



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 paper in the New Year will be on January 26.

See our

Holiday Guide .

Pages 19-42

What to do
round the
Mountain this
holiday season.

happily and successfully," recalls Paula. Grant Cavaney, the pharmacist at the time, was also among the guests.

Paula is also a talented pianist and says she was also keen to be "a good pianist but always the other (medicine) came first."

In formal speeches at her birthday Paula's eldest daughter Sonya, who lives in Australia and her son Gavin - Paula's grandson -and his girlfriend Eve, welcomed guests. Bernice then spoke during which she mentioned her mother's great sense of fun and ability to laugh at herself. And courage, qualities which had characterised her life and helped in facing the challenges which inevitably come with age.

Continued page 2

100 years well lived

"By being more trouble to other people than they've been to me," is the secret to her longevity says former Opunake doctor Paula McKellar who recently celebrated her 100th birthday.

Born on December 13, 1917 relatives and friends marked the occasion with a sit down dinner at the Stony River Hotel at the weekend where there were many photos of the guest of honour's eventful life on display. Guests then retired to Rolland and his wife Stephanie's residence in Okato for a formal cutting of the cake.

Born in Dunedin, Paula went on to train as a primary school teacher before going to the UK where she trained to be a doctor.

"Most of the places in the Medical School in New Zealand were filled by returned servicemen," comments Paula. "So I decided to go further afield." In the UK she says "I was welcomed by the medical people there. They admired my persistence."

She married a fellow New Zealander in the UK and, with two children and a third on the way, she graduated with a medical degree. She subsequently returned to New Zealand where she was a general practitioner Dunedin. She went on to practise in various places in New Zealand before moving to Australia to train in psychiatry. She became interested in alcoholism. "I could see that when people become alcoholics they forfeited their freedom. It was painful to see people start



Dr Paula McKellar celebrates her century holding a photo of the Queen. Friend Liz Bridgeman at right.

off well and then go down the drain It was a poison to some people." For this and other humanitarian work she was, in 2007, awarded a Queen's Service Medal (QSM).

She recalls she began her medical training in Belfast

where she boarded with the parents of Errol Flynn. "They were very good to me, she says and described the actor as "great fun to be around."

In later years Paula practised in Opunake with Dr Tony Ruakere and Dr Sarath

Gunatunga, both of whom were at her 100th birthday. There three doctors who were all resident in Opunake worked together "very

Inside



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Coastal Taranaki Prizegiving. Page 5.



What is it? See page 3.



Batman's big night. Pages 14, 15.

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Letters to the Editor

Environmental Awards

Since 1990, our great Taranaki Regional Council has started rewarding people who have been trying to help keep our province's environment clean.

Just recently there were 16 awards presented to a variety of individuals, organisations, farmers, schools, business organisations, community groups, trusts and marae focused on waste minimisation campaigns, awarded in five different sponsored categories. To all winners, congratulations to you all would suggest forming a Taranaki environmental group or organisation to educate some of our public who really don't care about our cities, streets, walkways, streams,

walkways, lakes, rivers and our ocean being kept free of waste and rubbish.

Yet it doesn't mean we all have to rest on our laurels as it continues to be an ongoing battle. Constant reminders by whatever means are needed to get across to the same people to try to keep our province clean and healthy.

I know DOC staff are always busy, so we as the people of this province must now step in and start helping, otherwise we're not going to have such a clean, green and waste-free province. This could be the start of something really bigger than we might imagine.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Fonterra and Fed Farmers must work together

If New Zealand Federated Farmers climate change spokesperson Andrew Hoggard is pleased that Fonterra is going to help by pushing for zero emissions and biological emissions it sounds really good to me.

But first both Fonterra and Federated Farmers must start working together on this issue, and knowing there will be many other hurdles to jump, together they will succeed. Then and only then can we start to educate the rest of the world.

Many times I've stated that

our world's biggest problem is our ever growing population, which brings on another problem, which is human waste and rubbish. First we must tackle these emission problem, and then we might solve the other problems.

I believe that as a country we will solve this problem and then become the catalyst for saving Mother Earth.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Congratulations

Congratulations to the folk who painted the ex-Pungarehu Post office. It is stunning, amazing. Thanks for brightening my drive from NP to Opunake.

Jean Roach
Opunake

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NEW HEADSTONES
ADDITIONS AND RENOVATIONS



100 years well lived

Continued from page 1

Rolland then read out messages from various people who had been unable to attend. This included a message from the Queen and a handwritten card from the Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern, the Governor General Patsy Reddy, as well as the Minister for Seniors. The mayor of New Plymouth Neil Holdom also sent a message and flowers. Her old friend Sir Patrick Duffy, a former Cabinet Minister in the British

Labour Government and a former president of NATO, also sent his best wishes.

Later guests also listened to a video interview of Paula by her son Rolland recorded some years ago when she was in her late 70s.

Paula has three grand children and two great grand children.

And the secret behind her long and successful life is attitude. Paula says, "I never let anyone put me down," and adds "You can never lose faith in yourself unless you want to."



One of the photo montages of Paula's life displayed at her birthday celebration.

LEFT:
From left, Dr Tony Ruakere, Grant Cavaney, Raima and Dr Sarath Gunatunga.

More Opunake & Coastal News' out

We have printed more copies of the Opunake & Coastal News.

Copies of the paper are now also available on stands at the following places:

New Plymouth
The Challenge Spotswood petrol station at Spotswood.
The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City.
Westside Grille, Tukapa Street, Westtown.

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Outside First National on the corner of Victoria and High Streets, Hawera.

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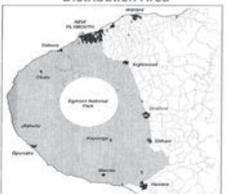
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So nearly a drowning

A near tragedy was averted when keen-eyed Australian visitors strolling up Opunake Beach noticed something in the surf, about 100 metres off shore. This event, at around 6pm on Thursday 14th was outside of the hours of the Opunake Lifesaving patrol.

At first Yvonne McIntyre and her partner Gavin Xerri, from Melbourne, Australia, thought it was black seaweed. But upon looking back, they realised that it was a person's head bobbing

up and down like a ball, and according to Yvonne, "I saw an arm come up. I knew he was in trouble; he was going down far more than coming up".

Yvonne waved her arms and jumped around frantically to signal for help—and for the lone swimmer to know he had been seen. She then continued to progress down the beach, keeping the swimmer in sight as he was taken out by a rip then along to the southern end. Meanwhile Gavin raced to

get help, alerting a family group who had been playing on the beach. This group had seen the swimmer go into the water near the club house about 40 minutes earlier, but had observed nothing untoward. They called the Police and the Life Guards.

One life guard, in advance of the others, made it to the south end of the beach, just

as the swimmer was trying to get out of the water. Instead he was thrown forcefully on to the rocks. Exhausted, and badly beaten with cuts and bruises, he required assistance from the lifeguard to get to the safety of the sand.

An awaiting ambulance conveyed the young Swedish tourist to Taranaki

Base Hospital where he was admitted for twenty four hours in case of secondary drowning, and to treat other injuries.

All people involved reported that this could so easily have been a drowning but for all the help that come together, including the young Swede stating that, "Seeing the arms waving

at me from the shore gave me hope. I had been seen. I nearly gave up."

The Opunake Surf Life Saving club have had three after hours call outs this year that could have resulted in tragedy. Swimmers are reminded that if they swim out of hours, they should not swim alone, and should swim from the north end of



An ambulance ferries the man away to hospital.



The southern end of the beach where the near tragedy happened.

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What's this?



RIGHT: A recent visitor to Opunake vows this shot of a shape in the sky over Mount Taranaki has not been photo-shopped. Enlarged, and it looks very like - a craft? Have there been any other reports?

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Council comment

Merry Christmas from the mayor



Mayor Ross Dunlop

Season's Greetings to all. Christmas is nearly here and this is a good opportunity to reflect on the year just gone. 2017 has been another busy year with a number of challenges and achievements for our community. The Council has made good progress on a number of projects to improve our District and make it an even more desirable place to live, work and visit. Stage two of the Denby Road to Waihi Beach pathway is nearly completed and planning for the Normanby to Hawera pathway is well underway. A new footpath, on the approach to Dudley Bridge (part of the Opunake Coastal Walkway) was also completed. We have made good progress with the

Park in Eltham, have committed to strengthening the Kaponga LibraryPlus and have started work on the new regional landfill south of Eltham. We've also spent over \$2million on our water infrastructure in the central/western part of the district with a new clarifier at Inaha water treatment plant, upgrades at Eltham water treatment plant and built a pipeline to connect the Kapuni water supply with Waimate West. This enables us to send surplus water from Kapuni to Waimate West when demand is high. Over the past year I have really enjoyed attending many functions and meeting many of you over our whole district. There are so many great organisations and good

people that do so much for our community. I always appreciate the opportunity to catch up and see first-hand the good work that happens across the district. Christmas is a time for catching up with family and friends. It can also be a very stressful and lonely time for some so please keep a lookout for those who need support. If you're driving over the holiday season take care on the roads – remember to stay calm and take plenty of breaks.

I wish you all the very best for Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

Ross Dunlop
Mayor

South Taranaki District



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Wishing all readers of the Opunake and Coastal News a safe and happy festive season and all the best for 2018.




Ross Dunlop
Mayor, South Taranaki



Looking back but moving forward.

Christmas is just around the corner and then the end of the year. As I contemplate this, I reflect on all that has happened in the year. In some respects we seem to have been on a tread mill going nowhere, but no, the Eltham / Kaponga Community Board has accomplished a number of projects and goals.

All the Community Boards recently had a strategy session where we reviewed the goals set at the start of the term. We were delighted to 'tick off' some boxes. The Kaponga Progressive Committee has been reformed and they have been working on new planter boxes around the town. They enthusiastically supported the idea put forward at a community meeting to



Maree Liddington

lobby for a walkway from the township to Hollards gardens. This proposal is now in the hands of the Walkway Committee. We have looked at revitalising the 'Eltham' brand, and identified Cheese, our Heritage and Lake Rotokare as key links in our brand. We are working with key stakeholders to bring about new signage and public artworks. 'Community Conversations' have been held once a month at the Eltham Library and are

well received. While we do not solve all the issues in the town we talk about concerns that residents have and just get to know the people in our community. We will continue these sessions from February next year, on the second Wednesday of the month.

I consider good communication a valuable asset when working in the community, and are pleased that we have this column, thanks to Opunake & Coastal News, and another once a month in the Stratford Press. On the recreation side of things, our new Taumata Park Recreation Centre is a great asset for the area. We will work in the coming year to develop this area more, along with a dog walking park at Taylor Street and improvements to Soldiers Park.

I was disappointed to miss the opening of the Eltham School Arches project. This is an example of people in the community lobbying to preserve our history. We

need to do more of this; being vocal about the things that are precious to us, but at the same time using the right channels to voice our concerns. It was good to have the response of the Kaponga Community to the Library location, the Freedom Camping by-law and the Walkway proposal. You may think your voice isn't heard but our councillors and community board need to know your feelings regarding their town. Unfortunately we can't please everyone all of the time, but we do our best.

Finally, to all those who volunteer their time to do things for our communities a big 'Thank You'. Your commitment and dedication to Eltham and Kaponga is much appreciated. Have a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Maree Liddington

Eltham / Kaponga Community Board



Season's GREETINGS

A huge thank you for all your support throughout 2017.

We wish you and your family a safe and wonderful holiday break, and look forward to seeing you again in the new year!

- Viv, Tara & Lorna -
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Carys and Grace prevail at CTS senior prizegiving

This year the Dux (Crossman Cup) of Coastal Taranaki School is Carys Pullar, while Grace Hooker was named Proxime Accessit as runner up. Both students also won several other awards at the Senior Prizegiving, held on Friday December 15. "I did not expect the award. I was very surprised. I'm just surprised and happy," said Carys. She has applied to join the NZ Air Force.

Grace's honour also took her by surprise. "I'm pleased. I can't believe I did so well." She added, "I owe it all to my parents." Her mother Nicci Richards was standing nearby looking understandably delighted. Grace is already working in a New Plymouth restaurant and plans a career in the hospitality industry.

After the National Anthem was sung, and a karakia, Deborah Burmeister, Chairperson of the Board of Trustees gave an address. She acknowledged the "considerable progress" the school made in all senses of the word and she paid tribute to the "dedication and passion" the staff and parents had brought to the school. In particular she praised the input of Friends of Coastal Taranaki School (FoCTS) for their "enormous contribution." She also wished "every success" to the students who are leaving the school. They needed, "wisdom to realise their goals and the courage to achieve them," Deborah concluded.

Several staff are also leaving CTS including the Acting principal Ben Naughton (and Deputy Principal). The newly appointed principal is Scott Walden from Manukorihi Intermediate. "He will bring a fresh innovative approach and we are delighted to have someone of that calibre," said Ben. He has an "excellent reputation."

Ben Naughton gave comprehensive speech highlighting CTS's many achievements. Early in his speech he acknowledged the work of the last principal Dr Janelle McKenzie and her husband Rod. "This excellent pair were only with us for a short time, but made quite an im-



From left, Grace Hooker (Proxime Accessit) and Carys Pullar (Dux) with their awards and trophies.

pact on the staff, systems and processes in operation at CTS. I would like to formally thank them for the effort they put into the school and the dedication and time, over and above the normal."

Ben mentioned the Education Review Office (ERO) visit in Term II.

"They were pleased with the progress made and the systems we have implemented to track and support our students. Leadership stability was the key to continued success and although this has been provided by Margaret Normanton and the SLT members who work on achieving these initiatives, a figurehead is essential."

Another highlight was assessment. "Once again our student progress and achievement has been achieved with many students starting the exams having achieved their NCEA levels already. A great success," commented Ben.

Near the end of his speech Ben mentioned the contribution of the staff - teaching, administrative and support. "These are the people who give it all, every day and do it with a smile and warm heart for our children and their educational success," he explained.

Ben concluded, "Cherish what we have created here at Coastal Taranaki School. It is special. Take care over the break and have an amazing holiday."

The guest speaker was Matthew Mofitt, a former Head Boy of CTS, in 2015. He has recently completed a science degree at Massey University. "Attending university was a big shock and I didn't have a clue studying chemistry and physics." He admitted he



Acting Principal Ben Naughton with Carys Pullar.

considered quitting! Of CTS he said, "It sure gave me a great start." His message to the school's students was, "All it takes is hard work and a positive attitude."

Before he announced the sports awards Ray Hayward (Sports Co-ordinator) said, "I'd like to acknowledge the fantastic support we get. We can never thank you enough for the hard work and you put into our teams." Matthew Mofitt helped with the presentation of the sports awards.

The Head Students Grace Hooker and Kataraina Taipari both gave entertaining speeches. They obviously enjoyed working together.

Grace said, "I couldn't ask for a better place to spend 13 years" and was grateful for her educational progress thanks to her teachers. She concluded with a message, "Be proud to be a CTS student and don't forget us."

Kataraina said she was "privileged to have spent 11 years" at CTS. She also said, "CTS is the highlight of my life. I've loved my schooling here and blossom I did." Near the end she said, "I'm privileged and honoured to have been at such lovely school." A haka was performed in her honour as she ended her

speech. Her speech - often amusing - was one of the highlights of the event.

The Premier Awards were announced by Margaret Normanton and presented by Ben Naughton:

- Awa; Whanau champions Robert Armstrong; Cheryl Vosper Memorial Award - Service to the Library Jazmine Murray; STEAM Treefish (CEO David Apimerka) Award - Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Mathematics.

Carys Pullar; Ikaroa Lodge

- Award Ellie Sole; Corbett Award (Silver Spade) - Kindness & Kindness in Year 6. Carys Simmonds; Citizens Award Year 1 - 6. Neika Thomson; Gold Cup - Service to Intermediate School. Lily Fergus; Newell School Community Cup - Most Helpful Year 6 student. Kataraina Taipari; Carpe Diem Cup Kataraina Taipari; Head Student Grace Hooker; Head Student Kataraina Taipari; Te Rangi Uenuku - Gaye Taingahue Memorial Award Kiana Armstrong; Komene Memorial Award Grace Hooker; Proxime Accessit Cup - Runner Up Dux Carys Pullar; Crossman Cup - Dux Highest Academic

The awards included the scholarship (see above) provided by Opunake's Ikaroa Lodge and Ron Bingham represented the Lodge. "For those who are leaving don't forget your grounding. He also said, "The College has a wonderful reputation."

Finally, the Head students for 2018 were announced as Maddison Mitchell and Kiana Armstrong.

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OPUNAKE COPS

Protecting yourself in the festive season

As this is the last column for the year on behalf of Tony, Pete and myself I would like to wish you all a great Christmas and joyful New Year. We wish you all the very best and hope your Christmas and New Year is a fun filled safe holiday period.

any behaviour that makes someone else feel controlled and fearful is never OK. Everyone in a family or in a relationship should feel safe and nurtured. No one should be frightened of their partner or someone in their family. If you are frightened and fear for your safety, call 111 for immediate help.

It is unfortunate to report that there have been a number of Domestic Violence incidents attended in our area recently. One thing I stress is that

Also there have been a number of burglaries in the outer areas of Opunake and Manaia. Farmers you are being targeted and it is time

to take action. If you see any strange behaviour such as vehicles cruising up and down the road at strange times of night or cars that you have not seen before driving around, get out and take note of the registration. Most of you know who lives around you and what type of cars they drive, so if you don't recognise them what are they doing?

We all live in a small community where most people know each other or know of each other; the problem with this is that some people are reluctant to talk with us when they know someone has been doing something illegal. However you must consider that by not coming forward you are only allowing the behaviour to continue and as with most things the more they get away with the more they do. Next time it might be your car that is kicked in or house broken into.

This is a timely reminder about taking steps to ensure your property is safe such as locking doors and windows, advising neighbours if you are going to be away and getting your mail cleared.



CONSTABLE KYLIE BROPHY

Another suggestion is not advertise your absence from home whilst on holiday with postings on social media of photos from some idyllic spot with the entire family. These are easily accessible by many, and often seen as an open invitation to an unoccupied property. These are all small steps that will help prevent your house being a target.

Police detectives and Serious Crash officers are currently investigating a motor vehicle accident that occurred in Opunake over the weekend where a male has been run

down whilst walking on a footpath. The victim was transported by ambulance to Taranaki Base Hospital where he has undergone surgery for horrific injuries sustained. As a result the driver is currently before the courts with further charges pending the outcome of the investigation.

During this holiday period we would like to remind people that Opunake has a liquor ban on Tasman Street, Opunake beach and the surrounding cliff tops. This is unfortunately necessary to prevent a small percent of the community behaving in a manner that is not acceptable. Police will again be monitoring these areas very closely to ensure the rest of us enjoy the holidays. The Opunake Beach Motor Camp also has security cameras in place for camp security. Police will be using these to monitor any anti-social behaviour in the area. On that, we need your help to ensure everyone gets through the holiday period safely, so please be careful on the roads, make sure everyone gets to their destination in one piece and

take care in the water. Know your limitations.

Most of the Community have seen our local "Coastal Ninja Warrior" Constable Tony Willetts training hard over recent months with his friend "Red Jerry." He has been training for selection and induction to AOS and has been successful in his endeavours. He has since taken up a position working frontline in New Plymouth and will be starting early in the New Year.

I would like to wish Tony and his young family all the best, and remember the surf is always better this side of the ranges Tony, so don't be a stranger.

With this interviews are underway to find a suitable replacement for Tony.

That's about it from us, stay safe, have a good Christmas and enjoy the sunshine.

Please remember, all information provided will be treated as anonymous unless requested otherwise. Alternatively you can call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Kylie Brophy

OKATO COPPERS

Look after your neighbours

Hi everyone.

Christmas is upon us and I hope everyone will be managing to spend some good quality time with friends and family over this period.

Hopefully Santa gives us a good dose of rain at some stage as the land is looking fairly dry at the moment. I



CONSTABLE RHYS CONNELL

and roughly equates to one burglary or theft every three days.

The biggest frustration to this is that 77 of these burglaries were preventable if people locked their house, took the keys out of their farm bikes or didn't keep valuable tools out in the open.

As Police we often preach the message that we need to make it harder for thieves as they are usually lazy beasts who take the easy score, but some of us are certainly keeping them in business.

There is no doubt that some farms are more vulnerable than others, for instance those close to townships and those that have buildings close to the road are more susceptible to thieves, but us Rural Police Officers out the coast are more than happy to come to your farm and discuss security options with you. Feel free to give me at Okato or the boys in Opunake a call for some advice. We'd rather do that than attend a burglary.

can't remember a year so difficult for our farmers who have had to battle copious amounts of rain over the spring period and are now facing a long dry summer. Make sure we look after ourselves over this period and keep in touch with our neighbours. Make an effort to visit our neighbours and have a coffee and a good old chin wag and make sure everyone is coping alright.

Rural crime has remained steady over 2017 and to date there have been 132 burglaries or thefts from farms throughout Taranaki this year. This is slightly down on last year but certainly still far too many

they are subject to the same laws that would apply if the vehicle was being driven on the road. So you can't have a few beers and take the motorbike for a hoon on the sand as you could be over the limit and would be subject to a compulsory breath test if required. The same applies if you are unlicensed or driving in a dangerous or careless manner.

If you are going away over the summer period, make sure you don't do anything that advertises the fact that you are away. This means don't put pictures up on Facebook showing everyone the great time you are having on holiday.

Facebook is pretty easy to access despite its so called security settings. Let your neighbours know that you are away and get them to keep an eye on the place, and make sure you lock everything up.

Enjoy your holiday if you are going on one, and enjoy spending time with your families over the holiday period - have a good time but look after each other and keep safe.

Merry Christmas

Rhys

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OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Thanks for the support during the year

A fire ban is now on and a permit is required. Ring the South Taranaki District Council (0800 111 323) for information regarding this matter if you intend to light a fire.

A big "thank you" to all of the kind folk from Opunake and surrounding District, for supporting the Foodbank Christmas drive, and the Crafty Christmas evening. We were involved in both events and were extremely impressed with the generosity and support that each received. Thanks Opunake.

I know we go on a lot about "working smoke alarms," but they are so jolly important. We attended a fire recently that, had it not been for the ringing alarm that drew the neighbours' attention, a great deal of damage could have been done to the structure of the building. This early intervention gave us a fighting chance, and we were able to save the building and a good portion of the chattels. Unfortunately, smoke does seem to get into everything and seems to stay around if it isn't acted on straight away.

If you have insurance, it's about now that you are thankful you do. Luckily, the home owners of our recent house fire had sufficient cover, both contents and house, so things should flow nicely for them. If you get a chance, check over your insurance policies to see if you have enough cover to replace any losses you may have. If you don't have any, maybe give some thought to it because you just never know when the unthinkable could happen.

On Thursday 7th we were called again to Everybody's Theatre to check out the troublesome smoke detector under the stage. The smoke sensor is either being triggered by a heat build-up in an area under the stage (that once was used as a changing room for stage shows), or by a spider who is a cinema buff. There aren't really many other causes it can be. We feel very sorry for the cinema management team because we know they have tried extremely hard to solve the problem.

We were called to the Domett Street Masonic Lodge building on the evening of the 12th, when a switch started fizzing and giving off a little black smoke. It was a meeting night for their members so we were pleased to see that all present had evacuated the building and were road side when we arrived. Our officer in charge checked out the situation while others donned the BA sets and got ready for "an attack." Luckily things had simmered down and we only needed to turn the

meter board off to isolate the troubled switch. A final inspection was carried out and as there was nothing else to do, we headed for home.

Unfortunately, I got a little mixed up with the spelling

of the winners' name, and also with her mothers' name when reporting the winner of one of the raffles in the last edition. It was Jessica Smith's (not Ranapia) daughter, and it was Georgia Ranapia (not Ranapai) who

won the chocolate raffle. Sorry for the inconvenience.

While on the subject of raffles, our Christmas cake raffle had to be drawn before all tickets had sold because the heat was making the

ladder droop...and we didn't want anything drooping around the station. The lucky winner was one of our fire fighters, Chris Harvey. Congratulations.

We would like to thank all those people who supported

us in one way or other during the year and we want to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at the fire house. Remember, we are only a phone call away.

Secretary Beau

Award for long serving Lion

Lions Clubs world-wide recognize outstanding individuals by bestowing on them an award that is named for its founder, Melvin Jones. This award is the highest form of recognition and embodies humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism. The recipient of this award becomes a model of exemplary service to his or her club and the community which it serves. At the Opunake Lions meeting last week members were thrilled to have Kaye Mourie, LCIF Co-ordinator District 202D, present long standing member Charles Preddey with a Melvin Jones Award.

Kaye then informed the meeting of the true dedication to Lionism that Charles has shown for decades. Charles Preddey joined Opunake Lions in 1974 when he transferred to Opunake with the Post Office. His sponsor was Alf McCall. During that period Charles held the roles of tail twister, chair of all the committees in those years - Youth, Admin and Activities, He was president in 1976/77 and zone chair in 1977/78.

His work then meant he moved around the country to join Lions Clubs in Titahi Bay, Greymouth and Richmond, and also taking on roles as president, committee chair and secretary. He was on cabinet for a number of years with the 1985/86 year as deputy district governor.



Charles Preddey is presented with his Melvin Jones award by Kaye Mourie. Photo Stephen Mourie.

