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A rumbling great night of boxing

At the end of the night the much anticipated rematch came down to a draw. The fight between Tricia MacKenzie and Ayisha Abied had been elevated to the main card at the Hawera Black Bull Coastal Rumble on July 8. The last time the two had faced each other had been a year ago at the 2022 Coastal Rumble when a split decision went in favour of Ayisha.

A year later they were back at the Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Events Centre to slug it out. The last of eight fights that night, the match lasted the full four rounds and was declared a draw.

One of the referees taking part a year ago was Jim Comp who passed away earlier this year. On Saturday night James (Batman) Langton whose name has been synonymous with the Coastal Rumble paid tribute to Comp who he said had refereed at a number of Rumble events and had liked Opunake so much he had decided to settle here. The bell was rung 10 times in his memory.

"He was always the first here and reffed lots of fights," said James. "He was



The night's final act. Referee Blair Reid declares a draw between Ayisha Abied (left) and Tricia MacKenzie (right).

a very fair referee and he didn't care what corner you were in or what club you came from."

Blair Reid from Feilding who refereed the night's matches said Jim Comp had been a mentor to him and had encouraged him to take up refereeing. Blair's wife Alicia was there as fight supervisor.

"I've been doing this for seven or eight years now," he said. He is no stranger to the area, having refereed in two

previous Opunake events as well as last year's Hawera Rumble which police closed down after a brawl.

Eight months after that event hundreds were in Opunake to enjoy the Coastal Rumble, watch the fights and cheer the boxers on. Ash Haimona acted as MC with Sheree Flanagan providing the entertainment

during the intermission.

Each of the fights had at least one boxer representing Barbwire Boxing and Fitness, usually up against a boxer from one of the other Taranaki boxing gyms, like the Eltham Hydras, Box Office Boxing in New Plymouth or Safari Boxing in Hawera, although the fight between Beau Petley and Shannon McMillan saw two Barbwire boxers pitted against each other.

Local interest in the Rumble was already evident with the Weigh-in at the Club Hotel the previous evening.

Terry Simpson was someone who had an interest in the fight between Sandra Gargan and Lexi McQuaig. This time round he was training Sandra who was fighting out of Barbwire Boxing, but he had previously trained Lexi at last year's Rumble. On that occasion Lexi was Head Girl at Opunake High School and represented Barbwire Boxing. This time she was fighting out of Safari Boxing.

"They're quite evenly matched. It's going to be a good fight," said Terry. "There used to be a boxing

Continued page 4.



Facing off against each other the night before at the weigh-in at the Club Hotel.

**"Well done to the organisers.
It was a great night"**

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While we welcome free speech, the views expressed in the Letters to the Editor do not necessarily reflect those of the Opunake & Coastal News. Please limit letters to 350 words as we sometimes struggle for space to fit them all in.

A win-win

What an opportunity for Taranaki park-users to the Egmont National Park/Te Papakura o Taranaki. The Department of Conservation has decided as part of the Pouakai and the Taranaki Crossing Treks upgrade projects that the Pouakai Hut which has only 16 bunks is too small for the extra several hundreds of hikers the Department of Conservation expect by the track's completion and the best option is to remove the building and build a larger one of 32 bunks to cater for the extra visitors. Good news, as Holly Hut on the walk has 32 bunks. With Pouakai Hut being removed the question raised is with the Lake Dive Hut being burnt down and Pouakai Hut being removed. Surely this hut could be removed in sections by helicopter and flown on to the Lake Dive



Pouakai Hut.

Hut site? Win, win surely, DoC.'

Ian McAlpine
New Plymouth

DOC Taranaki Operations Manager Gareth Hopkins responds.

"The Pouakai Hut is nearing the end of its useful life as it's showing some signs of age and extended use.

Relocating it to the Lake Dive site isn't considered a feasible option for DOC –

although we do appreciate the sentiment of 'reusing' popular assets.

We are exploring options for a rebuild of the hut at Lake Dive and working through internal processes to see what can be done.

A replacement hut at Lake Dive, if it goes ahead, is likely to be a couple of years away as we'll need to do due diligence on aspects such as consideration of budget, consultation, design and tender process."

Leave our farmers alone

Once again Greenpeace Climate Change campaigner Christine Rose is blaming our agriculture industry for causing climate change. Look Ms Rose I've told you that hurricanes, tornadoes, cyclones, forest fires, volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and oil exploration has also been blamed which is a lot of nonsense, yet can Greenpeace give us all any concrete evidence that our farming industry is causing climate change? Most probably not.

Our country needs our farming industry to export meat, butter, milk etc etc to overseas countries where millions and millions of people are still starving and dying right now. Our biggest problem the whole world has is pollution created by us all, and not anything else. Your

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ADELPHOS

As humans we are such complicated creatures. Emotions, thoughts and previous experiences all serve to add to the complexity that makes us who we are. And then there are the books we read, the people we meet and the places we go, or don't go. The food we love and hate, our favourite eating places, games we like and don't like to play. Then there are political preferences, movie genres, what bores us and what stimulates us. The list could go on all day, but it won't.

I sometimes pass an empty section when I am out

Expectancy

walking. There used to be an old shed on the site until it was levelled almost three years ago. Every time I pass that section, I find myself wondering what will be built on it. I'm hoping it will be a couple of dwellings to help house people. There is an expectancy in me for what might happen on that empty section.

It's a bit of a strange word 'expectancy.' The Concise Oxford Dictionary gives this definition: "hope or anticipation that something, especially something pleasant, will happen." We often hear it used regarding how long people in a country

will live: life expectancy. And there are variations in those. For example: Monaco, one of the smallest countries in the world, has the longest life expectancy in 2023, according to the United Nations; the male average being 85.17 years and females 88.99 years. That makes an average of 87.01 years. Perhaps it's all the hills people have to climb in Monaco. On the other hand, Chad, in Africa, has the lowest average life expectancy of 55.17 years (2023, United Nations). Sobering eh? For us here in New Zealand our present average life expectancy is 82.80 years.

For Christians the word 'Maranatha' has a special meaning of expectancy.

In Aramaic, one of the languages Jesus spoke, the word 'maranatha' has two meanings. The first, is said as "maran atha." It means Our Lord has come. It affirms that Jesus is here. The second as "marana tha" means Our Lord come! Contained in the second meaning is the expectancy that Jesus will come again. There are 67 verses in the New Testament echoing that expectancy. Maranatha!

Adelphos

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Outside First National, Cnr of Victoria and High Streets
Outside Nursery Rhyme, 158 High St

Papers are also available at
The Sunshine Dairy, Hawera
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Okato Takeaways

Continued from page 2

Greenpeace organisation really has some stupid and ridiculous ideas, and will have to get their attitude into a right frame of mind. So remember, many of us are not stupid at all. If Greenpeace wants us to do something really positive, how about helping us with our worldwide pollution.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

exist in Communist Russia and China where whole sections of the population are involved with the policing of the rest.

David Hancock
Eltham.

Former PM deserves awards

When hearing that our former Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern was made Dame Grand Companion of the New Zealand Order and that she received the high honour for her meritorious service to the really nation in our latest Kings Birthday Awards I was really pleased as she really and truly deserved this award.

Look, no Prime Minister in our country has ever faced such a huge dilemma like the 2019 terrorist attack in Christchurch, the White Island volcanic tragedy and more recently the worldwide pandemic virus called COVID-19. Yet still some people thought it was just another virus. How wrong they were. The same people cried out for a vaccine

but once it arrived they turned it down and suffered the consequences. The comments and criticism she got was highly unwarranted. So my question to these people is, how about they all become politicians themselves and then see how they all get on? Also how many other PMs have received such awards? None.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Farming

There are many people on whom the term, 'livestock farming' acts like an emetic, and the result is just as disastrous. Emily Bailey is one such person. The first thing to realise about New Zealand agriculture is that it is about feeding people. NZ Ag has the capacity to feed around 40 million people. Does Emily Bailey want to condemn 40 million people to starvation?

Farming in New Zealand is highly regulated and when regulations become too constraining the farmers quit. Case in point is the pork industry. Animal Welfare regulations became

so tight that most farmers left and now the bulk of New Zealand's pork is imported from countries who have no or little regulation whatsoever. Eggs are in a similar category.

It is totally wrong to say that agriculture is New Zealand's most polluting industry. Despite the amount of methane emitted by ruminants this is more than compensated for by the carbon soaked up during photosynthesis. The greatest area of photoreception and the greatest base for photosynthesis in New Zealand is our pastures which are maintained by our grazing livestock. If the grass is not regularly harvested it decays and the end product of decay is carbon dioxide and methane. An interesting phenomenon occurred during the Covid lockdown. Interestingly, despite there still being the same numbers of farmed livestock in the country, the pollution haze over our cities dissipated in a matter of days. Farming practices in New Zealand are improving and will continue to improve as more farmers adopt regenerative processes. Are our city counterparts doing the

same? Recently our Prime Minister took an entourage to Beijing in two clapped out 757s. A farmer could have driven his Ranger ute to the moon and back three times for less pollution. Constraints on space

preclude me from elaborating on the science behind my assertions. With as much space as Emily had I could do a better job.

Roger Bent.
Hawera.

Election signs

The bloody nonsense on your Front Page illustrates in a very simple and elegant manner what is going wrong with our country.

Who really gives about what size lettering is on an election sign or where it is placed. When it goes up or when it is removed?

The "thought police" have taken control of a once simple and intelligent land and people when others actually earn livings, and very good ones by policing this abject rubbish.

It behoves me to mention that our country has become very like the systems that

Bigger role for peer support needed

The significant contribution made by peer support workers in the mental health and addiction system is highlighted in a new insights paper released by Te Hiringa Mahara - Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission.

The findings of the Peer Support Workforce Insight Paper include calls to draw on this workforce's unique first-hand understanding of distress, addiction and recovery, and to substantially grow and better support this crucial workforce.

"There is a strong case for the peer workforce to play

a greater role in supporting people experiencing mental distress or addiction," said Te Hiringa Mahara CEO Karen Orsborn.

"Peer support workers connect with people in a unique way based on the rich experiences that they bring. The focus on strengths and connection is something that empowers people and inspires hope.

"Peer support workers are a vital part of the frontline workforce, but they have a wider role too. Alongside other lived experience roles, they can help transform the landscape of mental health and addiction services," Ms

Orsborn said.

"There is huge potential for further development of the Māori peer workforce to work from a Te Ao Māori perspective, which incorporates mātauranga Māori, tikanga, and kawa.

The paper provides an overview of peer workforce and reports on research data and findings from a series of focus groups Te Hiringa Mahara ran in late 2022.

"There has been significant investment across the mental health and addiction system in recent years and it is positive to see the additional peer support roles. Peer support workers make up

approximately 3.4% of the total workforce and there is much more to do to increase the number and proportion of the total workforce that are peer workers."

"We were told that a paradigm shift is needed and that developing the peer support and lived experience workforce is a critical priority," Ms Orsborn said.

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A rumbling great night of boxing

Continued from page 1.

“There used to be a boxing club in every town, but I think it’s coming back now. I take my hat off to anybody who gets into the ring. It doesn’t matter if you win or lose, you never disrespect your opponent.”

James Langton voiced similar sentiments.

“Win, lose or draw. It doesn’t matter. As soon as you’ve got into the ring, you’ve won.”

The first fight of the evening saw a unanimous decision in favour of Kayden Rangi of the Eltham Hydras over Opunake High School student Jahryl Anderson from Barbwire Boxing. The battle of the bigger boxers from Barbwire Boxing was another unanimous decision, this time in favour of Shannon McMillan over Beau Petley.

Barbwire Boxing’s Marcia Hales scored a unanimous decision over Kylie Northcott from Box Office Boxing in New Plymouth.

“Would you do it again?” asked Ash Haimona.

“Yes,” replied Marcia who said she had been fighting in aid of mental health.

Waisea Batisaresare from Barbwire Boxing who had earlier been getting over a dislocated shoulder from playing rugby faced off against Zander Weideman from Box Office Boxing. The referee called the fight off in the third round giving Zander a win by a technical knock-out.

The next fight saw Jade Wylde from Barbwire



Fans enjoying the night.

Boxing take on Anthony Vaoga from Safari Boxing. Anthony lost his headgear in the final round but went on to win by a split decision. He was asked who he wanted to thank.

“I want to thank the coaches who take their own time to teach people like us how to be better people,” he said.

The penultimate fight of the night was to have been a rematch between Caleb Parete from Barbwire Boxing and Zane Coleman. The last time they faced off against each other Zane had won on a split decision. With Zane unavailable Matt Irvine came in at short notice to fill the gap. At the end of the fight Caleb was declared the winner by a unanimous decision.

Referee Blair Reid said he



Caleb Parete declared the winner over Matt Irvine.

was pleased with how the boxing and the pro fight was night went. “It was a good night of a good hard fight,” he said.



Anthony Vaoga(left) against Jade Wylde.



