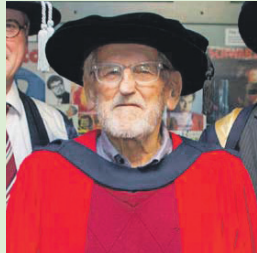




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'Sorry we missed you' by I, Daniel Blake director screening at Everybodys Theatre. Page 25.

# Labour selects New Plymouth candidate

The election date has been set and Labour's man in New Plymouth is looking forward to the challenge.

For most of the last year Glen Bennett has been spokesperson for the Labour Party in New Plymouth, and in December stepped up to be selected as candidate. Last week Prime minister Jacinda Ardern announced the election would be held on September 19.

"It's exciting that we now have a deadline to work to, but it's also quite daunting," says Glen. "There's a lot of work to do to get round the electorate and show why I would be the best person for the job."

He says he realises he is standing in a region where the future of oil and gas and the dairy industry are always in the news, but there are also positive things happening.

"Our team are motivated and excited, and we've had some positive comments from people who I know are not generally Labour voters."

New Plymouth is currently held by National's Jonathan Young with a majority of 7733. As well as New Plymouth City, the electorate includes Waitara and the Taranaki coast from New Plymouth to Opunake.

"I know New Plymouth and Waitara well, but I've got the challenge of connecting closer with the Opunake and Okato communities where the challenges can be different to those of New Plymouth," he says.

Glen(44) works as a contractor in the restorative justice field. Twenty years ago he shifted to New Plymouth when he got a job with the Salvation Army. He says his Salvation Army background was an influence in develop-



Glen Bennett.

ing his longstanding passion for social justice.

Before coming to New Plymouth, he says he would have spent only three nights there during his entire life. Now there's nowhere else he would rather live.

"I realised how beautiful a place it is, the people and the land, and I wanted to make it home. I've been here 20 years so hopefully people see me now as a local."

For much of that time he lived in Marfell.

"Marfell has challenges, but great possibilities, and there's a goodness there that doesn't always hit the front page of

the paper," he says.

In 2016 he helped organise the Peace Hiko to Parihaka.

"Keeping the treaty relationship between Maori and non-Maori always needs to be part of our conversation," he says.

Glen has worked across the fields of restorative justice, small business, social enterprise, and youth support, and is a trained celebrant and long-term foster parent. He is engaged to Jon O'Neill.

He sees mental health as being a major issue in New

Plymouth in the upcoming campaign and says he is pleased that the government has recently put \$5 million into the mental health unit at Taranaki Base Hospital.

Another issue is the environment.

"As well as the need to do the right thing, how do we get where nobody is left behind, like farmers or people working in oil and gas?"

He says Labour has a good chance of being back in government.

"I really think Labour has held steady with the coalition government and I hope it's going to pay off at the ballot box. We are in a stronger position than we were at the 2017 election.

"Under Jacinda's leadership, New Zealand is heading in the right direction. Our economy is growing strongly, and we're investing in great public services. We're making good progress tackling problems that have been neglected for too long."



Foxgloves in full bloom with the Mountain backdrop, a picture.

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[www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](http://www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)  
 Editor: Bernice McKellar  
 Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk  
 Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith  
 Production/IT: Shane Butler  
 Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly  
 Registered as a newspaper.  
 Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand

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

 **Letters to the Editor**

**Chute Street**

In the December 5, 2019, edition, you published an article in relation to Mr Mac Sole's campaign "Down the Chute with Chute" and that also previously Mr Sole had responded to my November 7 letter to you regarding the street signs of Normanby. I had no inclination to reply to Mr Sole but I am compelled to respond for the sake of driving my message; in that, we cannot be setting a precedent in the erasure of our history.

Again, I must remind Mr Sole that General Sir Trevor Chute is not legally a convicted war criminal and to profess his title as Herr Chute

is an attempt to make a direct link to Nazi Germany, minimising the experiences of those who suffered at the hands of Nazis. He should keep in mind also that when making reference to General Chute as Herr Chute, he purposely ties the Germanic language and all German people with having an association to criminality and war crimes. General Chute is not a 'Herr.' He was a Knight of the realm and a General of the British Imperial army, those distinctions must be made clear. He should also remember that many of those responsible for executing Nazi policies were in fact officers of the Third Reich and should avoid

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negatively stereotyping all Germans.

While it may seem to be a shock to Mr Sole that one of his own tribal members (me) would dare offer a differing perspective, I will forward him, however, the respect he deserves as our kaumatua; in that, I respect his reasonings for wanting to remove the street signs. I am however



compelled to think that no matter what one's age or position is, I think it prudent that

Happy New Year everyone.  
 Below are our publication dates for 2020

JANUARY				FEBRUARY				MARCH				APRIL																		
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**DEADLINES:**

**EDITORIAL** - 5pm Thursday prior to publication.  
**DISPLAY ADVERTS** - 5pm Friday prior to publication.  
**CLASSIFIEDS** - 3pm Monday prior to publication.

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Letters to editor continued from page 2

we are careful not to espouse our own attitudes in silencing the historical truths of others. Our history is complex and has often been corrupted by the imperial narratives, nonetheless, his attempt to erase those colonial truths is more damaging than the retention of an unwanted street sign.

I sincerely hope that any policy changes would be robust and have deep consideration to the unintended consequences that might come as a result; that being the unchecked practice in silencing our history and visibly removing reminders of our past because of people who are unsettled and cannot face the unfathomable truth, that these officers are absolutely a part of our story

The South Taranaki District council have a duty to get this right, and as I stated in my previous letter to you, many Taranaki māori descend from these imperial officers, and that the message Mr Sole and Ms Cole project, is that if you descend from one of these officers then you should carry a sense of shame, and quite frankly, they do not have this unquestionable right to project this message upon their people. The precedent this cam-

paign will set by removing historical names from street signs, is by all accounts, the inability to face the past, and is absolutely an act to silence the voices of the past, and this must be avoided at all costs. While I agree that Chute's ruthlessness and imperialist conquest to destroy our people was at the heart of his mission, I am not convinced that removing street signs will bring healing upon an unsettled people.

We need every available artefact to remind us what was before and what should not be in the future. While I appreciate both Mr Sole and Ms Cole's desire to make positive change for Maori, I too wish to see the same, but before their recommendation for a policy change is considered, one must always seek another perspective, for if we do not make proper consultation, we are then at risk of becoming the very thing they hate and despise about the Imperial system; that being the manifestation of power through the execution of ad hoc and uninformed policies.

War Crimes Investigator Alison Cole states that the actions of General Chute constitute as war crimes, and I do not doubt this, but the fact remains, General Sir Trevor Chute has not been legally designated the title

of a convicted war criminal and therefore the removal of his name from our streets is arbitrary. From my perspective, it seems this conviction is important. Without it, their search for peace will never be gained because they seek acknowledgement from the very system that endorsed his actions in the first place. Let's make no mistake, imperialism is evil, but so too is the attempt to erase historical truths.

Benjamin Terry Wellington.

### Gas cover up

Few will remember the Douma gas attack in Syria at the beginning of 2018 and fewer the reporting of it by independent media, as yet another in a long line of atrocities staged by BritProp terror-troup 'The WhiteHelmets.'

Coincidentally, 'WhiteHelmets' comptroller, ex-MI6's James LeMesurier, was found murdered in Istanbul.

The official account of Douma blamed Assad, resulting in a US missile strike on a Syrian airfield.

In contradiction, open sources identified alQaeda affiliates, the White Helmets, as responsible. They were slandered as

'conspiracy theorists.'

Now we know which of these narratives is correct.

OPCW members who inspected the sites in Douma, plus Wikileaks releases since, have identified the final OPCW report as a manipulated and politicised document not worth the paper it is written on, a document omitting all primary source data that the attack, "a non chemical-related event," was in 'High Probability' staged.

<https://wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/#OPCW-DOUMA%20-%20Release%20Part%204> (Release: OPCW-Douma Docs 4. "Four leaked documents from the OPCW reveal that toxicologists ruled out deaths from chlorine exposure and a senior official ordered the deletion of the dissenting engineering report from OPCW's internal repository of documents. "Please get this document out of DRA. And please remove all traces, if any, of its delivery/storage/whatever in DRA." Sebastian Braha, chief of Cabinet at the OPCW. Quoted in Wikileaks documents)

<https://wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/>

Our Government recently paid 64,000€ "to support OPCW Team Identifying Perpetrators of Chemical

Weapons Use in Syria"

Given the institutionalised coverup revealed surrounding their Douma report, why have we not heard of this?

<https://wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/wikileaks.org/opcw-douma/> ) Our government recently paid the OPCW 64,000€ to fund the OPCW's bid to expand its UN mandate. As taxpayer, We should be asking for our money back.

Roger Morris Oeo

### Community Gym for Opunake

For eight months, James(Batman)Langton has been operating the BarbWire Boxing Gym for the whole community of Opunake, not only for those interested in boxing itself, but for people of all shapes, sizes, fitness levels, and even for those who not only want to lose weight, but to retone their whole bodies back into shape, which to me is real pleasing to see happening, as there are classes every Monday and Wednesday mornings and nights.

It's come to my attention just recently that the South Taranaki Sporting Hall of Fame has inducted profes-

sional golfer Michael Campbell and professional rugby league player Graeme West on their honours board, so why isn't James Langton on there, as well as Peter Snell and Brian(Jazz)Muller, who have both recently passed away?

Tom Stephens New Plymouth

### Swimming survival skills

Every time I see photographs of primary school pupils swimming, either at their own school, or at community swimming pools, it always reminds me of when I was at primary school myself. Both boys and girls swam in their own together in our own school swimming pool. In the weekends, especially during summer time, most of us would end up at the beach swimming. It seems nowadays that not only are our children taught how to swim properly, but also learning survival skills, while most of us were not. In today's world this is very essential.

I have no doubt those boys and girls who attend boarding schools not only have huge swimming pools, but could also be taught survival skills. What about us adults also?

Continued page 4

### ADELPHOS

## Knock Knock

We were stunned and amazed. Back in 2005 our family billeted a fifteen year old Japanese high school student from Tokyo, Japan for two weeks. After we said grace at dinner Miko told us that she had never heard the name of Jesus or had a clue about Christianity. Imagine all those living in isolated areas of Africa, Asia and the Middle East who never heard the gospel? Will they be eternally lost because they are geographically, culturally or intellectually disadvantaged? The honest answer is that the Bible doesn't address all of God's thinking (Romans 11:34). Yet, some insist that

those not hearing the gospel will be lost. While others, who have heard Jesus' gospel and rejected it, criticise God as an unjust judge of the lost. So does God care enough to offer salvation to those who haven't heard the gospel?

Missionaries around the world report that Jesus reveals Himself through dreams and visions in isolated non-Christian places unreached by the gospel. Remember, Jesus Himself is the living gospel Word (John 1:1). We know that, "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways" (Hebrews 1:1 NIV). He used miraculous

signs, dreams and visions with Joseph, Daniel, Mary, the apostle Paul and many others to reveal Himself. It's normal stuff for God.

God will deal fairly with those who haven't heard the gospel: "...will not the judge of all the earth do right?" (Genesis 18:25 NIV). Likewise, the Bible theologically infers that the spirits of babies who die will rightly enter God's holy presence.

Besides the preached/written gospel, God uses other means to reveal Jesus' saving love in places isolated from the gospel. Either way, only Jesus' atoning Good Friday sacrifice can cover

and forgive all sins. If "only" good works save us, then repentance, grace and faith in Jesus' sacrifice would be unnecessary (Ephesians 2:8-9). Sadly, so many wonderful non-Christians believe their good works alone will compensate for their sins, earn God's forgiveness and get them into heaven.

Jesus promised to stand

at the door of every heart: "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me" (Revelation 3:20 NIV). If you're a God-seeking person, listen for that knock. If we answer in true repentance and faith, He will forgive "all" our sins and receive

us into His eternal family. Knock knock. Who's there? Jesus. Jesus who?

Adelphos

PS. For various reasons, many Christians I know serve God and others outside a church building. Most isolated Christians in the Muslim world have never attended a public church service.

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LETTERS TO EDITOR

# White Island remembered

*Continued from Page 3*

I really believe that us adults should take a first aid course, then take a swimming survival course also, as one doesn't really know how or when our teaching of water safety rescue may save someone's life, so maybe in the winter time our surf life savers could teach us adults. Many of us could have been saved if many of us adults knew more about water safety.

Tom Stephens  
New Plymouth

It was a stunning day. The height of summer, my birthday as it happens. I went on a friend's works do to White Island. They had hired a huge launch – the Island Princess from memory – for the day's outing. It was a sweltering day. The sea was shimmering with king fish who seemed to be sunning themselves on the surface of the water. With around 50 on board, there was food, frivolity and fun oiled just a little by

alcohol. As we neared White Island the launch moored and a few of us dived off the boat and swam to the island. We ran around the shore and didn't venture much inland – it was too hot underfoot. Eventually we all swam back to the launch to re-join the partying. It was a few years ago but the day is one I'll never forget - a magical experience, swimming to an island. Thrilling and exciting, a fantasy fulfilled. My second trip to White Island several years ago was a more sedate affair. This time it was an organised tour, myself and a friend visiting from overseas. We all embarked on a launch and were ferried directly to the island. About an hour's trip. Once there we were each issued with a gas mask and a hard hat. At the time I thought it was all a bit over the top. Was there any danger. No, it never even crossed my mind. This was an organised tour after all.