Charles and wife Dale moved back to Opunake in 1990. Since then Charles as had several terms as secretary, treasurer, committee chair, almoner and two more terms as zone chairman. Charles served on the Lloyd Morgan Trust as a trustee and then as chairman in 1993/94. Our Club presented Charles with life membership of this Trust in 2002.

Most of Opunake would associate Charles with

his work in keeping the Opunake Beach Carnival going, serving as secretary/treasurer and convenor for many years.

Charles has had 43 years of continuous membership in Lions. During this time he has sponsored 18 new Lions, but more importantly he has given outstanding service to Lions and our community. A truly worthy recipient.

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Another year gone

2017 is fast drawing to a close, and what a year it's been! For me this has been a busy and productive year with never a dull moment. While the change of government was obviously disappointing personally, I have enjoyed representing the fine people of the New Plymouth electorate from Waitara through to Opunake, and again look forward to being a strong voice for locals in this Parliamentary term. I'm optimistic that there will be positive spinoffs from my appointment as National Party spokesperson for Energy and Resources. That sector contributes over 7000 jobs to the regional economy, so the role has clear links to this region. As your MP, I will continue working hard to advocate for regional



JONATHAN YOUNG MP

development projects including "Tapuae Roa: Make Way for Taranaki" – which is Taranaki's regional economic development strategy. I'll be making sure that local people are looked after and have the opportunity to shine.

This time of year can be frenetic and stressful. It's my hope that you're able to find some space to catch a breath and relax with friends and family. Ideally, Christmas should not be seen as something to struggle through, it should be a chance to create happy memories with loved ones. With Parliament in recess, I still have plenty of reading and research to do, but I plan to spend some downtime enjoying the region's attractions, and I'd encourage you to do likewise. As always there are plenty of things going on, and I'm particularly looking forward to the welcome return of the Opunake Beach Carnival. Whether you're on holiday or working through, I hope that you are able to put your

feet up at some stage, or get out into the sunshine and recharge your batteries for what I'm sure will be a busy 2018.

I'd like to thank Bernice, Rolland, and the team for another great year at the Opunake and Coastal News, and wish readers and everyone in New Plymouth electorate all the best for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth*

"I don't think Christmas is necessarily about things. It's about being good to one another, it's about the Christian ethic, it's about kindness"

Carrie Fisher

Rob Fyfe appointed independent Pike River advisor

Minister Responsible for Pike River Re-entry Andrew Little has announced the appointment of Rob Fyfe as an independent advisor who will provide impartial advice on plans for the re-entry of the Pike River drift. "The new role will provide crucial independent advice to me so I can be sure of the quality and thoroughness of the information I receive from the Pike River Recovery Agency. The role provides another safeguard for the families and the public. "Appointing an independent



ANDREW LITTLE MP

advisor will ensure I have access to a third-party

perspective and independent assurance about the adequacy of the Agency's processes. "Mr Fyfe's background as former CEO of Air New Zealand means he is well equipped to advise on safety sensitive activities and workplace environments needing best practice risk assessment and management. "Mr Fyfe's other great quality as CEO of Air New Zealand was a real empathy for those who had suffered tragedy which he shared in the aftermath of the 2008

A320 crash in France. "He also sent 30 airline personnel to assist the Pike families immediately following the disaster in 2010. The members of the Pike River Families Reference Group have expressed their support for this role and the appointee. "I look forward to working with Mr Fyfe who takes up the role from 31 January 2018, when Te Kāhui Whakamana Rua Te Kau mā Iwa-Pike River Recovery Agency will also be formally established," says Andrew Little.

On this month in history Roosevelt's neutrality speech

On December 28, 1933 President Franklin Delano Roosevelt of the Democrat political party, expanded on a speech by an earlier president Woodrow Wilson

proclaiming American neutrality in foreign incidents. "The definite policy of the United States, from now on, is one opposed to armed intervention.

However, after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour, Hawaii in 1941, he declared war on Japan. Roosevelt was born in Hyde Park, New York on January 30, 1882. He was president from 1933 to 1945, dying in office from a stroke. He won the presidency four times – the only person to do so.

After the Depression his economic and social programmes helped America to regain stability. He was arguably the greatest president of the last century.

FDR Roosevelt was a cousin of the earlier president Theodore, who belonged to the Republican party.

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OBITUARY Peter Liddall (1935 - 2017)

Donald Peter Liddall (known as Peter) died peacefully on November 30, 2017 after a brief illness. He was 82. He was the much loved husband of the late Olive and father of Fiona, as well as the father/father-in-law of Colin & Carol Liddall, and Wendy & Dennis Lankshear. Peter was also father of Donald who sadly died some years ago. Peter will be missed by everyone including his grandchildren/great grandchildren - Ange, Sam, Bel, Hayden, Duck, Shaun, Trent, Toby, Khloe, Hunter, Ella and Char.

The funeral service was held at the Taranaki Crematorium Chapel, Junction Road, New Plymouth on Tuesday December 5.

Peter was born in New Plymouth on March 31, 1935. He had two sisters and one brother, but only his sister Rosemary has survived him. He lived in Okato for many years where his beautiful garden was a special interest - perhaps partly inspired by his father whose job was as a gardener.

Until early this year he worked for the Opunake and Coastal News and was responsible for delivering all the fortnightly bundles of



Peter Liddall

our 9,760 newspapers right round Mt Taranaki so they could be delivered by our

rural delivery drivers and on foot delivery people. He was superb at his job and

was excellent at problem solving (an important skill in our business). "He was great to deal with, on the ball and down to earth. I dreaded the day when he would eventually resign. I miss his cheerful 'Good on you' as he took his leave," commented Rolland who was the staff member who had the most to do with Peter.

He had several jobs over his working career, mostly involving driving. Early on he drove trucks for Chattertons, then Borthwicks. In 1965 he bought a house and land on Oxford Road before starting Coastal transport, a business he had for 12 years. In 1977 he sold the business to Brian Hopson and David Fleming.

He worked in Newton King for a number of years and while he was there drove the workers bus for Newmans in the morning from Okato to New Plymouth. After working for Newton King during the day, he drove the bus home after work at night. With his love of driving the Newmans job turned into a full time one driving to Auckland and back. Eventually, Newmans stopped the Auckland run and Peter drove rental cars around the nation for Budget Rentals.

Later in his long working life he drove for Livestock Improvement taking milk samples to Hamilton. Next, he joined John McDonald sorting and delivering mail for RD37.

Peter was a man of great integrity who expressed his views in a forthright manner. When asked what he thought about the possible fluoridation of Okato's water he replied, "I'm not a greenie or anything, but I don't want them putting a poison in our

water." Peter will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He especially loved his grandchildren and great grandchildren. "He was upset to think he wouldn't get to see them grow up," commented his daughter Fiona.

Fiona remembers fondly a great childhood with holidays in Taupo - the hot pools a special attraction. Peter always loved to help people. Fiona concluded, "He'll leave a big gap in our lives."

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Views sought on new regional civil defence blueprint

A new five-year Civil Defence blueprint for Taranaki has been drafted and the public can now have a say on the future of emergency management in the region.

"After all that's happened nationally in the past seven years, New Zealanders are very well aware of the unpredictability and potentially devastating effects of natural and other calamities - and the importance of good systems to cope with them and their aftermath," says the CDEM Group Chair, Taranaki Regional Councillor Tom Cloke.

"We've drawn useful lessons from the disasters that have occurred in recent years and incorporated them into the new Group Plan. It's an important document because it sets our regional Civil Defence priorities and guides our operations on the ground, and our decision-making for the next five years."

The plan includes a revised list of priority hazards to guide planning and resourcing, with potential volcanic activity on Mt Taranaki remaining a central issue of concern. There is an increased emphasis on boosting

Civil Defence capabilities at community and district level, while maintaining regional oversight, and consideration of increased capacity and resourcing for some Civil Defence functions in the region.

Submissions on the Draft Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group Plan 2018-2023 close on February 12. Submitters will also be able to present their views in person at a hearing on March 6 if they wish.

The Draft Group Plan can be inspected online at www.cdemtaranaki.govt.nz, and at

District Council offices and libraries, Taranaki Regional Council offices and the Taranaki Emergency Management Office at 45 Robe St, New Plymouth.

The Taranaki CDEM Group is made up of the Taranaki Regional Council and the region's three district councils, supported by a range of agencies and infrastructure providers. Its operations are overseen by a Co-ordinating Executive Group of council and agency officials, and administered by the Taranaki Regional Council.

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Advocate for Maori and disabled will be sorely missed

Over many decades, David Tamatea's list of achievements in the health, Maori and disability sectors grew. His enthusiasm for going to work in one of his governance roles never waned, says his wife Olivia. "He loved his jobs. He loved the people. He loved going to work. He always got up early, looked immaculate and off he would go."

Born in Opunake to a large family of about 17 children, David affiliated to Taranaki iwi and Orimupiko Marae. A lifelong resident of Opunake, he was a JP and was awarded the QSM for services to disability and Maori. An accident as a youngster left David with a disability. Over the years there were a range of operations as well



David Tamatea QSM JP (21 October 1948 - 30 October 2017)

as health complications, including contracting Hepatitis C which led to a liver transplant. His disability was never a hindrance. Life just

went on. He gave up driving and heavy lifting, but maintained there was nothing wrong with his brain, says Olivia.

He began by volunteering at the local IHC (now called Idea Services) and moved on to caring for those with disabilities as well as representing Maori in a range of ways.

In Opunake he was involved in the trust that built the town's new health centre, in the opening of the local kohanga reo, as well as being a person the police called on because of wide community networks and a willingness to help.

He enjoyed going to the stock cars and watching all sports on Sky TV. He was a great fan of rugby and the All Blacks.

He was chairman of the Te Tuituia Trust, the governance body that provides a link between Tui Ora and Te Whare Punanga Korero. He had a long involvement with Whakatipuranga Rima Rau, a trust based at Taranaki

Base Hospital that encourages Maori students to look at health as a career.

At home as a husband and father to two stepdaughters, David was loving and humble, says Olivia. He liked to cook, kept a "spotless kitchen," was a dab hand on computers, handy when it came to fixing things and took great interest in his grandchildren and great grandchildren, as well as nieces and nephews.

"He would see the potential in family members, see where they could go and offer references," said Olivia.

His 69 years were busy and productive and will be missed by many.

David is survived by his wife Olivia, step-daughters Kerry-Ann (Australia) and Tina, as well as 10 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

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More security fines

The Ministry for Primary Industries is taking a hard line on arriving air passengers who fail to declare items that could bring pests or diseases into New Zealand.

So far this year, MPI officers have issued more than 9100 biosecurity infringements and given 1135 warnings to air passengers for failing to

follow New Zealand's strict biosecurity rules.

Last year, officers issued 9704 fines in total, compared with 6102 in 2015 and 4851 in 2014.

"The stats show biosecurity fines increased by more than 50% between 2014 and 2016. With the busy summer period yet to start, we are expecting to see another in-

crease this year," says Craig Hughes, MPI Passenger Manager.

"The rise is partly due to the increased numbers of visitors, but also to the tough stance we're taking on people that put New Zealand at risk. We're now more likely to issue a fine than give a warning.

"Travellers should be aware that failing to declare because you forgot, were tired from travelling, or did not know the rules is not enough

to avoid a fine.

"The \$400 fines are a stern reminder to air passengers who unintentionally fail to declare biosecurity risk goods such as fresh fruit. Where there is deliberate intent involved, passengers can face prosecution or be refused entry into New Zealand.

"The message is very simple for international travellers - declare or dispose anything that could have biosecurity risk before you enter NZ."

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Thank you Bex

Bex Langton says that when she was growing up in tiny Kerepehi on the Hauraki Plains she didn't know where Opunake was. Last week she was farewelled after fourteen and a half years teaching at St Joseph's School in Opunake, the last 12 as deputy principal. Bex graduated with a BSc in chemistry and maths from Auckland University and has been teaching for 22 of her 44 years. She taught at Waihi College and Orewa College, and then after six months at Opunake High School she came to St Joseph's. Along the way she has taught her children, stepchildren, nieces and nephews. Now she says she is looking forward to "recharging." "She's probably the most outstanding teacher I have ever worked with," says St Joseph's School principal Margaret Duynhoven. "She's so passionate and enthusiastic about everything, and what she does permeates through the students and the staff. She's never too busy to stop and help people, and she has taken a strong lead in whatever she does." On December 13, staff, students, family and friends were at St Joseph's to wish her all the best for the future. Among these was Father



Bex with family. From left. Xavier Langton, Joel Clement, Bex Langton, Tara Clement, Haydn Langton, Mitchell Langton.

Vijay of Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church. "We would like to say thank you to Bex for everything she has done and wish her all the best for the future," he said. "But she won't be far away from us." As well as teaching, Bex has been known for her contribution to basketball. She and husband Haydn have both previously been named Volunteer of the Month by Sport Taranaki.

She was founder secretary and has been funding officer for Taranaki Basketball Inc. Her other roles have included being secretary of the Opunake Basketball Association, and secretary of Taranaki Country Basketball. She has managed and coached school and age group teams and run the Opunake Junior League. Other interests have included crafts, something she says she wants to do more of.

"I'm looking forward to thinking about all the creative things I used to have time for."

Having taught for so long, she will also be keeping an eye on what's going on in her former profession.

"I'm interested to see what's going to happen with the new government's education policies and how things will work," she says.

Mangatoki WI

For our November meeting, we visited gardens in The Garden Spectacular and Gardens and Events Festival visiting three garden in the Inglewood area. They were all different and beautiful. We then visited the Tupare Garden on Mangorei Road.

We were very lucky to get in a tour of the Matthews 'home which was very

interesting. After all this, we had a lovely lunch at Stumble Inn.

After lunch we visited a lovely garden at Settlers Close, Whalers Gate and then off to Horizon Heights to visit the Himalayan Garden there.

Twelve members, a friend and a member's grandson enjoyed the day out and it was a fine day.

On December 6, 16 members and a member's mother met

up at The Mountain House for lunch on a fine hot day.

Before lunch we held our business meeting. The minutes were read and confirmed and the correspondence dealt with and others were passed around.

Bev Marx received her 50 year badge and the Founder's Regional Day will be on February 21, members to take cars. W.I diaries were given out.

Bev Marx came third in the Handcraft competition and first in the Floral competition using succulents at the Fun and Friendship Day. Members were given 20 raffle tickets to sell for the three Christmas raffles to be drawn before Christmas.

The winners of the raffles at our meeting were: Bernice Hotter, Lucy Moger, Helen Whyte and Dianne Ogle.

Lucy Moger

PIHAMA
Lavender

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ACADEMIC AWARDS FOR 2017 JUNIOR AWARDS

O.H.S. celebrated the junior students successes on Friday 1 December at Junior Prizegiving. The community supported this event and paid tribute to all students who had exceeded expectations over the year. Congratulations to everyone that received awards.



Kaupokonui Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award
Top in Year 9 subjects

Pero Brophy

Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 9 subjects

Dinah Symons



Phillips Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award
Top in Year 10 subjects

Meg Gibson

Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 10 subjects

Tamara Turnbull, Kaiah Bloor and Ariana Dingle



2018 HEAD PREFECTS

The Head prefects for 2018 were announced at the Junior Prizegiving. Congratulations to Aimee Abplanalp and Dylan Coleman who are going to lead the team next year. Jacob Symons, Benjamin Shelford, Katie Sinclair and Steeve-Jai Kelly are the deputies.

Start up timetable for 2018

Date	Activity
Monday 22 nd January	School office opens
Monday 29 th January	Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 30 th January	IDP and Course Confirmation Y9-10
Wednesday 31 st January	IDP and Course Confirmation Y9-12 – all day 9.30am-12.30pm All Y13 Peer Support training 1.30pm Prefect training 1.30pm-3.30pm Y13 IDP and Course Confirmation
Thursday 1 st February	Y11-13 IDP and Course confirmation no Y9 and 10 students onsite
Friday 2 nd February	9.00am – 3.15pm All Y9 and Y13 Peer Support day
Monday 5 th February	Teacher Only Day
Tuesday 6 th February	Waitangi Day
Wednesday 7 th February – all school onsite	9am Y10 – 13 Whanau mentoring 9am Y9 to filmroom 9.40am Welcome Powhiri 11.30am Orientation
Thursday 8 th February – all school	Orientation
Friday 9 th February – all school	Orientation
Monday 12 th February	Normal classes



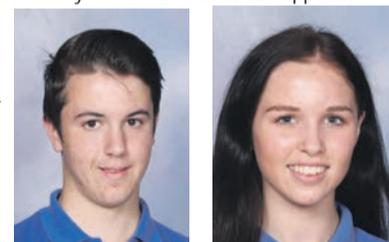
Simon and staff at Opunake High School wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

JUNIOR CAMPS

Junior Camp 3-6 December
The year 9 and 10 students participated at a variety of camps over these 3 days. Some selected camps that travelled to Taupo, Rotorua and Wellington to experience the opportunities and different activities to their camps. Others elected to stay closer to home with the Movie camp spending two days at Everybodys Theatre and getting to check out the working areas of the theatre.
Left James Milich in the projector room. Taupo group enjoying the pool.

NATIONAL SCIENCE SELECTION

Congratulations to Dylan Coleman and Sarah Haden year 12 students who have been selected to attend a Powering Potential Event in Wellington on December 11-15. With 40 other students they will be working alongside a mentor and in groups of 5 and given tasks to complete using science, research and technology. Organised by the Royal Society of New Zealand and supported by Freemasons New Zealand, Powering Potential was developed to bring together some of the country's most promising young scientists.



OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Casual Vacancy for an elected trustee

A Casual vacancy has occurred on the board of trustees for an elected parent representative.

The board has resolved under section 105 of the education Act 1989 to fill the vacancy by selection.

If ten percent or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy, then a by-election will be held.

Any eligible voter who wishes to ask the board to hold a by-election should write to:

Chairperson, Board of Trustees
Opunake High School
P O Box 4
Opunake 4645
By 21st January, 2018

SITUATIONS VACANT

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Start date Tuesday 30th January, 2018
\$18.47 per hour, To work both in classrooms and with individual students

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25 Hours per week for 20 weeks
Start date Tuesday 30th January, 2018
\$18.47 per hour, To work both in classrooms and with individual students

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To mentor an individual student to set goals, create plans and make effective choices
Start date Tuesday 30th January, 2018
\$30 per hour
Enquiries welcome, written applications which close Friday 19th January, 2018 at 3.00 pm

The Principal, Opunake High School, P O Box 4, Opunake 4616
Email: admin@opunake.school.nz, Phone: 027) 6921728

Batman draws on family for comeback win



Batman's big moment.

An emotional James (Batman) Langton paid tribute to his late father after winning the New Zealand Pro Boxing heavyweight title at the Hawera Rumble on December 9. In front of an enthusiastic following at the Hub in Hawera, the Opunake boxer won the title with a unanimous decision over Isileli (The Invincible) Fa.

The following day was the second anniversary of the passing of his father Jim Langton. To mark the occasion James visited his father's grave where he placed the title belt he had won the previous night.

Two days after his father passed away, James defeated Josh Tai at the 2015 Hawera Rumble. Earlier that year, he had won the New Zealand National Boxing Federation

cruiserweight title in front of a home town crowd at the Coastal Rumble in Opunake, only to lose it to Monty Betham in Auckland a few months later.

"I made my promise to Dad I'd win back a New Zealand title. Dad here it is," James said after the result against Fa had been announced.

James and Fa had fought in New Plymouth a year and a half before. That time Fa had emerged the victor, something which James says was one of several things weighing on his mind before his latest fight.

"I always knew I was a better fighter than I was the night I lost to him," he said. "The biggest thing about the fight was just getting the belief that I could do it again. Coming off a couple of losses I was questioning my age and whether I was good enough to win. So I was working on my mental preparation. If ever there was a negative

thought, I'd replace it with a positive one. It may have been me raising my hands in victory or placing the belt on my father's tombstone."

To further complicate matters, this time James was fighting as a heavyweight rather than as a cruiserweight.

"I was always going to be a small heavyweight. I had put on 8kg since my last fight, but Junior Fa weighed in at 105, so there was a 10kg difference in weight. I had to make up with movement and footwork and not get into his hit zone. The fight itself was very competitive. I thought I had done enough to win the first three or four rounds, but like the competitor he is, Junior Fa came back to win rounds five, six and seven.

"I said to my daughter Ellie, if you see Dad getting tired, come up to my corner and say come on Dad. She moseyed on up, bussed past my coaches, came right up to

the corner, tapped me on the shoulder, and said Dad, you got this. This gave me my inspiration to win the later rounds."

James is an ambassador for the Little Fighters Trust, which was founded in 2012 in memory of Jackson West who died of leukaemia. Today it helps Taranaki families who have a child with a life threatening illness or a parent with a life threatening illness that affects children. Once again, as with previous Hawera and Coastal Rumbles, there were auction breaks between fights to raise money for the little fighters.

Previously, fund raising had been for individual families. This time, money would be used to set up a dedicated Taranaki room at Ronald McDonald House at Starship Hospital. Sarah Silver of the Little Fighters Trust said they had set a \$80,000 target and they were about 20 per cent of the way there.

There were even two tickets for an Ed Sheerin concert among the items being auctioned.

"The Little Fighters Trust was set up five years ago in honour of a darling little boy Jackson West," she told the audience. "His family decided to make something good out of a bad situation."

She said later she was pleased with how the audience had responded.

"Everyone's really energetic and enthusiastic and getting behind the cause," she said.

Simon Julian, the other professional boxer from Opunake fighting that night lost his bout to Kaino Kaino, younger brother of All Black

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Batman draws on family for comeback win

Continued from page 14

Jerome Kaino in a unanimous decision. Kaino paid tribute to his opponent. "I had six really hard rounds. Simon's a great tough guy and I wish him good luck for his future."

The night's other professional fight was billed as Hawera's first professional women's bout, with Terminator Tam Reid taking on Quinita Hart from Northland. It was also the night's only draw.

As well as the Langton and Julian fights there was plenty to interest Coastal Taranaki boxing fans beginning with the first corporate fight of the night between Angeleigh Young of Oaonui and Hawera Primary School teacher 'Mrs H' Rachael Hokopaura.

Among the Coastal supporters there was Andy Whitehead who had featured in the first Coastal Rumble held at Sandfords Event Centre in Opunake in 2014. Back then he had lost his corporate fight against Rick Simeon, who was to be in the second fight of the evening against Opunake-born Darron Kapernick. Tonight Andy was there, not as a fighter but as a spectator.

"James (Langton) has done a lot for our community, and it would be good to see him back" Andy said. "I would like to know when the last time was when we had a professional boxer come out of Opunake. It's a big thing for our town." The Oaonui farmer said there were several fights he was looking forward to beginning with Angeleigh Young's bout.

"I've sparred against Simon Julian so I will be cheering him on, and I will be cheer-



James savours a moment with family at his father's gravesite after winning his second national title.

ing for James," he said. Angeleigh's supporters had much to cheer about when she was declared the night's first victor by a unanimous decision. "I'm glad that's over. It's been a long six minutes," she told match caller Sam Bennett after the result had been declared. She was asked if she would do it again. "They reckon so," she said gesturing to her supporters.

Rick Simeon was declared winner of the second fight after Darron Kapernick went down for the 10-count, producing the only knockout of the night. Alaire Kahupukoro won with a unanimous decision over Ashleigh Thompson. The next fight was the battle of the big men and proved to be one of the more entertaining of the night. Egged on by enthusiastic support from his corner, Valu (the Tongan Monster) Aholelei at 118Kg won by a

unanimous decision against slightly heavier (119Kg) Egypt Tangitutu.

"You take up some space my friend," Sam Bennett said to him after the result had been declared. "The crowd like you. Do you think you will be back?"

"One hundred per cent," was the reply. In the final corporate bout of the night, Jesse Guetta beat Jay Hooper.

James said the Rumble had gone well and he wanted to thank his wife Kelly who had organised the night, as well as father-in-law Bill Martin, and sparring partners who included James's son Shamus and James Annabel. He also wanted to thank his coaches Steve Hartley and Kieran Toa, who had previously fought in the Hawera and Coastal Rumbles.

As for the future, James said he would be taking time off over Christmas and resume training in January.

"At the end of the day, I am the heavyweight champion of New Zealand and I can call the shots. I've got the belt that everyone wants. I will do what's best for me

and best for my body."

At this stage he wasn't sure if he would take up an offer of a fight in Brisbane in March. This would mean having to lose weight to go back down to cruiserweight. A win, however would place him just outside the top 100 in world rankings.

He said he would like to

bring a challenge with a big name back to Opunake after issues had been worked out with the Opunake Event Centre.

"We would need to sit down together and get some good

will," he said.

"To have had a New Zealand cruiserweight, and now a New Zealand heavyweight title is beyond so much more than I thought I could ever have achieved in boxing."

