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Double honour for Opunake Primary School. See page 14.



Under 8 Okato Coastal team win championship. Turn to page 20.



Dotterel Defenders. Page 15



Exhibition at Molloy Gallery worth a look. Page 26.

Man trapped in vehicle poses challenges

It took an hour and a half to extract a man from his vehicle when his ute left the road in Wiremu Road and ended upside down in an underpass on Tuesday September 5 at around midday.

The accident occurred half a kilometre south of Punehu Stream just north of the junction of Oeo and Opunake Roads. The man was trapped in the vehicle.

"It was one of the worst entrapments I've been to," said Craig Dingle from the Opunake Fire Service adding that his arm was sticking out of the car. "He was just so trapped in the car," said Craig. "We had to get the car back onto its wheels. Every time we moved the car it would hurt him. "You had to control the roll over."

Eventually by moving the vehicle very slowly inch by inch they got the car back on its wheels. They were then able to use the jaws of life to remove the roof and finally the dashboard to free the man who was then taken by rescue helicopter to Taranaki Base Hospital.

In an interesting twist, the man who was out of hospital by the Friday, was a member of the Eltham Fire Service and had trained some of the men. "He was very grateful," said Craig. Six fire appliances attended the accident.



Six fire services were involved in freeing the man trapped in the vehicle along with the Air Ambulance.

Craig said the Officer in Charge was from the Kaponga Fire Service who were first on the scene did a "fantastic job". Continued Craig "He was just really professional and well structured in the way he managed the extraction. "It was very well done."



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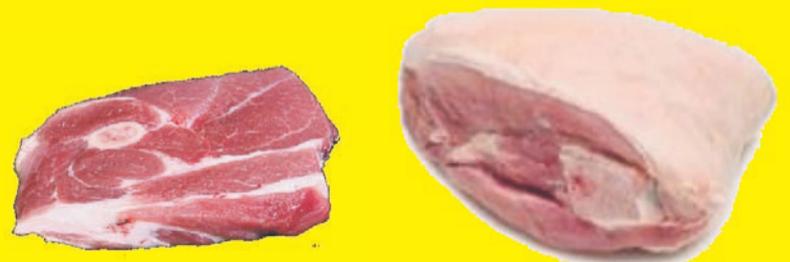
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Registered office: 23 Napier Street, Opunake
 PO Box 74, Opunake

Telephone and Fax: (06) 761-7016 a/h ph: (06) 761-8206

e-mail: Advertising ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
Editorial editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
Accounts accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

website: www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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 Bryan Kirk

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Letters to the Editor

Climate change

The wayward weather patterns of late are of considerable concern and it seems to be getting worse. The strategy to reduce the impact of climate change does not seem to get to grips with this. As I see it politicians and scientists are only tinkering with this situation.

The reduction in carbon emissions can certainly be of benefit but it does not deal with the core issue. More constructive decisions need to be made and we should look at one of the major contributing causes; "Deforestation." Let us go back to when the first Europeans arrived in New Zealand. Many thousands of hectares of bush were cleared to make way for agriculture and settlements. This not only happened in New Zealand but in many countries and it is still going on. According to Nasa we lose in excess of 77000 square kilometres of rain-forest per annum. (That is more than the size of Tasmania) This has to stop. An international fund needs to be set up to pay people not to clear any more rain forests. There are also many thousands of hectares of marginal land in many places on earth not suitable for food production but suitable to plant trees. People should be paid from this international fund to plant trees indigenous to their area and re-establish rain-forests. This will have many short term and long term benefits especially in poorer countries creating employment and providing habitats for many of the endangered species of life-forms as well. It can also

encourage tourism which has many economic benefits. This will re-establish the "carbon sponge" which has been decimated for many years. Future generations will thank us for it

*Tony Groot
 New Plymouth*

Housing boom in Okato

Okato over the years has always seemed to be a quiet interim place where farmers and townspeople meet, while their primary school has moved over into their high school and has been quietly and silently growing, but now this quiet coastal town is somewhat experiencing somewhat of a housing boom with a new subdivision called Looker Lane. Developer Wayne Looker opened up his new subdivision and most of the titles had been sold well before they were developed, now there's only one left.

In the last census Okato township had only 216 houses but now things are starting to change somewhat plus two brothers Manunu and Anmet Auld shifted from Kapiti three years ago for the surf. They liked Okato and bought neighbouring lots in this new subdivision as both were builders before starting their own roofing company. So what's all happening at Okato? Has there been an upsurge in some quiet unknown industry? I do know that Opunake over the years has been growing steadily, now it seems it's Okato's turn. I say good on you and keep it up, as one never knows what's really going to happen, especially around the coast.

*Tom Stephens
 New Plymouth*

Send your your views to:
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 23 Napier Street, Opunake.
 Fax: (06) 761 7016

email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz
 You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

Accolade for Walkway

I just took my dad, Barry, on a lovely walk through the coastal garden this morning and he was full of praise for it and said it was "the best walk he had been on for years." He has had major heart surgery over the years so the concrete path and easy access was much

appreciated. What a great community you have here to put this together. Go Opunake. We always enjoy our family visits here. It's a very special place.

*Debbie Lee and
 Barry Brook*



Barry Brook in the Opunake Coastal Garden Walkway

Another top hockey venue

Adjacent to Stratford's TET Stadium, the Taranaki Hockey Association built the first provincial full-sized international turf. Now what on earth is wrong having another built behind the New Plymouth Boys High School? Absolutely nothing. Should this ever happen, wouldn't it be great to have both New Plymouth and Stratford to share the men's and women's international hockey tournaments, maybe at the same time instead of one town having to take the brunt of having many overseas hockey teams playing on just one official turf one after another., and maybe share a test series

with both the Men's and Women's Black Sticks against any overseas teams. We all know that hockey is played mostly in the winter time along with many other winter sports, so why not try playing it in the summer, as cricket is the only sport played in summer, so let's try it, and tennis. Look, here in our province we must start helping and sharing our sporting interests, otherwise it sometimes gets too much for just one town.

*Tom Stephens
 New Plymouth*

The Class of '61 a trip back in time



1961 3A Form photo
 From left, back row Rosina Whakatutu; Robert Heslop; Danny Campbell; Ian Rhodes; Ken Ireland; Lindsay Murfitt; Paul Mason; Glen Gaston; Selwyn Blinkhorne; Mike Bingham; Bruce Sutton; John Gardiner; Denis Riseborough; Colleen Cleary.
 Third row Shirley Lawrence; Patricia Halford; Lyn Smith; Sandra Caverhill; Lois Beal; Wendy Walker; Christine Wyatt; Jill Capham; Beryl Davis; Mary Murphy; Carolyn Robinson; Rosemarie Knapman; Yvonne McCall; Mr Charlie Dowdle.
 Second row Valerie Scott; Margaret Harvey; Leonie Spring; Lorraine Hancock; Robyn Potts; Harley Watts; Rachel Feaver; Elinor Leatherbarrow; Janet Field; Joy Rookes; Helen Starck;
 Front row Wayne Reid; Graham Simpson; Russell Radford; Len James; Alec Wan; Jim Dawson; Kevin Nielsen; Peter Bamford; Harold Ingram; John Bayliss
 Also at the reunion and not in the above photo were:
 Henry Forsyth, Denis Chard, Christine Duff, Gaylene Davis, Elwyn Martin, Neil Sulzberger, Lyn Reardon

The Class of '61 a trip back in time

The Opunake High School third form class of 1961 had a great weekend early September when the old classmates caught up for a reunion in Opunake.

Initially as they were both turning 70 this year, Rosemarie Knapman-Smith who lives in Auckland and Lyn Humphries from New Plymouth who were born two weeks apart decided they would meet and celebrate their birthdays together.

"There was just going to be the two of us," said Rosemarie adding that their mothers were in Opunake Cottage Hospital together.

Word rapidly got around however and they decided to include all in 3A. Eventually when it was discovered some had married other third formers they extended it to all the third form and the numbers swelled to 36 including some partners. People arrived from all over New Zealand, plus one from

Melbourne, to attend.

The group had a busy weekend. After meeting at Puke Ariki for a coastal walk from the wind wand in New Plymouth, the weather intervened and they retired to the Arborio Café for lunch.

In the evening they enjoyed "a wonderful meal" and speeches at the Quality Plymouth Hotel.

On Sunday morning they met up at Opunake Lake and did the walkway ending up at their old school where current principal Simon Fuller took them on an escorted tour.

"The whole group was impressed at what the school is doing now and the progress in technology in the classroom since the days of 1961" said Rosemarie. Aileen and husband Dave prepared a cooked two course meal in the Hospitality Department and the group were served in the schools Koru lounge.

Then it was off to Everybody's Theatre where



The walk start near the lake

many had fond memories.

Debbie Campbell had opened up the theatre especially for the entourage and the group watched some old adverts that used to run when they were younger.

Rosemarie recalls walking from the school to see Ben Hur and The Ten Commandments at the theatre. Cost was 6 pence to get in. At half time they'd get an ice cream at Purser's Milk bar, which became Lilly's Milk bar.

Of those attending the reunion only three still live in Opunake; Henry Forsyth and Denis and Robyn Chard.

Robyn and Denis who met at primary and were both in the same third form year went on to marry and now have 13 grand children.

They recall that they used to run a serial after the main feature at the theatre which would "run for 15 minutes and stop at some vital time" so you'd have to come back, said Robyn with a laugh.

It was '66-67 before they got TV, said Robyn so everyone went to the pictures.

Rosemarie recalls that Harley Watts was their form captain at school and author Graham Lay was Head Boy. "A few have passed on," reflected Rosemarie.

"It had been a "brilliant" weekend said Rosemarie adding "the tongues never stopped".

Being back in Opunake was wonderful. "We grew up in the best village atmosphere - we were so free," said

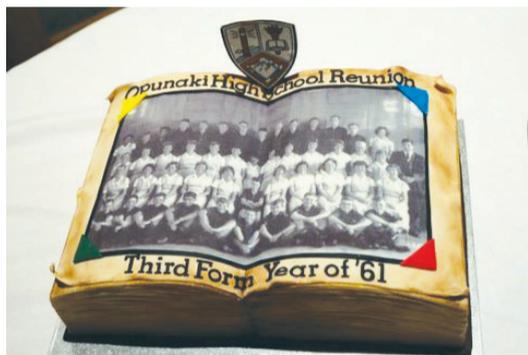
Rosemarie. "We spent our lives at the beach or playing sport."

And had Opunake

changed? "Sadly there are a number of empty buildings in Opunake's main street now".



Denis and Robyn Chard



Class photo on the cake (



Jonathan & Maura Young at the Opunake Beach Carnival

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COMMUNITY COMMENT

Changes to freedom camping bylaw

The district's Freedom Camping bylaw is under review with the Council proposing to make a couple of changes. Since adopting the Bylaw, Council has been monitoring sites and gathering information about the impact of freedom camping within the District. They have identified a number of 'hot spots' which they have focussed the review on and also undertaken



Craig Dingle

informal consultation with key stakeholders from those areas.

Based on the feedback from these stakeholders the main proposed changes include; prohibiting freedom camping from Paora Road, prohibiting freedom camping from the eastern end of Halse Place (Opunake), amending the limits on vehicle numbers, increasing the allocation

of designated car parks at certain sites, improved signage and looking at options for increased monitoring and enforcement. Public consultation will take place in October, so keep an eye out for this.

Historically, the public has had access to the coast for fishing and surfing, via the Council's Opunake Wastewater Treatment Plant site just north of Opunake. This access poses significant

health and safety risks for users and liabilities for the Council too if anyone was to be injured. The main health and safety risks are from the plant/treatment pond/wetlands effluent field and the unstable cliffs. To meet its health and safety obligations the Council must prohibit people from entering the site and from the end of this month will be permanently locking the gate to the Treatment Plant

and erecting more signage warning un-authorized people not to enter. So please make sure you don't access the coast via the Treatment Plant site.

Finally, spring is bringing typically unsettled weather. Let's hope it's not too long before the sun comes back to dry things out a bit.

*Craig Dingle
Chairman Egmont Plains Community Board.*

A gondola on the Mountain and other tourism ideas

Go for it, said the Minister for Small Business Jacqui Dean in response to a question asking for her comments on whether a gondola on Mt Taranaki would encourage tourists to come to Taranaki.

New Plymouth Member of Parliament Jonathan Young added that it would provide a huge opportunity to the region and create



Bob Clark, President of the Opunake & Districts Business Association and Liz Sinclair, Secretary of the Opunake and Districts Business Association and owner of Pihama Lavender, with suggestions from those attending the meeting.

accessibility to Mt Taranaki. "My hope is it will happen within ten years," he said. The gondola was one of

many ideas that came out of the Opunake Business Association networking event at Sandfords Events Centre in Opunake on Monday September 4.

The President of the Opunake & Districts Business Association Bob Clark introducing the guest

speakers fielded several of his own suggestions. When you leave Hawera, a sign points to New Plymouth and further along another sign points to Opunake, he said. "I'd like the sign to be in the same area as the sign to New Plymouth." Bob Clark and his wife came to live in

Opunake just under a year ago after deciding they liked the place. They were living in Lower Hutt.

Jonathan Young commented only two percent of international visitors come to Taranaki. Most arrive in Auckland, go to Rotorua then head down to Queenstown. These places are "jam packed" he said. "It's an opportunity to put our hands up and think what we have to offer." Developing the Pouakai Crossing could provide an alternative to the immensely popular but oversubscribed Tongariro Crossing was one of his suggestions.

Jacqui Dean said she moved to Oamaru 35 years ago from Dunedin with her husband Bill. Originally they had intended to go for one year, she said. But they've never left. "We love it," she said.

Thirty five years ago Oamaru was "where you stopped to go to the loo" she said. These days 250 international tourists stay in Oamaru every night.

A major tourist attraction that has been promoted is their Little Blue Penguins. Regarded once as "a nuisance" the community came to realise "We should be protecting them" said Jacqui and promoting them. They come in at night

at dusk so people stay the night," said Jacqui. Then they usually stay 2 or 3 days. The reclusive little birds are now a major tourism drawcard.

Steam punk is another attraction.

They have also diversified into all sorts of areas including developing their "beautiful public gardens", a cycle trail and promoting the mountain hinterland. Other ideas she suggested which were being developed in other regions such as the Waitaki Valley were glamping (posh camping).

The Tourism minister queried whether we had enough public toilets in Opunake for tourists. She encouraged asking assistance from the Council.

Referring to Opunake's natural assets such as the beach she urged people to look up the government website business.govt.nz

Afterwards the MPs joined those who chose to stay which was most of them in an evening meal at Soul Kitchen.

With the election just two and a half weeks away Bob Clark began the evening by stating "It's not a political meeting. It's about networking".

Indeed yes. It was an interesting night.

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Business as usual for St John Ambulance

On the 30th June 2017 the Opunake Area Committee went into recess.

Due to the lack of new members and the increased expectations on volunteer committee members to attend St John trainings and meetings, our committee held meetings with our Area Committee Relationship Manager to decide the best option for Opunake St John AC.

It was decided we would go into recess.

Nothing has changed in Opunake with the Ambulance Service. Opunake St John Area Committee has been merged with North Taranaki to secure continued support for St John services in Opunake. Even though St John no longer has a specific Area Committee in the community, two recent Area Committee members representing St John Opunake now serve on the North Taranaki Area Committee.

