



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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## Season's greetings

We at the Opunake & Coastal News would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year. We hope everyone has a good break and we will ourselves be having a holiday. Our first issue in the New Year will be on January 28/29. The Opunake & Coastal News office should be open from Tuesday January 19 2016.

See our

Holiday Guide  
this issue .

Page 15-34.

What to do  
round the  
Mountain this  
holiday season.

## Inside



Top scholars at Coastal Taranaki School's prizegiving. See page 7..



Keeping it in the family way. Turn to page 5.



Where our rates go. Page 38.



James bounces back. Flick over to page 42.



## Peace in Paradise

Photo taken by Manou from Manou's Cafe and Restaurant, Ocean View Parade, New Plymouth. See page 2.

# A fitting finale to a year's celebrations

Opunake's year long events marking 150 years since the founding of the Opunake district ended with a huge fireworks display on Saturday December 5 at Sandfords Event Centre. It was a fitting end to numerous celebrations that have taken place over 2015, marking the milestone. Earlier a large crowd enjoyed a buffet meal which was followed by speeches,

then beard judging by South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop, Karla Tito and Bronwyn McNeill.

Winner of the Most Traditional Beard was David Billing, who claimed to have had just three shaves in 38 years. From Oaonui, David said he cut his beard off twice for Rahotu celebrations, and once for the Rahotu Young Farmers.

Best Moustache went to Rahotu (TOP HAT GUY)

Kevin Lowe, quite unrecognisable with his luxuriant 'growth', took out the novelty prize for the Most Spectacular.

And there was one entrant who'd never shaved - but seemed to sport, at first sight, an impressive growth. Alas on closer inspection it wasn't sprouting from her chin, and thus she was disqualified.

"I did have a close shave last night," though said the owner Alison Hayward, referring to a close call she had while passing a big truck on a local bridge when returning from New Plymouth.

The idea of a beard growing competition was a nod to the past. A similar competition

was held during the Opunake Centenary celebrations back in 1965.

MC and South Taranaki District councillor Bryan Roach compered the evening with DMan providing the entertainment.

The fireworks display was the culmination of the day's events, that on Saturday included a music afternoon at Pihama Lavender Farm, and in the morning a garden party at Opunake's Cottage Resthome, marking 25 years since its inception.

Celebrations included some old time games such as egg and spoon races and sack races, homemade lollies, a barbecue and outdoor live music.

The decision by the Opunake Sesquicentennial committee to spin out the celebrations over the year was an opportunity for different organisations to celebrate the milestone in their own way and in their own time during the year.

There have been lots of events throughout the year celebrating 150 years.

A literary competition was judged by Opunake's own

Graeme Lay, author of many books and short stories, some of which drew on material from his time growing up in Opunake. A book of the short stories and poems has been published.

An Opunake Business Association lucky shopper promotion a week ago, with

vouchers for shopping in Opunake, encouraged people to shop local.

A Sesquicentennial (a new word we've all learnt this year) booklet has also been printed describing the history of Opunake since its foundation in 1865.

*Continued page 2*

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# Paradise in Taranaki

A "piece of paradise", says Manou from Manou's Café and Restaurant, describing his restaurant/café which is right on New Plymouth's waterfront on Ocean View Parade.

Owner Manou promotes the idyllic spot as a place where you can dine and relax in peace, while taking in the sea views, and at sunset, the spectacular night sky which his amazing photo captivates.

Festooned with ropes, hanging baskets and multinational flags, the café/restaurant is truly unique. Anchors and bollards add to the nautical theme. You're so close to the water you feel you're on it.

Originally from Iran, Manou also provides an intriguing choice of continental music to listen to as you dine and enjoy the nautical experience.

On sizzling hot days, when

the sun blazes down from an unpolluted sky, and with no parking problems, it's hard to beat as you watch the changing seascape. Chaddy's Charter historic Bridlington lifeboat makes regular trips to the Sugar Loaf Islands to see the seals. Further afield, ships arrive from distant places.

After your meal visit Chaddy's Charter's next door and immerse yourself in Chaddy's colourful history which dons the walls.. The former boxer has a fund of stories about his remarkable past. You can also hire a bike, or a canoe at Chaddy's..

Manou and his staff also offer advice on sights to see and places to visit. It's a great place for a friendly chat with travellers from all over the world.

Yep, on a hot, summer's evening with the sky a blaze of colour, Paradise seems a pretty apt description.



# Letters to the editor

## Easter shopping

Central government has passed the buck for district councils to deal with the Easter shopping saga.

Now councillors are the executioners of those that wish to open their business on religious days like Easter. I thought it rather gutless that this central government did not deal with it at their level.

It should have been a no brainer, more so that a National Government is supposed to stand for freedom of choice.

If any shopkeeper or business wishes to open for business on any day of the year, this should be their choice, and if members of the public do not like it they do not have to support them, and refrain from using the services provided or purchasing the goods offered for sale. Churches can open for business any day of the year, why not anybody else.

Past experiences have shown a ready acceptance of shopping at Easter in the past.

So let us have it.

A.P. Groot  
New Plymouth

## Road safety

The holiday period is upon us, and no doubt concerns as to driver behaviour - attitudes and its consequences. It seems to me that the road safety campaign as presented on our television screens is focussed on making us aware of accidents. This is in my opinion a negative approach with probably limited benefits, if any. The focus needs to change, and should be directed to road safety per se. The public need to be educated and re-educated about safe driving. We have a very comprehensive set of rules as set out in the road-code. This could be a very powerful basis for a

road safety campaign There needs to be an ongoing awareness, outlining the rules and promoting safe and considered behaviour on our roads.

It should be an attractive campaign, using television and newspaper advertising, and can be light hearted and interesting, so that people will look forward to learning and wanting to watch, read, and take notice of its educational content. The current campaign is uninteresting and of little, if any value, because the focus is not directed to where it should be. Fear and intimidation do not work and have very limited value

The AA and other insurance companies as well as the ACC should club together and organise such a campaign. Accidents should not need to be mentioned, as the focus should be on safe driving and behaviour.

Have a happy and safe holiday period.

A P Groot  
New Plymouth

## Province needs more coastal outlook

I've just read Dr Shaw's thoughtful Coastal Outlook regarding the Port of Taranaki and must say I concur.

I am from the UK and was born in the week the first container ship berthed in Southampton way back in '68. My family were merchant seamen, fishermen and stevedores of various shades, and I have been a keen observer of the subject since a child. One of the last events I witnessed before coming to New Zealand was the approach and berthing of the behemoth container vessel CMA CGM Marco Polo (capable of carrying 18,270 teu containers) which pushed the limits of what Southampton

could deal with at the time.

Yes, Southampton is an established port, along with Antwerp, Le Havre and Rotterdam for example - ancient ports far inland, and throughout history they have struggled with the usual cyclical economic patterns that beset the global shipping industry. They have always pushed to evolve and expand though. It is an accepted fact that Southampton is not really at the centre of things Europe-wide, but there is always a reason for vessels to visit. The container terminal is owned by overseas investors (I believe the Canadian State Pension fund) who expect results. It is even the home to the UK Maritime and Coastguard Agency, two fine maritime universities, the UK's Premier Oceanography Department, and a top class Maritime Training Academy, as well as Royal yacht clubs, maritime training schools and the European headquarters of two major cruise lines. This drive to maintain competitiveness has brought huge benefits to the region, and demanded expansion wherever possible. Trades have moved through wine, wool and emigrants, through asbestos and timber and on to containerised loads, scrap and cars. Time cannot stand still, failure to compete would leave the port as a backwater.

Since coming to Taranaki, I have been, frankly, shocked at the lack of dynamism in the local port. Personally, I could sit and watch one going about its business all day, but to be honest, nothing ever happens here. The country as a whole and Taranaki in particular would seem to be resource rich, and would be the envy of many global economies - if only

they knew about it. And let's be honest, New Zealand is on just about everyone's bucket list to visit - why not by ship? As you quite rightly say, if the Chinese were in charge, I'm sure there might be just a little more traffic, and maybe more than the odd freight train rumbling in and out. The local polytechnic shows no interest in relating courses to industry needs. Why are they not teaching some relevant subject or relating the excellent healthcare courses available into some form of maritime specialism? As the centre of New Zealand's energy industry, it beggars belief that appropriate training is not on offer. What is available is just basic pipebending and lifting, labourers for the industry. I was told by a Canadian oilman that expertise is always shipped in - and then subsequently shipped out when the job is done. I personally have every faith in kiwis being able to do any job the maritime industry could throw at them - with the correct training and correct infrastructural support, but the port would appear to play little part in the local economy as far as most people are concerned. New Plymouth should aspire to be a 'Centre of Excellence.' However, the old Taranaki maxim of 'oh, we're a long way from anywhere,' so out of date, seems to be trundled out whenever there is any question of lack of foresight.

With some dynamic leadership, vision and an understanding of what is actually possible, Taranaki could be very wealthy and be an economic driver for much of the country. As things stand, I think the

Continued page 3

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# A fitting finale to a year's celebrations

Continued from page 1

There have been various displays in Opunake's LibraryPlus, including television monitors, which have continually displayed old photos of local people, giving a fascinating glimpse into the past, and how times have changed.

The Coastal Singers also joined in the celebrations with their annual concert, this year entitled 'As time goes by,' which included a selection of songs covering popular entertainment from the First World War through to the Second World War, and thereafter including a medley from The Beatles. The credit for the success of the Sesquicentennial celebrations must go to the Chairperson of the Opunake Sesquicentenary Committee Bryan Roach, and the



Peter Trolove, Tessa Cook, Olive Roach and Mayor Ross Dunlop formally cut the sesquicentennial cake

chairperson of the Opunake Business Association Alison Hayward and her husband Bill Hayward. In the year in which the hospitable and positive couple bought their own business, Opunake Fish Chips 'n' More, they somehow found time to organise and oversee the many events.

"It's been quite a year," admitted Alison looking just a tad tired after an exhausting year.

It's been a massive effort and a great success. If you missed the spectacular fireworks display which lasted 12 minutes - or want to see it again - you can view it on [www.colourconversions.com](http://www.colourconversions.com) courtesy of Colour Conversions, Opunake.

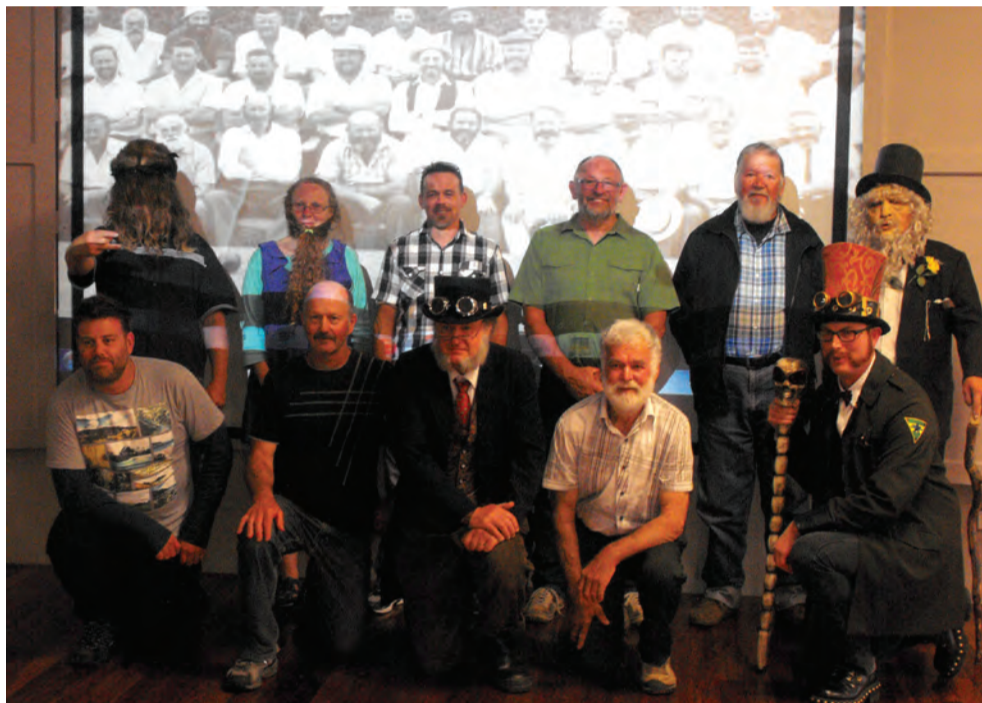
## Letters to Editor

Continued from page 2.

province will casually keep walking its own path out on its lonely rock in the sea maintaining a status quo that benefits the few.

Sorry to rant but it is so good to know that I am not alone. Usually when I mention anything to do with the sea that isn't snapper people's eyes glaze over. I look forward to more Coastal Outlook columns.

Michael T  
Opunake



The beards. Note the 1965 versions in the background.



Straight out of the 1860s



150 Years of Opunake - Fireworks Display  
Video, Audio and Graphic Productions  
For those who did not see it, this is what you missed. View a video of the Opunake fireworks in the news menu on the [www.colourconversions.com](http://www.colourconversions.com) web site.

## Correction

We would like to apologise for an error in the last edition of the Opunake & Coastal News. In the story entitled the trials of shopping with a disability, the winner of the

Small Business category of the Opunake Accessible Shop Awards Evening was Karams Clothes on the Coast and not Pastimes as reported. Pastimes were runners up. We apologise for this error.

Editor



Christmas isn't about what gifts you give or what gifts you receive. It is about what gift God gave us. It was Himself. And he gave because He loves You. Have a great time this Christmas and remember the One who gave us Christmas from

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## COMMUNITY COMMENT

At this time of year most of us get caught up in the rush to 'be ready' for Christmas; whether it's getting ready for friends and family to visit, gifts to purchase, cards to send, there seems to be so much to prepare.

But, Christmas time or not, it is good to 'Be Prepared'.

The Eltham Community has been preparing for emergency situations that may happen. In September, the Community Board invited local industry and business people to an information night regarding Civil Defence (now called Emergency Management). We were delighted with the response from 30 people representing



Maree Liddington  
Eltham Community Board

18 organisations.

South Taranaki District Council staff spoke about recent emergencies at Waitotara and Opunake, and how plans in place helped

## Be Prepared

the response to these events. In most cases, contacts and local information that had been prepared before the event helped enormously in speeding up the response by emergency services and personnel.

Discussion identified possible scenarios that could happen in the Eltham area, and how we would cope. Depending on the type of emergency, communities need to be able to be self sufficient for at least three days before outside help kicks in. So identifying local resources and personnel is very necessary. Contact details were obtained from the various representatives present, and a steering

committee was formed to draw up a draft Emergency Management plan. This will eventually go to the Taranaki Emergency Management team for final approval.

We all hope that an emergency situation does not arise in Eltham, but if in the future it did, we know we have done the groundwork for the best possible outcome. You can all play your part in preparing emergency supplies and water in your own households; get to know your neighbours and 'Be Prepared.'

The Eltham Community Board joins with me in wishing you all a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas.

## Floods were a wake-up call on civil defence

The past year has seen South Taranaki hit by two big flood events within two months of each other. On June 20, heavy rains flooded Waitotara and parts of inland Taranaki. On August 6, it was Opunake's turn., as the town was hit by the worst flooding in 30 years. Had the rains gone on for much longer, the town would have been completely cut off, South Taranaki District mayor Ian Armstrong said. As it was, for a time the only way in and out of Opunake was via the road from Eltham.

Two months before the Waitotara floods, Mr Armstrong, who represents the Egmont Plains on the South Taranaki District Council had chaired a meeting at the Sandfords Event Centre to discuss ways in which the people of Opunake and the surrounding area could assist themselves in the event of a civil emergency.

Then the August flood came.

"In two months we had had the June, then the Opunake floods. That was really a wake-up call," Mr Armstrong said. "While we were not fully set up, it showed we could do something. My



Shaping civil defence in Opunake. From left. Len Pentelow, Michael Roach, Ian Armstrong, Craig Dingle, Bryan Roach, Ben Ingram.

phone was going all day with people volunteering with offers to help."

It had been decided that a registrar of resources would soon be outdated, so it would be better to have a group of key people who knew what resources were available and where they could be found. In the event of a civil emergency they could assess what the problems were, so that appropriate assistance could be sent to where it was most needed.

Eight months after the first meeting, a strategy is being put in place, with the Event Centre to be the civil defence

headquarters and welfare centre in the event of an emergency.

The area along the coast between Manihi and Taikatu Roads has been divided into sectors, mainly based around roads, each with two families given the responsibility of checking up on everybody in the event of a civil emergency. The Taranaki Emergency Management Office would text out to the volunteers, and they would report back to the Emergency Management Centre in Opunake, where a key group of people: Michael Roach, Simon Fuller, Bryan Roach, Nigel Robinson, Sasanka Gunatunga, Len Pentelow and Ian Armstrong would collate the incoming information and liaise with the emergency services. In the event of not being able to get through for any reason, they will mobilise local assistance where possible.

Opunake town has also been split up into sectors.

Mr Armstrong said that on the day they would require assistance from a whole range of groups, and would make that call on the day.

"What would be helpful now is a list of volunteers with contact details who could be called upon to cover the Opunake township house by house."

Mr Armstrong says he is pleased with the response he has received.

"None of the people I've

approached have turned me down," he said. These people will receive satchels with information on how best to co-ordinate the response in their sectors.

Ben Ingram of the Taranaki Emergency Management Office said anybody who sees anything amiss can ring the Emergency Management Office on 0800 900 049.

"We would rather have a phone call for something we didn't need to respond to, than to not hear at all when something bad does happen."

Nevertheless in cases of immediate danger, the 111 call should always be the first port of call, he said.

The June and August floods had shown that in an emergency the people on the ground are the ones most likely to help, because they know who everyone is, and what resources are available. Such things are far easier to co-ordinate in somewhere like Opunake, rather than in the larger centres, he said.

"Nobody's going to respond as quickly as the local community."

South Taranaki District councillor Bryan Roach said people need to be prepared in the event of being cut off in an emergency.

"People have got to be prepared and have three days food, water and fuel. Fuel is quite a critical one if they have no power and need to run generators," he said.

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# Keeping it in the family

Next year Heath Chittenden will leave Auroa School, where he has been principal for the past six years, to take up a position as principal of Ashhurst School. He says Auroa School will be in safe hands after he has gone.

"I've always wanted to do a great job for the school, but you get to the point where you need a fresh face and fresh ideas. For Auroa, it's time for somebody to take the school to the next level, and who better to do it than your older brother."

Taking up the reins as new principal at Auroa will be Heath's brother, Jarad, who for the past nine years has been at Matapu School, six of these as deputy principal, the last three as principal.

For both men, their new roles will be a step up. Auroa's current role is 197, compared to 150 when Heath first arrived six years ago. His new school has a roll of 470, with 20 teachers. Jarad comes from a school with a roll of 100-120, and five teachers.

They know Taranaki well, having been born in Mokoia, and gone through Hawera Intermediate and Hawera High Schools.

Before coming to Auroa, Heath was sole charge teacher at Hurleyville, which had a roll of 15.

"It shows that there is a pathway in rural schools to progress your career," he said. "It is something he would encourage anybody interested in a teaching career to consider."

"I was 29 when I got Auroa, and I was seen to be very young. I was lucky that my career has been accelerated by being in a fabulous rural community. Great things happen in rural schools," he said. "I would encourage anyone to be a rural principal. It's a hell of a great ride."

The areas now serviced by the Auroa and Matapu schools had gone through a school merger process in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Pupils who once would have gone to rural schools which have since



**Handing over.** From left, incoming Auroa School principal Jarad Chittenden, and his brother and outgoing principal Heath Chittenden.

closed their doors are now going to Auroa and Matapu.

"When I first started there were still echoes of the mergers," Heath said, "I feel everybody is now proud of being at Auroa School, and lots of people in our community make sacrifices to be here. We have a huge PTA who have invested \$140,000 into the school in my time here. It doesn't matter if you're from Pihama, Riverlea, Auroa, wherever, Auroa School is somewhere people are proud to go to."

"This is what makes school great. Lots of people with different skill sets come and invest their time with the community. It doesn't fall over on one person."

He cites the work Louise Knapman did last year with the school's junior robotics team in their winning the theatre division finals in both New Zealand and Australia as an example.

Jarad says he has enjoyed working with his brother and their counterparts from Opunake and Kaponga in the MOA cluster of schools, which was set up a couple of years ago.

"I came to Matapu a year or two after the mergers, and

that was a real difficult time for communities. Since then we've come a long way in keeping education as relevant as we can, and MOA has just enhanced what we do, being able to open doors to other schools and what they are doing."

He said he has enjoyed his time at Matapu, and admits to some mixed feelings about leaving.

"It was a real tough decision to apply for Auroa. I was at Matapu for nine years, so I definitely have strong feelings about that school. I will be walking into a new school and a new culture. Auroa and Matapu may only be 10 kilometres away from each other, but the schools are a lot different."

He says the Matapu community have been supportive of his new venture, and he is looking forward to getting involved in Auroa School.

"I'll just step in, involve myself in what's happening already and try to keep the wheel moving."