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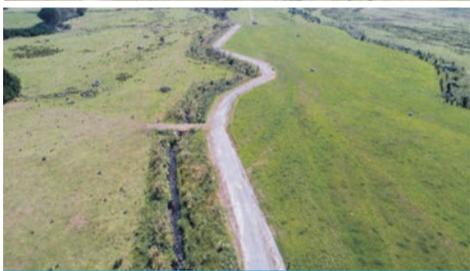
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For Sale Deadline Sale. All offers in by 22 February 2018, 4pm at 51 Devon St West, New Plymouth (unless sold prior)

View by appointment
www.taranakiharcourts.co.nz/NP8241,
www.open2view.com/412187

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NEW LISTING



Opunake 920 Arawhata Road

75.2588ha

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For Sale Deadline Sale. All offers in by 22 February 2018, 4pm at 51 Devon St West, New Plymouth (unless sold prior)

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www.taranakiharcourts.co.nz/NP8240,
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NEW LISTING



Okato Lot 1 Gossling Street

A Brand New Section
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For Sale
Expressions of Interest

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NEW LISTING



Okato Lot 2 Gossling Street

View rural Live Residential
Brand new 1,281m2 section in Okato. This section is one of two of an exclusive subdivision on the edge of the Okato township. Great building sites with views of the surrounding farm and the mountain. Walk to all the Okato facilities. Some conditions apply. Subject to final survey.

For Sale
Expressions of Interest

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For Sale
Price On Application
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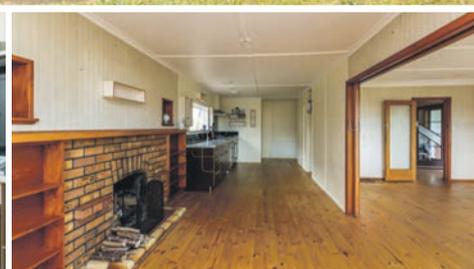
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Okato 90 Oxford Road

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True Beauty Overlooking Okato

This much loved and well-established Okato property is on the market for only the second time since being built. Warm and sunny, the original brick, 1950s, retro-style house and 2,528m2 section is at the top end of Okato, with stunning views of the town and sea. The home has 3 bedrooms plus a huge rumpus room and has recently been renovated by the current owners; polished floors throughout, new kitchen, stunning new bathroom and central heating. The real beauty of this property is open the big French doors then sit and watch the beautiful sunsets.

For Sale Deadline Sale. All offers in by 25 January 2018, 4pm at 51 Devon St West, New Plymouth (unless sold prior)
View by appointment after Christmas
www.taranakiharcourts.co.nz/NP6847,
www.open2view.com/412682

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M 027 273 3940 P 06 752 4219
pat@taranakiharcourts.co.nz
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Bev Henderson turns ninety in style

Bev Henderson celebrated her 90th birthday with a buffet meal at Sandfords Events Centre in Opunake with 179 friends and family including 8 grandsons, 10 great grandsons, 5 great granddaughters and 4 great great grandchildren.

tially lived in Hawera where their three daughters Val, Jill and Ruth were born and later moved to Opunake when her late husband who worked for the post office was promoted to senior toll operator and clerk, a position he held till his retirement.

Len restarted the Opunake News in the 1970s and ran it for 14 years. Replied Bev, no she didn't help Len on the paper whose standards she described as exacting. "Len was very particular - whatever he did it had to be the best".

The eldest of four children, Bev's parents were farmers.

When her daughters were at school she was very in-



Bev Henderson flanked by her younger brother and sister Malcolm Sutherland and Barbara Flynn.

involved in athletics. "I used to travel everywhere with all the athletic teams," says Bev.

She is also a Life member of Everybodys Theatre and is still on the Everybodys Theatre Committee.

"I started off as a cleaner, then became an usher, a manager and eventually became president of Everybodys Theatre Trust.

Over the years she's watched many films and says her favourite film is The Thorn Birds".

"I like the older films," she says.

She recalls the days when the now community owned theatre was owned by Bruce Whiting. It used to cost one and three downstairs and 2

shillings upstairs.

"It's a beautiful building inside," says Bev of the newly renovated theatre.

Bev also has a long association with the Opunake Bowling Club and the now defunct Opunake Indoor Bowling Club.

Bev got her driving licence at the age of 65. "I was housebound. That helped a lot."

She's also been a keen whitebaiter though has now given it up.

She also likes to walk.

Bev still lives in her own home and is still very active in the community.

As to Opunake, it's a marvellous little town, she says. "It's grown and got better. I'll never shift out of here.

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Opunake's Ikaroa Lodge needs members.

Opunake's Ikaroa Lodge (Lodge 115) is keen for more members to join. The Lodge is a public-spirited organisation of Freemasons; their motto is 'Brotherly love, Relief and Truth.' Through their welfare organisation they provide financial assistance for widows, widowers and their dependents, as well as any people in need. Earlier this month, for example, they provided a computer for a student who attends New Plymouth Boys High School. The Ikaroa Lodge building

is at 72 Domett Street, Opunake and was officially opened on September 1914 by Bro JJ Dougal. However, Ikaroa Lodge's first meeting place was in Rahotu in the Wesleyan Church in 1898. Just last week Ikaroa Lodge, represented by member Ron Bingham (who has been a member of the Lodge since 1952), presented a scholarship to provide financial support for a departing student of Coastal Taranaki School to attend tertiary education. The recipient received a cheque for \$150 at the Senior Prizegiving ceremony of

Friday December 15. This is the fifteenth time in a row that the Lodge has supplied its scholarship. The Lodge also presents a scholarship cheque to a departing student at Opunake High School on the same basis.

The history of Freemasonry goes back to the stonemasons of medieval Europe. In NZ the movement began with the early settlers. The first recorded meeting was in 1837 at Port Levy. The first Lodge was founded in 1842. The Grand Lodge of NZ was established in 1890. Today there are over 275 Lodges in the nation.

- of individuals
- To believe in a Supreme Being
- To help other people through charity work and community service
- To promote fellowship and goodwill amongst fellow members.

With numbers falling to about 20, Ikaroa Lodge (in 1958 they reached a peak of just over 100) could do with some more members. They meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

If you are interested phone Graeme Cowie (secretary) 06 763 8619 to find out more. You could also log onto their website to learn more www.freemasons.co.nz

The Freemasons Code aims:

- To share a concern for human values, moral standards, the laws of society and the rights

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! We are working over the Christmas period



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NORTH ISLAND WIDE

Our first issue in the New Year is January 24, 2018. We need editorial and advertisements by Friday January 19, if possible. Have a great Christmas and a rewarding 2018.

Your Summer Guide

Whats on in

TARANAKI

Over the Holiday season

Welcome to the Opunake and Coastal News 2017-18 Summer Guide to What's On in Taranaki showcasing what our region has to offer. Surfing, Golfing, Adventuring - you found it! We also showcase our Beach Carnivals (a fantastic family day out). As well as some places that you must visit. Keep this guide and use it over the coming summer months.



Photo by Shane Butler, Opunake



TSB
Festival of Lights

Mountain to Sea
Te Kōwhiriwhiri o Rauke o Ngāmotu
NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL
newplymouth.govt.nz

Festival Dates

16 December 2017 – 5 February 2018

Free regional buses!

The TSB Community Trust kindly supports free buses to and from the TSB Festival of Lights on Saturday 6, Saturday 13 and Saturday 20 January. Departing from Opunake, Okato and Oakura.

To book your seat register online at www.tranzittours.co.nz/events or call (06) 757 5783.

Bookings close one day prior to the event. You must be 14 years or older to use the service unless accompanied by an adult.

TSB
COMMUNITY
TRUST



NEW ZEALAND'S
leading
Light Festival



- Visit festivaloflights.nz
- LIKE US @TSBFestivaloflights
- JOIN US #FOL2018 #letyourlightshine
- LISTEN TO **MORE FM**

History Snapshots



1

Janet Frame (1924-2004), who is generally considered to be NZ's best writer (with Katherine Mansfield), lived in **Stratford** from 1976-79. One house, in Juliet Street has been demolished, but her **124 Miranda Street** still exists.



4

Gustavus Von Tempsky (1828-1868) Born in Prussia, he travelled the world and arrived in NZ in 1862 - attracted by the Coromandel gold rush. He joined the Colonial Defence Force in 1863 and his Forest Rangers were involved in European-Maori clashes. He was promoted to captain - then major. He was killed fighting Titokowaru's warriors at Te Nguto-o-te-manu. He is not only remembered as a brave soldier, but also as a painter; some watercolour pictures are held in the Alexander and Hocken Libraries.



2

Jim Bolger (1935-) became NZ's 52nd Prime Minister in 1990. (He eventually lost the National Party leadership to Jenny Shipley in 1997). He was born in **Opunake** and grew up on a farm near **Rahotu** (in Opuratu Road) and attended Rahotu Primary School and Opunake High School. He farmed in the area until 1965 when he bought a sheep and beef farm near Te Kuiti. In 1972 he entered Parliament and was soon elevated to cabinet minister status - he was Minister of Maori Affairs and, later, Minister of Labour. After leaving Parliament he was NZ's Ambassador to the US and, later, Kiwibank's CEO.



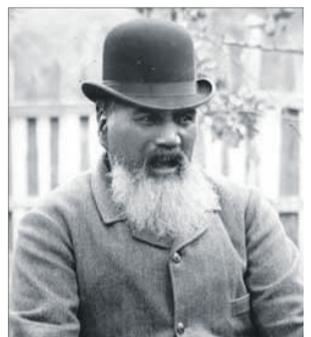
5

Don Clark (1933-2002) played at fullback for the All Blacks between 1956 and 1964, scoring 781 points. He is described as the "greatest goal kicker of his time". He could kick goals huge distances - even from deep in the opposition's half. As a child he lived in **Pihama** and attended Pihama School, which was recently closed. He emigrated to South Africa and established a tree felling business.



3

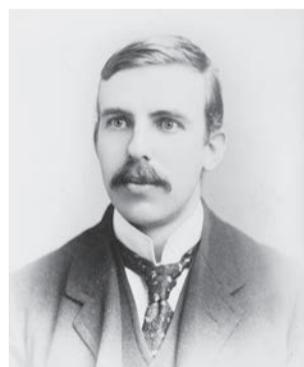
Dr Peter Snell (1938-) is generally considered to be NZ's greatest sportsperson of all time. He won three Olympic gold medals and two Commonwealth gold medals and set eight World Records as a 1960s middle distance runner. He twice broke the World Record for the mile. As a child he lived in two houses in **Opunake**, including **14 Dorset Street**.



6

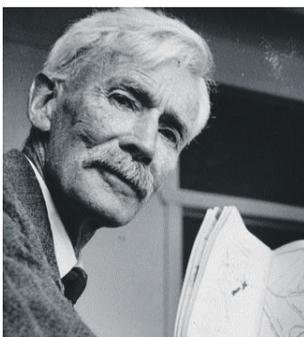
Te Whiti-o-Rongomai III (1830-1907) was born

in **Pungarehu**. He lived in **Parihaka** and practiced non violence and passive resistance to the confiscation of Maori land. He is as close a figure as we can get to the great Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi with his principles of non violence. Te Whiti spent some time in prison for his stand on land confiscation. His memorial in Parihaka says: "He was a man who did great deeds in suppressing evil so that peace may reign as a means of salvation to all people on earth".



7

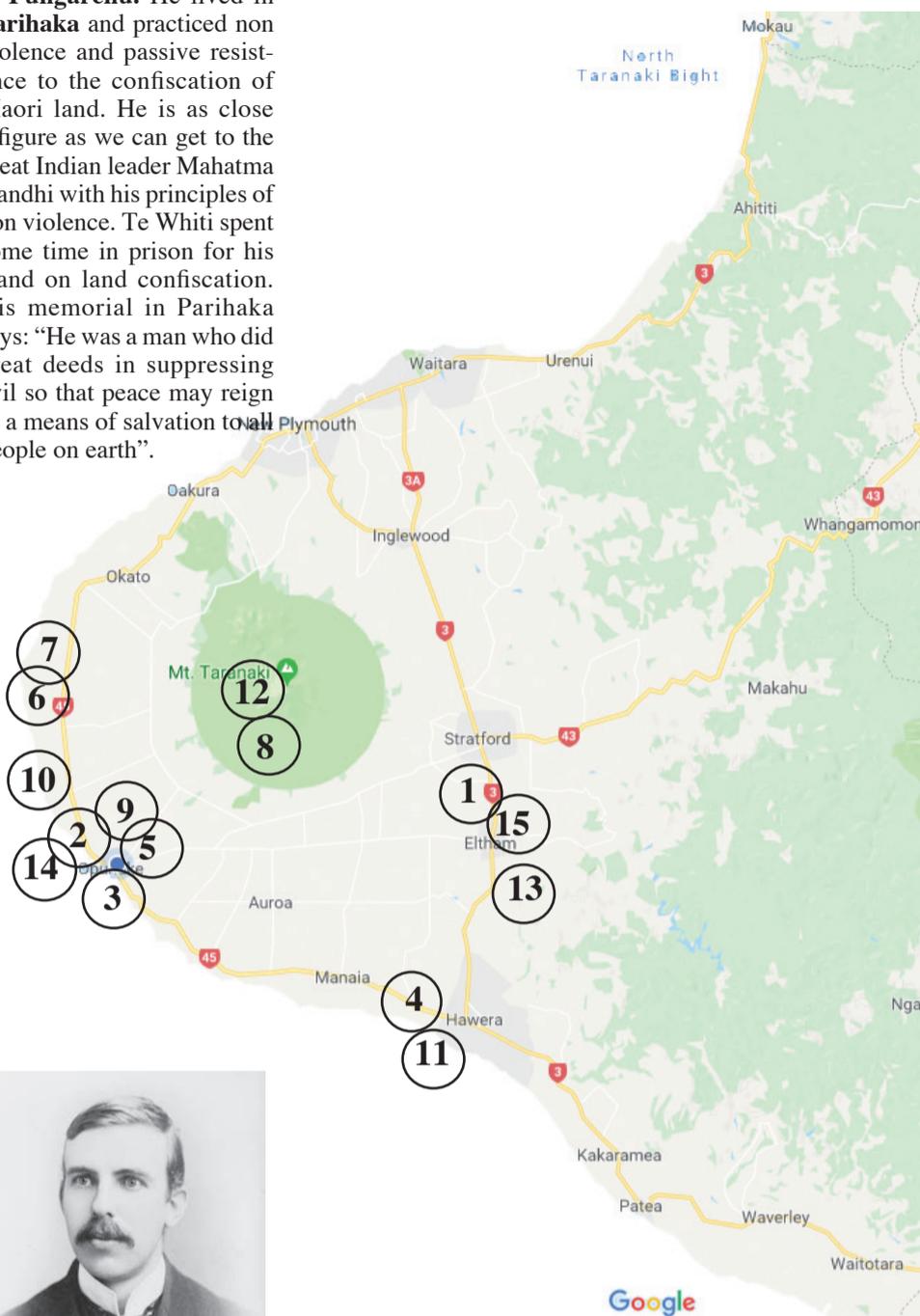
Lord Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) is generally considered to be the greatest New Zealander of all time. The scientist won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908. He is best known for 'splitting the atom'. His family lived in **Lower Parihaka Road, Pungarehu**; the homestead was demolished in 1980. Coming from Surf Highway and nearing the sea, two Norfolk pines (one diminished by a lightning strike) mark the site - on the left. The Rutherfords had a flax mill near their home and also in **Warea** and **Opunake** (at Opunake Lake).



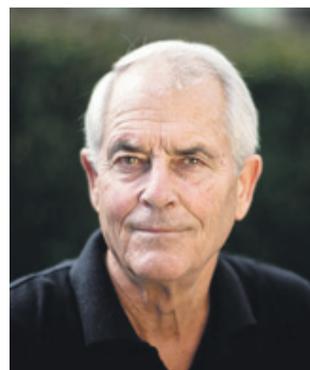
8

Sir Alfred Reed (1875-1975) He is better known as

A map of Taranaki



AH Reed. He is remembered for founding NZ's biggest publishing company, writing over 70 books (the last one when he was 98), walking huge distances while in his 80s, and his Christian and philanthropist kindness and donations. As regard walking, he walked from Sydney to Melbourne in his 90th year. At 86 he walked the entire length of NZ. He twice became the oldest person to climb **Mount Taranaki**. Stratford's Mountain House has a photo of his achievement at the age of 86. He also, at this time, walked right round the circumference of Mount Taranaki.



9

Graeme Lay (1944-) was born in Foxton. He is a well known writer. As a child he lived at **31 Ihaia Road, Opunake** and his parents had a shop in **Tasman**

Street where the Opunake Op Shop is situated. He was inspired by the short stories of Frank Sargeson and eventually became a friend of the great writer, often visiting him in his Takapuna home (He is Secretary of the Frank Sargeson Trust). His novel 'The Mentor' was loosely based on Sargeson. We have published some of Graeme's short stories in this newspaper.



10

Dame Malvina Major (1943-). The famous classical singer was born in Hamilton, but lived on a dairy farm near Opunake (**Lower Kina Road**) with her husband Winston. Sadly, Winston died suddenly when he was in his 40s. Earlier, Dame Malvina studied under Sister Mary Leo. She won the 1963 NZ Mobil Song Quest, beating Kiri Te Kanawa in the process

(Kiri came second). She has taken breaks from her singing career - in 1985 she returned to the international stage in Brussels with 'La Finta Giardiniera'.



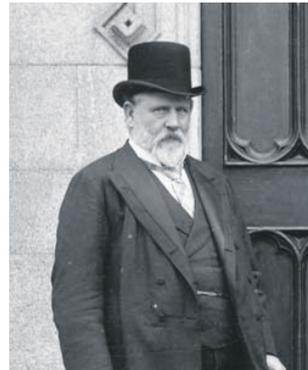
11

Ronald Hugh Morrieson (1922-1972) has been described as "the most original novelist NZ has produced". He wrote such books as 'The Scarecrow', 'Predicament', and 'Came a Hot Friday'. More of his novels have been made into films than for any other NZ writer. He lived in his **Regent Street, Hawera** house for most of his life. A fast food outlet marks the spot. Parts of his house, which was controversially demolished, exist in an excellent eatery called Morriesons Cafe Bar in Hawera.



12

Sir Edmund Hillary (1919-2008) He is known as the conqueror of Mt Everest, leader of the third overland party to reach the South Pole, (First since Captain Scott) and many other expeditions. However, he considered his building of schools, hospitals, bridges etc for the Nepalese people as his greatest achievement. He also has climbed **Mt Taranaki**.



13

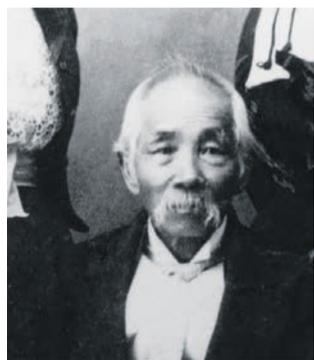
Richard Seddon (1845-1906). He was our longest serving leader - called Premiers in his day, not Prime Minister. The Englishman led the country for 12 years and died in office on board

a ship on the Tasman Sea. He enjoyed having meals at **Eltham's Railway Hotel**. The photo of the pub on the historical plaque was captured in 1893, which is appropriate - it was this year that women were allowed to vote and he was Premier. NZ was the first country in the world to allow women to vote.



14

Jacqui Sturm (1927-) is best known for being the wife of the poet generally considered to be our greatest - James K Baxter. She was also Janet Frame's closest friend. However, she is an acclaimed award winning writer in her own right. She grew up in **Gisborne Terrace, Opunake** with Nurse Wehipeihana - her maternal mother died when Jacqui was very young. Although better known for her prose when younger, she has recently concentrated on poetry. Her anthology 'Dedications' won the Honour Award for Poetry in the Montana Book Awards in 1997. In 2003 she was made an Honorary Doctor of Literature at Victoria University.



15

Chew Chong (1830-1920). He was born in China, but emigrated to NZ after 11 years in Australia. He made a lot of money by collecting edible fungus in forests especially from mahoe trees. He established stores in **New Plymouth, Inglewood and Eltham**. A historical sign marks the spot in Eltham (Eltham Road) where he had a dairy factory.

Enjoy the local history of the Taranaki region. Investigate the birth places and significant areas in these people's lives.

Holiday time at Stoney Oaks



A new litter of Kune Kune piglets and some fawns are among the attractions at Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park. The white one is a Danish White red deer fawn named Stardust and the others are all Fallow deer fawns. Stoney Oaks is open daily from Boxing Day till the end of School holidays 11am-4 pm. No eftpos

At the beach: 100 years of summer fashion in New Zealand



Visitors view the display featuring East End Surf Lifesaving Club

At the Beach playfully explores over 100 years of New Zealand's beach culture told through summer fashion.

In the Temporary Exhibitions Gallery at Puke Ariki this summer, delve into an array of different outfits in this colourful exhibition. Enjoy the Hollywood glamour of the 1950s or the excesses of the 1980s. From boardies to beach capes, togs to terry towelling, paisley to playsuits, the exhibition spotlights fashion from the early 1900s to today.

Featuring only New Zealand-made or designed garments, the exhibition

explores how our love for the beach influences our national identity. Each garment has a story to tell whether it be the heavy woollen bathers of the Edwardian era or the skimpy bikinis of the 1970s that reveal how society's attitudes to modesty have changed over time.

This exhibition also celebrates Taranaki's beach culture with a look back at the vibrant past of the East End Surf Lifesaving Club. While absorbing the sights and sounds of the beach see if you can spot anyone you know in the photographs or recognise the iconic 'Licorice Allsort'

swimsuit from the club's nostalgic imagery.

Once visitors have taken a nostalgic walk through the last 100 years of summer fashion, there are the long term galleries to explore and new Ruru Hunts to complete. A full list of Puke Ariki events and summer holiday fun is available in the latest copy of *What's On* which can be picked up from Puke Ariki Museum, Library or from any of the community libraries.

At the Beach was curated by the New Zealand Fashion Museum.

AT THE BEACH

100 years of summer fashion in New Zealand

2 December 2017 - 18 February 2018

Puke Ariki



Mountain to Sea
Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu
NEW PLYMOUTH
DISTRICT COUNCIL
newplymouthnz.com

Exhibition curated by the New Zealand Fashion Museum



Brooklands Zoo a gem worth visiting

Laughter and animal antics are never far away at New Plymouth's Brooklands Zoo. This wee gem at the end of Brooklands Park Drive is a great place to bring the family for a fun day in the city. The zoo is laid out around a large playground and green space – and as the facility is fully fenced, parents can relax while their young children play.

All of the animal enclosures have been designed with children in mind. Kids can get a close look at the animals thanks to ground-level windows, a walk-through

aviary and low fences. There are also activities for young and old to take part in, with information boards dotted around the grounds. And to top it all off, the zoo has free entry (although donations are gratefully accepted). But the main attraction is the animals. From chickens to the exotics – including monkeys, reptiles, amphibians, otters, alpaca, meerkats and birds – there is a wide range of animals to capture visitors' attention and delight young and old alike. "Lots of people have

their favourites, such as the meerkats or the Bolivian squirrel monkeys, but visitors quickly fall in love with the other species we have here," says Eve Cozzi coordinator/assistant curator Brooklands Zoo. "The zoo is a great day out for the entire family." Visitors are invited to bring a picnic lunch with them to enjoy on the lawn. Also, coffee is available on-site. And when you leave Brooklands Zoo, take a stroll through Pukekura Park. Start with the TSB Bowl of Brooklands right

in front of the zoo, then take some time to explore the rest of the park's 52ha. "Pukekura Park is a drawcard in the evenings for the TSB Bank Festival of Lights but it's a different experience during the day, and just as much fun for the entire family," says Eve. For more information about Brooklands Zoo and Pukekura Park, visit the New Plymouth i-SITE Visitor Centre in the Museum Wing of Puke Ariki or go online to newplymouthnz.com.



Inti is one of our Bolivian squirrel monkeys.



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Come to the Pukekura Raceway



Come for an exciting day of races at Pukekura Raceway.

The most iconic, must attend, race day of the season, the Farmlands Family Fun Day at Pukekura Raceway on December 27 offers something for everyone.

Family Fun Zone

The Family Fun Zone offers families a place where all the kids' activities are in one safe and secure place, while also providing facilities for the parents, all in a great trackside location. Kids can enjoy

colouring competitions, bouncy castle, and other fun activities, all within a secure area specifically designated for families.

Hospitality Packages

Whether you choose one of the air conditioned lounges, or soak up the sun in a marquee, a corporate hospitality package is one of the best ways to enjoy your day with family and friends. The package includes

reserved seating and a food and beverage package.

The Crowded House Garden Bar Party

Celebrate a day at the races with friends at The Garden Bar Party where you'll be in the heart of the action for people watching, cheering the horses, and socialising. Tickets to this event include street style food from Westcoast Fish Company, two drinks,

and exclusive access to the Garden Bar. Tickets are only available online. Gates open at 12.30pm. The racing action encompasses eight thrilling races, kicking off at 1.42pm, polished off by two hours of Ash & Aidan 'killing it' in the Carnival Zone after the last race. General admission is just \$10. Under-18s are always free. Members' Stand tickets are \$20. Pukekura Raceway. Your entertainment destination.

FARMLANDS FAMILY FUN DAY

**WEDNESDAY
27 DECEMBER**

GATES OPEN 12.30

- Family Fun Zone with free kids activities -
- Crowded House Garden Bar Party (tix online) -
- Ash & Aidan and their band Salted Caramel -

MEMBERS STAND \$20. GA ENTRY \$10. UNDER 18S FREE.