Going forward, all donations that are received from the community for Opunake St John will be spent in Opunake on what is needed for St John Ambulance Operational needs. Any specific requests from donors and supporters will stay in and be invested in our community on behalf of St John.

All equipment that is donated through the generosity of our community will continue to be acknowledged with our thanks and appreciation through our local paper or shown at local events and functions.

On August 15, the Opunake St John Ambulance held a light finger lunch at the Ambulance Station to accept and thank the Ikaroa Lodge No 115 for their very kind donation of First Aid personal Back Pack Bags for our Ambulance Officers.

These bags will be of great benefit to our St John members and will be seen being used in our



From left. Graham Cowie, Liz Sinclair, Kate Mclean, Mr Ron Bingham.

community. The Ikaroa Members present were Mr Ron Bingham the Almoner for the Lodge and Mr Graham Cowie who is Past Master and at present the secretary/treasurer. We thank these members very much for making this donation possible. The Opunake St John

Ambulance has also received a donation from the Opunake St Paul's Op Shop of \$1000. We thank them very much for this. Road Traffic Crashes have been higher than normal for this time of year particularly due to the sudden downpours of rain making visibility low and flooding across the road hard to avoid. Please

remember to drive to the conditions and adjust your speed accordingly.

We have welcomed Kate Mclean to our team and we are currently interviewing two new staff to join. If you would like to join please go to the St John website or contact myself.

Congratulations to Vlad Purgaric who has gained his Authority To Practice at Emergency Medical Technician level.

First Aid Courses will be held in the Sandfords Event Centre Opunake. The first of these courses is scheduled for Saturday October 7.

There are three First Aid Level 1 courses scheduled for 2018 at this stage on the following dates: Thursday April 5, Tuesday August 21 and Saturday October 27. More courses can be created, including First Aid refresher courses as the need arises.



Opunake Ambulance volunteers

People are able to book on to courses that are set up by either phoning 0800 785646 or through the St John website. The link for online bookings is <http://bookcourse.stjohn.org.nz/>

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Kieran Lawn Opunake Station Manager and Linda Campbell.

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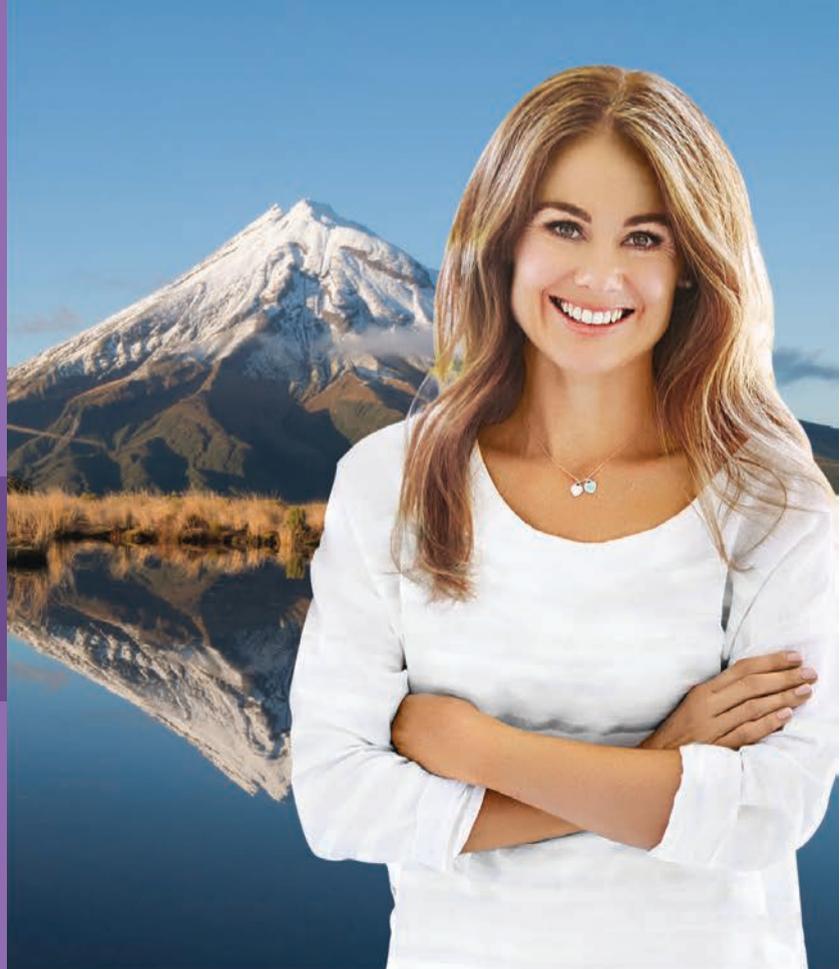
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Labour sees Whanganui race tightening

The race for the Whanganui seat looks set to be a close one, says Labour's candidate Steph Lewis.

She was commenting on a poll carried out for the Labour Party in the electorate in the second and third weeks of August.

The telephone poll was carried out independently and asked 1489 voters from around the electorate which candidate they would be voting for.

At that stage New Zealand First had not announced who they would be putting forward for the seat. National Party candidate Harete Hipango scored 35.2 per cent, ahead of Steph Lewis on 33.9 per cent, with ACT's Alan Davidson on four per cent, and the Greens' Nicola Patrick on 3.5 per cent. There were 18.2 per cent undecided.

In 2014, Chester Borrows, who is not seeking re-election, won the seat for National with a 4500 vote majority.

"A lead of 1.3 per cent is significantly smaller than the majority Chester had," Steph says. "This shows the race in the electorate is very close and with 18 per



Whanganui Labour candidate Steph Lewis

cent undecided it could go either way. I'm going to be working very hard in the next three weeks."

Money must be spent on health

The effect on poverty on children and the growing gap between rich and poor and its implications were addressed at a public meeting in New Plymouth by the Labour Spokesperson on Health Dr David Clark.



Dr David Clark (left) and Dr Nelson and Corie Haddock..

Dr Nicky Nelson who has worked as a pediatrician for 12 years in Taranaki and is a mother of three children also spoke at the meeting along with the Labour Candidate for New Plymouth Corie Haddock who gave a moving address about his own personal experience which included working in mental health.

"I learnt how disempowering the system can be," he said.

The system doesn't strive to understand. Front line staff are struggling. Front line staff are continually moved. We need to connect with people, we need to understand people, we need to listen to ensure they get the support that's required. We can also ensure they have a future.

Dr Nelson who began her talk by projecting on screen a quote: There can be no keener revelation of a society's soul than the way in which it treats its children. Nelson Mandela

1995 went on to relay some alarming statistics about child poverty.

"We live in the wealthiest province in New Zealand. Our children should be thriving," she said.

"Children need to be born into sufficient income for them to thrive."

To understand you need to understand wealth she remarked adding that half of New Zealanders own less than 5% of the wealth.

She indicated graphs that showed that while the income of the poorest ten percent has barely changed in the last 30 years, the wealth of the richest one percent continues to climb.

included a third in Waitara, a third in New Plymouth and a third around the coast and that Maori were disproportionately among them, she said. Child poverty was related to deliberate political decisions she said.

It was especially critical in the first three years of life and pre natal that children were not deprived, the medical doctor emphasized.

Dr Clark who has a theology background and spoke last began by saying "the thing that got me into politics was reducing inequalities.

Continued page 10

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\$25 billion dollars of tax surpluses are forecast. This is your money. ACT will give it back to you in tax cuts.

Authorised by Alan Davidson
76 Carlton Ave Wanganui

CRIME

ACT wants 3 strikes for burglars: 3rd conviction, go to jail.

RMA

The RMA is a millstone on our economy, hurting business, farmers, trades, builders and housing.

ACT will dump it.

YOUR TARANAKI CANDIDATES



ACT Leader David Seymour MP



Aneka Carlson New Plymouth



Alan Davidson Whanganui
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EDUCATION

It's a disgrace that so many children leave school unable to read. 70% of men in prison are functionally illiterate.

ACT will fight tooth and nail to make sure every primary school child learns to read.

Maori and Island children succeed in ACT's Partnership schools.

David Seymour cannot do this on his own.
You need more ACT MPs. We need your party vote
OWN YOUR FUTURE PARTY VOTE ACT



COASTAL COPS

Don't be afraid to dial 111 if you spot something illegal

Hello again. What has happened to those warm sunny days of spring? If it's not raining it's blowing a freezing cold south westerly. Bring on those long hot summer days.

Unfortunately the recent bad weather has not done much to slow down things on the crime front. We have been very busy lately with the theft of motor vehicles, domestic assaults, car crashes and mindless wilful



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY damage by a few younger people in the community who have no respect for

our town or the property of anyone who lives in it.

On this matter I would like to raise two points. Firstly 111 is not only for when tornados are racing through town.

If you see or hear something going on that shouldn't be, call 111 and give us a fighting chance to catch them in the act. All too often recently we have heard two or three days later about incidents where someone has seen something

happening and not called 111 as they did not think it was serious enough. Please call and report what you have seen. I know that we are not always able to attend immediately, but if you don't call, these people just get to cruise around town and cause damage as they please.

The second matter is a delicate one. We all live in a small community where most people know each

other or know of each other. The problem with this is that some people are reluctant to talk with us when they know someone has been doing something illegal. However, you must consider that by not coming forward you are only allowing the behaviour to continue and, as with most things, the more they get away with the more they do. Next time it might be your vehicle that is stolen.

The theme for this article as

you have probably guessed is call 111 whenever you see anything illegal going on and help us keep the Sunshine Coast – (where it is always shining but often behind the clouds), a great place to live.

That's about it for now remember, all information will be treated as anonymous unless requested otherwise and alternatively you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Being a volunteer is a real commitment

The other day, a local said to me "The reason why you guys (the fire brigade) are being called to attend medical issues is because the Opunake St. John Area Committee has gone into recess and they now don't have the people to man the ambulance."

My reply was, "that statement couldn't be further from the truth. The Opunake St John Area Committee has never ever been the personnel that have manned the ambulance."

The ambulance side of St Johns and the Area Committee side are two different identities and have very different roles. The ambulance is, and still is, manned by highly trained locals who volunteer their time and effort to help other locals who require assistance with a medical issue. All ambulance personnel are under the direction of the Station Manager, Kieran Lawn, as he is responsible for the day to day running of the ambulance service.

The group that have gone into recess, The Opunake St John Area Committee, looked after the financial side of things. This portfolio has slowly been whittled away by the central office (in Hamilton) to a point where they couldn't write a cheque, or buy any incidentals if they weren't on the annual budget. By that I mean if a new recruit joins up and requires a

first aid kit, it couldn't be purchased until it was entered into the next year's budget. The bottom line is many Area Committees are now past their use by date because St. John central office has taken over control of all aspects. As a result, the Opunake Area Committee felt it wasn't worth their time attending meetings as there was basically nothing to do. Opunake is not alone with this stance as other small townships like Hunterville have taken this direction as well.

So, if we go back to the original statement at the start of this article, if you call for an ambulance and the Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade turn up, don't despair. We have been sent because the ambulance control centre has worked out that for some reason, we would be on your doorstep in the quickest time. The ambulance will arrive in due course, but our highly trained crew will be able to assist in the meantime. We are trained to a National Standards level to perform CPR, administer oxygen therapy, monitor blood pressures and pulse rates, as well as attending to general first aid requirements. We then pass our notes and any other relevant information on to the ambulance crew when they arrive. This way the process is sped up resulting in the patient being in the hospital much quicker

than if they had to wait for an ambulance in the first instance.

If you would like to become a volunteer with either organisation, the St. John Ambulance Service (Kieran Lawn on 027 468 1486) or the Fire Service (Rodney Woods on 761 8747), get in touch with the aforementioned people. Being a volunteer is a real commitment, so give it some thought and then get on the phone if you think "it's for you." Both organisations are always looking out for extra hands and there is a sense of satisfaction when you are giving something back to the community. Often I hear people saying "Gee the ambulance or the fire brigade were slow getting to the call the other day." My standard answer is "They are all volunteers and you are very lucky to have them at all. But if you are not happy with the service, join up and help out."

I thought the lunch time siren was a tad early on Tuesday 5th but it turned out to be one of the trickiest motor vehicle accidents (MVA's) we have attended. The call came in at about 10 minutes to 12 o'clock when a service vehicle had run off the Wiremu Road and ended up on its' side wedged in a three metre deep drain leading from an underpass. Not only was the driver pinned in the vehicle, but his arm was out the window

and was trapped underneath. This meant any movement to the ute could have very serious consequences to the driver, so we had to be very mindful of this at all times. It took over two hours for the various fire brigades (Kaponga, Opunake, Eltham, Rahotu, New Plymouth, along with Hawera) to extract the driver from the tangled mess. The Stratford brigade was sent to Opunake to cover the coast as fire fighting personnel were very thin on the ground. The Rahotu brigade had been dispatched to the incident because both the Manaia and the Opunake second appliance couldn't initially be crewed. This exposed the area should another call come in, so the Stratford Brigade were mobilised.

Once the driver had been parted from his vehicle, he was transported to hospital

via the rescue helicopter that had been waiting for close on the entire two hours. I think the Kaponga Brigade would have had to have spent the next two hours once they got back to their station cleaning the cow muck off their equipment.

All in all, it was a great result from a bunch of people from all over Taranaki who had worked like hell to extricate the unfortunate driver. Good work team and a big thanks to the employers who allowed the volunteer portion of the rescue team to be 2-3 hours away from their business to go and help out. Cheers.

We were on the move again the following day when a car spun out on the Eltham Road and it too ended up wedged in a drain. The two occupants were lucky in the fact that they were able to climb out through the car boot and

escape to freedom. The St John ambulance arrived to tend to their needs and it was time for us to return to base.

We were called to a Hickey Place address the following evening when the householder thought there was heat coming from inside a wall in the house. It turned out that the "heat waves" were reflections that were being given off from an inbuilt fireplace and were playing tricks on the opposite wall, giving the impression that it was warming up. Luckily that's all it was so we were soon heading in the direction of the fire station.

Remember the All Services (Fire, Police, St. John.) Safety Display Day at the Event Centre on October 14.

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A strong plan to take New Zealand forward

The General Election gives us all the opportunity to have a say on the make-up of Parliament for the next three years. In this increasingly busy world, advanced voting, which opened on Monday, allows

voters to cast their ballot before Election Day on 23 September.

The election is a contest of ideas, and every day of this campaign National has been rolling out policies to tell New Zealanders about

our plan to take the country forward.

Our plan supports growth, it backs businesses, it focuses on more jobs and lifting household incomes, and it provides a safety net for those in need.

Unlike Labour we won't impose new taxes that would hit households and businesses and slow the economy. And we won't borrow and spend like Labour who lack a plan to lift economic growth.

The strong economy, backed by National's successful plan, means we can build on our already comprehensive support for families and households. Here's just a few of our policies. If you're on the average wage you'll get \$1000 a year under our Family Incomes Package



JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

tax changes. This package will deliver an average of \$26 a week to more than 1.3 million working families. It will also benefit around 750,000 superannuitants and 41,000 students.

