar to pop on your fridge.






JANES GALLERY

Where Picture Framing is an Art

We have moved to 33 Gover Street, New Plymouth Phone 06 758 8746

CHURCH NOTICES



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

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

St Patricks Catholic Church, Kaponga
Sunday Mass 8.45am.
Thursday Mass 10.00am (subject to change).

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - weekly

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

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

Okato Community Church
Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall.
Everyone welcome

St John's Community Church. Kaponga
Cnr West and Egmont Streets.
Sunday Services 10.30am followed by morning tea

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

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

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

Methodist Church Hawera
Regent Street 10am, 2nd and 4th Sundays each month

Govett-Brewster Art Gallery Len Lye Centre helps the local economy



Since the Len Lye Centre opened a the award-winning facility has welcomed more than 820,000 visitors.

A new independent report by Business and Economic Research Limited (BERL) has found that NPDC’s Govett-Brewster Art Gallery | Len Lye Centre has established itself as a tourism destination and driver of the local economy. The report, commissioned and paid for by the Govett-Brewster Foundation and Len Lye Foundation, has found that the gallery welcomed 79,000 visitors in 2024-2025, with nearly 22% of them travelling from outside the district. This helped to deliver \$13.7 million in gross domestic product (GDP) and supported 153 full-time equivalent jobs at businesses across Taranaki. Chairperson of the Len Lye Foundation, Susan Hughes says the report shows the important role the Gallery plays in our region’s tourism and wider economy. “Whether people are coming specifically to see an exhibition or add a gallery visit while they are in town for other events, concerts or holidays, it is a

fundamental part of what puts New Plymouth and Taranaki on the map,” says Susan. “The Gallery makes a significant and positive contribution to our economy - supporting local accommodation providers, hospitality and other businesses, generating \$2.73 in GDP for every dollar of rates funding that it receives.” Since the Len Lye Centre opened as part of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in July 2015, the award-winning facility has welcomed more than 820,000 visitors through its doors to enjoy exhibitions, cinema, educational programs and community events. “The findings from this report highlights the significant economic impact the gallery has on Taranaki, helping to drive over \$10.8M in visitor spend per year and \$16.4M in direct economic impact, as it attracts visitors from across Aotearoa and internationally.” “This impact ripples through our community, from accommodation and hospitality providers to local retailers, reinforcing the Gallery’s vital role in supporting our visitor sector and driving cultural vibrancy for the region.” The report, which included insights from interviews with tourism operators, accommodation and hospitality businesses, recognises the Gallery’s status as a unique anchor attraction with local stakeholders describing it as “cultural icon that differentiates New Plymouth from other destinations, enhances the visitor experience and stimulates investment in the surrounding precinct”. Govett-Brewster Art Gallery- Len Lye Centre



STRATFORD CHAPTER INVITES YOU TO A MEN AND LADIES BREAKFAST MEETING



GUEST SPEAKER COLIN MILLER

Colin has become known in the rural sector as the farmer’s Chaplain. He has a column each month in the nationwide newspaper ‘The Rural News’

Saturday 11th October 2025

9am

Te Popo Gardens 636 Stanley Road Midhurst

Numbers are limited so bookings essential!

Contact: Barry Kowalewski 027 372 5147
Les Heynie 027 277 5061



YOU'RE INVITED

OPUNAKE POP UP TRAVEL SHOP

WANT TO TRAVEL BUT DON'T WANT TO DRIVE TO NEW PLYMOUTH?

Let's Talk Travel Over Coffee - We are coming to you Opunake with our pop up travel shop! Whether it's a cruise, a tour, or a relaxing escape, we're here to make it easy and enjoyable.

Where: Arty Tarts Café
Date: Tuesday 7th October 2025
Time: 10:30am -1pm

FREE COFFEE!*

WIN A \$100 PREZZY CARD

Come sit down with us for a friendly chat about how we can help make your travel dreams come true — and the coffee's on us!

Plus, if you sign up to our travel database, you'll go in the draw to win a \$100 Prezzy Card - perfect for treating yourself or someone special.

Pop in, relax, and let's plan something wonderful together.

Helloworld Travel Strandon
06 757 5666
strandon@travel.helloworld.co.nz

helloworld TRAVEL THE TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

* Terms & Conditions Apply. Speak with our Helloworld Travel Professionals for more details.

School Holiday Activities



Opunake Sports Trust School Holiday Programme activities are up and running, Some spaces are still available registration details can be found on the Opunake Sports Trust facebook page or by direct contact with the Sports Coordinator 0272891844.



Kangaroo showing at Everybodys Theatre Saturday 27th September and Saturday 4th October 7pm.