Sandra Gargan (left) against Lexi McQuaig.

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South Taranaki Youth Council - Empower Youth

Tom Tito-Green, former Head Boy of Opunake High School (OHS), is an inaugural member of the South Taranaki Youth Council, also known as EmpowerYouth, which was established in May of this year, along with Marama Mohi (former student of OHS) and Kymani Parata, current OHS student.

Ebony Kalin, who is a student at Te Pae Pae O Aotea (which has replaced Hawera High School), made the first approach to set up this new initiative, in conjunction with the South Taranaki District Council, who sought community feedback on the idea, which was overwhelmingly positive.

Closely involved in the initiative were Cr Racquel Cleaver-Pittams, Fran Levings (STDC Community Advisor for Opunake) and STDC Community Services Group Manager Rob Haveswood who commented, "Ebony has diligently worked towards establishing EmpowerYouth as a vehicle for youth engagement."

Ebony explains that EmpowerYouth aims to create a platform for young people to express their opinions, collaborate on ideas and actively contribute to the growth and development of their district. "By engaging with the council, Empower Youth seeks to empower young people to work together and effect positive change within their communities," she says.

The Committee, continues



Tom Tito-Green from his time last year as a Member of the Youth Parliament.

Ebony, has two primary purposes: "Firstly, it acts as a youth voice for South Taranaki by establishing connections with secondary schools. Secondly EmpowerYouth strives to increase youth community engagement by organising events, participating in community projects, supporting STDC community events and working closely with

schools." Each of the eleven members represent a different area – for example Ebony represents Hawera, and Tom represents Opunake and Manaia. The group meets every fortnight. Tom, who spent his formative years in Pihama, is currently undertaking a law degree at Otago University (where he is Hayward College president

and Otago Laws Student representative), is keen to make a positive difference in this new role. He has met with Lorraine Williamson, principal of Opunake Primary School who recently organised a well-attended community meeting in Opunake to gauge feedback on positive initiatives for youth in the Opunake Community (June 15 issue of OCN, page 1 Community Meeting in Opunake yields a host of ideas).

Tom also intends to meet with STDC's Fran Levings soon to draft up worthwhile ideas which have come from community feedback.

Some of Tom's concerns include school-related issues: "In classrooms it is sometimes quite a struggle to maintain engagement with the students and to deal with so-called bad behaviour, which impacts as a strain on schools."

He feels youth feel a sense of stigma in society. For some it is a battle. Some feel they are outsiders to the system, with no chance of, for example, higher learning at university. "We need ways to overcome barriers" – to enhance achievement and acceptance. "I want to use my upbringing and my success to inspire other youth to dream big and work hard."

Tom spoke of his involvement (in 2022 and recently) with New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett

as a member of the Youth Parliament (chosen in 2022). "Glen wanted me to help with youth including encouraging them to vote."

Although Tom currently resides in Dunedin, his passion for Maori, youth and his Taranaki community inspires him to continue to be a key advocate in these areas.

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How can we tackle bias in AI when we use it for healthcare?

Artificial intelligence is increasingly being used in healthcare to improve the speed, quality and reach of health services, however the potential for AI to develop biases must be addressed, according to international

researchers. The team reviewed the different ways AI can pick up on systemic and racial biases and potentially enhance them if not kept in check, and formulated a checklist that could be used to make

sure AI doesn't go off track. This checklist includes questions about the quality of data used to train the AI, the potential unintended consequences it could have for particular subgroups of people and how it will be monitored over time.

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House fire in Opunake requires blockading of Tasman Street

Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade was called out, on July 4 (about 2.30pm) to a house fire at a house opposite the Kura Kaupapa in Tasman Street, in the north part of Opunake. A huge amount of smoke was scattering in all directions by the directional changing of the wind and the fire seemed centred in the upper part of the house, the attic. A late model car parked very close to the house

Some flames were seen at the front left of the house and this area received considerable attention by the firefighter's hoses. Later, flames could be seen at the rear of the house on the northerly corner. The firefighters battled the fire for some time before ladders were used to enable



Six fire appliances were needed and many firefighters. There was a huge amount of smoke but not too much in the way of flames that could be seen from Tasman Street.

several to get on the roof - lifting roofing iron to get at flames inside the roof cavity.

By then the road was closed, with a blockage from Heaphy Road to Wilson Road. By 3.30 there were several fire appliances, three police cars, an ambulance, as well as many onlookers. By then there was only a small fraction of the smoke seen earlier. Some firefighters were seen exiting the house by the front door.

There were no casualties. The blockade was removed by 5pm although there was still a firefighter presence, presumably ensuring there were dangers of hot spots breaking out in flames.

However, the fire-fighters had to return at 9.30pm as the fire had reignited.

"We suspect it was caused by an electrical fault in the ceiling, after the power outage in the morning in Opunake," commented Chief Fire Officer Andrew Pentelow. He continued, "There was extensive damage to the entire ceiling space and water damage to the rest of the house."

LEFT:
How the house appeared after the fire had been extinguished. Roofing iron had to be lifted to get at the flames.



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Protect the ban on live export

Animal rights organisation SAFE is calling on National and ACT to walk back their policy to restart live animal exports by sea ahead of the election.

SAFE said they were drawing a line in the sand on Ban Live Exports International Awareness Day (June 14), a global initiative denouncing the atrocities of live export.

SAFE CEO Debra Ashton says opposition parties would be supporting animal cruelty if they formed a government and overturned the live export ban.

"New Zealand has a pivotal role to play this year, having implemented a ban on the live export of animals at sea in April this year," says Ashton.

"So it's disappointing that some political parties, like

National and ACT want to restart the industry. We need to protect the ban on live export."

Globally millions of farmed animals are transported over long distances every year. Animals face lengthy travels with stops few and far between. They endure exhaustion, injuries, trampling and even death.

"The rest of the world is starting to shift away

from live animal exports due to the significant animal welfare concerns. Australia, Luxembourg, and the European Union are all considering or have taken steps to phase out live animal exports."

"If National and ACT want to avoid being seen as supporting animal cruelty, they need to reconsider their policies to restart live export."

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Rob Tucker (1948 - 2023) - A superb photographer and an outstanding man

Robert John Tucker MNZM (1948 - 2023) will be remembered for many things including his prize winning photography of important events, including the Americas Cup and portraits of kuia with moko and his positive personality. He lost his battle with cancer on Wednesday June 14 and is survived by his wife Bonnie, his son Michael, daughter Jaclyn, and brother Jim amongst others. (His youngest daughter Phillipa died in an accident in 2009).

The funeral was held at Eagars Te Henui Chapel on Monday June 19 and Archdeacon Ray Taylor conducted the service, with Rob's brother Jim giving the eulogy. Tributes were given by family members Michael Tucker, Theo Tucker, Jaclyn Rowan and Bonnie Tucker. Born, to Cath and Jack Tucker, in New Plymouth, Rob attended Fitzroy Primary School, Highlands Intermediate and New Plymouth Boys High School.

His ability in rugby was curtailed when he suffered a terrible accident (at home) severing tendons in both wrists and hands requiring many months in plaster.

Photography became an interest early on for both Rob and Jim when Jack build a darkroom and bought for his sons a state-of-the-art Pentax 35 millimetre, single-reflex still camera. Rob was especially keen on taking shots of people surfing at nearby beaches.

With school behind him Rob headed north to work for the Auckland Star in 1968 with culinary stories his main focus. Tui Flower, the most famous cook of the day, was someone he had to deal with, despite her stern



Rob Tucker.

demeanor.

Around this time he met Opunake writer Kathy Stanley, who was a trainee journalist. Kathy is well-known as the founder of the Opunake and Coastal News and has written several books.

More recently, she asked Rob to take the photographs for her book *A Hundred Years of the Oakura Water Board, 1917-2017*. After meeting up with Kathy after a gap of some years Rob's first comment was, "Kathy you haven't changed a bit."

"Rob is such a good photographer - outstanding in fact," she commented. (She still has copies of this excellent book for those who are interested).

Rob also became an excellent sports photographer, adept at meeting tight deadlines in coming away with intriguing photographs of major events. The United Kingdom beckoned and Rob had the thrill of covering the 1972 All Black tour of Britain. On a solemn note he got



An earlier Rob Tucker looking gleeful with a camera.

photographs of All Black Keith Murdoch who was sent home for poor behaviour, including assault.

Upon returning to New Zealand in 1977, Rob joined the New Zealand Herald's staff and was soon promoted to illustrations editor. After eight years he left this position to turn his attention to freelance work.

Apart from many awards, Rob has had many highlights such as Queen Elizabeth

inviting him aboard the royal yacht Britannia for an evening tittle. When she eventually had to leave early with an apology, her drink unfinished, Rob gave in to temptation and finished off her drink - he discovered it was straight gin.

By 1999 he was back in New Plymouth to "sort of retire" explains Jim. However he kept very busy, taking many scenic photographs, notably of Taranaki Maunga, in its many moods and aspects.

Later, despite being terminally ill, Rob organised an auction of his own and other photographers (about a 100) to raise money for Hospice Taranaki. A total of almost \$1,500 was raised for this worthy cause.

Some of his awards include the 1971 BALM Award for New Zealand's best sports photograph, a 2021 New Plymouth District Council's Award and in 2022 he was named as the Taranaki Daily News Person of the Year. His final award was being made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the King's Birthday Honours.

We'll leave the last word to his friend Kathy Stanley. "Rob was much-loved and inspirational. He was outgoing with a great sense of humour." She added, "As a photographer Rob was very very gifted."

Much of the information for this obituary is thanks to Jim Tucker and Kathy Stanley.

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Authorised by Steph Lewis MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



National recommits to third medical school

Establishing a third medical school at the University of Waikato is a practical remedy toward easing New Zealand's shortage of doctors says Taranaki-King Country MP, Barbara Kuriger.

"It should have started five years ago as National planned to do when we were last in office. We could have been realising the benefits a lot earlier.

"Wednesday's announcement of the third school along with an increase in the numbers of med students at Auckland and Otago by another 50, is a pragmatic approach to solving our huge shortage of doctors and has been warmly



BARBARA KURIGER MP
TARANAKI-KING COUNTRY

welcomed." The new school will train 120 new doctors, and the extra increase in med student numbers will result in the extra 220 doctors graduating by 2030 — more than triple the 50 extra places announced by Labour earlier

this year. "The status quo shows that we are not training enough doctors to meet the demands of our growing and aging population," she says.

"The new med school will have clinical training alliances with other universities and medical facilities around regional New Zealand.

"It's a model that will deliver more doctors committed to serving in provincial and rural areas and that's very welcome news for the people in my electorate."

Barbara Kuriger
MP Taranaki-King Country

Debbie Ngarewa-Packer

List MP based in Te Tai Hauāuru

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Authorised by Debbie Ngarewa-Packer, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



Beehive backs NPDC's call to protect PIF

A new Act passed by Parliament will ensure New Plymouth District's \$347 million Perpetual Investment Fund (PIF) continues to benefit both current and future generations of residents.

Parliament has passed the legislation that ring-fences benefits from the PIF for people living within the current New Plymouth district boundary.



New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom (left) and NPDC Chief Executive Gareth Green at the Beehive recently ahead of the PIF Act.

The bill will ensure existing New Plymouth households are protected from potential adverse impacts of future local government amalgamation or other potential reforms which might otherwise have seen PIF dividends used in areas outside New Plymouth district.

The New Plymouth District Council (Perpetual Investment Fund) Act also requires the PIF to be kept as perpetual, meaning it would have to be protected so it keeps paying out for residents.

"The PIF helps us invest in a Sustainable Lifestyle Capital for our kids and grandkids and it offsets rates, shaving more than \$11m off the total rates bill in the last 12 months. This new Act adds an extra layer of protection and provides a nest egg for our grandchildren," New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom, who was at Parliament to witness the Act's passing on 28 June. He acknowledged

New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett's role for shepherding this legislation through Parliament, MPs from all sides for getting behind it and paid tribute to his team of Councillors as well.

The PIF came from the sale of Powerco shares in 2004. The fund has also helped NPDC keep its AA+ credit rating, one of the highest ratings among possible for local government in New Zealand from international ratings agency S&P Global Ratings, reflecting strong financial management and confidence in the future.

The PIF has distributed approximately \$250 million to NPDC since 2004, including \$10.4 million in the 2021/22 financial year. The PIF was valued at \$347 million on 31 May 2023. The New Plymouth PIF Guardians Limited was set up in 2017 and is a council-controlled organisation. Release payments from PIF are used to offset rates.



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Greenpeace welcomes Greens manifesto

Greenpeace say they are encouraged by the Green Party's inclusion of Climate Shift campaign asks in their 2023 manifesto, but says that while the Party is saying the right things now, its stance in post-election negotiations will make all the difference to addressing climate change.

