



## Farewell for outstanding teacher

Inside

Everybody's Theatre, in Opunake on July 7 was the scene for a farewell to one of our truly outstanding teachers, Jenny Bennett who arrived at Opunake High School in 1980 and was Head of Faculty for English for many years. The MC for the well-organised event was Opunake High School teacher Murray Weir, who handled his role capably and with humour. He even managed to obtain a message from The Queen - of sorts.

Musical accompaniment was provided by gifted musicians Jacob Symons, Ariana Dingle, Kerry Logan and Katerina Papageorgiou.

There was an intriguing PowerPoint show which highlighted different aspects of Jenny's contribution to education, as well as her other interests such as acting and sport.

Firstly Murray read messages - mostly from former colleagues, but also from former students of this inspirational teacher. An important message of support was from Pamela Jones (STDC Children and Young Adults Librarian), who organises the prestigious Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards; this has significance because Jenny's students have been



Jenny Bennett, Simon Reid (centre) and Alistair Cook

finalists many times (including winning) - her record exceeds that of any other English teacher in Taranaki. One year her students won virtually every accolade. This record stands for itself and lead to a special literary award to Jenny while ago.

After the messages, a number of fellow colleagues came up to pay tribute. The picture painted is that of an extremely conscientious teacher, who

spent hours ensuring written feedback by way of marking to ensure her students received optimal help.

Former Principal Mark Bowden was one speaker who spoke about, Jenny's "Illustrious and wonderful career including hours and hours of marking."

Former colleague Alistair Cook shared some unique poetry to sum up Jenny's career in a colourful way.

Sharon Arlidge, who had travelled all the way from the South Island to attend, explained that Jenny was driven by the mantra, "How can I do this better." Sharon commented, "She inspired me to do better."

Simon Reid gave a speech, which showed that Jenny has had a big impact on him. "What a superb teacher she has been," he stated. She was his, "Boss, mentor, inspira-

tional guide but (most of all) friend."

Board of Trustees Chairperson Andy Whitehead spoke of Jenny's passion for and commitment to education, also letting slip her exact birthdate as May 21, 1951.

One of the final speakers was current Principal Simon Fuller. He mentioned her "diligence, organisation, hours of activity and quality teaching" - and concluded, "Over 36 years your contribution has been massive."

Jenny gave a wide ranging speech with humour to the fore. She spoke of first coming to Opunake in 1980 "where I didn't know a soul." Her first friend was the late Search Ratahi. She shared that the motto on her classroom wall was 'I have the faith that you have the power' - meaning that all students have the potential to be the best they can be. "My best moments have been when I have seen a student realise that hey, I can do this. This is not so hard after all, I can achieve."

Jenny is especially delighted with Maaori achievement. "I have been proud to

Continued on page 5

## Respected Parihaka resident and veteran dies after house fire

A leading member of both the Parihaka community and the Opunake RSA died in the early hours of July 8.

Turoa Leonard Rex Rob-

inson died after he and his wife Whakaarahia managed to escape the fire which engulfed their Parihaka home. The Rahoitu Fire Brigade had been alerted about 2.40am that morning, and the Opunake, Okato and Kaponga brigades were called in for assistance.

The Robinsons had been able to get out thanks to working smoke alarms, but Mr Robinson died later that morning. His death has been referred to the coroner. The causes of the fire are being investigated.

Mr Robinson had ties with the Ngaruahine, Ngapuhi and Wainuiarua iwi. He had been in the New Zealand army, retiring with the rank of captain, having served in Malaya and done two tours of duty in Vietnam.

Mr Robinson later settled in Parihaka and became something of an expert on

the history of the village which had been the base of Te Whiti and Tohu in their non-violent opposition to further Pakeha settlement in Coastal Taranaki.

He was also a keen member of the Returned Services Association, having been an executive member of the Opunake RSA since 2011.

He has been a familiar face at ANZAC Day commemorations at Opunake, having been parade marshal since 2006.

"He was a good executive member, and having been a captain, he always wanted everything to be formal rather than informal," Opunake RSA president Geoff Williams said.

One of Mr Robinson's pet projects and unfulfilled ambitions had been to get the people of Parihaka and the Queen Alexandra Mounted Rifles together to discuss is-

sues arising from the legacy of the land disputes of the last century, Mr Williams

said. Mr Robinson's tangi was held on July 11.



Mid-Winter swim in Opunake. See page 5.



Open Days at Opunake Primary School. Turn to page 7.



Special celebration at Rahoitu Playcentre. See page 6.



Nina joins Travelsmart, Stratford. Turn to page 5.

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**EDITORIAL**

**Arming police**

Police are all armed in the United States – that is *on their person*. For that matter, so too are the police in Australia. Police are armed in the sense in NZ in that they have access to firearms and we also have the Armed Offenders Squad. However, the sight of a young Afro-

American man being fatally shot over a broken tail light should alert us to the fact that we should keep things as they are here in NZ. The victim was merely reaching for his wallet, presumably to show his driver's license, when the police officer opened fire (thinking a gun was about

to be presented) with fatal consequences. In fact, the victim's female companion was lucky she was not shot too, as the policeman was considerably worked up. We hear that that over 160 Afro-American have been shot and killed by police this year alone in the US. Do we

really need any more input than this? No, police are already sufficiently armed in New Zealand. To have firearms on their hips makes it just too easy to make a snap – and often fatal – decision.

**New Plymouth man continues family tradition in france**

Captain William Brewer of New Plymouth is due to march in one of the world's oldest and largest military parades when the New Zealand Defence Force(NZDF) takes part in the Bastille Day French parade on July 14..

Regimental colours and banners representing New Zealand units that served in the First World War will be paraded by 86 NZDF personnel on the Champs-Élysées during the parade – the first time these flags have been paraded together outside of New Zealand. Infantry colours are flags that symbolise the spirit of a regiment and include honours and badges granted for battles the regiment has participated in since it was raised.

Captain Brewer is adjutant of 5/7 Battalion, Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment and will be carrying the regimental colour of the 5th Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki Battalion.

Battalion regimental colour is emblazoned with French First World War battle honours for Somme 1916, 1918, Baupaume 1918, Hindenburg Line, and France and Flanders 1916-1918.

Captain Brewer said that many current personnel of his battalion have relatives who have served in the 5th Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki Battalion or its predecessors.

“It is an absolute privilege to be carrying the battle honours earned by their relatives, and to know that their legacy continues unbroken today.”

Captain Brewer's family also has a strong military tradition dating back to the First World War.

One great-grandfather, Lieutenant Charles Lepper, served with the Wellington Regiment and was awarded the Military Medal at Gallipoli and the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in command of a company east of Le Quesnoy on 4 November 1918. His



**Captain William Brewer with the regimental colour of the 5th Wellington, West Coast and Taranaki Battalion**

other great-grandfather, Lieutenant Ralph Brewer, served with the New Zealand Field Artillery in France.

“On a personal level, it will be an honour to carry the regimental colour of the battalion that my father, grandfather and great-grandfather all served in,” Captain Brewer said.

Peter Albrett, Staff Sergeant James McArthur and Staff Sergeant Jeremy Smith were also going to be marching in the colour party escorting the battalion's colour.

Bastille Day is a French national holiday and is commemorated across the country with military parades and celebratory activities.

**BBC: Bang!**

Even scientists agree on that the universe came from nothing. But, as far as I am aware, only the Bible says the same thing as modern science.

The first English Bible, John Wycliffe's translation of 1382, starts with “In the bigynnyng God made of nouyt heuene and erthe.” or in modern English, “In the beginning God made heaven and earth out of nothing.”

If God made everything out of nothing then God

predates the universe. In fact the spiritual is the standard or eternal state. Until there was the Big Bang there was nothing with which to be scientific with.

Until the Big bang there wasn't even any “where”. We might think of the Big Bang expanding out into an empty void, but we would be wrong. The Big Bang is all there physically is. There is no void, the Big Bang creates its own void as it expands.

We are told, repeatedly, that the Big Bang happened 13.8 billion years ago. We are not told what was there 14 Billion years ago. Except by the Bible.

It tells us that God was there. Then it reveals that God spoke, and by speaking created the heaven, the earth, plants, animals and finally us. Incidentally God speaking and projecting His thoughts into expressive sounds is called Jesus Christ. Jesus is the manifestation of

the eternal God, He is God the Father expressed.