White Island.

In a group we were lead into the island passing puffs of steam. It felt initially a bit like visiting the thermal areas at Rotorua. Except I guess on reflection it wasn't. It was an active volcano which became clear as we gently climbed up to the centre and peered into the emerald green crater lake, highly acidic and bubbling. We were told by the tour guide that someone had

ended up in the lake. They found only a shoe. We all took a step back. An hour later we were back at the water's edge about to be ferried back to the boat. Would I do it again. Not now. I don't think anyone really appreciated the risk. Viewed from a distance White Island is a wonderful spectacle. And I guess that is what White Island will now remain.

It was a wonderful experience though. One I'll never forget, especially that memorable first visit. They say it's not the breaths you take but the things that take your breath away. I'll never forget.

Bernice McKellar

*This was left off the December 19 issue of the Opunake & Coastal News in error.*

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**RIGHT: Boutique cruiser Azamarsa visiting New Plymouth recently.**  
The 690-guest cruise ship was making its maiden call to Port Taranaki during a 15-night Tahiti and New Zealand voyage.



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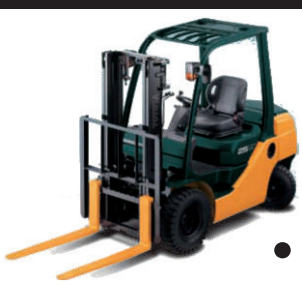
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EXCEEDING THE STANDARD SINCE 1914





# Dick Scott 1923 - 2020

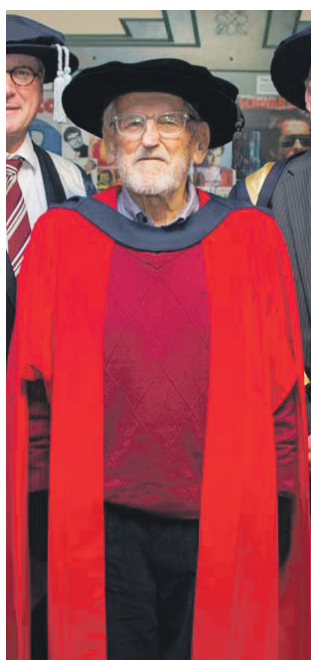
## He told the unvarnished truth about Parihaka

Author Dick Scott, who wrote such ground-breaking books as *Ask That Mountain* and *151 Days*, died in Auckland on January 1, 2020, aged 96. "He was a literary giant penning two absolutely must read books," commented Professor Kerry Taylor of Massey University.

Author Dick Scott (as he is always known) was born Richard George Scott on a farm at Whakarongo, near Palmerston North on November 17, 1923. He attended Whakarongo Primary, Palmerston North High School and later attended Massey University, completing a Diploma of Agriculture.

In his late teens his time at home came to an end when his father, fists swinging, came at him at and decreed he must get out immediately. He had aroused his father's anger by changing (reducing) a load of fertiliser. Later, when Dick was married with children the two men partly mended their differences; his father loved playing with his grandchildren.

Despite his parents right wing views, Dick's own viewpoint took a turn to the left. He even flirted with the Communist Party for a



Dick Scott receiving an honorary doctorate at Massey University.

while.

His book *151 Days* (1952) was an account of the 1951 waterfront dispute when Prime Minister Sid Holland suspended democracy and even humanity for a while. Even feeding a child of a striker was an offence. Later, his book *Ask That Mountain* (1975) critically examined the November 5, 1881 invasion of Parihaki by Government soldiers. Despite meeting with peaceful villagers,

atrocities were carried out including rape, as well as the destruction of much of the village. The two chiefs Te Whiti-o-Rongomai and Tohu Kakahi were arrested without warrant and imprisoned, without trial. "I don't have any Maori blood, but I want to correct the record. I was able to tear off the blankets of the cover-up," Dick commented.

Dick spent much time in Taranaki researching the Parihaka book and talking to many people. His research did not please everyone; he was relieving himself in a local hotel bathroom when a man standing beside him deliberately peed on his trouser leg!

The author wrote an autobiography *Dick Scott: A Radical Writers Life*, which was published in 2004. Dick had lived an incredibly exciting and often dangerous life. Prime Minister Peter Fraser tried to get him sacked at one time when angry at something Dick had written.

Other books Dick wrote include *The Parihaka Story*, *In Old Mt Albert*, *Inheritors of a Dream*, *Winemakers of New Zealand*, *Stock in Trade*, *Fire on the Clay*, *A Stake in the Country*, *Seven*

*Lives on Salt River*, *Years of the Pooh-Bah*, *Would A Good Man Die?* and *Pioneers of New Zealand Wine*.

One of Dick's daughters Rosie Scott (her writer's name was Mary Hall) also became a well-known writer. She was born in 1948 but sadly predeceased him and died in 2017.

Dick was one of several writers who enthusiastically promoted the writing of Taranaki's best known novelist Ronald Hugh Morrieson. The two writers once met briefly at the White Hart Hotel in Hawera. Dick was quite recently in the news when he sold an original art work of Don Binney he owned and donated the considerable proceedings to help those adversely affected by the Christchurch earthquakes.

In 2007 Dick received the Prime Minister's Award for Literary Achievement (Non-fiction). In 2016 he received an honorary doctorate from the Massey College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

Dick Scott is survived by his wife Sue and offspring Joanne, Jacqueline, Mark and Bede, 13 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

Rolland McKellar

## Rushed ETS reform undermines climate change efforts

The rushed legislative process for the Climate Change Response (Emissions Trading Reform) Amendment Bill undermines democracy and our climate change efforts, says the Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ).

"The ETS is the Government's primary tool for responding to climate change yet only a handful of days are available for public submissions on important proposed changes, and to

sub-committees with just a handful of MPs," says PEPANZ Chief Executive John Carnegie.

"This is important and complex work that will have a big impact on the costs imposed on New Zealand households and businesses. We need to get it right rather than rush it through for no clear reason.

"For example, the use of high-quality international credits could help reduce global emissions far more effectively and at less cost

than domestic efforts. Without this 'safety valve' there is a risk the carbon price becomes punitively high and the ETS dysfunctional, hurting our exporters.

"Unfortunately, we will not be able to discuss this with MPs and neither will many other groups because of the rushed timeframe.

"It's disappointing because up until the Zero Carbon Act there was a largely sound process run with climate change and ETS issues which were carefully considered and widely consulted on. A fair and transparent process helps to build support amongst businesses, the wider community and the political spectrum."

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# Commemoration of the life and achievements of Sir Peter Snell

On Friday December 20, 2019 a special commemoration was held outside Opunake Library Plus to honour the passing of outstanding Olympian Sir Peter Snell, who was born in Opunake. Sir Peter died on December 12, 2019 aged 80. The Reverend

Geoff Williams conducted the commemoration. There were a number of dignitaries present including the new mayor of South Taranaki Phil Nixon councillors, and members of the community including Opunake High School students.

Nearby is the statue sculpted by Fridtjof Hansen and bronzed by Ross Wilson based on his world record mile run at Cooks Garden in Whanganui.

During proceedings local identity Bill Hayward lowered the flag to half-mast. Bill organised a commemorative mile run through Opunake a while ago.

A number of people, such as Dan Ratahi, spoke of the legacy left by Sir Peter, both sporting and as a special person, including their memories of the man. Reverend Geoff closed the event with a prayer.



ABOVE: The Reverend Geoff Williams conducting a moving ceremony in honour of the late Sir Peter Snell.

LEFT: The plaque which accompanies the statue of the Opunake-born athlete outlines his many sporting achievements.

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## Blue Light gives green light to a better future

For many people, being able to get out on to the road is the key to their future.

“A driver licence is so much more than the legal right to drive on the road,” says South Taranaki Blue Light co-ordinator Leanne Richards. “It is independence, self-esteem and confidence building. It is access to higher education and employment. It enables our young people to be leaders who inspire their friends and whanau to follow their example and get their licence too.”

The Blue Light Te Ara Tika Driver Licensing Programme (BLTAT) is the product of a collaboration between Central and South Taranaki Blue Light, Police, the South Taranaki and Stratford District Councils

and Roadsafe Taranaki.

“We are currently working with over 40 young people at various stages of the licensing process,” says Leanne. “More than 20% have achieved their Restricted Licence while the remainder are on their Learner Licence, working towards the next stage.

International best practice recommends that young people gain 120 hours of supervised driving under a wide variety of different driving conditions and environments before they start driving solo, however there are a number of reasons why they don’t. These include not having access to suitable vehicles, not having access to suitable mentors or family members to train them or not having the financial means

to fund professional lessons.

Results from a 2013 survey of 5,300 Taranaki secondary school students found that 2,180 had driven a car on the road; of those 1,200 did not have a current driver licence. Of the young people on a learner or restricted licence 34% owned up to breaking at least one condition on their licence

In the years 2011-15, 52 people died and more than 400 were injured on Taranaki roads.

In the years 2011-13, 29% of all fatal crashes involved a 15-24 year-old driver.

BLTAT is a driver licensing programme which helps participants through the three stages of driver licensing to become fully licensed drivers.

Police staff mentor the participants for stage one of the process, with vehicles and fuel provided by the programme.

Community volunteers help supervise weekly driving practices, usually for up to six months while the young driver is on their learner licence.

Volunteers need to be 25 years of age or older, have held a full driver’s licence for more than two years and need to undergo police vetting. Full training and support is given.

Three professional driving lessons are also provided.

The programme includes a defensive driving course aimed at helping young drivers to be safe drivers.

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COMMUNITY COMMENT

# Your community board is here to help

A new team, a new area, new meeting times and a new name, Taranaki Coastal Community Board held the first meeting for the new year at Okaiawa Hall on Tuesday February 28 at 2:30pm. Phyllis Malcom gave a brief background of some of the history of Okaiawa, the changing uses of the 120 year old Hall, the closure of Okaiawa School and the relocation of the war memorial, local business growth and changes and Okaiawa sporting success. Taranaki Coastal Community Board remains committed to connecting with our local community. We bring your voice to our council and advocate



Andy Whitehead.

on behalf of our council back to the community. We encourage you to attend our meetings and share your views of what is happening in your community, whether these are concerns or successes we would like to

hear from you. This can be prearranged by emailing [andy.whitehead@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:andy.whitehead@stdc.govt.nz) or contact our council direct on 0800111323. Every second meeting will be held in Opunake with the alternative meetings moved throughout our zone. We are always excited to give financial support to local initiatives and are happy to support Coastal Care with their scanner trolley. If you would like to apply for funding for a community project please ring 0800111323 and ask for a funding application and criteria guidelines. We look forward to catching up with you sometime soon maybe at our next meeting

at Opunake Event Centre on Thursday 12th March at 2:30pm, at our meeting in your community or at one of the many community events supported by our council. We are happy to chat about the beach masterplan, town centre upgrades or the issues that are important to your part of our diverse and beautiful community. Remember if there is anything that you feel needs a tidy up or a repair or maybe you just want to acknowledge the good work our council has done, ring the 0800111323 number. It is available 24/7.

*Andy Whitehead  
Taranaki Coastal  
Community Board chair.*

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## Grant comes with a question

A grant to CoastalCare for a scanner trolley came with a caveat at the Taranaki Coastal Community Board's last meeting. The Coastal Taranaki Health Trust had applied for a grant for a specialist scanner trolley that would hold and protect a scanner. The trolley would cost \$2016. At the Community Board's meeting in Okaiawa last week board member Liz Sinclair said the trolley

would benefit the entire community as it would enable a scanner to be used locally meaning people would not have to travel so far to have scans. She moved that the Community Board grant the entire amount needed to buy the scanner. Community Board member Bonita Bigham asked if this trolley would be purpose-built. She said other times the board had asked applicants for funding to go back and

see if they could come up with alternative quotes. With nobody from the Coastal Taranaki Health Trust present at the meeting to answer questions the board voted to grant the \$2016 subject to the trolley being a specialist model. Community Board chairman Andy Whitehead said the Hawera Community Board had a policy of not granting money to groups who did not turn up to board meetings to

present their case. While he would not want the Taranaki Coastal Community Board to go this far, he suggested that perhaps they might give priority to groups that were prepared to come to the meetings.

Deputy mayor Robert Northcott said they had just seen a situation where questions had been asked but there was nobody there to answer them.