Christine Rose, lead climate campaigner at Greenpeace Aotearoa, says "Cyclone Gabrielle showed us that

we can't sandbag our way out of the climate crisis. We need real emissions reductions. The Green Party manifesto makes several key commitments that would address major sources of climate pollution - especially phasing out synthetic nitrogen fertiliser and banning palm kernel expeller (PKE). But these would need to be bottom lines in any possible coalition deal."

The intensive dairy industry has used synthetic nitrogen fertiliser and imported feed like PKE to drive its expansion. This has led to a large increase in methane and nitrous oxide emissions - both superheating greenhouse gases - which makes the intensive dairy industry New Zealand's worst climate polluter.

"We're glad to see the Green Party commitment to maintain the ban on

new offshore oil and gas exploration, especially given the National Party's intention to reverse the ban. New Zealanders fought hard to get that ban in place - we don't want fossil fuel companies returning to Aotearoa's waters to explore for more oil."

"Ultimately though, we need much more urgent action to address Aotearoa's most polluting industries - agriculture, energy, and

transport - from all political parties," says Rose.

In June, Greenpeace launched Climate Shift - a call for urgent climate action - alongside more than 40 other environmental organisations. The campaign is made up of ten asks, which the organisations say all political parties must commit to in the lead-up to the 2023 election. Since the launch of the campaign, more than 11,000 New

Zealanders have signed on in support.

"Climate change is happening here and now," says Rose. "New Zealanders across the motu experienced the devastating impacts of climate change this summer, and it's clear that we need a climate shift, to allow for people and planet to thrive. Whoever makes up the next Government must make this a priority."

A moody coastal sunset



A magical evening crowned by a stunning sunset on the coast.

Council's Antenno app makes communication easy

Reporting issues and receiving notifications from the Council have never been so easy says Kaponga resident and community board member Sonya Douds. Sonya is one of more than 1,500 people who have downloaded the South Taranaki District's Antenno App and she's an advocate for its use.

"Antenno is a mobile app that sends you Council alerts and notifications, about places and topics you care about. It's free to download and use, and you can opt out of topics that aren't of interest to you. It doesn't ask for any personal information or login details, so it's a nice easy way to stay informed about Council news, events

and activities," says Sonya. "One of the best features of the app is that it lets residents report issues or give feedback directly to Council. For example, if you see a damaged a footpath or a pothole that needs repair, instead of waiting till you get home to ring it in, you can do it right there and then using the app. It also allows users to include extra details such as photos and GPS location," she says.

"It's also particularly useful as a means of staying informed during emergency events."

STDC Communications Manager, Gerard Langford says the Council wants to make it as easy as possible for people to give and

receive information. "The app doesn't replace our current communication methods and our residents can still report issues via our website, our toll-free phone or by visiting any one of our seven libraryplus centres or the Hāwera Administration Building on Albion Street."

Carl Bates

National Party Candidate for Whanganui

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Authorised by C Bates, 41 Pipitea St, Wellington.

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A hard winter at camp

The World War I letters of Corporal Arthur J. Gilmour of Manaia, Taranaki By Natasha McKinney, Poutiaki (Curator), Puke Ariki Museum.

rare opportunity to sleep inside, where the sound of the rain on the roof reminds him of being home in Taranaki. Arthur's overseas war experience has not yet begun, but he expects to leave soon. Stories of the high casualty rate suffered by New Zealand troops at Gallipoli would have already been circulating.

July 1915 finds Arthur still at Trentham, braving difficult winter conditions. The advent of his tent blowing over provides the



Arthur J. Gilmour of Manaia. PAColl-9454. Alexander Turnbull Library.

Tragically, some men have contracted meningitis at Trentham and may not survive.

New Zealand Expeditionary Force

*Presbyterian Institute
Trentham Camp
20th July, 1915*

*[letterhead]
My dear Mother,
Well we are still in
Trentham and weather is
simply awful, in fact it is*

worse than anything we had previously. I has rained ever since I got to camp on Sunday night. I was lucky enough to find a bunk in my tent on Sunday night, it had been left by one of my tent mates so saved me the trouble of looking around for [one]. On Monday morning we had a great game [paper damage]... equipment... it had all been put in a shed and we managed to unearth it after about an hour's search. Last night (Monday) I was addressing photos of Bill Auton in the Presbyterian Hall and a man came over at 9.15 and informed me that my tent had just blown over. I was extremely fortunate in getting the Rev McKenzie's bed which is in a room partitioned off from this Hall. He is away in one of the other camps so does not know that I slept in his bed; it was just like being at home to have the rain patter on the roof. To-day we all shifted our bunks over to the huts so to-night will be quite comfortable. It is utterly impossible to do any drill in this weather and I don't

know how long it is going to last.

There are a lot of convalescent men in Camp from the various units who were previously in Camp about I believe most of them are leaving to-morrow. There are about fifteen cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis not expected to live and I believe it is much better to die as patients are practically imbecile for the rest of their lives. At present it is blowing a howling gale and there is a driving rain.

Well I enjoyed my holiday very much. Left Charlie at P.N. Station but saw nothing of Maggie or Miss McEwan. I went up to Cederholms on Friday evening and there were visitors there. We had an enjoyable evening and played cards. There was a young chap from Patea there, Barr by name; he knew the [family name]-gers and the Mentis [?] so I had quite an interesting yarn to him. On Saturday afternoon Walter Cederholm motored two of the girls and me out to Seatoun. The people are called Drake and lived at Opunake a good number of

years ago.

Sylvia and I stayed for tea and the evening and got back to Newtown about 11pm. On Sunday the whole Cederholm family and I all went to tea to people called Forester and I had to leave there early in the evening for camp.

My photos will be sent home in about a fortnight and I then give you a list of where they are to be sent. You can send three to me.

I received a nice long letter and also a P.C from Bill Auton to-day and apparently they had an extremely rough trip. He said that the food on the transport was much better than that which we get in camp.

Don't be surprised if you see me home again; If this weather continues I think it is just possible that we will all be sent to our homes till the boat leaves.

Well I have to go now to receive my pay, so will close.

I remain
Your affectionate son,
Arthur.



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Fluoride to enter water supply

New equipment enabling fluoride to be added to the New Plymouth water supply is being put through its paces, after the Director-General of Health instructed NPDC to add fluoride by the end of July this year.

The Health (Fluoridation of Drinking Water) Amendment Bill passed in the Beehive in November 2021, removed the decision for water fluoridation away from councils to the Director-General of Health, because it is a medical issue.

"The Director General of the Ministry of Health has instructed us to put fluoride into the water supply for 26,000 homes across the district and we've been testing the equipment to ensure we're on track to



NPDC's Clive Fleming, with the equipment that will introduce fluoride into New Plymouth's water supply the end of this month.

go live at the end of this month," says NPDC Three Waters Manager Mark Hall.

The specialised equipment allowing water to be dosed with fluoride costs around \$200,000 and has been paid for by the Ministry of Health.

The New Plymouth water supply services homes

and businesses in Omata, New Plymouth, Bell Block, Waitara, Lepperton, Tikorangi, Onaero and Urenui.

Ministry of Health advice is that fluoride is a natural substance that helps to prevent tooth decay.

NPDC has not been

advised by the Ministry if the Inglewood, Ōākura and Ōkato water supplies will also need fluoridating in the future.

NPDC provides four public water supplies across the district.

NPDC is one of 14 councils given the directive to add fluoride by the end of the month.

The New Plymouth supply was fluoridated until 2011 following a decision by the elected council to remove it. The remaining three supplies have never been fluoridated. The district's four water supplies provide about 28 million litres of water per day to just under 28,000 homes and businesses.

About 90% of that volume comes from the New Plymouth Water Treatment Plant.



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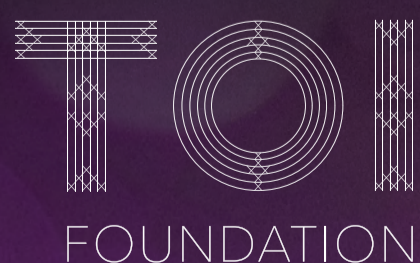
Toi Foundation have formed Te Aho Poutiaki (a group of ten taiohi who are part of/or connected to South Taranaki) and are working together on an innovative pilot programme to fund community-focused rōpū or people within Pātea.

We are doing this to explore the benefits placing affected or underserved communities at the centre of grant-making by giving them the power to decide who and what to fund.

To be eligible for funding the kaupapa/project needs to focus on creating positive change in the community that ideally creates long-term impact, where it is most needed. For this pilot we have provided a budget of \$50k to be distributed within the Pātea community. Once completed, and evaluated we may look to establish this in other communities within Taranaki.

“Toi Foundation are exploring innovative ways of granting by working more closely with the people who are part of communities in Taranaki.”

MARIA RAMSAY CHIEF EXECUTIVE - TOI FOUNDATION & FOUNDATION HOLDINGS LTD



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Coastal Taranaki School's latest production delivers



Moana, Hayley Sulzberger.

Disney "Moana Junior" landed on the CTS stage this June, with the help of local legend Raeleen Luckin

as choreographer/director. Over 240 students at the school brought the beloved animated film to life in a truly

enchancing way. The junior adaptation of the popular film was a magical theatrical journey that captivated its audiences of all ages (over 600 of them), and delivered a heartwarming experience filled with empowering messages.

One of the standout aspects of "Moana Junior" was its commitment to staying true to the spirit of the original film. The production team, led by Pip Gorrie-Lawn and Rebecca Goodin did an incredible job of translating the vibrant world of Moana on to our Ōkato stage.

The musical score, composed by Lin-Manuel Miranda, was an absolute delight. The catchy tunes captured the essence of the original film and added an extra layer of magic to the stage adaptation. Justine Francis, musical director, supported the cast with the show-stopping "How Far I'll Go" to the energetic "You're Welcome."

The young cast of "Moana Junior" shone brightly, bringing their talent and

energy to the stage as coconuts/stars/monsters/sharks/bugs/crabs. The lead actress portraying Moana, Hayley Sulzberger, delivered a powerful performance, capturing the character's determination and bravery effortlessly.

Maui, Jackson Wheeler, had exceptional charm and charisma and really took onboard, the sometimes arrogant but likeable character. Soren Grevers-White, as Tamatoa, sang an exceptional "Shiny" track and captivated his audience with his crabulous - ness and sarcasm/irony.

There were two additional characters that shone throughout the performances - Danu Fraser as Gamma Tala and Teina Pauro as Chief, both recently having joined CTS having had some time out of school. The sheer joy on their faces (and their whānau) to be present, participating and achieving was apparent. Monique Thompson-Simmer, who

Continued page 13

Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre



Asparagus a real spring delicacy

Growing asparagus is a simple and rewarding endeavour, with its perennial nature ensuring consistent regrowth. Originating from Mediterranean marshes, this spring delicacy is packed with essential nutrients like Vitamins B and C, calcium, and iron, making it a nutritious addition to meals. Asparagus crowns should ideally be planted between July and December, or in cooler regions, from September to December.

Patience is key when cultivating asparagus, as it typically takes a couple of years before it starts producing. Opt for a sunny location with proper drainage, as asparagus thrives in warm environments but dislikes excessive moisture. Lighter soils that warm up quickly in spring, such as raised beds or areas behind

retaining walls provide the ideal conditions as they offer adequate drainage and soil warmth. While asparagus can tolerate some shade, full sun exposure encourages robust plant growth.

Remarkably, asparagus crops can occupy the same plot for over 20 years. When planting crowns, ensure the roots face downward in a

trench about 200mm deep. Space the crowns evenly, covering them with only 50mm of soil. This setup promotes warmth as the sun heats the surrounding soil. Over time, with weeding and the movement of worms, the trench gradually fills up until it becomes level.

During the first year, abstain from harvesting the spears and maintain a thick layer of Tui Mulch'n Feed on the garden bed. Harvest the thick and sturdy spears, allowing any thin ones to develop into fronds promptly, strengthening the plant for the following year. To harvest, use a sharp knife to cut the spears at the base while the buds at the tip remain tightly closed.



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Jeff & Sheryl

Coastal Taranaki School's latest production delivers



The cast of Disney Moana Junior at Coastal Taranaki School.

Continued from page 12
played Sina, Moana's mother, was word perfect and on point throughout, a flawless performance. The ancestors, Kalani Dalton, Ari Wattam and Mirakle Patene did a hauntingly good performance and the characters of Hei Hei, Levi

Taankink and Pua, Eryn Wyborn, added comedic value. What set "Moana Junior" apart was its celebration of cultural heritage and representation. The production paid homage to the Polynesian culture, with careful attention given to traditions and customs. It was a chance for the students

and the audience to learn and appreciate different cultures throughout the term. CTS were supported by Stratford High School, Ian Robinson (TSH and parent) and Sophie Farquhar (parent). Without their support they would never have achieved the success that they did. It was a production that

ignited the imagination, uplifted the spirit, and left a smile on the audience's faces long after the final bow. Although I dare say the staff were reminded why they only do a whole school production every two years....Miss Howieson (Deputy Principal)

Enjoy life. Let us take care of the rest

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A slice of Opunake maritime history for sale

Little is known about the property itself, but it is well known in Opunake as the old Harbour Master's Cottage. Newspaper articles dating back to the 1920s suggest there was discussion from the Opunake Harbour Board

build a combined residence with offices, indicating the Harbour Master's Cottage was purpose built.