**NEW WORLD**
NEW PLYMOUTH
78 Courtney Street | 06 759 9052

- Online - Deliveries /Click & Collect
- Gold Card Discounts - on Groc's Tuesday!
- Instore Cafe!
- Fresh, Fresh, Fresh
- Fuel station on-site




We're here to help make your shopping experience a great one!
COME IN & SAY HELLO!




Johnny the Grocer & ChristineNEW OWNERS

BOOK FAIR
Salvation Army New Plymouth
9, 10, 11 October 2025



EAST END SKATE RINK
Doors open 9am-6pm Thursday
9am-7pm Friday & 9am-2pm Saturday

We will have eftpos and loads of bargains for everyone. Come along and support our work in the community. Phone 027 491 0012 for details.



Mini Golf, Holden Museum and Luge at The Hideaway 683 Egmont Road. See ad page 30.

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



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS
06 761 7016

**EVERYBODY'S THEATRE**
OPUNAKE

72 Tasman Street, Opunake | www.everybodystheatre.co.nz

Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie 1hr 38mins G Fri 26 Sep 1PM Sun 28 Sep 1PM Thu 02 Oct 1PM	The Bad Guys 2 1hr 44mins PG Fri 26 Sep 7PM Sun 28 Sep 7PM Sat 04 Oct 1PM
Dora: Mermaid 55mins G Sat 27 Sep 1PM Fri 03 Oct 1PM	Kangaroo 1hr 47mins PG Sat 27 Sep 7PM Sat 04 Oct 7PM
Light of the World 1hr 31mins PG Fri 03 Oct 7PM	Prime Minister 1hr 42mins M Sun 05 Oct 1PM Fri 10 Oct 7PM
The Smashing Machine 2hr 3mins TBC Sun 05 Oct 7PM	

**Gabby's Dollhouse: The Movie**
1hr 38mins | Rated: G
Fri 26 Sep 1PM

**The Bad Guys 2**
Violence & coarse language | 1hr 44mins | Rated: PG
Fri 26 Sep 7PM

**CardiAction**
delivered by Health Screening NZ

Got a spare 20 minutes that could save your life?

Quick and easy heart & artery screening \$119

📍 **CoastalCare Opunake**
📅 **28th & 29th October 2025**

4 Simple Steps to Better Heart Health:

1. Get Tested

Quick, painless CardiAction powered Pulse Wave Analysis.



2. Get Your Results

Instant insights into your heart & artery health. Results sent to you immediately.



3. Get an Action Plan

Personalised recommendations for nutrition, exercise & lifestyle.



4. Get Retested

Track improvements in as little as 2 months.



Why CardiAction?

- ✓ Early detection of cardiovascular risk.
- ✓ Simple, non-invasive screening (no blood test required).
- ✓ Actionable steps to improve heart health.