Our Parents and Newborns Package will support families to grow and stay healthy, while also putting more money in their pockets with 22 weeks paid parental leave that both parents

can share. Cheaper GP visits will benefit 600,000 more low income Kiwis. And by lifting elective surgeries to 200,000 a year will ensure access to life-changing operations like hip replacements for thousands more New Zealanders.

National is committed to making our communities safer. We're clamping down on crime, holding offenders to account and breaking the cycle of offending. We're pumping half-a-billion dollars into the Police to put more officers on the street and working towards our goal of making New Zealand the safest country in the world.

We're getting tough on gangs and meth and supporting wayward kids to kick addiction and get back on the tracks.

National knows that good infrastructure is vital to our daily lives and to our future economic prosperity so our policies commit to big investments in road, rail, housing, schools, hospitals and broadband.

We all need to seize the opportunities our strong economy is giving us because it could so easily slip away. That is why a vote for National is a vote for three more years of a sound economic plan that is delivering for Kiwis. Check out our policies: <https://www.national.org.nz/policies>

Jonathan Young MP

Authorised by: Jonathan Young Cnr Gill & Liardet Street, New Plymouth



JONATHAN YOUNG
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

A: Corner Gill & Liardet Streets
P: 06 759 1363
E: newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz
W: www.jonathanyoung.co.nz
f Jonathan Young Mp
t jonathanyoungmp

National
www.national.org.nz



A frightening report

New Plymouth's Labour candidate says he has had a nasty fright from a new report on the state of the Taranaki District Health Board.

A study in the New Zealand Medical Journal has highlighted large numbers of people being overlooked for treatment

despite suffering mental, surgical and dental problems.

Corie Haddock says it's deeply concerning that nearly 60,000 people couldn't get an appointment with a specialist after being referred for treatment by their doctor last year.

"This scares me. And after the recent story in the Taranaki Daily News about record hospital

admissions I'm seriously worried about the level of local health funding."

Mr Haddock says while out campaigning, he's been seeing first-hand the suffering of local

people who aren't being treated.

"I talked to the mother of a three year old who keeps getting ear infections. Their GP refers them to the specialist for grommets but the specialist tells her he isn't acute enough. So they end up back at the GP. Without the treatment this young fella could have potentially serious

long term problems - as well having to cope with pain on a daily basis."

Corie Haddock says a Labour-led government will boost Health funding by eight billion dollars over four years. He says they'll lower the cost of GP visits by \$10, and half of New Zealanders will pay \$8 a visit or less.

"And for those worried about how we're going to do that, the details of our fully-costed fiscal plan are freely available on our website"

Adrian Rurawhe for Te Tai Hauāuru



Let's do this.

Party vote



Labour

Authorised by Andrew Kirton, 160 Willis St, Wellington

MANA List candidates

The MANA Party has announced their four list candidates:

Tuatahi: Hone Harawira, Ngāpuhi Nui Tonu, former Member of Parliament for Tai Tokerau and community;

Tuarua: Lisa McNab, Te Paatu, Ngāti Kahu, President of MANA and Māori health promoter wants better health outcomes for all whānau;

Tuatoru: James Papali'i, Samoan Irish is the MANA Pasifika Chairperson, a Māngere community worker who works to reduce domestic violence amongst men and whānau;

Tuawhā: Tracey-lee Re-

pia, Ngāpuhi, Whanganui River, me Ngāti Porou is Chairperson of MANA Raki-paewhenua, a small business operator and advocates Māori to take up whānau businesses.

Andrew Paul MANA Secretary says, "the MANA 2017 candidates are Kaupapa Māori driven and committed to help change this nation to benefit the most vulnerable of society."

"The MANA 2017 Team are passionate about working with like minded people and organisations to achieve key goals i.e. to eliminate child poverty, make education and health freely available and to ensure homeless are housed."

"Hone has a loyal team who represent their local and regional communities, have been committed to MANA since 2011. They have the courage and conviction of all community workers to work together to make change for theirs and the wider community."

"Our election strategy is to win one Māori seat Tai Tokerau by calling on Māori to give Hone the candidate vote. South of Tai Tokerau, we call on MANA supporters to give their party votes to MANA, to take another MP or two alongside Hone into Parliament."

Chester Borrows MP FOR WHANGANUI

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Prime minister comes to Opunake

Prime minister Bill English's big blue campaign bus arrived in Opunake on Saturday. He had begun the day in Wanganui and stopped at Hawera, Opunake and Oakura before finishing the day watching the All Blacks take down the Pumas at Yarrow Stadium in New Plymouth.

The Taranaki Association of Filipino Farmers were holding their assembly in Opunake that day and they were there for his midday meeting at the Sandfords Event Centre.

Mr English was mobbed by people wanting photos and selfies when he arrived. He said he was enjoying the campaign.

"We are getting a positive reception," he said. "Everyone is interested in politics for a brief time and wanting to talk about it."

Coastal Taranaki has a large Filipino population,

many of who work on farms. Taranaki Association of Filipino Farmers chairman Fernando Ramos said that with immigration being a hot election issue, many have concerns about their immigration and residency situations.

"We believe that we Filipinos can contribute to development and economic growth of New Zealand," he said. "The only message we want to give to the government is give us those slots on the quota. The other parties want to trim it down. We Filipinos are freedom lovers. The first thing we see here is freedom in all aspects, freedom to live, freedom to survive, freedom to work and share our skills. We are happy for the freedom we have had in the last nine years. We are the first generation of Filipino migrants. Now we want to save the future of the next



The Prime Minister was mobbed for photos and selfies.

generation." With Mr English was Paolo

Garcia who is seeking to be this country's first Filipino MP, although as National candidate for the Labour stronghold of New Lynn he would appear to have his work cut out for him.

"Nothing is easy and we're trying hard to knock on every door," he says. He was a lawyer in the Philippines where there is a civil law system which they got from Spain. When he arrived in New Zealand in 2005 it meant having to adapt to New Zealand's common law system.

"The New Zealand system is good, simple and clear," he says. "I think we are blessed to be in New Zealand. We are getting better off and we want to give back. It's not just about ourselves."

Travelling with Mr English was his wife Mary. Their son, Bart had milked cows in Rahotu, and they are not unfamiliar with Coastal Taranaki.

"I feel like we're in friendly territory with lovely people," she said.

She was looking forward to enjoying the rugby that night and watching the home town All Blacks in New Plymouth.

"I'm jealous of the Barretts, as they've produced not just one, but three All Blacks."

She tries to accompany her husband when she can. "I'm a GP and I run a practice in Wellington, so with it being winter, it's been a busy time," she said.

Mr English drew cheers when he began his speech with a greeting in tagalog. He recalled previous visits to this part of Taranaki including the time he enjoyed "a noisy beer" at the Rahotu Tavern.

"Can I thank you for all the hard work you do in the dairy industry. It's your expertise and your confidence that's made New Zealand a success story. You are the



Bill English with students, Principal and the Board of Trustees chairman of Opunake High School.

reason New Zealand is in a strong position," he said. "All the regions are doing pretty well and we want to keep that moving along. The last thing we need is a government taking taxes out of South Taranaki and taking it to Wellington."

New Plymouth National Party MP Jonathan Young cited the opening of CoastalCare and the

development of Everybody's Theatre as well as Opunake High School's success in NCEA results.

"This is one of the iconic smaller regional towns that's got great promise," he said.

After the meeting, it was time for more photos and selfies, then it was back into the big blue bus and the road to New Plymouth.

Transitioning to green energy

Gareth Hughes, Green MP recently visited New Plymouth to speak at a public meeting about transitioning to clean energy, the future of fossil fuels and the Green Infrastructure Fund.

Mr Hughes is the Greens spokesperson on Energy and Resources.

"At present the revolution in cheap, 100% clean energy is the main engine of economic opportunity and job creation in most of the industrialised world, said Mr Hughes.

Price Waterhouse Cooper say renewables are worth potentially \$22 billion to the NZ economy.

Renewables will create more jobs than the oil and



Green Party MP Gareth Hughes.

gas sector. "The fastest growing job

in the US is a wind turbine technician.

"New Zealand is being left out of this clean energy revolution and the Green Party want this to change and support establishing a Green Infrastructure Fund," Mr Hughes said.

"The Green Infrastructure Fund will kick-start new clean infrastructure projects like solar and wind power installations, energy efficient buildings, biofuels, and other clean technologies and create new jobs.

"Funding for start-up will initially be paid for by increasing oil royalty rates in New Zealand to the international average rate of 70%.

"By establishing a government-owned, independent, for profit Green Infrastructure Fund there is the opportunity to create transformational low carbon, climate resilient projects and good jobs," said Mr Hughes.

Steph Lewis

for Whanganui

022 1917 911
steph.lewis@labour.org.nz
labour.org.nz/steph_lewis
facebook.com/stephlewishwhanganui

Authorised by Andrew Kirton,
160 Willis St, Wellington

Party vote
Let's do this.

Corie Haddock

for New Plymouth

corie.haddock@labour.org.nz
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Jacqui Dean visits Opunake

On Monday September 4 the Hon Jacqui Dean MP visited Opunake to speak to the Opunake Business Association. She is the Minister for Commerce & Consumer Affairs, the Minister for Small Business, as well as Associate Minister for ACC and Local Government. She visited the Opunake and Coastal News office in the company of MP for New Plymouth Jonathan Young.



Jonathan Young MP and Jacqui Dean MP.

"I've had a great day in New Plymouth, we were kept very busy," Jacqui said. She said this was her first time in Opunake. "I'm struck how beautiful everything is," she enthused.

Jacqui is the MP for Waitaki and was elected in September 2005. She has been a parliamentarian for the 48th to the 51st parliaments. She lives in Oamaru, childhood home of writing great Janet Frame. Before entering Parliament she was Deputy Mayor of the Waitaki District Council, and has also worked in Consumer Affairs.

Her campaign for re-election is going well. However, she is greatly concerned by

Labour's proposal to impose a water tax on farmers. "This has a number of farmers extremely worried," she comments. She said this amounts to a \$45,000 tax on most farms - on top of their other outgoings such as rates and income tax." She is especially concerned for farmers of small holdings. The impact of the proposal, if implemented, would affect the farmers' viability and

would have far-reaching net effects including the livelihood of tanker drivers, farm workers moving away and school rolls plummeting. "It would devastate many parts of New Zealand," she warns. "The effect would be severe in Central Otago," she cautions citing one example in her region.

Jacqui mentions Labour spokesperson David Parker who has said the revenue

gathered would be entrusted to regional councils. "Who want to give more power to regional councils and there is no guarantee farmers would benefit," she comments.

Jacqui claimed that the new leadership of Jacinda Adern "had re-vitalised Labour's fortunes." However, she warns, "It's the same old Labour regardless." (She mentions such likely policy proposals as a wealth tax and a Capital Gains tax).

She said her own electorate kept her very busy as it was one of the largest in the nation. She sometimes has to spend three hours driving just to get to another engagement or meeting. "However, I give it everything I've got - that's what a good constituent MP should do."

Overall, Jacqui considers NZ has "one of the best democracies in the world" and MPs are much more "accessible than in most countries," as well as being "the least corrupt."

This election voters have "a clear choice." They should vote National for a stable economy and strong environment."

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Robert England on Wednesday & Fridays for buying and selling houses, farms & businesses; trusts, wills and estates.

Neal Harding on Thursday, for residential sales and purchases, family, district & criminal court matters, civil & business matters.

Stephanie Coulter on Tuesdays for employment matters, house purchasing and selling, refinancing and wills.

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Money must be spent on health

Continued from page 6

Inequalities in New Zealand have grown faster than in any other Western country. We can make choices in how we set up our country, how we spend our money. "I think as a country we can do so much better."

"Over half a million New Zealanders can't afford to go to a GP," he said.

It was symptomatic in the general decline in living standards in New Zealand.

Of those aged 25-40 years, half once owned their homes. A generation later, a quarter own their own homes. Owning your home represented security and a settled upbringing.

The importance of investing early makes much sense, he said.

Making sure we build affordable, not high end

housing as happens currently, was a priority. Labour with its Kiwibuild programme would build more modest 90 square metre houses like state houses.

Labour would also be dropping the cost of GP visits by \$10 per person.

Half of all surgeries were done in the private sector. "If you want better outcomes you build up your public system," he said citing the example of someone who went privately and whose cancer was detected early gave them a better prognosis which wasn't fair on those who didn't. "People who can afford private care jump the queue."

In response to two people in the audience who spoke about their own frustrating experiences with the mental health system Dr Clark remarked that again this was an example of where there needed to be greater

investment in health.

One in five New Zealanders in every year has a mental health issue, he said adding there had been a 60% increase in people accessing it in the last decade.

Outlining further Labour policy, Dr Clark said they also wanted to have a nurse with mental health training at every school.

There also needed to be easier access to mental health via GPs.

The shadow spokesperson on health also spoke about the shortage of GPs in rural areas which they wanted to address by making sure medical students came from rural areas and, once trained, that there were opportunities for them to advance when employed in rural practices.

Less money was now being spent proportionately in health, "it's time for a change", he said.

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Murray Chong - policy not billboards

New Plymouth District councillor Murray Chong was recently selected as New Zealand First candidate for the New Plymouth electorate. "I'm relieved that we have got a representative in New Plymouth," Cr Chong comments.

He admits he is not especially keen on erecting billboards. "I'm not one to push for billboards - you should vote for policies not bother with hundreds of billboards. It's important to read policy. Billboards do not run the country, policies do."

Murray says his campaign is going well and includes "debating, talking to people, and generally communicating with people."

Speaking of his time as a New Plymouth councillor he says, "I speak for people. I'm a minority I'm voted by the people and that's who I represent - not management." He shares that he is virtually the only councillor against the reintroduction of Fluoride (to water supplies) a material which he describes as a "poison."

He points out that there is



Cr Murray Chong, New Zealand First candidate.

a myriad of New Zealand First policies so he is concentrating on a select few. "Most important for Taranaki is money for levies going back to the region. He

mentions the example of the oil and gas industry that pay a substantial levy, but only about 2% makes it back to Taranaki. According to NZ First policy, 25% should be

returned to Taranaki. Murray considers that Taranaki yields too much money to Wellington as it is. "We give more in levies to the Government than any other region."

Another policy Murray strongly upholds is NZ First's intention to do away with the Maori seats to "eliminate race-based politics."

Another policy of his party is to drastically reduce immigration numbers to 10,000 per annum. Presently 70,000 to 80,000 immigrants are let in. He points out that Great Britain, with over 50 million people, restrict immigration to just 100,000 annually - meaning NZ, per capita allows many more immigrants to settle in our nation each year. "At present the big cities just can't keep up with the infrastructure," he warns.

The policy of reducing the parliamentary seats to 100 is another policy of note.

Murray mentions the role of his leader Hon Winston Peters as crucial. There is only one party that can guarantee to be part of the Government and that's New Zealand First. "At the end of the day it's Winston who will decide the result as to who is the Government."

As for the New Plymouth electorate Murray urges vot-

ers to vote for him. He points out that incumbent Jonathan Young will remain MP anyway, by virtue of the List, if not the voters, so "People should vote smartly" and end up with two MPs for the region. "If voters vote for the current MP (Mr Young) it's a wasted vote."