The Opunake Harbour – a.k.a. the old wharf, was once a thriving depot until it eventually fell victim to

eastern side of the peninsula to the wharf.

Over the years the Harbour Master's Cottage has had many improvements. In 2016, an old classroom was shifted on to the large 1534m² site. 'Hectors



A generous deck for entertaining.

requiring a residence in order to attract 'the services of a good man' to fill the Harbour Master's position. The board resolved to

our unforgiving coastline. From the Harbour Master's Cottage, the old tracks are somewhat still visible, weaving down around the

'Hideaway,' surrounded by native trees, is a quirky little one bedroom, one bathroom, self-contained bach, with stunning views of the ocean. It is currently set up as holiday accommodation, well used by holidaymakers year-round.

Most recent improvements include a 90m² extension, a new kitchen and ensuite, new roof, double-glazing, schist fireplace, landscaping, and a new double garage. Everything is done here – just move in and enjoy the breathtaking views. For viewing options, contact Viv Scott or Tara Gibson from McDonald Real Estate.



Old Opunake Wharf . Puke Arika Photo

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Against All Expectations: Peter Snell prevails in Rome, 1960

Rome Olympics, 1960; Four athletes lined up for their 800 metres heat, with the first three to reach the finishing tape to qualify for the next round – the quarter finals. Three of the athletes in the heat were world class; Ernie Cunliffe (USA) was ranked third in the world for the year, Christian Waegli (Switzerland) was ranked fifth and Istvan Rozsavoelgri ranked first in the 1500 metres, but was well-performed in the shorter distance.

There had been more in the field, but several were scratched for various reasons such as illness.

And the fourth runner Peter Snell? He was ranked 26th in the world and was expected to be eliminated by his three world class competitors.

The BBC commentator spluttered into his gin and tonic, "This is ridiculous.



Roger Moens narrowly beaten by Peter Snell.

A four man field and you can write down the first three names before the race starts."

His selection in the New Zealand team had attracted flak even before he stepped

on the aeroplane for Italy. Val Breidis, coach of middle distance runner Marise Chamberlain pointed out that Snell had attained the Olympic qualifying time just once, while his protégé had succeeded twice – yet was left out of the team.

Back to the race. Waegli led most of the way until Peter passed him recording a time of 1:48.1, much faster than his previous best. So who missed out? Rozsavoelgyi came fourth in 1:49.4, a time which would have been fastest in most of the other heats.

Peter qualified for the final by coming second in the

quarter finals in another personal best 1:48.6. Winning was Roger Moens (Belgium) who had held the world record (1:45.7) for the past five years. In the semi final Snell was even more impressive winning in another PB of 1:47.2. Moens was second.

This would have been an Olympic Record except George Kerr (Jamaica) had run 1:47.1 in winning the other semi-final.

Next, the final, which Moens was favourite to win. Early in the race Snell settled into fourth place. The pace was too fast for Snell to feel he could

challenge. "I stayed inside. I felt this meant abandoning the chance of winning." He was boxed in but soon spied a gap. "Here was a chance for third." Only Moens and Kerr were in front of Snell. "With only 20 yards to go, I suddenly felt I could win. All I remember was hurling every ounce of effort into the finish and flinging myself forward."

It was a photo-finish.

"Who won?" Snell asked. Roger replied, "You did." Roger Moens, world record holder, would be the silver medalist.

Peter Snell won the gold medal with a Olympic Record time of 1:46.3.

Moens world record was safe, for the moment, by just 0.6 seconds, but two years later Peter Snell broke this with a time of 1:44.3.



Peter Snell statue Opunake.

PETER SNELL
 Peter George Snell, DCNZM, PhD, HonDSc born in Opunake in 1938, is one of the greatest athletes of all time and New Zealand's Sports Champion of the Twentieth Century. In the 1960s he won three Olympic Gold Medals for 800 and 1500 metres and two Commonwealth Games Gold Medals for the mile and 880 yards track events. He set seven individual world records during his athletic career, including twice setting a new mark for the mile distance. He was also a member of the New Zealand quartet that broke the world 4x1 mile relay record. In 1999 he was an inaugural inductee into the International Scholar-Athlete Hall of Fame located at the University of Rhode Island.
 This statue was modelled by Dr Fridtjof Hanson, bronzed by Ross Wilson and commissioned by the Egmont Community Arts Council in May 2007.

Peter Snell plaque Opunake.

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Puanga Manako Nui - Puanga as a time of hope

Manawatia o Matariki - Happy Maori New Year

E tū Puanga kei runga i te pae, nau mai, haere mai te hua o te tau hou.
 Tuia mai i runga, tuia mai i raro,
 Tuia o tātou mate kua wheturangitia ki te pae maumahara,
 Tuia o tātou manako nui mo te apōpō, kia rere runga rawa ki te whai ao
 ki te ao marama.
 Haumi e, hui e, taiki e!

Puanga, the star of Māori new year in Taranaki, has risen. Puanga is a time for celebrating, remembering loved ones passed and uplifting hopes for the future.

This year, Ōpunakē High School celebrated Puanga Manako Nui - Puanga a time of Hope. We participated in activities like Ki o rahi run by the PE department and Māori hand, string and stick games with Te Wharekura and Puanga Manako Nui learning about what Puanga is and why we celebrate it.

We finished the week with a ceremony where taura pinned stars with their hopes and aspirations to Hiwa-i-te-rangi. Year 9 & 10 students went tree planting, rakau at the Waiaua Awa part of the Loop trail and then watched The Whale Rider movie at Everybody's Theatre, while seniors caught up on classes.



What a cool week making new traditions in our kura and learning about Māori culture.

Thank you to Tumuaki, Andrea Hooper for supporting this kaupapa and all kaiako who contributed to an awesome week.

Kerry Walsh
 Kaitakawaenga Mātauranga Māori



Principal's Address



Ka taea e tātou!
 Together we will succeed!

No truer words can be spoken about our kura, rangatahi, opportunities and successes. This last month we have seen an abundance of achievements by our students always with support and aroha from our rohe/community. A community which is the cornerstone of our accomplishments. Our community were out in force championing our kura on our Quiz Night where the magnificent Mullins whanau proved themselves to be the quintessence of quizzers.

The Tiny Homes project has had a significant boost from a \$9500 grant from the mayoral task force, whilst our Sustainability Elective can continue to plant the loop track with a \$1500 grant from Wild for Taranaki, which was used to purchase an army of spades. Farmlands gave us a wonderful deal on these tools, thank you Paddy Deegan, we hugely appreciate this. You will have seen these spades glinting in the sunlight at the end of the term, when our juniors planted 650 trees

by the Waiaua with the local legends from the Loop Track Committee. And thank you to OMOV for donating the trees to plant, an integral part of the process. Arohamai.

With such kindness and connectedness from our supporters to our turangawaewae (home grounds) our students continue to soar. A huge shout out to the following wonderful individuals who have excelled in a cross section of activities. To Joe Edwards who gained the esteemed Taranaki Surf Life Saver Champ award. To Anna McLean, Lucas and Hayley Hitch who are representing Taranaki at the Junior Darts National championships. To Zoe Kruse our talented, now qualified, Volunteer Fire Fighter. To Kymani Parata selected on to the Empower Youth Council. To our Rugby League representatives: Leroy Page, Koby Bird Luke, Shinae Minhinnick, Zaire Rupapera and Kianu Wallace. And finally to Lorin Symons who was joint 1st in 2022 NCEA Level 3 results in Taranaki. Wow! What an unbelievably talented group of young people we have here at Ōpunakē High School.



Joe Edwards - Lifesaving Champion

But let's not forget our teams who have represented our kura by pushing themselves to the max. Our girls Tough Guy 'n Gal team, came second in the North Island competition. Te Haumoana held themselves with dignity, grace and beauty whilst representing at Puanga in Hawera, an absolute taonga of the kura. Our Senior Boys Development team came second in B grade, our Senior Boys came second in A grade, and our Senior Girls Blue team came first in A grade in the Opunake Basketball Association finals. So proud of these talented athletes.

The last thank you I would like to make is to all those employers who helped our students identify their career pathways by offering them opportunities in the work place during our work experience week. Only through exposure to what jobs entail can our ākongā make reliable decisions for their future. We really appreciate your support with this.

To all our tamariki: have big DREAMS, work hard, stay positive and be humble in success.

Whāia te iti kahurangi ki te tūohu koe me he maunga teitei

Seek the treasure you value most dearly: if you bow your head, let it be to a lofty mountain

Nga mihi

Andrea Hooper Carr
 Principal



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Our kapa haka roopu - Te Haumoana - at the recent Pae Rangatahi competitions at the TSB Hub



Ōpunakē High School
 Te Kura Tuarua o Ōpunakē

Centenary
 Celebration



Taranaki Anniversary Weekend, March 2025

Anyone know when this photo may have been taken?



Thanks to Raewyn Cornford from Cecilias for this amazing photo of Opunake Beach which has attracted a lot of interest in her shop window. The Opunake Cottage Rest Home, which recently celebrated its centenary, can be seen in the background, indicating the photo was likely taken after 1922. If anyone has information on the date it was taken please let us know.

Board games can help sharpen maths skills

Playing board games can help young children with their maths skills, according to a meta-analysis from international researchers. The team analysed studies published in the last 23 years that looked at the impact of number-based board games like Monopoly, or Snakes

and Ladders on children aged 3-9 and their ability to count, do basic addition and recognise if one number is larger than another. Combining the results of the studies, they say maths skills improved after including board games in lessons for 52% of the tasks analysed,

and in 32% of cases, children who played board games as part of the study gained better results compared with those who didn't participate.

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Recently Married



Taylah and Baylie Bright.

Photos credit: Jani Govind Photography



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Baylie and Taylah with Murray Weir, Celebrant on the Coast.

Baylie Bright and Taylah Smith were married on March 18 at the Bungalow Coastal Retreat with Celebrant on the Coast their former Opunake High School Teacher Murray Weir officiating the ceremony.

Baylie and Taylah met competing at Calf Club events around Taranaki when they were at primary school.

Baylie is the son of Paul and Tracey Bright from Pungarehu and grandson of Les and Lyn Fever Oakura and the late Evan and Doreen Bright from Rahotu. Taylah's parents are Peter and Vanessa Smith from Opunake and her grandparents are Rex and Edna Baldwin New Plymouth (ex Oeo) and the late Ian and Connie Smith Opunake.

They would like to thank family and friends who were able to make it on the day.



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Mā te whānau te tamaiti e puawai / Through collaboration, our learners will thrive

COASTAL TARANAKI SCHOOL FAREWELL THEIR PRINCIPAL

Community partnerships play an integral role in successfully running a rural Taranaki school. The task of re-establishing these relationships, investigating the potential of seamless transitions across schooling for students in years 0-13 and a chance to share a school with his two children that his family have prior connections with, were some of the motivating factors for Scott Walden taking up the role as Principal of Coastal Taranaki School in January of 2018.

Previously the Area School in Ōkato had experienced a number of challenges from its inception in 2005, following the MOE closures of several rural schools on the coast of Taranaki. These included a 1-2 year ERO review cycle, significant sewerage and property issues, the staffing turnover was high, financial challenges that were compounded by rapidly falling student roll numbers, as well as significant student attendance and behaviour issues that required urgent attention.

Scott was recruited from his previous role as Principal at Manukorihī Intermediate School in Waitara. His leadership and management skills were well utilised as the school strategically planned a way forward for the school with initially 204 students. The governance team was led by Deb Burmeister as Board Chair who until this term was succeeded by a new presiding member, Kathryn Moffitt. The Board Chair and principal relationship is key to the success of any school governance and management team

effectively implementing improvement and change. Today the schools' roll sits at 311 students with several pre-enrolments pending.

Scott believes his greatest achievement at Coastal

Taranaki is the creation and development of his teaching and support staff team.

"Our team has a huge heart for our tamariki and brings life to the schools' values of Ako (Empowering Learning), Whanaungatanga (Collaboration) and Manaakitanga (Care for self and others and our environment).

It is becoming evident that the schools' care and relentless efforts to meet the needs of its learners are being acknowledged by the wider community who are choosing to enrol and remain with their local school. This year Coastal Taranaki retained the largest number of Year 8 students (23) who have chosen to remain as Year 9 to commence their secondary education.



A community farewell event was hosted by the school on Thursday 30th of June that was attended by 140 people including representatives of the Taranaki Iwi, Ngā Mahanga Hapū, Ministry of Education,

agencies, community, school and members of Scott's family.