## Festival of Lights smashes visitor record

This season's TSB Festival of Lights has smashed the record for visitor numbers with more than 150,000 attending the NPDC-run event. The seven-week spectacular in Pukekura Park finished on Saturday 1 February with about 9,000 people enjoying the lights as the TSB Bowl of Brooklands hosted the sold-out Six60 concert. NPDC Recreation and Culture Manager Teresa Turner says the record-breaking season, 20,000 more visitors than the previous record of 130,000 in 2015-16, was a fantastic achievement. "We always try to make each season bigger and better and we well and truly delivered this year," says Ms Turner. "To get more than 150,000 visitors is absolutely fabulous and down to the hard work of



A colourful spectacle to behold.

our staff as well the fantastic support from our volunteers and sponsors. "Those visitors are great for our economy as well. They keep the tills ringing right across the District and hotels and motels full over the summer. "We've now got our work cut out for us to make 2020-21 even better. But we're not

resting on our laurels and the team is already looking ahead to next season." The Powerco Lights Up The Night New Year's Eve celebration proved a major drawcard with 9,000 visitors seeing in 2020 in the park. This season's Festival included 14 new light features and crowds packed out the Hatchery and Fred Park

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# Proud to represent all the electorate

Proud to represent all the electorate Taranaki is definitely the place to be over summer, with so many great opportunities, whether you were on holiday or working through the break. I hope you had an enjoyable festive season and are looking forward to the challenges and prospects that 2020 will bring. The election date has

been announced and the countdown is on to September 19. If previous elections are anything to go by, it'll be hotly contested. With that in mind it's timely to remind you that it is my privilege to represent all the people of New Plymouth electorate, regardless of political leaning. If you have an issue that I can help with, I will. As an Electorate



**JONATHAN YOUNG MP  
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH**

government agencies that I may be able to assist with. It is important that you know you can approach me without feeling politically pressured. Having said that, I'm proud of what the previous National-led government achieved here in infrastructure, health and education spending. We had plans for much more, particularly in the area of social housing and will be looking to remind people of the facts during the election campaign. We've been working hard in opposition, to make sure we have policies that work to improve the lives of all New Zealanders. Last year, the National Party

researched and released ten discussion documents with a huge range of ideas. We asked for feedback and will incorporate that into aspirational policies to benefit everyone. Those documents are still available for you to read at [https://www.national.org.nz/discussion\\_documents](https://www.national.org.nz/discussion_documents). We want them to be as relevant as possible, so please have a look and let us know your thoughts. I am currently working on a discussion paper for Energy. I am very proud to have been New Plymouth's MP since 2008. The electorate stretches from Opunake township to the top of the mountain and north to

Waitara. It's a diverse area and I'm always keen to hear your viewpoints, so if you haven't already, please take the opportunity this year to come and see me and tell me how you see the future of our truly special place.

*Jonathan Young  
MP for New Plymouth  
National Party  
Spokesperson: Energy & Resources  
National Party  
Spokesperson: Regional Economic Development (NI)  
newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz*

MP, I am responsible for making your voice heard at Parliament. I am available to meet with constituents about any queries they have. Sometimes these involve local issues, legislation or policy. Other times they are having difficulties with

## Reflecting composition and needs of the community

As soon as we have welcomed another new year, the first month is already seen, been and transpired. And with it, the realisation that we are well on our way with 2020. Last week it was announced that Election Day will be on Saturday 19 September, within 11 months of our local government elections. Representation of our community at local and central government ought to reflect the composition and needs of our community – and with that – a person who can properly represent and be made of diversity and experience of social, cultural, ethnic and economic scope and range. I am that person – diverse, experienced, educated, learned in the pathways, walks and aspects of life. Of Whanganui and for Whanganui. Front of mind this summer has been the people and communities affected by local and foreign tragedies. White/Whakaari Island eruption was a devastating end to 2019. I am immensely indebted to and proud of our first responders, SAS recovery team,

defence force, emergency crews, hospital staff, iwi and volunteers. Across the waters, Australia is suffering unimaginable and immeasurable destruction. The horror of the burning bushfires scouring and consuming the earth, the wildlife and the lives of many. And there is now the Coronavirus emerging in China, Australia, the USA and the EU, which is causing concern for many Kiwis, particularly those travelling or stuck abroad and schools who will soon welcome an influx of international students. The Government must address the issue and put in measures to ensure the safety of New Zealanders. Closer to home, was the recent drowning of a young Israeli tourist in the Whanganui River. I posted on my Facebook page an explanation of the reason for the placement of a "rahui" on the River waters and surrounding regions, reaching from Hipango Park (lands gifted by my great grandfather, Whanganui chief Waata Hipango, to the citizens of Whanganui) through to the mouth of the Whanganui Harbour. When there is loss and tragedy

of others, particularly visitors, we come together in support and kindness – which is as we ought to do. This must be the same for one another in our own communities. We have people and organisations on the ground, like the Koha Shed and Kai Kitchen Trust, who support the vulnerable members of our community. National wants to support local programmes with Place Based Initiatives (PBIs). We want to give local leaders flexibility and support to customise responses based on what works for the community. Local solutions for local problems. We know there is more crime and more victims under this soft-on-crime Government. We know 15,000 more kids are growing up in benefit-dependent homes, despite the Prime Minister promising to halve child poverty, and we know 7000 more young people are on the dole. When the Government scaled back its flagship youth employment programme, it showed it isn't serious about tackling the root cause of poverty. The cost of living has

been driven up by rents and fuel – a by-product of this Government's policies and taxes. These increased costs are putting real pressure on Kiwi families. In the last financial year alone, \$480 million was paid out in hardship grants. Promises have been made locally which haven't been delivered – during the 2017 election campaign, Labour promised \$3 million for Whanganui's North and South Moles and \$6 million for the Whanganui Velodrome. Irrespective of any council owned assets and PGF funds, the Prime Minister and Government made promises that they have not honoured. I promote and welcome investment into the Whanganui electorate – people, communities, infrastructure and opportunities – but we want those promises delivered on, in time, without falsehoods and false hopes. While the current Government focuses on being "relentlessly positive," The National Party and I, will be relentlessly dedicated to working for New Zealand and our communities.

*Harete Hipango  
MP Whanganui*

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# Mike Moore : 1949 - 2020

## A champion for the promotion of international free trade

Former Prime Minister Mike Moore ONZ died on Sunday February 2 in Auckland, aged 71. He was Prime Minister for just 59 days from September 1990 until the General Election in November 1990 when Jim Bolger's National Party took office. Mike lost the leadership of his Labour Party in a challenge by Helen Clark who went on to be Prime Minister for eight years.

Although he was born in Whakatane in 1949 he spent most of his formative years in Northland, in the towns of Moerewa and Kawa Kawa. He returned to spend most of his last months in this area because he felt this was the place where he gained his drive, spirit and courage. He left school at age 15 and worked in the freezing works and later as a printer.

He became a MP at the early age of 23 winning the Eden electorate in the 1972 General Election when Norman Kirk became Prime Minister. He had joined the Labour Party at 15. Before becoming a parliamentarian he had been involved in the union movement. I met him briefly at a Labour Party conference in Wellington when he expressed regret that there were not more MPs from a union background. Another time I phoned a talkback show when he was a guest to express my



Rt Hon Mike Moore ONZ former Prime Minister.

views about the need to prevent cruelty to animals, specifically for the need for gin traps to be banned. He agreed and commented that he received more mail about animal rights than any other issue.

Mike lost Eden at the 1975 General Election to National's Aussie Malcolm. When Mike visited his opponents election headquarters to congratulate the new MP he was kicked. He was unemployed for a while and later became a social worker.

He was re-elected in 1978 for the Christchurch electorate of Papanui and retained his position although the electorate changed names and boundaries. In the Labour Government from 1984 (Initially under the leadership of David Lange) to 1990 he held such Cabinet posts as Overseas Trade and Marketing, Tourism, Sport and Recreation, America's Cup, External Relations and Trade and Deputy Finance and Foreign Affairs.

After he retired from politics in 1999 he had considerable

international success notably as Director-General of World Trade from 1999 to 2002. "This was the most important job a New Zealander has ever held," He commented. He championed the need for greater free trade across nations.

Later, he was New Zealand's Ambassador to the United States, based in Washington DC. Unfortunately, he suffered a stroke in 2015. His health has often been an issue, including three bouts of cancer.

He was elated when Jacinda Adern became Prime Minister and commented that she could potentially achieve more than any previous leader in this nation, both internally and internationally.

In turn, the Prime Minister commented, "The world has lost a man with a huge intellect and huge heart today. E te rangatira, moe mai, moe mai, moe mai ra." National's leader Simon Bridges said, "Farewell Mike Moore, a great fighter for Kiwis who needed a hand up and a staunch advocate for free trade. My thoughts are with Yvonne and family."

Yvonne Moore will greatly miss her husband as a "stubborn, optimistic, generous and kind man."

*Rolland McKellar*

## On this month in history Sir Keith Holyoake retires from his role as prime minister

On February 7, 1972 long-serving Prime Minister Sir Keith Holyoake resigned from his position. He had been PM for 11 years and 140 days.

In the leadership contest in the National Party John

Marshall beat Finance Minister Robert Muldoon, who became Deputy Leader.

In the General Election National lost office so Mr Marshall (later Sir John) became Leader of the Opposition. The new Prime

Minister was Norman Kirk who led a Labour Government to a landslide victory. However, Mr Kirk died in office and the new Labour leader and Prime Minister Bill Rowling lost also in a landslide to Mr

Muldoon, (later knighted) who had displaced Mr Marshall.

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# Bringing colour and connection into people's lives

A bright infusion of colour greeted everyone coming to the Hawera Horticultural Society Summer Show at the Hawera Memorial Hall on Saturday. The Society has been going for 75 years, although a similar group had been operating in town years before then, says Society president Paul Lander. At one time the Society's Spring and Summer shows

would be held over two days, but now just take up the Saturday. Nevertheless interest in the Society and the shows has remained strong, says Paul.

"We have had a great standard entering this year, and I'm very pleased with the numbers too. It's been getting bigger and bigger every year."

He says that while he is horticulturally trained, with a B.Sci(Hort), many of those exhibiting aren't, but all are welcome to have a go.

A fifth generation Meremere farmer, he says his "day job" is breeding Angus cattle.

The Society has about 50 members and there were about 70 exhibitors at the weekend's show, with some coming from as far afield as Levin. Paul said he was pleased to see younger exhibitors getting interested.

"Local clubs and societies like ours' are our history as well as our future."

He says that in an age when people find it harder to stay connected, groups like the Horticultural Society offer something social media can't provide.

"You are talking to real people face to face."

A number of people who had recently moved into the area had expressed an interest in joining, he said.

The Society tries to organise its timetable so that it doesn't clash with other shows, but this isn't always possible. This time a national dahlia show meant that dahlias weren't as plentiful as they had been other times. Otherwise there was still a wide range on display, including roses, shrubs and foliage, cut flowers, gladioli, begonias, succulents, hydrangeas and of course fruit and vegetables.

Well known South Taranaki nurseryman David Self, formerly of Manaia, but now living in Hawera has had a stall at the show



There was a "stunning display" of colour at this year's Summer Show.

for over 50 years. Before setting up at the hall he had been doing what he does most Saturdays, selling his produce at the Union Street Square in town.

He holds a Eucumis or pineapple plant and points to what he says are classified as alpine plants.

"I am very fond of my little treasures," he says.

Also at the show was

another South Taranaki grower and horticultural identity, Spud Brogden of Normanby. As well as being a past president of the Hawera Horticultural Society, he is well known nationally and internationally as a daffodil grower and expert. On Saturday he was there sporting a judge's ribbon.

"I feel the show's pretty well set up in all categories,"

he says. "It's quite a stunning display actually."

He noted there weren't as many dahlias as usual, but said he was impressed with the quality of the hydrangeas on display.

"I don't think we've ever had such a good selection of different sizes and different shapes. The roses are not too bad for this time of year either."



Hawera Horticultural Society president Paul Lander.

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# Community Board comes to Okaiawa

Last week the Taranaki Coastal Community Board ventured into what had hitherto been unexplored territory.

Boundary changes before last year's local body elections had seen the Egmont Plains Ward change its name to Taranaki Coastal and lose Kapuni while gaining Okaiawa.

At their first meeting of the year, held at the Okaiawa Hall, longtime Okaiawa resident Phylis Malcolm told the board something about the area which had been added to their ward.

The hall they were meeting in was 120 years old, and movies had been shown here at one time, she said.

The local school had been closed for some years, but the local rugby and tennis clubs are still going strong and the local hotel is still



Okaiawa was added to the Taranaki Coastal Ward at last year's local body elections.

operating.

When the school closed, the local war memorial had been shifted to the Okaiawa Cemetery.

Community Board chairman Andy Whitehead said that while the boundary changes were something over which the Community Board had no say, it had been their choice to name from Egmont Plains to Taranaki

Coastal.

"We felt Egmont Plains no longer reflected the diversity we now have," he said.

At their previous meeting held in Opunake last year following the local body elections, Mr Whitehead had been elected chair, with Sharlee Mariekura as deputy chair.

Board member and Manaia resident Bonita Bigham paid

tribute to Manaia identity Joan Hastings whose funeral had been held the previous day.

She noted Mrs Hastings' long service at the Manaia post Office.

"Had she lived in a different era she would have been the postmaster in Manaia.

"She was an amazing adopted grandmother to every child that grew up in Manaia," Ms Bigham said. This had been despite her not having children of her own. Among the issues discussed

at the meeting were the future of the Opunake Lake and recycling. Mr Whitehead said the Opunake Recycling Centre is well used and was full every time he had been there. He said it wasn't designed for the amount of traffic using the facility.

Deputy mayor Robert

Northcott said recycling was likely to become a bigger issue throughout the country with many areas now recycling only 1 and 2 plastics. Previously other plastics had been sent to Asia for recycling, but this was no longer happening.

