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Opunake not South Auckland says new policeman, page 6.



Eltham loses historian page 9

Dairy auction brings dark start to dairying year

Tumbling prices have sent jitters through the dairy industry, raising doubts as to the viability of Fonterra's latest forecast payout. The forecast, which had once dipped to \$3.85kgMS, had been revised to \$4.60 before being downgraded to \$4.15. This was before the latest Global Dairy Auction which saw the third price drop, this time by 7.4 per cent. Of particular concern was a 10.4 per cent drop in the price of wholemilk powder.

The results of the latest auction are "disappointing," says 2014 New Zealand Sharemilker of the Year Charlie McCaig from Opunake.

"I guess we are right back to where we were at the start of the season with a prediction of \$3.85 which is a bit of a



"Disappointing," says sharemilker Charlie McCaig but there's still confidence things will return to normal.



What lies on the horizon for the dairy industry.

Photo Dana McMurray

worry," he said. "Four dollars and sixty cents was a bit of a reprieve, but with \$4.15 we are back to where we started. It seems it might be a bit of time before we get back to seven dollars or eight dollars. If we could just get back to the sixes it would be fine.

"The forecasters don't seem to have any better idea than you or I. Every quarter they seem to push the recovery out for another quarter."

He said there is still a confidence that things would return to normal, hence banks have not been "breathing down too many people's necks."

Concerns have been raised at the effects of continued low prices on farmer morale.

"There's quite a lot happening with all sorts of rural mental health initiatives which is good to see," he said.

with their farm owner.

Michael says it could be more economical to reduce production over the remainder of the season, and maybe get rid of culls early, or dry off earlier, rather than pump in high cost feed without any appreciable return.

Ideally the cost of dry matter shouldn't cost more than five per cent of the projected milk price, so that with a forecast payout of \$4.15kgMS, the cost of dry matter shouldn't exceed about 20c/kg of dry matter for the season, he said.

He does see grounds for optimism.

"Just as we should be wary in good times of thinking that things will last forever, in bad times we should be wary of thinking it will always be doom and gloom."

The world still needs to be fed and there will still be a demand for the wide range of dairy products for which New Zealand continues to have a good name, he said.

Farmers need to ensure they keep some balance in their life.

"It's important to do the best to enjoy the positive side of the good weather with family and friends. Look at your operation, then be comfortable you've done your best, and the rest is outside your control, and then make sure you have balance in your day to day life."



Vaughn Brophy Farmers need to keep an eye out for one another. (photo Fonterra).

Vaughn Brophy who represents Coastal Taranaki on the Fonterra Shareholders Council said he will be looking towards the half year review coming up in March which should give some indication as to what the dividend will be.

"The GDT is still only 15 per cent of what we sell totally. It's an indicator but it's not the whole story."

The bankers he has spoken to have been reasonable and realise dairying is a cyclical industry, he said.

There is a responsibility on all farmers to keep an eye out for one another.

"If you know somebody struggling, there's an onus on all of us as part of the same community to look after him. If you see somebody drowning, you don't turn your back on him and let him drown.

"I worry about the next
Continued page 2



Farm Advisor Michael Joyce. Sound financial planning important.

Farm advisor and Taranaki Regional Councillor Michael Joyce said the drop in prices would affect farm owners and sharemilkers the most, and they needed to appreciate the seriousness of the situation. "They have to accept the prospects are quite serious in terms of the financial implications going forward. There have been two seasons of low financial returns, with the possibility of a third next year. After having done that, they need to take responsibility for their financial planning and management.

"Banks are most interested in hanging in with people who show sound financial planning and take responsibility for the efficient financial management of their business."

Farm owners and sharemilkers should be aware of the assistance available to them, whether through Federated Farmers, DairyNZ, Rural Support, or interacting with fellow farmers. Sharemilkers having concerns about the ongoing viability of their operations should be prepared to discuss things



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Letters to the Editor

Opunake War Memorial

I am researching the names on the Opunake War memorial. I am having trouble finding anything on the following names. Unfortunately I only have initials.

T Cameron, S Connell, W J Connell, J Crofskey, J J Fennell, J R Fareh, S Gilbert, E Hall, R S Hill, W

J Hodgson, H Jackson, R S Kelly, W Lawn, R McGarvie, G Owen, W Raynor, H Simmonds, D Smith and J G Tindle. There could be spelling mistakes on the memorial. If your readers could help they can contact me at peter.williams@xtra.co.nz or night time phone no 06 2784292

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STRSA Centennial Comm

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EDITORIAL Student loan defaulter jailed

What an appalling state of affairs when a visitor to NZ, on legitimate business (attending a course), is thrown in jail over owing student loan money. Ngatokotoru Puna (40), a teacher, was arrested as he prepared to leave NZ for his Cook Island home. He spent over seven hours in the cell with all sorts of detainees in, "The worst experience of my life." He appeared in the Manukau District court and was remanded on bail.

Evidently the amount Mr Puna, (the nephew of the Cook Island PM), owed was originally just \$40,000, but penalty interest ballooned the amount up to \$130,000. That's an extra \$90,000 in interest; an amount that used

to be described as 'usury'.

As the amount owed (by students) is an investment yielding professional people such as teachers, doctors, lawyers and so on, only the amount owed should be payable, not such outrageous add ons, such as the one Mr Puna is liable for. Tertiary study should not be a money making venture for the government.

Our current Government should draft legislation to remove any interest add ons to the student loans of these (mostly) young debtors; they should only be liable for the original amount. This remedial legislation should apply to past student loans, current ones and those of the future.

The message this arrest leaves is a grave one which will only lead to more evasions and former students being afraid to return home. In most cases, such as Mr Puna's, the reason for non-payment is their circumstances. The IR claims to have tried several times to contact Mr Puna, while he claims no contact since 2000. Who should be believed here? It would be interesting to read IR's contacts in detail and this should be reported. I think it would make very interesting reading. Without commenting on the IR's claims Mr Puna impresses as a straightforward decent man who is unlikely to be making up a story about

non-contact since 2010.

Mr Little has recently announced that, if elected, a Labour-led Government would bring back free tertiary study for the first three years of tertiary study. Hooray! - it should not have been done away with in the first instance and both Labour and National have 'blood on their hands' over this issue, one party claimed they would not remove the free (actually 90% free) provision, then broke their promise and did. The other party claimed they would restore it, then didn't - another broken promise. Yes it should be restored as they current user pay system relating to tertiary study is unpinned by political dishonesty.

Dairy auction brings dark start to dairying year

Continued from page 1

generation, the sharemilkers and lower order milkers who don't have the asset base to back up their buying. That's my immediate concern for the next year or two."

He says the dairy industry has undergone a lot of scrutiny so that it has

"nowhere to hide."

Nevertheless, he believes it has a bright future.

"I have a hell of a lot of faith that the dairy industry will still be here in 150 years. It's a good career choice and it's more than just a nine to five job. You have to manage the ups and downs yourself, rather than just rely on a pay cheque."

On this month in history Treaty of Waitangi signed

On February 6, 1840 the Treaty was signed in the Bay of Islands. Lieutenant Governor Hobson signed on behalf of Queen Victoria. Although some Maori chiefs

signed, some refused and others did not get to hear about it. Much confusion has resulted from the fact that the English and Maori versions are not the same.

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on February 26.

BBC:

Each creature, us humans included, have a body and a spirit. We are shaped a certain way and we have a certain nature. Dogs act and live a certain way. To call a man a dog is derogatory. To call a woman a bitch is an insult. A dog has a way of acting, and mankind has a way of acting. Every type of animal has a spirit and mankind has a spirit. But as well as a spirit, mankind has an extra dimension. A soul.

Animals do not have a soul. That is the big difference between all creatures and

Soul

mankind. According to Genesis 2 verse 7 God formed man's body out of the chemicals of the earth. And then He breathed into him life, and man became a living soul. A soul knows the difference between right and wrong. And the breath of God creates a different sort of person than the breath of this life.

There was something that went wrong. Many people purposely differ from what God intended. We are all less than we should be.

What if we die now?

Whatever state our soul is in will determine our future destination. There is no balancing of account books, no balancing out what good we have done with evil we have created. Whatever state our soul is in will determine our future. Death doesn't change us, and nor can we be changed after death.

But it isn't even that. It is simply, "Are you born again or are you not? Do you have the life of Jesus in you or not?"

We must all die. What state our soul is in when we die

determines our future from death onwards.

God asks us to be eternal. He asks us to die to self and live for Him. We cannot serve God and the current world system. We have a choice to make.

If you love the world and the things of the world you are heading the wrong way. We all need to find the life that Jesus offers.

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New principal welcomed with warmth

A powhiri was held on Monday February 1 at Coastal Taranaki School (CTS) to welcome the new staff as well as the new Principal Dr Janelle McKenzie. The new staff includes Jayne Stevenson, Helen Colson, Craig Taylor, Brooke Wyllie and Sheree Kilpatrick. Deputy Principal Ben Naughton handled the MC role with dignity and gave a quite long speech in Maori.

After the new staff and students were welcomed in, Jason Ruakere from the Puniho Marae gave a speech in Maori.

New staff member Craig Taylor, described himself as "Tongan Samoan" and quipped, to laughter, "Don't ask me to explain that." He added, "But my children are Ngati Porou." He then gave a riveting verbal challenge and haka, which left the assembled clapping and cheering, as it was so memorable. Craig will be teaching Year 7 and 8 as the leader of the intermediate students. His message



Dr Janelle McKenzie, the new principal of Coastal Taranaki School being welcomed at the start of the new academic year.

was that we are looking positively forward to the future.

There was some poignant waiata from the staff

and students before Dr McKenzie spoke herself. She began by thanking CTS for the "warm welcome." She continued, "The welcome

clearly demonstrates a very strong sense of pride in the school and great community support."

She described her move to Taranaki (from Collingwood), as "an adventure and new challenge." However, she explained it was more than that, "It is part of my life journey where I can continue to work with others to provide the very best" for the students. She cautioned that her role was not just ensuring great academic grades but, "helping children find their purpose in life, so they can achieve their own success whatever that may be."

She paid tribute to " .. a good school with an amazing staff."

Dr McKenzie concluded, "Area schools provide the very best education can offer and CTS is no exception – one school with a heart of gold. I am looking forward to getting to know you all. Thank you again for the very warm welcome.

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The golden weather continues with reports that New Plymouth was sunnier than Auckland for the month of January.

Sizzling days followed by spectacular sunsets have seen all the Taranaki beaches packed as people tried to cool down in the heat wave.

The stunning sunset at left was taken recently by Taylah Smith and is of Oakura Beach.

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COMMUNITY COMMENT

Summer has well and truly kicked in.



Craig Dingle

Do you know what happens if you don't advertise?

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South Taranaki District Council has been working hard on the finer details of the Freedom Camping policy. It is now at the design stage for signage to get the correct information to the freedom campers so there is no confusion.

Stormwater is another difficult policy to work through. Figuring out how or who maintains stormwater that runs through private property is one of the issues.

The No Dog signage for Opunake main beach is one stage further, with the GPS

coronates being set. Basically as I see it, the signage will be at every Beach Top Access to the main beach saying, <No Dogs Past this point.> Remember Middleton Bay is your Dog friendly beach.

Elections are this October so if you can see yourself on

Council or Community Board it's time to start thinking and planning.

Enjoy the warm sea and weather.

Craig Dingle
Chairman

Egmont Plains Community Board

The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on February 26. To advertise phone (06) 761 7016

Mt Messenger bypass project to be accelerated

Taranaki MPs have welcomed government support for bypasses at Mt Messenger and the Awakino Gorge Tunnel.

Prime Minister John Key has confirmed the Government will invest \$80 to \$90 million constructing a bypass at Mt Messenger, and \$9 to \$15 million on a bypass of the Awakino Gorge Tunnel on State Highway 3.

"I am absolutely thrilled with today's announcement from Prime Minister John Key regarding the acceleration of these two major roading projects for Taranaki," says MP for Taranaki-King Country Barbara Kuriger.

"This will open up the entire West Coast as a link to the rest of the Upper North Island, which will undoubtedly increase tourism, economic productivity, and the flow of goods and services.

"The bypasses will ensure

an enhanced level of safety on our roads, which has been a critical issue for SH3," Ms Kuriger said.

"This is a fantastic announcement for the Taranaki region, and another step forward to strengthen Taranaki's economy," MP for New Plymouth Jonathan Young said.

"A significant number of drivers over Mt Messenger come from the New Plymouth electorate. I've campaigned on this for the last three elections, and have been lobbying Government on this for the past seven years so it's great that these important projects have been given the go ahead," Mr Young said.

"State Highway 3 is a key freight link between the Waikato and Taranaki regions but the affected section of State Highway 3 has become increasingly unsafe,

and prone to unpredictable, periodic closures.

"Freight companies will find the journey quicker, safer and more reliable with less wear and tear on their vehicles.

A safer and more reliable SH 3 is also expected to increase the number of national and international visitors to our region," Mr Young said.

"The new route will provide certainty on a road which has been fraught with closures after every heavy weather event since construction, and it will still allow visitors to experience the beauty of the northern entrance to the province," MP for Whanganui Chester Borrows said.

The news has also been welcomed by the Taranaki Regional Council.

"This is the best single decision in several decades for our road network and the economic activity that

relies on it," says the Council Chairman, David MacLeod

"The region has been speaking with a united voice for years on the need for improvements to these sections of SH3 north. The Government has finally listened and we can all celebrate."

The Chairman of the Regional Transport Committee, Taranaki Regional Councillor Roger Maxwell, says SH3 north is a strategically important route for a region that has been one of New Zealand's economic powerhouses.