Jarad graduated with a BA in business psychology then did a post graduate diploma in primary teaching. He taught at Hawera Intermediate

before coming to Matapu.

He and wife Paula, a former head girl of Opunake High School are expecting their second child. Jarad continues to be a keen sportsman, training for a half marathon and playing football, a sport which he says makes fewer demands on the body than rugby, so can still be played later in life. He played cricket until a couple of years ago.

"It all comes down to being active," he says. "If the body is active, the mind is active."



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# Festive season can also be a thieving season

It's summer time, so if you are going away it maybe best not to advertise the fact. For those on farm or other rural properties it's also a time to keep an eye out for the potentially light fingered.

"Some times are busier than other times, but with the holiday season, people tend to be away and are potentially more of a target," Sergeant Geoffrey Winter of the Hawera police said.

Farm or other rural properties, because of their isolated nature maybe particularly vulnerable, he said.

"Petrol is always a good

target, as well as small easily concealable items like laptops, and smaller electronic items that can be easily removed, as well as cash and jewellery. If it's a rural farm property, it could be motorbikes, lawnmowers, chainsaws or anything like that. Stock thefts do happen, so just be aware that there are thieves around.

"The more physically secure you can make something, the better. All stuff that could be locked away should be, if not, concealing it out of view would be the next best option."

He advises people make use of door locks, window locks, and if possible, security cameras in a visible position in order to deter potential thieves.

Mr Winter also advises keeping a record of the serial numbers of any items, in the event of them being stolen.

If going away, it's best to get somebody like a neighbour to clear the mailbox and keep an eye on things.

A note should be taken of any suspicious looking vehicles travelling up and down the road, or of any strangers seen hanging around the

place. To avoid the place looking empty, it's best to get the lawns mowed before heading off on holiday.

"When on holiday, don't put it on social media. There are people who have done that, and come back home to

find their places burgled," Mr Winter said.

He advises being wary of any offers of cheap gear.

"If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. If they are selling really cheap, there's probably a reason for it."

## Opunake Fire Brigade Round up

With the end of the 150 Years of Opunake Celebrations drawing near, I thought I would again delve into old newspapers and look for another interesting Opunake fire. The article I've found relates to a 1913 fire which wiped out most of the town. Have a read- it is exactly as it was printed.

"Latest advice shows that the big fire at the town of Opunake, which swept the business part of the town, resulted in damage to the extent of over £15,000 (that would be \$2.3 million in today's money). With the very inadequate fire-fighting appliances possessed by Opunake and the very precarious water supply, which depends entirely on wells and tanks, it has been for years predicted that it only required a fire to start at one end of the town, fanned by a favourable

breeze, for the whole business portion of the town to be endangered, and this has now come to pass.

"The Fire Brigade, hopelessly handicapped, arrived promptly on the scene with the old manual engine. This proved to be out of action, and no water was available, as owing to the dry weather, both wells and tanks were empty, so the engine was taken to a well at the back of Messrs Ralfe and Archer's, where it was consumed by the flames, as the fire crept along the western side of the street until Mrs Nicholl's tearooms were reached.

"The next building was of concrete, owned by J. C. O'Rorke, and it was quickly seen that here lay the only chance of checking the fire by, if possible, removing Mrs Nicholl's shop and making a gap. An endeavour was made to blow this up with dynamite but this failed, as the dynamite burnt and did not explode. A party of axes quickly demolished the front of the building, though during this operation there was a very narrow escape from a serious accident, as an axe which slipped struck Mr George Looney on the bridge of the nose, inflicting a bad gash, which required medical attention".

I'll leave that interesting October 3 1913 newspaper article there. I did see a report in another paper that said "the

dynamite did blow out the gap and sheets of iron and pieces of wood went yards into the air". I don't know what really happened, but I do know OSH (Occupational Health and Safety) would have had a field day with that incident. That fire, which started in the laundry of Middleton's Hotel, resulted in 12 shops, on both sides of Tasman Street, burning to the ground.

The fireworks display held on Saturday December 5 was very well organised, a pleasure to watch and incident free. I would imagine that, very soon, public displays will be the only fireworks we see as the callouts nationally on Guy Fawkes numbered 117. Sadly this total was double the previous year tally and so it gives the "Fun Police" good numbers to campaign against the sale of fireworks. The good folk from the Opunake District however, had a clean slate on Guy Fawkes evening, so thanks.

Monday December 7, saw the brigade turn out to a rubbish and vegetation fire near the Waiiau River Bridge. The fire was spotted by an Overseas tourist who called in to the fire station to report it. Luckily one of our members was at the station doing the weekly checks on the appliances and equipment, so was able to help. The fire was extinguished extremely quickly, and the appliance was soon at the station to refill with

water and be tucked away for another day.

Our brigade Christmas functions (adults and children's) are over for another year. Recently, we have been the transport for an extremely important gentleman who has visited both the Kindergarten and the Playcentre and we have also been the "noise" for the Food Bank collection on Monday evening. Our last practice for the year has passed and now the only official duty to preform (other than attending incidents) is to take part in the Opunake Christmas Parade on December 24- something we look forward to every year.

The Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade would like to wish the community a very safe Christmas and New Year. The last thing we want to do is have to cut someone out of an upturned vehicle, so please have a sober driver if you intend to have a festive drink, and watch the young children around the barbecue. That way, the boys in blue, the St. Johns Ambos and ourselves can have a relaxed time. The brigade would like to give a special thanks to Darryl, Ann and Leo Hickey, Les and Rose Ratahi, Bernard and Roslyn Karam, the Op Shop and the Pihama Country Women's Institute for their support over the past year. *Smouldering embers*

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This was the fire brigade in Opunake way back in 1900. Can anyone recognise any of these dedicated firefighters? It could be your Great great grandfather! If so, let us know for our first issue of the New Year, which will be January 29, 2016.

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# Coastal Taranaki School farewells Allan Miles

After years of dedicated service to CTS the end of Principal Allan Miles tenure at the school was acknowledged. (He left at the end of Term 2). The new Principal is Dr Janelle McKenzie, who takes over in Term 1, 2016. Dr Mckenzie is currently Principal of Collingwood Area School. Acting Principal Karla Ralph paid tribute to Allan Miles in her speech. "He taught us that every person in our school is important and showed this in his action every day. We will miss his ideas and forward thinking." After mentioning his many initiatives she added, "These opportunities have allowed our school to be great, and these things all resonate all around our buildings. She concluded, "We wish him health and quality time with his family in retirement."

Karla also mentioned the positive ERO visit in September. Their Report acknowledged the "strongly committed Board of Trustees." The Report concluded, "We have found there is a positive tone school wide, good learning, high quality teaching, and student-centred, innovative and fun classes." A highpoint of the Prizegiving was the announcement of the Dux and Runner Up Dux. After both students won a number of lesser awards, it was finally announced that Rodney Cruden-Powell had won the Crossman Cup as Dux for his supreme academic achievement. His good friend Finnley Binsbergen won the Proxime Accessit Cup as Runner Up. Both students will attend Victoria University next year in Wellington. Rodney will study for a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science, while Finnley will study Environmental Science for the same degree. In their respective Head Boy speeches, both paid tribute to their teachers and the school generally. Finnley



From left. Dux Rodney Cruden-Powell. Proxime Accessit Finnley Binsbergen.

mentioned teachers such as Mrs Richardson, "as a great teacher and an even greater person." He concluded of his time at CTS, "I'm truly grateful. I'll look back and smile." Rodney named Mr Oldfield as the teacher who had the biggest impact on him and for revealing, "the honest truth of how the world really is." An interesting keynote speech was given by Joanne Thomas, a former teacher at CTS. She told of her time in Russia in 2013 and how she was renamed 'Joanna' because all Russian ladies names seem to end in 'a'. She concluded with a message for those still at school, "Plan, dream and hope because someday it will be your turn." The students have achieved greatly in their academic studies and also in the sporting sense, as well as socially. Their achievements, with the expert guidance of their excellent teachers, were reflected in various awards. The major awards were as follows:  
 Moana Whanau Champions. Mareikura Teito-Riwaka Cheryl Vosper Memorial Award for Service to the Library. Rodney Cruden-Powell Ikaroa Lodge

Award. Finnley Binsbergen AWE Scholarship. Jazmine Murray Corbett Award for Knowledge and Kindness in Year 6. Shanay Rikirangi Garry Brophy Cup - Citizens Award Year 1 - 6. Dane Hofmans Gold Cup for Service to Intermediate School. Rodney Cruden-Powell Newell School Community Cup - Most helpful Senior Student. Finnley Binsbergen Carpe Diem Cup. Finnley Binsbergen Head Student. Rodney Cruden-Powell Head Student. Teina Ngaia Te Rangi Uenuku - Gaye Taingahue Memorial Award. Courtney Ngaia-Pompey Komene Memorial Award. Kataraina Taipari Joseph Manu Memorial Cup - Best Maori scholar. Finnley Binsbergen Proxime Accessit Cup - Runner Up Dux. Rodney Cruden-Powell Crossman Cup - Dux. Congratulations to the students, teachers, Board of Trustees, parents and FOCT

et al for your outstanding achievements during the year. Karla Ralph, in her role as Acting Principal, has obviously maintained the high standard of Allan Miles. Her wide-ranging speech was excellent. I enjoyed CTS's well-organised Prizegiving, accompanied by the enjoyable waiatas and interesting speeches. One thing I've noticed in my five years living in Okato is the friendliness and courtesy of Coastal Taranaki School students - well done. All the best for 2016.

*Wishing all our clients and friends all the best for Christmas and the New Year. Thanks for your support this year.*

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 constituents.  
 Have a safe and happy  
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**JONATHAN YOUNG**  
 MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH



*We wish you all a safe  
 and happy holiday*

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*Our circulation area now covers about a third of Taranaki in a circle around Mount Taranaki. We are also on the Internet.*

*We would like to wish all our Coastal Friends and Clients Best Wishes for the Festive Season.*

# A Government delivering for all

The holiday season is a time to get together with family and friends, and enjoy the good things about the great Kiwi summer. It's also a time to take stock, and a time to look to the year ahead.

As we look back over the past year, I am proud of what this Government has achieved.

Parliament has wrapped up for the year, having passed 120 bills into law, including KiwiSaver HomeStart legislation reflecting the Government's commitment to help more than 90,000 Kiwi families into their first home.

After a slow start to the year, the economy is performing solidly with a positive outlook in the coming years. Jobs and wages are growing – 34,000 new jobs in the past year, and wages growing considerably faster than the cost of living.

Reduced ACC levies, with more to come, are helping businesses and households, as is the roll out of ultra-fast broadband and investment of



**Jonathan Young MP**

billions in roads, schools, and hospitals.

More Kiwis are voting with their feet and either staying in New Zealand or coming home.

We're continuing to see improved results from our public services in areas that really matter – such as better health care, lower crime, higher educational achievement, and more New Zealanders moving off welfare into work.

This year we got the Government's books back into surplus, a target we

set after the devastating Canterbury earthquakes and the global financial crisis. This is a significant milestone, and one we can all take great pride in.

This year our free doctor visits and free prescriptions for children under 13 came into effect. We also extended paid parental leave this year and in 2016, Kiwi families will get another two weeks. We're doing more to help children living in hardship, including increasing benefit rates for families with children by \$25 a week, the first real increase in more than 40 years.

We signed the Korean Free Trade Agreement and successfully concluded negotiations for the Trans Pacific Partnership, New Zealand's biggest ever free trade deal, worth around \$2.7 billion to our economy by 2030.

Record numbers of tourists are visiting New Zealand and spending more than ever before – around \$9.4 billion

a year. Here in Taranaki we are working towards steering more of the tourism to our incredible region. What better place to take a road trip than the Surf Highway. The recent announcement of \$24 million for Project Taranaki Mouna will be working towards making our National Park pest-free, and the reintroduction of wildlife. This is a partnership between the NEXT Foundation, DOC, iwi and the Taranaki community, and will have a significant impact not only on conservation and environmental education, but for tourism and the local economy.

I'm looking forward to spending time with family and friends over Christmas before heading into a busy 2016. I wish you all the very best for the holiday season, a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

*Jonathan Young MP*

# A time to reflect

My first full year in Parliament seems to have flown by, but there have been a number of memorable moments.

The status post on my Facebook page that received the most comments was "Saddest place I've ever been to. Auschwitz-Birkenau. We must never ever forget."

I also pasted a number of photos, with this status. Most people took these words to mean exactly what I meant them to be. That I had found visiting Auschwitz-Birkenau to be a very sad place, one that we must never forget. But a few people took the opportunity to try to minimise what had happened at Auschwitz-Birkenau, and to attack me because they thought that I was ignoring other atrocities that have happened around the world. This of course was utterly untrue, but I was nonetheless amazed that 13 words could cause so much bother. One of the reasons that we visited there and other places



**Adrian Rurawhe MP**

like Arras and the Somme in France was to commemorate 100 years since the start of World War One. Attending the Dawn Ceremony in Arras was both an honour and a privilege. It was a privilege to hear the stories that the people of Arras have held on to and retell. They will never forget the contribution that New Zealanders made to the war effort in Europe, and neither should we. In October I attended the 150th Commemoration of the siege of Te Tarata pā that

took place on the Kiorekino plain at Waioeka in Opotiki, hosted by Whakatōhea.

Confiscations had taken place under the New Zealand Settlements Act 1863, The largest confiscations were in Waikato and Taranaki. The effects varied from region to region, but the consequences were very severe for Waikato-Tainui tribes; Taranaki tribes; Ngāi Te Rangi in Tauranga; and Ngāti Awa, Whakatōhea and Tūhoe in the eastern Bay of Plenty.

It was an opportunity for Whakatōhea to highlight and commemorate such a significant event in New Zealand History, and by doing so educate the wider community about the history that unfolded in Te Whakatōhea in 1865, that resulted in the confiscation of their lands. The great thing about the commemoration is that Whakatōhea also expressed their desire to follow a path-

way to address the wrongs of the past. The Crown will need to respond with the same if not more generosity than expressed by Te Whakatōhea. Last week in Parliament grounds more than 400 people from Waikato-Tainui accompanied, Leah Bell, Waimarama Anderson, Rhianna Magee and Tai Te Ariki Jones from Otorohanga High School, who brought a petition signed by more than 12000 people calling for a New Zealand Day of Commemoration for the New Zealand Wars. I support having a day to commemorate these battles that have impacted tremendously on New Zealand, and look forward to seeing the submissions for this petition in the New Year.

Finally can I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Great 2016.

*Adrian Rurawhe MP*

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**JUNIOR AWARDS FOR 2015**

The Junior Prize giving on Friday 4th December was well supported by whanau. Congratulations to all students that worked well this year and received awards. Also to the top achievers for Year 9 and Year 10 subjects.



**Top in Year 9 Subjects**

Kaupokonui Cup & Mary Pohutukawa Award

**Regan Bloemen** (centre)

Runner-Up in Year 9 Lena Sharrock Award

**Cormach Hughson-How** (left)

Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 9 subjects  
**Ruby Gatenby**



**Top in Year 10 Subjects**

Phillips Cup and the Mary Pohutukawa Award

**Jacob Symons**

Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 10 Subjects

**Flin Rosendaal** (Left)

**SPORT AND CULTURAL AWARDS**

Aveling Family Cup & Award  
Character Award for Junior Students

**Katie Sinclair**

The Cavaney Cup  
for Junior Girls' Athletics Champion

**Azaleah Sutcliffe**

Junior Boys' Athletics Champion

**Morpheus Nuku**

Intermediate Boys' Athletics Champion

**Fletcher Cup**

**Jono Butler**

The Opunake High School Cup  
for Junior Girls' Cross Country Champion

**Aimee Abplanalp**

Junior Boys' Cross Country Champion

**Grant Cavaney Cup**

**Gianni Dear**

Intermediate Boys' Cross Country Champion

**Opunake High School Cup**

**Benjamin Shelford**

Junior Girls' Swimming Champion

**Harvey Rosé Bowl**

**Katie Sinclair**

Junior Boys' Swimming Champion

**Pennington Cup**

**Cormach Hughson-How**

Most Outstanding Swimmer

**Osborne Cup**

**Katie Sinclair**

Junior Boys' Surfing  
Meyburg/Weir Trophy

**Rhys Leatherby**

Chooky Memorial Trophy  
For Diligent and Perseverance

**Equine Member**

**Ruby Gatenby**

Most Valuable Girl Basketball

**L'Ami Trophy**

**Isabelle Cook**

Most Valuable Boy Basketball

**L'Ami Trophy**

**Morpheus Nuku**

Manu Korero Speech Competition Junior Maori Te

**Rawhiti Ihaka Trophy**

**Keonte Ngatai**

Opunake High School Dream Achiever

**OHS Junior Dream Achiever Trophy**

**Jade Wineera**



**JUNIOR CAMPS**

Students attended a variety of camps during the last week of term, ranging from activities in Opunake, such as the flax weaving above with Florence Smith and Bethamie Abad to travelling to Wellington to check out the culture, cuisine & couture. Many students experienced activities for the very first time in their lives.

Below in the canoe is Christopher Seyb enjoying the Tiki Tour to Tongaporutu camp.



**Enrolments for 2016 Welcome**

**Staff Changes**

This year we farewell three staff temporarily as they head off to further their careers or family commitments for 2016. Sara Bourke is on maternity leave, Matua Rangiora is furthering his Te Reo studies and Pete Clement will be around relieving whilst working on his project.

We will welcome new staff for 2016 are: Kerry Logan, Kerri Loughhead, Antonia McBryde, Emily Scott.

**2016 Term Dates**

2016 Term Dates		
<b>Thursday 4 February - Friday 15 April</b>		
20 January	Wednesday	Office Opens
1 February	Monday	Teacher Only Day
2 February	Tuesday	Subject selection for New Enrolments
3 February	Wednesday	Year 13 Mentoring training
4 February	Thursday	Whole School Powhiri / Orientation
5 February	Friday	Orientation
6 February	Monday	Waitangi Day
14 March	Monday	Taranaki Anniversary
25 - 29 March	Friday - Tuesday	Easter Holiday Break
<b>Monday 2 May - Friday 8 July</b>		
6 June	Monday	Queens Birthday
<b>Monday 25 July - Friday 23 September</b>		
<b>Monday 10 October - Friday 16 December</b>		
24 October	Monday	Labour Day



Most Improved Year 9 Netballer

**Dawn Pentelow Cup**

**Tanisha Kahukaka**

**Aaliyah Clement**

Most Improved Junior Hockey Player

**Pihama School Dorn Family Trophy**

**Lucas Feek**

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# God is dead, and we killed him

“God is dead, and we killed him” these famous words come from a German philosopher. Who was he? What did he mean? Is he right? What does this mean for Christmas?

### God's age

If you go back, say 400 years, all Europeans believed in God. The church played a big part in people's lives. Churches had the role of the district council, the police and the health service. The dominant church was the Catholic Church of Rome.

### Fate

Bad happenings were God's will. Good fortune was thanks to God. Abandon yourself to God's will. The Ancient Greeks had the same approach to natural events, but they believed that there were a host of Gods. Love was the result of Eros or Hera, and a death at sea the work of Poseidon.

### Christian difference

Christianity is a “compensatory religion”. It is one of those religions that promise you justice. Behave well and you will get your reward in the next world.

This promise appeals to everyone, because we all discover human life is unjust. You live, suffer, panic and die. Philosophers call this



Dr Robert Shaw

the “human condition,” and you and I are stuck with it. Life is uncertain and death is certain. Continental philosophy is much about how you should face this reality.

### Christian heritage

Most of the Christians live in the United States, then Brazil, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Russia and China (in decreasing order). There are about 68 million Christians in China, but that is a tiny proportion of the population who have no religious belief.

The “number of Christians” figure indicates those people with a Christian heritage, not the active believers in God. New Zealand is a Christian country but 35 per cent of the people say they have no religion.

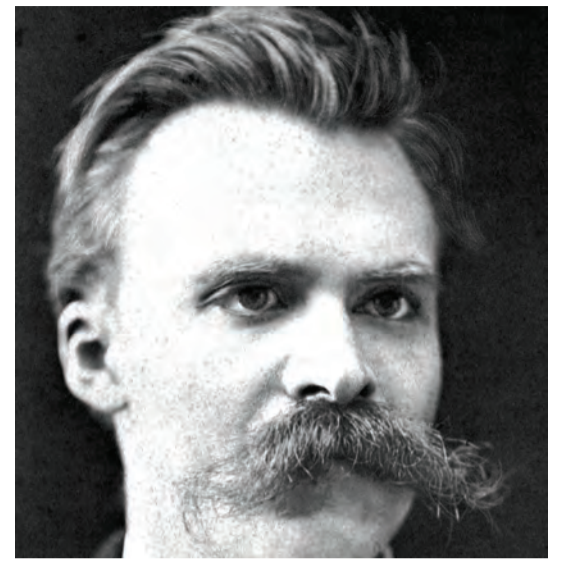
The Anglicans are the Catholics in Britain, and they are now the largest religious group in New Zealand (roughly, half-a-million members and shrinking fast).