But things went wrong. False life, such as Cain, appeared. And since then we have all been born, not through God's desire, but through the desire of men and women.

To bring us back from physical desires God brought His Word to earth. If we can believe that Word as God's manifestation of Himself we can start again. We can be born again. Our first birth, our physical birth, isn't enough. We must be born from eternity, by God's love.

And God has made that possible by paying the price for our false life by making Himself human, like us, then being condemned by the world's system and dying on the cross.

God has offered us the chance to link again with the eternal, with the original life by faith.

But, of course it doesn't have the scientific evidence. Why should it?

Science only works within the Big Bang, it does not work with reality.

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# A bad froth on a head of brew

A frothing creek is continuing to irritate residents of Hughson Place in Opunake. As reported in the Opunake and Coastal News on June 19 Lauren Bennett had complained about the occasional sludge and associated smell of cow manure coming from the creek which ran past her house.

Taranaki Regional Council director of resource management Fred McLay said the Council had investigated the complaint and the problems had been caused by a combination of pasture runoff, a high water table and heavy rainfall. While there had been fencing and riparian planting further upstream, the benefits had yet to kick in, he said.

Early this week, water foaming up in the creek by her house, again accompanied by a foul acrid smell was reported, and this photo was taken by the Opunake and Coastal News late that afternoon.



## A frothy brew has residents unsettled

“It’s been building up since lunchtime,” Lauren said. “Before this, the water turned green. There must be something going in the creek. It can’t be just runoff.”

Oddly enough this last episode had occurred after

a weekend of fine weather, she said. Mr McLay said it’s an issue of a small stream draining from agricultural land into town. The council had not been able to find any evidence of stock contamination. Frothing is

most likely to be caused by algae, he said.

“It’s a bit unusual for this time of year. It’s likely to be something natural which is algae related, so we will have to keep a watching brief on it.”

# Top Taranaki award for Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club

The Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club is the top overall surf club in Taranaki. This was one of three awards handed out to the Opunake Surf Lifesaving Taranaki awards in New Plymouth on July 9.

Opunake also took the award for best patrol club, and Michael Corkill took the best instructor award for the second year in a row.

“It’s a very proud moment for the club,” club secretary Fiona Climo said. “All the hard work that the lifeguards and the committee members have put in has been huge. We are a really small club, but we’ve shown that we can compete against the town clubs.”

The club has about 120 members, of which 30 are active patrolling members. Last season, the club put in 2300 volunteer hours patrolling Opunake Beach, over 300 more than the previous season.

“We have a massively dedicated group of club members. Our lifeguards are dedicated to being lifeguards and saving and protecting people on the beach. When they are not on patrol, they spend a lot of time uptraining themselves.”

As well as the top instructor award, Michael Corkill also received a Taranaki Service award for lifesaving in recognition of service to lifesaving in the Taranaki region.

Fiona said as well as

beach patrols, Michael also fixes motors, takes training courses, is a member of the Taranaki committee, and has been working with the Patea group to train lifeguards there. He also represented the club and the Taranaki committee when Prince Charles visited the province. His other duties have included being club captain and club canoe coach.

In other awards, Lifeguard of the Year: David Bentley,

East End. Volunteer of the Year: Joanne Brimelow, Fitzroy. Coach of the Year: Ron Cole, Fitzroy. Innovation of the Year: Taranaki Life Saving Committee. Michael Taylor Award, Carolyn Matuku, Fitzroy. Sportsman of the Year: Paul Cracroft-Wilson, Fitzroy. Senior Sports Team of the Year: Fitzroy Masters, Fitzroy. Sportswoman of the Year: Rebecca Cole, Fitzroy. Surf Official of the

Year: Brian Velvin, Fitzroy. U19 Sports Man of the Year: Zac Reid, Fitzroy. U19 Sports Team of the Year: Aimee Daniels and Jenna Barrett, New Plymouth Old Boys. U19 Sports Woman of the Year: Hannah O’Connor, Fitzroy. Sportsperson of the Year: Zac Reid, Fitzroy. Sports Team of the Year: Aimee Daniels and Jenna Barrett, New Plymouth Old Boys

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# Kaitake Community Board leads the way

On Monday July 11 the Kaitake Community Board met in Hempton Hall, Okato. The meeting was ably chaired by Doug Hislop. The other Board members were Paul Coxhead, Mike Pilette, Keith Plummer and Richard Jordan. Also present were two New Plymouth District Council officers in Julie Straka, Governance Lead and Katrina Brunton, Customer and Regulatory Solution Manager – their expert input was valuable.

After the general meeting was concluded, Doug Hislop addressed those present to explain a new initiative. The Council have charged the Board with devising a long term plan for the various communities within the Board's area of jurisdiction. The completed plan is expected to cover each community's needs for a period of about 30 years. The Council has the final say, but is bound to adhere closely to the wishes of each community.

The Board was involved in devising a plan for Oakura fairly recently and this initially led to a focus group. Doug was able to present various documents that emerged from the protracted process which lasted almost two years.

One of the 'blueprints' was entitled 'Oakura: A Growing Community Discussion Document. What Do You



The recent meeting at Okato.

Think? The document is attractively presented. It is attributed to the Kaitake Board and Focus Group 2015. One man present described the document as "An absolutely excellent template." It is amazingly comprehensive and deals with such issues as environmental safety, parks, safe passage of school students, tourism opportunities, businesses and the CBD – and much more. The document posed such questions as *What is your vision for Oakura?* And *Where do you want to focus growth?* Residents were invited to attend workshops, email their ideas, talk amongst themselves and drop their ideas into a

comments box.

The process involved the Focus Group and Community Board in considerable consultation and discussion. (Dec 2015 to Feb 2016). By March 2016 the summary of the consultations was such that recommendation to Council were possible. Next, the Council received then used the information to guide the local response to the District Plan to review and aid future planning. Finally, the District Plan Review could be completed.

Doug was at pains to explain that the Board were there to merely guide (in a very low key manner), but that the actual content was up to the people of Okato. Even the

manner of how the process was executed was up to Okato's residents. However, several people considered the Oakura blueprint so good that rather than "reinvent the wheel" we should adopt it (or something to close to it), as regards the process.

Vigorous discussion followed on a range of issues. One "sore point" is that Okato is allied with the geographically dissimilar Inglewood. One resident asked, "Why did people not get a chance to vote on the demarcation of wards?"

The meeting ended after about 90 minutes with Doug's proposal to meet again in the near future to set up a plan of action.

## COMMUNITY COMMENT

### Community award nominations now open

The true bite of winter is starting to kick in now. I hope you're all keeping warm. Community Awards are now open for nominations, so if you know of a person or group who volunteers their time and you think are worthy of an award, please pick up a form from Dreamtime Surf

Shop or the Library.

The area on the south of Opunake on the left by the Waiaua Bridge is not a green waste dump site. This area is for the slink calf drop off and pick-ups. It is also an area for people to ride motorbikes. Please no dumping of rubbish or green waste.

The final details of the Civil Defence plan are coming together and your Sandfords Event Centre is now Opunake's Civil Defence Centre.

Keep warm.

**Craig Dingle**  
Chairman Egmont  
Plain Community Board



Craig Dingle

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# Nina joins Travelsmart, Stratford

Just two months ago Nina Poletti joined Faye and Tom Mills at Travelsmart, Stratford. "It's really interesting seeing where people want to go. The variety of trips on offer is amazing," she comments.

Although born and bred locally, Nina has recently been studying media and journalism at the Wellington branch of Massey University. Her special interest is sports journalism. Her job at Travelsmart mostly involves marketing and she finds Facebook in particular to be of considerable use. Nina has joined the firm on a part time basis and works Monday to Thursday, at present.

This leaves some time for her interests in horses and rugby. She is hoping to be selected for the Taranaki Representative team, who will play in a tournament in North Harbour, Auckland at the end of July.

Later in the year, Nina intends to do some travelling herself. In September she heads to Europe and will be based in London. She expects to be away about six

months. When she returns her overseas experience will undoubtedly add even more depth to her prowess as a travel consultant. (So far, Australia is the extent of her overseas experience).

At present Travelsmart owners Tom and Faye - with 65 years of successful combined travel consultant experience behind them - head a team of four, with Daryl, the Accounts manager completing the personnel.