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See you all in 2018*

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DISTRICT POOLS

INGLEWOOD - Corner of Elliot and Rata streets

OKATO - Upper Kaihihi Road

WAITARA - Leslie Street

FITZROY BEACH - Beach Street

* District Pools opening hours refer to website.

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

OPEN 7 DAYS

WEEKDAYS

6am - 8.15pm

WEEKENDS/PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

7am - 6.45pm

FITNESS CENTRE WEEKEND/HOLIDAY

7am - 6.45pm

PARTIES & FUNCTIONS

We cater for birthday parties and work functions for all ages and occasions.

SUMMER FUN DAY FRIDAY 19 JANUARY

with games, prizes and a free sausage sizzle with 93.2 More FM.



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Te Kaunihera a Rohe o Ngamotu
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More information is online W. newplymouthnz.com/AquaticCentre



TARANAKI'S BEST RANGE OF SWIMWEAR

TOA KAUKAU SWIM SHOP

AT
TODD ENERGY
AQUATIC CENTRE

SPANK ARENA adidas FUNKITA FUNKY TRUNKS

The outdoor pools at the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre are now open for the summer season. Then of course there are the indoor pools at the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre, complete with one of the largest wave pools in New Zealand as well as the country's tallest hydroslide. There's also the Aqua Climb wall, tarzan swing and giant inflatables which are a hit with kids of all ages. The Turboslide is popular with thrill seekers and swimmers looking for a more relaxing experience. You can always take some time out in the sauna, steamroom or spa. The children's playground area outdoors which was funded by naming rights sponsor Todd Energy, is sure to be popular with the younger visitors.

The pools are a great place to have your Christmas function, a birthday party or work function. You can burn some energy on the inflatables and in the waves, get a thrill on the hydrosides, or relax in the spa pool. There are several options available. Contact the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre for more details or to make a booking.

A range of swimming products are available for purchase at the Aquatic Centre including goggles, caps and swimwear for all ages. We stock Spank, Adidas and Arena swimwear

and we are also the exclusive retailer of the Funkita range for New Plymouth.

If its relaxation you're after, the aquatic centre has several options. You may prefer relaxing indoors in the dry heat of the sauna or the wet heat of the steam room. These are both beneficial forms of therapy for muscular aches and pains, and a wonderful way to unwind following exercise or on cold days. If you want to pick a quiet time to visit the Aquatic Centre, come along before 10am or after 6.30pm. The times in between are the fun times when families and children are enjoying the pools, so things do get a bit lively.

The aquatic centre offers swimming lessons for all ages and abilities from six month old babies up to adults.

Contact our swim school for more information.

For general enquiries about the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre or the district pools, phone 759 6060 or email enquiries@npdc.govt.nz..

More information is online at www.newplymouthnz.com

Open. Weekdays 6.00am-8.15pm. Weekends/Public Holidays 7.00am-6.45pm

Fitness Centre Weekend/Holiday Hours 7.00am-6.45pm.

Kawaroa Park, New Plymouth Phone 06 759 6060
www.newplymouthnz.com/AquaticCentre

SkyWest Aviation

Let's face it, how you use your time is directly related to your earning capacity and effectiveness.

So imagine you have to travel to Taupo on urgent business. You need to be there for about four hours so how are you going to get there and back?

Chances are you'll take scheduled lights from New Plymouth, which means a flight to Auckland, then waiting to connect to the next available flight to Taupo.

When you eventually get there and you spend the four hours required, you will end up staying the night. The next day you will do the same thing in reverse. By the time you get home, you've just spent two days and a lot of money.

But now there's another way, as Warren Fulljames, a director of SkyWest aviation explains.

Based at the New Plymouth airport SkyWest is the holder of a general aviation air operating certificate issued by the Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand. This

certificate permits SkyWest to operate provide Charter and scenic flights to Mount Ruapehu Mount Taranaki, or an aerial view of the Taranaki landscape.

At SkyWest we have a fleet of modern aircraft available. It works exceptionally well from New Plymouth to Taupo, and other regional airports, including Gisborne, Napier, Tauranga, Palmerston North, Whangarei and Hamilton in fact anywhere in New Zealand.

"They are the popular destinations because we can offer direct flights - which otherwise aren't available on scheduled flights. That makes them difficult to get to, but with a charter, it's airport to airport at the time the client wants. They can then go to their business meeting, and when they're finished they just ring the pilot and he'll have the aircraft ready for them."

It couldn't be more convenient and is cost effective, which may come as a surprise to many, especially if you have to book last minute when all the specials are gone and then factor in accommodation.

Chaddys Charters



This inquisitive seal 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 Chaddys 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

Chaddy (Dave Chadfield) has also been an enthusiastic penguin guardian for nearly 30 years and along with the Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society installed a camera in a penguin burrow a



Photos Taylah Smith

few years ago to learn more about blue penguins' survival. Chaddy also feeds the curious stingrays that come to visit him. Take a

trip with Chaddy on the rescue boat or hire bike and cycle the New Plymouth foreshore on a gorgeous Taranaki summer day.

Proudly supporting New Zealand artists

The White Sail Gallery is a unique art gallery in one of New Plymouth's most beautiful locations Breakwater Bay.

Proudly supporting New Zealand artists the gallery exhibits have a wide range of contemporary art, ceramics,

sculpture, gifts, greenstone, beautiful scarves and jewellery.

The gallery is owned and operated by local Taranaki artist Jill White.

Jill exhibits her own art around the country so has the opportunity to bring back the

work of other New Zealand artists to show in Taranaki.

Artists currently exhibiting at the gallery include Ian Axtell with his beautiful abstract works and dynamic landscapes, and Lester Earl with his rugged impression of Mt Taranaki and his energy

filled seascapes.

The White Sail Gallery also exhibits a wide range of work by both local and national ceramic artists.

Bruce Walford has a new exhibition of lustre works in reds and golds along with waka and large urns

Margaret Foley is a Taranaki favourite with her gorgeous little houses, hearts and pots.

There are lots of great gift ideas for Christmas including News Zealand made chocolates, soaps, hand creams and easy gift boxes all ready to wrap.

This is a perfect place to enjoy the art, restaurants and maybe cruise around the islands with Chaddy from Chaddy's Charters. Always a great day at Breakwater Bay.

-Jill White The White Sail Gallery 35 Ocean View Parade Breakwater Bay Moturoa New Plymouth NZ 06 7696669 027 3063347



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CHADDY'S CHARTERS ISLAND TOURS

Mountain Bike, Kayak and Paddle Board Hire

Fun to share with friends and family
8.30am to 4pm

Open Daily
Ph: 06 758 9133



Ian Axtell artist exhibiting at White Sail Gallery at Breakwater Bay



The Gallery is open from 10am to 4pm Tue to Sunday Closed on Monday.

Some extended hours over summer and festive season Private viewing can be arranged outside of these hours

Gallery 027 306 3347 or 06 769 6669

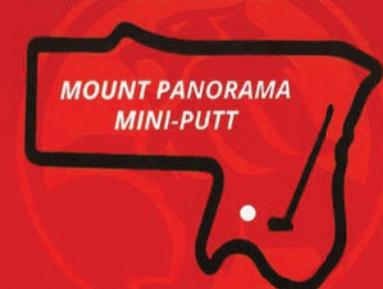
35 Ocean View Parade - Breakwater Bay (Next to Chaddy's Charters) Moturoa

SkyWest Aviation



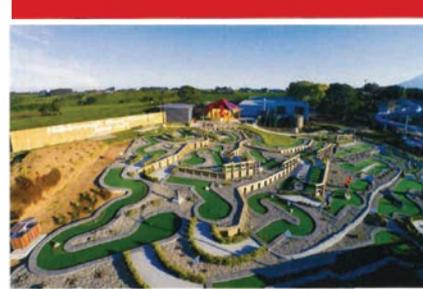
TRAINING FLIGHTS FROM NEW PLYMOUTH AIRPORT
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HILLSBOROUGH



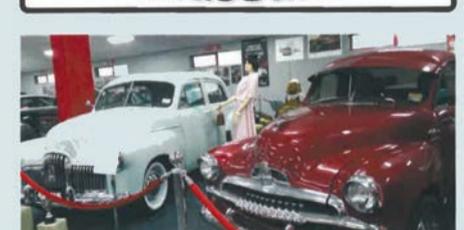
MOUNT PANORAMA MINI-PUTT

18 HOLES



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Ph: 027 447 0708
Mini Putt open 10am to 10pm 7 Days
Weather permitting

Hillsborough Museum



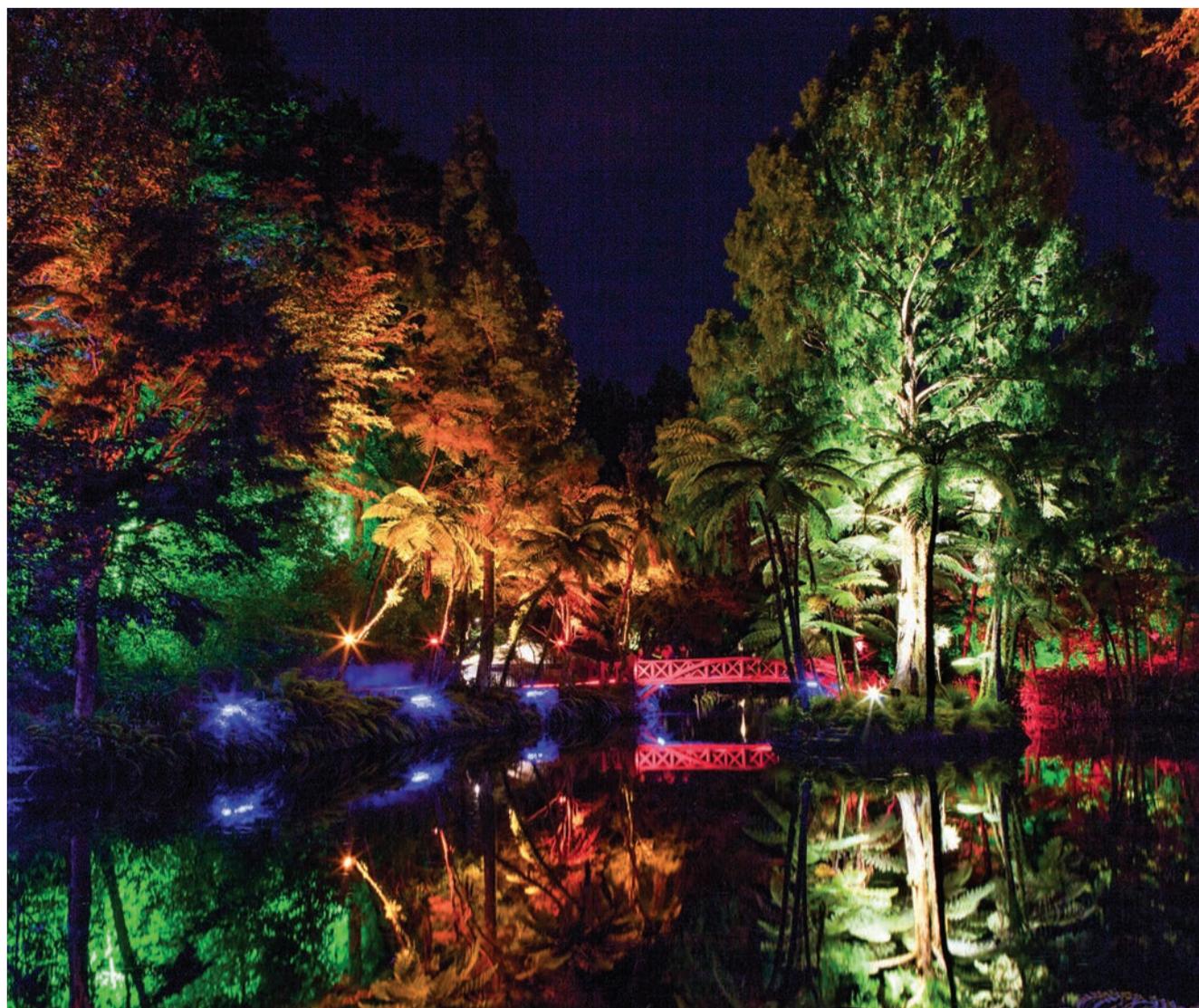
Hillsborough Holden Museum
Newly opened and unique to NZ.
This immaculately displayed personal collection of Holden cars and memorabilia is now open to the public.
The vehicles range from 1949 to the latest models.
This is a must see!

683 Egmont Road, RD2,
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Mob: 027 4470 708
Opening Hours: 10am-4pm
Mon-Fri

New Zealand's Leading Light Festival

The TSB Festival of Lights is back again for another fantastic season. The lights will be on in Pukekura Park every night between December 16 and February 5. The beautiful lighting displays will transform the world-famous park into a magical, illuminated nighttime wonderland. The TSB Tunnel of Light is back by popular demand along with new and exciting features. Fantastic live acts will light up the stage as part of the festival's On-Stage programme, bringing a diverse range of international, national and local artists to

New Plymouth. Fun-filled Summer Scene events and activities will be a great day out for children and families. Think big dig, scavenger hunt, music and dance workshops and a day at the zoo. A Summer Seniors programme has also been introduced to the festival this season with events catering for the over-60 community. Head along to pilates, zumba, ukulele and marimba workshops or spend the day listening to classic tunes from the Devon Hotel Brass Band. Visit festivaloflights.nz or the TSB Festival of Lights



Pukekura Park Festival of Lights

Facebook page for all festival and programme info. The TSB Community Trust kindly supports free buses to and from the festival, departing from Opunake, stopping in Oakura and Okato, each Saturday,

January 6, 13 and 20. The buses coincide with performances from award-winning indie/folk artist Mel Parsons, Auckland based DJ Latinaotea, New Plymouth's first silent disco and The East Pointers – just

to name a few. Pack a picnic, jump on the bus, enjoy a fun road trip, and experience some quality entertainment. Registrations are essential - visit tranzittours.co.nz/events or phone 06 757 5783.

While at the festival, take a snap, upload it to Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag #letyourlightshine to go in the draw to win \$2,000 worth of travel from Air New Zealand.



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Koru on Koru Gallery and Garden Summer Exhibition



Sculpture at the beach Corbett Reserve Oakura

"It's All About Oakura." Twenty three local artists plus Titirangi-based artist Delicia Sampero and Cook Island artists Jo Kopu and Kay George are exhibiting over the summer break at the popular Oakura Gallery Koru on Koru at 283 Koru Rd. Oakura. Delecia's compelling portraits on recycled road signs

have drawn much interest and buyers from across New Zealand. Kay George painter and screen printer tells her stories of "Aorangi" in vibrant colour. A beach house somewhere is waiting for one of her pieces. Jo Kopu makes her own Tapa canvases using dyes made from natural plants.

A unique addition to local artists' work includes mixed media, glass, photography, weaving ceramics, sculpture, painting and photography. Of special interest is the exhibition of Fay Looney's landscapes on brushed aluminium. Opening hours for the Gallery reflect the holiday seasons relaxed hours. Opening

from 27th December 2pm - 6pm each day from December 27- January 15, then back to Friday, Saturday and Sunday 2pm - 6pm until the end of January. Appointments are welcome if the above times are unsuitable. Call 067527807. FB oakuraartgallery -www.faylooney.com

Shining on through the years

For mariners battling the seas off Taranaki in the 19th century, the lighthouse often gave a sense of comfort knowing there was that signal to warn them of possible danger.

Built in 2007, the Historic Cape Light and Museum on Bayley's Road serves as a memory of those bygone days when wrecks off the Taranaki coast were a not uncommon occurrence.

"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, trustee Len Pentelow said.

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



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

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 1876.

"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 bulb, with electric motors turning the light.

Mr Pentelow said that with improved signage on the corner of Bayley's Road and Surf Highway, he has noticed an increase in visitor numbers.

A Keeper's Cottage has been added where volunteers can set themselves up and greet the public.

Despite the advent of GPS, Mr Pentelow 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.

Some advice from the AA

December and January are historically two of the most dangerous months on our roads, with the highways at their busiest and the greatest number of crashes.

Wearing seat belts and not driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs should go without saying but there are other ways you can reduce your chances of being in a crash this holiday season and make your driving less stressful as well.

Increase your following distance

The AA gets asked a lot what would be our number one tip for safer driving and keeping a large following distance is right at the top of the list. By simply keeping at least two seconds back

from the car in front of you, you are going to have more time to react to anything unexpected that happens on the road ahead. If you are following closer than that, you are leaving yourself no safety margin and if the car in front of you brakes suddenly when you happen to be checking your mirrors or speedometer you are going to have trouble stopping in time.

To check your following distance, watch the car in front go past some type of landmark like a sign or power pole and start counting as it does. If you can't say 'one-thousand-one, one-thousand-two' before you pass the same landmark, you are too close. Remember, it is two seconds in good conditions

and four seconds if the road is wet or visibility poor.

The price of speeding

Going too fast for the conditions is a factor in about one in three fatal crashes. Putting your foot down gives you less time to react, increases the distance it'll take you to stop and is likely to hurt you in the pocket. The Police are enforcing the lower speed limit tolerance of 4kph for all of December and January and at higher speeds you'll also use more fuel to travel the same distance. AA testing found travelling at 110kph rather than 100kph used 13 per cent more fuel (or an extra 25 cents per litre).

Let faster vehicles pass

If you aren't comfortable driving at the speed limit or

have several cars building up behind you, the Road Code says you must keep as far left as possible and pull over where it is safe to do so and let other people pass. A major frustration for drivers is when a vehicle that had been travelling slower speeds up at a passing lane. This can easily happen without a driver realising it because they subconsciously feel more comfortable on the wider stretch of road. If you aren't passing, make sure you don't let your speed creep up when you hit a passing lane so it's easier for others to overtake.

Avoid driving when you're tired

Fatigue was a factor in 15 per cent of fatal crashes in 2015. When you are tired,

your ability to concentrate drops and your reaction time increases. Make sure to get a full night's sleep before a big drive and take a break every two hours. Avoid driving at times when you would normally be sleeping and if you are facing a really long journey, consider breaking it up into a couple of days rather than doing one massive

drive. If you are behind the wheel and are starting to feel fatigued look to pull over safely as soon as you can. Having a power nap for 15 minutes or getting out of the car and walking around can freshen you up for a short period, but don't risk pushing on when you are struggling to stay awake.



Santa took a different mode of transport to th Opunake Junior Surf Lifesaving members last sunday.

Photo Dana McMurray



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Lots of things you can do with Actionaki



Actionaki is now part and parcel of what's going on around Taranaki. Since we started eight 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, Paintball, 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. 0800824836 Paddy Walsh

Re-Set for Sounds on the Sand 2018

Funky tunes are returning to Opunake Beach with Sounds on the Sand. The South Taranaki District Council is bringing Whanganui-based band *Re-Set* to Opunake Beach on Saturday January 13 from 12.30pm. Sounds on the Sand organiser Jody Bloor is expecting a great afternoon's entertainment.

"We are looking forward to the 2018 event, we just need to the weather to play its part and if the first month of summer was anything to go by it should be a stunner. So come along, bring the kids and a picnic, sit back and relax, enjoy the sounds from the band *Re-set*." *Re-Set* play both covers and originals from a wide range

of genres including funk, soul, R&B and rock. "They are high energy with two complimentary guitars, sax, drums, bass and tight harmony vocals. The band has just returned from playing at the Queenstown Jazz and Blues Festival and is looking forward to Sounds on the Sand 2018," says Jody.



Re-Set to play at Opunake Beach on Saturday January 13 from 12.30pm.

"There will also be free face painting for the kids, so bring the whole family and make an afternoon of it." "Unfortunately the 2017 event was cancelled due to

poor weather, so this time we have moved the event to a Saturday, which means

if the weather is unkind to us, we have the Sunday as the postponement day," she says.

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



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Next issue out January 26, 2018

Opunake & Coastal News would like to wish all our readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New year. See you next year!

A great season and more to come at Opunake Community Pools



Hannah Drought Opunake Community Baths Coordinator with her Opunake Swimming Club class. Thank you for all your hard work Hannah.

Wow this weather is fantastic, perfect for a dip in the pool. Come along and enjoy our four lovely heated pools. We have had a great season so far, and many people through our doors with our programs running in full force.

Our Learn to Swim program has seen over 130 school aged children learning vital swimming skills in the water which is super important in our coastal community. Our Aquatots Preschool Program had an awesome term with around 50 babies and pre-

schoolers having fun and building confidence. We run Aquafit Classes with four sessions per week. Three different instructors all offer their own spin and intensity level. Come along and try them out, no extra charge just pool entry.

Unfortunately we have experienced some damage from a break-in one evening resulting in needing a new door, as well as damage to equipment and our facilities through disrespect throughout the term. Remember this is a community-owned pool, if you see or hear of any of this happening please report it.

Exciting things coming up in 2018

Our new boiler is ordered and on its way. This is a huge purchase for our committee but will bring better consistency with heating, reduced gas usage and maintenance costs.

Learn to Swim and Aquatots programs will begin again in Term 1. Please contact us today to get your forms. Spaces may be limited.

The Lakeside Lions Pool Party is on Friday January 5 from 5-7pm.

Billboard sponsorship is available – speak to Hannah for more information. A small yearly donation will secure an advertising spot on our walls

Where and when it's safe to swim

Holidaymakers can easily find out whether the water's okay at the region's popular freshwater and coastal swimming spots by checking the Taranaki Regional Council website, www.trc.govt.nz.

The Council's annual recreational water-quality monitoring programme has been running every summer since 1979 for coastal beaches and since 1987 for freshwater swimming spots. This year it covers 13 coastal beaches and 17 freshwater locations, with samples collected at least fortnightly at all of them and more frequently at most.

The Council's Director-Environment Quality, Gary Bedford, says the monitoring consistently shows that our popular coastal beaches are of better quality than the national average.

"Last year, 99% of samples taken from coastal beaches were within Ministry for the Environment guidelines and no site reached the 'Action' level," he says.

"And water quality at popular recreational spots on rivers is better than a decade ago and far better than in the 1960s and 1970s. Last year, 86% of all samples from freshwater sites met the Ministry for the Environment recreational water quality guidelines.

"Wildfowl and gulls were the major source of contamination at the two sites that routinely exceeded the guideline – near the mouths of the Waiwhakaiho River and Te Henui Stream. Excluding these two sites, 94% of all samples met the guidelines"

To see the latest results, select 'Freshwater' or 'Coastal' water quality from the 'Environmental Data' drop-down list on the Council's home page, www.trc.govt.nz.

The Taranaki Regional Council's water quality monitoring data is also available on the national environmental monitoring website Land, Air, Water Aotearoa (www.lawa.org.nz), alongside data from other regions.

District councils inform the public of the current health

status at individual swimming spots according to national guidelines and the results of the Taranaki Regional Council's monitoring. The district councils list the status of popular swimming spots on their websites and use signs at each swimming spot to advise people if it's currently safe to swim.

Mr Bedford says regardless of the latest monitoring results, any swimming spot or beach can be unsuitable for swimming sometimes. He strongly advises people not to swim for at least three days after heavy or prolonged rainfall.

"The main thing is to use your common sense at all times," he says. "If there hasn't been significant rain for a while, the water looks inviting and it's the sort of day that makes you feel like going for a swim, then it's probably okay."



for your business.

The annual Coastal Schools Try-Athlon will be held in March, a great event for the schools in our area. We are always looking for helpers to keep our kids safe on the roads, so if you are free it's a great chance to get involved.

Private bookings have been popular, secure your spot today. \$50 per hour which includes a lifeguard.

We are always on the look out for new keen instructors, lifeguards, committee members or anyone wanting

to get involved and help out. Just ask.

Like us on Facebook for updates and news.

As always a huge thank you to everyone working on the pool deck and behind the scenes keeping this awesome facility available to everyone.

Contacts:
General Enquiries & Pool Hire – Hannah Drought 0278748981
Learn To Swim & Aquatots – Elly Haycox 0226878575
Hannah Drought

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Opunake Beach Carnival



Have great fun in the sun at the 2016 Beach carnival to be held on Saturday January 6. 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. This year there is a mister muscle section for over 13 years. The first contest starts at 10am. The Big Dig will run from around lunch time depending on the tide. Every entrant gets a prize, with major prizes being brand new bikes, sponsored by Campbell Contracting, and supplied by Collins Sports Centre. 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, Photo booth and Mini Golf and a Shooting gallery with hourly prize draws. There is also food, coffee and crafts for sale. The Surf Club will have their Surf Club Cafe Open for substantial food and shelter from the sun. This year they will also have a buskers area on the grass please bring your instruments and show off your talent



Muscle man Samuel Drought.



Ella Griggs and Eden Lark enjoy candyfloss at the Opunake Beach Carnival.

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SATURDAY JANUARY 6th
TSB Community Trust



3/1/17 **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

5/1/17 **LAKESIDE LIONS POOL PARTY**
Opunake Community Pool, Longfellow Rd. 6th 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

6/1/17 **CARNIVAL DAY!**

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Opunake Beach Carnival

Collins Sports Centre Take a kid fishing



Scott Barrett lent a hand at the 2016 prizegiving for Collins Sports Centre Take a Kid Fishing.

Take a kid fishing will be held on Wednesday January 3. The competition is open to all children primary school age and under. Mums and Dads, Aunties and Uncles 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. One of the Barrett boys will be on hand to help with the weigh-in at

the Opunake Beach stage. 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 and certificate. One of the Barrett boys will be on hand to help Brian Collins and the Surfcasting and Angling Club with the weigh in.