Murray points out that he has lived in New Plymouth all his life - unlike any of the other candidates "which is very important." He continues, "I say things as I see them and am not afraid to do so. We need some people in Parliament like that." He also shares, "I'm a closet greenie and mentions his solar panels. He has been an active member of Sea Shepherd until recently and has supplied a vessel at his own cost to patrol the Taranaki coast. He also says he's picked up tonnes of rubbish on the coast over the last couple of years.

If you would like to help Murray or know more about New Zealand First you can phone 06 758 8760 or 021 936 837.

Conservation Board to appeal seabed mining decision

The Taranaki-Whanganui Conservation Board has lodged an appeal against the Environment Protection Authority's (EPA) approval of an application by Trans-Tasman Resources Limited to undertake seabed mining off the South Taranaki Bight.

The decision in favour of Trans-Tasman Resources Limited was announced on 10 August 2017 and required a casting vote from the chairperson of the Authority's four-member Decision Making Committee.

Board chairperson Brendon Te Tiwha Puketapu said the Board had submitted against the proposal during the public consultation phase and had now carried that action



The sea area implicated in the controversial proposal.

further by lodging a formal appeal against the EPA's decision within the deadline date of 31 August. "The Board discussed its options at great length. The

EPA's decision could only be appealed on matters of law and the Board received advice that there were genuine and reasonable questions of law within its conserva-

tion management functions to proceed. "The Board has therefore focused its appeal on questions of law relating to how the EPA should discharge its

duties in obtaining the best available information, apply the precautionary principle and what falls within the scope of an adaptive management approach.

"It has also sought to clarify how the EPA should have taken into account the Resource Management Act and in particular the strong directives of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement.

"The Board is committed to participating appropriately in the High Court process as it progresses. The Board is aware the High Court will set a timetable in due course," Mr Puketapu said. Dr Robert Shaw, who lives in Opunake, is a member of the Taranaki-Whanganui

Conservation Board He was appointed to the Board by the Associate Minister of Conservation, Hon Nicky Wagner. He was a part of the team that presented the original Board submission to the Environmental Protection Authority and he also presented a personal submission. His personal submission was on the likely net financial cost of seabed mining to South Taranaki.

He argued that extractive industries are the least desirable form of economic development because ultimately they just made local people unemployed and take raw resources away from the area.

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Ninth placing for boys basketball team

The Opunake High School Senior Boys team travelled to compete in the North Premier A Secondary Schools tournament held in Tauranga on September 5-8.

The Senior Boys basketball team travelled with the commitment to compete to their full potential and to come away knowing that they had all given 100 per cent on the court. As the coach, I would like to acknowledge the team; for their determination, great team work, support for each other on and off the court. What a great group of young men that represented themselves, their whanau and their school with pride, composure and purpose. They pulled themselves back from a couple of games where they were down, took control and came away with the win.

At the end of the pool games, the team placed third in their pool. The boys finished the tournament by placing ninth overall (out of 20 teams), a great achievement placing inside the Top 10 category for Premier A teams (Small schools) in the North Island. Well-deserved accolades to the Opunake Senior Boys team for all that they have achieved.

The boys played a total of six games over the three and a half days. Scores. Versus Onewhero, Waikato 58 - 67. Versus Sir Edmund Hillary, Otara 67 - 45. Versus Te Aroha, Te Aroha 43 - 61. Versus Kokiri, Papamoa 59 - 51. Versus Cullinane, Wanganui 67 - 51. Versus Te Rangi Aniwanuiwa, Kaitaia 103 - 59.

Janine Luke-Taamaru.



The Opunake High School Senior Boys Basketball team. Back row: (from left) Robyn Davey (Manager) Ahurei Karena, Anthony Kidd, Kenan Sionetama, Harley Loveridge-Seymour, Janine Luke-Taamaru (Coach) Front row: (from left) Shyden Preston, Jacob Maxwell, Joel Clement, CJ Taamaru, Regan Bloemen

The next issue of the Opunake and Coastal News will be coming out on September 29.

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Board votes funds for parade

Held the day before Christmas, the annual Opunake Christmas Parade has become an integral part of yuletide celebrations in Taranaki. The parade is organised every year by the Opunake and District Business Association, and Association chairman Bob Clark went to the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting in Rahotu to ask for

\$1500 to help run this year's event.

Mr Clark had been elected Association chairman last year after shifting to Opunake from the Hutt Valley, where he said Christmas parades were a "different experience."

"What surprised me at last year's Christmas Parade was the number of people there and the participants, whether it be floats, veteran cars or big trucks. A lot of people come to town to see it, and it's expensive for a small association to run it," he said.

Last year the parade had

cost \$2433 to run, which included the costs of closing the streets and the subsequent public liability insurance required.

South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop said he attended all the district's Christmas parades.

"Opunake is an important one to keep going," he said.

There was some discussion about whether making this grant would set a precedent.

It was noted that the Community Board had in the past given \$500 to the Manaia Lions Club towards running the Manaia Christmas Parade, and it was

suggested that it might be a good idea to make the same contribution towards the Opunake parade.

Community Board deputy chairman Andy Whitehead said while he would support \$500 being given, Opunake was a bigger town than Manaia, so he believed the board could have been more generous. If Rahotu were to have a parade, they would be likely to get less than would larger centres like Opunake or Manaia.

The board voted to grant \$500 from its discretionary fund to go towards this year's parade.

Manaia WI

The September meeting of the Manaia Women's Institute was held in the St Cuthbert's lounge on Tuesday September 5.

The Grandmothers group reported that they had met in the Waimate Hotel Cafe

for lunch for their August meeting.

Janice Walsh demonstrated icing cup cakes. Members then had a chance to ice their own cakes.

Competition winners. Shrub.1. Ann Chisnall. 2. Daphne Ashley. 3. May Mulholland

Bloom.1. Phyllis Malcolm. 2. Daphne Ashley. 3rd equal Ann Chisnall and Janice Walsh

Prettiest Cup, Saucer and Plate. 1. Daphne Ashley. 2. Shirley Barr. 3. Clela Clark Cheese Muffins. 1. Ann Chisnall. 2. Janice Walsh. The wondering coin was won by Janice Walsh,.

Manaia Golf results

Junior results. Putting. 1. Ryan Wickstead. 2. Carter Symes. 3rd equal Ashton Sgharep and Hannahg Symes. Pitching. 1. Hannah Symes. 2. Ashton Sharp. 3. Ryan Wicksteads. Lobing. 1. Ashton Sharp. 2. Ryan Wickstead. 3. Hannah

Symes. End of month tournament. 1. John Oliver. 2nd equal Winston Kidd and M.Taylor. 3rd Bruce Gibson. Men's Saturday. Best Nett and Stableford. 1. Robert Snowdon. 2. Gary Dowdle. 3. Caleb Symes.

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Soldier recounts experiences driving through liberated Europe

In our last issue we ran part of a letter written by John McLean(Jock) Kirk, father of well known Taranaki artist Graham Kirk, who towards the end of World War II was a driver for a New Zealand officer tasked with making contact with liberated New Zealand POWs. This week he continues his adventures driving through Europe. READ ON.

As we moved on the Jerries became thicker still, by this time there were tractors towing four or five other vehicles and in many cases there were horses pulling cars, there were horses and carts by the score and further along there were bullocks pulling carts and in some cases there would be a horse and bullock working together pulling one cart, the vehicles would contain mostly soldiers but the percentage of women and children became greater as time went on, they sure are afraid of the Russkies.

We got this sort of thing all the way to Hagenow which we reached at about 4 o'clock. There it was just bedlam, it appeared that the Jerries just had to be put off the road altogether and they covered the fields for as far as the eye could see. There were cars, trucks, motorbikes, bikes, carts, horses, bullocks and I even saw a couple of Alsatian dogs pulling a small cart.

There was a prisoner-of-war camp there and all the lads who had been penned up there were on the loose, they were driving German cars and some of them were worth a thousand pounds or more, many a soldier was driving a great Mercedes-Benz or a Horsch Auto Union, others had motorbikes and some of the less lucky ones had to be satisfied with bicycles. A number of them had not driven before but were learning fast, a lot of them had got tight on wine or schnapps or vodka and were having the time of their lives. It was good to see them though, they had a pretty tough time and some of them had been POWs since Dunkirk five years ago, one could not blame them for going a bit wild, there was one Kiwi among them, he for a wonder was a very quiet chap, not like the average Kiwi soldier, I know how most of the boys would have acted in his place. The place was only liberated the day before. It is a good thing we were not a day earlier or we might have got



John McLean(Jock) Kirk

into trouble as an American officer who was on the same job as us did, he went a bit too far and fast and became a prisoner himself.

I think Hagenow was the most interesting place we struck, perhaps it was just that for the first time we were able to do something really useful, all our travelling in the past in my opinion was



Allied ex POWs at Hagenow.

just a waste of time and gas. Here we were in touch with the POWs right in their camp.

All these fellows had marched from East Prussia, about 500 miles, the Jerries had shifted them out when the Russians made it too hot for them, a number of the lads were in poor condition but their spirits were very high, I suppose for the first time for many years.

The boss gave them all the dope he could, they were all ears for what he had to say, he was the only British officer in the area at the time so he did the job for the English and colonials alike,

he is very good on his job and would work all night if he thought he could do something to help the boys.

On the second day there the lads started to move out by trucks to a place named Lüneberg where they were to be flown to England, most of them went that day but a few had to wait until the next. That afternoon the boss wanted to go out to the aerodrome where the chaps were leaving from and as I wanted to put in half a day's work on the truck he suggested that I get from one of the lads who had borrowed a nice Mercedes-Benz from a Jerry officer to take him out there and then I could have the afternoon doing maintenance on my bus. It worked out very nicely, it was just as well I did get to work on the truck as the brake rod had come undone and was about to

much driving so I had to take it on too, at 90 kilos an hour it was just starting to purr.

Next day we had to go to a place named Schwerin about 30 miles from the Baltic Sea and about the same distance east of Hamburg, all along the road the scene was the same, Germans everywhere, soldiers, men, women and children, all standing, sitting or walking around, not knowing what to do or what was going to happen to them.

While at Schwerin we visited two POW camps, at the smallest of the two the chaps were not so badly off and they had plenty of food, thanks mainly to the Red Cross, they were very glad to see us and put us on a great fuss, they would not let us go until we had a cup of tea with them, we needed the tea too, one of the Tommies insisted that I accept a German pistol as a gift from him, it was a neat little affair and I was very grateful to him. There were two Kiwis there.

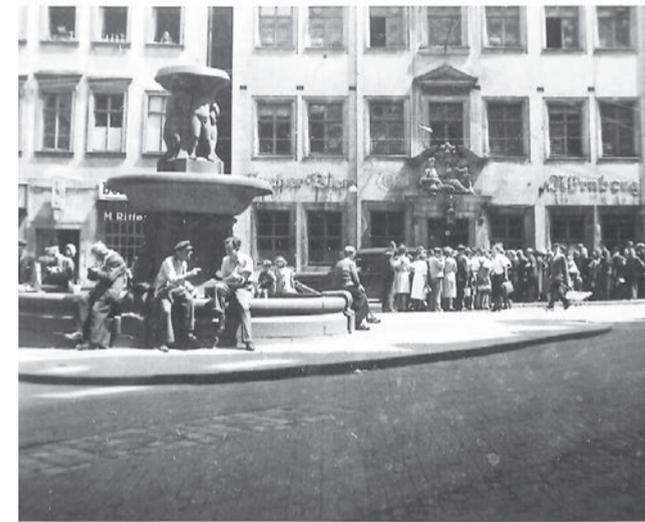
The second camp we visited was a poor place, there were about 1,000 men there and they were living in barns and sleeping on damp straw, there were as many in the lofts as there were below, one poor chap had fallen through the floor of the loft to the floor below, luckily he was not hurt as much as he might have been, most of these fellows were in poor condition, we managed to get trucks to take them



New Zealand ex POWs at Merseberg.

away right then. The men in both these camps had also marched to Schwerin from East Prussia a few weeks

before, I understand that they got hell on the way from the Allied air forces who did not know who they were.



A German food queue at Leipzig.

Continued next issue when Jock Kirk comes face to face with a war heroine.

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Double honour for Opunake Primary School

The 16th of August was a busy and important day for Opunake Primary School – they had two sets of distinguished visitors. Firstly, the school had a group of ten school leaders (principals and deputy principals) from a school cluster in the Wanganui area. They had visited to observe the school’s state-of-the-art digital technology and robotics in action. Secondly, a filming crew were helping make a video on behalf of the Ministry of Business and Innovation to film digital initiatives and robotics based on the ground-breaking work of Associate Professor Mark Sagar of Auckland. This latter venture is a real honour for Principal Lorraine Williamson and her school as Opunake Primary was one of three schools chosen from 800 throughout the nation. The theme was ‘Curious New Zealanders who made a mark’.

Visit by Wanganui cluster
The occasion of the first set of visitors arose from a conversation Lorraine had with Jared Chittenden, the Principal of Auroa School earlier this year. The two schools are part of the local ‘MOA’ cluster who are endeavouring to advance digital technology and robotics in their respective schools in a way that all



From left, Souhl Laison-Deegan and Johann Guttenbeil-Smith.

students (even 5-year-olds) can be involved. Namely, “an authentic context,” explained Lorraine. The key components are Science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics (STEM). Eventually, the Wanganui cluster heard of the cluster’s initiatives and expressed interest in a visit to observe. Consequently, an invitation was issued for the Wanganui teachers to visit Opunake Primary School. When the group arrived they were free to enter any

classroom they wanted to over the course of the day. “We literally opened the school and they were free to go wherever they wanted,” explained Lorraine. A detailed plan was provided for each visitor so they could choose what to observe from the comprehensive programme on offer. Technology leader Hannah Williams has had a major input into the programme and its success. These included Dot and Dash Robotics (Room 15;

5 and 6-year-olds), Paper Circuits (Room 11; 7 and 8-year-olds), Filming on a Green screen (Library; 11 to 13-year-olds, Eco-friendly homes with Minecraft (Room 14; ages 9 and 10), Brainboxes - electronics (Room 14; 9 and 10-year-old), EV3 Robots (Room 4; ages 11 to 13-year-olds) and Meccanoid robots (Room 1; ages 11-13-year-olds). Lorraine demonstrated 3D printing, Littlebits and Homemade robots. This is only a small sample of all

that was on offer across the school. The visitors thought it was “Quite unusual to see such digital expertise in an age range of 5 to 13. “They were impressed,” commented Lorraine. In fact, “They were blown away,” she added. They were also impressed at how “articulate the students were about what they were learning.” On November 8 (from 4pm to 8pm) the cluster will hold a STEM Expo to demonstrate the advances made in digital technology and this event will be filmed. As well as Opunake Primary other schools involved will include Auroa, Kaponga and Matapu. The public are very welcome to attend.

Curious New Zealanders who made a mark

Opunake Primary School was approached by NZ Story to assist in the making of three explainer videos for schools, New Zealand embassies and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise (NZT&E) to use in overseas educational programmes. The development of NZ Story was led by Tourism New Zealand, NZT & E and Education New Zealand working closely with the private and private sectors. The NZ Story is part of the Government’s Business Growth Agenda that aims to

increase our nation’s exports to 40% of GDP by 2025. The resource ‘Curious New Zealanders Who Made a Mark’ focuses on New Zealanders who have made the world a better place as a consequence of their curiosity and ingenuity in their field. The school chose Associate Professor Mark Sagar who is Director of the Laboratory for Animate Technologies based at the Auckland Bioengineering Institute. His laboratory is creating interactive autonomously animate systems which will help define the next generation of human-computer interaction and facial animation. He has won high level awards - including Academy Awards - for his work. “He’s really up there,” enthused Lorraine.