Scott was acknowledged for his strength in bringing the school and community together by Taipuni Ruakere. Senior Ministry Advisor Cathie Newton passed on messages of appreciation for Scott work on behalf of the sector at a regional and national level. Scott has most recently been involved with mentoring beginning principals, he sits on the MOE Regional Management Group for Taranaki, Whanganui and the Manawatu. As well as representing the NZ Principals' Federation on the Curriculum Voices Group who are refreshing the NZ Curriculum Framework and Documents.

Deb Burmeister spoke on behalf of the school's past and present governance teams. She



acknowledged the challenges that the school has previously faced and following Scott's appointment in 2018 there were times we were taking one step forward and four steps back. At the time the governance and senior leadership team realised that for change to be sustainable we need to take the school back to its core and cement this change. Deb acknowledged that she was very proud to support Scott's leadership to implement this change and was one of the reasons she continued on the Board of Trustees for a third term.

The 2023 Head Boy, He Tairoa Goodin, acknowledged that he had been a student through the five and a half years of Mr Walden's principalship. He, along with other students, have seen their school improve and grow during this time. He Tairoa shared a quote that he thought was a fitting reflection of his principal; 'It's not the title that makes the leader, it's the impact that does'

Scott was afforded the opportunity to address those who had come to celebrate his achievements among songs performed by the schools kapa haka group and school band.

Scott began by acknowledging his grandmother Roberta Walden who was his champion through his training and teaching career, including being present at his pōwhiri at Coastal Taranaki School. He was joined by his other grandmother, Joy Harvey and family who he thanked for being his support system throughout his time as principal. Particularly the mother of his children, Symon Knuckey whose continued support and care in the early days enabled the time and effort required to make change for CTS.



Scott informed the community that his departure from their school was with mixed emotions, concluding an 11 year principal career that he finds very rewarding to create time and space as the father for his two sons. He spoke with pride about the team of kaimahi (staff) at Coastal, particularly his Deputy Principals who continue to work tirelessly as part of their collaborative leadership trio. Scott will commence a new role as the Regional Facilitator in Taranaki for MAC (Māori Achievement Collaborative).

Kat Moffitt and Nicky Phillips presented Scott with a leaving gift from the school. This was an Artwork by local Contemporary Māori Artist, Lester Reinsfield. The piece is titled, Rongomatane. Guardian of cultivation and peace.

The event included students past and present, some who travelled a great distance to be in attendance. It was to the students of Coastal Taranaki School that Scott paid his final acknowledgements. "I have been unashamedly child centred in my leadership. They continue to be the reason I am motivated to lead learning and change. They are at the heart of everything I do".



A drier June for Taranaki

On average rainfall for June was 74.9 mm, 58% less typical June rainfall, and ranging from 80% less rainfall at Waitotara at Ngutuweru, and 37% less rainfall at Brooklands Zoo at New Plymouth than a typical June.

Year to date rainfall ranges from 5% less rainfall at Uruti at Kaka Rd, and 45% more rainfall at Whanganui at Mataimona Trig, with an average of 16% more than normal. Compared to typical full year totals, on average sites have already received 52% of a typical year's rainfall, with the highest value at Hawera AWS, 62%

of normal, whereas Uruti at Kaka Rd sits at 42% of the typical years total.

Mean river flows for June were 41.6% lower than typical values, low flows were 21% greater, and high flows 58.2% lower than typical values. The maximum river flow recorded in June was 331 m3/sec at Waitara at Bertrand Rd.

Mean river (non-mountain) water temperatures were 10.6 °C, an average the same as long-term June values.

Nighttime-low water temperatures were on average 0.8 °C warmer than historic lows, and day-time high temperatures

were on average 0.2 °C warmer than historic highs. The maximum river water temperature recorded in June was 16 °C at Mangati at SH3.

The average air temperature for the region (excluding Te Maunga sites) was 10.3 °C, which is the same as long-term June averages. Low air temperatures for June were on average 0.6 °C warmer than the June average for previous years. Day-time high temperatures were on average 0.1 °C warmer than historic highs. The maximum air temperature recorded in June was 21 °C at Brooklands Zoo at New

Plymouth.

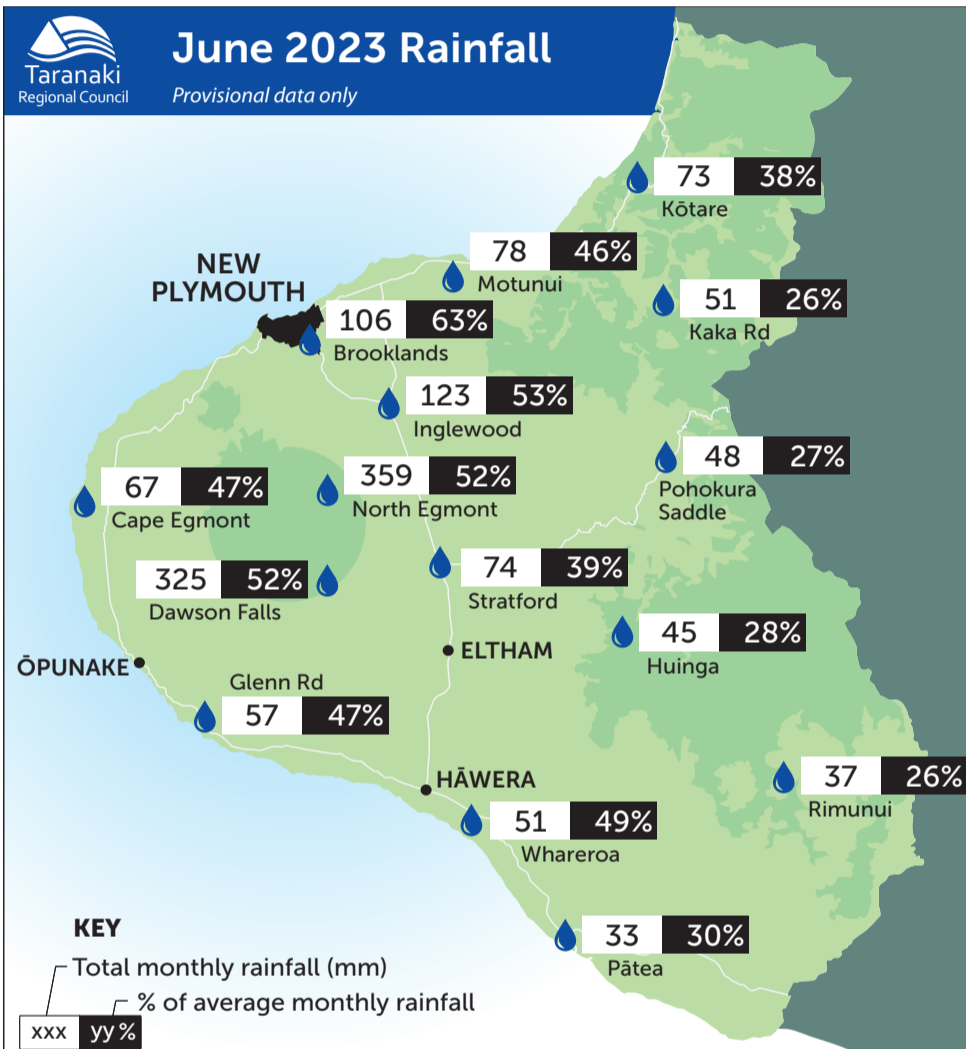
The average soil moisture for June across sites in Taranaki Region was 33.9%. Soil moistures were on average 0.7% wetter than typical June values. On average, low soil moistures were 3.7% wetter than previous lows, and the highs were on average 2% drier than previous values for June.

June soil temperatures were generally 0.2 °C warmer than long-term averages. Average nighttime low soil temperatures were 0.9 °C warmer than recorded lows, and upper day-time soil temperatures were on average 0.7 °C warmer than long-term June highs. The maximum soil temperature recorded in June was 16 °C at Kapoiaia at Lighthouse.

June average wind speeds were 15 km/hr, with average

gust strength of 40.6 km/hr, these were 1.4 km/hr lighter, and 4.7 km/hr weaker than the long-term average. Average calm weather wind speeds were 0.1 km/hr stronger than recorded lows, and windy conditions were on average 1.9 km/hr lighter than long-term June

highs. The maximum wind gust recorded in June was 88.9 km/hr at New Plymouth AWS. Cape Egmont (Kapoiaia at Lighthouse) is generally the windiest station the TRC monitors, and Stratford is often the calmest.



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Feds question logic on plastic carpets

The Government's decision to carpet rural schools in foreign made synthetic carpets instead of New Zealand grown wool is a slap in the face for Kiwi farmers, says Federated Farmers Meat & Wool Chair Toby Williams.

"It's absolutely ridiculous that the Government have chosen to install petroleum-based synthetic carpets in New Zealand classrooms

instead of using sustainable natural alternatives," Williams says.

"This decision completely flies in the face of all the Government's rhetoric about improving sustainability, protecting the planet, and phasing out single-use and hard-to-recycle plastics.

"Just this week they've been patting themselves on the back for banning plastic bags, cutlery, straws, and

fruit stickers - then they turn around and make a decision like this? It just doesn't add up.

"To carpet the average Kiwi home in synthetic carpet is the equivalent of having 22,000 plastic bags on the floor.

"What do they think happens with all those nylon carpets when people are done with them? They go straight to landfill.

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the source to the storage.

Stone traps

Stone traps are recommended for both

effluent pond and bladder tank options. A pond generally only requires a single stone trap, whereas it is recommended to have two with a bladder tank. This is because preventing abrasive debris from entering the bladder is more critical to prevent damage, and they are more difficult to remove once inside. The first stone trap filters heavy silt, stones, and sand, whereas the second stone trap is fitted with a debris trap to filter out floating solids.

Size requirements

Size requirements for an effluent pond will usually be bigger than a bladder tank due to the pond being open to rain. This is where bladder tanks are a popular option in high rainfall areas.

Note that when calculating the footprint of a pond, best practice is for an effluent pond to have a target depth of 4 meters. This allows for a smaller footprint and best use of lining material.

Effluent mixing

Keeping effluent well mixed is still important for both options. A pond will require either a PTO or electric stirrer, whereas a bladder tank will need a PTO pump to recirculate the effluent inside.

Power requirements

The most common setup for a bladder tank is to have a sump with the excess effluent being stored in the bladder. With either ponds or bladders, an electric



Ponds or bladder tanks? Which is best?

pumping system is the more popular choice for convenience, although PTO options are available.

Cost comparison

When it comes to choosing between an effluent pond or bladder tank, the final decision will depend on

several factors. These factors include rainfall, odour issues, proximity to a power source, and safety. In most instances, as size requirements increase, ponds tend to be more cost-effective. Generally, smaller farms will find a bladder

tank better value, whereas larger operations will find a pond better value.

Based on a 300m3 effluent bladder vs 500m3 pond using an electric system, here are some approximate costs for comparison:

Bladder Tank

- Minimal earthworks.
- Mixing done by pump.
- Sump required.
- Double stone trap.
- Power to sump*.
- Bladder Tank.

Approximate cost: \$67,000

Pond

- Significant earthworks
- Stirrer required (electric)
- Drain by gravity to pond
- Single stone trap
- Power required at the pond
- Pond Lining

Approximate cost: \$74,000

Overall, the higher initial cost of a bladder tank is offset by the lower setup cost and less equipment required. Consider all the factors when making your decision and remember that both options require maintenance and proper care to ensure they function correctly. Consult with your local dairy farm experts to help make the best decision for your farm.

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Honey industry welcomes free trade deal

Apiculture New Zealand say they welcome the signing of New Zealand's free trade agreement with the European Union, which takes the sector one step closer to the removal of tariffs on all New Zealand honey into the European Union.

"We are thrilled that the agreement also includes the definition of mānuka and a separate tariff recognising the inherent distinctiveness of mānuka as a taonga species exclusively from Aotearoa New Zealand," says Karin Kos, Chief Executive of Apiculture New Zealand.

"The EU's recognition of

mānuka as a taonga species is significant in helping progress the next step in securing geographical indications for mānuka honey, an initiative that is strongly supported by both industry and iwi.

"The EU is an important market for New Zealand honey exporters and we have a long history of exporting high-quality honey products there. However, the current in-quota tariff rate of

17.3 per cent has been a significant barrier to trade.

The tariff will come off mānuka honey as soon as the agreement comes into force. All remaining New Zealand honeys will see the tariff removed after three years and this will help their competitiveness in market," says Ms Kos.

New Zealand's exports to the EU have grown in recent years to around \$60 million per year.

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Cream of researchers and innovators honoured

Teams and individuals whose talents and toil help New Zealand's farmers, foresters and fishers thrive were honoured at the 2023 Primary Industries New Zealand Awards.

Winners from 65 nominations across nine award categories were announced at Tākina, Wellington's new Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Science & Research Award went to the AgResearch Endophyte Discovery Team for their world-leading development and commercialisation of strains of ryegrass with improved insect protection and plant persistence, coupled with fewer adverse effects on animal health.