"We have been pushing hard for improvements and our expectations are high. But today's announcement exceeded them. The Minister and local MPs deserve our thanks."

Mr MacLeod says he hopes the way is clear for an early start on design and construction.

Bowel cancer in decline

Increasing economic development is linked with growing rates of bowel cancer, but some high-income countries – including New Zealand – seem to be exceptions, according to a global study.

Drawing on data from 184 countries, researchers from the International Agency for Research on Cancer found that rates of bowel cancer increased with levels

of economic development.

The research, published in the journal *Gut*, noted that some countries with the highest levels of economic development were now showing decreases in the rates of and deaths from bowel cancer. New Zealand and Australia were included in this group, along with Iceland, France the USA and Japan.

The authors say the downward trend seen in these

countries is likely linked to improved detection and treatment of the disease. But the findings point to a much greater disease toll in low and middle income countries in the years to come, particularly for emerging economies.

They also acknowledge that some of the countries showing decreasing trends still have colorectal cancer rates among the highest in the world. Assoc Prof Diana Sarfati from

the University of Otago says these downward trends are "not equally spread though the population," with incidence and mortality rates decreasing far more quickly for New Zealand Europeans than for Maori and Pacific groups.

"Once a national bowel cancer screening programme is in place, we should expect to see death rates from bowel cancer declining further," she said.

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From brother's 21st to a wedding day

Sarah (daughter of Neil and Aileen Pennington) and Simon (son of Roger and Joy Harper) were married on November 28 at The Bungalow on 456 Lower Pitone Road.

"It was a beautiful day and there were many comments such as best wedding I've been to, which is always nice to hear," Sarah said. "I'm glad everyone enjoyed themselves as that was our goal."

She said she and Simon both attended Taumarunui High School, although he was a couple of years older than her. She had gone to school with Simon's younger brother Reagan, who was best man on the day.

"Simon used to have a bit of a crush on me, which Reagan did tell me but we had never even spoken," Sarah said.

"It was at Reagans 21st birthday party that Simon plucked up enough courage to come and talk to me for the first time. I actually have a photo of us together from that night which I think is really special to have. We really hit it off and just a few months later he had moved down to Wellington where I was living at the time. On



Simon and Sarah Harper.

our five year anniversary, he proposed and then 11 days later we found out we were

expecting. Our son, Cohen was 13 months old when we got married, and he was quite

Gyms risk breaching unfair terms ban

Consumer NZ is calling on gyms to get their membership contracts into shape.

A Consumer NZ review of contracts found many contained terms unfairly weighted in the gym's favour that risk breaching the Fair Trading Act.

Consumer NZ chief executive Sue Chetwin said a ban on unfair terms in consumer contracts has been in place since March last year. "Our review found the industry has been slow to respond to the law change," she said.

Unreasonable cancellation clauses are among terms highlighted by Consumer's review.

"Gyms often require 30

days' notice if you want to cancel after your minimum membership term ends. Some even include a clause saying your cancellation won't take effect until the gym confirms it in writing."

The gym may also require members to use a prescribed form to cancel. One contract stated members could only cancel by completing the club's form at the counter, which then needs to be countersigned by the manager before taking effect.

"These terms make it unnecessarily difficult to end a gym membership, and we think they're unfair," said Ms Chetwin.

Consumer NZ's review also

found contracts that gave the gym broad rights to change its services or location. Others attempted to limit or exclude the gym's liability for problems. "These terms are likely to be unfair and risk misleading consumers about their rights to reasonable standards of service under the Consumer Guarantees Act," she said.

Consumer NZ is encouraging gym members to complain if they've been given a contract they believe is unfair.

Ms Chetwin said gym-goers should tell the gym it's not playing fair and recommend making a complaint to the Commerce Commission.

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Constable Sherie has recently joined the Opunake police. PC Sherie became a policeman about nine years ago and his first posting was in South Auckland where he was kept very busy. "Alcohol, drugs, disorder and domestic violence" were the main issues he had to deal with. Immediately before coming to work in Opunake he was a member of the Hawera Police force for almost three years.

He has maintained his link with Hawera where he lives on a lifestyle property with his wife, who is a member of the Hawera Police force, and their two children.

PC Sherie is pleased with his current working environment. "The community are positive and willing to help. You can have a chat with

anyone," he says.

He can't help but compare his work in Opunake with his time in South Auckland, where there was the relentless pressure of new incidents to deal with all the time, sometimes when still engaged on a previous one. "Here (in Opunake) there is time to see things through to the end." He adds, "You've got the time."

Despite a busy working life, he finds time to participate in a diving course in New Plymouth. He also enjoys fishing. "It makes sense to be here," he comments with a smile.

He concludes with a message for the public, "If you have information or issues come and see us. We want to help people with problems and try to come up with a solution."



Constable Peter Sherie of the Opunake Police

Coastal Cops - Okato

Hi Everyone, hope most of you have managed to get away over the xmas and new year period and got to spend time with your families, and I guess it's now back to normal.

Thanks for all your patience over the last half of 2015 while I was missing in action, and thanks to the New Plymouth boys and girls who came and filled in for me. I'm now back on deck.

Be aware that our children are now back at school, so be mindful of the extra vehicles on the roads particularly around the schools. Keep an eye out for children crossing the roads, getting on and off school buses and getting in



Constable Rhys Connell

and out of Mum and Dad's car. Police will have an extra presence around these areas as we get back into the swing of things after the school break. I have to say that the

Some advice for summer

majority of road users around this time have been excellent, and I have had no issues so far at either Oakura and Coastal Taranaki Schools. The parent helpers at Oakura School and the students doing the road patrol in the afternoons are doing a fantastic job helping everyone cross the road safely.

One issue I have had of late is the conduct of some motorists when I have my lights on and in a hurry to get to an emergency. When you do see an emergency vehicle (Fire, Ambulance and Police) with its lights and sirens on, it is up to you to safely pull over and stop to let the vehicle go past you. If there is no safe place to stop, then reduce your speed considerably to allow the vehicle to pass. Please don't put your indicator on and then drive on the verge at the same speed and expect us to find a way past

you. We are in a hurry and it puts everyone in danger if you can't find the brake pedal.

We are in the middle of having quite a hot period of weather and this usually leads us to leave our windows and doors open to try and battle the heat. Be mindful of this if you are leaving your house, and don't be tempted to leave any windows and doors open while you are out, so you can come back to a cooler home, or you may find you come back to an emptier home. Thieves are lazy so won't hesitate to seize on an easy opportunity if you present one to them.

We have had a burglary of a cowshed situated on Saunders Road around December where several items were taken including a compressor and a motorbike. Unfortunately this cowshed was hit again about two weeks

later where more items were stolen. Be wary in regards to any cowsheds and implement sheds that aren't in direct line of sight from your house or your neighbours. These sheds are classed as isolated and easier pickings for thieves, who will know the risk of detection is considerably lower. By all means please contact me to discuss prevention measures that can be undertaken to try and make your sheds a little safer from light fingered cretins. There are numerous options that can be taken and I am more than happy to come and visit your farm and discuss these options with you.

Feel free to contact me in regards to any issues either on 06 7524111 or 021 1914920
Have a good week.

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Maniaia WI look forward to new year

The Annual meeting of the Maniaia Women's Institute was held in the Lounge of St Cuthbert's Church on Tuesday February 2. The Secretary presented the annual report.

Trophies were awarded for competitions held during the past year: Edna Free Tray Phyllis Malcolm. Mary Wright Trophy Phyllis

Malcolm. Mary Stevenson Cup Joy Brogden. Mary Hurliman Tray Ruth Binns. Jubilee Trophy- Ruth Binns

The committee for the coming year is: President Phyllis Malcolm. Secretary Desiree Phillips. Treasurer Meg Kelly. Committee May Mulholland, Joy Brogden and Ricki Neil.

Several members had

enjoyed a visit in January to the Pihama Lavender Farm and lunch in Opunake.

Members will join with the South Taranaki Federation on February 28 at Hollard Gardens to celebrate Founders Day, in conjunction with International Children's Day.

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Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade news

Friday the 29th January brought mixed emotions to the brigade. On the happy side of the ledger, Jozien Hannah, a member of our brigade for over seven years, married Josh Young at the beautiful Oaonui gardens of two other members of the brigade, Suzi and Andrew Pentelow. The hangi feast was prepared and served by other members of the brigade, so it was a real team effort. They always say "fire brigades are like one big family," and as far as the Opunake Brigade goes, we certainly are.

On the down side of the day, we were called to a "Code

Purple" (cardiac arrest) on the Patiki Road, Pihama. The on-duty crew left the wedding reception and made a quick trip out with the defibrillator and medic bag, only to find the gentleman had passed away two or three days earlier, and had only just been found by his concerned neighbours. The gentleman's dog was more than pleased to see the emergency crews arrive and boot their way into the house, because it meant he could get outside. Yes, he'd been locked in the house for the entire time, and he'd defecated everywhere. Unfortunately there was not

a lot the local St John's or the brigade can do in a situation like this, other than to give the dog some water. Our crew were called back at about 21:30, to help the undertaker and our local Police remove the body from the house, an extremely unpleasant task.

We received a call to assist the Rahotu brigade with a kitchen fire on the last day of January. Luckily, the tenants living there were able to put the fire out before serious damage occurred, and our services weren't required. So we turned around and headed for home.

If anyone is thinking of

becoming a volunteer fire fighter, our practice nights are every Monday at 19:00 hours (7 o'clock). Our brigade quota number is down one, meaning we have a space available if there is a suitable person. We don't just take the first person who rocks up. We need team players who mix well with others, are able to take orders, and who don't get too carried away with the various situations we attend, in other words, keep calm. So if you think you have the right attributes, we would love to see you next Monday evening.

The Bucket Brigade



If anyone is thinking of becoming a volunteer fire fighter, our practice nights are every Monday at 19:00 hours (7 o'clock)

Neighbourhood Support argues for role in South Taranaki

The Egmont Plains Community Board has declined an application to support the salary of a fulltime Neighbourhood coordinator for South Taranaki.

The position which will be a new one would cost \$52,000, of which \$2000 was being sought from the Egmont Plains Community Board's discretionary fund.

The Board could support Neighbourhood Support in other ways besides helping pay for the salary of a coordinator, board chairman Craig Dingle said.

Board member Brian Vincent said he was in favour of "what they are trying to get at," but supporting a salary might set a precedent "for other future wants."

Putting the case for Neighbourhood Support at the Board's January 27 meeting was Wendy Foreman, who for the last seven years has been coordinator for Neighbourhood Support in Horowhenua. She also chairs Neighbourhood Support's Central Districts region, and said that it had

long been noted that South Taranaki was the only district in the region without a neighbourhood support network.

She knows South Taranaki well, having been born in Alton, and had a son work in Opunake for a number of years. She had also kept in touch with Fraser MacKenzie, a police officer who had transferred from Levin to Opunake.

The Neighbourhood Support groups need not just be people who live close to each other, so long as members were able to keep in touch, she said.

"Sometimes the information we get is the little bit of the jigsaw which helps the police put the picture together."

Examples included the case of a phoney security salesman preying on the elderly, who was arrested thanks to information supplied by a Neighbourhood Support group.

Neighbourhood Support used to be called Neighbourhood Watch. Although that name is still

used in Australia, there was a perception that it meant being nosy, while the emphasis should be more on supporting those in your local community, she said.

From Horowhenua, she cited the time when concerns had been raised about children bringing knives to a school which bordered a local rest home.

After that a junior neighbourhood support group was set up in the school.

"We believe that if you target the children in low decile areas you get the parents," she said. "Within a few months, the school had turned around, and there were no knives. Children who used to bring knives to you now

bring hugs."

The mayor had even come to speak at the school, and the pupils had had him on about the lack of a drinking fountain at nearby Solway Park. Later that year a new drinking fountain was put in.

"Children who would once spit at the mayor now have debates with him," Ms Foreman said.

Mr Vincent said there had been a neighbourhood watch group in Opunake at one time, which had since folded.

Ms Foreman said this showed the need for a fulltime paid co-ordinator who was always there, as there was always a problem of volunteers moving on or giving up for various reasons.

Neighbourhood Support groups had databases of people who could be contacted in other situations besides catching criminals. These could include civil defence emergencies or

providing food for search teams, as happened with the one looking for 10 year-old Alex Fisher, who went missing at Waitarere last year.

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On this month in history Clark Gable is born

On February 1, 1901 American actor Clark Gable was born. He is most famous for his role as Rhett Butler in 'Gone With the Wind'. The filmed version of Margaret Mitchell's epic novel of the same name remains one of the most famous movies ever. However, it was for another film that he won his only Best Actor Academy Award - 'It Happened One Night'.

He was known as 'The King of Hollywood' in the so-called Golden era of cinema (1930s to 1950s) and also the 'iron man from Cadiz, Ohio'.

His last film was 'The Misfits' for which he was paid \$1,000,000, his first seven figure fee. The film's script was written by playwright Arthur Miller and Clark starred with Marilyn Monroe, who was married to Arthur. Clark never saw the film as he died of a heart attack before release. Aged 59, he was never to see his son, as his wife was pregnant.

It was also Marilyn's last completed film before her untimely death from a suspected overdose.



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Raising achievement in schools

We are well into February and wasn't it great to hear that we had won the most sunshine hours for New Zealand in January! I think we all knew we had that in the bag with all the incredible weather we have been having this summer.

As we head into a new parliamentary year I am looking forward to working hard again for this region. It was fantastic to hear the announcement of the SH3 project getting the green light, which will see up to



Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

\$90 million spent on Mt Messenger and up to \$15 million on the Awakino

Gorge Tunnel. With many of us driving north, this will be a much safer route for all, including the many trucking companies and the tourists that are coming to enjoy our region.