### 1000 years

The medieval period – God's age – lasted for about 1000 years. Then things changed. God died, in the sense that God no longer was the dominant force in the lives of European people. What took over from God?

### Science

Galileo, Newton and others began to think about natural things in a different way – a way that did not involve God. Galileo's telescope magnified about nine times, like your binoculars. When he looked up he could not see heaven. People really believed heaven was up there somewhere. Why was it not seen? Then, to make thing worse, Galileo produced evidence that the Earth is not the centre of the universe. You are not in the middle, even though



Friedrich Nietzsche the advanced thinker who declared “God is dead, and we killed him” (photo in Switzerland about 1875).

you feel everything revolves around you. How could God make Us and not put Us at the centre of the universe?

### Christmas present

There is a great book about Galileo. It has the letters his daughter sent to him over his whole life. “Galileo's Daughter: A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith and Love” by Dava Sobel won the 2000 Pulitzer Prize for biography. It cost less than \$20 from amazon.com, until the government starts to charge GST on overseas purchases.

### Daughter

The daughter was a Catholic nun and she spent her whole life in a small convent. She entered the convent at age 12 and was promoted to a larger cell when others died. The job of the convent was to say the prayers that the world needs to keep going. The morning shift started praying at 4 am, and there was no let up.

### Science's age

Modern science killed God. Natural events now occur for reasons that scientists can discover. It is not necessary to believe in fate and God's will. If you are sick you prefer the doctor to the priest. If your town floods, it's the South Taranaki District Council that has to fix it, not The Wave Christian Fellowship, in spite of their positive name.

### Nietzsche

The German philosopher, cultural critic and classics scholar, Friedrich Nietzsche (1844-1900) wrote “God is

Dead, and we killed him”. This appears in two of his works. He is not easy to read, but there are plenty of good introductions to his work. Email me and I will email you one as a Christmas gift. The leisurely study of Nietzsche could be your new hobby. Beats TV.

### The Death of God and the Meaning of Life

Some of the best books about Nietzsche are written by the Auckland scholar Julian Young. Julian presents continental philosophy in his introductory book “The Death of God and the

Continued on page 11



Auckland writer Julian Young is now a professor at Wake Forrest University, North Carolina. This is the Turkish translation of his biography of Fredrick Nietzsche. The English version would be a great Christmas present.

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# Honey, let's knock out that wall and open up the kitchen?

If you're planning a bit of radical DIY this holiday you could do well to first listen to some advice from New Plymouth architect, Neville Saunders.

Let's have Open Plan living, Honey?

Knocking out walls is a Kiwi pastime for the DIY types who are forever tinkering around with their house. But is it safe? Do we know what we are doing?

Taking down a wall may indeed open up the room to a lot more light and give a sense of added space to an otherwise small house or room, but can we just knock out walls anywhere without first considering if it is safe?

Some walls in a house and particularly an older home such as a villa or bungalow have at least two or three walls that might be supporting the roof.

The walls are called "Load bearing" walls for obvious reasons so if we remove

them we could have a sagging ceiling, or worst still a sagging roof or collapse on our hands.

It makes sense therefore to check before we start swinging the sledgehammer whether the wall happens to be a load bearing wall.

But wait there's more. Walls are also used for bracing a house against wind and earthquake loads. When the wind blows from the west, it will push on your house and tend to want to flatten it. To stop that happening we install a "braced" wall and that will stiffen the house against the wind.

The walls running east to west inside the house will stiffen a wind blowing the same way, and likewise those walls running north to south will stiffen the house when a wind blows from the north or south. Get the picture?

If we go about removing a wall, then we have to



Neville Saunders is, an architect with 40 years of experience "tinkering" around with houses.

consider if it is doing a bracing job.

Most walls are.

Now all this removing a wall business sounds very risky doesn't it...but it need not be. With a little advice from your architect or engineer, you will be

told which walls are safe to remove and which are not. Sometimes a beam can be added that will support everything overhead, but it is usually the bracing that puts a spanner in the works.

Newer homes may not have a problem as a simple

poking your head into the ceiling will reveal if the house has a truss roof design - in which case none of the internal walls between the truss supports will be load bearing. With a hipped roof however, there might be an exception to this rule, so check with your advisor.

If the roof structure isn't a truss setup, then most likely you will see rafters with diagonal struts coming down onto a wall - that's your load bearing wall right there.

Another trick for finding a

load bearing wall is to look at the thickness of the wall.

Generally a 3in or 75mm thick wall is non-load bearing, and a 4in or 100mm thick wall is always load bearing.

Exterior walls are almost always load bearing and bracing walls, so keep away from them at all costs with your skill saw.

So, DIY's take care, spend five minutes with your advisors before ripping into it, as it just literally might save your bacon.

**Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy & Blessed New Year from us all at**

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## God is dead, and we killed him

Continued from page 10

Meaning of Life". I do not recommend this book, it is too cryptic.

Julian's book, "Friedrich Nietzsche: a Philosophical Biography" is a nice mix of history, personal insight and philosophy. It won an American Publishers' Association prize in 2010. It is a long book (650 pages), but very easy to read. About \$45 from amazon.com and it should last someone the best part of a year and beyond.

### China and Christmas

The Chinese love Christmas. Decorations and music are in all the shops and there are large decorated trees in shopping areas. But they know little of Jesus Christ, slightly more about Santa Claus. Chinese students struggle to understand what it is that Christians believe. I struggle to tell them. Basically, for the Chinese, Christmas is an excuse to spend money on distractions.

Happy Christmas to our MPs

Taranaki struggles on with its lack of development and human needs. The government neglects us and I blame the Labour Party. All the Taranaki electorates are safe National seats. If the Labour Party did better we would get more goodies. There is little chance of either event.

### Our status

Our status reflects in the quality of our Members of Parliament. Nice people who work hard, but they are not going to achieve much for Taranaki. The irony is that Jonathon Young took New Plymouth off Labour and made it into a safe National seat. This is an impressive political achievement, although boundary changes helped.

### Christmas report on MPs

Before Christmas each year "Trans Tasman" publishes a "Roll Call" on the "fortunes" of our Members of Parliament. They are insightful. You can buy their monthly news sheet for \$1 an issue. However, if you want

to know about the quality of our MPs I suggest you watch Parliament on TV.

### Borrows

Chester Borrows (Whanganui): His performance score was 4/10 which was down from 6/10 last year. They said: "A consistent but unremarkable performer. His career has moved strongly to the side." Chester is the "Un-reconstructed Man" which suits his electorate.

### Kuriger

Barbara Kuriger (Taranaki-King Country) scored 2/10 for her performance. They said: "Says she wants to promote regional growth. Her own area is doing well, but it's clear she has not had much impact anywhere else."

### Young

Jonathon Young (New Plymouth) scored 3/10, down from 4/10 last year. "Has a Committee chair role, but not much else going for him. Not destined for the top table." Jonathon responded at length and made some

relevant points.

### Season's greetings

Last Christmas Day I was in China, at work as usual, so it is especially good for me to be with my family this year.

Merry Christmas everyone! Love each other and reject crass commercialism. Please support the Police and all the social service people who do such a tough job on our behalf. They will not have a holiday over Christmas. In the New Year, I hope we can all debate issues and work together towards the development of our wonderful province.

Robert Shaw  
[robert@porirua.net](mailto:robert@porirua.net)

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The partners and staff wish you a Merry Christmas and best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and a very Happy New Year.

Our office will be closed from 4:00pm on Wednesday, 23rd December 2015. We will reopen on Monday, 11th January 2016. We will have skeleton staff on to assist you if required from Tuesday, 5th January 2016.

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# Inaugural Dux chosen at Opunake Primary School

For the very first time Opunake Primary School has chosen a dux. Year 8 student Jaimee Siliciano has received this well-deserved honour. She received her accolade at the Prizegiving show, which was held in the Opunake High School hall on Wednesday December 9. "I was very surprised. I was ecstatic," said Jaimee.

Jaimee is a student from Room 1 whose teacher this year was Leo Frank, the Deputy Principal.

Other major awards included Ben Sinclair as All Round Best Boy and Brydee Hunt as All Round Best Girl. The Technology Award went to Tyler McNutt, the Maths Award to Kiana Kahukaka-Snowden, the Literacy Award to Lucy Shegedin and the Sports Award



Jaimee Siliciano, inaugural Dux of Opunake Primary School

to Dallas Fisher. An Honour Board will henceforth replace the previous Cups, which sometimes become a bit damaged or cannot all be located when required.

Preceding these major awards, which were mostly handed out by Chairperson of the Board of Trustees Dinnie Moeahu and Principal Lorraine Williamson, individual classroom awards were given out, just after highly enjoyable musical class items, accompanied by fetchingly colourful and imaginative costumes. Father Christmas was very much to the fore. Dinnie provided the superb musical accompaniment. Perhaps the funniest moment was the arrival on stage of the Christmas Fairy who looked suspiciously like Lorraine

of the evening was for Room 16's 'Little Drummer Boy' with its nativity flavour, coupled with cute little folk all dressed up.

The school has had a very successful year. One of the highlights was the Year 8 students performing above national expectations in Art Listening and Visual Language. Success in the MOA Awards was another notable highlight.

The Home and School have had a major part to play and recently raised \$10,000, which will be used for technology. It is expected that there will be a 1:1 ratio of ipads to student in 2016, which is a huge achievement.

Well done to all the students, teachers, parents, as

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Room 4 entertain with an lively amusing item. No red reindeer were harmed in the preparation of costumes for this item.

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Williamson. It's a bit hard to choose favourites so I won't, but I loved Room 14's 'Macarena' (Christmas Remix) and Room 11's 'Feliz Navidad'. Perhaps the biggest applause

well as the Board of Trustees and Home & School for your part in making 2015 a success. All the best to the Year 8 students who are leaving for high school.

*Rolland McKellar*

## Manaia WI look forward to Christmas and 2016

Members enjoyed lunch at Mr Badgers Cafe for their December meeting. Five members had attended the regional day in Waitara, which included a train ride, lunch and a visit to two gardens. Nominations were taken for President and Committee for 2016. Members will help Father Christmas at the Manaia Christmas Parade on December 19 by giving out ice blocks to the children. A grant was received from the Taranaki Savings Bank Community Trust that will be used to send a delegate to the AGM/Conference in Wellington in June next year. The raffle was won by Ann Chisnall and the Mary Hutton Trophy awarded to Ricki Neil.

## On this month in history Dr Michael King was born

In December, biographer and historian Michael King was born 70 years ago. He wrote at least 39 books including the best seller The Penguin History of New Zealand.

He sadly died in a car accident in 2004. **The Michael King Memorial Park, Opoutere, Coromandel.**

# Stoney Oaks have many cute and cuddly animals



You are aware that they are protected in Australia? This little girl thinks this possum at Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park is pretty cute.

## SAFE welcomes law change

SAFE has welcomed a law change banning sow stalls. These are cages in which pregnant pigs are kept for weeks at a time. "For the entire duration, the sows are unable to turn around. They exhibit signs of stress, and often chew on the bars out of frustration," Mandy Carter of SAFE said. SAFE had begun a campaign with comedian Mike King in 2009 highlighting conditions on pig farms.. "We deny animals so many things that we take for granted for ourselves," Mandy Carter said. "It is shocking that even the basic right of being able to turn around was denied to animals. The sow stall ban is the first step towards that basic protection," "When SAFE first started talking about the cruelty of sow stalls we were criticised for revealing standard pork industry abuse, but now, we have a ban in place in law. It is a victory both for animals and for caring New Zealanders." "SAFE is concerned about whether or not the ban will

actually be enforced, as monitoring of pig farms is inadequate. The Ministry for Primary Industries only investigates a farm when there is reason to believe a law has been broken. SAFE is also concerned at the cruelty that is still legal, such as farrowing crates and fattening pens.

"The government may not be checking these farms, but pig farmers are warned: if they do not comply with the ban, we will find out about it."

Best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas and New Year from the team at Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration

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# Margaret Scott's book signing in Opunake

Margaret Scott conducted a book signing session in Opunake at Country Connections on Monday December 7. Her book is called 'Self Portrait of a Paua' and is available in both hard cover (\$75) and soft cover (\$52). The book tells the life story of this well-known, talented Taranaki artist by using her superb art creations as well as words. It is an autobiography with a difference and would make an excellent Christmas gift for anyone. The Book Editor was Kerry Lilley, with the book design by Moon Cameron of Hall of Design.

The book is on sale in a number of places including Country Connections in Opunake, Crafty Fox (Oakura), Paper Plus (Hawera and New Plymouth) and Poppies in New Plymouth.

This aesthetically appealing book has a wide selection of her work, including her very first effort completed in boot polish, which she created as a child. These days Margaret mostly works in acrylics and mixed media, but also has

used oils and water colours. She describes her work as "personal symbolism." She also has explored print making with zinc and solar plate etching, as well as clay modelling. Although she does abstracts, her forte is realism, often taken from her Coastal environment including birds such as seagulls (her favourite bird).

Paua shells have always been significant to Margaret, initially as a child as a source of food when she growing

up on a farm in Oaonui with her six siblings. She has always loved the brilliant paua colours - unimpressed that jewellery made from the shell was once considered kitsch.

The idea for this form of autobiography came from her friend Lesley Dowding who suggested using art to document aspects of her life. Another reason for the book was that as a teacher of art she discovered there was a paucity of art published in

book form for students to learn from.

She has been influenced by several painters including American Georgia O'Keefe, as well as New Zealanders Rita Angus and Michael Smither, "my teacher and mentor."

I thoroughly recommend this book, which would grace the collection of any art lover in Taranaki and beyond.

Rolland McKellar



Margaret Scott (seated) with Ali Hayward.

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Broadway South	Saturday	10am - 12.00pm

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# What's On in the 'Naki



© Dana McMurray

Photo by Dana McMurray, Opunake

Welcome to the Opunake and Coastal News 2015 - 2016 Summer Guide to What's On in the 'Naki showcasing what our region has to offer. Whether you are into Surfing, Golfing, or Adventure we have it all here for you. We also showcase our Beach Carnivals (a fantastic family day out). As well as some places that you must visit - such as the Tawhiti Museum and Cape Egmont Lighthouse Museum. Keep this guide and use it over the coming summer months.



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# What's ON...

## JONATHAN YOUNG

MP for New Plymouth. Monthly clinics being held in Opunake, 3rd Monday of each month. 10am-12pm at the Opunake Business Centre. Please email or phone to book a time.

## OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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

## SURF INN

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

## COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

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## COASTAL SINGERS

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## ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

## TSB BANK FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

13 December 2015 to 31 January 2016, Pukekura Park New Plymouth

## TE POTAKA PA

Christmas Batons Up Saturday 19 Dec 2015 10.30am Enquiries: Leanne Ph: 027 499 8764

## MANAIA XMAS PARADE

Saturday 19 December at 12pm. Refer advert for further details.

## RAHOTU COMMUNITY CHURCH

Bring your singing voices and come celebrate the festive season with Rahotu Community Church, December 20th at 8pm

## PUKEKURA RACEWAY – refer advert for full details.

Twilight Race Day – Wednesday 23 December

Farmlands Family Fun Day – Sunday 27 December

## OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS PARADE

Thursday December 24 at 7.30pm. Floats assemble 7pm on Layard Street, Opunake. Refer advert

## BUTLER'S REEF – OAKURA UPCOMING EVENTS

*Six60 on Boxing Day* - selling out! Doors open at 7pm.

*The Feelers* on 27th December. Doors open at 7pm.

*Shapreshifter* - Tuesday 29th December, accompanied by KORA and Sunshine Sunshine Soundsystem. Doors open at 7pm.

*New Years Eve* Sonic Delusion and The Strait Shooters.

*Katchafire, The Black Seeds and Sons of Zion.* Saturday 2 January 2016. Doors open at 6pm.

Tickets for all nights available at Butlers Reef. Refer article for full details of these great nights.

## EXHIBITIONS AT THE GOVETT-BREWSTER ART GALLERY/LEN LYE CENTRE

### Exhibition – Sister Corita's Summer of Love, 18 Dec 2015 – 3 Apr 2016, Free entry

From Los Angeles to New Plymouth, Sister Corita's 100 screen-prints transport messages of joy, faith, love, and protest from the 1960s and 1970s.

### Exhibition – Wellington Media Collective, 18 Dec 2015 – 3 Apr 2016, Free entry

Through 1978 to 1998, the Wellington Media Collective was a group of young designers, writers, and political activists who shared their skills and expertise for those needing to get a message out. Dubbed 'design with a cause', the Wellington Media Collective offers a wonderful New Zealand inflection to the messages within the work of Sister Corita.

### Exhibition – Len Lye: Flora and Fauna, 18 Dec 2015 – 3 Apr 2016, Free entry

Explore the natural rhythms and imagery that inspired New Zealand artist Len Lye.

### Exhibition – Len Lye: Four Fountains, Large Works gallery, Free entry

Four different sized versions of Len Lye's *Fountain*, including the 8-metre high version created in 2015. Mesmerising bundles of rotating stainless-steel rods that twist, flex and shimmer in the Len Lye Centre's large works gallery.

## EVENTS DECEMBER

**Floor talk - Sister Corita's Summer of Love, Sat 19 Dec 2-3pm** Co-curators of the exhibition, Govett-Brewster Director Simon Rees and City Gallery Wellington Chief Curator Robert Leonard, give a guided tour discussing key themes in the exhibition.

**Floor talk - Len Lye: Flora and Fauna, Sun 20 Dec 2-3pm** Join Len Lye Curator Paul Brobbel for a guided tour of the exhibition *Len Lye: Flora and Fauna*. Paul will discuss the natural world inhabiting Lye's practice, through film, sculpture, drawing and painting.

**Family Art, Sun 20 Dec 1-3pm Todd Energy Learning Centre, Free entry. All welcome** Drop in interactive art-making sessions for all the family at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Call in on Sunday afternoons for free family friendly art making activities inspired by our exhibitions.

**Film – Band of Sisters, Sun 20 Dec 3.30–5pm Len Lye Centre Cinema \$15 or \$12 concession** New Zealand's film premiere of the remarkable journey of Catholic nuns from daughters of the church to citizens of the world.

**Film – Summer Solstice Long Film: The Kingdom (Riget), Tue 22 Dec 6 – 11pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession**

Medical drama meets supernatural horror in this eerie Danish production, which focuses on the people who work in a haunted hospital – an eight episode TV series is presented as a five hour film.

## Your guide to What's On this summer

**Film – Fantasia, Thu 24 Dec 6 – 7.30pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession** A 1940 American animated masterpiece produced by Walt Disney.

**Film – Classic Kiwi Cinema Series: Rain, Sun 27 Dec 3.30 – 5pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$12 or \$10 concession**

A haunting New Zealand film – fragile, sensitive and ultimately tragic just like the people whose lives it examines.

**Film – The Princess Bride, Thu 31 Dec 6 – 7.30pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession** A 1987 American fantasy comedy adventure the whole family will love.

## JANUARY

**Film – Easy Rider, Thu 7 Jan 6 – 7.30pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession**

A landmark counterculture film and a touchstone for a generation that captured the national imagination, *Easy Rider* explores issues and tensions in the United States during the 1960s including the hippie movement, drug use and communal lifestyle.

**Family Art, Sunday 10 Jan, Todd Energy Learning Centre, Free entry All welcome**

Drop in interactive art-making sessions for all the family at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Call in on Sunday afternoons for free family friendly art making activities inspired by our exhibitions.

**Film – Antarctica: A Year on Ice, Thu 14 Jan 6 – 7.30pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession.** Made by Taranaki man Anthony Powell – is a visually stunning film that lets you experience what it is like to live in Antarctica for a full year.

**Quiet Art, Mondays 3.30pm – 6pm, Free entry All welcome.** Visit and explore the exhibitions at our quietest time of the week. Suitable for people within the autism spectrum and visitors who want some space in the galleries.

For more information contact Autism New Zealand Taranaki Branch: taranaki@autismnz.org.nz

**Floor Talk: John Matthews and Len Lye, Sat 16 Jan 2-3pm, Large Works gallery, Free entry.** Engineer and Len Lye Foundation Chair John Matthews talks about his role in developing Lye's kinetic sculpture, including *Large Blade* – loved from its performance in Pukekura Park – the *Wind Wand* and *Trilogy (A Flip and Two Twisters)*. Len Lye worked with a New Plymouth team (led by Matthews) to build *Trilogy (A Flip and Two Twisters)* for his 1977 exhibition *Kinetic Works* at the Govett-Brewster, the first exhibition of Lye's work in New Zealand.

**Family Art, Sunday 17 Jan, Todd Energy Learning Centre, Free entry All welcome**

Drop in interactive art-making sessions for all the family at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Call in on Sunday afternoons for free family friendly art making activities inspired by our exhibitions.

**BrewsterFilm – Zabriskie Point, Thu 21 Jan 6 – 7.50pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$15 or \$12 concession** Short of travelling by time machine, watching this film is the best way to visit the counterculture of Los Angeles in the late 1960s.