Travelsmart's current focus is the Earlybird sales for Tours and Cruises where, if you book by the end of August, considerable savings can be made. With our winter now in full swing the APT (Australia Pacific Tours) are also very attractive. Also worthwhile are their 2017 Contiki tours to Europe or USA & Canada, if you want to skip next year's winter as well!

If you 'like them' on Facebook you can go in the draw for an attractive travel bag to use on your travels. Travelsmart are an accredited travel agent with the IATA (International Air Transport Association). I have used Travelsmart



Nina Poletti, who has recently joined the Travelsmart, Stratford firm.

myself and was most impressed with their friendly, expert service and the travel itinerary they organised for a South Island trip was first class. I certainly intend to use their quality services again.

Travelsmart is situated at 260 Broadway, Stratford and the office is kept nice and

warm (as is the welcome) for those emerging from the winter cold. You can contact them on 0800 003 804, 06 928 4534 or 021 0420 875. Their website is well worth a look [www.travelsmart.co.nz](http://www.travelsmart.co.nz)

*Rolland McKellar*

## Farewell for outstanding teacher

*Continued from page 1*

have been part of the birth of Whaanau Aawhina." She is pleased about the establishment of Te Whare Kura and compulsory Te Reo classes. "This school has been at the edge of Maaori education providing the best learning environment for our tamariki."

She acknowledged the gains in writing. "I am totally thrilled every time a student from our school either gains an award for their writing or has their work published. There have been many occasions when this has happened."

Jenny mentioned the advance in technology. Although conceding the learning curve had been steep. "What amazing classrooms we have now where the whole world is available at our fingertips." And on a humorous note,



Jenny Bennett at her recent retirement function.

"May the Lord in his infinite wisdom protect Opunake High School from all future power cuts."

She allowed herself a broadside at students being sent to boarding schools and concluded, "Well, I can

guarantee that Opunake High School is a great place for all students. The staff do a superb job of growing multicultural people for this rapidly changing world."

As to her retirement Jenny plans to be busy, "Adventure before dementia is the plan."

Well done to Maree Drought and all who helped plan and carry out this excellent event with delicious refreshments. Congratulations Jenny for your lasting legacy and educational impact which has meant so much to so many. All the best in your richly deserved retirement.

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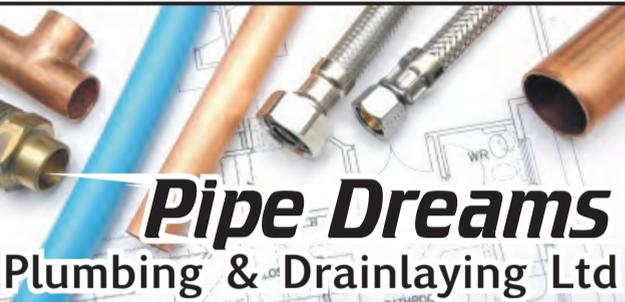
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# Rahotu Celebrates 50 years of play



Current and past members enjoy the Open Day



Kourtney Mullan, Suzette Bolton, Tilly Fleming cutting the cake

On May 26-7, the Rahotu Playcentre celebrated with their 50th Jubilee. Over the two days, there was a cake cutting ceremony, a time capsule buried, a tree planting and many memories shared, as young and old came together to celebrate

Thomson, as well as those who contributed memorabilia, photos, stories and time in helping out. Playcentre is an Early Childhood Education Service which is unique to New Zealand, promoting and encouraging parents to be the first educators of their children, so they can get to be by their child's side as they learn and grow. Recent activities have included visits from pet bunnies and a visit to Brooklands Zoo. The local Fire Service visited with their fire engine. Other activities have included kite flying, racing around on bikes and scooters on "Wheels Day," and heaps of messy play every session.



Lexi Newsome, Clem Robinson and Emily Burkitt help plant the Jubilee feijoa tree.

the many special times they shared at Rahotu Playcentre. Stories like were told of how the Playcentre got started in Rahotu in a house behind the old hall. In later years, the playcentre shifted from the old house into the school hall, and then into the building being used today. Thanks to the Jubilee Committee for all the work they put in to making it a success, Karen Helms, Shelley Bolland, Maree Ngaia, Jeni Kettlewell, Vanessa Robinson, Kim

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# Opunake Primary School

Several students at Opunake Primary School are involved in a Curious Minds project.

The six students involved are Souhl Deegan, Johann Guttenbeil-Smith, Lia Sefton, Bella Pivac and Dina & Lorin Symons.

Apart from models they have made their overall aim is to take the kitchen garden off the Electricity Grid. The school applied successfully for a grant to help fund this initiative.

The scheme is the brainchild of Science and Innovation Minister Steven Joyce and was launched last year.

It is named 'A Nation of Curious Minds He Whenua Hihiri I Te Mahara - A National Strategic Plan for Science in Society'. "New Zealand needs more young people who are passionate about

Science and Technology and these programmes will help develop that passion," explains Mr Joyce.

This year there are 44 of these projects nationwide,



Two participants in the curious Minds project Souhl Deegan (left) and Johann Guttenbeil-Smith. They are pictured with some of the projects on display.

which involve not only schools, but also universities, charitable trusts, Crown Research Institutions and the business sector. The Opunake Primary

School students are near the start of the project, but have already achieved much. Just two of the models created include a solar wind turbine (Lia) and solar powered

robots (Johann, Dinah & Lorin). The students have chosen from six possible types of power including solar, hydro, geothermal, biofuels, wind and marine.

## Open day reaches new level

Opunake Primary School held its Open Days on the last three days of Term 2 - Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 of July. Not only was the event a great success, but there was comment that the standard reached was at a higher level than previously. One visitor pointed out that he attended all Open Days but noticed, "The displays are at a higher level than before."

All classes produced a wealth of colourful and informative schoolwork with technology a major component. Underlying the Open Day were the principles of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

Megan Lodge and Miriama Roach were enthusiastic about their animation project, which consumed many hours of their

time. "It takes a lot of patience," they explained.

Another class carried out an investigation about the properties of water - specifically with a range of objects (eg shells, keys, dice) to determine if they would sink or swim.

Another study looked at endangered animals such as the Bengal Tiger and what could be done to ensure survival.

An intriguing presentation involved Leonardo Da Vinci with an examination of his parachute, which consisted of sealed linen cloth held open by a pyramid of wooden poles about seven metres long.

Some students, such as Jaden Siciliano, Liam Smith and Tyson Newton made robots, which took about ten hours. "I'm proud - they were hard to

make," commented Jaden.

There was so much more, with a high standard of presentation a feature. Principal Lorraine Williamson stressed the importance of STEM. In the near future, she explains about 80% of all jobs will be based on

STEM. "I think the teachers and students have done an amazing job," she enthused.

The comments book captured many of the positive feedback. "Amazing - the technology is amazing and I'm super jealous," one visitor wrote.



Megan Lodge and Miriama Roach with their exhibits.

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# Beauty (and history) is in the eye of the beholder

They say that achieving racial harmony can be compared to playing the piano in that you only achieve that harmony when both the white and black keys are used to make the music. In attending a conference call in Canada this week, and the United Nations and other community justice groups before that, the message is strongly in favour of the path New Zealand is taking by adopting a 'restorative approach' to reconciling our histories. Many countries are following our lead while others have turned a blind eye to the inequities of experience between ethnic communities, especially in colonised countries. Like many countries, some are looking over their shoulders and marvelling at how far we have come. Others peering into the distance and observing how far we have to go and there is a small group stubbornly digging their toes in, demanding to know why we have to move at all. On my visit to Nova Scotia the Speaker of the House in that Province acquainted me with some of the history there. There were about sixty treaties



**Hon Chester Borrows MP**

signed which promised rights and freedoms mainly around an agreement for colonising peoples to live in harmony with the indigenous tribes - we are allowed to call them Indians again - who had been inhabiting the land since time immemorial. In true colonising fashion, none of the provisions were ever implemented, and land was carved up by surveyors and settled. Natural resources were exhausted or threatened, and those welcoming indigenous peoples wondered what the hell just happened. Insurrection by First Nations people balking at the imposition of government were punished. After many fits and starts remediation is slowly being affected. In any society you have

those ahead of the game and others struggling to catch up. The early adopters seem extreme zealots, but later on are celebrated as visionary or just exhibitors of common sense - which I have never found to be all that common. We can take some pride in knowing we are moving along faster than all other countries with a similar history. The respect New Zealand has internationally for having the courage to face our past and make steps to compensate and rectify for past injustices is huge. Although those looking forward and rueing the distance left to travel would remind us that the pause for back-patting should not hold us up too long. Even tangata whenua are generally pleased with the speed of settlements. That is only one inequity that needs rectification. There is still housing, health, welfare, justice, employment and education statistics which point to more needing to be done. Thankfully most of this work is well under way. Those that are not so happy would still prefer New Zealand's initiatives to the inertia of some countries and the minimal progress of others.