With many of us being back at work for quite some time, our kiwi kids are now back in the classroom for the new school year.

National is working hard to ensure all our kids have the opportunity to engage in learning that meets their needs. We want to make sure they're getting the best education they can.

We want to see greater collaboration between schools, improved transition through the education system for children, and better career pathways for teachers.

National's \$359 million education initiative will

achieve that through Communities of Learning. These involve groups of schools working together to improve educational outcomes.

Kids will benefit from shared teaching practices and expertise, with teachers working alongside each other on goals to help improve outcomes in the classroom.

There are Communities of Learning now working together across every region in the country with students from primary, secondary, intermediate, and area schools. There are 96 communities involving 793 schools and more than 250,000 kids.

We're also providing the infrastructure to support our schools. Part of ensuring every child gets the best possible education is

providing modern learning environments.

The Government has invested more than \$4 billion in school property maintenance, growth, and modernisation over the past seven years – more than a 30 per cent increase on the previous seven years.

The Government has also invested in and rolled out fibre connections to 90 per cent of schools so far, connecting them to the Network for Learning. The network provides fast, reliable internet complete with uncapped data, web filtering, and network security services. The remaining 10 per cent of schools will be able to connect this year.

National is harnessing the latest technology to deliver the best learning opportunities for New Zealand children.

Better internet access and connectivity with the world will prepare students for living and working in the modern world.

We are working hard to ensure all Kiwi kids have the resources and support they need to engage in learning and succeed.

This wouldn't be possible without our dedicated teachers, our school leaders, and parents and whanau who make sure their kids are getting to school on time and doing their homework.

Together, we're all making sure Kiwi children have the best shot at achieving in school and going on to lead happy, successful lives.

Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth

Adrian Rurawhe MP for Te Tai Hauāuru



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Last week my whānau took our mokopuna to the Powhiri for new students, at his new high school. So I was able to speak to a number of parents who had been thinking about what the future holds for their children. Parents and their tamariki in their last years of high school will be making some important life decisions.

Maybe their child will go into trades training, an apprenticeship, or on to study at university. They'll face big fees and living expenses. Training for a career is exciting, but the thought of big loans and debt is hardly the stuff of the great Kiwi dream. It makes all those other big life decisions – buying a house, marriage and having children – so much harder.

That's why New Zealand is experiencing the lowest rates of home ownership since the 1950s. Young Kiwis are coming out of post-school

Working Futures



Adrian Rurawhe MP

education with an average debt of \$20,000 and that takes them nine long years to pay.

The National Government seems hell bent on ignoring the problem. We can't, which is why Labour's Working Futures Plan is all about investing in long-term lifetime learning.

We know that in 20 years' time, 46 per cent of the jobs we do in New Zealand today will be gone due to technology and automation. Workers of all ages will have to train, and retrain, for the

jobs of the future.

Our Working Futures Plan will allow any New Zealander, no matter their age, to undertake three free years' of post school education; provided they've never studied past high school before.

It will cover those doing trades training, on-job apprenticeships and higher education. Never before has vocational training been so important.

We've taken a sensible and affordable approach to the changing nature of work and the debt which is crippling young Kiwis. Our plan will be phased in over a decade, with the first year free from 2019 at a cost of \$265 million. The second year will kick in 2022 and third in 2025.

It is an investment in New Zealand's future which will cost \$1.2 billion when ful-

ly implemented. And the money is already there – it is money National has set aside for tax cuts.

Employers have consistently told us the biggest issue they face in growing their businesses and improving productivity is the availability of skilled staff.

We need a skilled workforce with the knowledge to adapt, innovate and grow our economy.

Higher levels of education lead to higher incomes. Higher incomes lead to a higher tax return for the Government. In turn that leads to a stronger economy, and an improved standard of living for all New Zealanders. It's a win, win, win.

As a country we can't afford not to prepare ourselves and our children for the future.

Adrian Rurawhe, MP for Te Tai Hauāuru

More than 27,000 new Kiwis in 2015

On Waitangi Day, the welcome mat was rolled out to 24 new citizens at Government House, and acknowledge over 27,000 people who were granted citizenship last year.

"Choosing to become a New Zealand citizen is a big decision, especially if an individual has to give up their original citizenship or links to another country" says Jeff Montgomery, General Manager for Births Deaths Marriages and Citizenship, Department of Internal Affairs.

"I am very proud that the Department of Internal Affairs has been able to

assist over 27,000 people to make this choice and declare New Zealand their home and country".

In 2015, more than 500 citizenship ceremonies were held by local authorities right across New Zealand. A special citizenship ceremony is often held on Waitangi Day, and this Waitangi Day, the Governor General hosted a ceremony at Government House in Auckland for 24 people to become New Zealand citizens. Citizenship ceremonies were also held in Hamilton and at Ōnuku marae in Akaroa.

"The Waitangi Day cer-

emony provides a visible link between New Zealand's founding document and modern day citizenship. The people who are attending these ceremonies with friends and family will remember it as a very special day."

During 2015, the Department of Internal Affairs launched Choice Whiriwhiria – the New Zealand Citizenship Story book. This book is given to each new citizen following their citizenship ceremony to provide a special memento of the occasion. As well as providing stories and information about being a New Zealand citizen, it includes informa-

tion about the importance of the Treaty of Waitangi for all New Zealanders.

"Choice Whiriwhiria showcases the backgrounds and challenges faced by many new citizens, while also recognising the incredible contribution that they continue to make to New Zealand communities" says Mr Montgomery.

The country which contributed the highest number of new citizens was the United Kingdom(3997), followed by South Africa(3532), Philippines(2988), Samoa(2722) and India(2395).

Eltham loses keen historian and genealogist

A severe stroke 10 years ago did not stop Roma Jenkins from following her passions for local and family history. Instead she bought her first computer, learned how to use it, and utilised the worldwide web for further research into whatever her current pet project happened to be. In 2006, her years of service to researching local history were recognised when South Taranaki District mayor Mary Bourke presented her with a Citizens Award.

The former longstanding secretary and go-to person of the Eltham Historical Society, and life member of the Stratford branch of the New Zealand Society of Genealogists died on January 25, aged 76.

Born Roma Clement, she grew up on a farm in Anderson Road, Eltham.

She married Desmond Jenkins in 1961, and in the



Roma Jenkins

following years the couple worked on farms around Eltham, Mangamingi and Rawhitiroa, while bringing up their family of one daughter and three sons.

After the couple bought a farm on Castle Road near Eltham in 1973, her interest in historical research developed, particularly of Eltham, its families and its buildings.

She has researched and written three books including a history of the timber milling era of the Clements and

Parkes families in Opunake and Te Kiri. She assisted with the publication of the Eltham Historical Society's book *Eltham Then and Now*, and with Russell Standish's books *Eltham 100 Years* and *Pioneer Traders*.

She has done all this as well as writing newspaper articles, verifying the accuracy of information on heritage plaques, serving as secretary of the Eltham Historical Society, and being involved with the New Zealand Society of Genealogists,

initially as a member of the Central Taranaki branch. When Central Taranaki split into Hawera and Stratford branches, she joined Stratford, of which she was a keen member up to the time of her death.

"Roma has left the Eltham Historical Society a wonderful legacy of information and family trees, which we will refer to for many years to come," Maureen Drylie of the Eltham Historical Society said.

Dogs and people re-hydrate at Soldiers Park

A unique drinking fountain has been recently installed at Soldiers Park, Eltham. It caters for both dogs and people.

The fountain, which was funded by E Town Youth and the Eltham Community Board, has a dog drinking bowl at the base of the post.

On the other side a 'normal' fountain for people also has the capacity to fill sports water bottles, which could be handy for users of the nearby sports field.

The park is increasing in popularity since the completion of the skate park; the walk way is being upgraded and more trees planted, while older trees near the school are being removed.

The trees were a huge safety issue for the school and users of the Eltham Swimming Baths. It is sad to see old trees go, but we value the lives of our children more, and in future the area will be further developed for the enjoyment of many.

Soldiers Park, Eltham is very much a 'work in progress', but we are getting there



Alan Liddington and dog 'Fergus' check out the new drinking fountain.

On this month in history

On February 19, 1473 Nicolaus Copernicus was born in Poland. He was a priest and astronomer and theorised that the sun not the earth, was at the centre of our planetary system. 1517 he derived a quantity theory of money – a key concept in economics – and in 1519 he formulated a version of what later became known as Gresham's law.

Copernicus was born



Copernicus said Planet Earth was not the centre of the Universe.

Moving on to the next stage



Sesquicentenary chairman Bryan Roach presents the icon suggestions to Rhonda Crawford of the Egmont Community Arts Council.

The party is over. After a year celebrating Opunake's 150 years, the Opunake Sesquicentenary Committee is about to disband, and as one of its last official acts, committee chairman Bryan Roach handed over the list of suggestions for the Opunake icon to Rhonda Crawford of the Egmont Community Arts Council.

"We will have our winding up meeting in February, pay the bills and then leave it for the next committee when Opunake turns 200 years," Bryan said.

Bryan said he had first become involved through his role representing the Egmont Plains on the South Taranaki District Council.

"I went along as councillor to make sure everything was running smoothly, and ended up accepting the job of chairman," he said.

In a departure from the

usual practice of holding the celebrations at one designated time, the committee decided to encourage groups and organisations in Opunake to hold their own events during the year.

Bryan said he believed this was the right decision, and there had been a lot of positive feedback on the various events during the year, particularly the end of year fireworks, the beard competition, and the displays in Opunake Library Plus. There had also been positive comments about the Opunake Sesquicentenary book, of which there are still a few copies available for sale.

Another of the projects had been to ask the public for suggestions as to Opunake having its own icon, similar to Paeroa's L & P bottle, Ohakune's carrot and Te Kuiti's shearer. On January 27, Bryan handed over the

list of suggestions received to Rhonda Crawford.

The Arts Council had proposed a Sculpture Trail which would include 10 sculptures to be built along the Opunake Walkway in the next 5-10 years.

In December, the Sesquicentenary Committee agreed to hand over the iconic sculpture project to be added as part of the Sculpture Trail. Public consultation has been planned for Taranaki Anniversary Weekend.

Rhonda said the Arts Council is now looking forward to working with the South Taranaki District Council and others to make this project happen.

"We will be applying for grants and will be looking to work with people in the community with artistic flair as time goes on," she said.

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COASTAL OUTLOOK

The TPP should worry Taranaki

The Transpacific Partnership Agreement challenges people who worry about the future of their country. John Key claims the agreement is good for us – he is wrong. Overall, the TPP will have a negative impact on New Zealand and on Taranaki.



Dr Robert Shaw

The organiser was a medical specialist, Dr Stuart

Bramwell. She is an American who decided to live in Taranaki for the environment and the lifestyle.

News Report

The Taranaki Daily News sent a reporter. She took photos of the illegal street march up Devon Street, but the paper did not publish these photos. It is significant that people will take this kind of action in sleepy New Plymouth.

The Daily News said the rally had “about 40” people. I counted 75 after I had finished speaking. There were a further 10 to 20 people milling around on the fringe. Perhaps 40 participated in the street march. The marchers spread out over about 40 meters. They improved their coherence when they began to chant. This was the first time some people had ever taken part in a political march.

Political parties

Not one of the political parties was represented. The crowd I spoke to was polite and thoughtful. Why are our political leaders not mixing it with the people? Do they not want to debate?

Some speakers spoke against the Labour Party and gave blame to Phil Goff. The Greens did not get a mention. The National Party missed a chance to show their honesty and openness. Why do political parties avoid the people? Because, all they want to do is win votes. They do not genuinely seek to participate in the democratic process. It

is easier and more reliable to communicate through television and press statements. You take risks if you participate in the process.

Our last risk-taker

The last risk-taker in New Zealand politics was David Lange. When he debated with the Reverend Gerry Falwell at the Oxford Union in 1985, he took a big risk. See <https://youtu.be/sCZFP-feOLvA>. Both were church ministers. That is about all they had in common. Lange was a Methodist and Falwell a Baptist.

Success

Lange’s debate was a success for New Zealand – we won! It showed New Zealand had an independent and rational voice. The event still features in university courses, both in New Zealand and overseas. It sometimes features in NCEA exams. The outcome of Oxford Union debates is decided by people leaving through one of two doors. John Key does well to avoid the Oxford Union.

What I said

At New Plymouth, I spoke about the geo-political and trade concerns which the TPP raises. In other words, I tried to put the agreement in its global context. What is in New Zealand’s long-term interest?

I said the agreement is an expression of values. What values, how do they serve us, and indeed, are they our New Zealand values?

The agreement tries to define a relationship. The es-



Dr Stuart Bramwell, convener of the New Plymouth picnic against the TPP. An American medical specialist, she came to live in Taranaki for the lifestyle. You see her in her protest uniform, not her medical office. We need more people like her. The picnic included a peaceful street march. The people at the event were thoughtful and worried.

sential parts of this are that it supports free markets, which do not depend on personal human relationships. It supports legal structures to settle disputes.

I likened the agreement to a marriage contract. At the end of the day the partners must be determined to make it work. The incredible length of the TPPA shows how difficult it is to define a relationship. As I tell my son, who is a lawyer, only the lawyers win, they get paid regardless of outcome (he hates me saying that and perhaps I should not tease my children).

The American way of doing business

“The American way of doing business” – this is the term I use with students in China to describe neo-liberalism. This is one expression of capitalism. It means open markets, few regulations and competition. There is little doubt that it concentrates wealth in the hands of a few, and unloads costs onto governments (taxpayers).

China, and the Asian countries generally, do not support the American way of doing business. Japan might look as if it does, but that is only because it is dominated by the Americans. China supports markets only to the

extent that they see it is in the national interest. They close the stock exchange if values go down too much.