**Family Art, Sun 24 Jan, Todd Energy Learning Centre, Free entry All welcome**

Drop in interactive art-making sessions for all the family. Call in on Sunday afternoons for free family friendly art making activities inspired by our exhibitions.

**Sense Art/Art Access, Mon 25 Jan 2-3pm, Free entry All welcome**

The Govett Brewster Art Gallery hosts descriptive, touch and Sign Language interpreted tours for people with hearing and vision impairments, at the start of new exhibitions. Join Govett-Brewster director Simon Rees to explore the exhibition *Sister Corita's Summer of Love*.

**Film – Rocky Road to Dublin, Thu 28 Jan 6 – 7.10pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, \$12 or \$10 concession.** Ireland's patriotic sportsmen, priests, censors and 'brain-washed' children unwittingly convey the truth about a repressed, suppressed and massively censored Republic. Banned for more than three decades, this film exposes the hypocrisy of church, politics and state through a series of seemingly innocent interviews.

**Film – Goethe-Institut German Film Series: West, Sat 30 Jan 3.30 – 5.15pm, Len Lye Centre Cinema, Free entry.** A woman escapes East Germany with her young son in the late 1970s, only to discover the same surveillance and suspicion that drove her from the East awaiting her in the West.

**Family Art, Sunday 31 Jan, Todd Energy Learning Centre, Free entry All welcome**

Drop in interactive art-making sessions for all the family at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre. Call in on Sunday afternoons for free family friendly art making activities inspired by our exhibitions.

**Book now at the Govett-Brewster Shop or online at govettbrewster.com**

**Full programme and booking details available online at govettbrewster.com**

## OAKURA BEACH CARNIVAL

New Years Day, 11am start, free entry

## COLLINS SPORT CENTRE TAKE A KID FISHING

6 January 2016, Refer advert.

## TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL GARDENS

Hollard Gardens International Childrens Day – Sunday February 28. 10am – 3pm.

Tupare Garden Tour, Saturday January 9, 10am – 3pm

Tupare Waitangi Day Garden Fair, Saturday February 6 10am – 3pm

## OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB

Business House Mixed Ambrose, Wednesday 13 January

New Year Open Tournament. Sunday 17 January

## SOUNDS ON THE SAND

Opunake Beach, Sunday 17 January 2016, 12.30 -3pm. Refer advert for full details.

## PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Edith Collier Coastal Communities. Opening Friday 18 December @ 6.30Pm runs 18 December - 31 January 2016 Holding It Together: A Centennial View Of Women In The World War I Era - 18 December - 31 January 2016

## OPUNAKE COMMUNITY POOL OPENING HOURS

Lanes – Mon-Fri 6:30-8:30am. Mon 6:30-7:30pm. Tues 9-10am and 5-6:30pm. Wed 5:30-7pm. Thurs 9-10am and 6:30-7:30pm. Public 1-4pm Weekends and Public Holidays.

**Aquafit classes** – Opunake Pool. Tues and Thurs - 9-10am. Mon and Thurs - 6:30-7:30pm. Tues - 5:30pm.

**TE KIRI SPORTS AND REC SCHOLARSHIPS.** Applications now open until February. Forms available and explanations for criteria for applying. Ph(06)761-7228. (06)761-7294.

## KAPONGA AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

are having a dinner to celebrate 50 years of athletics at Victoria Park Kaponga

18th March 2016 at the Kaponga Rugby Gym. Anyone interested please contact: Helen Cameron - cameronclan@ihug.co.nz Deborah Collins - [pdcollins@farmside.co.nz](mailto:pdcollins@farmside.co.nz)



# All the fun of the fair at Tupare and Hollard Gardens



Four fairs are scheduled in the coming months.

Fun-filled and action-packed garden fairs have become a popular summertime tradition at Tupare and Hollard Gardens, two of Taranaki's premier heritage properties, and there'll plenty of delight visitors this season.

Four fairs are scheduled in the coming months. Tupare (487 Mangorei Road, New Plymouth) will be holding fairs on Saturday January 9 and Saturday February 6 (Waitangi Day), while Hollard Gardens (1686 Upper Manaia Road, Kaponga) will hold their's on Sunday February 28 (International Children's Day) and Sunday April 17.

As in previous years, there'll be something for the whole family: Entertainment, live music, delicious food, games and much more. And entry is free.

The Tupare events run from 10am and 3pm, and each will be preceded by a guided walk starting at 8.30am. There'll also be free tours of the stunning Chapman-Taylor homestead at Tupare throughout each day.

The river flat at Tupare will be the focus for family games which have always proved a big hit.

At Hollard Gardens, the focus will be firmly on the family on February 28, as we celebrate International Children's Day. There will be face painting, pony rides, a scavenger hunt and much more.

The April 17 fair at Hollards will celebrate the

season's harvest, with lots of family fun also on offer.

The fairs are part of a year-round programme of free events at Tupare, Hollard Gardens and Pukeiti, the three premier heritage properties owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf

of the people of the region. For more information, see [www.tupare.nz](http://www.tupare.nz), [www.hollardgardens.nz](http://www.hollardgardens.nz) and [www.pukeiti.nz](http://www.pukeiti.nz). Social media users can also follow the Taranaki Regional Council gardens on Facebook (TaranakiRegionalGardens) and Twitter (@TaranakiRG).



Get along to Tupare and Hollard Gardens this summer.



Open daily  
Free entry

## Visit your regional gardens this summer

*Hollard Gardens, Pukeiti and Tupare*

Upcoming Events

**TUPARE**

*Garden Fair*

Saturday 9 January, 10am - 3pm

**TUPARE**

*Waitangi Day Garden Fair*

Saturday 6 February, 10am - 3pm

**HOLLARD GARDENS**

*International Children's Day*

Sunday 28 February, 10am - 3pm

Ph: 0800 736 222



TaranakiRG



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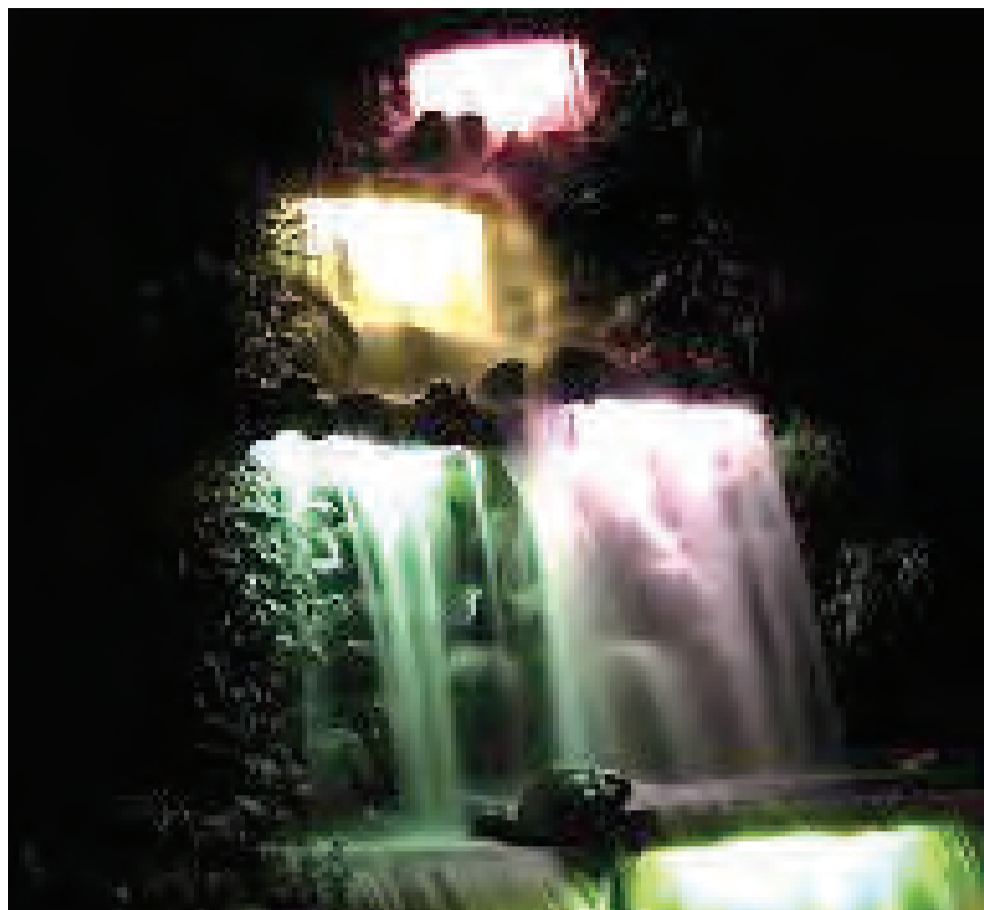


# Pukekura Park ready for lights spectacular

**Lights Festival goes on for longer**  
 Get ready for another fantastic summer with the TSB Bank Festival of Lights, on from Sunday December 13 to Sunday January 31. The lights in the park will shine a week longer than usual to give locals and visitors extra time to visit the festival. With plenty of night-time entertainment,

daytime activities for children and families, outdoor movies under the stars, and new interactive features to look forward to this season, there's something for everyone. This season the light trail will encompass the tranquil and intriguing Fernery and Display Houses with lighting features and effects amongst native ferns, succulents and tropical plants. The picturesque Poet's Bridge will come to life with the Mirror-Ballistic lighting feature, scattering speckles of light over the lake in thousands of directions from seventy mirror balls. The newest craze for kids is the Panic at the Disco interactive feature, an exciting new feature in the children's playground that will pump out lights and a mega mix of dance hits from around the world. The fun Glow Zone will be decorated by giant spheres hanging in the air, the features were created by young New Plymouth artists aged 5-13 years old in conjunction with Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre. The Sleeping Giant will be even more popular this year with a new feature to text him directly. He would love to hear from festival visitors and he's good at replying too.

The On Stage evening entertainment by local and national performers will run on the stage at the Hatchery Lawn and the stage at the Fred Parker Lawn from Boxing Day, Friday December 26, to Sunday January 24 (excluding Mondays). The exciting line-up includes Bowl Night Out on Thursday January 14 at the TSB Bowl of Brooklands featuring one of New Zealand's most talented singer-songwriters Jamie McDell. Other performances include; colourful South American sounds with Latinaotearoa on Sunday December 27, well-known sing-along songs with the Joe Cocker Tribute Show on Sunday January 17, great toe-tapping beats with Tahuna Breaks on Saturday January 23 and much more. Summer Scene is back with much-loved annual events including The Big Dig Beach Extravaganza on Sunday December 27, the Jungle Scavenger Hunt on Wednesday 6 January 6 and the Family Fun Challenge on Friday January 22. Other must-do events include Hoop Hooligans on Saturday January 9 and Grimace's 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash on Wednesday January 13. Free regional buses will depart from Hawera/Eltham/



**The stunning waterfall at Pukekura park at the Festival of lights**

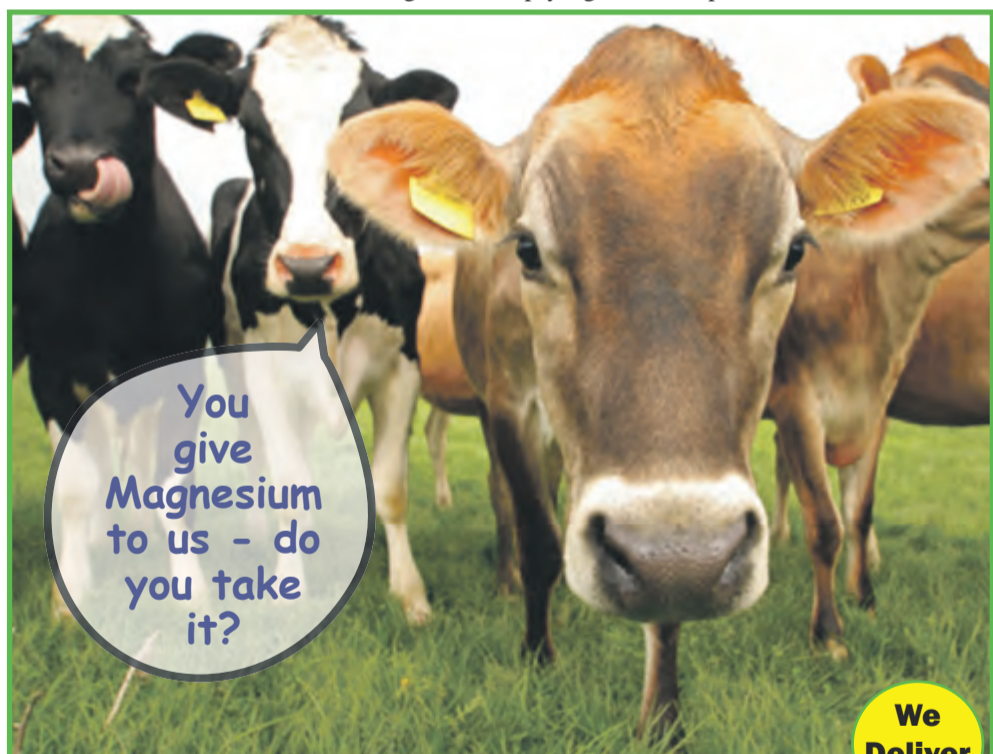
Stratford/Inglewood; Urenui/Waitara/Bell Block; and Opunake/Okato/Oakura. The buses will arrive 30 minutes prior to performance and depart at 10pm. These will be available on Wednesday 30 December 30 (The Eastern), Thursday January 7

(Bobby Alu), and Thursday January 14 (Bowl Night Out featuring Jamie McDell). Get in quick as spaces are limited. Fill out the form online at festivaloflights.nz. Registrations close midday, one day prior to the event and you must be 14 years or older

to use this bus service unless accompanied by an adult. There's something for everyone at this season's TSB Bank Festival of Lights. For more information and the full programme of events visit festivaloflights.nz



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## Take a sea and seal cruise



**Dave (Chaddy) Chadfield giving instructions on how to operate his charter boat, Rescue III.**



**Chaddy's seal**

This inquisitive girl is one of the many seals that colonise the Sugarloaf Islands at Ngamotu. Take a trip on the Rescue III, an old English lifeboat, with Chaddy's Charters and visit the seals, seabirds and occasional dolphin. Call in and take a trip or purchase cruise vouchers for Christmas. Open every day (except Christmas day) at the Breakwater Bay area.

# Lots to see and do at Puke Ariki this summer



Rosie Bulger explores in Puke Ariki's new exhibition Sunlight.

Discover the secrets of the sun in a hands-on, interactive exhibition this summer at Puke Ariki. *Sunlight - Ihi Kōmaru* explores the massive impact the sun has on our life on earth, including how crucial it is to our very existence, and the prominent role it plays in cultures across the world. Ever wondered what the Sun sounds like? Climb into the giant inflatable Sun and find out. Play with mirrors, prisms, lenses and lasers to discover the surprising behaviour and properties of light, and find

out that white light is actually very colourful. Explore the full spectrum of sunlight and be amazed at the many technological uses humans have found for each frequency. Just how fast is the speed of light? Race your friends and family and find out how long it would take you to reach the moon. There is plenty to do, discover and learn at this enthralling exhibition for all ages. *Sunlight - Ihi Kōmaru* is open until April 24, 2016.

A new interactive children's display about kōkako which takes the form of

a large tree can now be experienced in the children's library at Puke Ariki. The display was developed in conjunction with Puke Ariki's recent children's book *Tamanui: The Brave Taranaki Kōkako*. Senior students from Mimi School provided some of the design elements. The display features multiple diorama of forest scenes featuring the kōkako, including one accessed by climbing through a tunnel cut into the tree trunk. The Mimi School students, who are heavily involved in Tiaki Te Mauri o Parinihi Trust's conservation project



Henry and George Moffat enjoy the new interactive display in the children's library

to return kōkako to Taranaki, worked with the Puke Ariki exhibition team to provide inspiration for what the forest scenes should look like. Children can also listen to the sound of the kōkako song, race their friends by spinning the wheel to see who can climb the tree fastest - the kōkako or the pest, and learn about the kōkako hidden in the tree leaves. The tree has been an extremely popular addition to Discover it! "It is supercool to crawl through a tunnel and discover the Kōkako's forest inside the tree," eight year-old Joseph Welham of New Plymouth said.

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## THIS SUMMER AT PUKE ARIKI

### PUKE ARIKI

Children please bring an adult!

#### WEDNESDAY 6 JANUARY

##### SUNLIGHT – IHI KŌMARU CRAFT TABLE

Join us to make crafts inspired by the *Sunlight - Ihi Kōmaru* exhibition. Suitable for ages 5 - 10 years. **No bookings required.**

Time: 10.00am – 11.00am

Where: Discover it! Puke Ariki Library

#### WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY

##### TAMANUI CRAFT TABLE

Join us for a craft activity inspired by the book *Tamanui: The Brave Kōkako of Taranaki*. Suitable for ages 5 - 10 years. **No bookings required.**

Time: 10.00am - 11.00am

Where: Discover it! Puke Ariki Library

#### WEDNESDAY 20 JANUARY

##### LANTERN DECORATING WHĀNAU DAY

Decorate your own lantern with sun inspired myths and legends. All materials provided. Parade your lantern the following week at TSB Bank Festival of Lights!

Time: 10.00am - 1.00pm

Where: Puke Ariki Museum Foyer

#### WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY

##### LANTERN PARADE AT TSB BANK FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Bring your masks and lanterns and join the parade through Pukekura Park! Check the Puke Ariki facebook page for updates in case of wet weather!

Time: Meet at 8.15pm

Where: Hatchery Lawn, Pukekura Park

### THE MOBILE LIBRARY SUMMER TOUR

The Mobile Library is heading to the beach and other summer holiday hot spots.

#### TUESDAY 12 JANUARY

Time: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Where: Urenui Beach Camp

Where: East End Reserve

#### WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY

Time: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Time: 1.00pm - 3.30pm

Where: Brooklands Zoo

Where: Todd Energy Aquatic Centre Carpark

#### THURSDAY 14 JANUARY

Time: 10.00am - 12.00pm

Time: 1.00pm - 3.30pm

Where: Ngāmotu Beach Reserve

Where: Ōākura Beach Reserve

### COMMUNITY LIBRARIES

Children please bring an adult. Bookings essential - phone 759 6060 or book at your local library.

#### WAITARA LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE:

##### WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY

##### TAMANUI CRAFT ACTIVITY

Join us for a craft activity inspired by the book *Tamanui: The Brave Kōkako of Taranaki*. **Bookings are essential.** Suitable for children aged 5 - 10 years.

Time: 2.00pm - 3.00pm

#### ŌĀKURA LIBRARY:

##### WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY

##### TAMANUI CRAFT ACTIVITY

Join us for a craft activity inspired by the book *Tamanui: The Brave Kōkako of Taranaki*. **Bookings are essential.** Suitable for children aged 5 - 10 years.

Time: 10.00am - 11.00am

#### INGLEWOOD LIBRARY:

##### THURSDAY 14 JANUARY

##### COLOURFUL KALEIDOSCOPIES

Have fun with light and make your own unique and colourful Kaleidoscope!

**Bookings are essential.** Suitable for children aged 5 - 10 years

Time: 10.30am - 11.30am

#### BELL BLOCK LIBRARY & SERVICE CENTRE:

##### TUESDAY 12 JANUARY

##### SPARKLY TAMANUI SUN CATCHERS

Design and make your very own kōkako-themed sun catcher. **Bookings are essential.** Suitable for children aged 5 - 10 years

Time: 10.30am - 12.00pm

##### TUESDAY 19 JANUARY

##### WIND CHIMES

Bring your imagination to create an amazing wind chime from recycled materials. **Bookings are essential.** Suitable for children aged 5 - 10 years.

Time: 10.30am - 12.00pm

# CHRISTMAS AT THE BOWL

8PM PRE SHOW ENTERTAINMENT FROM 7PM

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# A summer of love and Len Lye

The Govett-Brewster Art Gallery combined with the new Len Lye Centre is open six days a week: Sun, Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 10am – 6pm, Thu 10am – 9pm, closed Tuesdays and Christmas Day. The combined art museum has one entrance, through the original Govett-Brewster doors on New Plymouth's Queen St. *Sister Corita's Summer of Love* is the first large-scale exhibition of screen-print art work by Sister Corita Kent shown in Aotearoa New Zealand. Through colourful

banners and posters, the artist nun was a determined advocate of civil rights, feminism, and anti-war activism during the 1960s. This exhibition is supported by a selection of works from the Govett-Brewster Collection by Colin McCahon, loans from the Auckland Art Gallery Collection of works by Ed Ruscha and Marco Fusinato, plus a pocket exhibition of graphic works by the Wellington Media Collective. *Len Lye: Flora and Fauna* takes a journey through the

natural world at the heart of Lye's practice - the blueprint for his sensual and rhythmic art. Looking beyond the stainless steel sheen of his kinetic sculpture and the technical wizardry of his filmmaking, this exhibition explores the natural rhythms and imagery that inspired him.