## Opunake lake closed

Due to high levels of blue-green algal bloom (Planktonic cyanobacteria), Opunake Lake is closed until further notice and warning signs have been erected.

South Taranaki District Council (STDC) environmental health officer, Mark Superfine says Cyanobacteria is a naturally occurring algae capable of producing toxins, most commonly causing skin and eye irritation. However, some of the toxins could potentially cause sore throats, asthma, paralysis and vomiting or diarrhea.

"Visitors to Opunake Lake should not collect or eat fish, plant life or come into contact with the water,"

says Mr Superfine. "Keep your pets away from the water too as they can also be affected," he says.

"Any visitors to the area showing these (above) symptoms should consult their doctor immediately or contact the Taranaki District Health Board Public Health Unit on 06 753 7798 for further information," says Mr Superfine. Any other questions can be directed to the STDC Environmental Health Team on 0800 111 323.

Further tests will be taken throughout summer and the warning signs will be removed when the levels are considered safe.

The state of Opunake Lake came up for discussion at

last week's Taranaki Coastal Community Board meeting.

Board chairman Andy Whitehead said the lake wasn't generating electricity and until there was an increased water flow there would continue to be control issues.

Deputy mayor Robert Northcott said the lake is a Taranaki Regional Council matter and direct questions need to be asked to them.

Board member Bonita Bigham said there are competing interests with some wanting the lake to return to its natural state while others wanted it used for recreational purposes. The Community Board had "stepped back" when it came to discussing the lake's future, but it might be time to get the discussion going again, she said.

## River mouth closed

Due to high levels of blue-green algal bloom (Planktonic cyanobacteria), Kaupokonui River mouth is closed until further notice and warning signs have been erected.

South Taranaki District Council (STDC) environmental services group manager Liam Dagg says Cyanobacteria is a naturally occurring algae capable of producing toxins, most commonly causing skin and eye irritation. However, some of the toxins could potentially cause sore throats, asthma, paralysis and vomiting or diarrhoea.

"Visitors to Kaupokonui River mouth should not collect or eat fish, plant life or come into contact with the water," says Mr Dagg. "Keep your pets away from the water too as they can also be affected," he says.

"Any visitors to the area showing these (above) symptoms should consult their doctor immediately or contact the Taranaki District Health Board Public Health Unit on 06 753 7798 for further information," says Mr Dagg. Any other questions can be directed to the Council's Environmental Health Team on 0800 111 323.

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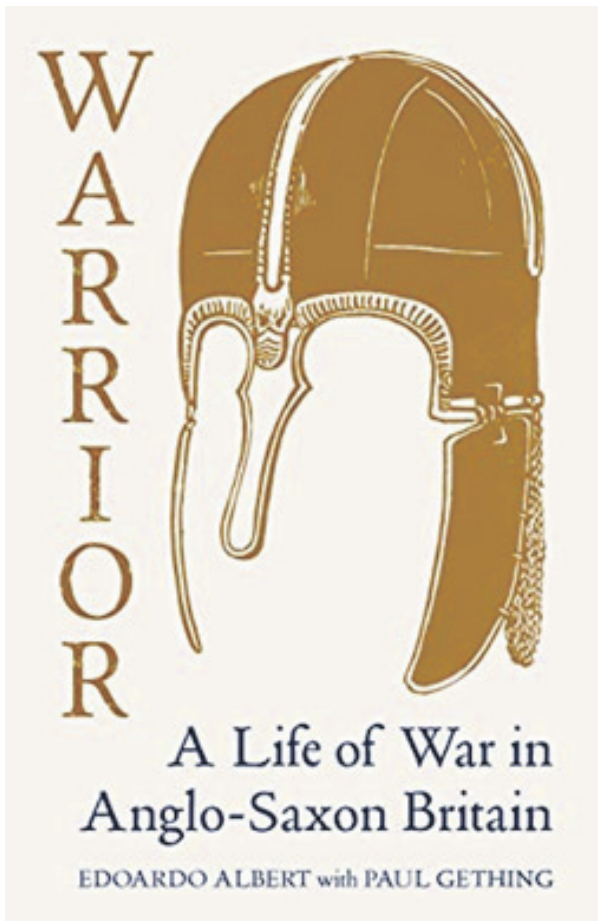
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# Opunake Library Plus book review

## Warrior: A Life of War in Anglo-Saxon Britain by Edoardo Albert with Paul Gething.

I love history and picked up this book wondering, quite frankly, if it would be any good. Expecting a quite technical non-fiction read about archaeology I am delighted to find that it is not quite what I expected. This is a well written book with little inserts of fiction to create setting the scene. Paul Gething is an archaeologist who finds the bones of a man in an Anglo-Saxon graveyard at Bamburgh castle in Northumberland. An Anglo-Saxon warrior who died during a time where life was violent, religion was becoming fervent, and life was about survival of the fittest and adapting to change if you were not.

It covers a vast array of topics from archaeology to Anglo Saxon kingdoms and traditions. It's a short book which gets through a great deal without being too 'wordy' or dull. If you're a fan of the TV series 'The Last Kingdom' you will enjoy this new foray into history. As we read we journey from Kent to Iona and many other places in-between and we are drawn into the research of this time period. I was hooked from page one.

You can reserve this book at any South Taranaki LibraryPlus branch in person, or call us on 0800 111 323.

You can also visit <https://www.southtaranaki.com/Live/LibraryPlus>

Maria Brewerton RLIANZA

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## JSME now doing warrants

JSME at Tataraimaka are now doing warrants of fitness adding to their automotive engineering work.

Chris Smith who is a qualified mechanic and Warrant of Fitness inspector has just been employed in the business. He worked as a mechanic for 15 years for his father Kevin who owned the garage at Okato. The garage closed in March last year when Kevin retired.

Prior to working for his

father Chris drove trucks and for the last 16 months has been working as a mechanic in New Plymouth.

Born and bred in Opunake Chris has lived on the coast most of his life though is now living in New Plymouth.

He admits to a longstanding interest in anything with wheels since he was 9 years

old and is a keen motorcyclist and often rides to work.

"We work on everything," says Chris. "Everything with wheels we'll give it a go."

He added "We hope the Coastal people will come and support us."

Jason and Kristy who founded the business 18 months ago said the business

is "going good". A lot of their clients are farmers.

Future plans include building a truck servicing bay in the next few months.

Quips Jason of their unique workshop on the top of a hill which boasts stupendous mountain and sea views, "People like to come for the view!"

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From left Jason and Kristy Strachan and Chris Smith.

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# First research on Taranaki's Little Blue Penguins



New Plymouth students and the Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society have joined forces to learn more about the blue penguin.

A little-known Little Blue Penguin colony on Taranaki's West Coast can now be preserved and protected for the future, following the first ever research study undertaken on the region's kororā penguin colonies.

Taranaki's Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society wanted to find out more about the pockets of Little Blue Penguins Kororā living along the coast, some in built-up areas where they share their habitat with port users, swimmers and boats.

The Society involved children from the Devon and Puketapu Intermediate Schools in a Curious Minds He Hihiri I Te Mahara project to search out the kororā, before using temperature and video equipment to observe and record their behaviour.

Project lead marine scientist Elvina Robb says with no previous data gathered on the local penguins the students first had to research the species, including nesting behaviour and distribution.

Kororā hunt at sea for food during the day and nest in on-land burrows at night. Students performed night surveys to find out where the penguins were living and recorded their behaviours when they were sighted. The students used

red light torches during these night surveys to ensure the penguins were not disturbed by bright white lights.

From there, with the assistance of computer and marine scientists, they brainstormed the best ways to monitor the penguins so data could be gathered without being invasive to the birds. They opted for thermometers to record the penguin burrow temperatures to livestream to the internet which showed when penguins entered or left the burrows. Live online graphs showed when the burrow temperature had risen, indicating that there was a penguin occupying the burrow.

Elvina says the students connected strongly with the project and their work has raised awareness about the Little Blue Penguin in the community. "They went from thinking of the penguins as cute and fluffy, to having a deeper understanding about the behaviours of the penguin."

"They learnt that they are an indicator species and can tell us about the health of the marine environment."

Elvina says a key positive outcome of the project is that the Society now has solid information it can share with users of local beaches and the port about the penguins. "We have got scientific data to use not just in education

but in decision making around coastal planning."

The project has spawned a relationship between Port Taranaki and the Society. They're working together on signage at beaches educating dog owners to keep dogs on a leash to protect the penguins, and the port recently asked the Society to check some areas for burrows before undertaking maintenance work.

"It has been really beneficial for these big decision making processes."

Elvina says the findings showed Taranaki kororā may have some different behaviours to other little blue penguins in Aotearoa.

According to the data collected, some Taranaki birds begin burrowing earlier than the average penguin, and some use their burrows to rest in more sporadically than penguins from other areas in New Zealand.

Elvina says it was rewarding seeing the students develop through the project. "We are getting them to think about the process from the beginning, to brainstorm ideas rather than just giving them the technology."

"In the future they can apply that knowledge to other situations, like how we might monitor other wildlife. We want to empower them with the critical thinking skills required in science so that when they grow up they

maintain that curiosity."

Nga Motu Marine Reserve Society is now using the information gathered to strengthen community education about the Taranaki kororā, including providing education resources for teachers to use in the classroom..

Juliet Young

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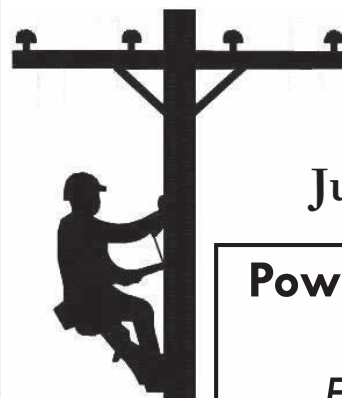
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# A house that spells



The house as viewed from the front lawn.

A four bedroom house with panoramic views right on the Surf Highway has been a labour of love for owners Kevin and Angela McFetridge who are reluctantly selling their beautiful property. Set on an acre of land the immaculate 4 bedroom house with low maintenance grounds

ticks many boxes. Former farmers, the couple have a new vocation and with their three children beginning to flee the nest need to be based in New Plymouth hence their decision to part with their "dream home" which they had built in 2006. They built the house to capitalise on both the sea

and mountain views. Indeed they used the Mountain for their inspiration for the design of the house which mimics the mountain's symmetrical shape. We wanted it be "modern and open to the ocean views" says Kevin. The sociable couple who enjoy entertaining and the home certainly seems

exquisitely designed for just that. "We love outdoor living and we made it so we can eat outside," says Kevin of the main living area which include a large lounge, kitchen and dining area. Sliding doors lead off to a sheltered outdoor area further extending the already generous main living area. Beyond is a

sheltered sunken garden with an outdoor barbecue – not the type you wheel out – but a genuine old enamel coal range. There's also another bricked barbecue surrounded by strategically placed rocks ideal for sitting on where the children toasts marshmallows, says Kevin. There's something about a fire outside that

draws people out reflects Kevin recalling many fond memories. The outside area also has a playhouse, sand pit and slide. There's also a fenced area where they had a relocatable pool. Also there's an outside spa pool. The property is fully fenced.

Continued page 15

## Harcourts

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Saturday 15 February 2020, 11.00am on site. (if not sold prior)

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# hospitality plus

Continued from page 14

A separate double garage, a wood shed and a tool shed completes the exterior buildings.

Apart from the lounge and bedrooms and stairs all the floor area are tiled.

“We thought they’d be cold but in actual fact they catch the heat from the sun and keep you nice and warm even in winter,” said Kevin adding that as they are in a sunny area “they heat the house”.

Also in the main living area is a large Metro fire.

The house in fact has three living areas in total.

There is a second separate

living area or family room downstairs as well as three double bedrooms with built in double wardrobes downstairs.

Also downstairs is a garage with internal access and beyond that a separate rumpus room which they converted into a gym and music room.

Upstairs is the master bedroom with a walk in wardrobe and an en suite bathroom. French doors open to a veranda with sea views. There’s also another living space or “adults lounge” as Kevin puts it with both sea and mountain

views.

The substantial house is both insulated and sound proofed and has a large concreted parking area.

Kevin and Angela are now working for a Christian Ministry Trust which takes them all over the world. They’re involved in all sorts of things like aid work but that’s another story.

The immaculate property is being marketed by Pat McFetridge – Kevin’s mother – from Harcourts.



The main living area with sunken garden in the distance.



The sunken garden with coal range (centre) and bricked barbecue at extreme right. Kevin comments the coal range “cooks salmon really well.”



The coal range.

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# Taranaki teenager recognised with national award

A Taranaki teenager's steady hand with a set of clippers has helped her win a national accolade for showing and handling dairy cattle.

Lara Honeyfield (16) was awarded the Holstein Friesian NZ Paramount Cup, at the National All Dairy Breeds Youth Camp in Stratford.

The four-day event at the A&P Showgrounds attracted 23 participants from across New Zealand, including five teenagers from Southland.

"Attending the camp was such a rewarding experience. I learned heaps of new skills," said Lara, who's a Year 13 student at Inglewood High School.

Each participant had their own heifer calf which they had to feed, groom, teach to lead on a halter and get show ring ready.