The Confucian countries seek to establish personal relationships and build trust and mutual success. Those who fear this call it “soft power.” New Zealand should not align itself with the American way. We need partnerships and friendships to build confidence and trade.

Taranaki’s interests

Open markets do not serve Taranaki well. Our vital hydrocarbon and the dairy markets collapsed. Neither will recover. John Key and a clot from Fonterra (on the news a few weeks ago) say they will bounce back. Neither man is as bright as was Robert Muldoon. I wonder what it will take to convince Taranaki that the system does not work in our interests.

I met a retired farmer in the Opunake fish and chip shop last week. He sold his farm to his son three years ago. Nice man. National can count on his vote. He faces financial and health issues but does not want to look at the origins of problems or how he might contribute to a better life for everyone.

The English philosopher and political activist, Ber-

Continued pg 11

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Tradies warned to relicense the consumer is up to speed

Now more than ever, Tradespeople need to make sure they hold a current licence.

Construction sector regulator, the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board (PGDB), are warning that its recent public awareness initiatives are working – and the consumer is up to speed.

The Board's Chief Executive, Martin Sawyers said; "The summer public awareness campaign to educate homeowners about protecting their insurance, and their health and safety, by checking the credentials of tradespeople is working."

"The release of the mobile

app R.A.C (report-a-cow-boy) is now doing its job and is assisting in extinguishing unlawful activity."

"Reports are coming through, and the PDDDB investigations team are taking immediate action –if you are working unlawfully expect a knock on your door soon", Martin warned.

Plumbers, gasfitters and drainlayers need to be aware that the new licence year is fast approaching – and begins as of 1 April 2016. Tradespeople can uplift their new licence from 15 February 2016.

One of the first reports received by the Board as a re-

sult of publicising the new R.A.C app technology has highlighted a potential ticking time bomb for a homeowner. Tradespeople need to carry a current authorisation card – and consumers should ask for it to protect themselves. You can also check to see if a person is authorised by searching our online public register at www.pgdb.co.nz or phone us on 0800 743 262.

If a homeowner believes that work has been done by someone who is not authorised, or has concerns about the competency of tradespeople, they can make a complaint to the Board.

Download the R.A.C app through the App Store and Google Play (put PGDB in the search), or go to the Board's website www.pgdb.co.nz/app.

A recent report has looked at hot water cylinders (HWC) heating cold water to make it hot. Water expands as it heats up, and the expanding water must be able to be released to a safe place. If the relief pipe on a HWC has been installed incorrectly, it could become blocked. There is a risk that if the heating source (the element) doesn't switch off, the HWC can be placed under extreme pressure un-

til it explodes. The HWC can become a ticking time bomb, especially if there is a wetback connected to the hot water cylinder.

It is illegal for anyone to do this work unless they hold authorisation from the Plumbers, Gasfitters and Drainlayers Board.



Hot water heaters, if not installed correctly, can be a ticking time bomb a recent report shows.

The TPP should worry Taranaki

Continued from page 10

trand Russell, famously said most people would rather die than think, and some of them do.

What Muldoon taught me

Muldoon made a speech to the New Zealand Institute of Public Administration. His main point was that whenever you look at markets or statistics you must look at what drives them. Figures themselves mean nothing.

New forces now drive the global dairy market. It will not simply "recover". It no longer exists as it once did. Likewise, the petroleum environment has altered permanently. In an earlier Coastal Outlook, I set out some of the reasons we face long-term problems.

Legal action threatens Taranaki

The TPP strengthens the ability of companies to seek compensation from countries which enact legislation that is not in their interests. This already happens under other trade agreements.

For example, there is a \$250 million claim by Lone Pine Resources against the Quebec Government's ban on fracking. In 2013, Occidental Petroleum secured a \$2.3 billion judgement against Ecuador because they protected the Amazon jungle. Get ready Taranaki – one day we will have to protect our environment.

Market realities

Open markets react irra-



David Lange fronted-up in an international forum and made New Zealand proud. Are New Zealand politicians today prepared to take risks and debate? It appears few of them care about the process of democracy. Try living in China – then you will value New Zealand's participatory democracy.

tionally. Rumours and reputations play a big part. In China the government frequently manipulates (regulates) markets in a hopeless bid to make them rational.

Already Taranaki has ruined much land. We should expect to be excluded from horticultural and dairy markets. Asian markets demand uncontaminated food. They will not take the word of the

Taranaki Regional Council that all is well. With the TPP, it becomes even more difficult to enact environmental protections.

Economic benefits

Minister of Trade, Todd McClay, says the TPP will grow the economy – \$2.7 billion GDP by 2030. He needs to read the analysis by four independent economists

(Barry Coates, Rod Oram, Dr Geoff Bertram and Professor Tim Hazledine). See <https://tpplegal.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/ep5-economics.pdf>.

The main problem with McClay's figures is that they depend on governments changing regulations. The truth is we have no idea what the agreement will make – it will probably be something modest in the short-term and cost us money in the long-term.

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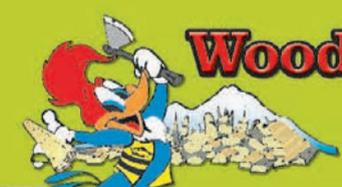


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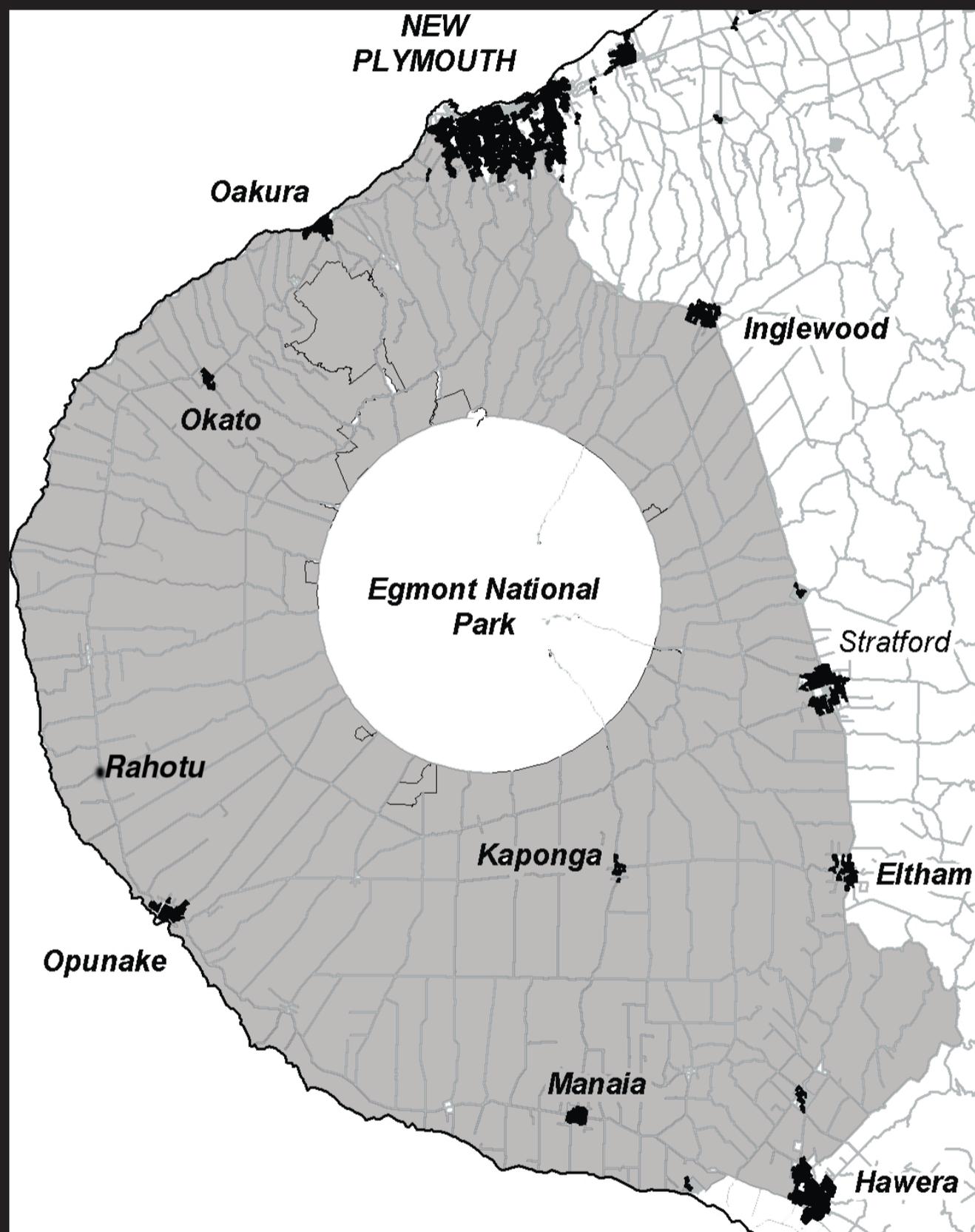
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New year brings welcome to new staff school leaders and pupils

Opunake High School principal Simon Fuller has hailed what he says has been a successful year for the school.

“The school has grown in diversity, grown in staff numbers, grown in the digital devices for you to learn with, and grown in success,” he told a school assembly on February 4.

Boasted by 74 Year 9 students, the school roll for the new year is 340, the highest it had been for a decade, he said.

In a busy morning for the school, new pupils and staff were welcomed to the school with a powhiri, the site for the school’s new whareniui was blessed, and the head and deputy head prefects were named.

Mr Fuller said in last year’s NCEA results, Opunake High School students had achievement rates of 85 per cent at Level One, 93 per cent at Level 2 and 71 per cent at Level 3. The Level 3 results were particularly pleasing, as they compared with results of 33 per cent, 35 per cent and 40 per cent in 2012, 2013 and 2014 respectively, he said. Another pleasing result was 96 per cent of Maori students achieved Level Two, 30 per cent higher than the national average.

As well as the new pupils, several new staff members were also welcomed to the school.

Rachel Taylor teaching Maths and Technology is not entirely unfamiliar to the area. She comes to Opunake from Opunake High School, but has also taught at Stratford and Opunake Primary Schools. She left the latter position in 2013, and says she has already recognised some of her former pupils, now attending the High School.



Incoming staff and pupils are welcomed to the school.

Katerina Papageorgiou is another new but not entirely unfamiliar face on the staff. After relief teaching at the school last year she is now teaching drama and dance. A former ballerina, and trained in musical theatre, she was born in Greece, and only arrived in New Zealand from London last year.

“I don’t regret leaving Europe. I love it here,” she said.

The new Head of English, Emily Scott also knows Taranaki, having taught at Spotswood College for the last 14 years, most recently as Deputy Head of English.

“It’s lovely around the coast,” she said. “I wanted a change, and I’m really impressed with the staff and facilities on offer for the kids here at Opunake.”

Kerry Logan is new to the area, but has previously taught with Mr Fuller at Naenae College, which he says was one of the attractions in coming to Opunake. Teaching graphics and technology, his previous work experience includes

draughting work and being a youth worker for Knox Church in Lower Hutt.

“I got sick of circles and lines, and decided I wanted to get in with young people,” he said.

Antonia McBryde, whose fiancée is a doctor in New Plymouth comes to Opunake from Bishop Viard College in Porirua where she taught Samoan and religious education. At Opunake she will be teaching Te Reo

Maori, a subject she had taught in a previous teaching position at Whangarei.

Beginning her teaching career is Kerri Loughhead. Originally from Amberley in North Canterbury, she said she decided on Opunake because she was impressed with the diversity at the school. A graduate of Canterbury University, she will teach English, Health and PE.

School kaumatua John



ABOVE: The new head prefects, Tara Clement and Ben Morgan.

Hooker and Rangiroa Rongonui led a blessing on the site of the school’s planned Whareniui and open learning space. Planned for one of the school’s original buildings, work is due to start this year, and it is hoped to be completed within the next couple of years.

The head and deputy head prefects were named, with Ben Morgan as Head Boy and Tara Clement as Head Girl. Ben who is the son of Jo and Lloyd Morgan of Rahotu said his focus this year would be on trying to make the lives of everybody around him better. Tara is the daughter of Peter and

Rebecca Clement, and says she hopes to go to university next year. Previous school involvement has included basketball, stage challenge and student council.

Deputy head prefects are Christian Rosewarne, Michael Brimelow, Atalya Fakavamoeanga and Puanani Tahou.

The appointments had been made after a series of interviews. Mr Fuller said it had been a difficult decision to make.

“They all have exceptional talent which they model day to day, with their passion for our school, our students and our staff.”



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New staff. From left Emily Scott, Katerina Papageorgiou, Kerri Loughhead, Rachel Taylor, Antonia McBryde, Kerry Logan.

Help cows chill out this summer

With the current El Niño weather pattern bringing heatwave conditions to many parts of the country, it's important to monitor cow health and ensure cows avoid heat stress. As temperature and humidity levels rise this summer, farmers should take steps to ensure stock stay cool and where necessary put in place a plan help prevent facial eczema. "These conditions also encourage facial eczema, so farmers are reminded to monitor spore levels in your

area, talk to your vet and put in place a prevention plan to suit your farm situation. "When it comes to high temperatures this summer, put simply a cool cow is a happy cow," says DairyNZ animal welfare team manager Chris Leach. "When cows get too hot, and if they can't cool down by shade or other means, their appetite and feed intake decrease and milk production is likely to suffer." Studies indicate that New Zealand cows can suffer heat stress when temperatures go

above 23°C and humidity is high, especially with little or no wind. They also show that proactive prevention of heat stress is more cost-effective than trying to manage the consequences once cows become heat stressed. Normal respiration rates vary from 15-25 breaths per minute. A rate of more than 30 breaths per minute indicates that cows are heat stressed. Really hot cows will start to pant and breathe through an open mouth, with the tongue hanging out. "All activity such as walking to the water trough, walking to and from the dairy – and even just grazing as normal – will contribute to increasing the risk of heat stress," says Chris. "Digesting food and producing milk also generates heat in dairy cows, and on hot days this can overload their system. High-producing animals tend to eat more and are therefore more susceptible to heat stress." If night-time temperatures are also very warm, it can be even more difficult for cows to cool down, without extra help. Moving to once-a-day milking can help and, while



These ladies have had enough of the hot dry weather.