OPUNAKE LAKESIDE LIONS



Friday 5th Jan 2018, 5-7pm
\$5 entry includes
BBQ, sausage and drink

Collins Sports
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in conjunction with the
Opunake Surfcasting & Angling Club

Wednesday
3rd January 2018
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

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A message from the Opunake Surf Life Saving Club

The Opunake Surf Life Saving Club would like to thank our community for their support.

Our voluntary weekend patrols have started on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays 10.00am to 3.00pm, with the last day of patrol being Taranaki Anniversary. Regional guard patrols will commence Monday December 18 and finish on Friday February 23. This patrol runs Monday to Friday 10.00am to 6.00pm.

Becoming a Life Guard Is the most rewarding and selfless thing you can do. Once you have achieved your first step and gained your Bronze Medallion (Life Guard Award) the possibilities are endless. Move up the ranks to Senior, then Advanced Guard, and on to the top honour of the Search and Rescue Squad.

We have a fantastic group of juniors who meet each Sunday at the beach to have fun learning about reading the beach and surf conditions, how to navigate through waves, how to stay safe in the sea, Identifying rips / currents / undertows, plus lots more.

Every Wednesday night both Junior and Senior members



Shan Hickey and Brook Smith IRB training.

meet at either the Opunake Pools or the beach to train with a qualified swim coach to increase fitness, technique and confidence in a safe environment.

New members are always welcome. If you would like to join, please contact Claire Hunn on 0272549548 for Junior Surf or our Club Captain Brook Smith on 0279478341 for Lifeguarding, Senior Surf and Rescue Call Out Squad. For all other enquiries please email opunakesurflifesaving@gmail.com - We would love to hear from you.

As always, please stay safe and remember: swim between the flags, listen



Junior Surf members Kayleigh Fleming, Alika Hunn, Maddy Drought competing at the NPOB (New Plymouth Old Boys) Carnival December 2017.

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

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New members most welcome

5-13 years contact
 Claire Hunn Ph 027 254 9548

14+ years contact
 Brook Smith Ph 027 947 8341

All other enquiries contact Trent Olliver,
 President Ph. 027 683 6986

to the lifeguards, stay within your limits, be sun smart, look out for each other. When in a boat / kayak wear your lifejacket, and tell someone where you are going and when to expect you back. We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and hope to see you all at the beach.

A good day for a walk in progress

The Lonely Planet Travel Guide name Taranaki as the second best place in the world to visit. Among the attractions listed in the guide is Surf Highway, which wends its way through Opunake on its journey along the Taranaki coast.

Opunake itself is worth a stop to have a look at the Opunake Walkway, which has rated a mention in Lonely Planet's New Zealand guide.

Although the largest formal walkway in South Taranaki, it is very much a walk in progress, something that is being added to all the time.

It is now possible for visitors to see and experience the town's history by just following the signposts. Whether it be the lake, the beach, Middleton Bay, the Cliff Top Garden or the additions lovingly placed there by just some of the volunteers who have made their contributions over the years. Among the latter are Olive's Grove, named after Olive Armstrong, and Dudley's Bridge, named after Dudley Morris, a stalwart of the local Lions Club and a longtime supporter of the Walkway.

Once known as the Lions Walkway, the efforts made by the Opunake Lions Club over the years include the Lions Lookout giving visitors striking views of the Opunake coastline.

The Walkway includes the site where it is believed the first cannonball in New Zealand was fired in 1834.

In that year, the Harriet was wrecked nearby, sparking off a chain of events which led to the first use of British troops in New Zealand.

The Taranaki coastline took a grim toll of shipping in the



Mary and Audrey Quinn enjoyed a walk through the Clifftop garden last year

Photo Taylah Smith

19th century. Last year, part of the remains of the Falcon which ran aground at Opunake in 1870 made a brief appearance on Opunake Beach before disappearing again.

From the Walkway it is possible to look over to the historic Te Namu pa site. It was here in 1834 that 800 invading Waikatos were stopped dead in their tracks by Taranaki Maori under Wiremu Kingi te Matakatea.

The Orimupiko and Armed Constabulary cemeteries mark the places where many people associated with the town left this life, while the Opunake Cottage Hospital is the place where many began their life journeys. Among the latter was Peter Snell. Born here in 1938, he later settled in Texas. In between

he became one of this country's greatest sportsmen, winning the double of gold medals in the 800 and 1500 metres at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics.

Among other points of interest is the memorial to Mary Dobie. A 27 year-old Englishwoman, her brother-in-law was commander of the Egmont military camp, and she was due to return to England. A noted illustrator, her work had been published in the London Gazette. On November 25, 1880, she went to sketch Te Namu Bay. Her body was found later that night in a flax bush, with throat cut. The original suspect was one Walter Stannard, but then a local Maori named Tuhiata confessed. He was later hanged.

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Karla & Bronwyn would like to wish all their clients a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Thank you all for your wonderful support through 2017

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January 26th

Please send contributions to
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Oeo's deadly wreck continues to be remembered

Many ships have been wrecked on the Taranaki coast in the 19th century. Among the more well known wrecks were the Lord Worsley in 1862, and the Harriet in 1834. The wreck of the latter set of a string of events leading to the first use of British troops in New Zealand.

South of Opunake, a small stretch of coastline around Oeo had seen four ships wrecked in less than a decade. The last and most well known of these was the Lizzie Bell.

Three ships had already come to grief on the Oeo coast before the Lizzie Bell was wrecked on July 24, 1901.

In the previous cases, no lives had been lost and the finger had been pointed at sloppy navigation.

The Lizzie Bell was different, as 12 of the barque's 18 crew died as a result of the vessel hitting a rock two kilometres south of the Oeo river mouth.

Two fell overboard and were later found dead jammed between the rocks. The crew abandoned ship, but their boat overturned twice before reaching land, the second time trapping six underneath who drowned before it could be righted. Another two died

before the boat reached land, and two more who did make it to shore died before the rescuers arrived.

The survivors made it to the Good homestead, and the bodies were taken to the Oeo Hotel, which was at a different location to where it later ended up before its final closure.

The locals buried 10 of the bodies at a funeral at Pihama on July 28, where local storekeeper H.Wagstaff took up a collection to pay for a memorial. When the other two bodies were later found they were buried near the monument.

The Pihama Cemetery, where the bodies of the ship's sailors lie alongside those of local residents is now known as the Lizzie Bell Cemetery.

The Lizzie Bell's life had been a short one. It had only arrived in New Zealand the previous month, having made its maiden voyage from Glasgow.

The Lizzie Bell was not the first ship to be wrecked at Oeo.

The schooner Annie Wilson was carrying flour and potatoes when it stranded south of the Oeo River mouth in the early hours of April 22, 1893. The master of the ship



The Lizzie Bell Cemetery at Pihama

which was en route from Lyttleton to Kaipara later said he thought he had already rounded Cape Egmont. It was raining heavily and the master couldn't see the land.

After the ship got stuck, embedded on a cluster of rocks, the breeze got up. The ship remained upright for a

while, but then keeled over in the heavy seas.

The master of the Marramarua also appeared confused about his whereabouts when his steamer was wrecked at Oeo Point on May 29, 1896. The Court of Inquiry found that the master seemed to have only guessed the distance from land when

the course had been set, making no allowance for currents. Just over a month earlier the Marramarua had been damaged when it struck a snag off Patea, while travelling between Waitara and Wanganui.

Less than a year later, on January 15, 1897, the steamer Manaia was wrecked

in the same place as the Marramarua. The sea was calm, but the atmosphere was heavy with smoke from bush fires when it got stranded on a reef at 2am. The Court of Inquiry blamed negligent navigation and suspended the Master's certificate.



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Wishes all their clients a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year

Open throughout the Holiday Period except for Statutory Holidays
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Surfing at sunset

Photo Rena Tarrach

School Holiday Opening Hours Effective 19th December 2017

	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Lane Swimming	6:30-8:30am 6:00-8pm	6:30-10am 5 - 8pm	6:30-8:30am	6:30-10am 6:00-8pm	6:30-8:30am	7-10am	
Aqua Fit		9-9:45am 5:30-6:15pm		9-9:45am 6:30-7:15pm			
Public (Excluding Xmas Day)	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm

*Public Holidays – No Lanes or Aquafit Sessions. Only 1-4pm public hours. Closed Xmas Day

Taranaki's iconic mountain



The summit of Mt Taranaki.

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 than 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.



DAWSON FALLS
MOUNTAIN LODGE & CAFE

WHEN WAS YOUR LAST VISIT?

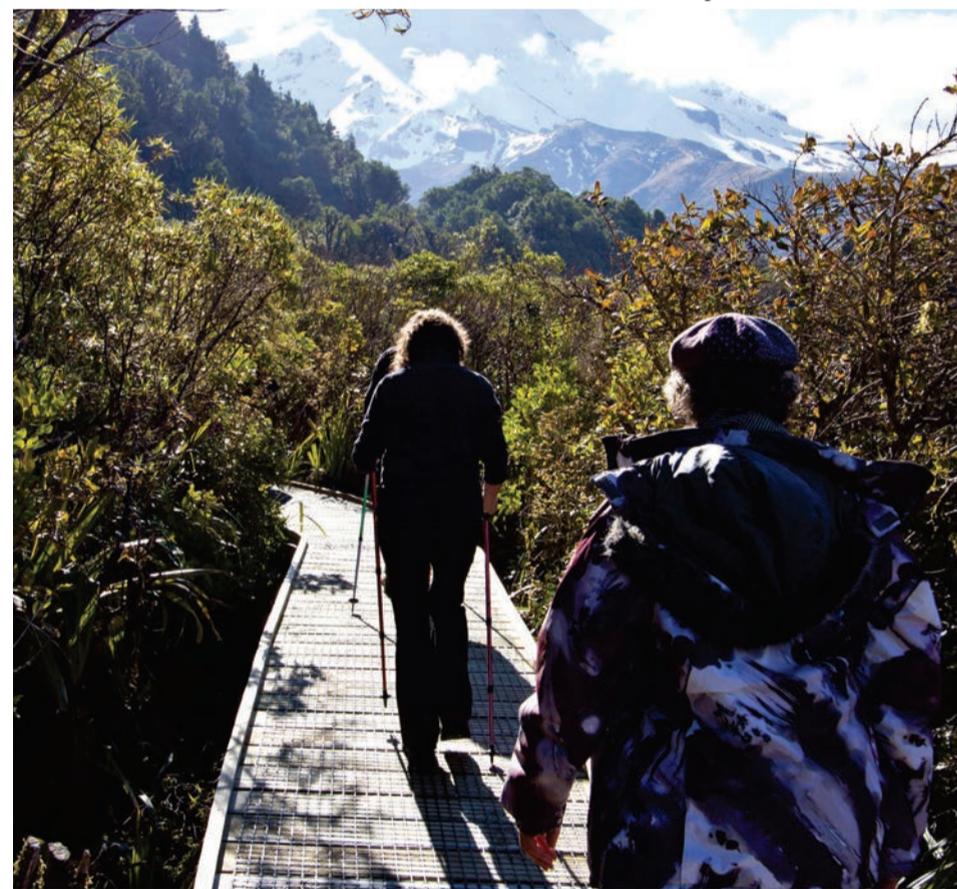
Book or visit us today!

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Phone: 06 765 5457

Cafe open every day 10am - 4pm

Book for lunch or dinner for your group of 2-50 people in our restaurant.



Just one of the scenic walkways to be enjoyed.

For all your cultivation requirements, hay and silage services & oxidation pond servicing

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CONTRACTING**

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We wish our valued clients a merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year

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RURAL CARRIERS

*Just a note to say
Thank You.*

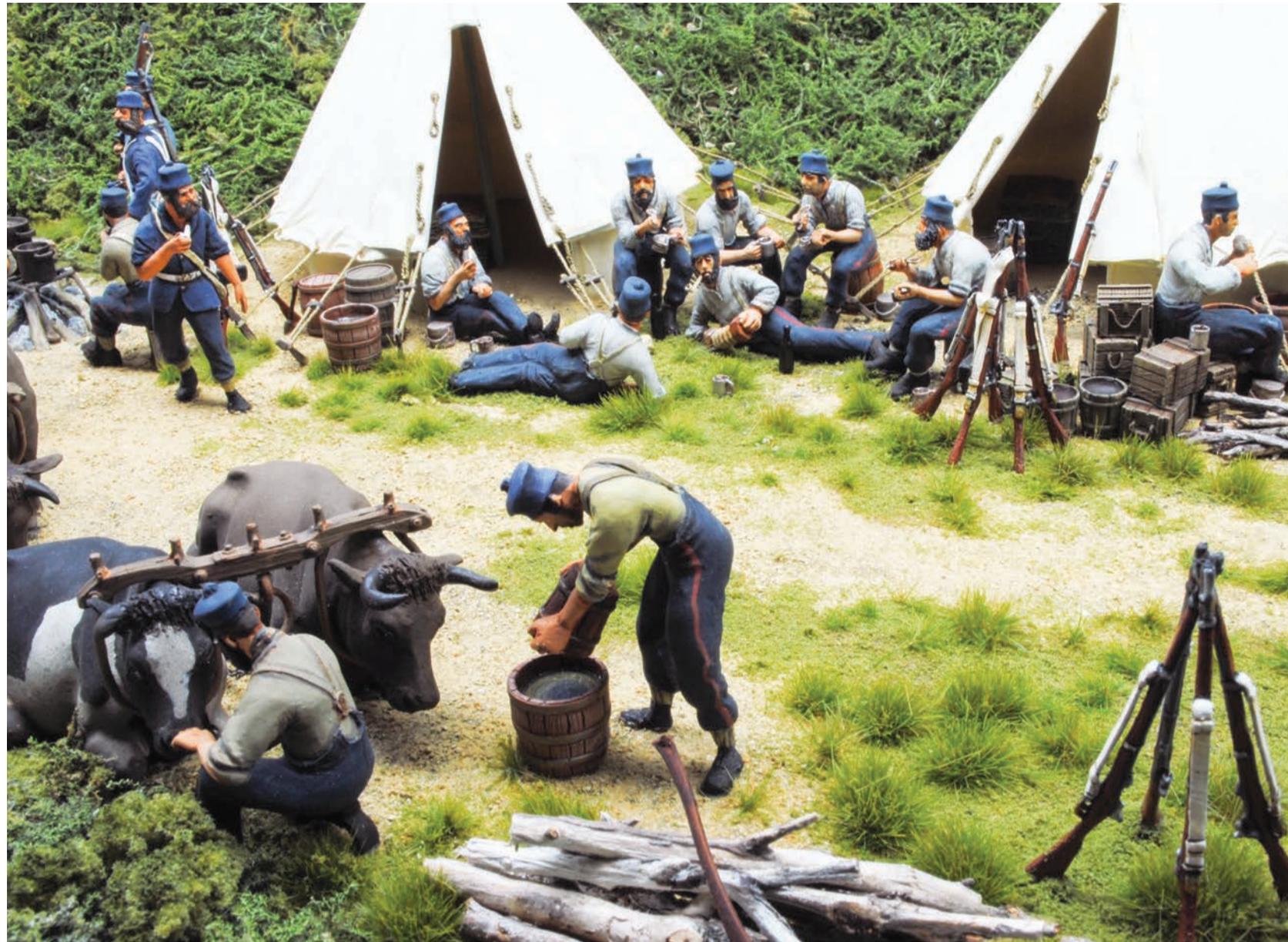
Your custom over the past year is appreciated and we look forward to many more.

Wishing you and your families a very

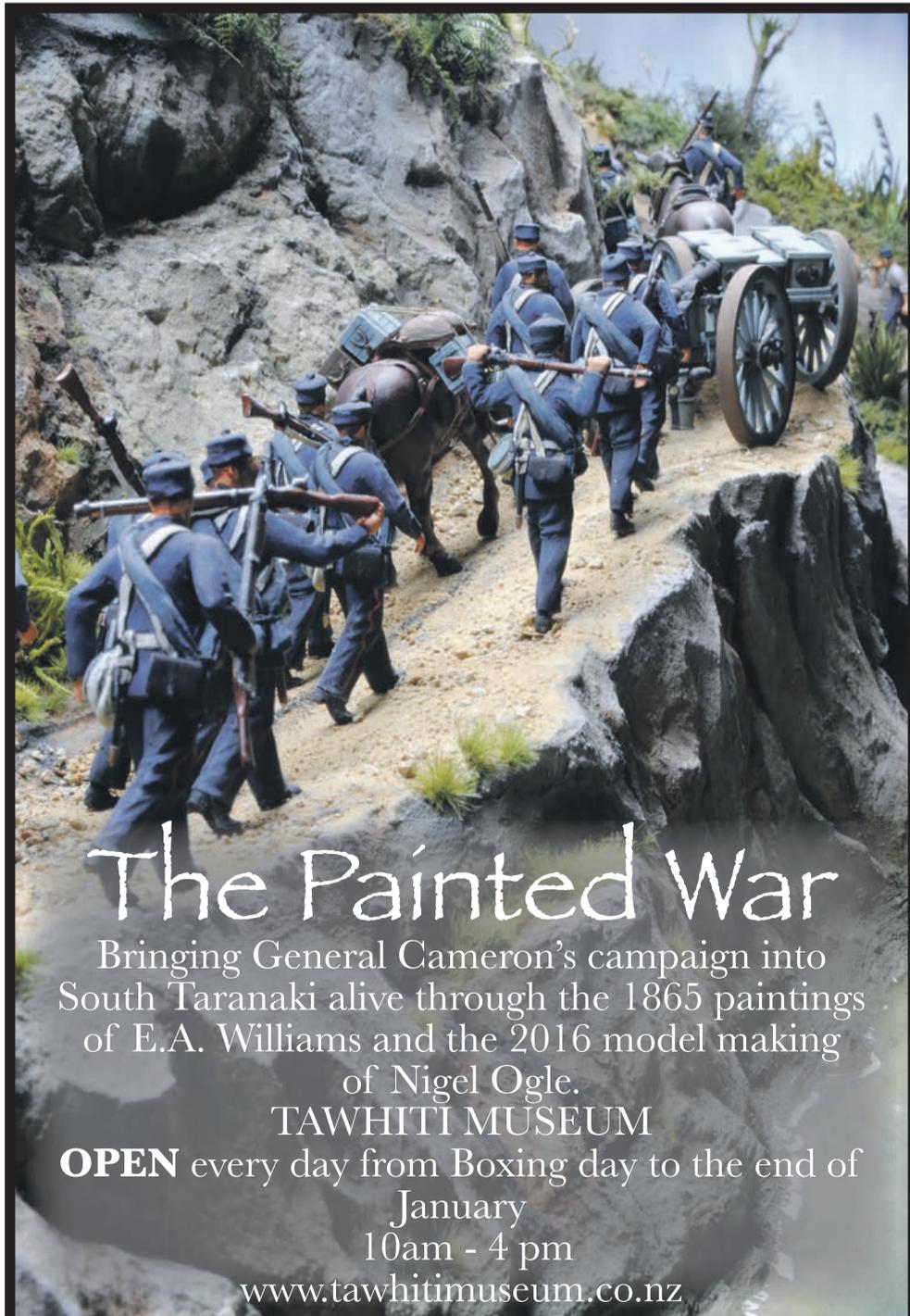
*Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year.*

From Phil & the team at Sandfords

The Painted War at Tawhiti



A Painted War diorama at Tawhiti Museum.



The Painted War

Bringing General Cameron's campaign into South Taranaki alive through the 1865 paintings of E.A. Williams and the 2016 model making of Nigel Ogle.

TAWHITI MUSEUM

OPEN every day from Boxing day to the end of January
10am - 4 pm

www.tawhitimuseum.co.nz

Taking 90 days to travel the 90 kilometres from Whanganui to Hawera could never be described as a rushed trip now could it? Yet in 1865 General Cameron took that length of time to make that journey. To be fair, there wasn't a road – only a narrow foot track in some places, and bullock wagons loaded with military supplies are ponderously slow at best. The Waingongoro river at Ohawe was as far as they got.

Cameron was an unwilling commander, seeing this campaign for what it was – a blunt instrument of

the colonial government to plunder Maori land. Probably the only good thing to come from those months of slog was a set of superb watercolour paintings completed by his artillery officer, Lt. Col. Edward Arthur Williams. Sent to Whanganui to accompany General Cameron's 3,000 troops march into South Taranaki, Williams had ample time to produce two sketchbooks of very accomplished paintings and sketches. They are a unique record of military life and campaigning on an isolated

almost trackless coast and the landscape so familiar to us today – recorded for the first time.

The Tawhiti Museum has developed a new display – "The Painted War" around the work of E. A. Williams. Copies of his paintings, now held in the Hocken and Turnbull Libraries accompany life size figures, artifacts from that period and copious scale figurines in a familiar South Taranaki coastal setting.

Traders and whalers come to life at Tawhiti

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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Something for everyone at Opunake Golf Club

The Opunake Golf Club is located 2.5km up Namu Road just north of Opunake. The 18-hole, 5309 metre course is surrounded by pohutukawa and pine trees with spectacular views of the mountain and sea.

Members recently celebrated the closing of their competitive season with the annual prizegiving dinner. The club's patron Hec Otene and life members Margaret Briscoe and Dot Fisher presented the cups and trophies to all the worthy winners. The Ladies Midweek Pennant team also had a successful season taking out the competition for the second year running. Club president Aarun Langton then went on to represent the Taranaki Masters for a ninth year, and the Taranaki Seniors at the National Inter-Provincial Tournament where he met up with Hayden Ring who now plays for Manawatu-Wanganui.

"There's golf for all levels at our club," says Aarun. From mid-November till Christmas golf gets a lot more social with Twilight Golf every Wednesday from 4.30pm. This is a casual 9-hole competition open to non-golfers and golfers. Business House Golf starts on January 10(see advertisement). Men's and Ladies Club Days still continue through the summer as social golf, with tee times between 10-10.30am on Sundays and Tuesdays respectively. "New members are always welcome and summer is a



Opunake Golf Club president Aarun Langton and former Opunake member Hayden Ring at the 2017 National Inter-Provincial Tournament.

great time to give golf a go," says Aarun.

The course is also open to the public throughout the year and is a fun, low cost outing for those enjoying the holidays in Opunake.

Club Information.
Clubhouse: (06) 761 8070. Address PO Box 75,

Opunake. Membership: 110. President Aarun Langton. 0272265386

Mens Club Captain C Cathie Ph 7617293.

Ladies Club Captain: Anne Marie Siciliano Secretary Kaye Pointon.

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.

Golfing at Tumahu

Tumahu Golf Club is a 9-hole sheep course located on mid -Puniho Rd Okato. Mixed club day is on Sundays and Ladies club day is on Tuesdays.

Contacts: President Bruce Sim 067524482, Club Captain, Secretary Donna Sharpe 067528050.

Subs. \$150 Full. \$30 Juniors. \$10 Green Fees.

Summer Twilight Golf Thursday evenings from 5.30pm. Ambrose or individual. Non-golfers welcome. B Sim 067524482



Pungarehu Golf Club

6199 Main South Rd, Pungarehu
Green Fees \$10 18 Hole Course
Subs: Adult \$250 Students \$75
Just rock up and play!
Bring along a picnic lunch and enjoy the country air
Call Sharon 06 763 8365



Mania Golf Club

Green fees \$20 per round
on our historic course
Boxing Day Tournament \$10 entry
Turn up on the day from 9.30am
New members welcome
Ph Jackie 06 764 6412

JOIN TUMAHU GOLF CLUB

2018 SUBS: SENIOR \$150 JUNIOR \$30

GREEN FEES \$10



SUNDAYS - MIXED CLUB DAY
TUESDAYS - LADIES 9 HOLES
THURSDAY NIGHTS - TWILIGHT

NON-GOLFERS WELCOME
PHONE BRUCE SIM 06 752 4482



KAITAKE GOLF CLUB

P O Box 7, Oakura, Ph: (06) 752 7665,
Email: kaitakegolf@xtra.co.nz

Saturday 13th January 2018 BEACHCOMBERS OPEN TOURNAMENT

\$20 Entry Fee 8.30am Start

Gross/Nett/Stableford

3 Men's Division/1 Ladies

Phone office 752 7665 for Tee time

KAITAKE POETS SOCIETY FRIDAY HAGGLE

from 3.30pm - \$5 Entry, \$5 Shootout

Non-golfers welcome

\$5.00 WEDNESDAYS

EVERY WEDNESDAY (including Monthly Open)

Start times available till 11am

All Golfers welcome - Stableford

Chippers Clinics for 5- 12 year olds
Green Fees \$20 (Affiliated and Non Members)

New Members very welcome

Special membership fee for first time members

Easy Payment System for membership fees

Phone 06 752 7665 for more information

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Please call 067617016

OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB

4th Annual Multi-Sponsored Tournament New Year Open Tournament

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Entry Fee

\$40 includes:

- Meal - Two's - Nearest to the pins
- Free Halfway house

Five divisions Nett/Stableford & a Field Gross

Tee Times: 7am to 1pm

Contact:

Callum Roach phone 761 7378 or 027 482 2596

Thanks to Wonder Minerals, Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration,

Andy Davy Contracting, Panasonic, Farmlands Opunake,

Gopperth Contracting, Nutrinza (Steve James), PGG Wrightson

(Craig Murray), ANZCO Foods (Bruce Thompson)



BUSINESS HOUSE MIXED AMBROSE

Starts Wednesday, 10 January, 2017

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 Aarun Langton
027 226 5386

Everyday Play Available

\$10 Green Fees - Affiliated Golfers

\$15 for Non Affiliated

Students \$10



DINING & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

Taranaki



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**FISH 'n CHIPS, BURGERS
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Mon - Tues 9am to 8pm, Wed - Fri 9am to 8.30pm

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**MERRY CHRISTMAS &
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Day till Feb

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NEW SUMMER MENU!**

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Happy Christmas**

Thank you for your support in 2017

Christmas Eve Dinner - \$35 pp

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Now taking bookings for Christmas and New Year

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**Merry Christmas &
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See 2018 in with Maropu
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Open for meals 7 nights

Bookings for Sunday, Monday, Tuesday nights essential
Cafe hours to follow

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Seat up to 36 

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Book your table now

**We would like to
wish you a
Merry Christmas
and a
Happy New Years**

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DINING & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

Taranaki



MERRY CHRISTMAS TO EVERYONE
 Closed Christmas Day
 Open 4pm Boxing Day

OPUNAKE FISH, CHIPS & MORE

SEE OUR MENU ON FACEBOOK
 Ph: 761 8478 | Tasman St, Opunake

with a fresh approach
 6.00am - 7.00pm - 7 Days - Ph: 06 761 7444
 Phone orders welcome.