"The older students took turns spending time in the cattle barn overnight feeding and monitoring the heifers. It was lots of fun," she said.

There were workshops on animal health, breeding and showmanship skills, and participants were taught how to use electric clippers to trim the heifer's coat.



Lara Honeyfield (16) was awarded the Holstein Friesian NZ Paramount Cup.

The barn resembled a hair dressing salon, with local Holstein Friesian breeders showing students how to use hair dryers to prepare the animal.

"The levels of concentration as people blow dried, then trimmed the hair across their

heifer's back was intense," laughed Lara.

"The aim is to get the line as straight as possible. Clipping is a huge skill to master and it helps enhance the animal's appearance."

"I don't have much clipping experience. So, it was great to learn a few tips

to make the process quicker and easier for me and the heifer," she said.

Participants learned a raft of show ring techniques to help minimise an animal's flaws, like using the halter to move its head and adjust its stance.

Rain forced a mini show

involving the heifers and their handlers indoors.

Chloe Thomson (15) took out the award for best presented heifer and Jared Rutten (16) won the Dennis Terry Memorial Trophy for most improved clipper.

Lara received the Paramount Cup for being

the top performing Holstein Friesian NZ member at the youth camp.

A highlight of the event was a visit to Mark Rowland's 110-cow Holstein Friesian stud on the outskirts of the Stratford.

The herd is home to the 2019 North Island champion all breeds dairy cow Makuri Goldwyn Hazel EX2.

It was Okato 16-year-old Dylan Beardmore's first time attending the youth camp.

He's been taking part in calf club competitions since he was five.

"It was great to learn about a cow's anatomy and the proper way to prepare an animal for a show," he said.

"I really enjoyed meeting other like-minded young people from across the country. I've made lots of new friends."

Taranaki students Monique Radford, Neko McDonald, Nicole Honeyfield, Jessica Holmes, Paige Taylor, Riley Taylor and Charlotte Stachurski also attended the camp.

It was organised and run by Holstein Friesian NZ.

Brad Markham

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# Kiwi farmers are leading the world

When it comes to looking after their animals and caring for the environment New Zealand farmers are streets ahead of the rest of the world.

This is the message 2019 Dairy Woman of the Year Trish Rankin wants New Zealand farmers to know.

Trish and husband Glen sharemilk for PKW on a farm near Auroa. She is also a DairyNZ Climate Change ambassador.

She is back in the country after having used her Fonterra Dairy Woman of the Year scholarship to attend the annual Harvard University School Business Agribusiness Seminar in Boston. She was one of three New Zealanders there, and was one of only 24 women out of the 190 attending. She was the only "grass roots female farmer" there.

"I saw there was a real lack of knowledge about what we do," says Trish. "When I told people that we milk 450 cows on 140ha, they ask do you really have them outside?"

"Very few people I spoke to at Harvard - and these are executives of top companies around the world, or owners of some of the biggest agribusinesses globally knew that NZ was a pasture based, GMO/Growth hormone/antibiotic managed animal protein producer. They could not believe it when we aim to keep our cows in our herd for year on year aiming for around 10 years. One person I spoke to said they aim to have 20% in calf rate... and they just aim to milk their big friesians three times a day, feeding them in barn stalls heavily GMO based feed with growth hormones, and that we breed animals not just for production but for health, longevity, reproductive traits etc. And we pat them, and they live where they can run and frolic and forage and play and be a 'happy' animal loved by their farmers.

"New Zealand is miles (or kilometres) ahead in our day to day thinking and planning around 'not



Trish Rankin(left) with fellow New Zealanders Terry Copeland and Jessica Smith.

just dollar profit' planning for our businesses. We care about our environment, communities, impact on our contributions to climate change, people, social goals as equal to our dollar profit.

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"Premium products over in the USA are what we eat everyday here in NZ. And they pay for it. We went to a restaurant that specialises in paddock to plate type food, where you have traceability from the grower to the retailer. This is what we do here. And we don't tell everyone about it. People I spoke to just thought

eating GMO/hormone/cage/antibiotic filled/chemical rich/factory farmed food

was what you did. What we have here in NZ is a blessing to our consumers - you can easily access free-range, 'free from' food as a matter of daily shopping - not as a destination to a restaurant."

While at home in New Zealand, farmers maybe getting slammed for CO2 emissions this is not the case overseas says Trish.

"When I went to the Natural History Museum in New York Climate Change exhibition there was not a mention about agriculture causing it. The entire display was about CO2 emissions from industry and machinery and vehicles. New Zealand is so far ahead of other countries and yet our farmers still get made to feel like a planet destroyer. We aren't. We are on the journey towards reducing methane, emissions, waste etc that is world leading."

She also believes New Zealand farmers have an answer for those attracted to plant-based protein options.

"They are marketed at the 'meat eater' who wants one less 'environmental

damaging meat/animal health meat/less cholesterol' concerned meal. People who are buying them are doing it to try and do one 'better' thing for their environment/

health/animal beliefs. NZ products when we can get to circular/regenerative/carbon neutral type brand, would be able to compete in this market."

"The next year for me has been changed by this experience. I didn't realise that the global consumer of our products eat really low quality food daily - a meat eater in the USA will be eating chemical/growth hormone/GMO based barn/cage raised animals. This is where NZ is the 'Possible' We are the seller of some of the world's best protein. We are on our way to the NZ Primary Sector's Council vision of 'Fit for a Better World'. We believe in Taio, which emphasises respect for, and harmony with, the natural world. We care about our consumers, communities and climate. We are aiming to meet our Paris Accord targets and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals."

*"We care about our environment, communities, impact on our contributions to climate change, people, social goals as equal to our dollar profit."*  
Trish Rankin.

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# Surveys find only tiniest trace of pesticides

The results of two recent sampling surveys offer reassurance to those concerned about the potential for pesticide contamination in the region's fresh water, the Taranaki Regional Council says.

"Both surveys – one of rivers and streams, the other of groundwater, turned up minute traces of pesticides residues in only three samples across both surveys, and, importantly, no traces of glyphosate, which is best-known as Roundup and is very widely used," says the Council's Director-Environment Quality, Gary Bedford.

"Some in the community are concerned about the possibility of pesticide contamination in a region that is heavily farmed. These

results offer reassurance."

In the surface-water survey, Council officers took samples from nine waterways to test for about 200 different compounds, obtaining around 1800 analytical results.

Two samples yielded traces of organochlorine compounds but they were at levels barely above detection limit and well within relevant standards. They were of substances that have long been banned from sale and withdrawn from use.

Samples were taken from lower reaches of nine waterways in catchments where pesticide use is likely to be relatively high. They included the Waitara River, Waiongana River, Waiwhakaiho River, Te Henui Stream, Huatoki

Stream, Oakura River, Waimoku Stream, Timaru River, and Waingongoro River. Sampling took place in November 2019, timed to avoid wet weather and tidal effects that may have diluted any contaminants present.

The latest ESR-led groundwater programme, under which councils nationwide provide samples for analysis and comparison, found a pesticide trace in a

sample from one of the eight Taranaki wells included. It was at only 1% of the level deemed to make water unfit for drinking.

The eight Taranaki wells selected for the survey were in locations considered to have above-average risk of pesticide contamination, given the present and/or historical land uses. "So it's a reasonable conclusion that the incidence of contamination across the

whole region is even lower than these results indicate," says Mr Bedford.

The latest ESR survey, conducted in 2018, was expanded this time to include tests for 'emerging organic contaminants' (EOCs) including those associated with caffeine, artificial sweeteners, some medications, skin-care products and packaging. Traces of such compounds

were found in samples from five of Taranaki's eight wells, similar to the national detection rate.

"This testing is a useful addition to the survey and the results set a baseline for future reference," says Mr Bedford. "We'll be keeping a close eye on the findings of current research into EOCs but we've been advised the traces found in this survey are most unlikely to be toxic to humans."

## Scheme offers way forward

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is taking steps to establish the new Farm Debt Mediation Scheme, which will begin operating in July.

From this week MPI will be able to consider applications from mediation organisations wanting to take part in this scheme.

"We've already heard from leading mediation organisations that are interested in participating. If an organisation is approved, they will then make sure their mediators are trained for the new scheme," says Karen Adair, MPI's Deputy Director-General Agriculture and Investment Services.

The Farm Debt Mediation Act became law on 13 December 2019 and brings a new approach to farm debt mediation.

Karen Adair says the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme will help provide a way forward when a farm business comes under financial stress.

"It will ensure a fair mediation process takes place with an independent, neutral mediator and all the key people around the table."

In particular, the new Farm Debt Mediation Scheme is designed to address any power imbalance between stressed farm businesses

and their creditors. Creditors will be required to offer mediation to farmers before they can take action on a debt default.

"This provides the best chance that everyone involved can reach agreement on a good way forward. This may be a way to turn things around or in some cases, to wind down the business," says Karen Adair.

"There are two key dates for us – the first is being ready to approve mediation organisations to take part in the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme from 1 February and the other is being open for business for farmers and creditors on 1 July.

"We don't want to completely re-invent the wheel for farm debt mediation, and the processes we are designing will be familiar for current mediators. We will require mediators to have farm business and rural sector knowledge, and we want good regional coverage.

"Two organisations, the Arbitrators' and Mediators' Institute of New Zealand and the Resolution Institute have advised MPI they are intending to apply to be Approved Mediation Organisations under the new legislation. They are jointly developing a day-long seminar in mid-February to

train existing mediators."

One feature of the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme will be that, if a farmer prefers, mediation can be based on tikanga Māori (protocols).

"This could help get better engagement and outcomes. This is timely

too: the need to provide for mediation according to tikanga was highlighted by the Family Justice Review report in May 2019. We are working with mediators who are experienced and knowledgeable in tikanga to set this up."

## Fighter for free trade sorely missed



Former Prime Minister Mike Moore.

Many farmers will remember Mike Moore as a man who rolled up his sleeves to fight for global trade liberalisation and making things better for New Zealanders in general.

"He was brimming with talent and positivity and wasn't afraid to stick his neck out," Federated Farmers President Katie Milne said. "Who can forget his tireless efforts to promote the lamb burger? He took quite a bit of stick for that but was ahead of his time in terms of creating markets for our products."

For his roles with the World Trade Organisation and as our ambassador to the United States he was

away from the home shores he loved, but he continued to strive for the interests of Kiwis.

"I was luckily enough to be seated next to him at a function years ago. He had an incredible grasp of trade and its complexities around positioning free trade. He gave me many great insights; it was a privilege to have someone of his calibre willing to invest in me more than my fair share of his time that night," Katie said.

"He left a strong impression and brought home to me how important it is to be apolitical on those issues that are crucial for the wider good of New Zealand, and actually also for the Pacific and developing nations."

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# Getting pastures up and growing again after summer

Dry conditions in many areas mean some pastures are in less than ideal condition this autumn.

If you have paddocks which have taken a hiding over summer, now is the time to assess the damage, and work out what's needed to restore DM productivity before winter.

The sooner you act on this, the better. If thin, weak pastures are not already full of weeds, it won't be very long until they are, which means they won't grow or feed cows well for the year(s) ahead.

"Pasture's our key feed, so that's why it's important to get out now and check all of your pastures, to see how they have fared through summer," says Barenbrug Agriseeds pasture systems agronomist Jen Corkran.

If damage is severe, e.g. ryegrass plants cover less than 50% the ground, full renewal is the best way to restore these paddocks, either this autumn, or if necessary via short term crop(s) to grass next



Undersowing is ideal for open paddocks like this.

autumn, Jen says.

For larger areas of damage, with too many paddocks for summer cropping in 2020/21, undersowing can really benefit.

This entails hard grazing, then drilling ryegrass seed in pastures, without spraying, and works best where paddocks have thinned

out, but are not (yet) full of weeds.

It's quick, and has little effect on cover, so it can be a fast and cost-effective way of boosting growth in these paddocks.

"Be aware, however, your results will be compromised if weeds have already gained a good foothold," Jen

advises.

Shogun hybrid ryegrass in particular has proved ideal for undersowing.

New Zealand's best selling hybrid establishes as fast as an Italian ryegrass, so you get paddocks back to full production – or better – before winter, but Shogun with its NEA endophyte lasts

longer than any Italian.

"The only way Shogun can achieve this performance, however, is if it has room to grow!

"For it to fulfil its potential, it must be sown before existing weed seeds in the soil germinate and get a head start."

Sowing in the dry can work really well, as seed is in the ground ready to respond to the rain.

Jen says it's important to always use coated seed, and monitor for slugs.

Common mistakes with undersowing include drilling too deep (>10 mm), drilling too fast (>8 km/hr), sowing bare speed and sowing at too light a rate.

The DairyNZ Pasture Scoring Tool is a useful visual guide for scoring paddocks on a 1-5 basis. See

## On last month in history

### Peter Snell sets a new mile record

On Monday January 27 1962 Peter Snell set a new world record for the mile at Cooks Garden, Whanganui of 3minutes 54.4 seconds. A statue at the sports ground commemorates the feat. He broke the mile world record on two occasions. He also set new world marks

in distances including the 800metres, 880 yards, 1,000 metres, but interestingly never the 1500 metres, which he won at the 1964 Tokyo Olympics (as well as the 800metres).