Photo by Staci Holmes

heat stress is not usually the main reason for changing milking strategy, it is worth considering. Another way to cool cows is providing shade or using a sprinkler system in the dairy yard, while the cows wait to be milked. Wetting the skin is one of the most effective ways to cool a cow, however

high humidity can make sprinklers less effective on a hot concrete surface. So turn the water on half an hour before milking to cool the yard, using sprinklers that give a large droplet size, and, if possible, use fans to create air movement when there is little or no wind. Periodically wetting the roof to reduce radiated heat

from hot iron roofing can also dramatically improve the milking environment for cows and milkers alike. "Although installing sprinklers or shade structures can be costly, they will reduce the impact of high heat on cow comfort and milk production, especially in hotter parts of the country," says Chris.

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Summer packs a waspish sting

Wasps are thriving in Taranaki this summer. As well as inflicting nasty stings on people, wasps prey on native insects and compete with native birds for honeydew as a food source. "New Zealand has some of the highest densities of wasps in the world," Taranaki Regional Council environment services

manager Steve Ellis says. "Their natural enemies are not present here, winters are mild, and there is an abundance of food. And they're certainly doing very well in Taranaki this summer. He says wasps are not among the 23 declared pests in Taranaki's current Pest Animal Strategy,

so control is voluntary and up to individual land owners or occupiers. Wasps are particularly active in summer and autumn. Queens hibernate in winter and nests usually die. Wasp stings should be treated immediately with a cold compress and/or antihistamines. Vinegar can also be soothing when

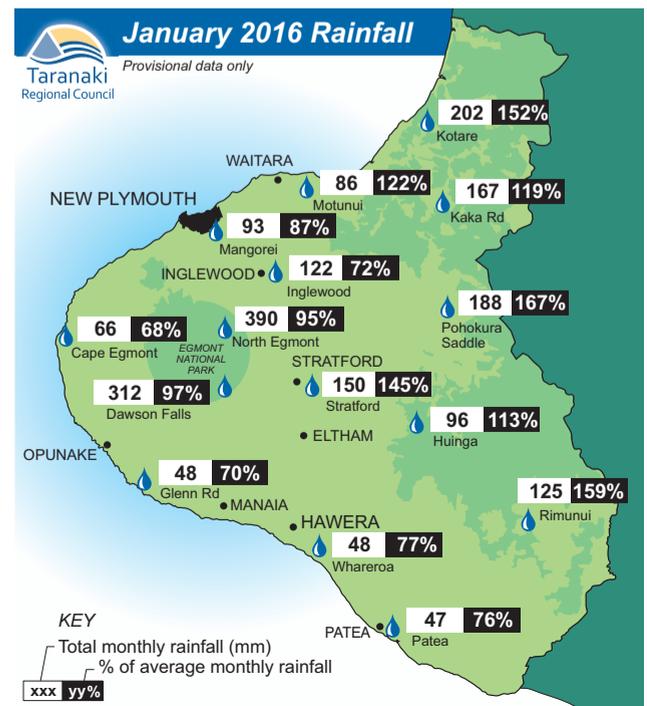
applied to the affected area. To find a nest, watch the flightpaths of wasps at dawn and dusk. They seldom venture further than 200 metres from their nests and generally fly in a straight line. If the nest can't be found, a simple wasp trap can be fashioned from a plastic soft drink bottle and using sugar, water and detergent.

Rainfall figures for January a mixed bag

Rainfall for January was recorded below normal between 68 per cent and 167 per cent of normal, according to Taranaki Regional Council sites from Stratford and east to the hill country, including Cape Egmont to Patea, and Kotare (Tongaporutu) to

Rimunui Station (Waitotara), all recorded above normal rainfall by between 104 per cent and 167 per cent. Pohokura Saddle recorded 167 per cent (188.0mm) of normal rainfall. This site had good amounts of rainfall throughout the month with a maximum

of 49.0mm in one day. The Mountain sites recorded between 84 per cent and 97 per cent of normal, with Kahui Hut recording the least (84 per cent or 237.5mm). North Egmont recorded 389.5mm for the month, with 179.5mm of this being recorded in one day.



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Lowest urea price since 2007



Mike Davey
Ravensdown
Regional Manager

Taranaki farmers are now benefitting from a \$50 per tonne saving on urea after Ravensdown

led the industry with its price drop on February 1. Regional Manager Mike Davey says that the move is all about a genuine co-operative passing on a price reduction for farmers who are facing increasing costs in many aspects of their business while their returns are under pressure. The February urea price cut comes on the back of a Ravensdown-led \$45 per tonne drop last December. "We said it not long ago, with our recent superphosphate cap, that we are about delivering all-year value to our shareholders, and we're demonstrating it again with

urea and other products." The drop from \$575 per tonne to \$525 represents a potential \$37.5 million saving to the sector on an annual basis. Urea now sits at just 61 per cent of the peak price in 2012, which Mike hopes will be welcome news for Ravensdown's customers. In addition to urea, DAP was reduced by \$25 per tonne, granular ammonium sulphate by \$15, and Potash by \$10, with a flow-on effect to related products. "For a large dairy farmer in the grip of a pay-out downturn or a sheep and beef farmer dealing with drought or weaker returns,

these price differences could mean thousands of dollars staying in their bank account. This is far more useful to our shareholders at this time than a large rebate cheque later in the year." The commitment to pass on the benefits to shareholders, Mike adds, is made possible because of Ravensdown's strong longstanding relationships with global suppliers and managing the fluctuation in the exchange rate. "Thanks to an amazing team of staff and loyal shareholders, we're going from strength to strength in improving our balance

sheet and financial returns, which we can share with shareholders, providing further value. It's rewarding to see that loyalty being repaid in these tight times. "We've been told consistently by our customers that they would prefer competitive pricing, money in their pocket, all-year value and a sensible annual rebate, and that's precisely what we are delivering. "Farmers are resilient and adaptable people, but it's not just up to them to manage their way through these tough times. We all

play our part in the rural sector, and that is about challenging the status quo and asking how things can be done better," says Mike. "Leading the price drops have certainly gone down well with local farmers and we're starting to earn invitations up plenty of Taranaki driveways to discuss future arrangements. They understand that it's not just the price and the rebate, but the quality-assured product, technical advice, test-measure-spread services and stores network all adding up to deliver value all year round."

Council finds no evidence to support allegations

The Taranaki Regional Council says it has found no evidence to support recent allegations of non-compliance at wellsites operated by Australian-based Origin

Energy Ltd in Taranaki. A report to the Council's Consents and Regulatory Committee's meeting on February 2 says no further action will be taken on the allegations,

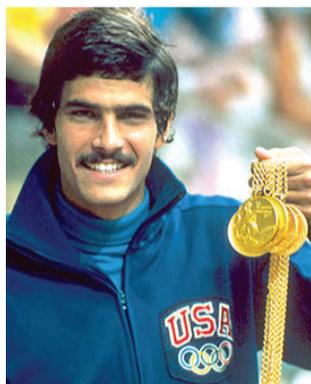
which were raised in early January arising from a statement of claim against Origin, associated with an employment matter, and filed in court by a former company employee. These referred to an allegedly unreported gas leak or leaks at the Rimu/Kauri/Manutahi operations (wellsites). The Council's Director-Resource Management, Fred McLay, says Council officers made a thorough investigation of the allegations as they currently stand, and found no proof, nor evidence of adverse environmental effects from the company's activities. The investigation included extra and unannounced inspections of the relevant wellsites and sampling of nearby shallow groundwater, as well as reviews of the Council's monitoring data and company records since 2008. Discussions were held with senior company officials,

who also disclosed relevant incident management computer files and reporting system information. Council officers also talked to Origin officials, regulators and news media sources in Australia, and unsuccessfully sought details and explanations from the former Origin employee who raised the allegations. "There is nothing more to be done," says Mr McLay. "We will look at it again if more details emerge about the alleged non-compliance."

On this month in history Mark Spitz was born

On February 10, 1950 the Olympics swimmer Mark Spitz was born in Modesto, California, USA. In 1972 at the Munich Olympics he won an unprecedented seven gold medals. He won golds in four individual events including 100m freestyle and butterfly, the 200m freestyle and butterfly event, as well as for three relay teams he was member of (freestyle and medley). When he retired at just 22 he held 35 Olympic

Records and 23 World Records. He became a dentist.



Mark Spitz

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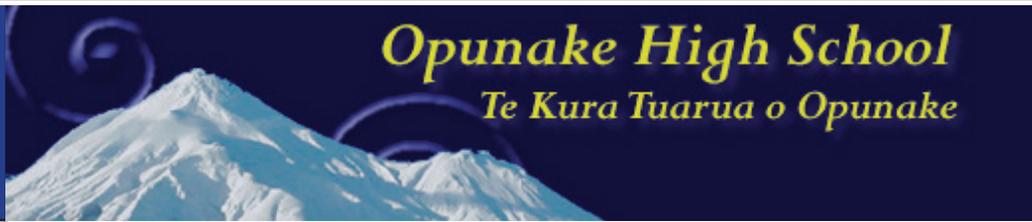
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2016 PREFECTS



Congratulations to the above students that have been selected as leaders of our school for 2016. After a very rigorous process these 13 students were selected as prefects, including 6 in the roles of head and deputy. We know that you will do a fantastic job and be supported by both staff and students. *Congratulations to you all and your whanau.*

Left to right: Principal Mr Simon Fuller, Kodi Wickliffe, Michael Brimelow Deputy Head Boy, Ben Morgan Head Boy, Christian Rosewarne Deputy Head Boy, Hone Grindlay, Timatanga-Mykade Ratahi, Mr Andy Whitehead BOT Chair.

Front Row: Brooke Heaps, Sophie James, Atayla Fakavamoeanga Deputy Head Girl, Tara Clement Head Girl, Puanani Tahau Deputy Head Girl, Cate Tulloch, Ashleigh Clement

NEW STAFF



Welcome to the 2016 school year, especially those who have recently joined the Opunake High School whanau. This year has started extremely well with a very warm welcoming powhiri for our new Year 9 students and staff.

We welcome (above left to right) Whaea Emily Scott, Miss Alkaterina Papageorgiou, Miss Kerri Loughhead, Mrs Rachel Taylor, Whaea Antonia McBryde, Mr Kerry Logan.

NCEA RESULTS

We have once again achieved very pleasing results that reflect the hard work and dedication of staff and students in 2015. Congratulations on your diligence.

On the roll based return our NCEA achieved success rates are:

Year 11 - 85% Year 12 - 93% Year 13 - 73%

Year 11 Merit Endorsements - Catherine Dahm, Taine Morgan, Kacy Bellve, Aaron Barratt, India Sturzaker, Alyssia Redin, Brody Hitchcock, Erana Grindlay, Tazmayn Katene, Krysten Johnson, Leilani Hohaia-Gray.

Year 11 Excellence Endorsements - Simone Cook, Aleisha Cram, Kendra Langton, Alyscia Lang

Year 12 Merit Endorsements - Michael Brimelow, Ben Morgan, Ashleigh Clement, Callum Hickey, Hone Grindlay, Atayla Fakavamoeanga, Puanani Tahau

Year 12 Excellence Endorsements - Tara Clement

Year 13 Merit Endorsements - Ashleigh Tito-Collins, Xavier Langton, Brody Chapman

Year 13 Excellence Endorsements - Abbey Silson, Deane Mason-Loveridge, Paula Aitken, Taylah Smith, Clare Young

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ORIENTATION WEEK

During the first week at school students have been involved in many activities as part of the orientation and DREAM Programmes. Year 9 students spent time at Opunake Beach gaining valuable knowledge from the life guards.

Below left: Scott practises the life saving technique on Logan. Above: Manee (right) tussles it out with Jamiee in beach flags.



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We are a group of like-minded individuals passionate about making a difference to the lives of the people of New Zealand and our community by doing what we love... riding bikes. Our goal is to raise awareness and of our nominated charities, and to raise funds by cycling throughout New Zealand. Our challenge is three-fold: to conquer the physicality of the ride and to contribute to our community in a positive way, increasing the awareness of our chosen charities on their behalf.

Charities for the 2016 Tour:

- Life Education Trust Taranaki
- Taranaki Rural Support Trust
- Taranaki Retreat

We decided upon these three charities for a number of reasons. Firstly, the Life Education Trust and the Taranaki Retreat we see as an extension to the awareness of depression and suicide which we generated in our 2015 ride. It all begins with our youth, by giving them the right education to assist them in making the right life choices. The Taranaki Retreat is a great escape for families or individuals who are going through difficult times, to help the healing process and contribute to a positive outcome.

Life Education Trust Taranaki

The Life Education Trust is a national charity and the

awareness we generate will be nationwide. However funds we raise will go directly to the Life Education Trust Taranaki who successfully deliver the Life Education Programme to many children throughout our region. Life Education Trust is a non-profit organisation. They teach health and positive choices to many primary and intermediate school children each year. They go to schools by invitation, not by right and are linked into the school curriculum. It is a preventative approach teaching children about the wonders of life, themselves and others with the aim in showing them how to reach their full potential. Their philosophy focusses on creating a sensitivity to values, which lead to an understanding and appreciation of human life. This enables the child to make decision about any negative influences that may impede the development of their fullest potential. They achieve this by taking children on an adventure in a mobile classroom equipped with sight and sound equipment designed to capture children's imaginations. Their educators (who are registered teachers) take children on this journey along with Harold the Giraffe. These educators are chosen for their x-factor and together with Harold, they make the journey fun as well as educational.