The staff and management at

Opunake Dairy

wish our customers a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Offering an extended Menu!
 Burgers - Wedges - Pizzas - Nachos and more
 Supergold card accepted.

Open 10am till late 7 days
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 Phone: 06 758 4430
 Email: howdy@westsidegrille.com

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year from the new management at

THE CLUB HOTEL

TASMAN ST OPUNAKE - PH 06 761 8213

Dine in, Takeaway, Functions & Special Events

TASMAN STREET, OPUNAKE
 PH. 761 8387

Restaurant Now Open Monday to Sunday

Monday: 5pm - 8pm
 Tuesday: 5pm - 8pm
 Wednesday, Thursday, Sunday: 11.30am - 2pm, 5pm - 8pm
 Friday & Saturday: 11.30am - 2pm, 5pm - 8.30pm

Thursday Special | Sunday Special
 2 large pizzas for \$25 | Lamb Roast Large \$15

NEW SUMMER MENU

Now opening Monday Nights for Dinner

Monday Night Special
 All Burgers \$12

Summer in the region's public gardens

Beautiful gardens, top-class facilities, fun and stimulating events, family-friendly atmosphere ... summertime is when Tūpare, Pukeiti and Hollard Gardens come into their own.

gardens/ for details of the gardens and www.trc.govt.nz/whats-on/ for a list of events.

Tūpare (487 Mangorei Road, New Plymouth) is a premier landscaped garden



A family enjoys the ambience at Hollard Gardens

with a unique homestead, originally developed by Sir Russell Matthews and his family from 1932. The immaculate gardens are sculpted from a hillside overlooking the Waiwhakaiho River. Winding paths take visitors to intimate garden spaces and beautifully framed views, leading all the way down to the river.

Pukeiti (2290 Carrington Road, New Plymouth) has one of the world's biggest and most diverse collections of rhododendrons and other exotics, creating an explosion of colour among lush, native rainforest and mountain streams. It's a great place to be all year round and the new Rainforest Centre, including café and interpretation areas, offers a world-class visitor experience.

Hollard Gardens (1686 Upper Manaia Road, Kaponga) are informal and intimate, with a huge variety of native and exotic plants. Many are rare and endangered. It has a very popular family corner which

includes a playground, free barbecue and kitchenette, while the Hollard Centre contains a gardening library and hosts seasonal exhibitions and displays.

Tūpare, Pukeiti and Hollard Gardens are owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.

Summer family events

Saturday 6 January, 8.30am-3pm: Tūpare garden fair and guided walk. Entertainment, performance, music, delicious food, house tours and family fun on the river flat. The guided walk starts at 8.30am and will finish at 10am. The garden fair runs from 10am to 3pm.

Sunday 4 February, 10am-2pm: Jazz it up at Tūpare. A relaxing afternoon of music performed by local artists in the spectacular garden at Tūpare.

Sunday 4 March, 10am-3pm: International Children's Day party at Hollard Gardens. In association with Kindergarten

Taranaki. Family fun, pony rides, face painting and games. Bring a picnic.

Sunday 11 March, 10am-3pm: Pukeiti Puffer fun runs. A range of easy to challenging fun runs through the beautiful Pukeiti rainforest. Fundraiser for Cameron Clow Trust in association with Athletics Taranaki.

Home gardening workshops

Sunday 11 February, 10am-noon, Pukeiti: Growing hydrangeas for best effect. Pick up some great tips on selection, care, planting and pruning hydrangeas in your home garden.

Sunday 18 February, 10am-noon, Tūpare: Designing new landscapes. Everything you need to know if you're planning new structures and features for your garden and needing plants for the site



Tupare Garden Fair

Merry Christmas
to all my customers
Thanks for all the support during the year.
We will be open until after the Christmas Parade on Dec 24

The Pastimes Team
Pastimes
87 Tasman St, Opunake Ph 06 761 8151

Enjoy world-class

Tūpare, Pukeiti & Hollard Gardens

Tūpare

487 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth
www.tupare.nz

Pukeiti

2290 Carrington Rd, New Plymouth
www.pukeiti.nz

Hollard Gardens

1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga
www.hollardgardens.nz

Open all day, every day - free entry

 trc.govt.nz/gardens

 0800 736 222


Taranaki
Regional Council



Toy-riffic! ... Fun Ho! National Toy Museum



Fun Ho! Toys

A special place to take the kids and see the toys New Zealand children were brought up with.

Over 3000 toy vehicles on display, plus slot cars, sand pit, theatre and dioramas.

Fun Ho! Toys are made on site regularly. When the toy-maker is in house, you are welcome to watch.

Fun Ho! Toys for sale in Museum Shop and online

10.00am - 4.00pm daily
 Adult \$7 - Child \$3.50
 25 Rata Street, Inglewood.
 Ph: 756 7030
 reception@funho.com
 www.funhotoys.co.nz

If you're in Taranaki for a holiday or just looking for something to do in your spare time, why not visit the Fun Ho! National Toy Museum in Inglewood, just 15 minutes south of New Plymouth.

Steeped in history, as well as catering to modern day desires, the museum has over 3000 toys on display along with plenty of interactive activities. This is not just a museum where you get to look at things, often you are also able to touch.

For over 60 years, Fun Ho! has been a household name in New Zealand. Still found in sandpits and toy collections around the world, Fun Ho! toys have become a sought-after collectable and are a true "kiwiana" icon.

There are hundreds of miniature lead models on display including footballers, bullfighters and racing figures. Then there's the aluminium collection, which includes everything from chrome and coloured midjet vehicles to large trucks for kids to ride on. From foundry furnace to Fun Ho! sandpit, slot car set, haybarn style theatre to a multitude of Fun Ho! toys – the diversity of Fun Ho! is amazing and quite a sight to see.

And you have the option to take your very own piece of Fun Ho! home. The museum has a great little store where replicas of many of the toys on display are available for purchase (these toys are made using the original moulding plates).

Virtually indestructible, Fun Ho! makes a great present for Christmas or any occasion for that matter, or you might want to just spoil yourself.

Whether you're five, fifty-five or seventy-five, you're bound to have a good time at Fun Ho! National Toy Museum. Open 7 days, 10.00am – 4.00pm.

Join the thousands who've already enjoyed visiting Fun Ho! National Toy Museum – check it out today.

Further enquiries to Fun Ho! Toys on 06 756 7030 or email reception@funho.com



The Poo Brew

THE PERFECT SOLUTION FOR HEALTHY BOWELS

A combination of herbal powders to assist in detoxifying the liver, cleansing the bowel, restoring gut permeability and reinstating good bacteria back into the gastro intestinal tract after sickness, antibiotics or anti-inflammatory. All of these listed below assist in the absorption of nutrients:

Healing the gut

Our gut repair mix consists of Barley Grass, glutamine and Slippery Elm, which will soothe and heal the mucosal lining of the gastrointestinal tract.

Detoxifying the liver

St Mary's Thistle assists in detoxifying the liver without causing headaches or nausea.

Cleans the bowel

Psyllium is a bulking herb that goes sticky when mixed with liquid, as it passes through the intestinal tract it pulls the gunk off the intestinal walls, also important for removing the bad cholesterol from the liver.

Putting good bugs back

Probiotics, or good bacteria, reinstates or puts back the good bugs in the gastro intestinal tract. They are your first line of defense against invading pathogens and virus's. Probiotics also assist in absorption of all vitamins and minerals especially B vitamins, B12 and iron.



• 100% NATURAL INGREDIENTS
 CAN BE USED FOR ALL AGES AND WE CAN TAILOR
 MAKE BREWS FOR PREGNANT AND BREAST
 FEEDING MUMS.

Your guide to healthy bowels

Bristol Stool Chart

Type 1		Separate hard lumps, like nuts (hard to pass)
Type 2		Sausage-shaped but lumpy
Type 3		Like a sausage but with cracks on the surface
Type 4		Like a sausage or snake, smooth and soft
Type 5		Soft blobs with clear-cut edges
Type 6		Fluffy pieces with ragged edges, a mushy stool
Type 7		Watery, no solid pieces. Entirely Liquid

1–2 indicates constipation and we recommend an increase in fibre, hydration and magnesium

3–4 indicates ideal stools which are easier to pass

5–7 shows loose stools, indicative of an irritated gastro intestinal tract. We recommend digestive enzymes, an increase in fibre and avoiding wheat

There are many functions of the liver; some include breakdown of food for absorption, protein production, detoxification, storage of vitamins, minerals and the breakdown of red blood cells. With all these functions a good healthy bowel is paramount to our health. If we eat three times a day we should have a bowel motion three times a day, if not the toxins accumulate.

Do you have any of these symptoms?

- Inability to lose or gain weight
- Mood swings
- Nausea and or bad breath
- Overweight
- Intolerance to alcohol
- Intolerance to fatty food
- Foggy brain
- Head aches
- Unstable blood sugar levels
- Sugar cravings
- Poor digestion and bowel problems
- Itchy skin and rashes
- Excessive body heat
- Auto-immune dysfunction
- Frequent fatigue
- Slow metabolism
- Allergies
- High cholesterol and or triglycerides

COME IN AND TALK WITH US TODAY ABOUT HOW OUR FAMOUS POO BREW CAN HELP



THE HEALTH SHOP

We keep you healthy™

Shop 18,
 Centre City,
 New Plymouth
 Ph. 06 58 7553

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 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 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.

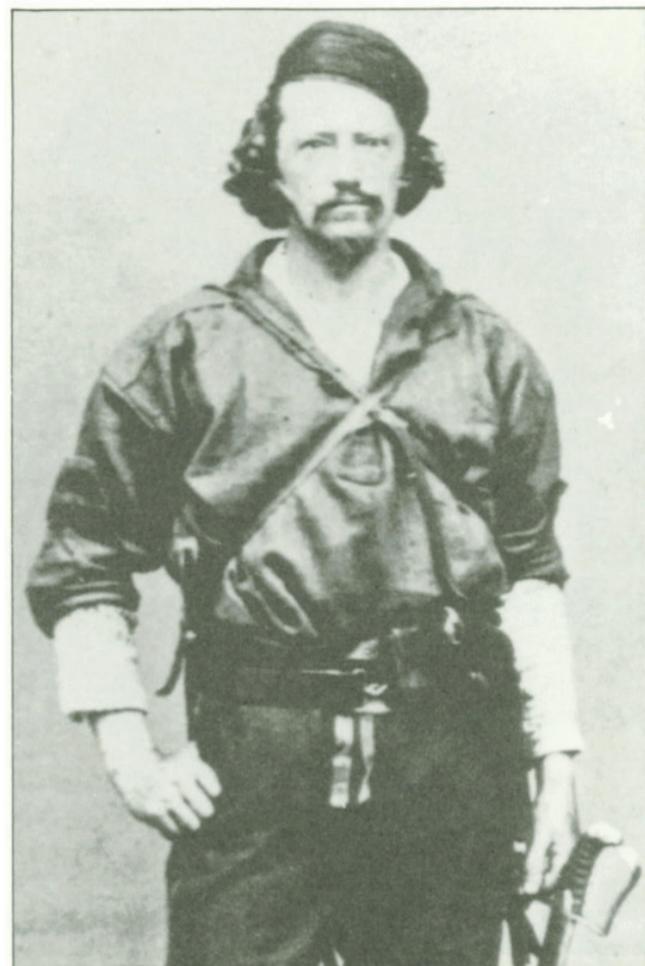
Lieutenant Colonel Thomas McDonnell, the commander of the local government forces wanted revenge and looked to achieve this by attacking Titokowaru at Te Ngutu-o-te-manu. An attack

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.



Gustavus von Tempsky,

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Santa makes impromptu stop in Manaia

The star of any Santa parade is always the big man in the red suit and this year's Manaia Christmas parade was no exception. Santa was mobbed as he came round the Manaia roundabout during the parade which was held on Saturday. In a departure from the parade's planned routine, he stopped his sleigh and got out to meet and greet, handing out lollies to his many fans waiting near the band rotunda. The parade, which is run by the Manaia and Districts Lions Club left the Robert Gibson Memorial Hall shortly after midday, with the Manaia Volunteer Fire Brigade in front, and a combined Hawera and Stratford Pipe Band close behind. There were varying modes of transport with more than one Santa taking part. The Taranaki Swiss Club was out in force, as were the Hawera Brass Band. Even Dr Seuss's Cat in the Hat put in an appearance. A number of floats harked back to the original



Santa works the crowds in Manaia

Christmas. The Hawera and Manaia Combined Churches float had the theme of "Jesus the original Christmas present," and the Manaia Golf Club were also there with a nativity themed float. For Lions clubs around

the world, 2017 has been a significant year as it has been the centenary of the founding of Lions. Members of the Normanby and Districts Lions Club helped out with marshalling and had their own float in the parade

promoting what has been one of their trademark activities in recent years, providing daffodils for Daffodil Day. All in all, everyone seemed happy. "We didn't know how many cars and tractors

would be coming," Manaia Lions Club secretary Mary Moore said. "A few floats showed up that we were not expecting. We tried to invite everybody, but I think next year maybe we could invite more. If we had a little bit more time we could have invited places like Auroa and Otakeho to come along." She said she had been told this parade was bigger than last year's.

"The kids are having fun. Everyone's waving. When the clown on the bike went by, everyone was squealing. People have no qualms about yelling at the people on the floats," she said. The parade finished back at the Robert Gibson Hall, where the Hawera Brass Band were playing Christmas carols and children were having fun on the Manaia Lions' Bouncy Castle.

Cheese factory new home for Fruity Gardener

The Fruity Gardener Nursery has just moved in at the Okato Cheese Factory in Tataraimaka. The larger space means

"It is a beautiful location, and a hub of activity. People love coming to wander the gardens, see the eels and the amazing art and sculpture

trees, edibles, subtropicals and natives for hedging and shelter. He is a qualified permaculture designer and wants to help you

local environment are grown with much love and attention according to organic principles. The nursery is open every Saturday from 9am to 4pm or by appointment. Keep updated with what the Fruity Gardener is up to on facebook or get in contact. Call Aden on 0221890104"



Aden Lowe is a passionate gardener and landscape designer.

they can grow more plants than ever and sell them directly to local gardeners from the nursery door. Aden Lowe (23) is a passionate gardener, landscape designer and wealth of knowledge on all things edible. He has been creating edible gardens throughout the Taranaki region for many years. His Inspiration came from local horticulturalists as well as subtropical experts in Northland where he discovered that many bizarre but delicious subtropical fruits grow well in Taranaki. Previously Adens' nursery was on Plymouth Rd and he was selling plants at the Farmers Market. When the opportunity to move to the Cheese Factory came up he jumped on it.

from Molloy Gallery." Aden grows a variety of unique and interesting plants, specialising in fruit

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Sustainable dairy forum inspires local farmers



Dairy Environment Leaders chair Tracy Brown says dairy farmers are part of a collective effort of New Zealand working together.

Some of Australasia's experts in sustainability and leadership recently inspired Taranaki dairy farmers at a national event in Wellington.

The Dairy Environment Leaders Forum held in December hosted 93 dairy farmers who focused on sustainable farming issues in the dairy sector and celebrated dairy achievements.

Guest speakers included Australian author and science communicator Julian Cribb, Maori businesswoman Mavis Mullins, businessman and environmentalist Sir Rob Fenwick, DairyNZ strategy

and investment leader Bruce Thorrold and a selection of dairy farmers.

At the forum, Julian warned the culture of waste sees half of farmers' efforts end up as landfill.

"The knowledge of how to grow healthy food and recycle nutrients and water will become a skill more precious than any commodity. New Zealand has the expertise, technology and ideas to lead a sustainable food revolution," says Julian. "The New Zealand dairy industry can be a world exporter of the knowledge humanity needs to survive."

Taranaki farmer Cheree Hitchcock said speakers such as Julian challenged their thinking.

"Julian really drove home how much food we will need globally, how much we are wasting and how important our product will be. We are doing well on improving the environmental side of things and that will continue to be such an important aspect of our market for milk."

Cheree and husband Mike farm in Inglewood, Taranaki, where their all-grass 250ha farm system milks 550 cows

and grazes young stock. Their farm also backs onto the Maketawa Stream, which won a most improved river award in 2016.

"The whole farm has been riparian planted and fenced, started 15 to 20 years ago, so there's some quite well-established vegetation there."

DairyNZ strategy and investment leader for sustainability, Dr Rick Pridmore, established the Dairy Environment Leaders Forum five years ago to build a cohort of farmers who would lead the industry into its future.

"The forum brings together farmers who work in their communities, with councils and on farms," says Rick.

He says over 250 Dairy Environment Leaders now take positive action nationwide, from hosting visitors on-farm or liaising with council/government, to working on local catchment water quality and climate change.

"There used to be one way to farm to make milk and one way to farm for the environment – and now the two are totally aligned for these farmers. It's really great to see it as the top

agenda for dairy farmers," says Rick.

"We produce three percent of the world's milk – we have to make it the most natural, most wanted and most desirable milk in the world."

Dairy Environment Leaders chair Tracy Brown, a Matamata dairy farmer, says the forum is about farmers showing leadership on-farm and in communities.

"We have created a movement of dairy farmers who want to make things better. They are part of shaping our future for the good of all New Zealand," says Tracy.

"Most farmers share a love for the environment and I haven't met any who don't enjoy time spent outdoors surrounded by nature. We work hard on our farms, in our communities on behalf of our sector and for New Zealand, and are proud of what we do."

Tracy says while much has been achieved already, highlighted by this year's Sustainable Dairying: Water Accord results, there is still work to do as part of a collective effort of New Zealand working together.

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Call to get on with inquiry on local government funding



Gorgeous green grass a few months ago.
Photo Staci Holmes

Farmers and councils are often at loggerheads over planning and rates issues, but on the need for alternative funding mechanisms for local government, they're on the same song sheet.

The Labour and NZ First's coalition agreement includes a pledge to hold a public inquiry to investigate the drivers of local government costs and its revenue base.

"That can't happen soon enough," Federated Farmers President Katie Milne says.

Analysis, included in the 2017 Rates Report sent to members last week, shows a continuing trend of local government rates rapidly outstripping inflation. From 2007-2017, the consumers' price index went up 21%. The local government cost index - which councils say is a fairer reflection of their costs pressures - went up 29%.

But both are dwarfed by the 71% hike in local authority rates and charges. (The population in the same decade went up 13%, and while that's more infrastructure and services to provide, there are also more people to share the rates burden.)

"For farmers, rates continue to head moon-wards, with

static or declining service levels on local roads and little else of value to report," Milne said.

The briefing to incoming Local Government Minister Nanaia Mahuta earlier this month acknowledges the problem, noting that continuing rates increases may challenge the future affordability of council rates for households.

Rates based on land and improvement values can have little or no bearing on the level of services that councils deliver to farmers, Milne said. While that can also be true for urban folk, "at least they're getting things like sewerage, water and rubbish collection, which many farms don't".

The Federation welcomed the \$25 million a year Tourism Infrastructure Fund that the National government earmarked for local authorities - many of them smaller, provincial councils - to help to pay for carparks, toilets and wastewater upgrades to cope with seasonal tourist influxes. But, the Federation claim, with added demands on local government, including billions of dollars to fix water and wastewater infrastructure, new

mechanisms, such as GST sharing, need to be looked at.

"It's 10 years since the Shand Report on financing local government costs was tabled, and more or less ignored by subsequent governments. We need to debate these issues, and we urge the Government to make its public enquiry a priority," Milne said.

Meantime, next year regional and district councils will be consulting on their Long-Term Plans. Federated Farmers state they will, as always, be "loud in condemnation of any council budgets which show scant evidence of restraint or acknowledgement that the money comes from the pockets of hard-working New Zealanders."

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New National Dairying Award

A new national award will recognise dairy farmers who demonstrate leadership in their approach to sustainable dairying and who are ambassadors for the industry.

The Fonterra Farm Source Responsible Dairying Award has been introduced by the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards to recognise those dairy farmers who are respected by their farming peers and their community for their attitude and role in sustainable dairying.

Rachel Baker, NZDIA Executive Chair, says that farmers are being encouraged to share



Rachel Baker NZDIA Executive Chair,

stories of how they are farming responsibly, both environmentally and socially.

“Many of our winners and entrants from our Dairy Trainee, Dairy Manager and Share Farmer awards programmes do just this and progress to leadership roles within the industry and their communities.”

“This Award gives us the opportunity to recognise farmers that have progressed to ownership, demonstrate leadership in their farming practices and are a role model for our younger farmers coming through” she says.

“They will be an ambassador to personalise and share the positive things that are being achieved by our dairy farmers.”

Chief Operating Officer for Fonterra Farm Source, Miles Hurrell, says the new award embodies the Co-op’s commitment to sustainable dairy farming.

“The Co-op and our farmers take their responsibilities to their communities, animals and the environment seriously, and they demonstrate this in the work they do every day. The criteria that farmers will be assessed against for this award are the foundation of our pledge to maintain and enhance a dairy industry that all New Zealanders can be proud of.”

The farmer could come from any of New Zealand’s milk suppliers to be eligible for the award. The inaugural winner will be selected by a panel of judges and

announced at the National Final in Invercargill on May 12th.

The New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards are supported by national sponsors Westpac, DairyNZ, DeLaval, Ecolab, Federated Farmers, Fonterra Farm Source, Honda Motorcycles, LIC, Meridian Energy, and Ravensdown, along with industry partner Primary ITO.

A total of 374 entries have been received in the 2018 New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards, with 110 entered in the Share Farmer of the Year competition, 146 entered in the Dairy Manager of the Year competition and 118 entered in the Dairy Trainee of the Year competition.

Entrants will first compete in one of 11 regional competitions being held throughout the country in February and March next year. The winners of those competitions will progress to the national finals in May next year.

Our next issue is due out January 26th
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Web tools offer torrents of data on dry spell



Looking for rain: A lot of Taranaki people have been looking at rainfall figures from Cape Egmont during the current dry spell. Photo Staci Holmes

Improvements to the online presentation of Taranaki's rainfall and other environmental data are coming into their own in the current dry spell.

Rainfall is among a number of environmental measures available on the Taranaki Regional Council website, which receives automated feeds of data from the Council's region-wide network of monitoring stations.

"The improvements are designed to make the web experience more user-friendly," says the Council's Director-Environment Quality, Gary Bedford. "They were

implemented in October and they couldn't have come at a better time. The traffic data speaks for itself"

Views of live rainfall graphs and related data on the Council website during November were a half to two-thirds up on the same period last year. The increase is put down to the site improvements as well as the current dry spell and record low rainfall in some locations.

The top four most-viewed locations were Stratford, Cape Egmont, Eltham Rd near Te Kiri in South Taranaki, and North Egmont Visitor Centre.

New features on the

website include more frequent updates, the ability for site visitors to access data for a time period of their own choice, dynamic graphs that users can adjust to get the view they want, more download options and a generally cleaner layout.

Total page views of rainfall-related data were up nearly 56% for November 2017 compared with November 2016, with an increase of more than 66% in 'unique' (new) page views.

Rainfall data from 26 locations is available on the website, updated generally at 15-minute intervals. The data can be displayed as a graph or a table, and

the time period adjusted according to the viewer's requirements.

Website visitors can also access the Council's live data on wind direction, speed and gusts, air temperature, river flows, levels and water temperatures, soil temperature and soil moisture content, and, during summer, results of regular freshwater and coastal water-quality monitoring at popular bathing spots.

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Are we reaching herd equilibrium?

Relatively small movements in livestock numbers in the year to June 2017 may indicate New Zealand agriculture is reaching herd equilibrium, Federated Farmers Dairy Chairperson Chris Lewis says.

figures from Stats NZ's 2017 agricultural production census show dairy cattle numbers dropped 2 per cent from 6.6 million to 6.5 million in the 12-month period.

The dairy cattle count has been largely stable since 2012.