For more on the exhibitions and booking details for cinema screenings and events including hands-on family art making sessions, visit

[www.govettbrewster.com](http://www.govettbrewster.com)



The Govett-Brewster Art Gallery on New Plymouth's Queen St.

Photo by Glenn Jeffrey

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The Blistered Fingers are playing at The Oakura Beach Carnival

# Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

The Todd Aquatic Centre will be having a Summer Pool Party on January 14 from 12.00pm-2.30pm with games, prizes and a sausage sizzle.

Every day in the school holidays is family fun time between 10.30am and 4.30pm with giant inflatables, wave machine, tarzan rope and hydrosides all in action.



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# Forty six years and still going strong



See you at Oakura Beach Carnival New Years Day!  
[www.heli.co.nz](http://www.heli.co.nz) 0800 33 66 44

*What's On* **butlers reef**

**Six60 on Boxing Day - selling out!**

**The Feelers on 27th December.**

**Shapeshifter - Tuesday 29th December,** accompanied by KORA and Sunshine Sunshine Soundsystem.

**New Years Eve**  
Sonic Delusion and The Strait Shooters.

**Katchafire, The Black Seeds and Sons of Zion.** Saturday 2 January 2016. Doors open at 6pm.  
*Tickets for all nights available at Butlers Reef. Refer article for full details of these great nights.*

**1133 Main South Rd, Oakura**  
**Phone 06 752 7765 - [www.butlersreef.co.nz](http://www.butlersreef.co.nz)**

## Oakura Beach Carnival is a fantastic day out for the whole family

Kick off 2016 in style at the IED Lifting Centre Oakura Beach Carnival on New Years Day. Taranaki's famous celebration is in its 46<sup>th</sup> year, and there is loads of entertainment and fun to be had on the day. There are two mega water slides, one for little kids, and another for big kids (and adults), with a wrist band entry which means you

won't have to queue to buy tickets, just get your wrist band and you can slide all day. From merry go rounds, to orb balls, mechanical surfboards to helicopter rides, and sumo suits to CJ the Clown, there will be plenty to entertain all the family. On the stage there will be DJs ' playing some chilled out tunes throughout the day, as well as local favourites The Blistered Fingers who are sure

to get the crowd up on their feet. Kids have a chance to get up on stage as well for the Little Mr and Miss Taranaki, and the My Mum's /My Dad's the best competition. Everyone has a chance to win a prize if you hold onto your unique coded entry programme, and kids can enter The Big Dig which proved to be a great hit last year. There are plenty of food options and great shopping

to be had at the retail stalls, so plan to spend the whole day at the Beach Carnival soaking up the atmosphere. Admission is free, though a gold coin donation is much appreciated, as each year the proceeds are donated to community groups. Last years proceeds were donated to NPOB Surf Club, Oakura Boardriders, Kaitake Athletics and The Oakura Fire Brigade. The event starts at 11am and runs to 4pm on Friday January 1 at Oakura main beach.

## Big Bands at Butlers Reef

Once again Butlers Reef are hosting some of New Zealand's top bands again this summer.

Starting with Six60 on Boxing Day this one is looking like it will be as popular as last year - selling out.

Tickets are available from Butlers Reef now for \$70.00. A bus will run from Crowded House, New Plymouth at 6.30pm for \$5 each way, returning after the concert. Doors open at 7pm.

Up next is The Feelers on December 27. Tickets are available from Butlers Reef now for \$50.00. A bus will run from Crowded House at 6.30pm for \$5 each way, returning after the concert. Doors open at 7pm.

Tuesday December 29 brings back the amazing Shapeshifter, accompanied by KORA and Sunshine Sunshine Soundsystem.

Tickets are available from Butlers Reef now for \$65.00. A bus will run from Crowded House, at 6.30pm for \$5 each way, returning after the concert. Doors open at 7pm. On New Year's Eve, there is always a bit of fun at Butlers Reef. We have two bands for you for NYE. Sonic Delusion and The Strait Shooters. We are running a bus from Butlers Reef back to New Plymouth city at 12.30am, so please plan to use it. It's only \$5 and we encourage you to use this service.

Finally on Saturday January 2, we have your favourites

from last NYE back - Katchafire, The Black Seeds and Sons of Zion. This show starts earlier than the others. Doors open at 6pm, so the bus from Crowded House will be 5.30pm, \$5 each way returning after the concert. Tickets are \$55.00 available from Butlers Reef now.



Six60 Playing at Butlers Reef on Boxing day

All our concerts are strictly R18, ID will be required at the gate, and only cans and plastic will be available at the bars. Please bring cash if you can, and you'll get served quicker. And mostly, we want you to enjoy our concerts, so please bring your happy face along with you. Merry Christmas Taranaki.

## Ringcraft Moana

We are located in Oakura just 15km south of New Plymouth Our studio and showroom hours are Monday to Friday 9am-4pm Saturday-Sunday 10am-3pm To arrange an appointment outside our opening hours please contact us. We recycle, repair, redesign and sell our own jewellery range.

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# Shining on through the years

This year, the Historic Cape Light and Museum on Bayley's Road has had a facelift.

"It got to the stage where we needed to do some upgrading of the outer coverings as they were showing signs of rust deterioration," trustee Len Pentelow said.

The work included dismantling the outside walkway below the windows, waterblasting the tower's outer covering, and applying several coatings of a membrane to protect against the elements. The entry doors were even painted dark red to match those of the nearby Cape Egmont Lighthouse.

This was the first tidy up done on the lighthouse since it was built in 2007, although there will now be a need for continued maintenance and upkeep, Mr Pentelow said.

Cape Egmont had had similar improvements carried out three and a half years ago.

On both occasions, a number of interesting signatures and numbers had been discovered when the paint was stripped away.

Mr Pentelow said the idea of putting up the lighthouse had started with a newspaper photo of an engineer dismantling the old light from the Cape Egmont lighthouse and replacing it with a more modern New Zealand-made Vega replacement.

The question then arose of what was going to happen to the old light, he said.

"We made a few inquiries with Maritime New Zealand in Wellington and spoke with the chief lighthouse engineer Mr Ken Belt, who informed us that the light could be made available for display to the public, but not allowed to go into a collector's possession. So an arrangement was made that it's now on permanent loan to the South Taranaki District Council, but still

belongs to Maritime New Zealand. A trust was set up and the council gave us the task of resurrecting the light and showing it to the public."

Where better to place the light than a replica lighthouse? The Bayley's Road lighthouse has similar dimensions to Cape Egmont, but is only two thirds the height. Whereas the Cape Egmont lighthouse is made of cast iron, the one at Bayley's Road is made of steel and reinforced concrete.

The light which it houses had been built in Stockholm, and been operating since 1929..

"During the course of its life, it's seen many modifications to bring it up to its present day operation," Mr Pentelow said. "The old light runs reasonably well. We have had issues, but we feel we have overcome them."

In former times, the Cape Egmont Lighthouse would use gas or acetylene, and the light was turned by a clockwork mechanism driven by a weight which allowed the light to drop down the centre column of the lighthouse, revolving as it went. The lighthouse keeper would wind the weight up before the start of each evening.

Now, illumination has been improved by a 1000 watt light



The Historic Cape Light and Museum is a reminder of Coastal Taranaki's maritime history.

bulb, with electric motors turning the light.

Mr Pentelow said improved signage on the corner of Bayley's Road and Surf Highway was a factor in

attracting a larger number of visitors to the lighthouse last summer.

Despite the advent of GPS, he still sees lighthouses continuing to have a role.

"If you are out at sea it gives a measure of comfort to know there's a signal out there to warn you to keep away from danger," he said.

## Rahotu Four Square

Surf Highway 45, Rahotu  
Ph: 06 763 8862

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you all.  
All the best for 2016  
Donald, Maree and Staff

Spend \$25 or more til December 24th and go in the draw for a \$100 gift basket (1st prize), \$75 gift basket (2nd prize), \$50 gift basket (3rd prize)

ALSO Four Square Colouring in Competition!

2 age groups

Pre-school - 6 years and 7-12 Years

1st, 2nd, 3rd prizes!

Winners announced Christmas Eve



4 FOUR SQUARE

Closed Xmas Day only

## Lord Rutherford

Ernest Rutherford who graces our \$100 note, received the Nobel Prize for Chemistry for his work on radioactivity.

At the time the Rutherfords came to Pungarehu - Ernest's parents James and Martha briefly previously ran the White Hart Hotel in New Plymouth - the land had been open to settlers for a few years.

Martha was a school teacher before marrying and having 12 children. She taught all the children to read and do their multiplication tables before they started school.

James, practical and hardworking also valued education though he had little himself, became a wheelwright, general engineer and flax miller.

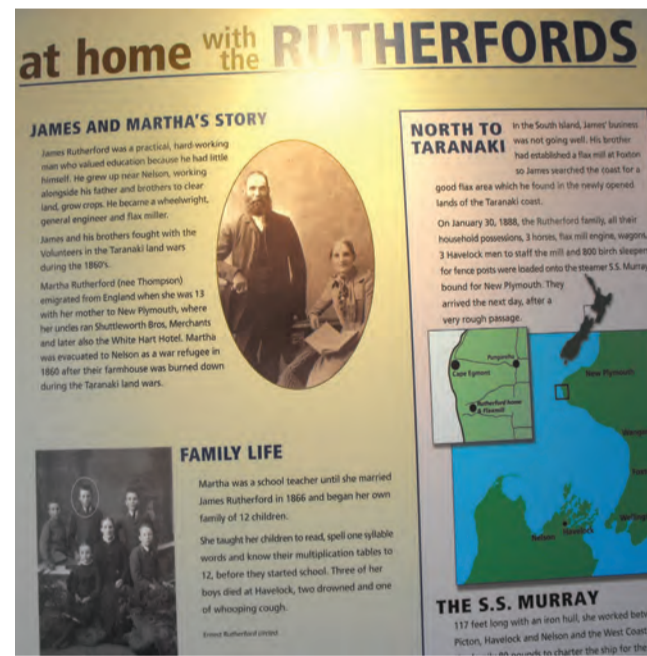
James and the two older boys set up a flax mill at Tipoka just south of Pungarehu. Later they established two more flax mills at Warea and Opunake - the latter, the last to close, in 1930.

Ernest who was 17 at the time his parents moved to

Pungarehu completed his education at Nelson College later joining the family.

He left New Zealand in 1893 and was awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1908 for his investigations into the disintegration of elements and the chemistry of radioactive substances. He also deduced the structure of the atom.

Right: One of the exhibits at the Museum



## Cape Egmont Historic Light & Museum Open 11am - 3pm Weekends



Gold Coin Donation - Bayly Road, Warea

Rahotu Panel & Paint wishes to thank all their customers for their support over the last year. We wish you a Merry Christmas and good luck for 2016

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Rahotu Panel & Paint

# Having a summer of fun at Opunake Beach

The new operators of the Opunake Beach Kiwi Holiday Park are looking forward to a summer of fun, and bringing the Opunake community along with them for the ride.

Jason Bartlett and Lisa Bond say they are interested in hearing from anybody with an idea for something which could be set up on the beach and work in with the holiday park is doing.

“We want to make this a win-win for everybody. All we would ask for is respect for others around them,” Jason said. “The more people you have here, the more fun you are going to have.”

The couple come with son Zeon(16), daughter Lydia(11), their cousin Jai(17), and three year-old dog, K-Dog. They have another daughter Tessa(28) in Australia.

They will be employing 16 local people through the summer months. Some of these will be new to the job, others will be faces more familiar to Opunake beachgoers.

Jason and Lisa both have horticultural backgrounds and always wanted something which combined their interests in management, community involvement and the outdoors. The Opunake Beach Kiwi Holiday Park seemed to tick all the boxes. “We decided we had a passion for this lifestyle,”



New operators of the Opunake Beach Kiwi Holiday Park Lisa Bond and Jason Bartlett.

Lisa said. “When this one came up we went into a dream, and hey, dreams come true.”

Both are Taranaki born. Lisa was born in Hawera and has lived in Waitara, Uruti and New Plymouth.

Jason was born in New Plymouth, but has long associations with Opunake and its beach.

“My Nanna and Granddad owned a farm on the Ihaia Road,” he said. “My Mum grew up in Opunake and moved to Wellington where she met my father and then

had me. I’ve been here as a young tacker and kind of grew up around the beach. This is quite a dream really. If I could work in a holiday park, this one is the best I could think of.”

Lisa says she and Jason have both experienced personal tragedy in their lives, and believes this enables them to bring an added dimension to their new roles.

“We have lots of compassion and understanding for different types of people. The biggest thing we would like to bring here is

a sense of family, friends and community enjoying themselves.”

Jason agrees. “It’s for everybody, from the babies right through to the elderly,” he said.

The couple are looking towards keeping the beach shop open through the year, with a focus on being an eatery in the winter months with such traditional kiwi favourites as the hangi and boil-up.

Jason and Lisa say they want to give foreign tourists a good experience of Taranaki.

Already they have seen a number of Swiss, French and German tourists coming through.

“They might come in here for a night, and then they decide they want to stay longer,” Lisa said.

They are looking forward to getting a holiday programme going, with activities like tug of wars, water slides, volleyball, cricket games, barbecues, even the occasional water fight. They

see the sausage sizzle as something that can be used to raise money for worthwhile community projects.

They also hope to get more bands performing at the beach.

As much as possible they want to work in with local businesses to give campers and beachgoers the best possible experience.

“The big thing is creating lasting memories,” Lisa said.

**Food - Fun - Family - Friends**  
**Hosts: Lisa & Jase**

*Create your memories, come join us this summer*

**Food - Fun - Family - Friends**  
**OPUNAKE BEACH KIWI HOLIDAY PARK**  
 Ph: 761 7525 [www.opunakebeachnz.co.nz](http://www.opunakebeachnz.co.nz)

## Pihama WI make a donation of heartfelt proportions

Pihama Women’s Institute members have been busy raising funds for the new angiography suite at the Taranaki Base Hospital.

On December 9, they presented a cheque for \$750 to Taranaki Health Foundation chairman Michael Joyce.

The money had come from members helping out with food and drinks at the opening of the Taranaki Arts Festival in Opunake, and at Liz Sinclair’s Lavender Farm when it was open during the Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival. On top of this, there was a small injection from the group’s reserve funds.

Earlier in the year, the Pihama WI had raised \$2000 for the Cancer Society with their annual Walk for Cancer fundraiser.

It is hoped the suite would open sometime in the middle of next year, Michael said. Having the suite in New Plymouth would mean 170-200 fewer patients travelling to Waikato for procedures. It would also mean pacemaker insertions, coronary angioplasties and most peripheral( limb) angiograms and angioplasties/stent inser-



From left, Robyn Le Prou (Pihama WI Secretary), Bernadette Gopperth (Vice President), Linda Campbell (President) presenting a cheque to Taranaki Health Foundation chairman Michael Joyce.

tions could be done locally, rather than in the Waikato.

Pihama WI president Linda Campbell said a number of their members had had to make the trip to support family and friends receiving treatment at the cardiac unit in Waikato Hospital.

The angiography suite would cost \$3.6 million, of which the Taranaki Health Foundation has pledged to raise \$1.2 million, and as of December 9 they still had \$275,000 to raise, Michael said. He is appreciative of the Pihama WI’s generosity.

“This is something that’s going to touch the lives of thousands of people in Taranaki.

For rural people it’s even more important, as they are that much further away, so the impact and disruption on families is even greater.”

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# OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB

2nd Annual Multi Sponsored Tournament  
New Year Open Tournament

Sunday, January 17, 2016

**Entry Fee**

\$40 includes:

- Meal - Twos - Nearest to the pins
- Free 1/2 wayhouse
- Men's, Ladies and Non-Golfers Sections
- Tee Times 7.00am to 1.00pm

Contact:

Callum Roach phone 761 7378 or 027 482 2596

Troy Forsyth ph: 763 8384 or 027 3523540  
Thanks to Allied Concrete, Andy Davy Contracting, Gopperth Contracting, Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration, Farmlands Opunake and Panasonic



## BUSINESS HOUSE MIXED AMBROSE

**Starts Wednesday, January 13, 2016**

**Entry Fee** \$10 per team per night (meals available)

**Tee Off:** between 4.30 to 6.30pm

**Teams:** of 4 (golfers and non-golfers)

If you require players or are available to play contact Golf Club 761-8070 or Lawrence Robins 763 8770

**Everyday Play Available**

\$10 Green Fees - Affiliated Golfers  
\$15 for Non Affiliated  
Students \$10

# Opunake Beach Carnival



**Muscle men at the Opunake Beach Carnival**

Have great fun in the sun at the 2015 Beach carnival to be held on Saturday January 9. There is no entry fee a great day for the whole family. Bring your beautiful babies, toddlers and mini muscle men to show off their talents at the Opunake

Beach stage contests. The first contest starts at 10am. The Big Dig will run from around lunch time. Every entrant gets a prize, with major prizes being brand new bikes, sponsored by Campbell Contracting, and supplied by Collins Sports Centre.

Mr Muscles and Miss Opunake Beach contests will be held in the afternoon. Categories will be Miss Junior Opunake 10-12 years, Miss Teen Opunake 13-15, and Miss Opunake 16 years and over. Fantastic prizes. \$2 per entry, Miss

Opunake is \$5 to enter. All day activities include Mini Jeeps, Merry go Round, Bouncy Castles, and a Shooting gallery with hourly prize draws. There is also food, coffee and crafts for sale. The Surf Lifesaving Club Cafe will be open upstairs

## A walk along the Opunake Walkway

As part of the Beach Carnival programme there will be a guided walk over the length of the walkway on Sunday January 3, starting from the Lions Stage at Opunake beach

at 2pm. A lot of work has been done on the walkway over the past few years and it now extends from Te Namu Pa on the north of Opunake to the lake at the southern end. The walkway winds its way around the

cliffs of Opunake beach and Middletons Bay creating some stunning vistas. If you've never walked the whole walkway before this is an ideal chance. Rex Langton, who has worked very hard at developing the

new walkway extensions will accompany the walk to point out areas of interest. The approximate time for the walk will be one and a half to two hours. There will be a \$5 charge which will go towards missions in India.

Opunake & Lakeside Lions Presents the **Opunake Beach Carnival** FREE ADMISSION

TARANAKI DAILY NEWS Your Place, Your Paper

CAMPBELL CONTRACTING LTD South Taranaki

COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE PHONE 06 761 8778

**SATURDAY JANUARY 9th**

TSB Community Trust

- 3/1/15 **WAVE CHURCH OPUNAKE WALK**  
Guided walk around Opunakes Historical places.  
2pm start \$5 pp  
Contact Murray Baylis 761 8067  
Fundraising for Mission Trip to India
- 6/1/15 **COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE TAKE A KID FISHING**  
- Registrations on the day or previously at Collins Sports Centre, Opunake \$2  
- Weigh in at the Opunake Beach Stage that evening at 6-6.30pm. Don't be late. Great prizes!  
Brian Collins (06) 761-8778 or Paddy Walsh (06) 761-8863 027 230 5820
- 7/1/15 **LAKESIDE LIONS POOL PARTY**  
Opunake Community Pool, Longfellow Rd.  
Friday 8th January from 5pm - 7pm. Entry is \$5 and includes a drink and a sausage. We will have games, races, fun stuff!!  
Fish for a lucky dip prize \$2
- 9/1/14 **CARNIVAL DAY!**  
150 YEARS CELEBRATORY PRIZE DRAW  
3 MAJOR PRIZES 1 X \$500 2 X \$250
- HOURLY RAFFLES**  
10am-2pm - All good prizes  
**BABY, TOTS, MR MUSCLE, OPUNAKE MR MUSCLES (13 yrs & over), MISS TEEN & MISS OPUNAKE CAMPBELL CONTRACTING BIG DIG**  
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Take a tour along the walkway

**Proud Sponsor of the TAKE A KID FISHING - Wednesday 6th January**

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Kids fishing sets from \$25  
Surfcasting sets from \$55

Brian has all you need to catch a feed!

Merry Christmas from the staff at Collins Sports Centre

**COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE**  
Tasman St, Opunake Ph 06 761-8778



# Opunake Beach Carnival

## Collins Sports Centre Take a kid fishing



Brian Collins presents the prizes at the Opunake beach stage.



Take a kid fishing will be held on Wednesday January 6. The competition is open to all children primary school age and under. Mums and Dads, get out there and get the kids fishing. Great prizes to be won. Register at Collins Sports Centre, \$2 entry fee applies.

We will weigh any species caught on the day on a hook line and sinker. No nets, boats or Kontiki lines please. Final weigh in will be at 6-6.30pm, scales at the Opunake Beach stage, followed by prize giving, lolly scramble, and a sausage sizzle. Every child receives a prize a certificate and a sweet choccy fish.

Ewwwww a fish!