Taranaki Rural

Support Trust

Listening, guiding and assisting rural families and their communities is what the Rural Support Trust do. When circumstances beyond our control lead to a climatic, financial, environmental or personal crisis, the Taranaki Rural Support Trust is ready to assist. Services are free and all calls are confidential. The Trust is part of a nationwide network of Rural Support Trusts which assist farming and rural families and their communities. If an adverse event is declared, they are able to access Government funding and utilise support from many Government agencies to help rural individuals and communities get back on their feet. The Trust covers the entire Taranaki region encompassing the catchments controlled by the three local councils and the Taranaki Regional Council. Trust members are rural people with a wide range of experience and knowledge in dealing with challenging rural situations. The Trust has a trained coordinator to manage responses and experienced facilitators available who travel to where they are needed. Contact is one-on-one at a location that suits the individual and is confidential.

Taranaki Retreat

The Taranaki Retreat is a New Zealand charity, created to provide a safe space when life is challenging, or when time-out would

provide space to breathe. Whether individuals or families have been touched by suicide, sustained a loss of any kind, or have known the need for sanctuary or time to de-stress, time-out is part of the healing process – even survival. The doorway of the Taranaki Retreat will always be open. When people simply need a break from whatever the pressure may be – they will find sanctuary in this space, created for peace and beauty. The retreat is set up to be available, residentially, for koha or for free. The simplicity of life characteristic of the retreat is structured to enable people to stay and be cared for within a family environment without any cost to them or ongoing cost to the community. It is a welcome to Taranaki people of all ages, for all kinds of reasons “for the possibility of seeing things from a different perspective.”

How it all began

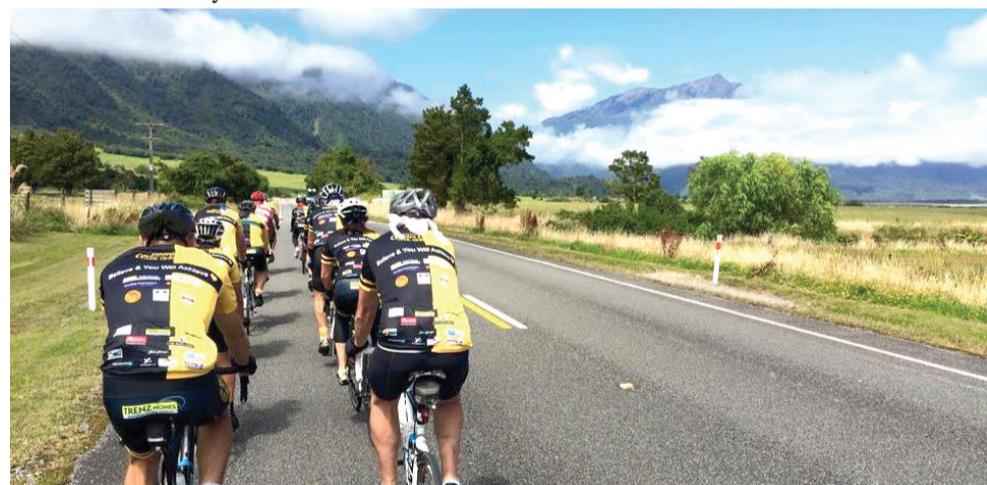
January 2012 a small group of riders cycled around the mountain to raise awareness for the Mellowpuff Foundation. The event was successful, and we rode on behalf of the Mellowpuff Foundation for the following two years. This spurred the desire to achieve a bigger goal for another charity, promoting greater awareness. This is how the Central Finance South Island Charity Ride was born. The idea began with 8-10 cyclists riding the length of the South Island with the aim of raising \$20,000. What happened as a result far exceeded our wildest dreams with 26 cyclists completing the ride and raising more funds than we had ever hoped possible.

and check into motel. Then change into cycle gear and drive to Cape Reinga. We cycle 70kms that afternoon. Dinner at the Boat club at the individuals cost

- Monday 15th ride Hou Hou to Keri Keri (100kms)
- Tuesday 16th ride Keri Keri – Wellsford 175kms??
- Wednesday 17th Wellsford to Devonport 90kms – where we load bikes into horsefloats. We stay in T a k a p u n a
- Thursday 18th. Transport everyone to Devonport Wharf – ferry across to Auckland then to Half moon Bay where bikes will be and cycle to Morrinsville from Howick 148kms
- Friday 19th Morrinsville to Pio Pio – we stay in Te Kuiti 125kms

- Saturday 20th Pio Pio to NP 138kms
- Sunday 21st NP to Waverley – we are all billeted out that night by the local community 151kms
- Monday 22nd Waverley to Pahiatua 158kms
- Tuesday 23rd Pahiatua to Cape Palliser 175kms - travelling back to Martinborough for the night
- Wednesday 24th Martinborough to New Plymouth via Raumati for lunch- individuals cost

This year's aim is to raise \$150,000 - to be split amongst our three nominated charities. Please help us reach our goal and donate funds on our give a little page: <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/>



Riding for Taranaki Trusts

Leg 2 K e r i S c h e d u l e

- Saturday 13th Feb we drive NP to Warkworth
- Sunday 14th leave Warkworth at 7.30am approx. travel to Hou Hou

Active Intentions Counselling
Sylvia Huitson (MNZAC, MIASP)
 Counsellor/Suicide Prevention Specialist
 Author 'Survive and Thrive Choose Life'
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 Please phone 06 761 8330 or email opunakemotel@xtra.co.nz for details

Opunake Bowling achieves historic first

The pinnacle of women's bowls in Taranaki, the Women's Open Fours, has been won by an Opunake team, for the first time in the Open's 66 year history.

Played with teams from all over the North Island, two teams from our small club qualified. One carried on, playing their eleventh game over six days in the very hot conditions, to prevail in the final.

The team was skipped by Bev Robinson, with Eileen Rothwell, three, Nel L'Ami two, and lead Val Langton.

The regulation 25 ends were played, but a pressure bowl by Bev who pushed the opposition counting bowl through, forced an extra five ends. The Taranaki title gave Bev her 10th Title, Nel and Eileen their third, and Val her second.

The runners up were a team from Hawera, skipped by a former Opunake member Patty Symes.

A mighty effort girls, something that will always be in the Taranaki records.

On Saturday January 16, a new tournament was trialled,

a mixed triples. Held in warm conditions, this was very successful, with the greens running very well. Winners – Kevin Ratahi, Paddy Deegan and Dan Ratahi. 2nd Heather Radford, Pat Barrett and Shannon. 3rd Pihama No 2.

Championship Fours. Winners: Bev Robinson, Nel L'Ami, Rita Johns and Val Langton.

Runnerup: Joy Collins, Heather Radford, Val Coombe, Pat Barrett.



Taranaki Open Fours Bowls winners Eileen Rothwell, Bev Robinson, Nel L'Ami, Val Langton with Club Patron Marie Moir (seated).

CMK Opunake Flyers race at 2016 Wellington Champs

CMK Accountants Flyers had a team of 37 swimmers attend the Wellington 2016 Swimming Championships on January 22-25. Four of these swimmers were from the Opunake Swim Club. The squad competed against 40 clubs from around the North Island, including New Zealand's High Performance team from Auckland. Racing in a 50m long course pool provided excellent competition, and prepared the swimmers well for their national events coming up

over the next three months.

From Opunake, Cormach Hughson-How, Ben Sinclair and Katie Sinclair all made the finals, and Richmin Hughson-How at his first Wellington champs swam Personal Best times in every race.

Next on the calendar are the 13 and over champs in Hamilton. In March, Katie and Cormach compete at Invercargill in the Division Two National Champs representing Taranaki.



CMK Accountants Flyers had a team of 37 swimmers attend the Swimming Championships in Wellington.

Be extra careful out there in the water

With a large majority of the weekday patrols wrapping up around the country, Surf Life Saving New Zealand is urging beach-goers to take responsibility for their own safety.

The Regional Lifeguard Service (RLS) is a

partnership programme delivered by Surf Life Saving and territorial local authorities in an attempt to protect beach-goers during the busy summer months and to supplement the volunteer weekend patrols.

National lifesaving manager Allan Mundy says that means paid lifeguards won't be out on patrol on most beaches from Monday to Friday.

Weekday patrols will continue for a few more weeks in some of the more populated beaches in the Northern Region such as Auckland's West Coast.

Mr Mundy says the summer holidays are over for most adults, and kids are starting to head back to school, but there will still be people out and about on the beaches during the week.

"It's important that they have their senses switched on and exercise some caution

when heading out into the water. People need to take care and understand what risks they may be putting themselves into and take practical steps to avoid them. That means not swimming or surfing along, stopping to assess the conditions and potential dangers and not overestimating your ability," he says.

The Surf Life Saving season officially ends at Easter, and volunteer lifeguards will continue to patrol around 80 locations nationwide on the weekends in the Northern Region and parts of the Bay of Plenty and Coromandel until then.

Clubs in the South Island and parts of the lower North will begin to wind up their patrols in March.

Lifeguards will also continue to be part of callout squads and search and rescue squads in many areas. In the event of a surf emergency,

please dial 111.

Key beach safety messages include keeping a very close eye on children in or near the water. Get a friend to swim with you - never swim or surf alone. Watch out for that rip. Rips are calm, deep patches of water close to shore that can sometimes have waves breaking to the side. Rippled, discoloured or foamy water with debris can also mean there is a rip present.

Don't overestimate you or your children's ability to cope in the conditions. Even waist deep water can be life threatening if you step in a hole or get hit by a large wave. Preferably be in the water within arm's length of them at all times on a surf beach.

If you're away from home, check with the locals and ask them about the conditions and the safest place to swim.

If in doubt, stay out.

SEND US YOUR SPORTS STORIES AND PHOTOS!



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Promote your business or event in our area, call us on:

Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - 23 Napier Street, Opunake
or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Taranaki Masters Games mark 20 years

Entries are now open for the 2016 Taranaki Masters Games which is celebrating its 20th year. There are 20 sports on offer, catering for all tastes and competitor abilities. Popular after its debut in 2015, Wine Tasting is back, along with Golf

which did not feature in the 2015 games. All this as well as the traditional team and individual events, which are back on offer.

People may be surprised to learn how young you can be to actually qualify for a

'Master'. For some sports it's as young as 20 or 25.

So if you are one of those people who always think about it, but never do it, don't procrastinate. Enter today. Get some mates together and join the fun. For the serious there is plenty of time, to train and for the not so serious there are plenty of chances to still be in the medal hunt.

Now it's easier than ever to enter with our new on line entry system which can be found at www.tmg.org.nz. Competitors can also check out and order merchandise when entering and competitors can also click on the 'prizes' tab at the bottom of the screen to see what's up for grabs.

If competitors prefer, they can also enter via 'snail' mail. PDF's of the registration and entry forms can be downloaded at www.taranakielelectricitytrust.co.nz or event books can be found at I sites and libraries around the region. Competitors can also email infotmg@xtra.co.nz to request a registration and entry form (please specify the sport/s).

WHAT'S ON



JONATHAN YOUNG

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

OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB

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

SCHNITZEL NIGHT

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

COASTALCARE - LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY

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

SURF INN

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

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.

COASTAL SINGERS

7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654

ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS

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

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

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY

Stratford Village Quilters Exhibition. February 5 - 28. Refer advert.

BUTLERS REEF

February 14, Valentines Day dessert menu, Entertainment Midge McCleary, 1-4pm. Refer advert.

THE VILLAGE GALLERY ELTHAM

A RETROSPECTIVE in Watercolours. Paintings by Bjorn Grube. NZ Jewellery by Ross Macdonald. 15 February - 11 March

MANUKA NZ 2016

A national conference on the future of the manuka industry.

February 17, 9am - 4pm at TSB Hub, Hawera. Refer to advert for full details.

COASTAL CARE BUDGET WORKSHOP

Workshop run by Budget Advice at CoastalCare. Wednesday 17th February 10am to 12pm. Please register your interest by contacting Aretha at CoastalCare 06 761 8488

AMPUTEE SOCIETY OF TARANAKI

AGM & monthly meeting to follow. 20th February 2016. Venue: Cliff & Bev Marx, 57 Upper Duthie Rd, Stratford. 11 a.m. Refer advert for full details.