"Farmers have a strong and increasing focus on sustainability and further improving their environmental footprint, and that is translating into maintaining or reducing dairy cattle numbers and instead looking for gains by boosting production per head," Chris said.

"It's being achieved. Despite

falls in herd numbers, Dairy NZ data shows production per cow in 2016/17 set a new record, increasing by 9kg of milk solids per cow to 381kg." And it's not just about volume but value too. The sector has successfully grown the share of milk being further processed into specialty or consumer products to 40 per cent of total output.

"Fine tuning our businesses for the best results for staff, our animals and the environment is a constant. We're continuing to get more out of the cows we have got, and we're increasing the premium we earn in export dollars for New Zealand by more added-value products."

The animal census showed cattle numbers increased for the first time in over 10 years, from 3.5 million in 2016 to 3.6 million in 2017.

Sheep numbers eased 1 percent to 27.4 million.



Happy cows head to the shed.

Photo Staci Holmes

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Located on the Tipoka Road minutes from Rahotu is this attractive 61.11 hectare (150.0154 acre) dairy farm/runoff is milking 180 cows through a very tidy 16 A/S herringbone cowshed. This property has produced 64,700 kg/MS average over the last three seasons and has produced 74,000 kg/MS in the past. Rectangular in layout, centrally raced to 35 paddocks and watered via a dosatron through a ring mains system to two drinking points in each paddock this farm is a dream to manage. Being a great location with solid infrastructure this farm would appeal to first farm buyers or those wishing to expand their current dairy platform.

Largely flat in contour with some lahar, ample shedding and two haybarns this property is complimented with a Brick four bedroom Beazley home and large garage workshop (9 x 6 m). Be quick to capitalise on this opportunity.

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TENDER | FIRST DAIRY FARM/RUNOFF



202 Newall Road, Newall, New Plymouth District

Located a short drive from Okato on the Upper Newall Road, this 84.3173 (208.3480 acres) dairy farm, provides scope for a first farm buyer or as a grazing/supplement block. Currently milking 157 cows through a 13 ASHB cowshed, this farm boasts two new calf/storage sheds, a large barn and 6 bay Implement shed.

With all young stock on (65 weaners, 56 R2 heifers and 19 holdovers), the farm has averaged 42,900 kg/MS over the last two years and is tracking to equal or better that this season. With an older 3 BR home, centrally raced and subdivided into 54 paddocks, this flat to easy contoured farm is an affordable opportunity rarely available today.

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TENDER | NEWALL RD DAIRY FARM, IT'S ALL HERE



344 Newall Road, Newall, New Plymouth District

Located on the Newall Road is this extremely well set up 98.49 hectare (243.3687 acre) dairy farm.

With an effective 84 hectares and neighbouring 94 hectare lease block as milking platforms and a 78 hectare support block, this farm has pumped out an average of 192,200 kg/MS over the last three seasons.

Currently milking 480 cows through a 40 bale rotary cowshed, this farm also features a 4,750 sqm Redpath dairy shelter, a reliable water supply and is centrally raced and well subdivided. With two homes and plentiful sheds/outbuildings, this farm presents extremely well and provides a number of options to buyers.

The lease block is also available to purchase.

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TENDER | SUPERB RUNOFF/SUPPLEMENT BLOCK



168 Newall Road, Newall, New Plymouth District

Situated on the Upper Newall Road, this mainly flat 78.3260 hectare (193.5435 acre) runoff offers plenty of options for either an established farmer, grazier or first farm buyer.

This farm currently grazes 290 heifers, (130 yearlings and 160 weaners) and during winter grazes 500 dairy cows for five weeks at which time the young stock are moved back to the dairy platform.

With a reliable water supply, central race system and good subdivision, this farm seriously grows grass with 1200 (10's) bales of baleage harvested annually.

With a 3 bedroom home, Redpath shelter (17m x 6m) used for calf rearing, 2 x 2 bay implement sheds and 18 from 35 paddocks mowable, it's all here. Don't miss your chance to view.

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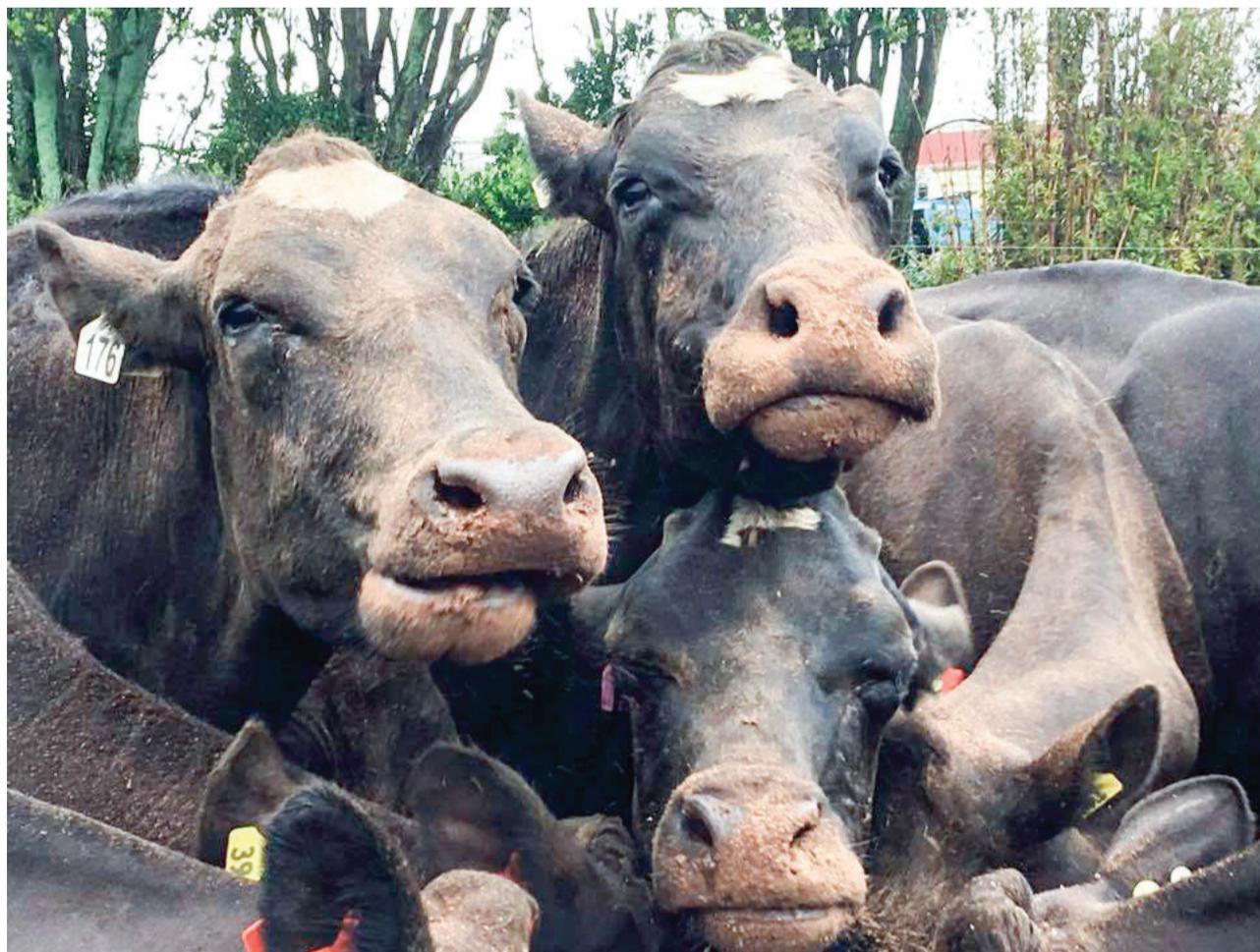
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Tis the season to be jolly



Breakfast yum.
Photo Staci Holmes

The strength and value of the New Zealand primary sector is indisputable with industry exports projected to exceed \$41.4 billion by mid-2018, say Federated Farmers

The latest Ministry for Primary Industries report, Situation & Outlook for Primary Industries, predicts continued growth through to 2019.

“It certainly makes for good reading. As a farmer you also want to see it reflected in genuine returns at the farm gate, where you can make a sustainable profit too,” says Federated Farmers National President Katie Milne.

“We’ve had a challenging spring in terms of growing crops and pasture and now the pendulum has swung to extreme dry in some areas and this may unfortunately

impact on some of those longer term predictions.

“No one can really foretell what 2018 will bring, but farmers have had enough disruption lately to not get too far ahead of themselves.”

Annual dairy exports were forecast to increase by 15 percent to \$16.8 billion, with meat and wool projections also on an upward trend, by 4.2 percent at \$8.7 billion for the year to June 2018.

The arable industry was also in good shape with seed exports forecast to rise 12 percent to \$220 million.

Adding to the good vibe meanwhile is Agriculture Minister Damien O’ Connor, who has pledged to grow primary sector capability through further support and investment towards the Sustainable Farming Fund (SFF).

The minister believes there

is genuine opportunities for producers to become more profitable and move up the value chain to suit a growing discerning consumer base.

A former recipient of the Fund for an environmental project, Katie says the primary sector is in an enviable position and should be ready to capitalise.

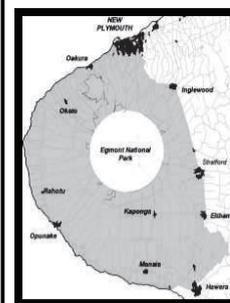
“The SFF is a great initiative and suitably allows for the small and big projects to get funding. This has huge incentives for farmers and growers who generally lead these research projects and are trialling in the field.

“We are globally renowned for being a quality food producer that is safe and reliable. The challenge for producers is to maximise that hard-earned reputation and get the market returns they deserve,” says Katie.

Our office will re open on Monday 15th January

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Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home & business within the rural area, bounded in the north by the New Plymouth city border, extending east to Egmont Village and around to the edge of Stratford, south to Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga & Eltham. We want to be involved with your business. Call today and discuss your marketing options with us.



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Big win for Manaia Bowling Club



Manaia's winning bowlers. Back row. From left, John Bishop, Kevin Bird, Doug Clark, Peter Clark, Hector Bell, Kelvin Putt, Robert Clark, John Whelan. Front row. Willie Fleming, Ross Clark. Absent. Blair Clark, Ernie Feaver.

The Manaia Bowling Club is the mouse that roared. The club which has 20 members successfully took on bigger clubs to win the Taranaki Third Division championship. The championship was played

over three consecutive weekends, two in New Plymouth and one in Hawera, with the winner decided on a point system based on wins and differentials. The winner was decided on December 2 with Manaia having a one

point lead over Waitara.

Manaia fielded a team of fours and two teams of pairs. Eight players were used, of which three were new to bowls.

The pairs team of Hector Bell and John Whelan won

eight of their nine games, backed up by strong support from the other Manaia teams.

Next year Manaia is faced with the choice of staying in the third division or moving up into second.

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More drownings prompt calls to be more careful in the water

The Water Safety sector is urging people to make water safety a top priority this holiday season.

With preventable drowning up on the same time last year, there are fears that numbers will continue to grow as Kiwis head out in droves to enjoy New Zealand's beaches, rivers, lakes, swimming pools

and other water spots this Christmas.

High temperatures are expected in the coming weeks leading to increased participation across multiple environments and activities in, on and around the water and Surf Life Saving New Zealand, Coastguard and Water Safety New Zealand are concerned about the impact this could have if people don't have the presence of mind to think about water safety for themselves, friends and family.

Water Safety New Zealand CEO Jonty Mills says drowning remains the number one cause of recreational death and the number three cause of accidental death in New Zealand.

The rise in fatal drownings of toddlers and under-fives is particularly disheartening, with seven occurring year to date versus a five-year average of four, he says.

"The only fool-proof solution is constant adult supervision and keeping toddlers at arm's length at all times around the water."

Mr Mills says the breadth of activities and environments makes drownings a complex

problem and all Kiwis need to take responsibility for themselves and others in order to change our attitudes around water.

Surf Life Saving New Zealand CEO Paul Dalton says the long awaited summer is here at last and wants people to go out and enjoy it safely by visiting one of the 80 patrolled locations nationwide.

"Taking a few minutes to plan a day out at the beach could just save your life. There is a very important reason why we urge people to choose a patrolled beach and swim between the flags. The fact is, it is always the safest place to swim," he says.

Mr Dalton says so often, the people rescued by Surf Lifeguards have overestimated their ability and underestimated the risk and before they know it, they are in trouble.

"Take a moment to stop and think before entering the water and if in doubt, stay out," he says.

Coastguard CEO Patrick Holmes says his Christmas wish is that everyone who goes out boating this summer comes home safely.

"There are two simple

things that people can do to ensure this happens - wear a lifejacket and carry two forms of waterproof communication so that you can call for help if you do get into difficulty."

Mr Holmes says most accidents on the water occur suddenly, with no warning.

"There may be no time to grab a lifejacket and it's extremely difficult to put one on in the water. A lifejacket never ruined a day on the water so take them and wear them."

Coastguard's Old4New Lifejacket Upgrade campaign is currently touring the country enabling people to trade their old, damaged, or out of date lifejackets for a great discount on a brand-new, quality Hutchwilco lifejacket.

While enjoying the water is part of New Zealand's way of life, the dangers are real and things can change quickly.

This summer remember the four rules of the Water Safety Code and avoid alcohol while taking part in aquatic activities. Be prepared, watch out for yourself and each other, be aware of the dangers and know your limits.



Wishing you all a Safe & Happy Christmas!

From the Team at Walkerbros



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A successful day's fishing



Nixon Laing holding a trout.



One lucky trout being released.



A young man with dinner for the family.

The Kids trout held in October was a huge success with a total of 80 kids turning up and all catching a trout or two.

Many thanks to Fish and Game who donated the 250 trout used for the day, as well as Farm source, Elite Farm services, Murray at the 4 square, Collins Sport Centre.

Thanks to Heather, the Lady of the Lake for allowing her grounds to be used as a base, and for Steve at the hydro.

Paddy Walsh

Good cheer at Christmas tournament

The Waimate Plains Indoor Bowls Association recently played their Christmas Tournament at Kapuni Hall.

The winners were the Otakeho Club team of Paul Midgley (Skip) Jane Augustine, Raewyn Fredrickson and Sam Landers. Runners up were the

Midhirst team of Barry Rowland (Skip) Max Rowland, Jodie Muggeridge and Emma Muggeridge.

Lucky prizes were won by Lesley Landers, David Gullery, Jack Stuart and Wayne Cameron.

Raffles were won by Victor Hughes and Freda Geange.

President Gordon Hamley thanked everyone for their support and those that had helped with running the tournament and wished everyone a happy festive season.

Jenny Hamley

Mania Golf

Ambrose. 1. Team 229. 2. Left Overs. 3. Workers. 4. Nigel & Friends. 5. Golfing Gibbies. 6. Hackers.

End of month tournament. Men's division. 1. Robert Snowdon. 2. Winston Kidd. 3. Trevor Larsen. 4. Kingsley

Young. Women's division. 1. Jackie Higgins. 2. Agi Poole. Twos. Robert Snowdon, Greg Elliott.

Saturday men. 1. Trevor Larsen. 2. John Oliver. 3. Robert Snowdon. Twos. Trevor Larsen.

Junior Ambrose. 1. Junior Hackers. 2. Golf Kids.

Opunake Bowling Club results

The Club fours were played in lovely conditions on November 1 with the green running well. First were Joy Collins, Heather Radford and Kay Fleming. Runners-up were Bev Robinson, Nell L'Ami, Val Coombe and Pat Barrett.

The Police Triples were held on November 6. Although there was a

smaller than usual turnout for the annual Cops and Robbers tournament, it was enjoyed by all competitors. 1st. Bill Stuart, Girl Rewiti, Tony Bewick. 2nd. Dean File, Alan Hunt, Noel Close. 3rd. Jason Hazzard, Garry Kerr, Ross Spranger.

Two teams played in the Championship Fours on November 23. The best out

of three eighteen ends were played. Joy Collins' team (Joy Collins, Nell L'Ami, Pat Barrett and Rita Davey) won the first eighteen ends. Bev Robinson's team (Bev Robinson, Chris Commane, Val Coombe and Kay Fleming) won the second and third eighteen ends. This meant Bev's team were winners., with Joy's team as runners up.

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Raffle Draw; 204 - M
Clement & 104 - G Dorn

PUBLIC NOTICES



OAKURA & OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE
Telephone 06 752-7199

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.

Monday 25th Dec 2017	CLOSED
Tuesday 26th Dec 2017	CLOSED
Wednesday 27th Dec 2017	9AM - 1PM
Thursday 28th Dec 2017	9AM - 1PM
Friday 29th Dec 2017	9AM - 1PM
Monday 1st Jan 2018	CLOSED
Tuesday 2nd Jan 2018	CLOSED
Wednesday 3rd Jan 2018	9AM-1PM Opunake 9am-5pm
Thursday 4th Jan 2018	9AM-1PM Opunake 9am-5pm
Friday 5th Jan 2018	9AM-1PM Opunake 9am-5pm

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

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COMBINED CHURCHES

COMMUNITY CAROLS

Rahotu 7pm - Thurs December 21

Christmas Eve - St. Barnabas

Christmas Day - St. Pauls 9.30am

COMBINED SERVICES

January 7 St. Pauls

January 14 The Wave

January 21 St. Barnabas

January 28 Our Lady Star of the Sea

Opunake Country

Music Club 2018



Change of Club day to
second Sunday of each month at 1pm
Starting January 4



OPUNAKE BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH
AT 5.30PM

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

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu

Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St,

9.30am every Sunday and the

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

Oakura - 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

Youth Group 7pm Friday

Come along or contact Pastor Murray
027 688 7378

ST. BARNABAS

Anglican Church 141 Tasman St, Opunake

Sunday Services 10.00am

Communion 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday

Prayer & Praise 1st Sunday

Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather
for a Combined Service

PUBLIC NOTICES

What's On Listings



JONATHAN YOUNG

Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?
Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. Refer advert for details.

For more information phone: 06 7591363
Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

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

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

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

TAI CHI BASICS

Thursdays 9am – 10am at Coastal Care Community Room

NIGEL CLIFFE ACUPUNCTURE

Thursdays 11am-4pm at Coastalcare, Opunake.

CLUB HOTEL TEXAS HOLDEM POKER

Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

CLUB HOTEL POOL

Tuesday Nights. New players welcome.

OPUNAKE SURF INN

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

COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS

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

TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA

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

EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM

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

TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

PREGNANCY HELP TARANAKI

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

OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB

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

TAINUI DAY CENTRE - 141 Tasman Street Opunake.

Each Monday at 10:00 12:30. \$2 donation. Recreational & Social Friendship. To those of more mature years. Come yourself or bring a friend. A warm welcome, have no fear. Happiness & laughter we intend.

More information call Jenny 06 7618080 or Glenys 06 655802

OPUNAKE & MANAIA LIBRARYPLUS

Registrations from the 4th of December. Refer article and advert for details

SEE NOTHING. TRUTH/ LIE DICHOTOMY EXHIBITION

15 December to January 24 at the Percy Thomson Gallery. Refer advert for details.

OPUNAKE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARADE

Christmas Eve, Sunday December 24. Parade starts at 7pm. Refer advert.

LACONIC ZEPHYR PLAYING LIVE

At the Club Hotel, Friday 29th December. Refer advert for details.

UNDER THE SUN AT THE SURF INN

Saturday December 30. Refer advert for details.

DJ ROX & DJ HAVOC AT THE OPUNAKE SURF INN

On New Years Eve. Refer to advert for details.

OPUNAKE MUSIC WORKSHOP

9th January at 7.30pm at Coastal Care. Refer advert for details.

SOUNDS ON THE SAND AT OPUNAKE BEACH

Relax and listen to some great funk, soul and R&B on Saturday January 13. Refer advert for details.

MOVIES AT EVERYBODY'S THEATRE IN OPUNAKE

Playing all throughout the holiday season. Refer timetable and ad for details.

STONEY OAKS WILDLIFE PARK

Open daily from Boxing Day until the end of January. Refer advert for details.

AT THE BEACH EXHIBITION

At Puke Ariki December 2 to 18 February. Refer advert for details.

TSB FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Festival dates are 16 December to 5th February. Free buses from Opunake, Okato and Oakura. Refer advert for details.

SUMMER FUN DAY AT THE TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE

Friday 19 January. Refer advert.

FARMLANDS FAMILY FUN DAY

Pukekura Raceway, December 27. Refer advert for details.

KATCHAFIRE, THE BLACK SEEDS, SONS OF ZION PLAYING LIVE

At Butlers Reef, December 29. See advert.

JON TOOGOOD PLAYING LIVE

At Butlers Reef, Jan 3 2018. Refer advert.

TAKE A KID FISHING

January 3, 2018. More information at Collins Sports. Refer advert.

OPUNAKE LAKESIDE LIONS POOL PARTY

Friday Jan 5. See advert for details

TUPARE GARDEN FAIR AND GUIDED WALK

January 6, 8.30 start. Refer advert and article for times of this and other events.

THE PAINTED WAR EXHIBITION

At Tawhiti Museum over the holiday period. Refer advert for dates.

Recently Married



Pilots tie the knot

Hilary Thwaites and Nick Haynes married at Everybody's in the Auckland CBD.

They are currently living in Dubai, and both are pilots flying for Emirates Airlines.

Hilary's parents are Alison and Rob Thwaites from Oeo. Her grandparents were Betty and Jim Thwaites from Oeo, and Margaret and Don Brown from Okaiawa. Hilary is a former Opunake High School Student.

Nick's parents are Sonia Rasmussen and Richard Haynes from Auckland.



Ben Olliver married Crystal Ngaia at 3.30pm on December 2 next to the Opunake Lake. The reception followed at the town hall.

Whats on at the Good Home in NewPlymouth?

Fri 22nd Dec - Ash & Aidan Live followed by DJ Ash.

Sat 23rd Dec - DJ Lukie

Sun 24th Dec - Ash & Aidan Live 9 - 12 MIDNIGHT CLOSE

Fri 29th Dec - DJ Lukie

Sat 30th Dec - DJ Tully

Sun 31st Dec - Nye party. Ash & Aidan followed by DJ Ash. Ash & Aidan to also host the evening.

Friday 5th January – DJ Kritikl

Saturday 6th Jan - Ash & Aidan live followed by DJ Ash

Friday 12th January – To be confirmed

Saturday 13th January - Ash & Aidan live followed by Dj Ash

Friday 19th January – To be confirmed

Saturday 20th January – DJ Lukie

Friday 26th January – DJ Kritikl

Saturday 27th January - Ash & Aidan live followed by Dj Ash.

Something for even the pickiest eater

When summer rolls around, there are times when you want to take a break and relax with friends and family. Or you may want to kick your heels up and party away the night. Either way The Good Home has some great options available.

With a full a la carte menu as well as sharing platters, there is something to satisfy even the pickiest

eater. There is a great range of burgers and our world famous pizzas; this will make it easy for the kids to choose something they like. No more "There's nothing I like" when you visit the Good Home.

The sharing platters are a great way to eat delicious food without having to order a formal meal. There are several different platters to

choose from, (my favourite is the classic platter) and each has a large range of tasty nibbles that is suitable for 3-4 people to share.

Steaks are an absolute specialty at The Good Home. With one of the largest ranges around and the fantastic Stone Grill method of cooking it is an experience in itself. If you haven't tried a Stonegrill



Come and enjoy a great meal at the Good Home

steak then I suggest you do it this summer. The steak is delivered to your table sizzling on a super hot piece of special stone where you finish it off to your own

liking, whether that is rare or well cooked, it is perfect every time.

The Good Home has a great line-up of entertainment over the next few weeks.

There will be a lane party on New Year's Eve which will be supporting the Little Fighters Trust.

Russell Atkinson.

Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park

Open daily from Boxing Day until the end of January and see our new treehouse! 11am to 4pm No Eftpos

Don't miss the Ultimate Animal Experience.

Meet our kid goat, take a fairy bushwalk, row the boat, kiss a Llama, rub pig's tummies, hand feed possums, and cuddle baby rabbits.

Bring a picnic and enjoy close encounters of the animal kind. Bottle feeding \$5

Ph 06 756 7624 for prices & directions.



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Kim, Courtney, Denise, Britney, Clare, Lina,
Izzy, Eliza and Rose

wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

We also want to thank all our customers for their support and hope to see you back soon.

We are open at the Holiday season as usual.



We also proudly announce that we have won the New Zealand Beef & Lamb Award for the third time in a row

2502 Surf Highway 45 - Okato



Hundreds of pictures of Elvis in all directions, as well as related memorabilia.

Make this season one of sharing at The Good Home.....

Come and get a delicious platter to share with friends and family at The Good Home this summer. Sit out on the deck and enjoy the summer sun with a refreshing drink and some delicious nibbles to share.



Great entertainment at The Good Home this summer...

- Fri 22nd Dec - Ash & Aidan Live followed by DJ Ash.
- Sat 23rd Dec - DJ Lukie
- Sun 24th Dec - Ash & Aidan Live 9 - 12 (MIDNIGHT CLOSE only on the 24th)
- Fri 29th Dec - DJ Lukie
- Sat 30th Dec - DJ Tully
- Sun 31st Dec - Nye party. Ash & Aidan followed by DJ Ash.