Scientist Dr Louise Hennessy (Ngati Maniapoto) claimed the Emerging Leader Award for her efforts at AgResearch and other crown research institutes championing support for early career researchers and a learning approach that blends matauranga Māori with western science.

Another AgResearch scientist, Dr Dave Leathwick, was presented with the Primary Industries Champion Award. The judges said Dr Leathwick has demonstrated "an unwavering commitment to the rural sector", in particular championing parasite control and anthelmintic drug resistance management.

On the environmental



PINZ Emerging Leader Award winner Dr Louise Hennessy of AgResearch, with Professor Grant Edwards, Vice-Chancellor at award sponsor Lincoln University.
Photo: Neil Mackenzie/



Adam Thompson (left) of Cambridge's Restore Native Ltd won the PINZ Kaitiakitanga/Guardianship & Conservation Award. He is with Todd Charteris, CEO of Rabobank.
Photo: Neil Mackenzie

front, DairyNZ's Tararua Plantain Project and Adam Thompson of Restore Native Ltd were heralded. The plantain project started in 2018 and with the help of 80 Tararua dairy farmers, dairy companies, government and research partners, DairyNZ has been able to show that with 30% of plantain in pasture sward, nitrogen loss reductions of up to 50% are possible. The project won the Team & Collaboration Award.

A love of restoring land saw former mortgage broker Adam Thompson become one of New Zealand's most passionate advocates for native trees and biodiversity. His Cambridge nursery grows more than a million native trees to plant on farms

and he leads by example, being well on his way to meeting his personal target of digging in 250,000 trees on his own beef finishing farm. He was presented with the Kaitiakitanga/Guardianship & Conservation Award.

The Fibre Producer Award went to Kaituna-based sawmill OneFortyOne for what judges said was a "relentless drive" for improvement and adding value and, in large part by using their own fibre to power their kilns, dropping the sawmill's greenhouse gas emissions by nearly half in the last decade.

A sustainability focus, export success and ploughing a portion of profit back into Bluff and Stewart

Island/Rakiura community projects where their 150 staff reside are some of the reasons why Sanford Ltd's Big Glory Bay Salmon was selected as Food & Beverage Producer Award winner.

The Technology Innovation Award went to James Bourke for the DairySmart NZ Ltd technology that enables higher animal performance while reducing the need for antibiotics and cutting antibiotic resistance within herds.

In awarding the Outstanding Contribution Award, hot contenders were outgoing DairyNZ Chief Executive Dr Tim Mackle and veteran Country Calendar producer and director Julian O'Brien but the winner was Professor Keith Woodford. The Honorary Professor of Agri-Food Systems at Lincoln University was recognised for his "long and meritorious" contribution to New Zealand's primary industries spanning five decades.

An agriculture economist, Prof Woodford has taught generations of New Zealanders, run immersion courses for upcoming sector leaders, and contributed to or supervised many research activities.

Judges said his continued research and writing on current topics - A2 milk, composting barns, mycoplasma, greenhouse gases and forestry in farming systems, to name a few - "has explained these complicated areas to many".

Flood-risk houses worth more than \$200b

Twelve percent of New Zealand's national housing value is in a flood hazard area, new research finds. More than 282,000 houses and nearly 159,000 structures like sheds and sleepouts are at risk of flooding, with models estimating they are worth a combined total of \$218 billion. The researchers say new construction in flood hazard areas has slowed since 1980, but continues to happen to this day.

International Journal of Disaster Risk Reduction

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Pennant wins for Manaia golfers



Midweek and Weekend golfers from Manaia celebrate with their trophies.

The ladies of the Sandfords Manaia Golf Club have achieved the double, winning both the Taranaki Weekend and Midweek Pennant competitions. The last club to have managed that feat was Inglewood 10 years ago.

The Midweek competition involved 13 teams from around Taranaki playing from the end of January through to the final played at the Te Ngutu Golf course on May 29 where Manaia defeated Inglewood.

The Weekend Pennant competition has 11 teams playing from February through to June. Manaia finished first, with Manukorihi second and Te Ngutu third.

Manaia was one of the smaller clubs in the competition, with most of their women's players involved in these competitions.

Taranaki Indoor Bowls

The challenge is here for 2023 indoor bowls played at Upper Hutt on the 8th-9th July 8-9.

Teams I battled it out on the mats from Hutt Valley, Upper Hutt, North Taranaki and the mighty Taranaki. Taranaki Selector Trevor Bourne selected the team this year on results and good

performance which meant many late nights with his black book deciding his teams.

The teams were as follows, Rodney Morris (SK), Win Finlay, Neil Vince, Jo Corbett, Sue Bourne (SK), Chris Reed, Andrea Berry, Brittany Kivell, Martin Harding (SK), Rose Ratahi,

Jamie Taylor, Allan Ducker, Trevor Bourne (SK), Wayne Cameron, Ella Smailes, Ray Finlay, Kaye Bird (Res).

Trevor would like to thank everyone that trialled and played this year for Taranaki you guys have made it a season you cant forget.

Sanfords Manaia Golf results

A great day at Sandford's Manaia Golf Club on Sunday June 25 with 149 players took advantage of the good weather.

They were keen to contest for the generous prize table made possible by the support of 43 Taranaki businesses

and entities.

All players were treated to rolled lamb spit ,potato bake and salads. A lucky 83 received prizes.

Overall Gross (68) B. Ferguson and J. Van Prah. Best nett: Men G. Marsh 63 Ladies A. Werder 68. Top 12 of 70 stableford prizes:

Division one: M. Soffee 36, N. Ngere 36, J. Gopperth 35.

Division two: K. Pengelly 39, S. Gower 39, B. Snooks 38. Division three: E. Fraser 42, L. Symes 38, D. Walmsley 36. Ladies: C. Vanner 37, H. Walls 36, D. McGregor 36. Non-golfer G. Johnston



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Coastal Premiers v Inglewood



Brothers Daniel and Logan Crowley playing against Inglewood.

For our last game of the season we played Inglewood at home at RahoTu. We wanted to finish the season with a win and secure fifth spot on the table.

We started slowly again and were down early 0-7 after a well worked Inglewood try. After much to and fro play on a tricky pitch Inglewood led at halftime by that margin.

We upped the ante in the second half and two hard driving tries, one to Jeremy Newell and the other to Liam Hurley, of which one was converted by Jackson Sinclair, to give us the final score of a 12-7 very hard fought victory.

For Coastal 1 point went to Beni Kalin, 2 to Kusi Drauna and our player of

the day was Daniel Crowley who was everywhere on attack and defence leading by example as always.

It was an up and down season for us with some great wins like against Clifton at Tikorangi and Tukapa at Opunake which were our best performances, but against Stratford in the second round was a real low.

Our manager Gerard Kalin's accident in Oakura was a blow to our close knit team, but seeing him well on the way to recovery is great to see for something that could have ended way worse.

Losing Jeremy Newell (retiring) Liam Hurley (maybe retiring), Rick McKenna (thinks he retiring), Blake Barrett (overseas) and

maybe Logan Crowley next season to overseas as well will be huge holes to fill and will take some replacing, but with our 17 young guys all under 22 years old used this season it will give the club a great future in the coming season.

To all the guys leaving we all respect the efforts on and off the field for Coastal rugby. You are great players and great mates and you know you are always welcome in our changing shed.

It was great to see team mate Josh Lord pull on the black jersey on Sunday morning against Argentina and with the three Barrett brothers in the starting line-up, there were four Coastal boys playing. A huge

achievement and something the club is very proud of.

To Trent and Bindy Ross and Gerard top work. It was enjoyable season.

Amy Honeyfield our physio did a top job and was very busy throughout the season.

Cheers to Farmsource our sponsor and all the club sponsors. Your support is amazing and is crucial to the Coastal Club.

Lastly thanks to Skippy, Hoon and Kent who run the weekly watering and feeding throughout the season. The boys thoroughly respect the job you do for us. It's a thankless job and we really enjoy your banter and help. Ride the wave.

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Jordie Barrett, Josh Lord, Scott Barrett and Beauden Barrett played for The All Blacks v Argentina last weekend, they also are all named in the Taranaki Bulls squad for 2023



Bethany Cook selected for Taranaki Whaio Women.



Ashley Rupapera selected for Taranaki Whaio Women.

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Logan Crowley selected for The Taranaki Bulls squad.

Josh Lord selected for The Taranaki Bulls squad.



Jaymi Ngaia selected for Taranaki Whaio Women.



Leah Barnard selected for Taranaki Whaio Women.

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New Zealand Doctors' orchestra not to be missed

The New Zealand Doctors' Orchestra will be returning to New Plymouth, performing on Sunday 23 July 2.00pm, at the Theatre Royal, TSB Showplace.

All proceeds from the ticket sales will be going to Hospice Taranaki – a very worthwhile cause.

The orchestra has over 70 players and is made up of doctors and medical students from around New Zealand, including one New Plymouth doctor and three medical students who are from New Plymouth and/or currently working in New Plymouth.

The orchestra will perform New Zealand composer Anthony Ritchie's Procession, Joseph Canteloube's exquisite Bailer from Songs of the Auvergne, with soprano Frances Campbell, and Dmitri Shostakovich's amazing Symphony no 5.

All proceeds from ticket sales will be donated to Hospice Taranaki.

Commented Lynette Murdoch, organiser for the New Zealand Doctor's orchestra, they were "delighted" to be returning to New Plymouth and invites everyone to come along.

It should be a full programme and a great afternoon's entertainment.

So keep Sunday afternoon on July 23 free.

Tickets are \$25, or \$10 for under 18 years (service fees apply) and can be bought at:

- TSB Showplace Box Office

• Online at: www.premierticketek.co.nz

• Phone: 0800 TICKET (842 538)

• Preconcert door sales will be available

The Opunake & Coastal News profile four of the performers in the New Zealand Doctors' Orchestra who have a connection to Taranaki.

Raimond Jacquemard

Dr Raimond Jacquemard, a pediatrician who plays trumpet in the Doctors Orchestra retired last year after working at Taranaki Base Hospital for 20 years and is now doing private work in developmental pediatrics.

Originally from Holland, he trained in Belgium and, after practising in Holland, Belgium and South Africa, 20 years ago settled in New Zealand with his wife who works as a General Practitioner and three children. His son is a percussionist in the Auckland Philharmonia Orchestra.

He also plays cornet locally in brass bands, and is in the Taranaki Symphony Orchestra and the Ritz Big Band.

He started playing trumpet "in my 40s" and says "I've always liked classical music."

His favourite composer is Shostakovich - which is part of the Doctors orchestra's programme - and describes his music as "quite dramatic but beautiful also. It's got a lot of emotion in it."

Though the Russian composer visited the west, all his music was composed entirely in Russia. Raimond comments: "In the Soviet Union, the state dictated how



Dr Raimond Jacquemard.

composers should write their music. In Shostakovich's case we are unsure what his music means in relation to

the Soviet system." He adds it's fascinating music and advises "Just listen to it and enjoy it."

He adds "It's quite complex music" he says and "ambitious" but says "this orchestra will play it well."

The Doctor's orchestra is comprised of doctors or doctors in training from all over New Zealand.

The individual musicians are each given their parts two months beforehand and

practice their parts. They then all meet for 3-4 days where the music is to be performed to collectively rehearse.

"It's quite intense," admits Raimond. He adds though it's an effective system and the performance is "of a good standard."

The orchestra performs only once each year and this year New Plymouth is the venue. They rotate through a few cities across the country in the bigger provincial

areas.

They last performed in New Plymouth in New Plymouth in around 2014, 2015.

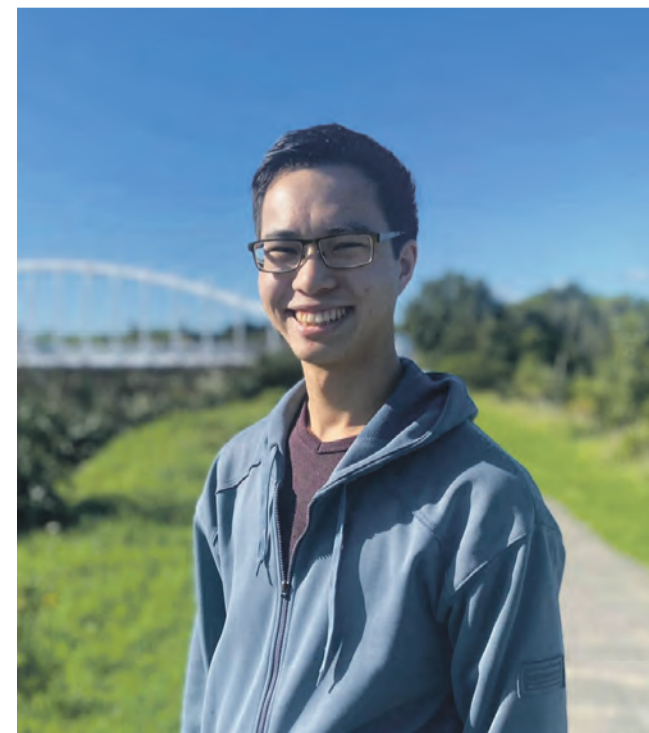
Some may be surprised that doctors can also be accomplished musicians. Raimond adds, "The medical profession is high pressure – that's why its good for your own well being to do something totally different such as the arts. "It's a healthy concept."