Canada has a strong affinity with New Zealand. Many have visited our shores, and those who haven't are very keen to do so in the future, as soon as possible. They love the landscape and the culture of both Maori and Pakeha. They wish they enjoyed a history that, in spite of its flaws, looked more like ours and which was less horrific than the one they have to live with and account for. You have to have broad shoulders and a thick skin to say what you think as a politician. But being a politician shouldn't and doesn't define me. I am a lot of things before that, husband, father, citizen, neighbour etc, and in all these things very proud of the country I call home. Even if that history would say we are not so much pure as the driven snow, and the worst that can be levelled at us is best of a bad bunch in terms of our pioneering history. We are doing more than any other country to put right the wrongs of the past and I am emphatically and unrelentingly proud of that. We all should be.  
*Chester Borrows  
MP for Whanganui*

## National committed to giving children the best possible start in life

National believes New Zealanders deserve high-quality health services and delivering better services remains our top priority.

At the same time, we're focused on delivering better results for New Zealanders and their families. That's why this Government has introduced a number of initiatives to give children the best possible start in life.

Around 780,000 children are benefitting from our policy of free GP visits and prescriptions, as well as free after-hours services for all children aged under 13.

To date almost 1.23 million influenza vaccines have been distributed across the country, protecting over a quarter of our population.

There has been a significant reduction in national



**Jonathan Young MP for  
New Plymouth**

rheumatic fever rates, dropping 45 per cent since 2012. This shows the \$65 million investment the Government has made to prevent rheumatic fever is making a real difference to the young people, families and communities most at risk.

Good progress is also being made in encouraging primary schools to adopt the Health Promoting Schools

programme.

One in three New Zealand school children are either obese or overweight, and more than a third are inactive. In 2014/15 11 per cent of all children aged 2-14 years were obese. The figures for Maori and Pacific children showed 15 per cent and 30 per cent respectively. That's why the Government launched the Childhood Obesity Plan in October 2015.

Under the new target by December 2017 we expect that over 4,000 children a year - 95 per cent of children identified as obese - being supported to achieve a healthy weight.

The new Raising Healthy Kids health target will ensure four year olds identified as obese while getting their B4 School Check will be offered

a referral to the services they and their family need to support healthy eating and activity.

Over 58,600 children have benefited from this free check in the last year. Of that, over 1,400 were referred on for support with healthy eating and activity.

Since the Plan was launched in October last year 94 new schools have signed up to the Health Promoting Schools programme.

We're now one of the first countries in the OECD to have a target and a comprehensive evidenced based plan to tackle Childhood Obesity.

Focusing on results, we are working towards specific, measurable targets to improve the lives of families, particularly the most vulnerable.

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# New services towards Smokefree 2025

A more integrated service for Taranaki people wishing to stop smoking has been signalled in the wake of a nationwide change.

On July 1 the Ministry of Health announced that new services would be introduced throughout the country as it worked towards its Smokefree Aotearoa 2025 goal.

It led a 15-month process of alignment of services that began in March 2015. A review conducted by SHORE/Whariki Research at Massey University and a

study published in 2014 in the New Zealand Medical Journal, as well as the ministry's own assessment of data, said that more needed to be done for the 2025 goal to be achieved.

In Taranaki, health and social services provider Tui Ora will transition to become the lead regional-wide service from January 1. It will work closely with existing providers and those with experience in the sector, says Tamara Ruakere, Tui Ora Public Health Service Leader.

She said a lot of work and innovation was already underway and much had been achieved so far in the north and south of the region.

"The new approach is about an integrated system to ensure national consistency, regional collaboration and unified service delivery at community level. We don't want to reinvent the wheel but we do need to be clear and targeted about the ways in which we can best support people."

Over the next few months Tui Ora will consult with

agencies and the community to design the best model. In the meantime people can still access the same services.

Other nationwide changes will be a single national advocacy body, Hāpai Te Hauora (Hāpai) which will continue the tobacco control sector momentum toward the Smokefree 2025 Goal. A functions-based Tobacco Control Integration Network will set and monitor outcomes and national quality as well as ensure consistent delivery and collective impact.

# Sinclair's new shop opening in Stratford

Located in the centre of the Stratford CBD, across the road from the iconic Shakespearean clock tower, Sinclair Electrical's new Stratford store opens its doors for business on Saturday.

The appliance store will stock major brands such as Fisher and Paykel, Panasonic, Mitsubishi and Parnco, and will service what they sell.

For the last six years, Sinclair Electrical has been operating a workshop in Kaponga, and with the client

base out there growing, they had decided in the last six months that the time had come to expand their operations to Stratford, owner Brian Sinclair said.

Vicky Kerr will be shop manager, with Luke Adamson managing the electrical and refrigeration side of the business.

Also there will be electrician Daniel Carson and apprentice Jamie Fevre. Daniel, who had begun his apprenticeship with Sinclair Electrical made it

through to the national final of the domestic commercial apprentice category in last year's Master Electricians' Challenge.

Brian and Monique Sinclair say they hope to be involved in the Stratford community and the Stratford Business Association, as they have been in Opunake, and to take on Stratford apprentices as their business develops.

Doors open on Saturday at 9.30am. As well as opening specials, there will be a table

with discounted goods which customers can make offers for. There will be a lucky draw for a crockpot of goods, and local sports group, the CMK Flyers Swimming Club will be running a fund raising sausage sizzle.

The store will be open Monday to Friday, and on Saturday mornings.

"We're looking forward to providing quality service for the people of Stratford District," Monique said.

# Surge in investor activity sees home values soar across NZ

The latest monthly QV House Price Index shows that nationwide residential property values for June have increased 13.5 per cent over the past year. Values rose by 5.6 per cent over the past three months and are now 42.6 per cent above the previous market peak of late 2007. When adjusted for inflation the nationwide annual increase drops slightly to 13.0 per cent and values are now 21.6 per cent above the 2007 peak. The average value

nationwide is now \$590,909.

The Auckland market has increased 16.1 per cent year on year and 4.7 per cent over the past three months. Values there are now 78.4 per cent higher than the previous peak of 2007. When adjusted for inflation values rose 15.6 per cent over the past year and are 52.1 per cent above the 2007 peak. The average value in the Auckland region is now \$975,087.

Carterton and Masterton are the only North Island areas to see values decrease just

slightly by 0.8 per cent and 0.1 per cent respectively.

In Taranaki, the average current value(CV) of a house in the New Plymouth district is \$389,369, an 8.2 per cent increase year on year, and 2.5 per cent in the last three months. This is 17.8 per cent above the market peak in 2007.

Houses in the Stratford district have an average CV of \$218,478, an 8.8 per cent increase year on year and 2.1 per cent in the last three months. This is 0.1 per cent

down on the 2007 peak.

Houses in the South Taranaki District have a CV of \$189,418, a 1.8 per cent increase on both the year on year and the figure three months ago. It is 4.2 per cent less than at the 2007 market peak.

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# Mangatoki WI learning from the University of Life

Our May meeting of the Mangatoki WI was held on May 4 at the Kaponga Hotel, when about 15 members along with husbands and partners met for dinner, followed by Paul Bourke speaking on his experience of depression. He told us that he was speaking from his "University of Life," and that there are support groups in place for people going through depression since the dairy downturn, such as the Rural Support Group, and there are meetings throughout Taranaki from Urenui to Waitotara.

June is our Mystery Trip

month and 12 members and two friends met at the Duthie's home at Mangatoki for a 7am start. Our first stop was at The Wool Shed at Sanson, for morning tea and then on to Tiro Tiro Road, Levin to visit R.Js Liquorice Shop.