**Collins Sports**  
**Take a Kid Fishing Day**

in conjunction with the  
**Opunake Surfcasting & Angling Club**

**6th January 2016**  
 start fishing from 5.30am  
 Age limit is Primary school & under \$2 Entry Fee  
 Registration at Collins Sports Centre  
 Weigh in at Opunake Beach  
 No nets, boats or kontiki lines  
 Weigh in finishes at 6.30pm

**Heaps of Spot Prizes**  
**2 Major Spot Prizes at the end of prizegiving!**  
 Contact: Collins Sports 06 761 8778  
 Paddy 027 230 5820



Take a break from the beach and visit the stunning beachtop garden lovingly created by volunteers.



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**Opunake Beach Carnival Big Dig!**



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# Opunake Golf Club Namu Road



### Opunake Golf Club is also available for hire for special occasions

The Opunake Golf Club is located 2.5km up Namu Road, 3kms north of Opunake. The original Club was a 9 hole links course located on the cliff tops behind the present Cottage Rest Home.

The course is contained on 125 acres, and was originally a West Coast Settlement Reserve Lease owned by John Halpin.

The present site was purchased in 1969 and on November 23 1970, it was resolved that the freehold be purchased. This was financed through 320 debentures of 25 dollars, mostly taken up

by the members., the rest by members of the community.

The new course was opened for play in 1971.

Sheep graze on the fairways, which are mowed on a regular basis, and the greens are kept in excellent condition.

The course is 5309 metres, and is surrounded by pohutukawa and pine trees, with great views of the mountain and sea.

The par 71 course has a first nine of 36, and a second nine of 35. Overall there are four par fives, nine par fours and five par threes. The shortest

hole is 114 metres and the longest hole is 436 metres.

A modern and spacious clubhouse provides members and visitors with a pleasant atmosphere to enjoy the social side of golf. The club offers golfers a hospitable welcome and a true country experience.

The clubhouse and course are also used by other groups and businesses for various activities.

**Club Information.** President LW Robins 7638770. Mens Club Captain C Cathie Ph 7617293. Ladies Club

Captain: Diane Williams (06) 761 8802. Secretary: Wendy Vickers (06) 274 5690. Clubhouse: (06) 761 8070. Address PO Box 75, Opunake. Membership: 110.

Club Days: Men, Sunday. Ladies: Tuesday. Ladies: (9 holers) Tuesday or Saturday 9.30am.

Subscriptions: Men and Ladies \$300. Junior (Primary School) \$30.00 (Secondary School) \$60. Summer Sub \$150.00 Associate \$150.00. Greens Fees: on affiliated \$15 affiliated \$10.

## Pastimes

Merry Christmas to all our customers!  
Open every day until December 24



87 Tasman St, Opunake Ph 06 761 8151

Happy Christmas From

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1933 & 1934



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Country Connections Opunake,  
Hive Taranaki Environment Centre Shop  
Metro Plaza New Plymouth,  
Opunake Beach Carnival 9th January,  
Or Phone: 06 761 8543 Anytime.



You can bottle feed baby animals at Stoney Oaks



Lukas Hitch shows of his catch at the Opunake Take a Kid fishing weigh in at Opunake Main Beach

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Thanks to all our customers  
Merry Christmas from  
Dave, James and Ben

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## Country Connections

Leigh & Patrice & family would like to wish everyone a safe & happy holiday period

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Opunake Pharmacy

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Manaia Medicines, Health & Beauty  
47 South Road, Manaia - 06 274 8200



Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra are playing at Opunake Beach on Sunday 17th January.

# Sounds on Opunake sands

Funky tunes are returning to Opunake Beach with Sounds on the Sand.

The South Taranaki District Council is bringing the Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra to Opunake Beach on Sunday January 17 from 12.30pm.

It is one week after the beach carnival so it is hoped there will still be plenty of campers at the campground, as well

as locals from Opunake and surrounds who will come on down for a great afternoon.

"This is always a fantastic, relaxing day," says Sounds on the Sand organiser Jody Bloor. "So come along, bring the kids and a picnic, sit back and relax, enjoying the sounds from the band 'Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra' and the waves crashing on the beach."

The Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra, from Wanganui, plays a wide array of funky soul/R and B from artists such as Etta James, Chicago and Bruno Mars. Band member Fred Loveridge says they are looking forward to coming to Opunake and playing to the Naki crowd.

Loveridge, who played at Sounds on the Sand a few

years ago with The Blues Buffet contacted Miss Bloor nine months before the event as he was so keen to come back to Opunake.

"It's such a relaxing place to play and the crowd was fantastic," he says.

There will also be a bouncy castle for the kids, so bring the whole family and make an afternoon of it.

# Activities you can do with Actionaki

Actionaki is now part and parcel of what's going on around Taranaki. Since we started seven years ago, we've had all sorts coming through, from seven year-old birthday parties through to the Jean Sandel Retirement Home. We have had team building crews and stag and

hen parties. It's been a crazy ride sometimes, and we've certainly learnt a lot ourselves about what's happening out there, and how we can better our operation.

It's really been great meeting new people and watching them step up, take themselves out of their comfort zones and

achieve their goals.

The events we cater for include claybird shooting, .22 rifle target shooting, Stag and Hen dos, work dos, family gatherings, kids' birthday parties, archery, Frisbee golf, surfcasting outings for kids and adults, and golf chip challenges.

So if you, your family or your team need a break or holiday time, we are only a phone call, facebook or email away. *Paddy Walsh*



Are the kids are moaning about being bored or they are getting under your feet? Get them out to Actionaki! Paddy and Mark have a great range of activities available to suit all ages and any budget. Paddy's cell number is 0272305820 give the mad bugger a call today

**DO YOU WANT ACTION?**

ACTIONAKI

- Team Building
- Work Do's
- 22 Rifle Target Shooting
- Frisbee Golf
- Paintball with Drive-by Van
- Claybird Shooting

- Archery
- BBQs
- Golf Challenge
- Surfcasting
- Stag & Hen Do's
- Family Gatherings
- Birthday Parties

182 Opua Road, Opunake, Surf Highway 45  
paddy@actionaki.co.nz

FREE PHONE 0800 824 836

Turn Heads

Phone 06 761 7466

88 Tasman Street, Opunake, Taranaki

Rhonda would like to thank all her clients for their support.

"I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Wonderful New Year."



## sounds on the sand

**Sunday 17 January, Opunake Beach  
12.30pm – 3.00pm**

**Sit back and relax while listening to the huge funky soul sounds from the Clazzmatic Boogie Orchestra.  
Bring your beach chair and a picnic for an enjoyable afternoon.  
Free bouncy castle for the kids!**

We encourage this event to be



For further information contact  
South Taranaki District Council Events  
@ TSB Hub, Phone 06 278 0646



### St. Pauls Op Shop

Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year to all of our wonderful supporters From the team at St. Pauls Op Shop

Funds raised contribute to our community service organisations and Taranaki Rescue Helicopter

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*Christmas bookings essential*

# Taranaki's iconic mountain

Mt Taranaki is a huge attraction for those who like bushwalks and for the more adventurous who really like a challenge and the experience of summiting a mountain. Those who achieve it apart from the sense of satisfaction are rewarded with magnificent 360 degree views Taranaki and its wild coastline and further, views of Mt Ruapehu in the central North Island.

There are numerous charming huts dotted around the mountain all maintained by DOC. An around the mountain walk takes four days for the averagely fit. Huts are usually less that a day's tramp apart.

Fanthams Peak is also a

challenging walk and there is a hut that you can stay in when you reach the peak.

Brahms Falls which used to run hot over a hundred years ago is worth a visit and a slight diversion from one of the enchanting bush walks. These days the water is just tepid, a shame.

At night, watch out for some bewitching glow worms.

For the less fit and adventurous, there's also two restaurants with accommodation on the mountain which are accessible by road. There's also a cafe and a visitors centre at North Egmont and accommodation at the historic camphouse.

The mountain is also accessible by foot from various

side roads in Taranaki. Both Ihaia Road in Opunake and, further north, Puniho Road, end in tracks that go up the mountain. The Waiaua Gorge Hut is perhaps the easiest and closest to access on foot and takes several hours from the end of Ihaia Road.

Just beware though, the mountain though easily accessible to trampers has a torrid history with many miscalculating the risks. Even

in summer the weather can be changeable with teaming rain, sleet, snow and winds that can flatten you. So make sure you're equipped for all conditions.

There are organised open climbs run by KOPAC, the local tramping club.

If you want a bird's eye view of the Mountain Precision helicopters offer a range of scenic flights, some of which traverse Taranaki and land near a scenic waterfall.



The Waiaua Gorge Hut.



St Pauls Co-operating Church's Christmas display will be open during Christmas.



The mountain is dotted with mountain huts.

## Having a splashing good time



That time of year is upon us again, the weather is warming up and school is out for summer. What a great time to get along to our Opunake Community Pools. With the 2015-16 season having started early October, there have been a fantastic number of users through the pool and making the most of these awesome facilities. Our volunteer-run Aquatots Preschool Program has been a hit for Term 4, with young families and pre-schoolers learning vital swimming skills. This

would not be possible without the instructors who give up their time to teach each week. Thank you Clare, Rachel, Adele and Hannah. The Opunake Swimming Club has been working hard through the after school Learn To Swim Program which has great support throughout the community. The Swimming Carnival held in November was a great event for the competitive swimmers. These groups are always on the lookout for helpers and new instructors (training provided). If you are interested, please contact

the appropriate people. Keep an eye out for Term 1 2016 registration details.

The importance of exercise and wellbeing has really been taken on board throughout our community with many different groups making the most of longer days and finer weather. The lane swimming numbers have really jumped up, compared to previous years, and extra opening hours have even been set to accommodate all these keen swimmers. Aquafit, as always, is going well, with four different instructors each offering a variety of styles, including the new circuit class with Kay for an extra workout.

The new year brings many exciting events including a pool Party and triathlons. New holiday hours are effective Saturday December 19.

As always the pool couldn't operate without all the keen workers and volunteers behind the scenes. A big thank you to everyone involved. Merry Xmas and Happy New Year.

OPUNAKE COMMUNITY POOLS							
SCHOOL HOLIDAY OPENING HOURS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 19 <sup>th</sup> 2015							
	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN
Lane Swimming	6:30am-8:30am 6:30pm-7:30pm	6:30am-10am 5pm-6:30pm	6:30am-8:30am 5:30pm-7pm	6:30am-10am 6:30pm-7:30pm	6:30am-8:30am		
Aquafit	6:30-7:15pm	9-10am 5:30pm-6:15pm		9-10am 6:30pm-7:15pm			
Public (excl Xmas Day)	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm

Public hours every day excluding Xmas Day. Lane swimming and Aquafit exclude all public holidays.

FEEES: **Adult** \$4 **Child/Senior** \$3 **Preschool** \$1.50 **Spectators** FREE **Family Pass** \$10 (2 Adults, 2 Kids/1 Adult, 3 Kids)

Note: Children under 8 years must be supervised by an adult.

All pool bookings and enquires to Hannah Drought 0278748981 or through the facebook page ☺

# - great for a summer stroll or more



The summit of Mt Taranaki.

Visit the Dawson Falls/ Te Rere o Kapuni roadend this summer. This spot in the Mt Taranaki/ Egmont National Park offers a range of walks from under an hour to over four hours.

The five minute barrier free walk to the Dawson Falls Power Station lets you see one of the world's oldest continuously operating generators and a 10 minute walk from the carpark gets you to Te Rere o Noke or Dawson Falls. Maori know the waterfall as The Falls of Noke, named after the warrior who hid from his pursuers behind the falls.

Wilkie's Pools is well worth a visit and the walk to the pools, is barrier free. Manual wheelchair users may need a push in a couple of places but the boardwalk heading through the goblin forest, offers a friendly surface. If you

continue on, and this part is not barrier free, you'll cross the Kapuni Stream, (impassable in heavy rain), before meandering past small waterfalls, bubbling springs and the intake weir for the power station.

A family friendly 1 hour 30 minute walk will get you to Waingongoro Hut where you can stay the night. Buy your tickets before you set out. There are 16 bunks here and it operates on a first come, first served basis.

Syme Hut and Lake Dive Hut are other popular overnight tramping destinations. It's a challenging climb to Syme Hut - 5 to 6 hours return, while Lake Dive is a 7 to 8 hour return tramp. The lower level track crosses many streams while the upper track takes you up into the tussock fields. Combine the two for a varied tramp.

RIGHT: On the way to Wilkie's Pools. Photographer: Tim Weston



Wilkie's Pools, a popular summer walk at the Dawson Falls road end. Photographer: Tim Weston

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# Von Tempsky's last resting place

It was the battle that sent shivers through the New Zealand government. After Titokowaru defeated the government forces at Te Ngutu-o-te-manu, European settlement in much of South Taranaki became untenable. There was talk that perhaps the settlement of Wanganui might have to be evacuated. There were fears that Titokowaru could link up with Te Kooti on the East Coast and the Maori King movement to the north. Perhaps the Northland tribes who had last fought the pakeha back

in the 1840s might even join in. In short, the entire North Island could be shaky for European settlement. Yet in the years since that 1868 battle, a collective amnesia seems to have descended on the battle and its victor Titokowaru. The less successful Te Kooti on the East Coast seems to have been better remembered. Historian W.H.Oliver, later to achieve prominence as professor of history at Massey University and editor of the Dictionary of New Zealand Biography wrote a history of New Zealand



Gustavus Von Tempsky fell at Te Ngutu-o-Te-Manu (Alexander Turnbull Library).

from Okaiawa, and there is the only visible sign of the battle, a reserve with a memorial to the fallen on the losing side. On July 12, 1868, Titokowaru had attacked the redoubt at Turuturu Mokai near present day Hawera, killing 16 members of the garrison, including its commander Frederick Ross, for the loss of only six of his own warriors. Lieutenant Colonel Thomas McDonnell, the commander of the local government forces wanted revenge and looked to achieve this by attacking Titokowaru at Te Ngutu-o-te-manu. An attack on the village on August 21 had proved inconclusive, so McDonnell tried again on September 7 with 360 men, but Titokowaru was waiting for him, leaving the village to surprise the attackers in the surrounding bush. McDonnell's forces lost contact with each other. McDonnell was focused on taking an objective, the village. By the time he realised the real battle was going on around him, he was beaten. Eventually he had to order the retreat. Still to receive the order was Major Gustavus von Tempsky, a 40 year-old polish adventurer, whose colourful past had included gold mining in California and Australia, and fighting wars

in Central America before arriving in New Zealand in 1861 where he went on to achieve fame as a commander of Forest Rangers fighting Maori in the Waikato. Von Tempsky, with te Ngutu-o-te-manu in front of him was killed instantly with a bullet through the forehead. After the battle, the victors cremated von Tempsky's corpse. Kimble Bent, the American who had joined the British army before deserting and joining the Maori, recorded what Titokowaru then said. "In the days of the past you fought here and you fought there, and you boasted that you would always emerge safely from your battles to the bright world of life. But when you encountered me your eyes were closed in their last sleep. It could not be helped; you sought your death at my hands. And now you sleep forever." Titokowaru went on to score another victory against the Pakeha, at Moturoa near Waverley. Then, for reasons which still remain unclear, his support evaporated, and the once vanquished set off in pursuit of their wily opponent. Unable to find him, they eventually let him be, and Titokowaru eventually made peace with the pakeha. He died in 1888.



The memorial at Te Nutu-o-te-manu near Okaiawa.

which did not even mention Titokowaru. Not far from the site of his greatest triumph, there are roads which bear the names of the commanders of the losing side in that battle, Hastings, Hunter, Von Tempsky, Palmer. Head towards the mountain

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# Traders and whalers come to life at Tawhiti



The diorama at the Traders and Whalers exhibit at Tawhiti Museum

Ship based whaling, or open sea whalers had operated north of New Zealand from as early as 1794, only 24 years after Captain James Cook visited and charted the New Zealand coast. British and Australian whaling ships began operating closer to the New Zealand coast from around 1830, though it is likely sealers would have visited the Taranaki coast earlier, from around 1813.

With the massive over-hunting of seals and pups, the sealing trade quickly expired, and there was little else to attract Europeans to the Taranaki coast with its lack of harbours and constant danger of being blown on to a lee shore.

Nga Motu (present day New Plymouth) was certainly known by 1822 when an unknown ship delivered a Taranaki Maori woman back home from Kawhia and took delivery of two tons of flax and 18 pigs, and it was noted that the locals were keen to do more trade.

Irregular visits over subsequent years gave Taranaki Maori some opportunity to acquire muskets and develop a desire for other trade goods. It has been estimated that by 1834

about 180 ships a year were visiting the New Zealand coast – that’s approximately one ship every two days. The most notable of Taranaki’s early visitors were Jacky Love with first mate Dickie Barrett and the crew of the Adventure in 1828. Te Wharepouri, principal chief of Te Ati Awa persuaded Love and Barrett to set up their trading base at Nga Motu. And so began a trans-

Tasman trading venture, as well as a permanent social alliance through marriage, of the Adventure’s entire company and local Maori. Tawhiti Museum’s Traders and Whalers attraction vividly tells the stories of those early years, part of which is an astonishing underground boat ride through a lush bush, rocky coastal and hauntingly real dark river environment.



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## Redoubt a reminder of town’s origins

While the Manaia Walkway may not be as well-known as its Opunake Coastal counterpart, it still has enough to keep visitors interested, including the

Manaia Redoubt still remains, and is an integral part of the Manaia Walkway. The redoubt had been built in 1880 after a force of 80 Armed Constabulary under

met his end, Colonel Roberts would a little over a year later lead a 1500-strong invasion force to Parihaka to arrest Te Whiti and Tohu.

The Armed Constabulary chose the disused pa site Te Takahe, and built a redoubt with watchtower and blockhouses. Two years later they left, leaving the local Waimate Mounted Rifles in charge. The double walls of the blockhouses were filled with gravel, to hinder any bullets from coming through. In 1885, with the Waimate Plains firmly in settler hands, the order was made to remove the redoubts, but the Manaia one stayed. The original wooden tower, the Watchtower of the Plains blew down in a storm in 1912, and was replaced by the concrete tower which can be seen today. The blockhouses have had a few repairs in the years since, and concrete floors have been put in. They are the last of the frontier posts still on their original sites.

tui and the wood pigeon. It is only appropriate then that two of the streets in Manaia, Karaka and Patukukupa refer to trees that attracted birds to the area, and to where the birds gathered for food. A recent addition to the Walkway have been a planting by the Manaia and District Returned Services Association of three seedlings descended from the Lone Pine which gave its name to the battle fought at Gallipoli a century ago, followed by the installation of a seat and commemorative plaque.



The Watchtower of the Plains

town’s own redoubt. When all the other frontier redoubts were removed, the people of Manaia wanted their one to stay as a reminder of their town’s beginnings. Today much of the original

Colonel John Roberts were ordered to set up a position on the right bank of the Waiokura Stream. A veteran of the battle of Te Ngutu-o-te-manu, where the legendary Von Tempsky

Visitors to the walkway, which starts at the Manaia Domain can also appreciate the efforts of local volunteers who have maintained the walkway. Forty species of native trees have been planted, attracting in more recent times the likes of the



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# DINING & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE



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# DINING & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE



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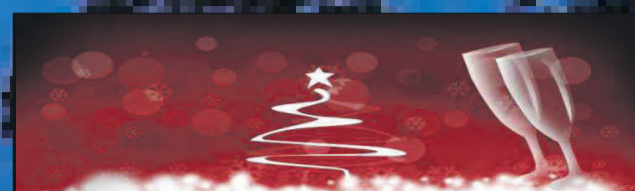
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## What's new at Brooklands Zoo

In addition to the animals, barn displays, farmyard and walk-through free-flight aviary, there are extensions to the zoo's backyard wildlife area. The existing monarch butterfly garden has been

extended with additional swan plants, feeding flowers and over-wintering plants added for the butterflies. The weta hotels that were installed a few years ago have been very successful and

continue to provide accommodation for local tree weta, with some hotels having no vacancies. Because of this success, a hotel for insects has now been added.

## The Good Home

Come and enjoy this festive season with The Good Home. Christmas Eve has never been better with Taranaki's favourite duo Ash and Aidan playing until midnight.

On New Year's Eve there will be a Superheroes and Villains-themed party, with

jazz from 4pm-7pm, and band at front of house from 9-midnight, followed by DJ Mawai.

The Good Home has a fresh new look menu and deli cabinet.

There are six steak cuts to choose from including T-bone, rib eye, or even a

great 1kg Tomahawk cut. Homemade pizzas, salads and fantastic share platters to enjoy with your friends. Come along and enjoy brunch, lunch, dinner with a cocktail, or craft beer on the deck.

Weekly specials also available.



Fun for all at the races this summer.

## Fun either side of Christmas at Taranaki Thoroughbred Racing

The Twilight Race Day will be held on Wednesday December 23. General admission is \$10, under 18s always free. Members Stand tickets are \$20 if pre-purchased from the office.

It will be the biggest Christmas Party in town, hosted by the effervescent DMan (Dinnie Moeahu), followed by perennial favourites Ash and Aidan. Tickets are \$60 and are available from the racecourse

office, or Crowded House Bar. The first race is at 3.32pm

Then have a fabulous day out at the Family Fun Day Sunday December 27. The first race is at 1.14pm.