Associate Professional Sagar (who attended Stanley Bay School) was chosen because Opunake Primary School’s digital technology and robotics is a reflection of what he is known for. The film crew were “Pleasantly surprised by the quality of what the students could do,” Lorraine concluded, “It was a credit to what the students could do” in carrying out aspects of Dr Sagar’s work. She is justly proud of her school.

Big jump in South Taranaki retail spend

New data has revealed that retail spending in South Taranaki grew 8.9 percent in the first six months of 2017, compared to the same period last year, well up on regional growth of 5.7 percent and national growth of 4.8 percent. A total of \$98.11 million

went through South Taranaki tills in the first half of the year, peaking at \$17.11 million in May, followed by \$17.02m in June. There were 7.6 percent more transactions than the same period last year, and the average transaction value was \$38.03.

“This sends a very positive signal about the economic health of the District,” says South Taranaki Mayor Ross Dunlop. The most spent was with food retailers, such as supermarkets, while clothing and apparel saw the strongest growth against last

year. Fuel and furniture and homeware also saw strong growth. “It’s heartening that 82 percent of the money spent in our district is spent by local residents, though the fact that they also spent a total of \$47 million outside

the district also suggests there are still plenty of opportunities for businesses in South Taranaki,” Ross said. “It also gives us confirmation and confidence that the investment the Council is making upgrading the Central Business area is the right thing to do and it

is also encouraging private businesses to invest also.” The data is independently surveyed by Marketview for Venture Taranaki, and includes spending across eftpos, debit and credit cards through Paymark merchant terminals.

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School students are helping get the message across

Signs made by students at Rahotu School are helping send a message about the plight of an endangered seabird.

With only 2000 left the northern New Zealand Dotterel or tuturiwhatu is mainly concentrated in Northland and Coromandel. In recent years they have made their way down the West Coast of the North Island to places like Coastal Taranaki.

Dotterel Defenders is a Curious Minds funded participatory science project bringing together the Taranaki Conservationists in partnership with MAIN Trust, scientists and coastal communities. In June-July they were at Sandy Bay, Lower Kahui Road and the Komene 13B Maori Reservation to carry out

a beach clean, coast blitz and predator tracking with members of the public..

“These are three of the most important dotterel nesting areas in Taranaki,” Emily Roberts of Dotterel Defenders said.

Students from Rahotu School have been learning about dotterels and making signs letting the public know about the threats these endangered birds face.

On September 1 they placed these at Rahotu Beach on Lower Kahui Road. Thirteen parents came along as well.

The dotterels’ breeding season goes from September to March, and eggs and chicks can be easily crushed if adults are away from their nests. They are at risk from beach users, including



Students at Rahotu School make a stand for endangered seabirds.

vehicles smashing through their nesting areas, as well as from predators like feral cats and stoats. Rats and hedgehogs also pose a risk to eggs and chicks.

“The work the Rahotu School has done as far as

raising awareness of the dotterels has been amazing.” Emily said. “The signs they made were fantastic, and were really clear and eye catching. As well as that they have been going home and making their family, whanau and friends aware of the threat to the dotterels,” Emily said.

Students from Coastal School in Okato had made similar signs for the Komene 13B Maori Reservation.

“The schools have done a good job as far as raising awareness for people who use the beach, including dog walkers,” Emily said.

She said she hoped beach projects like the ones carried out earlier in the year could be carried on long term.



Forgotten road has more to it than you would think

Across the road from where Rex Langton lives on Layard Street is a fenced off stretch of road popularly known as the Old Dump Road.

Rex says when he first came to live in Layard Street 15 years ago it had been a popular thoroughfare.

“I used to see a steady stream of traffic and it was a very popular viewing site,” he said.

Concerns about the possibility of erosion prompted the South Taranaki District Council to close off the road “nine or ten years ago,” and there had been some obvious erosion within two weeks of the road closing but none since then, Rex said.

In the years since, Rex says that apart from some voluntary labour, very little maintenance has been done and as a result the road has been taken over by an overgrowth of gorse and blackberry.

Rex, who is a member of the Opunake Lions Club has become the public face of the Opunake Walkway.

The Walkway has always been something of a work

in progress and now the Opunake Lions want to clear a 2-3 metre wide path from the Old Dump Road gateway to a distance of approximately 500 metres, making the road more user friendly for both cyclists and pedestrians.

Rex turned up at the Egmont Plains Community Board meeting at Rahotu to apply for a \$1800 grant to go towards the cost of a digger, driver, five tonne truck and one volunteer worker to get the work done.

Rex says most places along the road would have a 10-20 metre safety buffer from the cliff top.

Old Dump Road’s attractions include a walking track to what has become known as Glass Beach. At one time glass was dumped over the cliff here, which in the years since has been continually washed out to sea and back again until it has been smoothed and embedded in the sand.

“It’s ended up as sea glass which is sought after and used for jewellery and bracelets,” Rex says.

“People go down and pick up the glass pieces. Most people wouldn’t even know it’s there.”

He recalls a visitor from Florida, Doreen Gaff, who spent four days picking up glass, took it back home with her, then made it up into jewellery which she then mailed back to Rex.

At the community board meeting Cr Bonita Bigham said erosion concerns meant she would want to get some geological advice.

“Some of that looks really close to the cliff,” she said. “I’m worried about putting a walkway on cliff top which could be eroded in two or three years, or even this year.”

Community Board member Brian Vincent said the track was well away from the cliff, and Mayor Ross Dunlop questioned the need for any invasive geological work.

The Board voted to grant the \$1800 asked for subject to council approval.

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Managing our magnificent animals

Another season, another series of newspaper articles opining the dwindling reproductive efficiency of the national dairy herd. It's a problem, a real problem. There are not really any insightful and learned generalisations that can be uttered on this topic, only that every farm is different. Virtually every herd can do with improving reproductive performance. System 1 to system 5, high producing cows to lower producing cows, once a day herds or robotic milking herds – it can always be better.



PAT POLETTI

And that's the crux of the issue, when examining reproductive performance, the issues on every farm are different and the emphasis on each issue is different. So, we must break down the process. Winter feeding,

calving management, milk fever and ketosis control, trace element sufficiency, energy sufficiency and utilisation over calving and strong positive energy input leading up to mating.

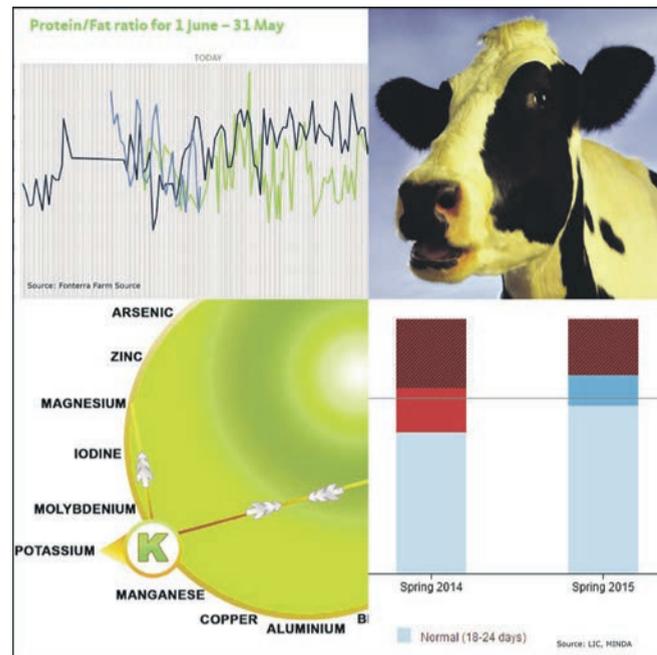
Primarily, the first goal is to get cows bulling. In my view, the current expectation of six weeks for a cow to bull from calving is too long. It is entirely feasible for cows to bull within a month. Furthermore, (and herd size logistic aside) if you need anything expensive and electronic to pick bulling cows then cows are just not displaying heat strongly enough and this is indicative of a problem. Once we know we have cows bulling effectively and the heats are picked effectively we can then move onto bull side issues if necessary.

As the hoary old saying goes, "You can't manage what you can't measure". So, for each of these aspects the extent to which these animal health conditions and energy balance issues are acting on the individual herd need to be measured.

This can be done by dietary analysis, analysis of previous reproductive performance issues via, for example MINDA data, and milk production and quality data. Together a picture can be gleaned of the likely issues that need to be addressed to work toward better reproductive efficiency.

The answers can be as simple as a trace element deficiency or as complex as a fundamental system change. It may take a mindset change on feeding cows or provide the impetus for impending change. It may be simply fixed in one season or it may take a major infrastructure change over several seasons. No one said this was easy.

Our genetic companies have been outstandingly successful in selecting a productive cow. Perhaps the most profound impact has been that energy distribution is prioritised to milk



production at the expense of most other physiological systems. Meaning that energy deficiencies and the factors that influence efficient energy utilisation will limit reproduction

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Pat Poletti

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DairyNZ election draws in farming expertise

Two positions on DairyNZ's board have attracted six dairy farmer candidates for this year's director election.

From September 25, levy-paying dairy farmers will vote for their preferred candidates – farmer colleagues whose experience and leadership could help shape DairyNZ priorities and objectives.

Electionz.com returning officer Anthony Morton says levy-paying farmers will have a month to vote.

"The elected candidates will represent all dairy farmers on the DairyNZ board, provide new leadership and have a real influence on where and how the levy is invested," says

Anthony.

"So we encourage dairy farmers to look at who is running and take the time to vote when the pack arrives in the mail at the end of the month."

DairyNZ's board consists of five farmer-elected directors and three board-elected directors.

The farmer-elected director positions are subject to a rotation policy, with Alister Body and Jim van der Poel retiring by rotation this year. After 12 years, Alister is standing down from the board.

The 2017 Board of Directors candidates are: Ian Brown (Tokoroa), Grant Coombes (Taupiri), Colin Glass (Timaru), Cole Groves

(Ashburton), Mark Slee (Ashburton) and Jim Van der Poel (Ohaupo).

DairyNZ's second 2016/17 election was for its Directors' Remuneration Committee (DRC), however no candidate nominations were received for the position. DairyNZ's board will determine how this vacancy will be filled in due course.

Farmers will also vote for several resolutions – including one which could change directors' terms to three years and introduce annual director elections.

Results from the election and resolution votes will be announced at the DairyNZ Annual General Meeting in Rotorua on October 25.

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Putting NZ agriculture under the ETS is illogical

-Labour's announcement that it will move agriculture into the Emissions Trading Scheme in stages will cost the livestock sector at least \$83 million in year one, rising to more than \$830 million each year when fully implemented, say Federated Farmers.

They say they agree that

action on climate change is needed, but as New Zealand farmers are among the most efficient producers of food on the planet, it is illogical to put the sector at a competitive disadvantage against export competitors, effectively shifting production to less efficient producers overseas.

"That will just add to

overall global greenhouse gases, not reduce them," Federated Farmers climate change spokesman Andrew Hoggard says.

"Putting NZ agriculture under the ETS, combined with other potential new taxes (water, land, capital gains, wealth and assets) has the potential to cause a

lot of cost and upheaval in provincial New Zealand."

"Missing from Labour's climate change policy is any talk of boosting funding for ongoing research to reduce biological agricultural emissions.

"We're making strides in areas such as methane inhibitors, breeding

techniques and vaccines that inhibit methane production. Like Federated Farmers, the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment has also called for acceleration of this research," Mr Hoggard says.

"Federated Farmers firmly believes that until our trading partners also treat their agricultural sectors' biological emissions in a similar fashion, and we have effective mitigation techniques that will enable us to further reduce our emissions, then agriculture should stay outside the ETS."

Calculations of \$83m of costs in year one (on 2015 herds, \$41.2m dairy, \$39.8m sheep & beef, \$1.5m deer) under Labour's proposal (90% free) are for methane

from enteric fermentation, and nitrous oxide to farm soils. The figures also assume a \$25 per tonne emissions price, which could easily go higher.

"Federated Farmers appreciates Labour's policy to reward farmers' best practice and to shift the point of obligation to the farm-level rather than the processor-level.

"But how will this be measured in a practical sense? 'Best practice' isn't defined, OVERSEER isn't up to the task as a farm emissions reporting tool.

"Federated Farmers is part of a working group looking at these issues and can't see how Labour's suggestions are workable any time soon."



From left. Matthew Herbert, Sam Ebbett and Guy Harvey.

New NZ Young Farmers club for South Taranaki

A new NZ Young Farmers club is being established in South Taranaki.

South Taranaki Young Farmers will provide a social outlet for young people and help develop future agribusiness leaders.

"I reckon the club's name better reflects the sprawling area it serves," said new member Kaponga contract milker Guy Harvey.

"The old club, Waimate West, was hard to find on Facebook - especially if you were new to South Taranaki and didn't know it existed."

The new club's catchment stretches from Patea to Pihama and across to Kaponga.

"The name change has already paid off, with the revamped club signing up more than 20 new members," said NZYF Taranaki district chairman Matthew Herbert.

"Our goal is to have 30 members by Christmas."

Club meetings will be held on the first Friday of each month upstairs at Rough Habits in Hawera at 7pm.

"I run a 220-cow farm by

myself, which can be a bit isolating, so I'm looking forward to socialising with other like-minded people," said Guy.

Former Manawatu Dairy Manager of the Year Sam Ebbett has been elected the club's vice-chairperson.

"Young Farmers is a great way for people who're new to an area to network and make friends," said Sam, who manages a 550-cow farm.

"I've joined to have some fun and get back into the district competitions."

"I've competed before and I'm keen to test and broaden my skills again. I just hope there aren't any

sheep-related modules," he laughed.

The official launch party for South Taranaki Young Farmers will be held on Friday September 22, and will be attended by the chief executive of NZ Young Farmers Terry Copeland.

"The new club's already in talks with potential sponsors, which will help guarantee its financial future," said STYF chairperson Amelia Nichol.

The past few years has seen a resurgence of members to NZ Young Farmers clubs in Taranaki.

The region has five NZ Young Farmers clubs; Coastal, Central, Inglewood, Urenui and South Taranaki.

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Taranaki has wet August

Rainfall for August was above normal throughout the region with percentages ranging between 102 and 217 % of normal, according to Taranaki Regional Council figures.

The average August rainfall was 167 % of normal for the region, with there being rain recorded on between 15 and 21 days. The Mountain was worse off and recorded rainfall on 22 or 23 days of the month, and had rainfall percentages between 131 % and 154 % of normal.

In the year to date, all rainfall sites having recorded above normal by between 104 and 153 %. The Patea site has so far recorded 1018.4 mm, which is 153 % of normal to date and is 98 % of its average annual rainfall.

Other rainfall sites that have almost recorded their average annual rainfall already are Cape Egmont with 1349.0 mm (98%), Mangaehu with 1493.0

mm (97%), Everett Park with 1968.0 mm (97%) and Motunui with 1348.5 mm (97%).