Back into the van and off to the Porirua Shopping Centre for a spot of shopping and lunch, then off to Wellington to our hotel where we all booked in, and then off to Te Papa Museum to see the Anzac Show which was excellent. From there we walked to Mac's Brewery for dinner.

The next morning we visited the Moore Wilson specialist shop on Lorne Street, off Tory Street and some of us went up to the homeware/electrical shops and a few found the toy shop. From here we visited the Pukeahu National War Museum on Buckle Street, to see the Great War Exhibition.

We then went back to Moore Wilson's as a few more wanted to visit the toy shop. Back in the van and on the road north, and our first stop was at Pacific Roses Otaki, where a few purchases were made, then on a little further to Quarter Acre

Otaki for lunch. Our next stop was to visit the Black Shed crafts and gifts north of Otaki, where a few more purchases were made, and then on to Garden Arts, just north of Ohau, where garden ornaments are made. Our

next stop was Wanganui to the Brick House for our evening meal. We arrived back at the Duthie's home around 9.30pm.

Our thanks go to Cathy and Karen our organisers, also Olwyn who is a very

confident driver and for her prayer as we left for home, and to the others who participated in the organising of the trip.

*Lucy Moger  
Mangatoki W.I. Reporter*

## Colourful hair at Kaponga WI

The June meeting was filled with an afternoon of fun and laughter and great enjoyment for Kaponga WI members at the New Plymouth home of hostess Margaret Arbuckle.

Margaret showed members hair chalk, and with the skills of Carolyn Nicholas and Jo Jones, several members' hair became very colourful with streaks and patches of bright red, green, blue and yellow.

It was a lot of fun, and Margaret Broomhall, Fiona

Collins, Gillian Frandsen, Jo Ellis and Margaret Arbuckle were willing models.

The meeting was held before the shared lunch, and a new member, Jo Ellis was welcomed.

Remits for Conference were discussed, and Gillian as our delegate was wished well, as were Fiona and Rayleen who are attending as visitors.

It was decided to make a donation to the outdoor seat project for the 95th Birthday

celebrations of WI in NZ.

President Dorothy Hughes gave the vote of thanks at the conclusion of the day.

Competition Results: Winter Shrub: Carolyn 1st, Margaret Arbuckle 2nd, Diane West 3rd.

Prettiest Scarf: Dorothy 1st, Joy Eliason 2nd, Fiona 3rd.

Ginger Gems: Margaret B 1st, Margaret A 2nd.

*Fiona Collins  
Publicity.*

## An entertaining evening of drama and music

A very entertaining evening was enjoyed by 78 members, husbands and friends of the Hawera Women's Club on July 6.

Convenor Cynthia Stone, welcomed everyone.

Musical Director Gladys Armstrong presented a bracket of familiar World War Two songs sung by the always popular Women's Club Choir. These included Why Don't We Do This More Often, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square, and Bluebirds over the White Cliffs of Dover, with a beautiful solo from

Barbara Oakes.

A trio comprising Pam Dixon, Vivienne Armstrong and Kristie Logan were received well, as were soloists Allie Butler and Kristie Logan.

Kay Cleaver gave us readings from such varied writers as James K Baxter, Maureen Lipman, and Louis Johnson. These had us laughing and crying in turns.

The Play Reading Circle presented a drama, Come Home My Children by Margaret Turner. Produced by Jane Lawrence, this play is set in a displaced persons camp in the mid 50's with a story that resonates with events of today. It shows the effects of war on ordinary people and their relationships with each other in the privations of camp life, and with their former enemies (Beckmann and Lotte) now working for their welfare.

Fraulein Beckmann, (played by Janet de Month) is the chief welfare officer. Lotte (Lorraine Wilkie) is the sardonic secretary/assistant. A refugee Maria, (Christine Ross) finally has

a chance to go to a new life in America. Tante Katya, (Norma Stevenson) survives by clinging to fantasy. Frau Novak, (Pat Hickman) is a refugee who was persuaded to take the orphan Teresa into her family. Teresa, (Charlotte Fraser) lonely and unloved, was brought into the camp at the age of four, and now aged fifteen, the trauma of her situation is causing her to behave very badly. The unexpected bonding of Tante Katya and Teresa brings this thought-provoking and sensitive drama to its dramatic ending.

Cynthia read a humorous item by Maureen Lipman, Training Cats and Dogs, which along with the play, Come Home My Children, had been chosen last year by the late Jan Standing, and were a fitting tribute to her.

The Choir presented a bracket of songs from an American Musical for their closing item. This was very well received for the freshness and brightness of

*Continued page 11*

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# Pole axed



Winds caused damage up the coast on the night of July 8.. Photo Carey Duggan.

# Government in knots on GST

The Government seems to be tying itself in knots over the collection of GST on small value goods including books bought from overseas online retailers, according to Booksellers NZ.

“The papers they have released contain nothing new in terms of a plan for collecting the millions of dollars currently being lost from non-payment of GST on small value goods bought online from overseas retailers. The Government is simply saying they need more time to look at systems and issues around the de minimis,” said Booksellers NZ’s CEO, Lincoln Gould.

“There has been so much research done on this issue over the past four or five years and it really is time for the government to act in the same way they have done on GST on intangibles and digital services – require offshore online retailers to register to collect GST in the same way as do all of our other retailers.

“The requirement to register will be met by all of the major players, thus 80-90 percent of the problem would be fixed. To get smaller offshore retailers to register is a matter of compliance. There is no point in further complicated

research into systems that will ensure every last cent can be collected.

“Meanwhile, booksellers and other small businesses in communities around the country will continue to face unfair competition from offshore retailers,” said Gould.

The issue will be discussed by Booksellers at their 95th annual conference, where bookshops will be urged to re-engage in the #efairnessNZ campaign and write to their local MPs urging action.

# Climate Justice Taranaki wrong on Landfarming say PEPANZ

Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ) Chief Executive Cameron Madgwick says claims by Climate Justice Taranaki that landfarms are toxic waste disposal sites are simply wrong and have no scientific basis.

Mr Madgwick was responding to comments made by Climate Justice Taranaki to the South Taranaki District Council during a hearing on its District Plan.

Mr Madgwick says landfarming is nothing more than taking the ground-up rocks, mud and minerals left over from drilling activities and recycling them by placing them underneath the topsoil.

“While naturally occurring hydrocarbons might be found in this material, they will be in such low concentrations they pose very little risk,” says Mr Madgwick.

“A report released last year by Landcare Research found oil and gas drilling waste material is considered to pose no attributable risk to food safety or animal waste,

An entertaining evening *continued*

the singing, and a special mention must be made of soloist Pam Dixon.

The President of Women’s Club, Rosemary Mills extended a thank you and appreciation to all the performers.

particularly when wastes are incorporated into the shallow subsoil with topsoil.

“All the waste used for land farming are naturally occurring elements, and research actually shows it can significantly improve the quality of unproductive land.

“Applying drilling waste materials onto the coastal and sandy farmland in coastal Taranaki has resulted in vast improvements to that land, which now produces high quality clover-based pastures.

“Landfarming allows rocks and minerals to be recycled to improve the productivity of some soils. It increases clay content and improves the soils ability to retain water and nutrients, and any hydrocarbons present will be broken down naturally by soil organisms.