Daniel Chow

Daniel is currently a final year medical student on placement at Taranaki Base Hospital. Before attending university in Auckland, he grew up in New Plymouth and attended Francis Douglas. He says "Returning to the regions this year, it is great to be home and fantastic that the NZDO is performing locally!"

It is his first time playing with the NZDO, and in their upcoming concert will be playing the 2nd trombone part in the orchestra.

"Prior to picking up the trombone, I started playing the euphonium with the local brass band. I have always loved the full, bold sound that the brass family of instruments offers. Playing the trombone gives me the ability to be part of orchestras and many other ensembles which speaks to the versatility of the instrument," he says. "The upcoming NZDO



Daniel Chow

concert has a fantastic programme with all proceeds towards Hospice Taranaki,

a very worthwhile cause. Hope to see you there!"



Tickets from TSB Showplace Box Office, online at www.premierticketek.co.nz, or phone 0800 TICKET (842 538). Pre-concert door sales available



Fascinating programme “Just listen to it and enjoy it.”

Tom Winter

Tom Winter is in his sixth and final year studying medicine.

He plays in the second violins in the Doctors' Orchestra.

From Christchurch where he grew up, he started playing the violin aged just five. Though very young he enjoyed it “and stuck with it”, he said adding “It’s quite a challenging instrument if you’re out of tune,” though “It’s a great instrument.”

At Burnside High School where he did his secondary schooling and which he said had a good musical focus he also learnt the viola, saxophone and singing. He previously played violin in the Christchurch Youth Orchestra.

“I love classical music,” Tom says and comments when you play an instrument it gives you an education in

the artistry of playing.

He also though likes popular music and electronic music.

This is the first time he’s played in the Doctors' Orchestra and he says he’s been able to fit in time to practice and says students are not as busy as the doctors. Of his favourite composers he says “It’s hard to look past Bach” who he describes as “a musical genius.”

Tom initially went to Auckland to do an undergraduate degree in anthropology, linguistics and biology though “there was always the thought” of doing medicine. On finishing his degree he gained entry into the second year of medical school at Auckland.

He was attracted to medicine because he says “It’s hands on and that you interact with people every

day. There are problems you have to solve.” He mentioned psychiatry as a future area of interest.

“It’s been a good challenging programme,” Tom says “and difficult with COVID” which meant they had time away from campus and hospital. In fact they did their third year entirely online. In their fourth year they begin visiting hospitals. He elected to come to New Plymouth for his sixth year after being in Auckland.

“It’s been great being in New Plymouth,” he says. “I wanted to be in a smaller centre and have regional experience rather than being in a big hospital,” he says which is more anonymous.

“It’s nice, people know each other, are friendly.”

He’s also an enthusiastic tramper and has been up the mountain.



Tom Winter

Jacob Bond

Former New Plymouth Boys High School pupil Jacob Bond plays the cello in the Doctors' Orchestra. He is a fifth year medical student at Otago University.

He has been playing the cello for about 11 years though also plays other instruments and comments:

“I started on the violin and from there taught myself the cello as well as the double bass and viola, as well as some other instruments like the bassoon, oboe, trombone and mandolin.”

Jacob describes the cello as “a profoundly expressive and sonorous instrument with a huge palette of resonant tonalities, emotions and colours that the player can utilise.” He also feels that the instrument possesses a tone that is most similar to the human voice. “It sings in such a pleasant manner that almost all listeners are quite captivated by the sound it produces; I haven’t noticed this effect in many other instruments.” The cello also has a comparatively wide range, that is it plays low bass notes, middle baritone/tenor notes and high soprano notes all equally well, he says. “I suppose it’s the cello’s great versatility and expressive capacity that attracted me to the instrument in addition to the top-notch music that’s been composed for it (e.g. Bach’s cello suites or Dvořák’s cello concerto) and the fact that it’s relatively comfortable to play.”

He particularly enjoys the camaraderie of playing in an orchestra which he says “is really wholesome and being able to make



Jacob Bond

music as a group with other health professionals/medical students who play to such a high standard makes this concert extra special.” Also seeing how these busy doctors take time out for this orchestra weekend highlights for us students the importance of fostering interests outside of medicine, says Jacob. “The NZDO is a great way to meet doctors with a passion for classical music as well as being a time for discussion and mentoring on medical topics for us junior players. This orchestra also brings together students from the Otago and Auckland medical schools so it’s a good opportunity

for us to network with future colleagues.”

He chose to study medicine because he says “I have always been deeply fascinated by anatomy, science, languages and facts and I derive great satisfaction from caring for people, so medicine dovetailed nicely with my interests and aptitudes. Medicine is also quite a rigorous, intensive and academic field which for me is a very gratifying and fulfilling sphere to operate in. I am extremely interested in surgery as a speciality and am considering ENT/head and neck surgery at the moment.”



The New Zealand Doctors' Orchestra performing.

Dear Mum,

Enclosed please find some pages of news from 6 to 22. I hope you enjoy reading same. Don't forget in writing to let me know how everything is at home. Don't forget in writing to let me know how everything is at home. Don't forget in writing to let me know how everything is at home.

HE KOROWAI MAHANA

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Donna Dinsdale presents a series of retrospective and new textile artefacts that encompass rich layers of history within Aotearoa. Each piece connects to her personally, highlighting a narrative that positions the work as a moment in time which reflects her bi-cultural sensibilities surrounding gender, identity and place.

Using the re-purposed vintage New Zealand Woollen blanket as the foundation, the materiality of the artefacts display inter-woven traditional and contemporary techniques that cross the division between cultures.

Beyond this, the wairua of He Korowai Mahana represents a cloak of protection, giving new life and the ubiquitous struggle of connections between past and present.

Open Thursday 13th July, closing Monday 14th August 2023
 Official opening Friday 14th July at 2 pm.
 From out of the blue studio gallery, 18 Halse Place, Opunake, Aotearoa.
 Gallery open Thursday to Mondays (5 days) 1-5 pm or by appointment.

Your loving son,
 Dud.

Opunake Cup promises great day of racing

The Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Opunake Cup to be run at New Plymouth Raceway on Saturday July 22 again promises to be one of the best winter fields in

New Zealand.

The \$85,000 event will be spearheaded by a powerful local contingent with Allan Sharrock – Justaskme, (previous winner in 2021)

and the promising Butler taking on Robbie Patterson's Secret Armour and last start winner Conor O'Ceirin.

As always there will be a strong northern aspect



Last year's winner of the Opunake Cup Helena Baby.



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to the race, including last year's winner Helena Baby, a dashing front running grey horse.

A popular part of the day is the Intertrack Investor competition with a first prize of \$4,000.

Strong corporate support has seen these privileges snapped up and sold out. General admission will be

available with the public stand providing great viewing.

The first race is scheduled for 12.30pm.

Race Day Sponsors are Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration, Coastal Agri Services, Sandfords Rural Carriers, Revital Fertilizers and Universal Beef Processors.



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Shona Rapira Davies exhibition at Govett-Brewster Gallery

Ko Te Kihikihi Taku Ingoa is a major new installation by Shona Rapira Davies (Ngāti Wai ki Aotea, Aotearoa, New Zealand) that responds to histories distinct to Taranaki and to the 'cathedral-like' space of the gallery.

A northern iwi narrative where the Whale gives up its life, body and skin, for his brother the Kauri tree, is a metaphor in the work. The narrative about the two brothers - the Whale and the Kauri - in which the Whale originated from land before moving into the sea, is interwoven with iwi histories particular to Taranaki.

These histories include the New Zealand land wars which began in Waitara in March 1860, an armed conflict over land ownership and sovereignty between iwi and the New Zealand Government, and Parihaka: a Māori response to the conflict that saw a papakainga (Māori village) founded on a prophecy of peace, at the base of Mount Taranaki.

Featuring a wood and graphite whale tail, pohutukawa, high tensile wire rocks representative of volcanic pumice and the new growth of a Kauri tree rendered in stainless steel, Ko Te Kihikihi Taku Ingoa speaks to the gesture of the children of Parihaka who were sent out in front of invading soldiers, the extinguishing of iwi land rights through warfare and force, and the ongoing



Ko te Kihikihi Taku Ingoa, 2022 (detail). Govett-Brewster Art Gallery / Len Lye Centre. Image: Hayley Bethell.

processes of colonisation and industrialisation that cause continuing alienation for iwi from resources and led to environmental damage to local lands and the pollution of the sea.

Ko Te Kihikihi Taku Ingoa is a companion work to Ko Te Kihikihi which was included in the exhibition Swallowing Geography, November 2021 - February 2022, and connects with a 1987 commission by then Govett-Brewster Art Gallery director Dame Cheryl Sotheran Ma te wahine ka tapu ai to hanga nei, te tangata, ma te whenua kawhai oranga ai / Woman found raped, wrapped in a threadbare cloak.

A leading Māori sculptor and a senior New Zealand artist, Shona Rapira Davies cites Ralph Hotere and Colin

McCahon as artistic influences, alongside her upbringing and relationship with the sea, land and waterways of Aotea, Great Barrier Island, where she is from. Her innovative and wide-ranging practice includes textiles, drawing, sculpture, large scale ceramic works such as Nga Morehu held in the Te Papa Tongarewa collection and large-scale installation and outdoor public sculpture.

Commissioned as a signature art project for the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, Ko Te Kihikihi Taku Ingoa has been created with the support of the Gallery, Govett-Brewster Foundation Members and the Pollen Foundation.

Shona Rapira Davies, Ko Te Kihikihi Ta. Exhibition 5 August 2022-28 February 2024.



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Aladdin the pantomime a laugh a minute

Aladdin is Hawera Repertory Society's latest production and a pantomime they can be proud of! Full of all the wonderful things that make a pantomime such fun, music (singing and accompaniment), topical jokes (especially by the hilarious Widow Twanky) and slapstick comedy (ably demonstrated by the dry wit of the Empress and the physical comedy from the cheeky but lovable Nobby the pet panda). Grayson Richards is a



triumph as Widow Twanky, channelling her/his very best Dame Edna Everage, the jokes both topical and slapstick came thick and fast, the physical humour was spot on, and the costume changes that became more and more gaudy and extravagant as the play went on were a sight to behold. Bravo!

Following close behind was the wicked Abanazar (or as they insisted on calling him "Have-a-banana") played with malevolent glee by Ben Thomas. Plenty of opportunities for the audience to boo loudly.

The other characters all ably and confidently played their roles and were well chosen. We loved the Empress, played by Chrys Podjursky, who insisted on trying to rid someone of their head when displeased, but of course was continually frustrated. PC Pong (Cody Ogle) and Sergeant Ping (Brenna Johnson) were great as the silly, but sensitive cops who didn't exactly know who they should be rooting for. Wishee Washee (Ryan Kooistra) and Nobby the panda, with perfectly-timed antics (going through the ringer was hilarious!) added to the fun. And of course our two love-birds at the centre of it all, Aladdin (coolly played by Georgie Graham) and the beautiful

Princess Jasmine (fiercely but sweetly played by Louisa Bouzaid) provided the pivotal arc for the story.

And we mustn't forget the genies (appearing magically through the smoke), the sensible lamp genie (Kristy Logan) who was both lucky and unlucky depending on which master she served and the ring genie (Janine Horo) who didn't have quite so many tricks up her sleeve, created the sense of magic and mystery that the audience loved.

The rest of the cast were just as invested in the action, dancing their way through some wonderful set pieces with catchy sing-a-long songs such as Elvis' unforgettable Trouble (Leiber/Stoller); Happy (Pharrell Williams); and Hey Big Spender (Coleman/Fields) sung with lusty gusto by Widow Twanky. The music set the mood, ably played by the live band, featuring Ron Scott, Bobby Logan, Izzy Logan Paula Frearson, Orlando Davidson, and led by band director Shaun Campbell. Well done choreographer Mel Henshilwood and vocal director Richard Baylis.

The sets were superb, with lots of colour and detail and props that all had their purpose. The lighting,

Continued on page 33

STANDING UP FOR RURAL NZ

HEARTLAND TOUR

Public Meeting

TSB Hub

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Monday, 17 July, 12:00pm



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PRODUCTION OF ALADDIN**

The Village Gallery Work from the Heart

The Village Gallery has Work from the Heart

An interesting mix of artwork by both adults and schoolchildren all taught by Robyn Fairbrother features in The Village Gallery's latest exhibition entitled Work from the heart.

The exhibits are in a range of media including pencil, and acrylic and also include some of the tutor's own works.