FREE BUSES TO THE AMERICARNIVAL

Saturday 27 February. Free buses to the Americarnival will run from Hawera and Opunake to New Plymouth and return. Refer advert for full details

STONY RIVER BEER FESTIVAL

6 March - 11am - 9pm. Refer advert for full details. Tickets available at Hotel.

KAPONGA AMATEUR ATHLETIC CLUB

are having a dinner to celebrate 50 years of athletics at Victoria Park Kaponga 18th March 2016 at the Kaponga Rugby Gym. Anyone interested please contact: Helen Cameron - cameronclan@ihug.co.nz Deborah Collins - pdbscollins@farmside.co.nz

TARANAKI MASTERS GAMES TIMETABLE

Sport	Venue	Min Age	Variable Dates	Thurs 17th	Fri 18th	Sat 19th	Sun 20th
Athletics	Hawera	30					
Croquet	Inglewood	50					
Cycling	Stanley Rd School	35					
Darts	New Plymouth	30					
Dog Agility	Normanby	35					
Equestrian	Waitara	35					
Football	New Plymouth	35	Sat 12 March				
Golf	Stratford	30					
Indoor Bowls	Stratford	30					
Lawn Bowls	Stratford	35					
Netball	Stratford	25					
Pistol Shooting	Douglas	25					
Pool	Stratford	35					
Running & Walking	Stratford	30					
Swimming	Stratford	20					
Table Tennis	Stratford	35					
Tennis	New Plymouth	40					
Texas Hold'em Poker	Stratford	25					
Volleyball	Stratford	25					
Wine Appreciation	Stratford	30					

Check out our web site to download registration & entry forms: www.taranakielelectricitytrust.co.nz OR you can also enter on line at: www.tmg.org.nz

Register for participation in any of these great sports

Athletics
Croquet
Cycling
Darts
Dog Agility
Equestrian
Football
Golf
Indoor Bowls
Lawn Bowls
Netball
Pistol Shooting
Pool
Running & Walking
Swimming
Table Tennis
Tennis
Texas Hold'em Poker
Volleyball
Wine Appreciation





20th TARANAKI

MASTERS GAMES

2016 MARCH 17-20









Phone: 06 765 8234 | Email: infotmg@xtra.co.nz

Enter online at www.taranakielelectricitytrust.co.nz

Register before March 7, 2016 and go in the draw to **WIN A FORGOTTEN WORLD ADVENTURES VOUCHER FOR 2 OR 1 OF 5 SUPERBAGS - sports bag full of goodies.** * Conditions apply

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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

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HomeWays LBP The Repilers - Ph: 06 215 7227

McNEIL DECORATING - for all your painting and decorating. Ph: Jason McNeil 027 233 4584

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

ENTERTAINMENT

OPEN MUSOS gig Sunday 13th February. 2pm-6pm at Butlers Reef Oakura.

TRADES & SERVICES

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS For information and fieldworker services Ph: 06 751 2330 www.mstaranaki.co.nz

SITUATIONS VACANT

MINISTRY / SERVING OPPORTUNITY

IS GOD CALLING YOU?

Manna Healing Centre Trust situated just 10 minutes from New Plymouth at Oakura. We are seeking a married couple to participate in this growing ministry.

These positions involve caring and ministering as part of a team providing a high staff to client ratio. An allowance plus accommodation and food is provided. This position would not suit a family with young children.

Please contact the Managers
 Andrew or Alofa 06 752 7620
 or email mannahealing@xtra.co.nz
Further info at mannahealing.co.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES

The Coastal Community Transport Service takes those people in need of transport to appointments. We need to make some changes as this current scheme is not suitable due to the increase in use of this service and no increase in funding. We would love you to come along and have input to help save Coastal Community Transport on 17th February 2016 - 7pm - 9pm at the CoastalCare meeting rooms, 26 Napier Street, Opunake

Auroa School & Districts 125th Jubilee



For further information look on Auroa School's website **www.auroa.school.nz**
 Or contact Jessica Mills by phone - 0276355874 or email - jessica.mills@live.com
Follow us on Facebook



Workshop run by Budget Advice at CoastalCare

Wednesday 17th February 10am to 12pm.
 Please register your interest by contacting Aretha at CoastalCare 06 761 8488
 Budget Advice come to Opunake every Wednesday and have supportive, confidential and culturally aware trained advisors who can assist with:
 A personalized budget plan.
 Ideas to balance your budget.
 A system on monitoring your budget that is right for you
 Ideas on how you can reduce your debt.
 Negotiate with creditors on your behalf.
 Give advice on Personal Insolvency if necessary.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

OPUNAKE RAHOTU VETERINARY TRUST

Financial assistance is available to students to undergo tertiary education relating preferably to agricultural or horticultural studies although consideration will be given to other applicants.

Application forms available from:-

The Secretary
P O Box 117

OPUNAKE 4616

PHONE 761-7150

EMAIL: nevisbrewer@xtra.co.nz

Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016

Next issue out February 26

PUBLIC NOTICES

Amputee Society of Taranaki

AGM & monthly meeting to follow

20th February 2016

Venue: Cliff & Bev Marx

57 Upper Duthie Rd, Stratford

11 a.m.

Pot luck finger food lunch

Apologies: Christine Windle 06 273 6088 or

christinewindle@xtra.co.nz

PUBLIC NOTICES



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)



THIRD RATES INSTALMENT

Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the third instalment of rates for 2015/2016 without incurring a penalty will be Wednesday 24 February 2016.

CR Stevenson
Chief Executive



TANGATA WHENUA LIAISON FUND

The Tangata Whenua Liaison Fund was established to support projects and initiatives which help develop positive relationships between Tangata Whenua, Council and the community as a whole.

This could apply to:

- Marae or other community facilities;
- Cemeteries/urupa or wahi tapu sites; or
- Performing and visual arts.

Applications for grants from this fund are invited from marae committees, hapu or other interested groups or organisations.

Application forms are available from Council's website www.southtaranaki.com, Administration Building, Albion Street, Hawera, any LibraryPlus facility, or the Executive Assistant Community Services.

Closing date for applications is **Friday 1 April 2016 at 4.30 pm**

For further information, please contact Executive Assistant Community Services on 0800 111 323 or maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz

The Opunake District Foodbank

wishes to thank the community for the many donations of food that were so generously given as part of the Christmas Foodbank drive. Not only was there a large amount of donations of food there was also a large amount of time and effort from many volunteers from our community, who without the whole drive would not have been possible so a big thank you also to all those who assisted with their time.

We have a wonderful community we live in and it always amazes me how generous and supportive our community are of each other and the services within.

The Christmas drive was very successful and we were able to deliver lovely overflowing food parcels with all the staples and some Christmas goodies to 20 families. Most parcels were delivered, with only 3 being collected and all recipients were extremely grateful. There was also enough staple goods that we were able to also stock up the cupboards for the after Christmas needs.

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OPUNAKE SESQUICENTENNIAL

www.facebook.com/opunake150



Thank You!

The Sesquicentennial Committee thanks the following who were involved in the 2015 Sesquicentennial to celebrate 150 years of OPUNAKE AND DISTRICT. The many and various groups, residents, sports groups and contributors especially sponsors for our yearlong celebrations. The Sandfords Event centre for the use of their meeting room and continued support from The South Taranaki District Council and all STDC library staff. The remaining History Books will be passed to the Opunake Business Association for continued sale.

Bryan Roach, Maree Drought, Peter Trolove, Judith Armstrong, June Wallace, and Lennie Stimpson with support from Debbie Campbell, Ann Hickey, Margaret Shegedin and Marcia Haigh.

The 'Icon' memorial suggestions have been passed to The Egmont Community Arts council. Together with STDC they will follow these forward.



Opunake 150 Years



Short Story & Poetry Competition 2015



invites applications for grants from the

JD BASHFORD TRUST & ROYCE NICHOLLS TRUST

Applications are invited to the above Trusts from students who are New Zealand citizens or permanent residents and intend to take up practical farming as a career or be engaged in some occupation or profession directly concerned with primary production and for which special training is required. The combined application will cover both trusts.

Grants are made to students attending or desiring to attend a New Zealand Agricultural School, such as Taratahi or Telford and Universities providing an education in Farming or Veterinary Science only.

The level of individual grants paid is dependent on the amount of funds available, the numbers of students who received grants during 2015 and will be returning for 2016 and the number of new applicants.

Varying amounts are paid to successful applicants depending on their financial circumstances and the course to be taken, after giving priority to:

1. Residents of the South Taranaki and Stratford Districts
2. Residents of other areas of Taranaki
3. Residents of other parts of New Zealand

The grants continue the legacies left by James Dawson Bashford (in 1962) and Claude Nicholls (in 1951). Both South Taranaki farmers had a vision that their legacies would support people with the capacity and drive to contribute as leaders of change, development and innovation that will ensure New Zealand's agricultural and veterinary science industries remain national success stories.

Applications close on Monday 22nd February 2015

Please apply in writing for application forms and information to:

The Bishop's Action Foundation
C/- Harris Taylor Ltd
Chartered Accountants
PO Box 141
Hawera 4640.

A RETROSPECTIVE in Watercolours

Paintings by Bjorn Grube
NZ Jewellery by Ross Macdonald
15 February - 11 March

The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM - 3PM

100 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE PH: 761 8213

The Club Hotel Opunake

Book in your private function
Pool Tuesdays - Poker Wednesday & Thursday
Dine in or Takeaway Meals available

- TAB -



It's all about the desserts this

Valentines Day

Scottish Lover \$10

Chocolate whiskey mousse with a shortbread heart and whipped cream

Sweethearts Dessert \$10

Individual lemon tart with raspberry coulis, cream and ice-cream

Chocolate Romance Platter for 2 \$20

Shots of white chocolate panacotta, chocolate profiteroles, chocolate dipped strawberries and chocolate brownie hearts.

Piper Heidsieck Champagne Special \$45

To accompany your dessert, 375ml bottle usual retail \$65

Entertainment

Midge McCleary

Jazz, funk, roots & blues inspired musician 1-4pm Sunday

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1133 Main South Rd, Oakura

Phone 06 752 7765 - www.butlersreef.co.nz

Mānuka New Zealand 2016

**A national conference on the
future of the mānuka industry.**

WHEN 9am - 4pm, 17 February 2016

WHERE TSB Hub, Hawera

COST \$69 + booking fee

ORGANISER Venture Taranaki

For full programme and tickets

www.business.taranaki.info/content.php/page/manuka16

Mānuka honey industry to benefit from major conference in South Taranaki

International demand for mānuka honey has helped New Zealand honey exports grow to more than \$242 million per annum, but there is still a lot more potential. Exploring these opportunities, and confronting some of the challenges facing the industry, is the aim of a new conference on mānuka honey production in Hawera on February 17.

Manuka New Zealand 2016 will present more than a dozen expert speakers working in or alongside the industry, covering sustainable land use, science and medical uses of mānuka, future strategies, using Māori and conservation land and more.

"The unique properties of mānuka, particularly for health applications, has attracted global attention and premium prices in recent years," says Dr Anne Probert of Venture Taranaki, Taranaki's regional development agency and the event organiser.

"Demand is exceeding supply, and bee keepers and honey producers are looking for more mānuka-

rich sites. The flipside has been increased interest from farmers and landowners around potential use of their marginal land, and this will be a theme of the conference."

"At one end of the spectrum this could involve providing access to the mānuka already on their farms, but it could also extend to growing high quality mānuka as a serious plantation crop. The latest research on such possibilities will be covered at the event," Anne said.

Getting involved in Manuka requires consideration of broader issues such as the long term sustainability of the industry, its market, the impact on the wider farming enterprise, value chain and responsibilities such as plant management and bee health.

"It's not just about the plants and the hives," Probert says. "The bees are your livestock, and like any livestock they need feeding and caring for."

Trees for Bees scientist, Dr Linda Newstrom-Lloyd will provide specifics at the conference on what needs to be done to support the health of bees to ensure good

returns. Marginal land use expert and registered forestry consultant, Stuart Orme, Director of Woodnet, will provide an analysis on the potential investment required and possible returns from mānuka.

The conference has attracted strong interest from farmers, businesses and stakeholders from throughout the North Island, who are keen to build their relationships within this fast-growing industry.

The Taranaki event will include the latest updates on markets, regulatory matters, international trade, scientific and economic aspects of the mānuka industry.

Both risks and opportunities will be covered, according to Probert, to ensure a balanced and holistic investigation.

"It's easy to get excited about the mānuka opportunity given its recent rate of growth, but it is critical to look beneath the hype. The industry is not without its challenges and we will consider long-term market and price sustainability, as well as issues of product validity and labelling. It is

also important to ensure there is a robust industry structure to support this growth."

"We will also explore what mānuka could mean to national and regional economic growth and diversification, and some of the innovation that the sector has already fostered. This will include insights on what's happening locally as a result of the mānuka industry."

Manuka New Zealand 2016 will take place at the TSB Hub, Camberwell Road, Hawera, South Taranaki, from 9am-4pm on Wednesday 17 February 2017.

For more information and tickets: www.business.taranaki.info/content.php/page/manuka16

The event will present speakers from MBIE, DOC, Federated Farmers, MPI, Manuka Research Partnership Limited, Massey University, Watson and Sons, Te Tumu Paeroa, Taranaki Regional Council and Trees for Bees as well as practical case studies.

For more information: Dr Anne Probert, anne@venture.org.nz



Taranaki Regional Councillor Neil Walker says honey has the capacity to rival the wine industry in scale.

Honey could be as big as wine

Taranaki regional councillor Neil Walker is chair of the Primary Group Partnership that is driving the Manuka honey industry in New Zealand. He is also one of the co-chairs of the seminar being held in Hawera on February 17. He wants to raise the level of Manuka honey exports from \$85 million a year to \$1,200million a year by 2026. "We are making good progress with this he says."

Neil has also been asked to act as Independent Chair of the Apiculture interim Governance Board which is hoping to see the major players join

to form a new united Honey Industry body Apiculture NZ this year.

"The Honey has the capacity to rival the wine industry in scale," he said

"all this is being done to

drive my long term plan to make back country Taranaki and New Zealand as profitable as the rich dairy lands of the ring plain."

Neil has long advocated forestry carbon and manuka

plantations for honey as possible solutions to the long term decline in profitability in the back country.



Neil Walker



Entertainers ...well entertaining at the fortnightly get together at the Lakeside Playhouse in Opunake on February 2.

New Zealand cycles into Bike Wise Month

Kiwis are getting on their bikes to celebrate Bike Wise Month, an annual programme that encourages New Zealanders to enjoy cycling. Events will be taking place from Whangarei to Invercargill during February, with plenty of activities for everyone to get involved.