Due to the higher than normal rainfall, all river flow sites recorded above mean August flows.

The Waitara, Waiwhakaihō and Waiongana rivers had mean August flows that were more than two times higher than their long term August averages.

The August 28 rainfall event saw the Waiwhakaihō River and the Tawhiti Stream record new maximum August river flows on record with 407,136 L/s and 17,868 L/s respectively.

Water temperatures for the month were all above normal by between 0.31 °C and 0.89 °C. No new minimums or maximums were recorded.

Brooklands Zoo recorded the maximum air temperature for the month with 20.4 °C, while Whareroa (South of Hawera) recorded the

minimum with -1.8 °C.

The mean air temperature for the region (excluding the Mountain) was 10.9 °C.

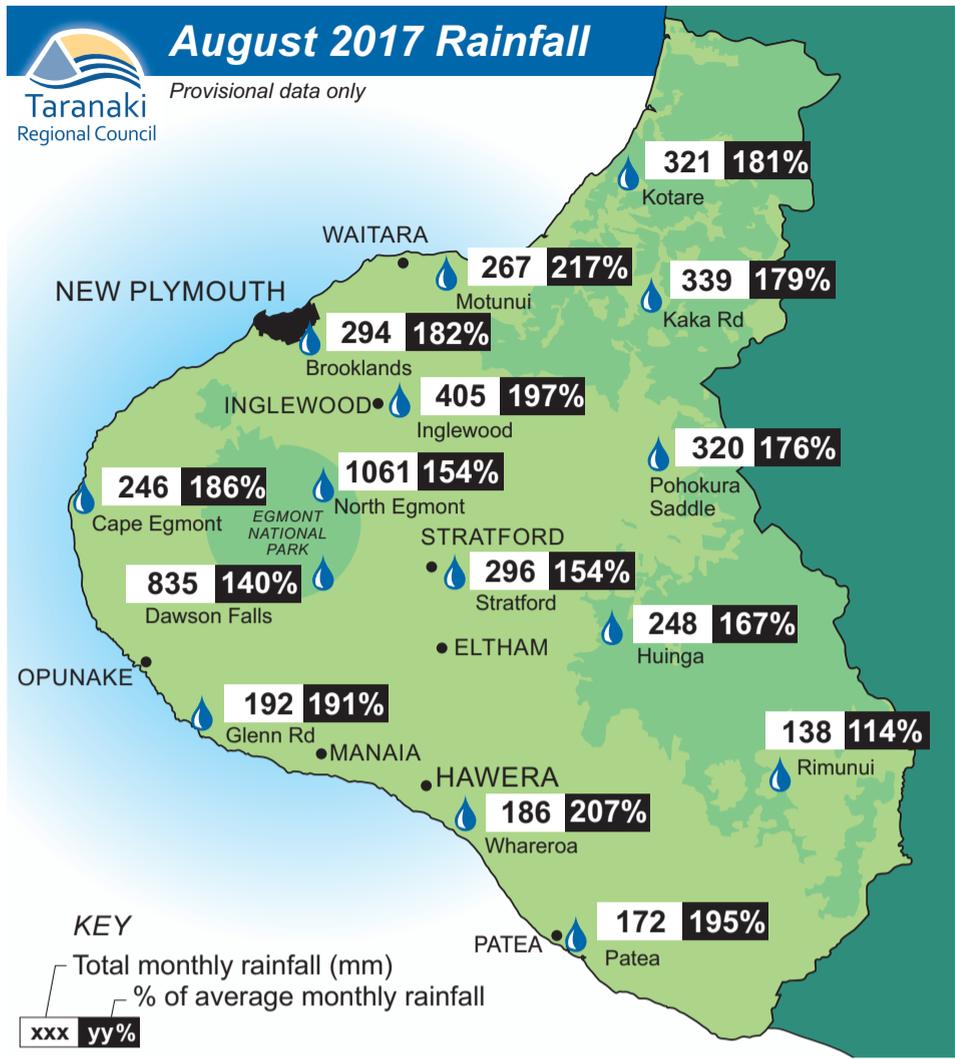
Soil moistures were above normal for all sites by between 0.25 % and 12.42 % except for Okoki, Motunui and Rimunui. These three sites recorded below normal soil moistures by between 0.53 % and 6.20 %.

Manaia and Patea recorded new maximum August soil moistures with 52.84 % and 50.70 % of normal respectively.

Soil temperatures were all above normal by between 0.03 °C and 1.21 °C.

The Kaupokonui site recorded a new maximum soil temperature for August with 13.50 °C.

The site at Kotare (Tongaporutu) recorded a new maximum soil temperature with 14.76 °C and it also recorded a new minimum soil temperature with 4.28 °C.



Farm sector welcomes TPP resuscitation talks

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) of Australia and Federated Farmers of New Zealand say moves to bring into force the bulk of the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) is good news for both Australian and New Zealand farm exports.

In Sydney, officials from Australia and New Zealand

have concluded three days of talks with chief negotiators from the other nine TPP countries.

The aim of the talks was to push forward on the development of a 'regional trade pact' following the United States' withdrawal from negotiations earlier this year.

NFF President Fiona Simson said provisions negotiated under the original TPP represented a significant opportunity for Australian and New Zealand farm exports.

"Farmers including those producing red meat, grains, sugar, dairy products, rice, fruit and vegetables stand

to benefit from increased access to, in particular, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Peru and Vietnam."

Federated Farmers President Katie Milne added that along with improved access, TPP would establish a level playing field that would be the foundation for future trade growth in the

Asia Pacific region.

Ms Simson and Ms Milne congratulated the Australian Trade Minister Hon Steve Ciobo MP and the New Zealand Trade Minister Hon Todd McClay for their commitment to keeping the progress achieved through the TPP negotiations, alive.

"NFF and Federated Farmers have consistently supported the TPP and we thank Ministers Ciobo and McClay for their strong advocacy, despite the

challenges."

Ms Simson said almost three-quarters of Australia's \$60 billion per annum agricultural production was exported as was more than ninety percent of New Zealand annual production.

"Growing access to new and existing markets is key to increasing the value of Australian and New Zealand agricultural exports and to enhancing the profitability of farmers on both sides of the Tasman," Ms Simson said.

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Opunake man among Awards of Excellence nominees

Michael Corkill of Opunake is among those vying for the title of Lifeguard of the Year on September 23.

In June, Michael who has been club captain of the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club since 2010 was named Taranaki Lifeguard of the Year. Now he is one of nine finalists for the national title.

Surf Life Saving members from around the country will gather in Auckland to celebrate their successes at the national Awards of Excellence.

Over the 2016/17 patrol season, Surf Life Saving New Zealand welcomed 994 newly qualified lifeguards adding to the 3,988 lifeguards who refreshed their qualification for a total of 4,982 qualified lifeguards patrolling New Zealand's beaches.

Lifeguards carried out 612 rescues around the country and assisted another 1,184 swimmers back to safety. There were zero drownings between the flags.

Every year, national and local awards are given to Surf Life Saving members

to officially recognise them for their hard work and dedication to saving lives and preventing drowning on New Zealand's beaches.

Most awards are nominated locally with winners from their regional Awards of Excellence ceremonies then becoming finalists for the national Awards of Excellence.

The 2017 Surf Life Saving New Zealand Awards of Excellence is taking place at the Heritage Hotel with the presentation of lifesaving, sport and service awards.

2017 Awards of Excellence finalists: NZLGB Lifeguard of the Year. Ollie Irwin(Bethells Beach). Chaz Gibbons-Campbell(Whiritoa). Danielle Shepherd (Mt Maunganui). Connor Mitchell (Waikanae). Sean Meagher(Westshore). Michael Corkill (Opunake). Nathan Berry (Levin-Waitarere). Tom Denman (Sumner). Chris Haig(St Clair).

DHL Volunteer of the Year. Dylan Turner(Red Beach).Paul Treanor(Mt Maunganui). Jenny

Peploe(Pauanui). Sonia Keepa (Wainui). Jason Broome (Waimarama). Darren James (Fitzroy). Nick Mulcahy(Titahi Bay). Kate Suter (Sumner). James Coombes (St Clair).

BP Rescue of the Year. Far North. Muriwai. Kariaotahi. Kaka Point. Riversdale.

DHL Innovation of the Year. Muriwai - drone project. Waimarama - new patrol tower. New Plymouth Old Boys - restaurant. Titahi Bay- weekly safety and beach conditions Facebook videos. South Brighton-health and safety app.

TSB Bank Coach of the Year. Jason Pocock (Mairangi Bay). John Bryant (Mt Maunganui). Matt Sutton, (Wainui). Greg Larsen (Ocean Beach Kiwi).Joel Meuli (East End). Walter Maxwell (Lyll Bay). Jonelle Quane (Sumner). Chris Haig(St Clair).

DHL Instructor of the Year. Sam Turbott (Karekare). Cameron Bishop (Whiritoa).Garry King (Mt Maunganui).John Minogue (Wainui). Brian Quirk (Westshore). Todd Cations-Velvin (Fitzroy). Dwight



Mike Roach with Michael Corkill celebrating Michael's nomination

Garton (Paekakariki). Linda Poulsen (Spencer Park). Peter Gibbons (St Kilda).

TSB Bank Surf Official of the Year. Roydon Woodcock (Mairangi Bay). Greg Rieger (Mt Maunganui). Alistair Thorpe (Waikanae). Mike O'Malley(Pacific). Brian Velvin (Fitzroy). Glen Jones (Titahi Bay). Derek Shanks (Sumner). Michael Andrews (St Clair).

Winter dressage results



Kath Lambourn and Sherleena Budd with their Pairs' trophies. Photo credit - Sarah Williams

The final day of the Coastal Adult Riding Club's Dressage series was held at the Egmont A&P show grounds on Sunday September 3. The judges

were Belinda Wakeling of Eltham and Michelle King from Okato.

The trophy winners from the points for the series were, Introductory Level -

Shannon Coull (Midhirst,)

Training Level - Kath Lambourn (Hawera,) Level One - Heather Kooistra (Hawera,) Level Two - Kirsten Gooch (Toko).

Other results. NZ Riding Club Test 1 A - Shannon Coull (Patch) 1 Catherine Robb (Hudson Hornet)2, Michelle Watkins (Scarteen Doolus) 3 Nicky Howath (Rosie) 4.

Pony Club test M. Nicole MacDonald (Ted Kelly) 1, Nicole MacDonald (Holiday Sun) 2, Christine Taylor (Sam)3. Kath Lambourn (Millenium Lady) 4.

Pony Club test O- Nicole MacDonald (Ted Kelly) 1, Nicole MacDonald (Holiday Sun) 2, Sloane Wallace (Shrek) 3. Lisa Hutton (Sundance) 4.

NZ Riding Club 2 A- Melanie Smith (Arum Park Coco) 1, Kirsty Pryce (Andy) 2, Heather Kooistra (So Intriguing).Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl) 4.

NZ Riding Club 2 C - Melanie Smith (Arum Park Coco) 1, Heather Kooistra (So Intriguing)2,Kirstie Pryce (Andy) 3.

NZ Riding Club 3 A -Kirsten Gooch (Affair) 1, Sarah Williams(Arum P.Christmas Eve)2, Sherleena Budd (Esperanza)3

NZ Riding Club 4 B-Sarah Williams(Arum P.Christmas Eve) 1,Sherleena Budd (Esperanza)2,Kirsten Gooch (Affair) 3 .

Pairs Freestyle. Kath Lambourn and Sherleena Budd 1, Emily Perrin and Nadia Huitson 2.

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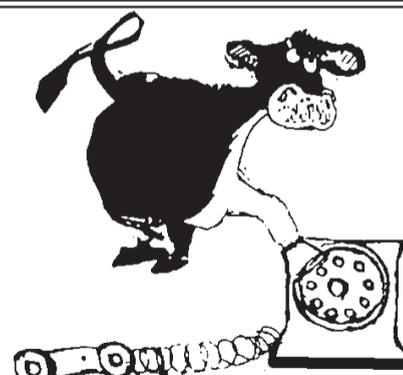


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Okato Coastal Junior Rugby prizegiving

The Okato Coastal Junior Rugby Prizegiving was held on Sunday September 3 at the clubrooms. There was also a special presentation of a large cheque from the Taranaki Coastal Rugby

Trust (TCRT).

It has been a great season for Okato Coastal Junior Rugby with the Under 8 team, coached by Liam O'Sullivan, winning the North Taranaki competition.

In the final against NPDB the team scored four tries (by Luka Fergus, Lachie Hewson-Baldwin, Leighton Goodin and Dustin Horscroft) to two by their opponents.

It should be mentioned that these players (a year younger) won their competition last season (as Under 7s). "They played well as a team and have good rapport with each other," said Liam. He pointed out that most of the players had been playing together for more than one season.

Co-convenors Andrew McLean and Danelle King and the organising Committee (including Becky Muggeridge and Carol O'Sullivan) are pleased with



Andrew McLean, Ray Barron and Danelle King with the cheque

all three teams - made up of boys (mostly) and girls. The other two teams are the Under 6s, coached by Ben Burmeister and the Under 7s coached by Andrew McLean.

All players received a certificate to mark their participation. Some players received special certificates for being Most Dedicated, Most Consistent and Most Improved.

There was a special presentation with the club receiving a cheque

for \$1,772.70 from the Taranaki Community Rugby Trust. The enormous cheque was presented by Ray Barron (Trust member) to Junior Rugby co-convenors Andrew McLean and Danelle King.

The Trust is chaired by Malcolm Sutherland. We'll leave the last word to Luka Fergus, who was the winning captain of the Under 8 team on the occasion of the final. "It was awesome. The whole team were excellent."



Champion Okato under 8 Team at prizegiving

Extra time hampers High School hockey lads

From September 4-8, the Opunake High School Boys Hockey team entered the Woolaston Trophy Tier 4 Boys Hockey Tournament, held at the TET Stadium hockey turf in Stratford. Once upon a time (1979)

Opunake were winners of this particular tournament, but for 2017, this was really an opportunity to test themselves against some very good sides from around the North Island.

"The Boys played some great hockey at the business end of the season, which set us up for a run at tournament, but the goal scoring magic

sadly eluded us," coach Lloyd Morgan said. "A salutary lesson from the schools tournament, we have a lot to learn from those teams playing A grade, but really played above ourselves to be in with a chance of winning the last few matches in particular." Results didn't quite fall the boys' way, the biggest

hurdle being the Opunake lads playing 25 minute halves in Taranaki Hockey competitions, whereas tournament halves were 30 minutes.

More often than not, the goals conceded and the games lost occurred during the extra time they weren't as conditioned to play as other teams.



Playing Gisborne Boys High School. Photo Harley Harding.

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Opunake High School girls win in Tauranga

Both Opunake High School Basketball Senior A Boys and Girls teams attended the NZ Basketball Secondary Schools A Premierships which were held in Tauranga on September 5 – 8.

For the Senior Girls team, the goal was to qualify for the Secondary School Nationals in October and win the Nationals for the second straight year. The tournament was split into two sections based on last year's results. Our pool consisted of Manukura, Te Aroha, Nga Taiatea, Te Rangi Aniwaniwa and Te Kura Kokiri. It was a very difficult pool and our team was ready for the challenge.