Kids activities will be held at the City Lawn, with everything handy for mums and dads too. We'll have the bouncy castle, face painting, colouring competitions, balloon artist, candy floss station, goodie

bags for the first 200 kids through the gate, and lots of fun. Families are welcome to bring a picnic along (no BYO), and low sunshades. This new space will be very popular with parents wanting to enjoy a day at the races, while the kids have lots of fun.

General admission is \$10, under 18s always free. Members Stand tickets \$20 if pre-purchased from the office.

**Friday 18th, The Good Home turns 4!**

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Something for everyone with Crowded House Party Central on Wednesday and Family Fun Day on Sunday!

**Chain Rigging & Scaffolding Twilight Race Day**  
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Crowded House Party Central area with DMan (Dinnie Moeahu) Ash & Aidan - Tickets \$60



**Farmlands Family Fun Day**  
Sunday 27th December - First race 1.14pm

Rumpus Room Family Fun Zone on the City Lawn  
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# Amazing make over at Fish Chips & More

The exterior of Fish, Chips & More in Opunake has been transformed, in just over a month. Two local firms have carried out the work to a very high standard. Builder Paul Brook and Mike Quintas of AEA Stainless. Two sides of the building have been modified, the north side which is now beautifully

clad in corrugated iron – to be named Corrogation Street – and the frontage which now has a stainless steel canopy. The Clearlight roofing allows plenty of light through, while providing shelter. The owners Bill and Ali Hayward are delighted with the improvements, which



Bill and Ali Hayward with Clem Coxhead in Corrogation Street.

were necessitated by a number of persistent leaks. “Excellent work. Really sharp,” commented Bill. “I didn’t know that corrugated iron could be presented so smoothly, accurately and precisely,” agreed Ali.

Apart from the leak issue there are other reasons why Bill and Ali wanted the improvements carried out. “What was there, was old and dated; it needed replacing in some shape or form,” explained Bill. As regards the frontage, Bill points out that “severe rusting” was likely to raise some health and safety issues if left much longer.

“It’s brought the premises into the twentieth century,” Bill concluded with a smile. He pointed out that the shop was of 1920s vintage, making it almost a century old. He added, “It will be certainly noticed – more so than it is at present.”

The couple are also impressed with the work of Gibson Plumbers, who have

done a great job installing Infinity Hot Water, as well as other plumbing work. The gas unit can be seen positioned on the north corrugated wall.

The brand new sign by Speedy Signs tops off the splendid makeover.

Bill and Ali mention that

they have mostly used local tradespeople for their extensive renovations during the year.

The couple are rightfully proud of what has been achieved in such a brief tenure, as regards both structural changes and the provision of fresh, quality

food. Fresh fish is provided almost daily (5-6 times a week) and they make their potato chips on a daily basis. The chips and fish are cooked in the traditional way. “People like their chips cooked

*Continued on page 36*

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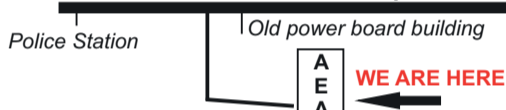
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# Amazing make over at Fish Chips & More

Continued from page 35

and Salad.

At present there is a very good deal for the budget conscious; their frozen fish of several varieties. "It's excellent that we can offer it at 50% of the usual price," says Ali.

"Actually below cost,"

adds Bill.

The couple are interested in the past and in particular the history of their premises. The plaque explains that the 1920s premises was formerly known as Gillbanks Fish Shop, with Judy and Donald the previous proprietors who are remembered with affection.

The final word goes to Bill and Ali, "We believe

Opunake is a great place to live and so are investing in the appearance of the town. We want Opunake to be a destination, not just somewhere people pass through."

**Right: Almost completed, the new frontage for Bill and Ali Hayward's Fish, Chips & More business in Opunake.**



## Paul Brook Builder

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# As Time Goes By with the Coastal Singers

The Coastal Singers Dinner Show on Saturday December 12 was an important event commemorating Opunake's 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations. The event was held in the Opunake High School hall and was called 'As Time Goes By'. The event had Paul Andersen-Gardiner as MC and he provided much humour, as well as a number of interesting historical notes. He mentioned that the choir was started by the late Gabrielle Barr in 1983, that 1998 marked the first Dinner Show and Noeleen had been in charge for 25 years now. Were the Coastal Singers the first choir in Opunake? No, in 1884 was when the first choir was established in Opunake.

Choir Mistress Noeleen Moir was described as "one of Opunake's living treasures" for her dedication and outstanding musical input. Andersons Catering again prepared the different culinary courses to their usual high, delicious standard, with lots of variety. The show opened with



The Coastal Singers performing.

'Alexanders Ragtime Band' featuring Melanie Brown as soloist with her appealing voice. This was followed by Alan Smith's 'Old Man River' sung with poignant emotion - one of the highlights of the evening.

Everyone was invited to join in for a slice of nostalgia with a selection of First World War songs, to be later accompanied by those from the Second World War. It is interesting how these wartime songs stir up memories and nostalgia even in someone like me who was not even born then.

Alan's 'One Alone' rightfully received much applause before we were treated to a duet by Alan

and Ruth Hornblow singing 'Whispering Hope' which was another highlight and very moving.

It was the Mens turn next. The Beatles songs were lots of fun - George Harrison's 'Something' is one of my favourites and - as Paul told us - the second most performed Beatles Song ('Yesterday' by Paul McCartney is first).

However, 'Can't Help Falling In Love' which I associate with Elvis, was my personal favourite of the evening - simply superb.

The Ladies came on without the men to sing achingly three sad songs - beautifully sung. 'Tears in Heaven' is about the death

of a little boy who falls from a window to his death. At the end 'You Don't Bring Me Flowers' - surely one of the saddest songs ever written - was lightened by the men provided some comic relief (at the conclusion of the bracket) by presenting each lady with a flower, which brought a gale of laughter.

The evening was concluded on just the right note with another nostalgic oldie, 'We'll Meet Again' and the audience joined in with gusto.

All in all another event which demonstrates that the Coastal Singers are up there with the best. Well done indeed.

Rolland McKellar

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Successful participants pictured are, from left, George Julian, Anthony Williams (Training Officer), Phillip Barrett, Chris Mullin, and Frank Goodin (Trust Chairperson). (Chris Thompson was absent).

## Advanced Red Cross course mastered

Recently, six crew members of the Cape Egmont Sea Rescue personnel took part in an Advanced Level 3 Pre-Hospital and Emergency Care Course, run by NZ Red Cross. The course took place over four days from 23 – 26 of November – 6 hours per day with stringent assessment, which all participants passed. Frank

Goodin, Chairperson of the Trust summed up the high level upskilling of first aid thus, “We are the ambulance at sea.” He added, “There will be no one else to help,” in the event of a medical or health emergency. Training Officer Anthony Williams admitted that the course was demanding, commenting, “We were knackered by

Friday.”

The sponsors also felt it was important that the personnel upgrade their skill to this high level. Major energy partners (and main sponsors) Shell Todd Oil Services, provide a generous annual grant to allow the Rescue Boat to continue to operate and potentially save lives.

The Trust intend to ask NZ Red Cross run another identical course next Winter – again with six places available.

Anthony said, “Hopefully this publicity will entice others to participate – the course is open to everybody.”

## Okato Market Day goes well

On Saturday December 5, a Market Day was held in Hempton Hall, Okato from 10am to 1.30pm. There was a great and diverse selection of stalls to buy quality products from – with Christmas just around the corner. The event was capably organised by Bex Ripia - and Amy Bridgeman who enthused on the day, “It’s really amazing. I’m very impressed that the community has supported us.”

Some of the stalls included photography, cookies, babywear, jewellery, keepsakes, face painting, candles, nutritional cleansing, beauty products, skin and body products, entertainment – and even Christmas meals.

Bex Ripia was “very

happy” with how the event went, especially as it was

organised in a fairly limited time period. She said the

stallholders were keen for the event to be held again next year and said they made a lot of valuable contacts.



The Okato Market Day had a great selection of stalls selling quality products.



Renate of Stony River Hotel who had home-made cookies for sale, as well as Christmas dinners.



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## Where our rates go

Vandals had a busy night last Saturday in Opunake. Street signs at the corner of Allison and Whitcombe Road were pushed over. Perhaps more seriously, a give way sign on the corner of Domett and Havelock streets was also flattened. A street sign was also downed near the cenotaph overlooking Opunake Beach. The contractors employed by the South Taranaki District Council, who were fixing the signs on Monday, commented that the give

way sign at the corner of Whitcome and Allison Street was stolen recently. It costs around \$700 to replace the poles for the give way signs, which appeared to have been deliberately driven into by a vehicle. All the poles in Opunake need repainting. We could be doing that instead of wasting our time doing this commented one of the workmen. Indeed. If anyone sees any street signs where they shouldn't be, perhaps they could contact the South Taranaki



A number of road signs fell victim to vandalism during the weekend

District Council or the police and save us all some money.

## Opunake Garden Circle meets the Blues Brothers



Sue Harrison found plenty of entertainment when she visited a musical "man cave" at one of the homes opened to members of the Opunake Garden Circle on their recent bus trip to Taupo.

Photo

Kathy Stanley.

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## Te Kiri WI celebrate member's 50 years service

Members met at Olive's Kitchen. And were honoured to have our executive president Leonie West as our special guest. Our meeting was held at Sue Muggeridge's home, and Institute business was discussed and settled. We had an amusing card form our seeing eye dog. We were surprised to see how many different things we had donated to and the many garments knitted for Plunket and neo-natal.. We had a

wonderful social time, and presented Kath Perrett with her 50 year membership badge. Sue thanked Kath for all the knitting she had done, and she was congratulated by Leonie. Kath has been a wonderful member, and has always been ready to help on numerous occasions. Our gift box was passed around and gifts exchanged. Members always have

some really lovely gifts, and it is fun showing them to everyone. All members were thrilled with their gifts. A delicious afternoon tea was served, making us all think Christmas was very nearly here. Sue makes the most mouth watering cream puffs and cream horns. A piece of Christmas cake made our day complete, and Sue's husband Jim kept us up

to date with the cricket score. Thank you Sue for our happy day and afternoon tea, and to Leonie West for making time for us to honour Kath, who is always ready to help. A Merry Christmas to all the readers of the Opunake and Coastal News

Mavis West

## Manaia WI look toward Christmas

Members enjoyed lunch at Mr Badgers Cafe for their December meeting. Five members had attended the regional day in Waitara, which included a train ride, lunch and a visit to two gardens. Nominations were

taken for President and Committee for 2016. Members will help Father Christmas at the Manaia Christmas Parade on December 19 by giving out ice blocks to the children. A grant was received from the Taranaki Savings Bank

Community Trust that will be used to send a delegate to the AGM/Conference in Wellington in June next year. The raffle was won by Ann Chisnall and the Mary Hutton Trophy awarded to Ricki Neil.

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# Cottage Rest Home turns 25

On December 3, 1990, the building which had once been the Opunake Hospital became the Opunake Cottage Rest Home. Twenty five years later, it seemed a good idea to include this special birthday as part of the Opunake Sesquicentenary celebrations.

On December 5, there was the air of a traditional country fete as people of all ages ignored indifferent weather and came to the Cottage Rest Home to celebrate an event which doubled as a fund raiser for a new kitchen. Visitors could partake from the food on offer, or appreciate some of the arts and crafts produced by the residents. There was also some entertainment for younger visitors, including face painting.

"It's a pleasure and a surprise to see such a good turnout," Cottage Rest Home trust chairman Daryl Hickey told everyone.

"The reason we are here today is the same reason this was set up 25 years ago, because we recognise the need in the community to provide quality health care for the aged in Opunake."

Back in 1990, a steering committee was looking



**Cutting the cake. From left. Jean Lowe, Val Wallace, Niki Otene, Mary Coombe.**

around for somewhere to place a rest home in Opunake. When the Opunake Hospital closed, the Taranaki Hospital Board sold it to them for a dollar. Doug Coxhead was a member of that committee, and his daughter Daphne Holley has been manager of the rest home for the last six years, having previously worked as a nurse in Tauranga.

Also present was Val Wallace, one of the members of the original steering committee, and secretary for 20 years.

"Five years ago when I left here, I felt like I'd left my home," she said.

The original members of the committee, apart from her and Doug Coxhead were Doug Burden, Kerry Gaffaney and Neville Foreman. Robin Cathie and Dan Holmes were later added.

She recalled how the rest home began with five residents. The midwife had left on December 2, so that for a whole day, the building was empty during the transition from being a hospital to being a rest home.

What was once the maternity theatre was transformed into the dining room, doors were altered, and chimneys taken down. The building was reroofed in 1996, and then the ceiling had to be reinforced.

Finding funds for the rest home was an ongoing problem.

"In 2002, we only had 11 people here, and we were struggling to pay the girls and still pay our debts," Val said.

From such beginnings, the rest home now has accommodation for 22 residents.

At 1pm, it was time for the cake cutting, performed by Val and long time staff Jean Lowe (18 years service), Mary Coombe(23 years), and Niki Otene( nine years service and original staff member).

Daphne paid tribute to the contribution made by groups such as the Opunake Lions Club who installed paths and fencing, as well as two water tanks to fix up a problem of summer water shortages. The Lakeside Lions had also made a big contribution to making the day's celebrations possible.

She also paid tribute to the many who had helped out through the years, including Brian Whelan, who having been maintenance manager for 17 years, continued his involvement with the rest home as a trust member.



**Rose Nuku face paints five-year old Erban Germino.**

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# Navigating the brave new world of the Health and Safety at Work Act

As the clock ticks ever closer to April 4, 2016, we should all be preparing our farm business models, and educating ourselves and our staff as to how each workplace will meet compliance with the recently passed Health and Safety at Work Act.

Across the whole rural industry, each individual (from governance to the casual worker), business, organisation, association and industry within our industry is being challenged by how it will work simply, effectively, and be able to maintain compliance without the myriad of paperwork that could break the time bank. There is also fear out there of the possibility of 'missing' that critical compliance measure that could leave the business exposed to undesired risk, should an accident occur. The newly appointed legal obligation to manage the risks within the farm workplace control for all contractors and staff is a worry for many. The application of legal duties has now also been expanded to include any person who holds a governance position in a business like a partner, trustee or director. In most farm businesses, that will

mean husbands and wives and farmers' family members, as well as farm owners.

Governance and boards seek confirmation from the OnFarmSafety New Zealand team that their farm systems are being well managed in this Health and Safety space, and yet often what we find is that managers and staff have not had clear support and guidance from the business owners as to expectations regarding rules, responsibilities, liabilities, reporting, and very rarely get comprehensive feedback. Often governance lacks the required knowledge to develop the policy. Being deemed competent is also proving a challenge, as we are working in a predominantly self-taught industry. Does that mean we all have to be certified, and in what?

As a business we are inundated with calls as to how to, what's compliance, and where to go to for good farm focussed health and safety advice. Hence our business model's core focus is on farm, with the farmer owners and their teams taking the time to listen, assist, educate and counsel. Our comprehensive Australian / New Zealand standardised audits establish not only the compliance status, but the start of the business action plan, and an enormous amount of education is part of every farm visit. Our paper based and online systems mirror the client's needs for not only their farm activity, but also that of their service providers – shearers, fencers, agricultural air provider, bulk spreader, vet etc. What we are seeing out there is that if there is a system in place, often it is a generic waste of time and money, and there is no

management understanding as to application. Our advice would be to be very careful as to the off-the shelf quick fix options being pushed out there at your expense.

It takes time to get these health and safety systems right. Don't take shortcuts and expect a few signs and a sign-in book to suffice. We need industry leadership and participation to develop rural industry standards, starting with what practical good practice looks like, and consulting with associations, and then regulation. The regula-

tor is waiting for our industry to take the lead. There is some really good material and supporting safety management tips within the codes, acts, and guidelines available – it just takes time to analyse what's relevant and required by your farm business. That's what we at OnFarmSafety NZ assist with – specialising in the relevant industry health and safety requirements for individuals and the whole farming industry.

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Neil and Kayne Pennington.

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experience and that of other Taranaki farmers, who have been trialling the tractors, in this modification and redesign process. Neil and Kayne are totally open to make any additional modifications a specific farmer may request.

Fantham Tractors have many advantages over tractors of many other brands. Just for a start they are less expensive "at approximately \$550 per horsepower," explains Neil. For example, a four cylinder Fantham 70 HP 4WD tractor will retail for approximately \$35,000 and with FEL (eurohitch), \$44,000 plus GST.

Another advantage is their simplicity – they are purely mechanical. They are not run by electronics, which can be

troublesome and expensive to sort out. As one farmer put it, "they now make tractors like they used to!"

Another advantage is that Fantham Tractors are very compact and have an excellent power to weight ratio.

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Neil points out that they are establishing a legacy as a family business and are

in for the long run investing their time and expertise for the good of the Coast and Taranaki. You can make contact by phoning 0800 946 533 or 027 448 8698 (Kayne) or 027 454 2284 (Neil). Have a look at [www.fantham.co.nz](http://www.fantham.co.nz) to learn more and build your new tractor.

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# James bounces back

Opunake boxer James (Batman) Langton is back in winning form, after defeating Josh Tai at the Hawera Rumble on December 12.

Langton had taken the New Zealand National Boxing Federation cruiserweight title by defeating Monty Filimaea in front of a hometown crowd at the Coastal Rumble in June, only to lose it to Monty Betham later this year in Auckland.

The Hawera Rumble was originally to have featured a rematch between Langton and Betham, until Betham indicated he wouldn't take part.

Instead the Hawera Rumble featured a bout with Tai from West Auckland, who had earlier defeated Filimaea in a unanimous decision.

On the undercard were two other professional and six corporate fights. Attracting a sold out crowd of 1600 to the TSB Hub, it is believed to be the first time a professional boxing event has been held

in Hawera for 50 years.

After being declared the winner in a majority decision, James paid tribute to his father Jim Langton who had passed away two days before. There had been a moment's silence in his honour before the first fight of the evening.

"Dad supported me in everything I've done and tried to achieve," James said. "He was a big fan of the rugby and all the sports I've played, along with the rest of my family."

James said he would "take the win."

"Josh Tai comes from a real pedigree of family fighters. I was under no illusions that it was going to be a tough fight. I knew he was going to hit and hold, hit and hold. They are the most frustrating fighters as they shut you down from your natural fighting style."

Among the referees taking part was Peter Fluerty who had come from Rotorua for the event. President of Pro

Boxing New Zealand, he has 30 years experience as a boxing referee, and said he was looking forward to a good night of boxing. Calling the fights was former US marine, Lieutenant Dan Hennessey who had performed the same role at the Coastal Rumble in June. Another face from the June Rumble was New Zealand National Boxing Federation president David Craig.

Also like the Coastal Rumble, the Hawera event featured fundraising for the Little Fighters Trust, the Taranaki-based trust helping families cope with sickness. In June the fundraising had gone towards three-year old Ariana Lawn. This time round, funds were going towards a life changing operation in the United States for Alexis Makea from Hawera to assist her to walk. Items auctioned included signed boxing gloves donated by Joseph Parker and rugby jerseys signed by members



A jubilant James 'Batman' Langton wins on points decision. Taylah Smith photo.

of the Chiefs and Hurricanes teams.

Fundraising on the night raised \$11,000. Alexis' mother Chaye Luke said they had been hoping to get \$4000 that night, so the amount raised had been a complete surprise.

"It's pretty amazing. I was actually in tears," she said. Her family now has \$56,000 of the \$100,000 they need to get the operation done. They are hoping to make the trip in August, but if they are able to go sooner, they would.

After the end of the final fight, Hennessey asked Langton if he had a message for Monty Betham.

"Come to Taranaki and fight me," Langton replied.

Hennessey says he has enjoyed his visits to Taranaki. "Taranaki seems to be the new hot bed of boxing in New

Zealand," he said. "I've been to fights in Opunake, New Plymouth, Waitara and now down in Hawera. It seems the whole town has turned out. To raise \$11,000 in one night is fantastic. It shows the way the Naki treasures its own. I'm prepared to come here

and do all this again if Monty Betham decides to honour his contract and come here and fight James."

The other professional fights featured Keiron (Kraka) Toa against Blake(Playa) Bell,

*continued on page 43*



James centering the Bat signal. Taylah Smith photo.

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Trish McKenzie lands a blow to Bobbie-Jo Nathan. *Taylah Smith photo.*  
continued from page 42

## James bounces back

both seeking their first pro win, and popular Taranaki boxer Sam(the Terror) Rapira against Sivan Hermez.

The professional bouts were six rounds. Toa had earlier fought in the Coastal Rumble, losing out to Daniel Maxwell. This time he lost to Bell on a majority decision.

Rapira didn't need the

full time to put paid to his opponent, making his intentions clear by knocking Hermez down in the first round. In the fourth round, Hermez was looking groggy when Rapira knocked him down again. When he went down again shortly afterwards, the ref counted as far as eight before the fight

resumed, only to call it off a short time later, declaring Rapira the winner.