Sadly, Sir Peter Snell, who was born in Opunake, died in December 2019.

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# Busy summer for Opunake Bowling Club....

Two women's teams contested the Club Fours on October 30 with the four of Eileen Rothwell, Marilyn Watt, Pauline Davy and Kathy Stanley winning.

Just two rounds of qualifying were played in the Championship Fours on November 3 after one team pulled out through injury. The third round became the final after the two remaining teams had two games apiece.

First. Bev Robinson, Eileen Rothwell, Rita Davey and Julie Hemahema.

Runners Up. Joy Collins, Heather Radford, Val Langton and Kay Fleming.

On November 16, the Women's Championship Triples were played in tricky, windy conditions with three teams competing. The team of Pauline Davy, Eileen Rothwell and Val Langton won.

On January 12, three teams qualified for the Women's Championship Pairs. Eileen Rothwell and Val Langton played against Bev Robinson

and Anna Brophy first, with Eileen and Val winning 20-13.

The final of the Men's Championship Fours was played the same day in warm but windy conditions. The winners were Rodney Woods, Paddy Deegan, Harry Davy and Kewene Ratahi. The runners up were Kevin Ratahi, Levi Davis, Darryl McKenzie and Bob Commane. The score was 18-9.

The Women's Club Triples were played in very windy and cool conditions. Two games of one hour each were played.

The winners were Joy Collins, Kay Fleming and Kathy Stanley. Runners Up were Eileen Rothwell, Heather Radford, Val Coombe and Val Langton.

On January 18 there was a very successful Under 8 year tournament. The teams were mixed two bowl triples with eight teams entered. The competition was intense but friendly, and enjoyed



**Western Division Mens Shield winners (Opunake) who play off Northern and Southern Division winners on 21 March to determine the overall winner. Back row (from left): L. Davis, B. Commane, P. Deegan, D. MacKenzie, H. Davy, K. Ratahi Jnr, B. Brophy. Front Row (from left) K. Ratahi Snr, R. Woods, P. Clement.**

by everyone. First. Hamish Kape, Kelly Hill and Leslie Te Awa. Second. Aiden Zittersteijn, Ryan and Sandra Zittersteijn. Third. Paddy Deegan, Darryl McKenzie and Julie Hemahema.

The Men's Junior Singles were played on January 19. A round robin was played with Levi Davis, Darryl McKenzie, Kewene Ratahi and Brian Brophy competing. Congratulations to the winner Levi Davis.

One Men's team entered the 115th Taranaki Men's Fours competition. Unfortunately they fell short at the final hurdle, needing one more game to qualify.

The next week was the Ladies' turn with two teams entered. Chris Commane's team didn't qualify, but Joy Collins' team did. They won the next game post qualifying but lost to a Tauranga team in the next game. Great games played and great fellowship

*Kay Fleming*

# ....and for Manaia Golf Club

The Manaia Golf Club congratulates Sam Jones on his recent win in the Hastings Open. Sam, who learned his golf skills at the Manaia Club is a previous

winner of the New Zealand Long Drive championship and last year won the New Zealand Amateur Golf championship. He has also spent time in the

United States on a golfing scholarship at the University of West Georgia.

January 4. Men. Nett Round. Joshua Symes 64. Rod Le Fleming 65. Noddy

Symes 67. Neil Scown 67. Denis Hurcomb 68.

January 6. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Otakeho Hackers. 2. Young Bucks. 3. Golf Gibbies.

January 11. Men Stableford. 1. Carolyn Koch 45. 2. Jim Ngere 45. 3. Bruce Duffus 42. 4. Daniel White 42. 5. Ralph Symes 41. 6. Caleb Andreoli 41. 7. Gary

Dowdle 40. Junior. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Abbey Marsh.

January 13. Monday night

*Continued page 21.*









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# Longest serving president now Coastal Rugby life member



From left. Coastal Rugby life members B.J.Kettlewell, Skippy Burnnand and Brent Davies with Ray Barron.

Thanks to all who attended the Coastal Rugby AGM. Massive congratulations to Brent Davies who is the newest Coastal Rugby life member. He was awarded his Life Member badge by Ray Barron along with fellow life members Skippy Burnnand and BJ Kettlewell.

BD played in Coastal Rugby's first ever season, after the amalgamation of Opunake, Rahotu and Okato. He was also Club Captain for the first two years of 1995-96. He has played, coached, and even been a player/coach at times. He has

been on the committee since day dot and is also Coastal Rugby's longest serving club President. BD is stepping down from President this year but is still on the committee and heavily involved in what goes on at Coastal Rugby (as the saying goes "he's part of the furniture now"). He is known by all at the club and constantly Rides the Wave everyday. Thoroughly deserved. Congrats Brent Davies.



Brent is congratulated by Ray Barron after becoming Coastal Rugby's newest life member.

## Manaia Golf Club

*Continued from page 20.*  
 Ambrose. 1. Young Bucks. 2. Tu Meke. 3. Mahi. January 18. Saturday Men's Stableford. 1. Ralph Symes. 2. Phil Elliott. 3. Logan Kennett. 4. Grant Gopperth. 5. Trevor Larsen. Junior. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Reiden Robinson. 3. Jaxon Robinson. January 20. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Young Bucks. 2. Tu Meke. 3. Tui & Red. January 25. Saturday Men's Stableford. 1. Noddy Symes. 2. Jim Ngere. 3. Neil Scown. 4. Kevin Murrell. 5.

Grant Gibbs. January 27. Monday night Ambrose. 1. Hakana Matata. 2. Otakeho Orange. 3. Jo Boys. Sandfords Manaia opening Day. Men. Mathew Laing. 45. Sam Jones 43. Logan Symes. 40. Jacob Gopperth 40. Kevin Murrell 40. Grant Gopperth 39. Bruce Duffus 39. Craig Jones 39. Ladies. Jo Ropiha 43. Carolyn Koch 41. Marina Gopperth 41. Junior. 1. Carter Symes 41 and Oliva Symes 41. 2. Payton Siciliano. 3. Luke Norris.

Your new and continuing Coastal Senior Rugby committee, as voted in looks like this for 2020:  
 Patron: Margaret Fleming. President: Janet Fleming. Vice President: Neil Pennington. Club Captain: Kelvin Weir. Secretary: Victoria McCullough. Treasurer: Neil Pennington. Sponsorship administrator: Patrick Stevenson. Bar Manager: BJ Kettlewell. Well done to all. Ride the Wave  
*Coastal Rugby Club*

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# Absolutely Fabulous

Eltham was invaded late last month, not by aliens from outer space but former school pupils returning to their home roots.

"It was absolutely fabulous," said one of the co-ordinators Judy Rangi of the weekend reunion of former pupils of Eltham Primary, Eltham Convent, Rawhitiroa and Mangamingi schools.

What had originally started as an idea for a class reunion grew to encompass pupils from all schools of the decade 1960-70.

More than 160 former pupils of the schools from all areas came back for a weekend-long trip down memory lane.

The instigator of the reunion was Ian Baxter, son of the town's then accountant Jim Baxter. His father's business office is now the Village Gallery.

The weekend began with an informal gathering at the Coronation Hotel (known to all as the Corrie) the day spent with ex-pupils

wandering at leisure round the town then a full gathering in the evening at Touchpoint (known to them as the Tavern) for a "splendid spread."

Judy Rangi described the entire weekend as fantastic, a view shared by Todd of Zara and Charley of Charley's café.

Todd provided drinks nibbles and a DJ playing music of the 60-70's. He said it was wonderful to see so many people in the town and to listen to their stories.

CJ of Charley's described it all as amazing with her café filled with laughter, talk and even some tears. She regretted that she was so busy she couldn't just sit down and listen.

The weekend of catching up with old friends and sharing memories ended on the Sunday with a gathering at Lake Rotokare for morning tea then a bus trip out to Mangamingi for afternoon tea and a visit of back country Eltham.

Several parents said the enjoyed seeing their children thinking outside the square to come up with different ideas for a project.

Summer Blast replaced previous summer programmes which were more focussed on reading, said the library report. Instead the new programme emphasised multiple literacy skills and met the needs of a wider cross section of young people.

Summer Blast began in December with 388 registrations and ended last month.



## It was a blast!

Summer Blast at the South Taranaki District Libraries was a hit with parents and children.

Many families welcomed the new more relaxed programme the Eltham Community Board was told at its meeting at Kaponga last month.

Several parents said the enjoyed seeing their children thinking outside the square to come up with different ideas for a project.

Summer Blast replaced previous summer programmes which were more focussed on reading, said the library report. Instead the new programme emphasised multiple literacy skills and met the needs of a wider cross section of young people.

Summer Blast began in December with 388 registrations and ended last month.

# Help-weeders needed

Recent warm weather has resulted in a growth of weeds at Eltham's Soldiers' Park.

Last year, 50 volunteers planted 1200 native trees in the park as part of a Restore Eltham project.

Now help is needed to keep the trees free of weeds.

"We've got old man's beard, convolvulus.... you name it," said Becky Dodunski, volunteer co-ordinator of Restore Eltham project, with the weeds infestation threatening healthy tree growth.

Funding for further development and maintenance of the entire

Soldiers'Park project was being sought, but Becky said the major need now was to keep the established native trees clear of weeds.

Becky is grateful for the help received from the Lions Club and some dedicated individuals and is aware of the strains on free time of many people. It was hoped to arrange some working bees but with such a large area to maintain any help would be appreciated. This could include "casual weeders" people who could drop in at any time and clear away weeds.

As Becky pointed out, Soldiers'Park is always

open. The present planting of native trees is just one aspect of the total development of the park.

Planned projects include further native tree plantings behind the school a tree library, basically an information board about all the native species and an outdoor classroom.

In the meantime, the need is to clear the weeds. So any people with green fingers or even brown thumbs, who can give some time contact Becky on Facebook or Phone: 027 7680711.

## Did you know .....

..... That all meetings of the Eltham Community Board and the South Taranaki District Council are open to the public.

This means the public can attend as well as elected officials.

These meetings also have a public forum where people can air any concerns.

The next meeting of the Eltham Community Board will be Tuesday, March 10 at the Taumata Recreation Centre, beginning at 10.30 am.

.... That if you see a pot hole, over full rubbish bin, graffiti etc you can contact the council via a new electronic app.

The mobile app Antenno can be downloaded free and can be used to report issues of concern and to receive information about council matters.

.... That book lovers have a place to meet and talk all things books. It's at Eltham Plus Library on a Saturday once a month. On that Book Club morning, readers avid or otherwise gather and talk about books they've liked or not liked and share information. The Book Club is for all and for more information contact Liz at Eltham Library Plus.



They did it.... Elaria 7 (back) Kieran 5 and Makaia (nearly three) triumphant after completing the walk round Lake Rotokare.

The three children, with parents Rebecca and Matt Thompson-Moersch, of Auckland were some of the many people having a summer break at the popular reserve outside Eltham.



Eltham Lions David Turner, Alan Liddington and Glenn Hansen along with Rebecca Logon try out the course for the coming Rotokare Loop Mountain Bike ride on 16th February.



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**ELTHAM**

# Summer fun at the Eltham pool



Evelyn & Zac Hinton, visiting Eltham, enjoyed cooling off at the Eltham Pool.

## Bridger Park

Planting at Bridger Park will begin in early spring, the Eltham Community Board was told.

Work was continuing on the development of a new entrance to the park, reported the Eltham Community Development Group.

The project is being co-

ordinated by the community development group with volunteers from the group, the Eltham Lions Club and the Eltham Business Association under the guidance of parks staff of the South Taranaki District council.

## Busy Libraries

Libraries throughout South Taranaki were issuing more books, the board was told.

An exception was Kaponga where book issues were down from 1127 to 770.

The decline was attributed to the loss of a few key borrowers.

In an area with a smaller population, the monthly library report said, such a loss would have an impact for a time.

# From Small Beginnings ..... The Village Gallery

The gallery had its beginnings in 1999, when a group of people organised a Community Art Exhibition at the Eltham Town Hall to encourage and interest locals in the arts.

This exhibition helped identify a number of local artists and brought about the idea of a Community Art Gallery. An empty shop was offered at free rent for the first two years and the gallery was on its way. It opened at 32 Bridge St Eltham in 2001.

As the years went by it became obvious that the gallery had it move to a more prominent position to continue. So, after much deliberation, it moved to 166 High Street Eltham in 2006. The building had a long history of owners and needed some alterations and a repaint to produce a light and airy display space.



Right: The Village Gallery at its present location in Eltham at 166 High Street.

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# Red Puppy Appeal for life-changing guide dogs

Blind Low Vision NZ Guide Dogs (formerly Blind Foundation) is seeking volunteers for its Red Puppy Appeal street collection on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 March

2020. Guide dogs help people who are blind or have low vision retain their freedom and independence to move around safely and confidently. Highly

valued for the positive and liberating change they bring to a person's life, guide dogs have important roles. Charged with making what could potentially be life or death decisions on behalf



Become a Guide Dog volunteer.

of a person, they have to learn some smart and sophisticated skills. Ian Styles, 75, from Whangamata, is a Red Puppy Appeal coordinator. He has been volunteering for the cause for the past 24 years, and has personally been supported by three

different guide dogs over the years.