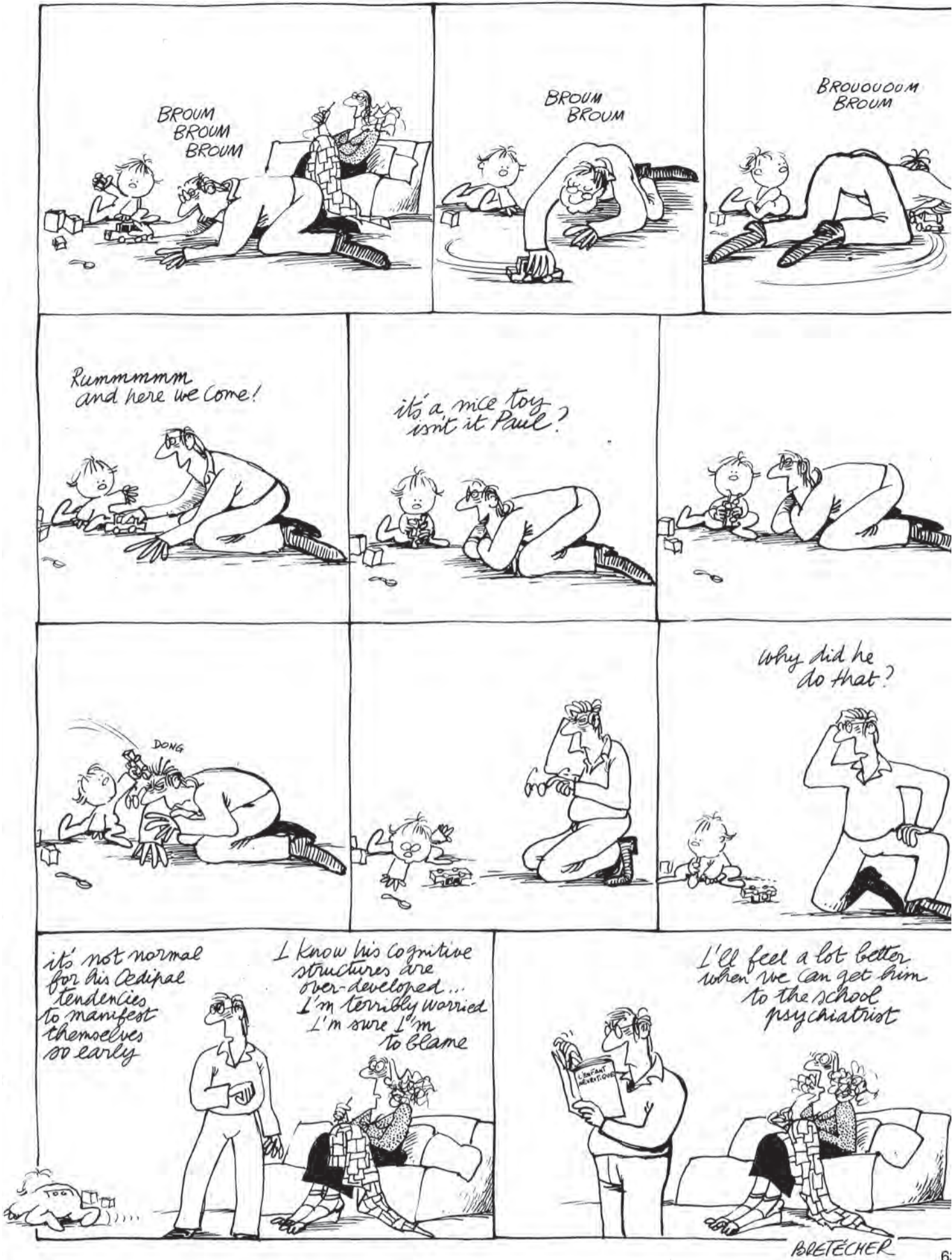
Book Now

www.cardiaction.co.nz

What's On Listings

ONGOING
Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.
MONDAYS: The Barnabas Centre Exercise and Social Morning: St. Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:30 pm. Information call Jenny 027 379 6844 or Ian 027 622 4878.
Beginners Social Dance Classes: Central School Hall, New Plymouth, 7pm.
TUESDAYS
Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.
Pungarehu Golf Club Twilight: Tee-off between 4.30 & 6.30pm.
Opunake District RSA: Meet 1st Tuesday of every month at 5.30pm at the Opunake Fire Station. Financial Members are welcome to attend.
WEDNESDAYS
Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Wednesday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.
Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.
Opunake Embroiders Guild: Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.
Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4pm to 5.30pm.
Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.
THURSDAYS
Egmont Euchre Club: Every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club. Inquiries, 06 761 8337 or 06 761 8607.
Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia: Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.
FRIDAYS
Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.
Beginners Social Dance Classes: Oakura Hall, 6.15pm..
Hawera Country & Variety Music Club: Held every 2nd & 4th Friday monthly. Held at Hawera Pipe Band Hall, 89 Collins Street, Hawera @ 7pm. All welcome. Supper provided.
AUGUST 26 - SEPTEMBER 27
Harmony of Hues Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham.
SEPTEMBER 7 TO NOVEMBER 1
Its a Family Affair exhibition: Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera.
SEPTEMBER 11 TO OCTOBER 20

A PROBLEM CHILD



Solo Exhibition Perfectly Imperfect by Pravina Phillips: At from out of the blue gallery, Halse Place, Opunake.
SEPTEMBER 22 TO OCTOBER 3
Opunake School Holiday Programme: See ad and article for details.
SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27
Hawera Genealogy Book Fair: 48 Union St, Hawera. 9.30am - 5pm.
SEPTEMBER 30 TO OCTOBER 5
Smalls & Balls Competition and Exhibition: With the Village Gallery, Eltham. See article and ad for details.
OCTOBER 7
Opunake Pop-up Travel Shop with Helloworld: Arty Tarts Cafe, 10.30am-1pm.
OCTOBER 8 - 18
The Opposite Sex: An adult comedy, at the Cue Theatre, Inglewood.
OCTOBER 9
South Taranaki District Museum Trust AGM: At Aotea Utanganui, Patea, 7.30pm.
OCTOBER 9
South Taranaki District Museum Trust AGM: At Aotea Utanganui, Patea, 7.30pm.
OCTOBER 11
Men & Ladies Breakfast Meeting with Guest Speaker Colin Miller: Te popo Gardens, Midhurst.
OCTOBER 31 - NOVEMBER 9
Taranaki National Art Awards: Sinclair Event Centre, Opunake. See ad and article for details.