In the three round corporate fights, Trish McKenzie beat Bobbi-Jo Nathan. Both women have Coastal Taranaki links, and this was McKenzie's second Rumble, having lost to Jackie Watene in the Coastal Rumble held



Craig Fevre defeated Mark Davis in their corporate bout. *Taylah Smith photo.*

in July last year. The other women's fight was one of the harder corporate fights of the night with Shi-Han Ngarewa defeating Lyn Smith.

In the Battle of the Rugby Vets, Craig Fevre defeated Mark Davis, while Kevin Mulligan-Green won the Battle of the Big boys against Saia Aholelei. Thomas Watt and Josh Caskey who had once been at Opunake High School together put friendship aside for the Battle of the Mates, which Caskey won.

The final corporate fight of the night was the Battle of the Boxing Enthusiasts, which saw Paul Waite score a unanimous decision over Dallas Stuart.

James said he wanted to thank his family, including wife Kelly and father-in-law Bill Martin, as well as those who had turned out to support him, sponsors, sparring partners, coach Steve Hartley and all the other fighters who had taken part on the night.

After 14 months consistent training, he said he was looking forward to having a break before getting into things again to try to make it into the world top 100. Before his loss to Betham, he had been ranked at number 116. Since then he has slipped to 150<sup>th</sup>.

"It's been one hell of a busy year," he said.

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**Calling all Entertainers**  
 7:30pm Tuesday, 22nd December 2015  
 Young, old, amateur, professional.

Are you a musician, singer, actor, poet or dancer?  
 Do you have a talent that can entertain?

Opunake Players Inc. and Colour Conversions (Video, Audio and Graphic Productions) are starting regular performance driven evenings that will result in creating an entertainment platform for covers and original performances.

Join us for the beginning of a new opportunity - be part of future live shows.

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.

Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The third gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 22nd December 2015 Opunake Players Theatre, Layard Street, Opunake.

**Colour Conversions Limited**  
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Mike Smith and Chloe Danz.

# We are here to help one another

Colour Conversions and the Opunake Players joined forces once again on Tuesday December 8 at the Lakeside Playhouse in Layard Street, Opunake for a night of music and development. Ashley Pedersen from Colour Conversion who has organised the fortnightly get togethers this time invited those present to offer constructive criticism and ideas to others on how they could enhance their performances. "We are all here to help one another, not to pull anyone down," he commented.

The first performer to brave centre stage was

Russell Wicks strumming his acoustic guitar and singing an original number which he followed with the country pop-rock 90's hit "Achy Breaky Heart" made famous by Billy Ray Cyrus. I found myself clapping and singing along - the song brought back a few memories.

Next Chloe Danz treated us to a solo performance playing arpeggio style picking on her acoustic guitar. She sang "Danny Boy", dedicating it to her grandfather; brilliant. Mike Smith and Chloe who are both regular performers with the Opunake Players, demonstrated that they, as skilled theatre performers,

not only exhibit "personality plus" on stage but are also competent singers and humble about their obvious talents. They wowed us with a fantastic rendition of the country classic Grammy Award winning song "Jackson", which featured in the film "Walk the Line", a story about Johnny Cash's life. Mike and Chloe both admitted they are a bit rusty as they haven't sung for a while. My response: "If that's what they can do without practise, what can they do when they're well-rehearsed". That's what the Tuesday night group is all about - you're allowed to

make mistakes. The present gatherings are to single out existing skills and talent levels. Practise will reduce the mistakes.

Accompanied on electric guitar by 17 year old Jack Fryer, Adriana Dingle who is just 13 sang the 80's bluesy rock Alannah Myles hit "Black Velvet". Her Dad said she is going to bring her keyboards next time, I'm looking forward to that.

Bryan Vickery wearing a different hat - he is normally sitting behind a microphone playing music over the airwaves as part of his job as a radio announcer - unleashed his singing voice with his version of the Bobby Darin hit "If I were a Carpenter" first released in 1966.

Adding to the variety of talent, Patricia Dudley (president of the Opunake Country Music Club), played a selection of foot tapping tunes on her button accordion. Her playing was effortless, her experience evident - most enjoyable.

Noel Gillie had the pleasure of singing a love song "Shining Star" to his wife Sandy who is often working out of Taranaki and seldom able to attend any of his performances. We had the privilege of being present to witness this special moment.

Kevin Haycox played guitar and sang a cover song about not falling in love with him, it was an entertaining and humorous performance.


This is the second Tuesday that we have gathered here, and already it is noticeable that those present are feeling more comfortable about the direction this is going in, remarked Ashley of the night.

Everyone was keen to meet in two weeks in spite of the festive season.

The next meeting is on December 22 at 7:30pm at The Lakeside Playhouse.

Anne Montgomery

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# Modernist painter's take on coastal communities on show at Percy Thomson Gallery

Edith Collier, Coastal Communities, opens at Percy Thomson Gallery Stratford, on December 18 at 6pm.

Edith was a 20<sup>th</sup> century modernist painter and has, since her death in 1964, received considerably more recognition for her work than when she was alive.

This exhibition brings together works that Collier made in response to three coastal communities, where she lived and worked - Bunmahon, Ireland; St Ives in Cornwall, England and Kawhia, New Zealand. It was in these locations that Collier was most productive, and the works produced during this time are some of the most memorable of her oeuvre.

Born in 1885, Edith Collier was the oldest of ten children growing up in a prosperous and spacious Wanganui home at the turn of the century

In 1903 Edith commenced her studies in art at the Wanganui Technical School, producing exquisite charcoal drawings from plaster casts of fish and classical heads. Encouraged by admirers, Edith left for England in 1912 at the age of 27, and enrolled at the St Johns Wood School of Art. Ten months after her arrival, she was exhibiting in the Art School Sketch Club.

For the next eight years Edith travelled around England and Ireland, painting landscapes, fishermen and portraits of friends with whom she stayed; rarely exhibiting, and periodically working with another New



Edith Collier (1885-1964) . *Maketu Pa*. c. 1927. Oil on canvas. Collection of The Edith Collier Trust. On long term loan to the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Wanganui.

Zealand expatriate Frances Hodgkins.

Her return to New Zealand in 1921 was to an artistic environment indifferent, even hostile to her work, with few artistic friends to encourage her. Although mature and an experimental painter respected by painter friends in England, Edith despaired in her native home, laid her brushes aside for almost five years and turned her energy to domestic concerns, nursing her family.

Quietly, Edith took to painting again, and between 1922-32 produced all her remaining New Zealand landscapes and family

portraits. After her father's death, Edith inherited a substantial portion of her father's estate, and with a regular income, the incentive to paint appears to have gone.

This exhibition of 40 paintings and drawings has been curated and toured by the Sargeant Gallery, Wanganui and generously supported by the Edith Collier Trust.

The exhibition runs until January 31 2016.

**Christmas Greetings**  
to all our supporters  
from The Village Gallery, Eltham.  
*Note: The gallery closes from 18th Dec - 18th Jan*  
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**Opunake Parade Christmas**  
Christmas Eve  
**Thursday 24th December**  
**Prizes**  
**1st: \$250 OBA Vouchers 2nd: \$150 3rd: \$75**  
*Participants please note:* Floats will be pre-judged before the parade, so assemble in Layard St by 7pm. The parade starts at 7.30pm.  
Winners will be presented with their prize immediately after the parade and the winner of the raffle will be announced. Members of the public are encouraged to assemble on the TSB corner directly after the parade for the prize-giving.

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**Opening date 2016 - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February**  
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*Enquires: Ph 761 7440, email opunakekindy@xtra.co.nz or call in and see us*

**Edith Collier**  
*Coastal Communities*  
**Opening Friday 18 December @ 6.30pm**  
*This exhibition has been curated and toured by the Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua Wanganui and generously supported by The Edith Collier Trust*

A Cornish Woman of Spanish Descent 1920. Oil on canvas. Collection of Sarjeant Gallery Te Whare o Rehua

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES**

**St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Raho**

Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St, 9.30am every Sunday and the

Raho - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month.

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

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

**Opunake Catholic Church**

SUNDAY 8.30 am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star Of The Sea).

**Other areas**

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs).  
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

**ALL WELCOME**

**THE WAVE**

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett Street, Opunake  
**Sunday Services 10.30am**

**Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday**

**Men's Group 7 pm Wednesday**

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**OPUNAKE CHURCHES CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

St. Barnabas - Christmas Eve 10pm

St. Pauls - Christmas Day 9.30am

Our Lady Star of the Sea -

Christmas Eve 8.30pm, Opunake

Christmas Day 9am Pungarehu

**JANUARY COMBINED SERVICES**

Sunday 10th St. Pauls 10am

Sunday 17th The Wave 10am

Sunday 24th St. Barnabas 10am

Sunday 31st Our Lady Star of the Sea

Opunake Co-operating Parish

**Christmas Display**

at Havelock Street, Opunake.

**13th to 24th December**

Hours: 13th-19th 1:00pm to 4:00pm only

20th-24th: 1.00pm-4.00pm and 7.00pm-9.00pm

Thereafter by appointment.

Group visits by arrangement.

Contacts: Elva Symons 763 8650

Macey Luttrell 06 7618927



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Dear patients

Please take note of our opening hours for December and January Holiday period. Should you need medical assistance - Please call the emergency numbers 0800 611 116 or 111.

OPENING HOURS	
Monday 21 <sup>ST</sup> December 2015	8.30am - 5pm
Tuesday 22 <sup>ND</sup> December 2015	8.30am - 5pm
Wednesday 23 <sup>RD</sup> December 2015	8.30am - 5pm
Thursday 24 <sup>TH</sup> December 2015	8.30am - 5pm
Friday 25 <sup>TH</sup> December 2015	CLOSED
Monday 28 <sup>TH</sup> December 2016	CLOSED
Tuesday 29 <sup>TH</sup> December 2016	8.30am - Noon
Wednesday 30 <sup>TH</sup> December 2016	8.30am - Noon
Thursday 31 <sup>ST</sup> December 2016	8.30am - Noon
Friday 1 <sup>ST</sup> January 2016	CLOSED
Monday 4 <sup>TH</sup> January 2016	CLOSED
Tuesday 5 <sup>TH</sup> January 2016	8.30am - 5pm

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish all our patients a safe and happy holiday.

**RAFFLE RESULTS**

**Rahotu Pungarehu Lions Club**



**RAFFLE RESULTS**

1st No 617 Oma van der Poel

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**TE POTAKA PA Christmas Batons Up**

Saturday 19 December 2015

10.30am

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

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*Rahotu Community Church  
December 20th at 8pm*

**Manaia & Districts Lions Club**

**Annual Christmas Parade**



Main South Road, Manaia - Sat, December 19

Parade starts at 12pm

Floats assemble at Yarrows Carpark at 11.30am.

Manaia Skatepark BBQ available

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**Auroa School & Districts 125th Jubilee**



**TARANAKI ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND 11th to 13th March 2016**

For further information look on Auroa School's website  
[www.auroa.school.nz](http://www.auroa.school.nz)

Or contact Jessica Mills by phone - 0276355874 or email - jessica.mills@live.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES



CoastalCare would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a happy New Year and thank you for all your support this year.



Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year to everyone from the Opunake & District Foodbank Committee.



We, the Committee would like to thank the community, church groups and schools for the many donations of food, meat and money over the past year. Without this generous help we would not be able to continue with the foodbank. Thanks also to all who contributed to the recent food drive



You can find our What's On Listings on Page 16 of the Holiday Guide.

# Bringing some Christmas cheer

On the evening of December 14, members of Get Fit 45, the Opunake Walking Group and Junior Fit 45 joined forces with the Opunake Fire Brigade and St John's Ambulance to bring some Christmas cheer, and collect items around town for the Opunake Food Bank. The following day what they collected was taken to Coastal Care and presented to the Opunake Food Bank. Members of the Rahoitu Get Fit were due to deliver more items later that day.



Get Fit 45 secretary Sharlee Mariekura said it had all begun when Vanessa Le Prou came up with the idea a couple of weeks before, and Get Fit 45, the Opunake Walking Group and Junior Fit 45 had taken it from there. Pupils from the Kohanga Reo had also donated goods.

Helping out the Opunake Food bank. Back row. From left. Sharlee Mariekura (Get Fit 45), Shannon Smith (Opunake walking Group), Angeleigh Young (Get Fit 45), Margaret Brandt (chair Opunake Foodbank), Linda Campbell (Opunake Foodbank). Front row. Pupils of the Kohanga Reo who had donated items for the Foodbank.

On Tuesday evening, the ambulance and fire brigade had pitched in to help with the collection around the streets of Opunake. Linda Campbell of the Opunake Food Bank said she was impressed with the generosity shown by churches, individuals,

groups and businesses from around Opunake and its surrounding areas. "There are people in the community who do need

help, but they are shy and private and don't like asking," she said. "It's not a shameful thing to need help."

Sharlee said this was the first time her group had done a drive for the Foodbank but said she hoped it would become a regular event.

**Christmas Timetable Changes**  Taranaki Regional Council

**Opunake–New Plymouth and Connector Bus Services**

During the festive season, the weekly Friday bus service between Opunake and New Plymouth will instead run on:

- Wednesday 23 December – later departure time from New Plymouth at 2.30pm
- Wednesday 30 December – at regular scheduled times

The Opunake–New Plymouth timetable will return to the schedule from Friday 8 January 2016.

**Connector Bus Service**

The Hawera–New Plymouth Connector service will not run on the following public holidays: Christmas Day 25 December, 'Boxing Day' 28 December, New Year's Day 1 January, or Monday 4 January.

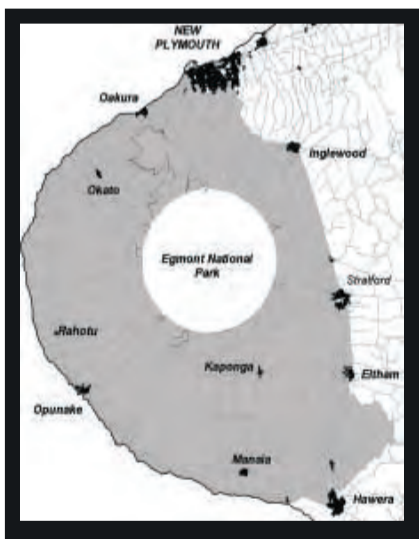
Connector service will operate on 29, 30, 31 December, and services will resume on Tuesday 5 January 2016.

All enquiries please talk to your bus driver, or phone 0800 22 11 20, or visit taranakibus.info website.

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The Editor and Staff at the Opunake & Coastal News would like to wish our valued readers and advertisers a wonderful Christmas and a memorable New Year

Thank you for your support throughout 2015

 OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS 

# Everybody in Opunake can enjoy a movie

Lights, camera, action. The theatre may still be going through renovations, but the team at Everybody's Theatre are still committed to bringing quality entertainment for local movie buffs and anybody visiting Opunake during the summer months.

Among the attractions on offer will be a screening at 1pm on Christmas Eve of Hotel Transylvania. For those wanting to catch a movie before building up to their New Year celebrations, Everybody's will screen In the Heart of the Sea at 7pm on New Year's Eve. The Ron Howard directed movie is based on the 1820 sinking of the American whaling ship Essex, the story which inspired Herman Melville to write Moby Dick.

Three days after this, the theatre will begin their 2016 screenings of their popular Boutique Film nights with Love the Coopers, a Christmas themed comedy drama starring John Goodman and Diane Keaton. "It will be good, easy watching," Everybody's treasurer Maree Drought said.

Tickets for the boutique night are \$25, with beer,



Everybodys Theatre is being transformed.

wine and food to match the movies. For catering purposes, anybody interested in going is asked to contact Maree or Everybody's Theatre president Debbie Campbell.

In the meantime renovations both inside and outside the theatre are continuing. Outside, new signage has been put up which is already drawing positive comments

"We are really pleased with how it's looking,"

Maree said. "It's going to be reflective of what's going to be going on inside the theatre."

There are also plans for a mural on the building's west wall, the side of the building most recently used by Dave's Hair Salon.

Debbie Campbell says this would be an Art Deco era skyscape, featuring the old Thorpe and Callahan's General Store which was converted into the picture theatre in 1921.

"The interior can be described as the art deco era from when the theatre first opened with a touch of elegance," she said.

Inside renovations have also included putting in heating and carpet, and relining walls to meet fire regulations.

This means theatre volunteers have been cleaning the place up every Friday in time for the weekend screenings..

"We want to thank the

community for supporting us while we've been going through these renovations, and putting up with the dust, and thank our helpers who have helped with cleaning up on Fridays," Maree said.

What was once Penny's Café is being transformed into a kitchen and server, as well as a shop area for selling lollies and ice cream, and a display area for memorabilia, including one of the old projectors.

The sofas have been moved

upstairs, and will be moved back when new seating is installed.

"The seats will be wider, more comfortable and have more leg room," Maree said.

She says they are looking to have the renovations completed maybe some time in February, and would like to have a grand opening shortly afterwards to thank sponsors and others who have supported the theatre.



A conceptualised view of the mural planned for the building's exterior west wall.

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE

For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre [www.everybodystheatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodystheatre.co.nz)

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Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-pos

<p><b>Goosebumps</b> PG, Horror, Kids &amp; Family, Mystery &amp; Suspense Friday December 18<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup> 7pm Saturday December 26<sup>th</sup> 1pm</p>	<p><b>Hotel Transylvania 2</b> PG 1hr 29min Animation, Comedy Family Saturday December 19<sup>th</sup> 1pm Thursday December 24<sup>th</sup> 1pm Wednesday December 30<sup>th</sup> 1pm</p>	<p><b>Love the Coopers</b> Comedy, Drama   1hr 47mins   PG   Coarse language &amp; sexual references <b>**Boutique Night**</b> Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> January from 6:30pm, movie starts 7pm. See details below. Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January 1pm Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 7pm</p>	<p><b>In the Heart of the Sea</b> PG-13   121 min   action   advent   bio. Sunday December 27<sup>th</sup> 7pm Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> 7pm Saturday January 2<sup>nd</sup> 1pm, 7pm</p>
<p><b>Star Wars: Episode VII - The Force Awakens</b> Adventure, Fantasy, Science Fiction   2hr 15mins Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> January 1pm</p>	<p><b>Secret in their Eyes</b> Mystery, Thriller   1hr 51mins   M   Violence and offensive language Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 7pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>**BOUTIQUE NIGHT**</b></p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">3 JANUARY 2016 BOUTIQUE NIGHT</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: x-large;">LOVE THE COOPERS</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Need a break and a laugh? Get some friends together and enjoy a wine or beer with some tasty treats at our first Boutique Night in 2016.</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: large;">\$25 ticket</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: x-small;">Available from Debbie Campbell 0272902892 or Maree Drought 0273137494 or email <a href="mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com">everybodystheatre@gmail.com</a></p>	
<p><b>Daddy's Home</b> Comedy   1hr 36mins   M   Violence, sexual references &amp; offensive language Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> January 7pm Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 7pm Friday 29<sup>th</sup> January 7pm</p>	<p><b>Alvin and the Chipmunks Road Chip</b> Adventure, Animated, Comedy, Kids &amp; Family   1hr 26mins Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1pm February screening details to come.</p>	<p><b>Joy</b> Comedy, Drama, True Story &amp; Biography   2hr 04mins   M   Offensive language Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> January 7pm</p>	<p><b>The Good Dinosaur</b> Animated, Comedy, Kids &amp; Family   1hr 41mins   PG   Some scenes may scare very young children. Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> January 1pm</p>

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		Dec 18 7pm Goosebumps	Dec 19 1pm Hotel Transylvania Goosebumps 7pm	Dec 20 7pm Mocking Jay Part 2
	Dec 24 1pm Hotel Transylvania2	Dec 25 Christmas Day Closed	Dec 26 1pm Goosebumps	Dec 27 7pm In the Heart of the Sea
Dec 30 1pm Hotel Transylvania2	Dec 31 7pm In the heart of the Sea	January 1 NEW YEARS DAY Closed	2 In the Heart of the Sea 1 pm & 7 pm	3 <b>**Boutique Night**</b> Love the Coopers 6.30 pm movie starts 7 pm
		8 7pm Star Wars	9 1pm Love the Coopers Star Wars 7 pm	10 7pm Star Wars
		15 7pm Secret in their Eyes	16 1 pm Star Wars Love the Coopers 7pm	17 7pm Daddy's Home
		22 7 pm Love the Coopers	23 1 pm Alvin and the Chipmunks Road Chip Daddy's Home 7 pm	24 7pm Secret in their Eyes
		29 7pm Daddy's Home	30 1pm The Good Dinosaur Secret in their Eyes 7 pm	31 7pm Joy

YOU CAN'T REGIFT FAMILY

LOVE the COOPERS

Bar facilities - No BYO- from 6:30pm, movie starts 7pm  
Boutique must be pre-booked for catering purposes.  
Limited seating

When four generations of the Cooper clan come together for their annual Christmas Eve celebration, a series of unexpected visitors and unlikely events turn the night upside down, leading them all toward a surprising rediscovery of family bonds and the spirit of the holiday.