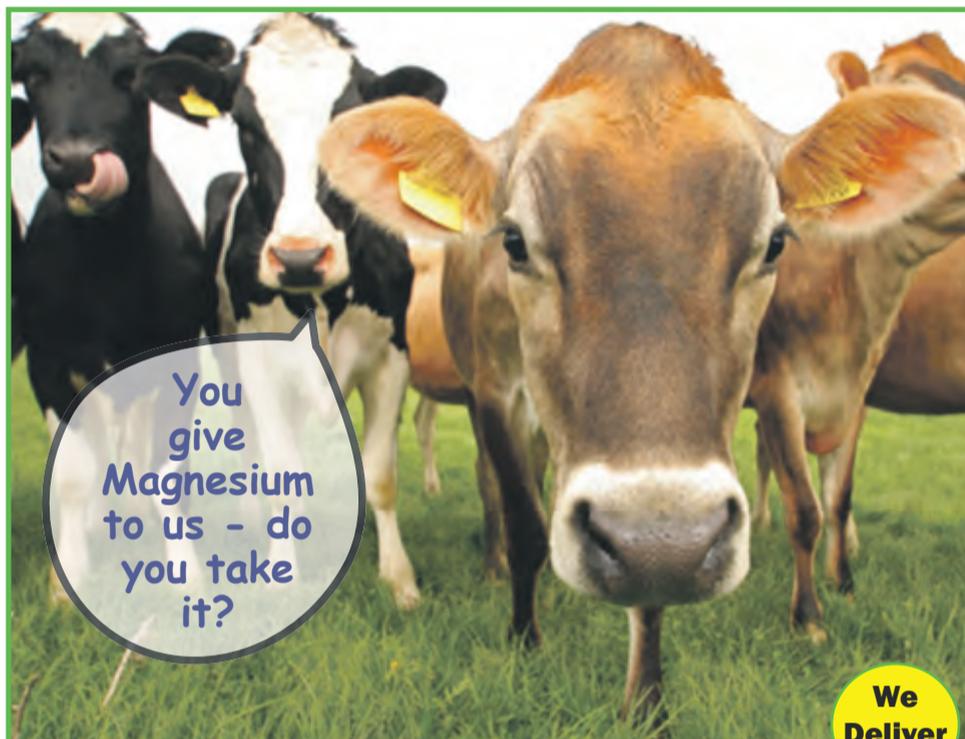
Mr Madgwick says that given the benefits of

landfarming, it is a common and accepted practice internationally to spread these left-over rocks and minerals into the soil.

“The public can be assured that the oil and gas industry takes health and safety extremely seriously and the industry is governed by strong regulation to protect the environment,” says Mr Madgwick.

“The Taranaki Regional Council has rigorous monitoring procedures in place that govern the operation of landfarms that sees regular reviewing, testing and evaluation, and the Ministry of Primary Industries have put in place guidelines for food producers and processors.

“To claim landfarming is unsafe is wrong and ignores the scientific evidence that shows landfarming is safe and has many benefits,” says Mr Madgwick.



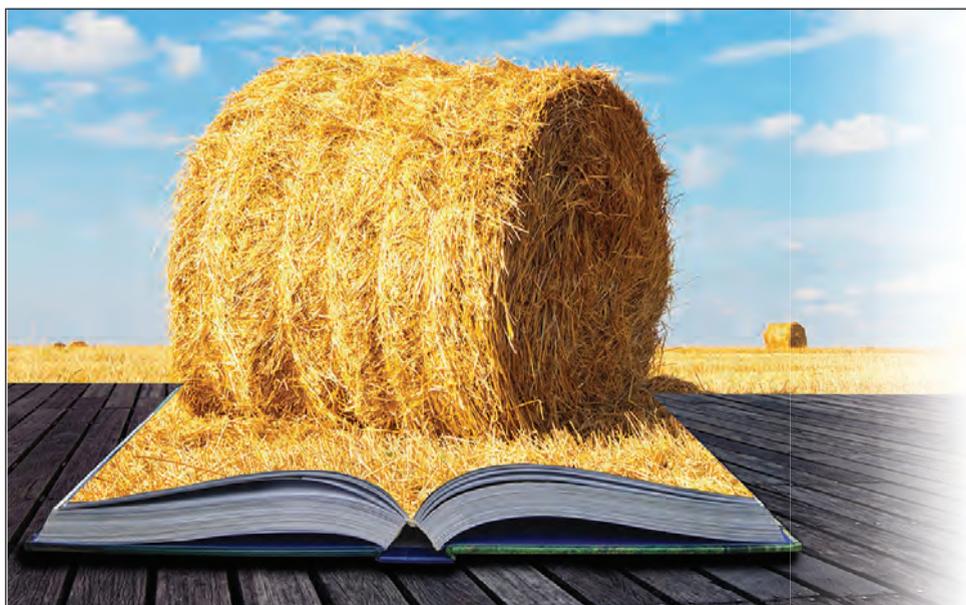
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# In the not so bleak midwinter

A mid-winter dip in the sea has long been a fixture of the Opunake social calendar, and this year was no exception.

A small group of people took to the water at midday on July 3 for the annual Opunake Business Association Mid-winter swim, which also served as a fund raiser for the Opunake Surf Life Saving Club. Temperatures might have been a bit barmier than usual for this time of year, but one thing that didn't change was the mad range of costumes worn by those taking part. "It's the best day we've had for this in a while, and not as cold as last year," said

Egmont Plains Community Board member Andy Whitehead who went into the water donning a set of deer antlers.

Others though were still feeling the temperature. "It is cold out there, definitely," was one comment. "Refreshing," was another. After the swim came the traditional prize giving. Best group was the Hunn family. The youngest was Skyler Hunn, while the oldest was Jean Lock. First under was Alika Hunn. The best dressed was Andy Whitehead, and the worst dressed was Shan Hickey.



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## Guardians of the environment

It's time to celebrate Taranaki's environmental projects and champions.

"All sorts of people, businesses and organisations are investing a huge amount of time, money and hard work to continually improve the region's high quality environment," says the Taranaki Regional Council Chairman, David MacLeod.

"Each year the Council recognises a variety of projects and actions with Environmental Awards to showcase the tremendous effort put into environmental

protection and enhancement by all sectors in Taranaki."

Mr MacLeod says the award-winners are always great examples of the Taranaki 'get on and do it' attitude.

"Their efforts are reflected in the results reported in the Council's environmental monitoring which shows that the Taranaki region enjoys a generally good and improving environment."

Environmental Awards are made in five categories: Te taiao me te pākihi – Environmental leadership

in business, ; Environmental leadership in dairy farming, Environmental leadership in land management, Environmental action in the community, and Environmental action in education.

The Council has presented 234 environmental awards since the programme began in 1993.

Nominations are open until 30 August and can be made online at [www.trc.govt.nz/environmental-awards/](http://www.trc.govt.nz/environmental-awards/). The awards will be presented in early November.

## Seed collectors hit pay dirt

Gardeners can this month reap the rewards of others' seed deposits.

Taranaki Seedsavers is presenting a seed-saving workshop at Hollard Gardens on Sunday, 24 July, and participants will have access to a 'bank' stocked with robust, healthy seeds, and learn to select the plants that reproduce these qualities.

"Local plants perform better in local conditions and when seeds are collected from the best specimens, the subsequent generations tend to be acclimatised, strong and healthy, with a better and tastier yield, and higher resistance to pests and disease," says Taranaki Regional Council's Regional Gardens Manager, Greg Rine.

The workshop will be held from 2pm to 4pm, at 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga. It is part of a year-round programme of free public events at Hollard Gardens, Tupare and Pukeiti, the three heritage properties owned and managed by the Taranaki Regional Council on behalf of the people of the region.

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Taranaki Regional Council Pre-Election Report

# For the record



**Basil Chamberlain**  
Chief Executive

The Taranaki Regional Council has recently published a Pre-Election Report, which is a mandatory requirement, to inform the regional community in the run-up to the local authority elections on 8 October.

As required by law, the report was prepared by the Chief Executive, and there was no involvement of the current elected councillors.

The report notes that the Council's strong operational and financial position should continue into the future.

Key points from the Pre-Election Report are outlined below.



## Operational achievements

The Council has a successful record of achievement across all of its functions and responsibilities over the past three years and more. Highlights are:

- **Voluntary Riparian Management Programme**  
The programme is improving water quality — 84% (12,099 km) of streambanks fenced, 69% (7639 km) protected with plants and 4.3 million plants supplied.
- **Taranaki's high quality environment**  
Fresh water, coastal water and air quality is improving or being maintained. Best ever trends in freshwater quality.
- **Yarrow Stadium**  
Secure long-term maintenance and development.
- **Bus passenger increase**  
Increase in urban New Plymouth and regional Taranaki to over 582,000 passengers annually.
- **Resource consents**  
100% processed in statutory deadlines. Compliance monitoring, public reporting and appropriate enforcement.
- **Taranaki's biodiversity protected**  
Approx 100 biodiversity plans being actioned for key native ecosystems.
- **Animal and plant pest programme**  
Reducing the impact of pests, including the self-help possum control programme on 240,000 ha.
- **Flood control upgrades**  
Waiwhakaiho and Waitara flood schemes upgraded to 1 in 100 year protection.
- **Pukeiti, Tupare and Hollard Gardens**  
Enhancing and securing future of these iconic gardens.
- **Ownership of Port Taranaki**  
Holding strategic investment on behalf of regional community.
- **Puke Ariki foundation partner**
- **Regional advocacy**  
Advocacy on significant regional issues and infrastructure improvements such as SH3 from New Plymouth City north and Normanby realignment.