CHEESE BAR ELTHAM



Crazy cheese deals with a great selection of –

- Brie & Camembert • Haloumi, Havarti and Goudas
- Blues • Cheddars, Cheddar offcuts and more!

Find us down the ONE-WAY street at 1 Bridge St, Eltham
We are open Mon - Fri 9am to 4pm

PUBLIC NOTICES



Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust
Notice of 2025 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust will be held on Saturday 11 October 2025 at Te Paepae o Te Raukura, Takitūtū Marae 249b Mid Parihaka Rd, Pungarehu, Taranaki commencing at 10.00am.

AGENDA

1. Karakia

2. Apologies

3. Confirmation of 2024 AGM minutes

4. Chairperson Reports

(a) Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust

(b) Taranaki Iwi Charitable Trust

(c) Taranaki Iwi Holdings LP

(d) Taranaki Iwi Fisheries Ltd
5. Audited Financial Reports

6. Appointment of Auditor

7. Annual Goals

8. General Business

This year’s Annual General Meeting will be livestreamed. If you wish to participate via the livestream you will need to register so a link can be sent to you. To register for the livestream link or for further information including copies of documents to be presented at the AGM please contact Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust office, Ngāmotu House, L4/139 Devon St West, New Plymouth, Ph (06) 751 4285 / 0800 83 52484 or via email: admin@taranaki.iwi.nz.

Jacqui King
Chairperson
www.taranaki.iwi.nz

SITUATIONS VACANT



Opunake High School
Te Kura Tuaria o Opunake

ŌPUNAKĒ HIGH SCHOOL

TEACHER AIDE

We are looking for a Teacher Aide/s to support our ākonga (students) with diverse learning and physical needs in one to one, small group and whole class learning environments. The role may include working with individual students who have specific learning and medical needs. Appropriate training will be given to the Teacher Aide/s appointed. You must have the ability to work as part of a team and as an individual as well as the whole school community. Good literacy and numeracy skills will be advantageous. This is a wonderful opportunity to work in our collegial, student centred, innovative, DREAMS driven kura.

Hours to be negotiated. The role will commence Term 1 2026.

Applications should include a covering letter and CV to:

The Principal
Ōpunakē High School
PO Box 4
Ōpunakē 4616
sl@opunake.school.nz

Applications close Friday 10 October 2025



Annual General Meeting

South Taranaki District Museum Trust

9 October 2025 - 7pm

‘Aotea Utanganui’

127 Egmont Street, Patea

Agenda

Karakia

- Apologies

- Minutes of 2024 Annual General Meeting
 - Election of Trustees
 - Report from the Chairman
 - Financial Report
 - Appointment of Accountant
- Karakia

Interested in becoming a Trustee? Please join us

Contact Gary Sue 021 852 445 or Dave Crompton 021 0912 5175

WANTED TO BUY

Stevenson Calf Rearing
MILK & COLOSTRUM WANTED

Picking up 24/7

Our tanker handles large volumes

Ph. Mark or Trish on 0800 350 340 or txt

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

Troy Stevenson 027 469 7636

E: troystevo@gmail.com

KANE BARRETT
LIVESTOCK

CALF MILK WANTED

Any volumes - 24/7

027 4036469 | kanebarrettlivestock@outlook.com

OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS

We are looking for people to deliver
through Hawera fortnightly on a
Thursday.



How about
delivering the
Opunake &
Coastal News?

Delivery people
needed for
Hawera
township

Ph 06 761 7016

The Paddy Manu (Jnr) South Taranaki Sports
Awards says thank you to the following
sponsors:

- South Taranaki
District Council

• Todd Energy

• Harris Taylor Ltd

• Fred & Eunice Rodie
Trust
- Dan Myres

• Egmont Honey

• Dmack Engineering

• re/ charge

• Grays Painting
Contractors

TRADES & SERVICES

HAWERA LAWN
& RECYCLING

- Lawns
- Chimney
- Gutter Cleaning

FREE QUOTES

Phone Craig McGill
021 031 2411

16 Cambria St, Hawera
craig.mcgill65@gmail.com

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

TO LET

THREE BEDROOM
HOUSE, Opunake. Good
area. Ph 027 4887 448

FOR SALE

AB & DM SYBRANDY
C O N T R A C T I N G
LTD - Available Now
- Firewood , Screened
Topsoil & BRANDY’S
BOTANICALS BARN-
Indoor Plants, Home &
Giftware, Seeds & More.
6m3 Split Pine \$480.00,
6m3 Split Mac \$600.00
supplied & delivered
Hawera, Normanby, Manaia
areas - other areas may
incur small delivery fee.
Orders and Payment can
be made by phoning Andy
0274456464 or calling into
Brandy’s Botanicals Barn-
15 Livingston Rd Hawera.-
WINZ Quotes, Afterpay
& Eft-pos avaiabel at the
Barn.