The Elvis Presley Museum in Hawera is amazing

August was the anniversary of the death of Elvis Presley. He died on August 16, 1977. It seemed a good time to visit the Elvis Museum at 51 Argyle Street, Hawera and I'm glad I did. The display of information, books, pictures, badges, records, replica gold discs, replica jackets, - even leaves & pebbles from Graceland - was overwhelming with everything optimally presented. As you arrive at the door you are met by a life-sized Elvis standing beside an immense Graceland (his home). This remarkable museum is the life time work and devotion of Kevin D Wasley (known as 'KD'), who started his collection back in 1959. Entry is by donation and telephone appointments are strongly preferred.



The nearest thing to meeting Elvis is KD's Elvis Presley Museum at 51 Argyle Street, Hawera.

Make sure you have plenty of time because the collection is huge. Elvis music is quietly playing in the background as you stroll around, trying not to be overwhelmed.

The museum has come to the attention of the news media including television, which have featured it in the past. Television 3's Project has recently been in touch with KD with the intention of possibly doing a feature soon.

Recently the iconic museum chosen by Lonely Planet for

inclusion in their publication. "It made me feel a million dollars," admitted KD. The museum has also been visited by many celebrities such as "my hero" Tom Sharplin. Other visitors have included Dalvanus Prime, The Topp Twins, Suzanne Prentiss, John Hore, Eddie Lowe, Sam Hunt, Maria Dallas, The Exponents, The Chills, Justin Du Fresne - to name just a few.

People from all over

the world have paid a visit from such places as Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Australia, and the United States - of course.

KD is a walking encyclopaedia of Elvis facts and figures. He says Elvis made 32 films and he chooses 'King Creole' as his favourite partly because. "His acting was superb." The film was based on a best-selling book 'A Stone for Danny Fish'. The film went down well with the

critics and was named as one of the Top 5 films of the year.

What exactly stated KD off on his mammoth collection? Well, KD received a special gift - it was the EP of 'Heartbreak Hotel' one of Elvis' early million sellers. "That started me off big time," explains KD. KD was given the inspirational gift from Billy Gulliver, who was the son of Ernie Gulliver. Ernie was in the building trade with KD's father.

KD likes Elvis early hard hitting songs the most, such as 'Heartbreak Hotel' but admits, "I also like some of the (later) bleeding heart ballads also."

Unfortunately, KD never got to meet Elvis, but has achieved the next best. He met Elvis' Uncle Vester "who taught Elvis how to play the guitar." KD is photographed (in 1979) with Vester in the grounds of Graceland. "He was a real southern man who

was nicknamed Popeye," comments KD.

He also met Scotty Moore (Winfield Scott Moore) who was Elvis original group member and featured on the 1968 televised Elvis Comeback special. Sadly Scotty passed away recently.

KD shows me his "pride and joy" a 1975 LP signed by Elvis himself (in June, 1976).

Of Elvis as a person KD had this to say, "He was shy and pretty reserved. He did not mix well with Hollywood which he found false. (Although he admired Tony Curtis). He'd go to his beloved Graceland. Fame didn't go to his head."

KD admits to being close to his seventieth birthday. What will happen to his museum when he heads to the Big Musical Paradise in the Sky? KD mentions his three sons "my pride and joy" and says on of them David has helped considerably with the Museum's website and would be keen to continue Kevin's stewardship.

The website is well worth a look www.elvismuseum.co.nz The Elvis museum can be contacted by phoning/faxing 06 278 7624 or mobile 0274 982 942. The email is elvisroom@xtra.co.nz

Rolland McKellar



sounds on the sand

**Saturday 13 January, Opunake Beach
12.30pm - 3.00pm**

(Postponement day Sunday 14 January)

Sit back and relax while listening to a huge range of funk, soul and R&B by Re-Set from down the road in Whanganui.

Bring your beach chair and a picnic for an enjoyable afternoon.

Free face painting for the kids!

We encourage this event to be 

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

Important exhibition opens in Stratford



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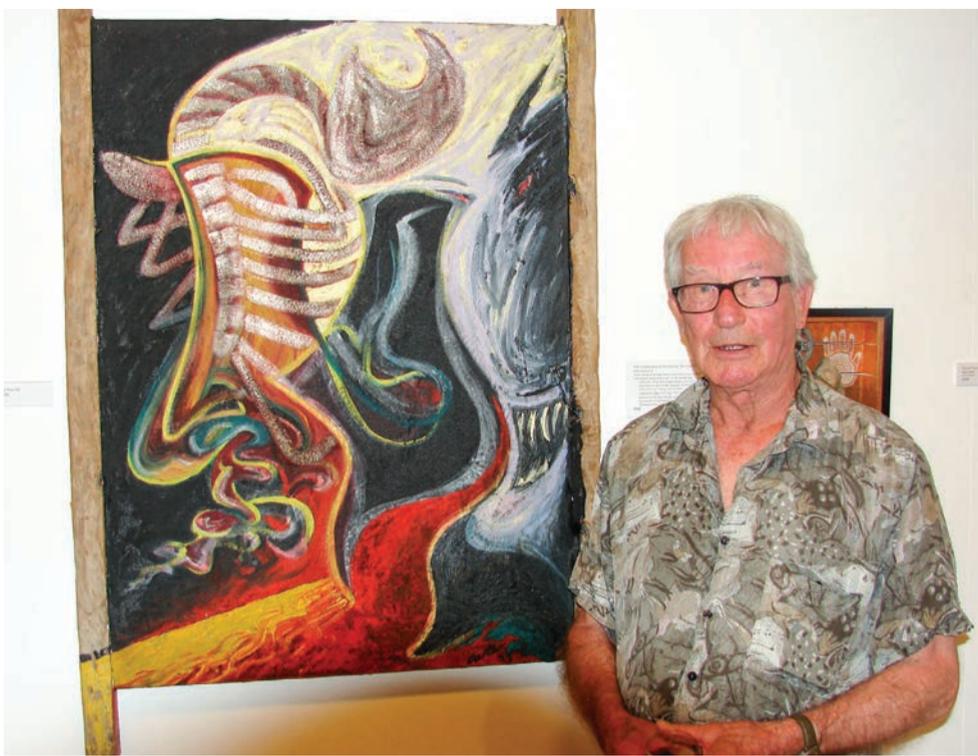
Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year



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Alby Carter with his exhibit 'Nuclear Fear' at the Percy Thomson Gallery.

coming', a pufferfish painted - which looked a lot like a certain overseas leader. "Any similarity to a public figure is purely fortuitous." - said the written commentary.

Arlo Guthrie makes a plea for more transparency as regards malnutrition in the world. With his 'I'm Not Hungry, I'm Starving'. His exhibit is mixed media on perspex.

'The Pacific Death Kiss' (acrylic on canvas) highlights the aggressive influence of man on the marine world. The painting is by Jan Huijbers.

'Stolen' by Ngahina Hohaia was impressive and created from Taranaki farm fence batteries, fencing wire, staples and albatross feathers - evocative of what was stolen at Parihaka.

Okato artist Alby Carter's exhibit 'Nuclear Fear' focuses on the extreme danger of nuclear warheads, despite the nonsense spoken about nuclear deterrence.

Make sure you experience what is possibly the most important exhibition in Taranaki for 2017 and maybe 2018. Keep in mind the last day - January 28, 2018.

Roland McKellar

Opunake Music Workshop

7:30pm Tuesday, 9th January 2018
CoastalCare, 26 Napier Street, Opunake.

Bring instruments, basic amplification provided.



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Percy Thomson Gallery's final exhibition for the year the 'See Nothing, truth/lie dichotomy' was officially opened in Stratford on Friday December 15 to a well-attended gathering. The exhibition, which is curated by Roger Morris (Remo), runs until Sunday 28, 2018. The artists include Dan Levin (USA), Raewyn Turner, Ngahina Hohaia, Johnny de Painter, Arlo Edwards, Dale Copeland, Wayne McVicar, Alby Carter, Jans Huijbers, as well as Roger Morris.

Percy Thomson Gallery curator Rhonda Bunyan feels there is "too much silliness, lies and BS" as regards international events, including such events as 9/11 and the invasion of

Iraq and thought that Roger was just the artist to curate the exhibition to bring some truthful light into murky unreality and lies. Each artist has created works designed to reveal truth from his or her perspective.

Guest speaker Shane Herbert spoke highly of the exhibition commenting, "I'm completely blown

away." He concluded, "What a powerful exhibition with so many ideas which drive what I think of the world."

Steve Muggeridge accompanied himself on guitar to perform a well-received protest song 'Old Orwellian World'.

Here is a small selection of what is on display. Dale Copeland's 'Democracy is



detail: The Rape of Bosnia .remo

Democracy is Coming, Dale Copeland



Merry Christmas from the team at the Professionals

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see nothing

truth/lie dichotomy

roger morris dan levin ngahina hohaia tao wells
 dale copeland alby carter johnny d painter
 wayne mcvicar raewyn turner arlo edwards

curated by Roger Morris

15 December 2017 - 28 January 2018

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art education inspiration

Something visual for the Christmas season



A taste of the first Christmas at Bethlehem on display at the Kaponga Co-operating Church

Worshippers at the Church were treated to something novel when they came to church on Sunday. Kaponga Co-operating something novel when they The Rev Rodney Dunlop



“Dolls with Bowls” team members Trish Anderson, Dana McMurray, and Debbie Cooksley, dressed for our Xmas theme night. Ten teams currently compete but we have room for six more teams. Friday December 22 will be the last night for 2017, starting again January 12.

been doing in the various parishes he has been in. Most of the figures were made 4-5 years ago.

Created from plastic milk models, the heads are modelled at the top and the cloth is added.

He has reservations about being referred to as a retired Anglican minister.

“Once you get into this, you kind of keep in it for the rest of your life,” he says.

Rodney had installed the display on Saturday in time for the service on Sunday which was attended by 35-40

people, including members of the nearby Manaia Union Parish.

Steve Nicholas of the Kaponga Co-operating Church said this was the first time they had had a nativity scene like this

“This year we decided to have a special service with the focus on the coming of Christ,”

The display will still there be at the church’s Christmas Eve service, says Steve.

who takes a service there once a month had put up a display on the first Christmas at Bethlehem, complete with all the players, Jesus, Mary, Joseph, angel, star, shepherds, wise men, even townfolk.

“I have an artistic streak and I think it’s important for people to have something visual to see,” he says. “It’s one of the great traditions of our church to do something visually, and we live in a visual society today. St Francis first put nativity scenes together for people who couldn’t read.”

It is something Rodney has

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Bruce and the team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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Xmas cheer with music in the air



Musical party faces at the Opunake Music Workshop

The festive season is upon us. What better way to celebrate than with an array of talented musicians and singers at the community-based music group in Opunake at the 2017 final year Xmas party on December 12. Performers

sang carols, Maori songs, played jazz, and danced to Irish jigs, livening up CoastalCare's community lounge space. Red, blue, green and gold tinsel added a splash of colour for that festive atmosphere. A speech or

two from musicians covered the thank yous to Ashley and Janet Pedersen for their time and effort setting up the gear each fortnight without missing a beat for the past two years. Laughter broke out after a clever comment

from harmonica player Jeff McDonald, who said, "I can just see Ashley cast in bronze playing his bass guitar next to Peter Snell, and Janet with her surveillance camera taking pictures."

Maree Wheeler was very

complimentary about the professionalism of her recently released CD 'Singing with Angels,' recorded by Colour Conversions. A decorated table laden with yummy strawberries, fruit mince pies, and a wide variety

of food put the icing on the event.

2018 is just around the corner. First and foremost, I would like to thank you all for making 2017 a great year. It has been a productive year for the Opunake Music Workshops.

We have been busy doing what we do best: developing the talents of musicians, singers, dancers, poets, and anyone who has wanted to take up the challenge to be creative and entertaining.

We'll resume the workshops in the New Year on Tuesday January 9, 2018, 7:30pm at CoastalCare - Community Lounge, 26 Napier Street, Opunake (opposite Opunake & Coastal News).

All, musicians, singers etc are welcome. Please bring along your \$2 coin, which will be donated to the CoastalCare Trust. We hope that 2018 will be a successful year for us all, and we look forward to bringing you fresh, and exciting musical projects during the New Year.

Thanks again, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Anne Montgomery



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

We would like to thank you all for your support in 2017 and look forward to another great year in 2018

CoastalCare will close on Friday 22nd December and reopen Monday 8th January 2018

Opunake Medical Centre

Open 27th, 28th, 29th December 8.30am - 1.00pm

Normal opening hours resume 3rd January 2018

Opunake Pharmacy

Open normal pharmacy hours but closed Public Holidays

Taylor Dental

Reopens (Opunake) 11th January 2018

Lisa Keen Audiology

Reopens (Opunake) 17th January 2018

Opunake Acupuncture Clinic

Reopens (Opunake) 11th January 2018

Coastal Printers

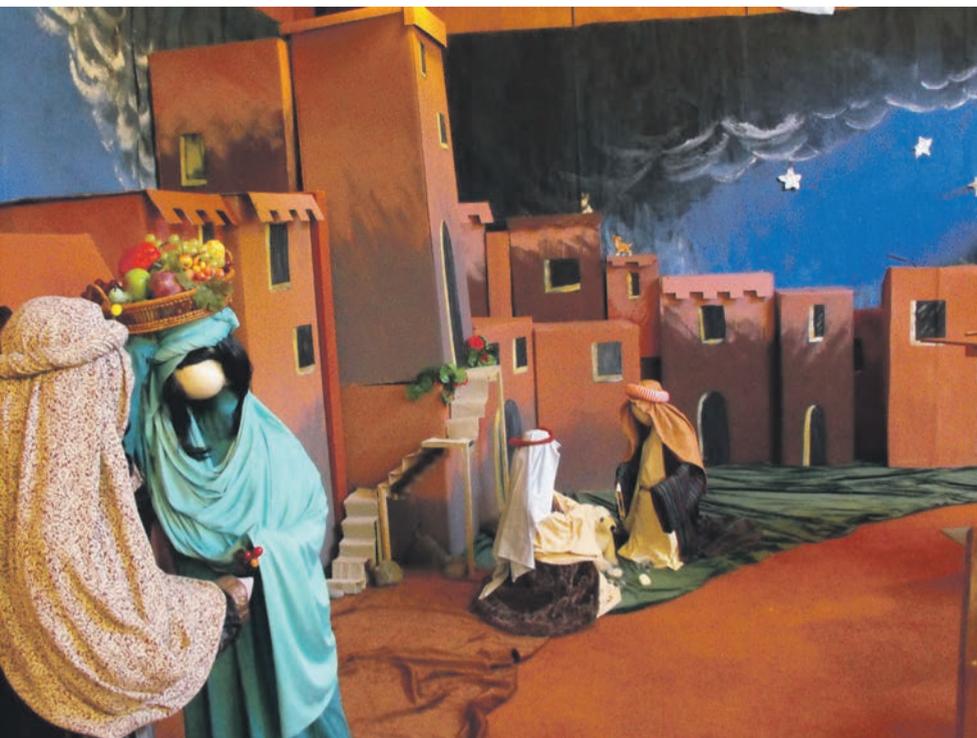
Closed 22nd December - Reopens 8th January 2018



All other Services housed within the CoastalCare facility will return week commencing 8th or 15th January 2018

Telephone 06 761 8488

Christmas at St Paul's



The Christmas display at St Paul's Church has become a regular part of Christmas at Opunake, and Christmas can be seen by members of the public at the church on 31 Havelock Street, Opunake from 2pm-4pm and 7pm-9pm through to December 25. From December 26 to January 10, it can be viewed by appointment. This lovely photo is from the display last year.

Contact Elva (06)763-8650. Lynette (06)761-8871. Macey (06)761-8927.

We welcome your contributions.

Please send to

editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Our next issue is due out

January 26th



EVERYBODY'S THEATRE
Movies - Boutique Theatre - Hire

Everybody's Theatre would like to thank everyone for their support during 2017.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Safe holidays.

We are open and have a great selection of movies for the holiday period including a one off screening of Lord of the Rings, Fellowship of the Rings and our Boutique on Sunday 7th January is Breathe.

Please remember if attending all R rated movies need ID and no alcohol to be brought in please, however we do have a special licence for the Boutique that allows us to sell that night only.





EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE – HIRE
For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre
Check out our website at www.everybodystheatre.co.nz – Phone 027 3837926
DECEMBER/JANUARY 2017

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos																				
ID required for all R rated movies																					
<p>THE STAR Animation, Adventure, Comedy 1hr 26mins PG A small but brave donkey named Bo years for a life beyond his daily grind at the village mill. One day, he finds the courage to break free, embarking on the adventure of his dreams Sat 23rd Dec 1pm Fri 29th Dec 1pm Mon 1st Jan 1pm</p> <p>KIWI CHRISTMAS Kids, Family 1 hr 29mins PG Fed up with the materialism of Christmas, Santa runs away to New Zealand for a summer holiday. When two Kiwi kids figure out who he is, they have to find a way to get him back to the North Pole in time for Christmas Fri 22nd Dec 1pm Fri 5th Jan 1pm</p> <p>GOODBYE CHRISTOPHER ROBIN - Drama 1hr 47mins PG After leaving London for the English countryside, writer A.A. Milne starts to spin fanciful yarns about his son's growing collection of stuffed animals. These stories form the basis for "Winnie-the-Pooh" Wed 27th Dec 1pm Sat 30th Dec 7pm</p> <p>PADDINGTON 2 Kids, Family 1 hr 29mins PG Paddington undertakes a number of odd jobs to afford a unique pop-up book from an antique book shop - a present for Aunt Lucy on her 100th birthday. But when the book is stolen, it's up to Paddington and the Browns to find the thief. Sat 30th Dec 1pm Wed 3rd Jan 1pm Sat 6th Jan 1pm</p>	<p>WONDER Drama 1hr 53mins PG As Auggie's family, new classmates, and the larger community all struggle to find their compassion and acceptance, Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them all and prove you can't blend in when you were born to stand out Sun 24th Dec 1pm Sun 24th Dec 7pm</p> <p>MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS Drama, Mystery, Suspense 1hr 54mins M Tells the tale of thirteen strangers stranded on a train, where everyone's a suspect. One man must race against time to solve the puzzle before the murderer strikes again. Fri 22nd Dec 7pm Sun 31st Dec 7pm</p> <p>MOUNTAIN !!ARTHOUSE!! Arthouse, Documentary 1 hr 14mins M A spectacular musical and cinematic collaboration, Jennifer Peedom's new movie exalts the spellbinding force of the world's great mountains – and the power they exercise over the human imagination. Wed 27th Dec 7pm Fri 29th Dec 7pm Wed 3rd Jan 7pm</p> <p>STAR WARS – THE LAST JEDI Drama, Mystery, Suspense 1hr 54mins M Rey develops her newly discovered abilities with the guidance of Luke Skywalker, who is unsettled by the strength of her powers. Meanwhile, the Resistance prepares to do battle with the First Order. Sat 6th Jan 7pm</p>																				
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<p>STAR WARS – THE LAST JEDI Drama, Mystery, Suspense 1hr 54mins M Rey develops her newly discovered abilities with the guidance of Luke Skywalker, who is unsettled by the strength of her powers. Meanwhile, the Resistance prepares to do battle with the First Order. Sat 6th Jan 7pm Wed 10th Jan 1pm Fri 12th Jan 7pm</p> <p>MARY AND THE WITCH'S FLOWER Adventure, Animated, Fantasy 1hr 43mins PG A strange flower grants a young girl magical powers, which leads to the adventure of a lifetime. Japanese anime fantasy film directed by Hiromasa Yonebayashi and produced by Studio Ponoc Fri 12th Jan 1pm Mon 15th Jan 1pm</p> <p>DETROIT Crime, Drama, Thriller 2hr 23mins R16: Violence Based on the Algiers Motel incident during Detroit's 1967 12th Street Riot, the film's release commemorated the 50th anniversary of the event. Fri 5th Jan 7pm Sat 13th Jan 7pm Wed 17th Jan 7pm</p> <p>COCO Adventure, Animated, Kids 1hr 45mins PG Despite his family's generations-old ban on music, young Miguel dreams of becoming an accomplished musician like his idol Ernesto de la Cruz. Desperate to prove his talent, Miguel finds himself in the stunning and colourful Land of the Dead. Fri 19th Jan 1pm Mon 22nd Jan 1pm</p> <p>NUT JOB 2 Adventure, Kids, Comedy 1 hr 31mins PG Surly the squirrel and his animal friends find out that the corrupt mayor of Oakton plans to bulldoze their beloved Liberty Park to make way for an amusement park. Hoping to save the place they call home, Surly and the gang join forces with Mr. Feng. Sat 20th Jan 1pm Fri 26th Jan 1pm</p>	<p>BREATHE Drama, True Story, Romance 1hr 57min M: Adult Themes After contracting polio at the age of 28 and given only months to live, Robin emerges from the hospital ward and devotes the rest of his life to helping fellow patients and the disabled. Sun 7th Jan 7pm Wed 10th Jan 7pm Sat 20th Jan 7pm</p> <p>JAMANJI - WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE Adventure, Kids, Fantasy 1hr 59mins PG Four high school kids discover an old video game console and are drawn into the game's jungle setting. What they discover is that you don't just play Jumanji - you survive it. Sat 13th Jan 1pm Wed 17th Jan 1pm Sat 27th Jan 1pm</p> <p>LORD OF THE RINGS THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING Adventure, Drama, Fantasy 2hr 58mins PG This epic movie returns, once only. A meek Hobbit from the Shire and eight companions set out on a journey to destroy the powerful One Ring and save Middle Earth from the Dark Lord Sauron. Sun 14th Jan 7pm</p> <p>FLORIDA PROJECT Drama 1hr 26mins R13: Violence, Offensive Language, Sexual material Six-year-old Moonee and her rebellious mother Halley live week to week at "The Magic Castle," a budget hotel managed by Bobby, whose stern exterior hides a deep reservoir of kindness and compassion. Fri 19th Jan 7pm Sun 21st Jan 7pm Sat 27th Jan 7pm</p> <p>MENASHE !!ARTHOUSE!! Drama 1 hr 22mins PG Deep in the heart of New York's notoriously secretive Hasidic Jewish community, Menashe, a good-hearted but somewhat hapless grocery store clerk, struggles against tradition to keep custody of his only son after his wife passes away. Wed 24th Jan 7pm Wed 31st Jan 1pm</p>

All roads lead to Brooklands



heights of progressive Afrobeats, Tinariwen will delight audiences with their scorching Mali desert blues and Havana Meets Kingston's sound-clash of reggae, dub and dancehall with salsa and rumba will be sure to make the crowds move. Lebanon's soulful, classically trained Ghada Shbeir and Israel's vocal hip hop star Victoria Hanna will deliver tales from ancient texts and stories of current social injustices. Chilean political-punk-poet Nano Stern and Ghanaian Jojo Abot who seamlessly blends electronica, indie-soul, reggae and hip hop, will be part of a growing global conversation with audiences. Always a highlight of WOMAD are the talents of local artists and 2018 looks to be one of the most exciting yet with the "toweringly talented song writer" Aldous Harding and Auckland city's Hopetoun Brown, who will stomp and parp their way into audience hearts with nothing but brass, a bass clarinet, two sets of tambourines and tonsils. West Auckland newcomers, The Miltones will deliver some excellent knee slappin', foot stompin' and booty shakin' tunes. The award winning Māori soul acoustic artist Maisey Rika will capture hearts, and with deep roots in the classical world, Black Quartet will impress with their vast sea of influences, from blues, rock, jazz and pop. From Taranaki, The Slacks will bring home some classic kiwi messages of unity, aroha, and community. WOMAD festivals are family-oriented, diverse and active international musical events. Since the first festival in the UK in 1982, WOMAD has held more than 160 festivals, including 13 in New Plymouth - WOMAD 2018 sees the festival celebrate its 14th anniversary in the stunning 55-acre Brooklands Park and TSB Bowl of Brooklands. Over the years WOMAD NZ has rightfully gained a reputation as one of the most beautiful outdoor festivals in the world.

Waterside at Womad

WOMAD is set to go from March 16-18 next year with the range of performers national and international for which it has become famous.

The internationally established three day world music, arts and dance festival is known for its exciting and diverse line-up and next year's event is no exception.

Over the weekend Brooklands Park will ring with the sounds of a melting pot of folk, afro-funk, hip hop, classical, jazz and punk rock performed on violins, ouds, koras and squeeze boxes. With artists from countries as varied as Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Iraq, Israel, Lebanon and Mauritania delivering a blend of traditional and modern performances; expect diverse languages, cultures, harmonies and rhythms from the big names and to discover

Image credit. Amandala.

glorious artists you've never heard of.

Making up the 33 exciting and eclectic artists from across the globe performing at WOMAD 2018 will be familiar festival favourites; the pioneer of bass-dominant, dub flavoured dance tunes, UK's Adrian Sherwood, the heavy metal inspired acoustic guitar duo from Mexico, Rodrigo y Gabriela and Washington D.C. based DJ collective, the uniquely diverse dub inspired Thievery Corporation. Joining them will be; the highly anticipated Los Angeles saxophonist, composer and jazz superstar Kamasi Washington, the Indian classical and progressive sitar virtuoso Anoushka Shankar and classic Kiwi band Dragon. Brazilian 10 piece, Bixiga 70 will deliver dizzying

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