Last year, more than 56,000 Kiwis took part in more than 370 events during Bike Wise Month. This year even more Kiwis are expected to take part.

Bike Wise is a national cycling programme run by the NZ Transport Agency that promotes cycling as a fun, healthy and safe way to travel.

NZ Transport Agency's National Cycling Manager Dougal List says he is looking forward to seeing more people out and about on their bikes.

"We are dedicated to making cycling a bigger part of the way Kiwis get around, Bike Wise is a fantastic way for Kiwis to enjoy fun and safe cycling, so we're really

looking forward to seeing the country get involved.

"We have a target of more than 10 million more cycling trips by 2019, and we're hoping that Bike Wise will encourage more people to reach this milestone.

"Cycling is a great way to bring people together, something you can do with family, friends or work colleagues. It's the 14th year of Bike Wise, and we know more and more Kiwis are on board so we're hoping it's the biggest one yet."

Massey University Professor of Exercise Physiology Steve Stannard says cycling is a fantastic mode of transport that improves health and saves money.

"A real benefit of cycling is that you're at one with the environment; you're not in a shell like a motorist. If you're riding your bike or walking, you smell the smells and see the sights. You're going at a pace where you can absorb what's going on - I think

that's what makes cycling attractive to many people."

Cyclists should be prepared: Plan a safe route and check your bike before you start - brakes, tyres, chain, lights and reflectors. Watch for car doors opening, potholes, rubbish, grates, pedestrians and other hazards. Ride in a straight line, at least one metre from parked cars and take the lane when you have to. Use cycle lanes where possible. Try not to hold up the flow of traffic - if necessary, pull over to allow vehicles to pass. Make eye contact with other road users and signal your intentions clearly. Wear high visibility or brightly coloured clothing. Use front and rear lights at night, in low light and rain. Slow down near parked or lined up vehicles. Pass slowly and only when safe.

Motorists should watch for cyclists, especially in low light or rain, before opening car doors and at intersections. Slow down near cyclists and if need be, wait behind them.

Pass slowly and only when it is safe. Ideally, leave a space of about 1.5 metres. Give cyclists time and space to move in and out of the traffic lane. When turning left, remember that if you have passed a cyclist just before approaching a traffic signal, driveway, bus stop or junction, it is very likely they will end up on your left-hand side or just in front of you, so assume the cyclist is in one of your blind spots.

Calling all Entertainers

7:30pm Tuesday, 16th February 2016
Young, old, amateur, professional.

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

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

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

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.

Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The seventh gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 16th February 2016 Opunake Players Theatre, Layard Street, Opunake.

Web Site www.colourconversions.com

Colour Conversions Limited
Video, Audio and Graphic productions
027 897 8941

Our next issue is due out February 26

Promote your events in the OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Some exciting new art online and offline

GET REAL features 30 artists from around the world, each with their own interpretation of the GET REAL theme. A fascinating mix can be seen on www.tart.co.nz. I'll rotate the exhibition every day, and there's a drop-down menu of artists' names, so it should be easy to find the work by your friends. Or you can look through them all - it's a widely-varied mix. Twenty four artists have already sent in their pack of collages for the 18th annual collage exhibition/exchange in April (ICE18). Looking good, very good. Paul Hutchinson's Caput Mortuum exhibition is opening at Kina Gallery, 5pm on February 12. A stunning body of new work. Dale Copeland

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For information email: everybodystheatre@gmail.com or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre
www.everybodystheatre.co.nz

Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale
Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-pos

<p>Oddball G Adventure Family 95min An eccentric chicken farmer, with the help of his grand daughter, trains his mischievous dog Oddball to protect a penguin sanctuary from fox attacks. Saturday 27th 1pm Sunday 28th 7pm</p>	<p>Joy Comedy, Drama, True Story & Biography 2hr 04mins M This comedic biopic, based on the life of Joy Mangano - inventor and founder of a family business dynasty that has raked in over \$1 billion in sales. Friday 12th 7pm</p>
<p>The Good Dinosaur PG 93 min Animation, Adventure, Comedy In a world where dinosaurs and humans live side-by-side, an Apatosaurus named Arlo makes an unlikely human friend. Saturday 13th 1pm</p>	<p>The Dressmaker 119min Drama Kate Winslet, Liam Hemsworth, Hugo Weaving M In 1950s Australia, talented dressmaker Tilly returns to her tiny hometown to right wrongs from her past. Sunday 14th 1pm</p>
<p>Point Break PG-13 114min, Action, Crime, Sport. A young FBI agent infiltrates an extraordinary team of extreme sports athletes he suspects of masterminding a string of unprecedented, sophisticated corporate heists. Saturday 13th 7pm Wednesday 17th 7pm</p>	<p>The Revenant R16 156 min Adventure, Drama, Thriller A frontiersman on a fur trading expedition in the 1820's fights for survival after being mauled by a bear and left for dead by members of his own hunting team. Sunday 14th 7pm Saturday 20th 7pm Friday 26th 7pm</p>
<p>The Peanuts Movie Animation, Kids & Family 1 hr 32 mins Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Lucy, Linus and the rest of the "Peanuts" gang make their big-screen debut, like they've never been seen before. Charlie Brown, the world's most beloved underdog, embarks upon an epic and heroic quest. Saturday 20th 1pm</p>	<p>Spotlight Mystery & Suspense, Drama, True Story 127mins M SPOTLIGHT tells the true story Boston Globe investigation that would rock the city and cause a crisis in one of the world's oldest and most trusted institutions. Friday 19th 7pm Sunday 21st 7pm Wednesday 24th 7pm Saturday 27th 7pm</p>

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
10 The Dressmaker 7pm	12 Joy 7pm	13 The Good Dinosaur 1pm Point Break 7pm	14 The Dressmaker 1pm The Revenant 7pm
17 Point Break 7pm	19 Spotlight 7pm	20 The Peanut Story 1pm The Revenant 7pm	21 Spotlight 7pm
24	26	27 Oddball 1pm	28

Plenty of opportunities to see the cars at Americarna

Americarna is coming to a town near you. This tribute to the American automobile is coming to Taranaki. Beginning on February 24, and featuring visits to Inglewood, Opunake and Hawera, the climax will be the Americarnival in the New Plymouth CBD on February 27, with free community buses running from Hawera to Opunake to New Plymouth and back on that day.

Before then, the cars can be seen at the Inglewood Street Party from 4-8pm on Thursday February 25. Also there will be food vendors and crafts skills, and live music from the Hamilton-based Che Orton Band.

On February 26, the cars will motor around the coast. First stop will be for a morning tea stop at Sandfords Event Centre Opunake where the cars will be on display from 10.30am-12.30pm.

From 1pm-4.45pm, they will be on display with Go-Stop Drags in the Hawera CBD, before Friday night main street cruising in New Plymouth from 6pm-9.30pm.

Centre City will be open for public parking for the Friday night New Plymouth main street cruise. Parking is free after 6:00pm (if you leave prior to 6pm you will be charged for parking). Car park will close at 10:00pm

The Americarnival in the New Plymouth CBD on Saturday February 27 will have cars on display through Main Street, stalls at Huatoki Plaza and Currie Street, free activities for the kids on Puke Ariki Landing, and music at the local bars and



Beginning on February 24, Americarna is coming to a town near you.

Huatoki Plaza, plus a great opportunity to check out the Len Lye Centre if you haven't already.

As this is a free family day, we would like to make it more accessible to people in more remote areas of Taranaki, taking away any financial burden in getting to the carnival, so free community buses will run from Hawera and Opunake to New Plymouth and return.

The buses are free, but seat bookings are essential. You will not be able to turn up at the pick-up locations and hop on the bus without having pre-booked. Bookings can be made up until February 22, by contacting Kate with your name and the number of seats required. Email registration@americarna.com or phone (06)758-5273(Busing Russell offices).

All activities are free once you get there. We want to encourage families to get out and enjoy a day together that provides something for everyone-cars, fun, shopping, food and music. Bring a picnic and enjoy lunch at Puke Ariki Landing or the Clock Tower gardens.

Auroa to celebrate on Taranaki Anniversary Weekend

The Auroa School and districts will be celebrating 125 years this Taranaki Anniversary Weekend.(March 11-13).

Nearby schools like Awatuna, Makaka, Oeo, Otakeho, Te Kiri, Pihama and Riverlea have since closed, but these schools will be included and remembered in Auroa's celebrations.

After registrations on the Friday, there will be a memorial service at the cenotaph and a social evening at a marquee put up for the occasion.

On Saturday there will be a parade and a family picnic. Organisers want to hear from businesses, sports clubs and others interested in placing

floats in the parade. After the parade there will be an official welcome, and a display of photos and memorabilia through the decades will be on show.

Also on Saturday there will be a family picnic, which will include such attractions as a clown and bouncy castle.

Saturday's celebrations will conclude with a formal dinner and dance.

On Sunday morning, Openlands, now home to the original Auroa Church will host a church service.

Present day Auroa was once heavy bush country, hence its original name, Ratanui. When a post office was opened, the name had to change.

"There existed two Ratanuis, and ours had to knock under to the Ratanui down the coast," the Otakeho and Auroa correspondent of the Hawera and Normanby Star noted on January 25 1898.

In the years since, Auroa School has continued to make the headlines. In 2014, a team from the Auroa School won both the New Zealand and Australasian Junior Robotics championships.

The school has a roll of around 200 pupils. There are plans for a book, which would include the histories of Auroa, and the nearby districts who have since had their schools close.

Film previews Everybodys Theatre Joy

Saturday 6 February @ 7pm, Friday 12 February @ 7pm

JOY is the wild story of a family across four generations centred on the girl who becomes the woman who founds a business dynasty and becomes a matriarch in her own right. Betrayal, treachery, the loss of innocence and the scars of love,

pave the road in this intense emotional and human comedy about becoming a true boss of family and enterprise facing a world of unforgiving commerce. Allies become adversaries, and adversaries become allies, both inside and outside the family, as Joy's inner life and fierce imagination carry her through the storm she faces. Jennifer

Lawrence stars, with Robert De Niro, Bradley Cooper, Edgar Ramirez, Isabella Rossellini, Diane Ladd, and Virginia Madsen. Like David O. Russell's previous films, Joy defies genre to tell a story of family, loyalty, and love. (C) Fox Jennifer Lawrence, Robert De Niro, Bradley Cooper

AMERICARNA Free Family Buses - Saturday 27 February

Free buses to the Americarna Carnival will run from Hawera and Opunake to New Plymouth and return. American cars on display, craft stalls, food, music and FREE childrens activities. No Entry Fee.

SEAT BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

How to book: Contact Kate prior to 22 February to book your seat.

Email: registration@americarna.com Ph: 06 758 5273 (Busing Russell offices)

Timetable Saturday 27th February 2016

OPUNAKE - NEW PLYMOUTH - OPUNAKE 2 Buses

Town	Depart/Arrive Location	Arrival Time	Depart Time
Opunake	Opunake Motors - Service Station - Tasman Street		8.30am
Rahotu	Rahotu School - South Road	8:40am	8:47am
Pungarehu	Opposite RD1 - South Road	8:55am	9:02am
Warea	The old Warea Stores - South Road	9:10am	9:17am
Okato	Okato Takeaways - Carthew Street	9:27am	9:34am
Oakura	Oakura Hall - South Road	9:45am	9:52am
Spotswood	Opposite Spotswood College - South Road	10:07am	10:15am
New Plymouth	CBD	10:25am	

3:00pm - Your return bus will depart from the drop off location unless otherwise advised by the bus driver on the day

Timetable Saturday 27th February 2016

HAWERA - NEW PLYMOUTH - HAWERA 3 Buses

Town	Depart/Arrive Location	Arrival Time	Depart Time
Hawera	Outside i-SITE - 55 High Street		8.30am
Normanby	Outside Normanby Shcool- Main Road SH3	8:38am	8:45am
Eltham	Bus Stop opposite BP Service Station- Main Road SH3	8:55am	9:02am
Stratford	Northern Dairy - Broadway SH3	9:15am	9:25am
Midhurst	Midhurst Dairy - Mountain Road SH3	9:30am	9:37am
Tariki	Icon Sports - Mountain Road SH3	9:42am	9:50am
Inglewood	Outside Inglewood Club - Moa St	9:57am	10:05am
Egmont Village	Opposite Egmont Village Tractor Parts - Junction Road SH3	10:11am	10:20am
New Plymouth	CBD	10:35am	

3:00pm - Your return bus will depart from the drop off location unless otherwise advised by the bus driver on the day

Patchwork Heaven

'Patchwork heaven' describes the upcoming exhibition at Percy Thomson Gallery in Stratford.

A dedicated group of local quilters, Stratford Village Quilters, will decorate the gallery with a colourful array of bed-size quilts, wall hangings, cushions, scarves,

samplers and more.

Two challenge selections, 'Christmas Hoop' and 'Quilt Diva' will also be on display.

Lustrous titles such as 'Woodland Secrets', 'Lachlan's Rocket to the Stars' and 'Flamingo Feathers' conjure up a majestic world where colour,



STRATFORD VILLAGE QUILTERS EXHIBITION 2016

which features the 'Quilt Diva' Challenge

5 - 28 February

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MIRANDA ST. STRATFORD 06 765 0917



Marilyn Walsh's Quilt Diva, is made up of many 'memories'

fabric and design are one.

Quilters have modelled their Quilt Diva on themselves. Marilyn Walsh's diva represents her in the following ways: has a black and white travel case; pink stockings I wore in my 'younger' days; waistcoat is from fabric from my first sampler quilt; dress fabric from a frock I wore to my brother's wedding 25 years ago; the quilt sewing box fabric is from my last quilt; the frog piece is from an American friend.

The exhibition finishes on February 28.