## Financial situation and forecast

The Council is in a very sound financial position and that is expected to continue over the medium term.

- **Strong balance sheet**
  - Assets of approx \$84million with no external public debt.
  - The Council's balance sheet is expected to remain strong, with no public debt.
- **Low rates increases**
  - Average 1.3% for past three years and 1% in 2016/2017.
  - Rates changes expected to continue at or below inflation.
  - One of the lowest rating councils in New Zealand.

**The key risks to forecast:**

- Potential changes to dividend returns from Port Taranaki Ltd. Dividends are budgeted to account for about 15% of the Council's total revenue. Changes could impact positively or negatively on rates. Estimates for future dividends are conservative and the Council works closely with Port Taranaki Ltd to communicate and coordinate financial planning.
- Potential significant changes in direction that are not planned. These could result from changes in the Council's mandated functions, structure or leadership.

## Looking ahead

The Council remains strongly focused on its core activities for the well-being of the Taranaki region. Through its work programme and major projects the Council will:

- Protect and enhance the quality of our rivers, lakes, coastal waters, soil and air.
- Process and monitor consents, respond to pollution incidents and take appropriate enforcement action.
- Supply 450,000 riparian plants each year, with the aim of completing the Taranaki Riparian Management Programme by 2020.
- Work with landowners, and other groups to enhance the region's indigenous biodiversity.
- Control or eradicate pest animals and plants.
- Provide passenger transport services in urban New Plymouth and regional Taranaki.
- Enhance the comprehensive civil defence emergency management system in Taranaki.
- Complete the major upgrade of the Waitara flood protection scheme and maintain the Waiwhakaiho, Waitotara and other schemes.
- Continue to maintain and develop Yarrow Stadium and Tupare, Pukeiti and Hollard Gardens.
- Support Port Taranaki Ltd to ensure its continued growth and success and its critical role in the Taranaki economy.

The full report, along with more detailed information on the Council's past and planned performance and financial position is available on the Council's website [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz).

## The Council's role is to work for a thriving and prosperous Taranaki by:

- Promoting the sustainable use, development and protection of Taranaki's natural and physical resources.
- Safeguarding Taranaki's people and resources from natural and other hazards.
- Promoting and providing for Taranaki's regionally significant services, amenities and infrastructure.
- Representing Taranaki's interests and contributions to the regional, national and international community.



# Walking the Tightrope of Milk Fever

"Every day begins with an act of courage and hope: getting out of bed" quipped US writer Mason Cooley. He may have had a milk fever problem. Milk fever has been recognised as a specific disease of dairy cows for over 200 years

– and it's still a serious problem. The science is difficult and contradictory. Ask Mr Google what he thinks and you'll get a run down on low blood calcium, parathyroid hormone and vitamin D. Include DairyNZ in the search and you'll get

condition score, DCADs and magnesium (and lots of it).

Down cow rates vary widely. The DairyNZ target is less than 1 per cent. Most farms are around 2-5 per cent, and a significant number of others can be much higher – 20 per cent and in one case currently under study – 40 per cent. At the 2-5 per cent rate nearly every cow in the herd will be affected. Apart from the clinical cow, the side effects of milk fever (calving problems, retained membranes, infected uterus, slow return to first heat, increased risk of mastitis and ketosis) are immense.

The most minor effect and perhaps the most important will be simply reduced appetite. If we bear in mind that for a 450kg cow the difference between 1.8kg milk solids and 2.0kg is only 1.4kg of dry matter (11ME) and, that milk fever is not just confined to calving time but can occur at any time during lactation, we should be pretty interested in how milk fever affects our herd throughout the year, even if the clinical syndrome is not that dramatic.

Anionic salts and copious magnesium only deal with the risk posed by low dietary magnesium and



Pat Poletti

high potassium. There are also risks such as excessive phosphorus, very low calcium to phosphorus ratio, very high and very low dry period calcium as well as a few intriguing issues such as thyroid gland changes after winter feeding of brassica crops or chronic iodine deficiency.

If you don't drench, the more that you have to supplement via the water, feed and dusting, the greater the risk that supplementation will fail e.g. if you run a very high pasture potassium

you will need a lot of magnesium. The more magnesium you need the more the cows will seek to avoid it. As their ability to avoid it increases the greater the risk of disease.

Reducing the reasons for a lot of supplementation then reduces the supplementation requirement and mitigates risk. As this risk is commonly derived from fertiliser policy, the ability to adjust fertiliser practices presents a real mechanism to manage milk fever risk and reduce the cost of mineral

supplements.

Cows are on a tight schedule. Not only on a tight seasonal schedule to calve, cycle, and get in-calf, but a tight daily schedule to eat, sleep, walk and be milked.

Everything we can do to assist this annual and daily schedule is critical. Managing milk fever risk at all stages of the season gives cows the critical time they need. And for the rest of us makes it a little easier to get out of bed in the morning.

Pat Poletti

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# Record turnout at rural contractors' conference

A record turnout of 153 contractors, from all around the country were in the Bay of Islands in late June for this year's RCNZ annual conference.

"This is the largest turnout that I can recall and it seems many rural contractors have decided to ignore some of the doom and gloom merchants and are clearly focussed on looking forward to better times," Rural Contractors New Zealand national president Steve Levet said.

This year's conference theme was: "Your Business from Start to Finish," and also celebrated the 20 year anniversary of Rural Contractors NZ (RCNZ) as an organisation.

"We had an agenda chock-full of presentations focussing on how to get smarter in running your business and the use of the latest technology," he added.

Presentations, over the three days, covered a myriad of topics including: fuel management; insurance; taxation; ACC; machinery valuation; employment law; succession planning; looking after your workers and yourself.

At the Wednesday night dinner conference-goers were given an informative



RCNZ life members Bryan Murray, Canterbury, and Colin Mackenzie cut the anniversary cake to celebrate 20 years of the association of Rural Contractors New Zealand.

address by Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy who covered off the outlook for the primary sector biosecurity, Brexit and rural mental health.

"Wednesday night also saw our annual charity auction for St Johns raise more than \$21,000 for the ambulance service in the

Bay of Islands," Mr Levet added. Each year, as part of RCNZ's annual conference a charity auction is held with the proceeds going to St John in the local area. Sponsors provide gifts for the auction and RCNZ members then bid for these with all the money raised donated to St John in the region where the

conference is held. Mr Levet says rural contractors have a great affinity for the work of St John around the country and RCNZ is proud to help support such a worthy and valuable charity that plays a vital role in rural New Zealand.

## Sharemilking remains a viable career path

Sharemilking as a career path is alive and well, according to a report recently released on progression in the dairy industry.

The DairyNZ and Federated Farmers-resourced Dairy Progression Pathways report, undertaken by AgFirst explores the latest trends and statistics relating to sharemilking and examines the issues created by milk price volatility.

Federated Farmers sharemilker farm owners' section chairperson Tony Wilding says the report shows opportunities for progression still exist but the career pathways have been changing and will continue to do so.

"While the number of traditional herd owning sharemilking (HOSM)

agreements is slowly declining, the scale of them has increased, and other options to invest in cows and land in equity ownership are continuing to emerge," says Tony.

Federated Farmers sharemilkers' section chairperson Richard McIntyre agrees.

"Sharemilkers need to be better equipped to survive the climate of volatility through contracts that are flexible, allowing them to manage risk. As sharemilking contracts evolve, it is important that the risk remains relative to reward," says Richard.

"The report also highlights the need for improved due diligence prior to entering contracts. A number of failed sharemilking relationships

can be traced back to a lack of due diligence at the start."

The Dairy Progression Pathways report shows that sharemilkers continue to make up 35 per cent of the industry, but HOSM has declined to 17 per cent from 25 per cent in 1995. The number of farmers planning to purchase a dairy farm after sharemilking has also dropped to 47 per cent from 70 per cent 20 years ago.