The first game was against Manukura which we won 67 – 40. Later that

afternoon playing against Te Rangi Aniwaniwa, the girls had a decisive win of 73 – 6. It was a perfect start to the tournament with two wins on the first day.

Day Two was going to be tougher with games against Nga Taiatea and Te Kura Kokiri. Against Nga Taiatea we had a comprehensive win 93 – 10. This set us up to play Te Kura Kokiri. The last time they played each other was for the championship game in 2015, which was sadly lost, so the ladies wanted some revenge. It was a very physical game with the lead going back and forth throughout the game, and Opunake managed to take a one point lead into the halftime break 30 – 29. The second half was even more physical, with neither team

willing to give in, but the Opunake girls maintained their composure to pull out a 60 – 56 win, securing the first placed position in our pool. On the third day, there was an early start against Te Aroha for the last of the pool games, taking it out 57-34. This put us in the final match against our Taranaki mates Stratford High School for the championship game once again, in which the Opunake High School Girls Basketball Team won decisively 49 – 35.

I am very proud of the effort and the mana shown by these ladies throughout this tournament. We are determined and in the right mind set for the bigger prize, which is to go back to back SCHICK Secondary Schools A Champions.



OHS Senior Girls Basketball Team. Catherine Cook Assistant Coach, Sharon Nuku Manager, Iritana Hohaia, Alyscia Lang, Hayley Quinnell, Isabelle Cook, Mr Angelo Hill Coach

Front: Tanaeya Sutcliffe, Jessica Roach, Simone Cook (Captain), Krysten Johnson, Olivia Bright

Family rivalry at Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club

Clare Bramley achieved her first possible with a creditable 100.4 at the Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club to go with other scores of 95.2, 95.5, 98.6, 97.4, and 95.4. Clare has been closing in on this milestone over the last few weeks, and finally managed it.

Family rivalry continues with her Dad, Bob, shooting 96.4 and 94.2; Dave McGregor shot 89.1 to just head off his daughter Katie on 86.3 and 81.0. Boston Taylor scored 99, 98, 100 and 96 on the grouping targets, with brother Jackson on 99 and 100, and sister

Katie also 100, 100, 99 and 100. Jackson and Katie also had good scores on the full cards with 79.1 and 89.1 respectively, and Frances Cooper also started on a full card with scores of 82.0 and 87.1. Henry Armond, Boston Taylor and Katie Taylor also progressed to full cards

without bench rests, and their initial scores of 67.0, 67.1 and 91.1 showed future promise.

Craig McGill with scores of 100 and 100 beat son John who had 98 and 93 also on grouping cards. Henry Armond had good scores of 98 and 96.

Cameron Hill, after a few weeks absence made his mark with 100 and 98.

Senior shooters continued their competition, now getting down to the end of the season. Murray Chinery scored 87.1, 89.0; Frank Eustace, visiting from Hawera shot 98.4, 97.5,

96.4, 98.4, 98.4 and a nice 100.6.

Paul Tidswell scored 98.3, then a 195.6 on a double card. Similarly, Paul Longstaff managed 94.4, 98.4, 97.3, followed by 194.6. Brian Hicks had 93.1, and 94.3 to beat son Stephen on 95.2 and 91.0.

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Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays.

Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays.

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Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

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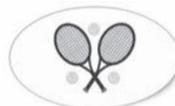
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Funding Local Arts Activities

Applications for funding assistance for community-based arts activities in South Taranaki beginning after Friday 10 November 2017 are now being called for. Your application will need to meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** - A project that will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- **Diversity** - A project that will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** - A project that will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are available from all LibraryPlus Centres, at the Council Contact Centre in Albion Street, Hawera or the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator, or on the Council website www.southtaranaki.com under Funding and Grants Support.

For further information, please contact Maryse Ropiha, the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator at:

South Taranaki District Council
Private Bag 902, Hawera 4640
Phone 0800 111 323 or 2780555
Email maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz

Applications close **Friday 20 October 2017 at 4.30pm**
(for projects beginning after Friday 10 November 2017)



Fraud & Financial Mis-management

This interactive session delivered by **Taranaki Community Law** explores the simple measures you can implement in your organisation to reduce the likelihood of fraud.

The session will also cover the steps you should take if you suspect mis-management or fraud has taken place.

Can you really afford not to attend?

Wednesday 20 September 2017, 10:30 - 12:30,
CoastalCare Centre, 22 Napier Street, Opunake

To book contact Marcia on
06 759 1178 ext 4 or 027 789 4351
Email: manager@wheelhouse.org.nz



PUBLIC NOTICES

Performing Arts Grants

Your invitation to share the dream

The Dame Malvina Major Foundation is proud to provide funding opportunities to talented young Taranaki Performing Artists.

Applications are now being invited for the annual funding round, closing at 5pm on Saturday 30 September 2017.

Grants are available in four categories to support the cost of education, training, and development in the performing arts in New Zealand or overseas.

Secondary: For Taranaki Secondary School Students aged 12-18 years.

Elite/Tertiary: For performers from Taranaki pursuing a career in the performing arts through tertiary qualifications.

Group: For groups whose student members are based in Taranaki and are providing training and/or development opportunities in performing arts.

Primary School Aged Groups: For groups or organisations based in Taranaki which support the training and development of performing arts for primary aged children.

For an application pack and further information, please contact Rebekah Lock on 06 757 3155 or email dmmf@staplestaranaki.co.nz



www.dmmfoundation.org.nz

What's On Listings



JONATHAN YOUNG

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?

For more information phone: 06 7591363

Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

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

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

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

TAI CHI BASICS

Thursdays 9am – 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

OPUNAKE SURF INN

Every day free pool. Every Friday free sausage sizzle from 5. Every Sunday afternoon. Pool comp

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

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

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

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

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

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

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

PREGNANCY HELP TARANAKI

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

OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

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

TAINUI DAY CENTRE

Gentle exercise, friendship, fun and support for older people at St Barnabas Parish Hall, Opunake. Mondays 10:00 am – 12:30 pm. Contacts Jenny 761 8080 Glenys 655 8025

HEADLANDS RESTAURANT AND CAFE

\$10 Lunch Specilas. Refer advert for details.

OPUNAKE LIONS CASUALTY CALF COLLECTION

Every 2nd Day until early October

THE FITZ RESTAURANT AND BAR

Tuesday Quiz Nights, Wednesday Pool Nights, Thursday Wine Nights, Friday Night Roasts.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY, ELTHAM

As eMCI's It Exhibition runs from August 28 to September 23.

SINCLAIR ELECTRICAL AND REFRIGERATION

16th Birthday specials, lucky draws, and giveaways throughout September. Sausage Sizzles at Opunake and Stratford. Refer advert for details.

WAIMATE HOTEL, MANAIA

Karaoke on September 16 Meals every night. See ad for details.

TARANAKI ARTS TRAIL

Workshops for Artists considering participating in the 2018 Taranaki Arts Trail. September 10 at Hawera, September 17 at New Plymouth.

PIHAMA LAVENDAR MARKET DAY

Sunday September 17. Refer advert.

COLD CREEK COMMUNITY WEATER SUPPLY AGM

Tuesday Sept 19 at Pihama Bowling Club.

OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL AGM

Tuesday September 19. Refer advert for details.

THE WHEELHOUSE FRAUD & MISMANAGEMENT INTERACTIVE SESSION

Wednesday Septem,ber 20. Refer advert for details

VAL DEAKIN DANCE CENTRE PRESENTS COPPELIA

September 22-24..

DIANN JEFFARES THEATRE DANCE PUPILS PRESENT DANCE BY THE SEA

Opunake Town Hall on Saturday September 23. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE TOUCH ASSOCIATION AGM

September 29 at the Events Centre. Refer advert for details.

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OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL COMMITTEE A.G.M.

7pm
Tuesday 19th September
Sandfords Event Centre
Ph: Diane Forsyth
on 761 7231

BUDGET ADVICE every second Wednesday at Coastal Care. 9.30 - 12.30. Phone 0800 333 048

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What am I supposed to eat?

What are we supposed to eat? It is a question that has been floating around since we began to understand, in greater clarity, the impact that the food we eat has on our health. For the last fifty years or so, scientists and researchers have been trying to find the definitive answer to what is the best way for *all of us* to eat. We can be forgiven for thinking then, that surely it would have been found by now. It seems however that the differences in research are only growing. The result for many people is hopeless confusion about what they should be eating.

On the back of the 'low fat/high carb' era of the 80s and 90s, we have been

presented with an abundance of often conflicting research around food and diet. It seems today, that there are innumerable ways of eating, all with what appears to be credible research supporting it as the 'best' way for all of us. Countless people have adopted a paleo, ketogenic, vegetarian, vegan or low carb diet and there are as many people telling us we should adopt it too, based on their own positive experiences, as there are studies validating each of them. Others still are stuck in a habit of eating biscuits that they know are no good for their health but they keep eating anyway. These people are more likely to ask which is the best

brand of breakfast cereal to choose.

For many though, the changes and fluctuations in nutritional evidence over the last fifty years have caused them to lose faith in the very foundation of nutritional advice. How do we know that what we're told is best for us today won't be what they tell us in another five or ten years is now detrimental to our health? To add another layer to the confusion, even though we might feel uncertain about whose guidance to trust, we also no longer trust ourselves. Without that inner trust to guide us we lose our capacity to know for ourselves what works and what doesn't. The idea of a diet or set of guidelines then feels 'safe,' because we have rules to follow that take the guesswork out of our choices.

So many people tell me that they feel like their bodies and their tastebuds betray them. They tell me they know what they *should* be eating but they just aren't doing it. Either because they feel they can't resist certain foods or because they don't have time to prepare properly nutritious meals. There are countless others who regularly experience issues with their digestion—and overall health—yet put up with it because they think it's just 'normal.' These things are common but they are never normal. They are our body telling us that we need to change something. That *something* is often foods that we are eating that don't agree with our constitution.

So, in this sea of often



Dr Libby Weaver

conflicting information, how do we know what we're supposed to eat? In my 20 years of clinical practice, I have never found that one way of eating works for all humans. And there is a simple reason for this. We're all incredibly different. While the human body is most commonly structured the same way, there is an element of bio-individuality that plays an influential part.

For example, all of us get nourishment from swallowing food and having it broken down by the acids and enzymes present in our stomach and small intestine. That overarching process is much the same in all of us. However, our individual gut microbiome (the ecosystem of gut bacteria we all have in our intestine) will influence how well we absorb nutrients and whether we react to particular foods or easily break them down. Some people do well with more or

less carbs than others and this is in part due to the bacterial species living in our gut. Our stress levels, amongst other things, will also impact on the quality of our digestion and the integrity of our gut microbiome. The variables are countless. What works for one person won't necessarily work for another.

The way you are supposed to eat is also influenced by numerous other factors. One of these is our heritage. If you have grown up in one of the Pacific Islands, for example, traditionally your meals were predominantly based on vegetables—both water-based and starchy vegetables, fruit and fish. Considering the long history within this culture of eating this way, people with this heritage would do best from a digestive capacity to eat this way for their health—no matter where on the planet they now live.

How do we keep ourselves

outside of fluctuating nutrition trends and how do we know what information to trust?

There will always be new trends that surface and there will always be new research. It's unlikely that is ever going to change. One of the foundations to a way of eating that the majority of health professionals and researchers agree on is to eat plenty of vegetables and base our meals and snacks on whole, real foods. So, one way to cut through all the confusing nutritional information is to come back to basics; simply amp up our vegetable consumption and decrease our intake of processed foods. Some studies in New Zealand suggest that less than 10 percent of the adult population eats the recommended five serves of vegetables per day. If that's you—start there. While there are many other things to consider, this one small change will have an enormous impact on our health and energy.

If we are regularly plagued with digestive complaints such as bloating, constipation, diarrhoea and IBS type symptoms, we may need to get to the heart of what it is we're eating that isn't agreeing with us. We may also need to explore our perception of food as there are countless blocks we may have that stop us from eating in a nourishing way. Remember that the way you feed yourself is the most basic, fundamental way you demonstrate care for yourself and that you are worth taking care of.

Dr Libby (PhD) is a nutritional biochemist, best-selling author and speaker, and will be bringing her new Food Frustrations event to New Plymouth on 5th of October. Tickets \$39.95 are available from www.drlibby.com

Opunake Music Workshop

7:30pm Tuesday, 19th September 2017

CoastalCare, 26 Napier Street, Opunake.

Bring instruments, basic amplification provided.



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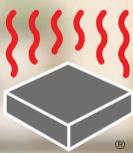
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A TASTE OF SPIRIT WORKSHOP

Sunday 17th September

1pm to 3pm

Stratford Senior Citizens Hall

Contact Graham on

02108 116 215 or GKS.Holism@yahoo.com

Making a difference in the community with 'Cans for Good' collection

Wattie's Cans for Good is back; the national can 'collection, creation, education and donation' campaign run by The Salvation Army in partnership with Wattie's for New Zealand schools.

The event will run in the week of 30th October and gives kindergartens to high schools nationwide the opportunity to help make a difference by collecting cans for The Salvation Army foodbanks - restocking shelves in the high demand period leading up to Christmas.

All cans will be given to The Salvation Army for use in local foodbanks enabling kindergartens and schools to make a direct and real difference to those in need in their local community. This year, national facilities management company OCS, joins the appeal as the official can collection partner for Cans for Good.

It is the second year of the campaign which combines collecting for charity with a creative competition and teaching resources designed to engage children and teachers, in a fun, team-based giving and learning experience. This year

Wattie's Cans for Good has introduced a budgeting resource and activity for high school students which give insight into the realities faced by many kiwi families living on a budget.

Last year's inaugural event saw more than 200 primary schools from around the country collect over 67,000 cans while Heinz Wattie's generously donated additional cans taking the number to over 92,000 cans.

Kindergartens and schools wanting to take part in Wattie's Cans for Good can register at www.watties.co.nz/cansforgood

"Wattie's Cans for Good had an amazing response last year. We were able to stock up many local foodbanks helping vulnerable families and individuals who needed food assistance in the lead-up to Christmas," says Pam Waugh, The Salvation Army's head of Social Services.

"The feedback from primary schools last year was really positive so we've opened the event up to kindergartens, intermediate and high schools. It's great to be able to offer an initiative at a community level that combines

charitable donations with a creative and fun set of activities." says Tina Wong, Communications Manager for Heinz Wattie's.

Last year The Salvation Army provided more than 58,000 food parcels to help Kiwis in need get back on their feet.

www.watties.co.nz/cansforgood

Full video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g7Ku3VdZ8AU>

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26lQnrkUajE>



Cans for good

Strong interest in collage exhibition

ICE19, the collage exhibition on tart.co.nz continues to grow as more late parcels keep on arriving, with 77 artists so far and more packages still on the way.

If you're within reach of Taranaki you can see the selling collages at the Percy Thomson gallery in Stratford; the opening of MOVE at the Molloy Gallery on September 8

from 6-9, and next month is the Oakura Arts Trail. Weekends October 28-9 and November 4-5. If you're a bit further north, have a look at the Wallace Gallery in Morrinsville. They've made a super job of hanging Paul Hutchinson's paintings and my assemblages. Life is good, yes?

Dale Copeland

The Christmas Village

Wanting a little more magic in your life?

Then come and see The Christmas Village! We have opened for 2017. The Village is full of beautiful new items, stunning new season's trees and fun displays. Come early to make the most of our layby option & loyalty cards. Follow 'The Christmas Village' on Facebook for up to date information.