Robyn Fairbrother has been teaching a Thursday after school student class and also a Monday evening adult class for 6-7 weeks.

Robyn said she was also interested in showing the schoolchildren how to exhibit art. "I wanted them to see their work in a professional setting."

The children all hung their works themselves choosing the placement of the works in relation to each other.

They also learnt how the gallery took a commission from any works sold.

The adults were all beginning artists and Robyn said she started them with experimental drawing with a focus on form, then moved onto painting and looking at layering and composition.

They worked both from real life and photos.

"I'm really proud of what they've achieved," said Robyn.

Next term will begin



Robyn Fairbrother (left) with young artist Shakyla Gregory and Tara Gray (Shakyla's aunt) who attended the adult class.

another class with the same group of adults – everyone wants to return bar one.

"If there's enough interest we'll run a second class for adults," said Robyn.

Among the works was Love is all we need, a captivating mixed media work by Mia Pettit which features brickwork and hearts. Mia wrote alongside her work: This is my first art class and it was very (much) fun. We have learnt to do different techniques, layerings, dry brushing, shading and we used different materials. It's perfect because we live in Eltham. Robyn's a great teacher.

Robyn's work also reflects a talented artist – not just a great teacher. One



The Cleansing Place, an acrylic painting by Robyn Fairweather

outstanding exhibit was The this way," Just lovely and Cleaning Place, a painting in "Beautiful artwork." acrylic. Also eye-catching The Village Gallery is at is Kowhai Tui and Harakiki 166 High Street, Eltham Tui – both works in acrylic. and is open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10am to 3pm. The visitors book captured some comments, which The Eltham exhibition included: I'm glad I walked continues until Friday July 28.

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ROBYN FAIRBROTHER

WORKS FROM THE HEART

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HOURS: TUES - SAT 10.00 - 3.00

Aladdin the pantomime a laugh a minute

Continued from page 32

magical use of smoke, and a trap door added to the fun and fantasy.

Lots of audience participation was expected and got with the cast actively seeking out their unsuspecting prey and Widow Twanky given a lot

of leeway for naughty but nice innuendos!

Well done director/designer Samantha Turner and stage manager Sandra Richards, as well as their dedicated supporting team.

I would also like to mention the Front of House staff who led and encouraged those of us not use to letting ourselves

go to boo, hiss and jeer at the right moments, clap and sing the action songs and take part with aplomb!

Aladdin was written by Ben Crocker and is on at the Hawera Memorial Theatre from 7-15 July.

Go and see this show with your family, you won't have

more fun at the theatre! Highly recommended.

Stephanie McKellar

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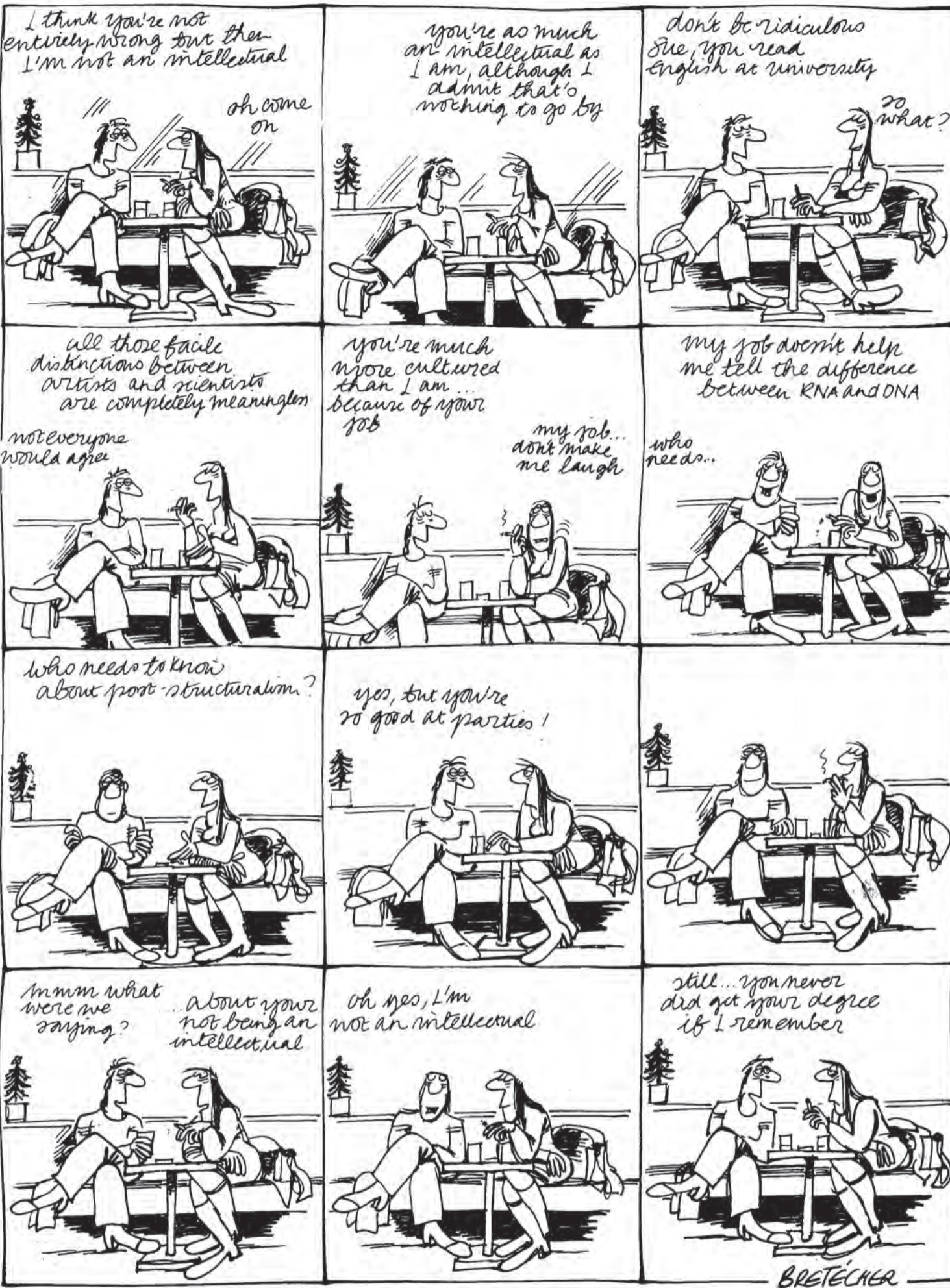
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CATS IN THE MUSEUM Family 1hr 19mins G Thursday 13th July 3pm	GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY Action 2hrs 30mins M: Violence Saturday 15th July 1pm
MISSION IMPOSSIBLE - Dead Reckoning Part 1 Action, Thriller 2hr 43mins M: Violence Thursday 13th July 7pm Sunday 16th July 7pm Saturday 22nd July 7pm	FAST X Action 2hrs 21mins M: Violence Saturday 15th July 7pm
MATARIKI DAY SCREENINGS Friday 14th July:	TRANSFORMERS - RISE OF THE BEAST Action 2hrs 7mins M: Violence Sunday 16th July 1pm
ELEMENTAL - 10am Adventure, Family 1hr 42mins G	OPPENHEIMER Biography 3hrs M: Sex scenes Thursday 20th July 7pm
COCO REO MAORI - 1pm Family 1hr 45mins PG	BARBIE Comedy 1hr 34mins TBC Friday 21st July 7pm Sunday 23rd July 7pm
INDIANA JONES: Dial of Destiny 7pm Action 2hrs 34mins M: Violence	SPIDERMAN: Across the spider verse Action 2hrs 20mins PG Saturday 22nd July 1pm
	MY SAILOR MY LOVE Drama, Romance 1hr 43mins PG Sunday 23rd July 1pm

What's On Listings

MEETING OF TRUE MINDS



- ONGOING**
Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.
MONDAYS: Tainui Day Centre - St Barnabas Church Hall, 141 Tasman Street Opunake: Each Monday 10 am - 12:30 pm. Information call Jenny 7618080 or Glenys 6558025
TUESDAYS
Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.
WEDNESDAYS
Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566.
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.
Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4pm to 5.30pm.
Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700.
THURSDAYS
Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.
Egmont Euchre Club: Every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club. Inquiries, 06 761 8277 or 06 761 8337
Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia: Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.
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.
APRIL 7 TO NOVEMBER 6
State of Nature exhibition: PukeAriki Museum, New Plymouth.
JULY 4 TO 28
Robin Fairbrother Works from the Heart exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham.
JULY 7 TO 15
Hawera Rep Society presents 'Aladdin': At the Hawera Memorial Theatre
JULY 10
Opunake Business Association AGM: At the Opunake Business Centre, 5pm.
JULY 11
Coastal Taranaki Health Trust AGM: 7pm, at the Community Lounge, Coastal Care, Opunake.
JULY 12
Hawera Water Tower Climb: 5.30-7.30pm.
JULY 13 TO 16
Winter Pop Up festival of Lights: New Plymouth. See editorial for more info.
JULY 14 TO AUGUST 14
He Korowai Mahana - To be cloaked in the comfort of whakapapa exhibition: At from out of the blue studio gallery, 18 Halse Place, Opunake.
JULY 15
Te Namu Iti AGM: At the Opunake Business Centre, 10am.
JULY 17
ACT Public Meeting: At the TSB Hub, Hawera, 12pm.
JULY 22
Opunake Cup Day: Racing at the New Plymouth Raceway.
JULY 23
NZ Doctor's Orchestra: TSB Showplace, New Plymouth, 2pm.
JULY 30
Cape Egmont Sea Rescue Trust AGM: Cape Egmont Boat Club, Warea, 12pm.
JULY 31
Opunake Boardriders Club AGM: At the Pavilion, Opunake Main Beach, 7pm.
OCTOBER 5 TO 15
Cirque Olio: At the TSB Showplace.

MOVING?

Subscribe to the Opunake & Coastal News and we'll post you a paper as soon as it's out!

06 761 7016

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS



The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on July 27. If you would like to contribute please phone us on 06 761 7016.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Opunake-Rahotu Veterinary Trust

PO Box 117, Opunake - Phone: 021 729 471 - Email: ORVTrust@gmail.com

Applications are now open for tertiary students to apply to the **Opunake Rahotu Veterinary Trust** for financial assistance.

To qualify for this grant you must be currently studying or in an apprenticeship and have a relationship to the Taranaki Coastal Farming Community (Okato - Kaponga - Oeo)

Applications close 31st July 2023. Request a form by emailing: ORVTrust@gmail.com

Completed forms can then be emailed back or by post to:
The Secretary
PO Box 117
Opunake 4616

He Pānui

2023 Trustee Election

Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust (the Trust) is the PSGE entity established to receive and manage the Treaty settlement assets of Taranaki Iwi. It replaces the former Taranaki Iwi Trust.

The trust is governed by seven trustees who are elected on a rotational basis. Three of the current trustees will retire by rotation later this year. The Trust now invites nominations to fill the three vacancies. The retiring trustees can stand for re-election if they choose.

Nominations must be made on an official nomination form and close at 5pm on Friday 11 August 2023. Candidates must meet the eligibility criteria set out in rule 2.1 of the Second Schedule of the Trust Charter. Those eligibility criteria are outlined on the nomination form. The Trust will give further notification of the election process after nominations have closed.

Membership Registration

The Trust also takes this opportunity to invite all adults of Taranaki Iwi descent who have not already registered, to do so by completing a registration form. Registration forms and nomination papers can be sourced from the following:

Te Kāhui o Taranaki Trust office 1 Young St, New Plymouth Ph 06 751 4285 www.taranakiwi.org.nz	The Returning Officer electionz.com Ltd PO Box 3138, Christchurch Ph 0800 666 924 iro@electionz.com
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CHURCH SERVICES



Church Services - Manaia, Kaponga, Opunake, Pungarehu, Okata, Oakura

Opunake Co-operating Parish

Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday
Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month

Okato Co-operating Parish

Okato - St. Paul's - Sunday Service every 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Oakura - St. James - Sunday Service every 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, 10.00am
Mid-week Service - Okato - St. Paul's - Pew for You, every 3rd Thursday of each month, 4.30pm-6.00pm

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)

St Patricks Catholic Church, Kaponga

2nd, 4th and 5th Saturdays of the month Mass at 6pm. However during winter the time will be 5pm i.e. Saturday 10th June, 24th June and 8th July. After this date the time will revert back to 6pm.
1st and 3rd Sundays of the month Liturgy of the Word with Communion at 8.45am.

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake
Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Come along or contact
Belinda Philp
027 935 6191

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 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome

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HAWERA BUDGET Advisory Service. Wed 9am to 12pm. Coastal Care, Opunake by appointment. Starting Feb 8th 2023 and fortnightly thereafter. Contact us by phone: 0800 333 048 (free from mobile). Facebook page: Hawera Budget Advisory Service. Email: info@hawerabudget.co.nz

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