"Having guide dogs has changed my life. Before I had them, I would ask someone to take me around, but now I can do my own thing. Irish, my current guide dog, knows where all the regular shops I go to are."

Not only have guide dogs supported Styles' independence; they have also been a lifeline. Styles remembers waiting at a crossing and a pedestrian told him it was clear to cross. He gave the command to his guide dog Hindi to cross, and Hindi refused to move. He then heard a car speed past him, which he estimates was going 100kmp/h.

"When we got across the road, I knelt down and said to Hindi 'you saved my life'."

Styles is well known in the community as people see him out and about walking with his guide dog – he estimates he walks about five kilometres a day. During the Red Puppy Appeal street collection, you will find him outside the Lotto shop and the local New World supermarket shaking a bucket for a cause which is close to his heart.

Blind Low Vision NZ breeds and trains about 100 puppies per year, and only the best graduate as guide dogs. As New Zealand's only guide dog service, it is 100% funded by public donations and it is with thanks to the generosity and support of Kiwis that Blind Low Vision NZ can provide guide dogs to people who need them.

John Mulka, Blind Low Vision NZ Chief Executive, said: "We are incredibly grateful to everyone who supports our Red Puppy Appeal. It's also a good opportunity for people to learn more about guide dogs, the special permission they have to access most places, and most importantly the life-changing role they play for people who are blind or have low vision."

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# Showcasing Coastal art

The 2020Vision exhibition on the Virtual Tart site enters its second month.

The site had over 2400 separate visitors last month, and they keep on coming back for another look

Now for the 'something funny' that I promised....

A fine-looking new community gallery is opening in New Plymouth on 15th February.

Gover Street Gallery.

It's inviting submissions from local artists, but to fill the walls until a lot of new works come in, they asked me to dig out a lot of unframed works that have been lurking in a big plan-drawer in my studio, unseen for up to 40 years. Original paintings, sceneprints, woodcuts, drawings .... by some famous names .... it's been a delight finding what I'd forgotten.

Some stunning work. A lot by Michael Smither, Roger Morris, Alby Carter .... from the 80s onwards.

And they're NOT going to call the exhibition 'what dale found in her drawers' What's keeping me busy? Opening on March 6 Koru on Devon Gallery in New Plymouth will be an exhibition Coasties - by 12 well-established artists from around this part of New Zealand. All the works are looking so exciting I decided to produce a full-colour book with a two-page spread of the work of each artist. It has taken longer than I thought, but it's looking well worth the effort.

The Coasties show will be on the Virtual Tart site during March and April for those who live way too far away to come and visit, .

And during May and June it will be Guadalupe Victorica's exhibition Migrants. Living in Mexico, Guadalupe sees at first hand the hardships faced by those who try to find a better life across a border.

Dale Copeland

# Capybaras for Brooklands



Capybaras Luis Suarez and Fernando have travelled down from Auckland Zoo to join Brooklands Zoo's collection of exotic animals.

Capybaras are regarded as the giants of the rodent world, as they grow up to 130cm long and weigh between 37kg and 67kg when fully grown (the females are usually larger than males).

"They're a fantastic addition to Brooklands Zoo and they're sure to be popular among visitors as they are social and can sleep in shallow water," says NPDC spokesperson Jacqueline Baker. "They love to be in water so they were a perfect fit for where the otters used to be."

Capybaras are semi-aquatic and can sleep in shallow water as their eyes, ears and nostrils are at the top of their heads.

They have partially webbed toes and are strong swimmers, and are native to Central and South America.

# Sorry we missed you

Director: Ken Loach. Writer: Paul Laverty

Ken Loach is not everyone's cup of tea. He knows how to take his audience to the brink, hold you there, and just as you are about to plummet

into the depths of despair and hopeless abandon, he swerves the storyline and you breathe easy... for a few minutes. Ken Loach, in my eyes, is a genius. *Sorry We Missed You* keeps you teetering on that

uncomfortable part of your seat, immersed in the world of Ricky, a courier driver, and his wife Abbie, a home care worker. You almost feel like you could pop in for a cuppa on the way home. Utter brilliance.

Everybody's Theatre will screen *Sorry We Missed You* in February. Time and date will be advertised on the website and Facebook page.

Jane Forkert



Playing soon at Everybodys Theatre.



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BOXFIT TRAINING  
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY 6.30pm  
FRIDAY 6pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 14 - Walk up Fantams Peak

April 12 - First Amateur Boxers fighting in Waitara

July 11 - Coastal Rumble event at Opunake Events Centre. Looking for corporate boxers.

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Training will be conducted by Heavyweight Champion of New Zealand James Batman Langton

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# America the free comes to Taranaki

Americarna, that annual tribute to the American automobile has become an integral part of the Taranaki summer scene, and will motor its way into Opunake on February 19. Opunake auto enthusiasts will be among the first in the province to see the cars this year.

After registration in New Plymouth the previous day, they will be on display at Opunake Beach from 11.30pm-2.30pm.

"This event is for everyone to enjoy and be sure not to

miss waving to the entrants as they drive passed the coastal area on the way to and from Opunake," says co-ordinator Nadine White.

On Thursday February 20, Americarna will be in the Waitara CBD complete with food and stalls from 12.30pm-3pm before making its way to Inglewood where the CBD will be the scene of a street party from 4pm-8pm, with cars, food vendors, craft stalls and musical entertainment from Auckland band Che Orton.



The Hawera Repertory Youth Production of

## BUGSY MALONE

### AUDITIONS

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February  
Hawera Memorial Theatre

For Audition Pack, Music info and to book an audition time

Email: [bugsymalone@hawerarep.org](mailto:bugsymalone@hawerarep.org)  
Or Text/Call: 027 278 1308

#### Friday night fins –

On Friday it will be Stratford and Hawera's turn. The cars will be on display in the Stratford CBD from 10.20am-12.15pm with a market day, children's activities and music.

In Hawera, the cars will be on display from 1.15pm-5.15pm. As well as music, there will be street drags

at 2.30pm and a Harley Davidson Stunt Riders demonstration at 3pm.

The day ends with the cars cruising Devon Street, New Plymouth from 6.15pm-9.30pm.

Once more Americarna will finish with the Free Family Fun Day in the New Plymouth CBD from 10am-

3pm.

Cars will be on display throughout Devon Street CBD, with stalls at Huatoki Plaza and Currie Street, free activities for the kids on Puke Ariki Landing and music from the band DD Boom (10:30am – 2:30pm) at Huatoki Plaza.

At 1.15pm the Harley

Photo:ws Leith Robert-

Davidson Stunt Riders will be demonstrating their skills on Motorbikes on Arika Street outside Centre City. The cordoned off area will host the KW Stunt Riders. This is stunt riding at its best. Black Falcons will be flying an aerobatic display over the foreshore.



**WED 19 FEB**

**THUR 20 FEB**

**FRI 21 FEB**

**SAT 22 FEB**

**OPUNAKE BEACH**  
11:30am - 2:30pm  
Cars on display

**WAITARA CBD**  
12:30pm - 3:00pm  
Cars on display

**STRATFORD CBD**  
10:20am - 12:15pm  
Cars on display

**NEW PLYMOUTH**  
10:00am - 3:00pm  
Americarnival

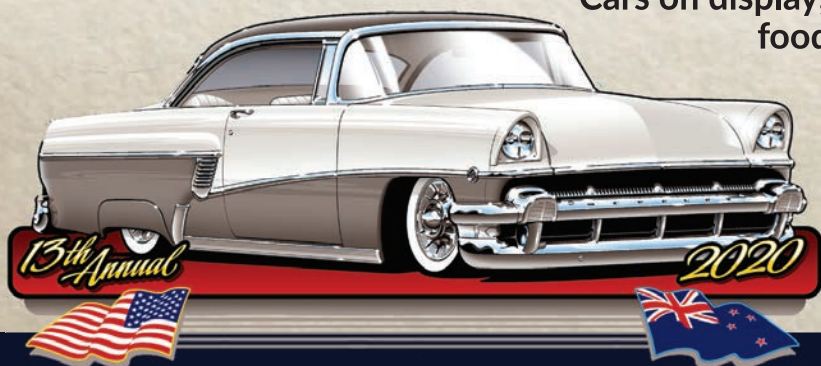
**INGLEWOOD STREET PARTY**  
4:00pm - 8:00pm  
Cars on display, music  
food, stalls

**HAWERA CBD**  
1.15pm - 5:15pm  
Cars on display  
2:30pm Street  
Drag Races

*FREE Childrens Activities  
at the Puke Ariki Landing*

Cars on display  
Show n Shine  
& Free Family Day

**NEW PLYMOUTH CBD**  
6:15pm - 9:30pm  
Devon Street Cruise





# South Taranaki welcomes Americarna

Start your engines. AmeriCARna is roaring back into town. South Taranaki welcomes back the popular car event to Hāwera and Ōpunakē.

“There are about 700 cars registered - so there will be plenty to look at,” says South Taranaki District Council’s community events coordinator Hayley Old.

On Wednesday 19 February, AmeriCARna heads to Ōpunakē Beach from 11.30am. There will be live music by local entertainers, food from local vendors and community fundraisers, and the beach shop will also be open. The cars depart at 2.30pm.

On Friday 21 February, the cars will head to Hāwera from Stratford (via Kaponga and Manaia along State Highway 45) and line Hāwera’s CBD for the afternoon. The town square will be filled with live music from ‘Just Us’ and be busy with the usual market day through High Street. Cars will arrive in town at 1pm and depart at 5.15pm

Bizlink Hāwera has organised an AmeriCARna fashion parade (starting at 4.00pm in the square) as well as a scavenger hunt on the day.

The Stop/Go event will once again be held on Albion Street from 2.30pm, with cars being timed over the 80 metres to the finish line. About 30 vehicles are registered for the sprints, so you can expect to see and hear plenty of action on the day. Alongside the Stop/Go event will be the Harley Davidson Stunt Riders, who will put on a show of tricks and wheelies, so be sure to get along to see this.

“We are really excited to have AmeriCARna return to South Taranaki. The Ōpunakē and Hāwera communities and businesses really get behind it, creating great atmosphere in town,” says Hayley. “It is important to make sure motorists take extra care on the roads at all times and be patient. Plan ahead as it may take you a little longer to get where you are heading due to road closures.”

On Wednesday 19 February, Beach Road in Ōpunakē will be closed to all vehicles (except AmeriCARna cars). It is recommended that spectators park on a side street and walk down to the beach. On Friday 21 February, cars will be parked on High Street (from Argyle St to Caledonia Street), Regent Street (from High Street to Little Regent Street), Union Street (for 80



AmeriCARna Ōpunakē Beach, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> February 11.30am–2.30pm. Hāwera CBD, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February, 1pm–5.15pm.

metres from High Street) and in the Community Centre carpark. Albion Street (from High Street to Rowe Street) will also be closed for the Stop/Go event.



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## Hāwera

FRIDAY 21ST FEBRUARY

1.00pm—5.15pm

*Market Stalls, window competition, scavenger hunt and fashion show in the town square!*

*1pm-5pm Live Music*

*2.30pm Stop/Go Event & Stunt Bikes*



## Ōpunakē

WEDNESDAY 19TH FEBRUARY

11.30am—2.30pm

*Live music and food vendors*

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# Happy Valentines



## Headlands Indian Restaurant

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# Frida viva la vida

Director: Giovanni Troilo.  
Writers: Jacopo Magri  
!! ARTHOUSE !! movie this month.

I think Frida Kahlo would have approved of *Frida Viva la Vida* the documentary. Like her it achieved a lot in a short space of time. It is raw, revealing and disturbing. When the opening message states the losing of three children, and the first scene is shot, film noir, in a 1950s operating theatre, you know you're in for a ride on the reality rollercoaster. I knew a bit about this artist before, but now I have a new respect for her. She re-invented and rebuilt herself, and remarried, the same man actually. Though why she married him in the first place is a bit beyond me. Their connection must have erupted onto the canvas in mutual artistic intelligence.

Mexico – loud, vivacious, extreme overload on the senses. A perfect culture for Frida to be born into and love. The superb cinematography and style in which this documentary is created reflects this and Frida's inner world. These are places we are fortunate to experience through her art.

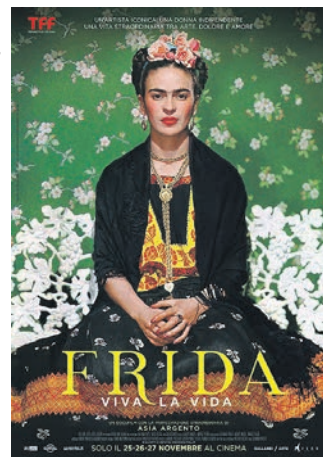
"Nothing lies behind. If there was something, I would see it". – Frida Kahlo

Frida never painted dreams; she painted her own reality. Her advice is to paint what you know, and she painted herself, as she is what she knows best.

The narrator that intermittently appeared seemed an interesting choice, I wonder if a voice-over would have worked better. The scenes with distant relatives recounting stories are refreshing interludes, and the final one of a distant niece unpacking Frida's urn is quite moving.

I walked out of the cinema feeling like I'd had a taste of what it must have been like to walk in Frida Kahlo's boots. And they were quite some boots.

Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Wednesday February 26 at 7 pm. Online bookings available. Please visit the website – [www.everybodystheatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodystheatre.co.nz)



# Valentines Day at Headlands



**HURRY** and book your table this Valentine's Day at Headlands Indian Restaurant. Love will be in the air once you enter the place as we have created the ambiance that fits the occasion on this day of love. Come in and make some memories to cherish for life as we cater to you and your loved one.

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# Garden Events Calendar



<b>SUN 16 FEB</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Fundamentals of gardening 10am to 12pm - free workshop	<b>SUN 22 MAR</b>	<b>PUKEITI</b> Pukeiti Adventure Trail Run 10am to 3pm - trail run	<b>MON 13 APR</b>	<b>TŪPARE</b> Easter bunny hunt From 10am - free family fun
<b>SUN 23 FEB</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Sustainable Food Festival 12pm to 6pm - free family fun	<b>SUN 5 APR</b>	<b>PUKEITI</b> Feelgood Fest 10am to 2pm - free expo	<b>SUN 19 APR</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Soap making and cleaning (\$100) 10am to 3pm - booking essential
<b>SUN 1 MAR</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Children's Day 10am to 2pm - free family fun	<b>SUN 5 APR</b>	<b>TŪPARE</b> Easy cheese-making (\$100) 10am to 3pm - booking essential	<b>SUN 26 APR</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Chestnuts and quinces 10am to 12pm - free workshop
<b>SUN 22 MAR</b>	<b>HOLLARD GARDENS</b> Easy cheese-making (\$100) 10am to 3pm - booking essential	<b>TUE 7 APR</b>	<b>TŪPARE</b> World Health Day From 7.30am - free event	<b>www.trc.govt.nz/whats-on</b>	

**TŪPARE**  
487 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth  
[www.tupare.nz](http://www.tupare.nz)

**PUKEITI**  
2290 Carrington Rd, New Plymouth  
[www.pukeiti.nz](http://www.pukeiti.nz)

**HOLLARD GARDENS**  
1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga  
[www.hollardgardens.nz](http://www.hollardgardens.nz)

Gardens are open all day, every day - free entry  
**0800 736 222**



# Walking for health and happiness

Every Tuesday at 10am for many years now, a group of enthusiastic walkers meet outside the Club Hotel in Havelock Street Opunake. I say enthusiastic because very rarely has there been a need to cancel because of weather. They are a tough rural group used to being out in all weather. They are members of a group formed many years ago by Margaret Mullin, when she saw a need for a walking group for fitness

and social interaction. The name of the Talking Walkers was given to this group as there is a difference between that Walking talkers. Some find it hard to motivate themselves to walk on their own, others are more in need of the social contact, so it is twofold. In winter the group walks about 7kms around Opunake, so if the weather happens to change there is some shelter about. In summer the group meets, shares cars and may walk some of the



quieter country roads or other known walkways, and after about 1 hour 20 minutes the group enjoy a coffee and some social time. This group caters for all ages and abilities. They never leave anyone walking on their own and they are friendly and inclusive of anyone who wants to join them. No phone calls, no fees, no expensive clothes needed, just a pair of comfortable walking shoes. We invite anyone who is interested to meet us at Havelock Street Opunake 10am every Tuesday. If a Contact Margaret on 0274775600:

Margaret Mullin.

Some members of our Tuesday walking group enjoying a break at the new seat donated by Pihama Institute, on the new loop track in Opunake.

## Rahotu to host national final

Forceback. Remember that game you used to play at school? A few mates on either side trying to kick the ball over the opposition into the scoring zone. Catch it on the full and take five steps up otherwise boot it from where you stopped it. Great game for everyone and Redbull have formalised the rules a little, jazzed it up as only they can and brought it on the road to the people of NZ. After regional finals in Otago, Canterbury, Wellington, Hamilton and Auckland, the finals will be held at Rahotu

on February 29. The winner will get to play Beauty and a few mates for the title of NZ Forceback champ.

It promises to be a great day. Plenty of fun, entertainment (with radio Hauraki and the ACC commentary team) and of course Redbull, although the bar will be open for coffee or alternative refreshments. Coastal teams will be represented. Games start at 10am with the final at 2.30pm and the big match up against Beauty's team at 3.30pm. It promises to be a great day and right on your doorstep. Free entry. Don't miss it.



OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS  
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FEBRUARY 2020

Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs and Senior Citizens \$8, Under 4 free

<p><b>BOMBSHELL</b> Drama, True Story  1hr 49min M Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm</p>	<p><b>MY SPY</b> Action, Adventure   1hr 33min  PG Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm   Sun 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb 7pm</p>
<p><b>SPIES IN DISGUISE</b> Animation, Action  1hr 49mins M: Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 1pm</p>	<p><b>BAD BOYS FOR LIFE</b> Action, Comedy 1hr 53min  R13: Language and sexual references Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb 7pm</p>
<p><b>1917</b> Drama, Action, War  2hrs  R13: graphic war scenes Fri 7<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm</p>	<p><b>DOLITTLE</b> Comedy, Family  1hr 46min  PG Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm</p>
<p><b>BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD</b> Drama, True Story  1hr 49min  PG Sun 16<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Wed 26<sup>th</sup> Feb 1pm</p>	<p><b>Valentines Boutique</b> Bubbles, Cheeseboard and Treats \$28 pp – EMMA - Drama Romance  1hr 30min TBC Emma Woodhouse, who lives in Georgian- and Regency-era England and occupies herself with matchmaking - in sometimes misguided, often meddlesome fashion- in the lives of her friends and family. Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm</p>
<p><b>JUST MERCY</b> Biography, Action  2hr 16min  M: Adult Themes Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm Wed 19<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm</p>	<p><b>THE GRUDGE</b> Horror  1hr 34min R16: Violence, Horror Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Feb 7pm Sat 29<sup>th</sup> Feb 7pm</p>
<p><b>CHECK OUT THE VALENTINES SPECIAL EVENT our only screening of EMMA</b></p>	

**Red Bull Forceback NATIONAL FINALS**

**SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29 AT RAHOTU DOMAIN**

GAMES START AT 10AM

**GET ALONG FOR A GREAT DAY OF RUGBY AND MEET A FEW CELEBRITIES AS WELL**

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Health and Community Centre  
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Every Wednesday
- NEW PLYMOUTH PHYSIOTHERAPY**  
Every Tuesday and Friday
- TARANAKI PODIATRY**  
Every 3rd Wednesday
- BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS**  
Every 2nd Thursday
- MIHI'S PLACE**  
Every 4th Thursday
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**RAFFLE RESULTS**



Many thanks to everyone who purchased Opunake Business Association raffle tickets. The raffle was won by Karen Marshall.

**VOICE FOR LIFE** raffle result:

- 1st Father Freddie
- 2nd T. Steer
- 3rd A. Hardegger
- 4th S. Deane
- 5th D. Simpson

Many thanks to all those people who supported our Christmas raffle for Voice for Life.

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**SITUATIONS VACANT**

**SITUATION VACANT**  
Taylor Dental Practice is currently looking for a Dental Assistant for their Opunake Clinic to cover Maternity Leave from **4th April until 15th February 2021.** The role is for 1 day per week (Thursday's) and will be a fixed term contract. Start date may be negotiable. In the first instance please send your C.V. or **contact Aretha Lemon at info@coastalcare.co.nz**

**LOST**

**I'VE LOST MY CELL PHONE.**

On October 24 last year I lost my cell phone.

I'd been at Everybody's Theatre in Opunake and somehow between being in the theatre mid afternoon and walking to the car parked near the theatre entrance the phone disappeared.

I wonder if anyone can help me.

It's a new Nokia phone with the phone number 020 4105 0230 celloped on to the back of the phone.

I'm happy to give a reward if it's returned, no questions asked. My home phone number is (06) 761 8206 or I can be contacted at the Opunake & Coastal News office in the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier Street, Opunake.

Many thanks, Bernice McKellar.

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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**

St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month  
Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday  
Other areas  
Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs)  
Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am  
All welcome

**St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato**  
Saturday Vigil 6.00pm

**The Wave**

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake  
Sunday Services 10.30am  
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday  
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday  
Come along or contact  
Murray Baylis  
027 218 3377

**St. Barnabas Anglican Church**

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

**Okato Community Church**

Meets 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome



**MENTOR TEACHER AIDE**

We require a Mentor Teacher Aide to support teaching and learning in the classroom and Student Support Centre.

Total hours for this position to be negotiated to a maximum of 10 hours per week.

Experience working with students with challenging needs would be an advantage.

Written applications should include a brief CV to:

The Principal  
Opunake High School  
PO Box 4  
Opunake 4616  
admin@opunake.school.nz

Applications close Friday 21 February, 2020



**ENTERTAINMENT**

**Upcoming Bands at Butlers Reef, Oakura**

Friday, 14 Feb - 8pm

**The Ed Jackson Band**  
playing free in our front bar.

Friday, 21 Feb - 7pm

**My Baby**

Tickets through <http://www.ticketek.co.nz>

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**St Joseph's Primary School Opunake School Board of trustees' By Election 2020 Declaration of Parent Election Results**

At the close of nominations, as the number of valid nominations was equal to the number of vacancies required to be filled, I hereby declare the following duly elected:

SKINNER, Louise

Signed: Sharon Quinnell, Returning Officer



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



editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

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23 Napier St, Opunake

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**



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Next issue due out February 20. Contact us on 06 761 7016

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**PUBLIC NOTICES**

# KEEP OUR WATERWAYS PEST FREE



**WITH YOUR HELP WE CAN STOP FRESHWATER PESTS FROM SPREADING.**

Follow these steps for everything that's been wet when you move between any waterway in New Zealand.

**CHECK**

Check anything that has been in contact with the water. Remove any debris or plant matter.

**CLEAN**

Soak or scrub your equipment, including both boat and trailer, with 5% detergent solution (or 2% bleach) for at least one minute. Make sure each item is fully wet.

**DRY**

Completely dry items to the touch, both inside and out, and then leave for a further 48 hours minimum, ideally 7 days.

For more information, visit [mpi.govt.nz/check-clean-dry](http://mpi.govt.nz/check-clean-dry) or talk to the Taranaki Regional Council.

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



## Lysaght Watt Gallery

**FOR THE LOVE OF ART**  
Amy Taunt & Carina McQueen

Open until February 29  
All Welcome  
6 Union St, Hawera  
Follow us on facebook



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**  
Meeting usually 1st Monday of each month  
Next meeting **March 2 at 5.30PM**  
Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake

### Oaonui Smallbore Rifle Club

Annual Meeting  
Wednesday 26th February 2020  
Oaonui Hall, 7.30pm  
All Welcome



We at Opunake Primary School appreciate the support we have had from the local businesses and community in general in 2019. Also, we are grateful for our many volunteers who have helped with sport and in the classrooms. Without this community support our school could not accomplish as much as we have. We look forward to continued ongoing support from our community.

## What's On Listings



**ONGOING**

**Jonathan Young:** Need to chat with your local MP Jonathan Young? Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. For more information phone: 06 7591363. Or email [newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz)

**Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake:** Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

**SUNDAYS**

**Opunake Country Music Club:** Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome

**Open Mic at the Rahotu Tavetrn:** Every second Sunday from 1-5pm.

**MONDAYS**

**Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake:** Each Monday 10 am - 12:230 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025

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

**Opunake Business Association:** Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

**TUESDAYS**

**Club Hotel Pool:** Tuesday nights. New players welcome.

**WEDNESDAYS**

**Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake:** Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676

**Schnitzel Night:** Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

**Opunake Embroiders Guild:** Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769.

**THURSDAYS**

**Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker:** Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.

**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

**FRIDAYS**

**Eltham Business Association Friday Markets:** 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

**Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth:** Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm. Next one August 30.

**WEEKENDS**

**The Historic Cape Light & Museum:** Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.

**NOW UNTIL FEBRUARY 29**

**'For the Love of Art' Exhibition at Lysaght Watt Gallery:** At 6 Union St, Hawera.

**FEBRUARY 9 TO MARCH 6**

**'Inspired by Nature' Pottery Exhibition:** At The Village Gallery, Eltham. Opens on the 9th at 1.30pm. Exhibition runs from February 10 until March 6.

**FEBRUARY 14**

**The Ed Jackson Band:** Playing at Butlers Reef, Oakura. 8pm start.

**FEBRUARY 16**

**Bugsy Malone Audions:** At Hawera Memorial Theatre. Text or call 027 278 1308.

**Eltham Lions Club MTB Trail Fundraiser:** Rotokare Loop. Refer advert.

**The Slacks. And Open Mic:** At Lahar, Okato. 4.30-6.30pm

**FEBRUARY 19 TO 22**

**Americarna:** Various location and events throughout Taranaki. Refer advert and editorial for details.

**FEBRUARY 21**

**My Baby:** Playing at Butlers Reef, Oakura. 7pm start.

**FEBRUARY 26**

**Oaonui Smallbore Rifle Club AGM:** 7.30pm at the Oaonui Hall.

**FEBRUARY 29**

**Red Bull Forceback National Finals:** At Rahotu Domain, 10am start.

**MARCH 22**

**The Slacks. And Open Mic:** At Lahar, Okato. 4.30-6.30pm



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