Open 10am - 4pm
Sat, Sun & Mon All Year!

06 755 1934 * 63 Egmont Rd, NP From Oct 1st 2017 - OPEN 7 DAYS!
www.thechristmasvillage.co.nz The Christmas Village

SINCLAIR ELECTRICAL & REFRIGERATION

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FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE!



Come in for a free sausage and check out the deals

Opunake: Friday 8th September 11-1pm

Stratford: Friday 22nd September 11-1pm



OPUNAKE
31 Tasman Street
761 8084

STRATFORD
257 Broadway
765 4499



Coastal Canteen scores a big YES

A Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) at Coastal Taranaki School is a definite success. The Year 13 students, under the supervision of Marian Richardson (HOD Food Technology), have taken over the old school canteen (which had been empty for a couple of years

or so) and are producing nutritional and yummy food for both students and staff at their Okato school, while simultaneously securing 24 YES credits for their NCEA qualification.

Underpinning the business enterprise is their Mission Statement: ... to provide affordable, nourishing,

homemade lunches for the staff and students during the winter terms. It's also our mission to provide students with work experience in the hospitality industry, Twenty per cent of our profit will be donated towards our school ball committee. The school ball will be held on September 23.

The Coastal Canteen enterprise started up in the second term featuring five Year 13 students, with Kataraina Taipari as the Managing Director and Grace Hooker in charge of Communications. The other participants are Carys Pullar (Sales and Marketing), Rangiawhina Hohaia and Malakai Rangi-Niwa (Financial Officer). Rangiawhina Hohaia and Araya Terry are regular assistant cooks.

Every Tuesday morning the students and Marian work in their kitchen to produce such culinary delights as butter chicken, fried rice, spaghetti bolognese, burgers and nachos as well as their very popular macaroni cheese and pizzas. "The food is especially popular with the Junior students," comments Grace.

There are also vegetarian options and humane food production is kept in mind.



From left are Marian Richardson (YES Teacher), Kataraina Taipari, Carys Pullar, Rangiawhina Hohaia, Malakai Rangi-Niwa and Grace Hooker.

Free-range eggs are sourced locally. "My dad has chickens - I know how he keeps them," comments Grace.

"We all love food," admits Kataraina with a smile. "I think it's really fun," she adds.

The food is mostly pre-ordered with as many as 80 being received. Portions vary from full size to half size to suit pocket and hunger needs.

"It's developed some good

team building skills," says Marian. She adds, "It helps to make them aware of deadlines."

"We've learnt a lot about business, because we hadn't run a business before. We've learn about handling money. We've also learned how to deal with difficult customers," explained Grace.

Following the Oral Presentations in June, the team were selected with five

other teams to present at the Dragons Den. They had to explain their Mission Statement, goals, financial success, as well as deliver a sales pitch. They were fortunate to receive \$250 for their efforts. The competition concludes with a Regional Awards evening to be held on October 19 in New Plymouth. All the very best for the big event.

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BRIAN BRAKE LENS ON CHINA AND JAPAN
25 August to 15 October

Offerings to the unknown dead, Kyoto, Japan (Tochi Satow offering a candle). Taken for a series on Japan for Life, 1964. Photograph by Brian Brake. Image ref. CT.059863. To Papa gratefully acknowledges the gift of the Brian Brake collection by Wai-man Lau.

Purely Pastel 25 August to 15 October

Entrance to Tory Channel by Judith White

An exhibition featuring twelve pastel artists from Taranaki. All members of the Pastel Association of New Zealand. Curated by Judith White.

Bespoke Fine furniture by Geoffrey Young
September 23 to October 15

THE NUN & THE POET: JERUSALEM New works by MB Stoneman
24 September to 15 October

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art education inspiration

Guest artists exhibit at rebranded Molloy Gallery



Linda McFetridge and Che Rogers with one of their collaborations which sold on opening night.

The Molloy Gallery at the old Tataraimaka Dairy factory has opened the space to guest artists.

While directors Steve Molloy and Anna Korver will continue to show their work in the gallery they will also have local artists exhibiting. Linda McFetridge and Che Rogers are the first guest artists to exhibit at the Gallery. The opening of their exhibition on Friday night was attended by a large crowd of people. Some of their works sold on the opening night.

The artists exhibited both their own works and also those in which they have

collaborated. Included were some very large works and also smaller pieces, many featuring Che's trademark circles.

It was Che's first exhibition. Steve Molloy who spoke at the opening has just returned from two months in Paris where he exhibited along with other artists as part of the Real Tartist group. He also attended a symposium in Prague where he recreated a public sculpture which he described as a contemporary piece.

He explained they were opening the gallery to "Taranaki artists, national artists and, in time,

international artists" covering photography, painting and sculpture. He described Linda and Che's work as "a great show" and the first one under the new branding of the Molloy Gallery (formerly KM Gallery). He anticipated they would be having four or five such shows a year.

Linda who grew up on the coast recently returned to Taranaki after living in Auckland. With a background in acting she now works as a casting director and commutes to Auckland for work. She and Che met last year at the opening of the Oakura Arts Trail and were introduced by fellow artist Margaret Scott. We "started dating" and "are now working together on collaborations" said Linda. Their combined works reflect each of their own area of interest as regards subject - in the case of Che, circles while Linda's works are less structured. The colours in some of the works are exquisite. Che enrolled in a craft and design degree in Christchurch and works as a graphic designer for TAFTS.

Linda and Che's intriguing works will be exhibited for a month at the gallery.

THE Bentley Effect : “One of the most important films of the century” and “a true life ‘Lord of the Rings’ tale”

Brendan Shoebridge’s documentary “The Bentley Effect” is said to be an extraordinary film and it’s headed to New Zealand this month on a national screening tour. Polly Higgins, renowned barrister, award winning author and international environmental lawyer described it as “one of the most important films of the century”.

“What sets this film apart is that it doesn’t just describe the horror of invasive industrial gasfields as many films have done. It shows dramatically how a community can come together overcoming the divisions of ideology, class and money to become a formidable force that protects land, water and ultimately the community itself from seemingly overwhelming odds,” said Simon Clough, Chairperson of the Lock the Gate Alliance. “Brendan’s great skill is he totally engages the hearts and minds of the viewer in the community’s heroic journey with all its challenges and ultimate victory. Brendan and two supporters recently took the film to the UK after many requests from the threatened communities there. The



The Bentley Effect “one of the most important films of the century”.

film had 35 screenings from Brighton in the south to Findhorn in the north. One of the UK organisers said “The inspiration that you left us all with is immeasurable and will stay with us for a long time to come, can’t thank you enough - you were bloody amazing.....” “After following the social

movement and the build up to the Bentley Blockade from its early beginnings, “The struggle against invasive gas mining may be the vehicle for this story and it’s certainly a conversation that needs elevating - but really this film is more about community and what our communities can achieve when they stand

together for a common cause. With so much hanging delicately in the balance it is ultimately altruism and the connection to our true wealth - air, land, water and each other - that we see emerging as the key ingredients to this timely story.

For me it is a true life ‘Lord of the Rings’ tale showcasing a rare and precious win – a movement that many people now see as a major turning point in the battle for a safe clean future. It’s a story that simply had to be told and I’m really looking forward to sharing it with New Zealand audiences”

The Bentley Effect is touring nationally from September 24th to November 12th. In Taranaki, there will be two screenings: 7pm Monday October 2nd at the 4th Wall Theatre in New Plymouth, and 7pm Tuesday October 3rd at the Everybody’s Theatre in Opunake. Both screenings will be followed by an interactive Q&A session with the film maker and fellow campaigners. More information is available at

www.thebentleyeffect.com
Brendan Shoebridge’s film was 6 years in the making and has won a number of international film awards including Best Documentary at the Planet Barcelona Film Festival and the Moondance International Film Festival, BBIFF’s Byron Film Award, the Activist Award at Earth Day Film Festival, the Audience Award at Something Somewhere Film Festival and Awards of Excellence and Special Mentions at this years Impact Doc Awards and the Melbourne Documentary Film Festival.

Further information and interviews contact Brendan Shoebridge:
e: bentleyeffect@gmail.com mob: +61 (0)421 514823

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

SEPTEMBER 2017

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale		Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos	
	THE HOUSE Comedy 1hrs 28mins R16 Violence, Offensive Language, Sex references, Drug use If you can't beat the house, be the house. A mother and father who blow their daughter's college fund and start an illegal casino in their basement to recoup the losses. Fri 15 th Sept 7pm Sun 17 th Sept 7pm Wed 20 Sept 7pm Sat 23 Sept 7pm		LEGO BATMAN Animation, Family, kids 1hr 30min PG There are big changes brewing in Gotham, and if he wants to save the city from The Joker's hostile takeover, Batman may have to drop the lone vigilante thing, try to work with others and maybe, just maybe, learn to lighten up. Sat 9 th Sept 1pm Sat 16 th Sept 1pm
	HAMPSTEAD Comedy, Drama 1hr 42mins PG Course language, sexual references A romance tale about a widow who is introduced to a man living largely in nature. When developers want to destroy his home because of the land he lives on, she helps him fight to maintain his unique way of life. Sat 16 th Sept 7pm Fri 22 nd Sept 7pm Sun 24 th Sept 7pm		VALERIAN Action, Adventure, Science Fiction 2hrs 17mins M: Fantasy Violence Under assignment from the Minister of Defence, Valerian embark on a mission to the astonishing city of Alpha-an ever-expanding metropolis where species from all over the universe have converged over centuries to share knowledge, intelligence and cultures Wed 20 th Sept 1pm Sat 23 rd Sept 1pm
	LOGAN LUCKY Comedy 1hr 59mins M Offensive language Trying to reverse a family curse, brothers Jimmy (Channing Tatum) and Clyde Logan (Adam Driver) set out to execute an elaborate robbery during the legendary Coca-Cola 600 race at the Charlotte Motor Speedway. Wed 13 th Sept 7pm Wed 27 th Sept 1pm		THE DINNER Drama, Mystery, Thriller 2hrs 01mins M: Offensive Language While Stan and Paul have been estranged since childhood, their 16-year-old sons are friends, and the two of them have committed a horrible crime that has shocked the country. Wed 27 th Sept 7pm
	THE HITMANS BODYGUARD Action, Comedy 1hrs 58mins R16: Offensive Language, Violence The world's top protection is called upon to guard the life of his mortal enemy, one of the world's most notorious hitmen. The relentless bodyguard and manipulative assassin have been on the opposite end of the bullet for years and are thrown together for a wildly outrageous 24 hours Fri 29 th Sept 7pm Sat 30 th Sept 7pm		DESPICABLE ME 3 Action, Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family, Science Fiction 1hr 36min PG Gru faces off against Balthazar Bratt, a former child star who grows up to become obsessed with the character he played in the '80s, and gets into some sibling rivalry when he meets his long lost twin brother. Sat 30 th Sept 1pm

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
	15 The House 7pm	16 Lego Batman 1pm Hampstead 7pm	17 The House 7pm
20 Valerian 1pm The House 7pm	22 Hampstead 7pm	23 Valerian 1pm The House 7pm	24 Hampstead 7pm
27 Logan Lucky 1pm The Dinner 7pm	29 Hitmans Bodyguard 7pm	30 Despicable Me 3 1pm Hitmans Bodyguard 7pm	1 *****Boutique***** Victoria and Abdul 7pm

Presentation

By

Hearing Support Taranaki

CoastalCare Health Centre

1.30pm

Thursday Sept 21

ALL WELCOME

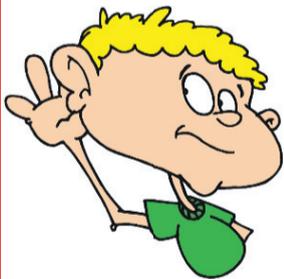


“What is hearing loss?”

“How do I know if I have hearing loss?”

“How do I speak to someone with hearing loss?”

“How loud is too loud?”



Speak Up

Rock-artist wows everybody

“Did you put glue between the stones, so they hold together?” That is probably the most asked question stone artist Daniel Morgan has been asked so far. The New Plymouth man is balancing stones of all different sizes

upon each other.

If you walk along the Coastal Walkway in New Plymouth, you can see Morgan’s work: Stones atop each other, often on an angle. You really think they would never hold. People of all

different ages stop and stare at the lofty art; children, mothers, grandfathers, tourists, anybody.

Nicoletta Toulon from France takes pictures, and enjoys the site. She has never seen anything like that in her own country.

Morgan says he got the idea from a Canadian artist when he was in Canada. Since then he works on the balancing art at any river or at the open ocean in Taranaki. By now he is pretty good, and he displays his stony work anywhere around the mountain, especially at the moment in New Plymouth.

He wants to make people smile. And at the same time, bring them to art, without going to a museum, he laughs.

“People who usually would not spend time in a museum automatically see something they might even try themselves,” he muses. “They come to art, without



Stone artist Daniel Morgan

even realising.’

The 33 year old - artist is usually a graphic designer, but he prefers the outdoors

to work in. His artistic name is ‘Nannos’ and he welcomes any comment on his facebook page ‘The world of Nannos art’ which anybody can have a look at. There are plenty of photos and even movies on it about how he does it.

“There are always kids coming and trying to do the same next to me,” he smiles, but most of the time they don’t have the patience to really learn to balance them.

“It looks easier than it is,” the man with the hand for rocks knows. He always offers to take them apart when people don’t believe he doesn’t have a ‘glue-trick.’

Even wind doesn’t make the stones fall apart –a storm does.

A sculptor from England, Andy Goldsworthy who is also working on land-art is his favourite colleague. Bridges are what Morgan does at the moment as a real challenge. It’s hard to believe those bridges hold, no glue, no nothing.

So, if you want to have a try, just walk along New Plymouth’s Coastal Walkway. There is hardly anybody who does not stand there with a smile and a dropped jaw.

Rena Tarrach



Perfect balance

Learning about herbs at Hollards

Tea gardens and herb spirals for the home garden will be on the agenda at a free public workshop at Hollard Gardens, Kaponga, on Sunday September 17.

Participants will learn how to go about creating a herb spiral, and why they are



A herb spiral under development at Hollard Gardens

functional as well as attractive – by giving each herb species growing conditions that suit it, and optimising exposure to the sun.

Those thirsty for knowledge about tea gardens will learn

about the humble camellia and its potential.

Sunday’s workshop runs from 2pm to 4pm at Hollard Gardens, 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga. It is part of a year-round programme

of free events at Hollard Gardens, Pukeiti and Tūpare, the three heritage properties owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region

Next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News

is on September 29 2017

Don’t miss out! Ph 06 761 7016

or email ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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Next Karaoke is
September 16, 7.30 pm

Pokies • TAB • Pool

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October for cafe and bar

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Ph: 06 274 8341

Dance By The Sea

presented by
Diann Jeffares Theatre
Dance Pupils of 2017

Musical Theatre Song
Ballet Line Dancing
Character Stories

Saturday 23 September at 1pm
Opunake Town Hall

Door Sales
Adults : \$10 Children : \$5

Information
Diann : 06 765 7773

light refreshments to follow the presentation

THE FITZ

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TUESDAY
QUIZ NIGHT at 7pm
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SUNDAY
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