DRY FIREWOOD. Mix of
Mac and pine, shed stored
and ready to burn. For a
price and delivery. Text 021
875 047.

PET LAMBS for Sale.
Phone 06 764 8528 Or TXT
021 296 0601



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

WASHER & CO

PUREBRED JERSEY
1 YEAR OLD MATING BULLS
FOR SALE

BVD tested Negative and
Vaccinated twice

Phone HOON 027 227 2114
John 0274437100 for a QUOTE



The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News
is due out on July 3, 2025.
Contact us on 06 761 7016 to be part of it.

meritcars

with distinction

VISIT WEBSITE MERITCARS.CO.NZ

493 DEVON STREET EAST, STRANDON, NEW PLYMOUTH
CALL US TODAY 06 281 1925

ALL ON ROAD COSTS INCLUDED PLUS TANK OF FUEL. ONE STOP SHOP FOR FINANCE, WARRANTIES & FREE SMILES

2012 Subaru LEGACY 2.5I SPORT
NZ NEW, ONE OWNER, AWD WAGON
Driving Lights, Electric Parking Brake, Roof Rack,
Cruise Control, Hill Hold, Tow Bar, 2.4 Petrol, Auto,
202kms



\$9,995

2015 Ford KUGA ECOBOOST A
LOW KMs NZ NEW SUV
Keyless Start, Parking Sensors, Tow Bar, Tinted
Windows, Turbo, AWD, 1.6, Petrol, Auto, 53kms



\$18,995

2019 Mitsubishi Eclipse Cross BLK
Auto Fold Electric Mirrors, Daytime Running Lights,
Nose Guard, NZ New, Heated Electric Leather
Seats, Tow Bar, 1.5, Petrol, Auto, 92kms



\$22,995

2017 Mazda CX-3 GLX
POPULAR STYLISH SUV
Cruise Control, Reversing Camera, i-Stop, NZ New,
Sports Mode, Keyless Start, 2.0, Petrol, Auto,
193kms



\$15,995

2012 Toyota RAV4
POPULAR NZ NEW SUV
Cruise Control, 4WD, NZ New, VVT-i, 2.4, Petrol,
Auto, 171kms



\$11,995

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL:

2014 Mazda 3

Auto Headlights & Wipers, HUD, Parking Sensors,
Driving Lights, i-Stop, NZ Navigation, Tinted Windows,
NZ New, 2.5, Petrol, Auto, 143kms



\$16,995

2007 Toyota VOXY
Monsoons, Reversing Camera, Driving lights, 8
Seater, Tinted Windows, 2.0, Petrol, CVT, 146kms



\$8,995

2022 Kia Stonic GT Line
STYLISH SPORTY HATCH
Parking Sensors, Roof Rails, Turbo, Sports Mode,
Tinted Windows, 1.0, Petrol, Auto, 31kms



\$24,995

2014 HYUNDAI Santa Fe DM ELITE
NZ NEW 7 SEATER 4WD
Auto Headlights & Wipers, Bonnett Protector,
Nudge bar, Roof Rack, Tow Bar, Turbo, 2.2, Diesel,
Auto, 146kms



\$21,995

2005 Toyota Ist
SUPER TIDY HANDY HATCH
Tinted Windows, Factory Body Kit, VVT-i, Monsoons,
Spoiler, Petrol, Auto, 133kms



\$7,995

2008 Mazda 3 SP23
SPORTY NZ NEW HATCH
Alloy Wheels, Driving Lights, Spoiler, Tow Bar, Cruise
Control, VVT-i, 2.3, Petrol, Auto, 149kms



\$10,995

2016 Holden Captiva LT
7 SEATER ALL WHEEL DRIVE
Driving Lights, Stability Control, Tow Bar, 6 Cylinder,
Keyless Entry & Ignition, Roof Rails, 3.0, Petrol, Auto,
129kms



\$16,995

2014 Holden Captiva LTZ
NZ New, Roof Rails, Tow Bar, Parking Sensors,
Turbo, NZ Navigation, 2.2, Diesel, Auto,
191kms



\$8,995

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



LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Ph 06 281 1925 • Chris Elliot 027 471 5972

Ph 06 757 3585 • Jamie Henry 021 556 223