DairyNZ's strategy and investment leader for people and business, Mark Paine said opportunities for progression include making the most of alternative business structures and undertaking better due diligence before taking on a new contract.

"Refinement and improvement in these

areas would lead to better outcomes for farm owners and sharemilkers," says Mark. "Successful business partnerships typically share business plans and have a common understanding of the goals and directions of each other's businesses."

He says those currently sharemilking should take heart.

"Our industry has many options for connecting with other farmers and rural professionals who are willing to share their knowledge and experience," says Mark. "Share what you want to achieve in the future and position yourself to strike when the opportunity arises. Others have succeeded and opportunities are out there."

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# June a below normal month for most

Rainfall for June was rather varied with amounts ranging between 47% and 116% of normal and rainfall falling on between 12 and 20 days, according to figures released by the Taranaki Regional Council.

There were only four sites that recorded above normal rainfall for June, and these sites were Dawson Falls (116 per cent), Kotare (105 per cent), Taungatara (104 per cent) and Patea (103 per cent). At the other end of the spectrum, the Cape Egmont rainfall site recorded only 47 per cent of normal with 68.4mm.

On the mountain, rainfall

totals ranged between 84 per cent and 116 per cent of normal, with rain falling on between 17 and 23 days.

Year to date rainfall is ranging between 83 per cent and 118 per cent of normal, with the Wastewater Treatment Plant site in the Waiwhakaiho Valley having recorded the lowest percentage of rainfall to date with 83 per cent (or 549.0mm). Six sites have received above normal rainfall to date. These sites are: Dawson Falls (110 per cent), Stratford (117 per cent), Mangaehu (110 per cent), Kotare (118 per cent), Pohokura Saddle

(105 per cent) and Rimunui/Waitotara Valley (104 per cent).

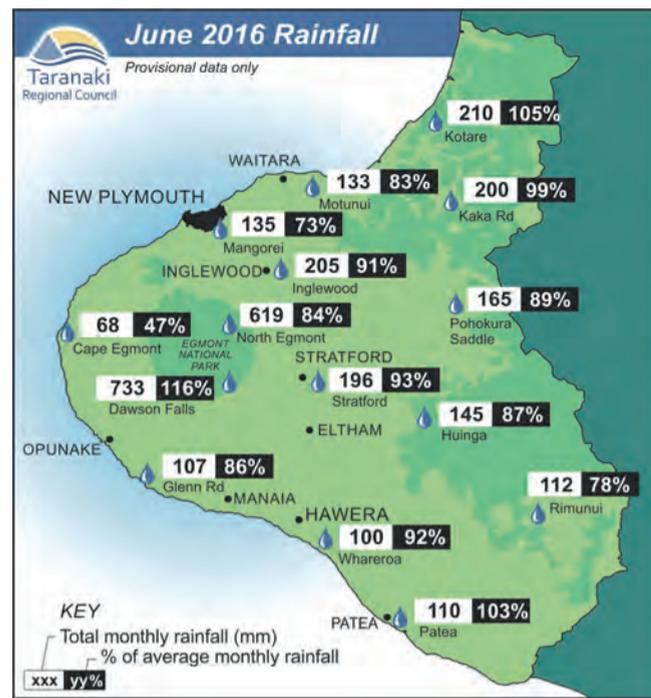
River flows were generally below normal for June except for the Waiwhakaiho River at Egmont Village (301 L/s above normal) and the Kapoiaia Stream at Cape Egmont (195 L/s above normal).

There were new maximum water temperatures recorded in the Patea River at Skinner Rd (14.16 °C) and the Mangaoraka Stream at Corbett Rd (15.09 °C) for June. These new maximums were 0.86 °C and 0.19 °C warmer than the previous June maximums. The mean water temperatures for the month were all above normal for June by between 0.25 °C and 2.03 °C.

The Te Kiri (west of Opunake) air temperature site recorded the maximum June temperature with 21.2 °C, while the Duffy's Farm (near Whareroa) recorded the lowest air temperature with -0.9 °C. Taranaki's mean air temperature for June (excluding the mountain) was 12.36 °C.

Soil moistures were mixed for the month, with six of the nine sites that have long term records recording below normal by between 0.07 per cent and 4.06 per cent. The other three sites (Kotare, Pohokura Saddle and Kaupokonui) recorded above normal by between 2.61 per cent and 4.80 per cent.

Kotare, Hillsborough, Kaupokonui and Patea all



recorded new maximum soil temperatures for June by between 0.10 °C and 0.76 °C. All soil temperature

sites recorded above normal temperatures for the month by between 0.15 °C and 2.06 °C.

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## Federated Farmers supports pro GMO stance

Federated Farmers says it supports the stance of 107 world leading scientists in support of genetically modified organisms (GMOs).

Federated Farmers' spokesperson Katie Milne said it's clear that the long-term stance opponents have against all GMO is well and truly outdated and lacks scientific scrutiny.

"Federated Farmers recognises GMOs can

provide many positive benefits to farmers and it's up to individual farmers to decide whether to use GMOs or not. We have a neutral stance on this.

"Through GMOs farmers could have cows without horns or have the ability to not breed calves, there are many positive animal welfare outcomes for the industry," said Ms Milne.

At the Federated Farmers National Conference delegates supported a remit that the Environmental Protection Authority should manage and make all decisions relating to GMOs in New Zealand.

"This type of technology must be used responsibly and be appropriately regulated, so it's important all decisions around GMOs are managed at central government level, not regional council level," said Ms Milne.

"There was also support to research the use of gene technology to control and eradicate pests such as rats,

mice and rabbits, instead of the ongoing battle we have to try and eradicate using poisons.

"With more than 100 leading scientists asking environmental groups through an open letter to end their opposition to genetically modified food, the public needs to take notice," said Ms Milne.

The scientists' open letter states "scientific and regulatory agencies around the world have repeatedly and consistently found crops and foods improved through biotechnology to be as safe as, if not safer than those derived from any other method of production. There has never been a single confirmed case of a negative health outcome for humans or animals from their consumption."

"As a country we need to think carefully about how comfortable we are being against GMOs," said Ms Milne

"Is this purely emotional,

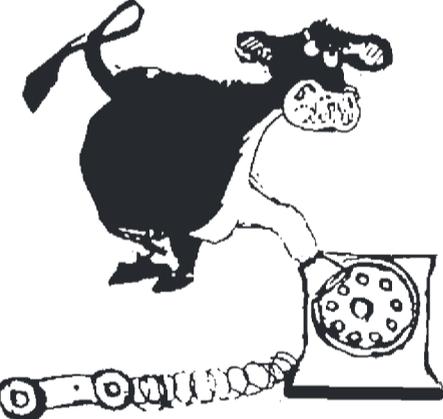
when science has demonstrated they are safe?"

"There are other potential benefits, with science showing the environmental impact from GMOs is less damaging in comparison to some traditional farming practices."

"GMOs are all about choices that could potentially provide the global food production targets we need to feed a growing population," Ms Milne said.

The scientists' letter called on Greenpeace to stop its opposition to golden rice, which has the potential to reduce or eliminate much of the death and disease caused by Vitamin A deficiency (VAD).

More than 250 million people suffer from VAD, estimated to affect 40 per cent of children in developing countries. This can lead to blindness and more than half of those children dying within a year of losing their eyesight.



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*Ryan has a heap of Coastal Rugby championships on his mantelpiece nearly as many as Arran Gopperth.*



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# Opunake HS Junior Boys Basketball tops in Taranaki

The Opunake High School team won the Junior Boys Basketball at the Taranaki Secondary Schools Association held in Hawera on June 21.

We took a team of nine players to the TSSSA Basketball tournament; six Year 10 and three Year 9 students.

All team members put points on the board during the day. Our top point scorers on the day were Joel Clement and Regan Bloemen with 58 points each. The team played well and winning firstly in their pool against: Inglewood 56-14, Waitara 41-15, and Francis Douglas 38-11. Opunake won the semi against Stratford 60-33, and the final against New Plymouth Boys High School 33-26.

The team celebrated the TSSSA win, as they knew that Opunake High School Boys teams had never taken out the tournament before. Thanks to all the support from family/whanau, teachers and the community. I am so very proud of our team.

Janine Luke-Taamaru Coach



Opunake High School Basketball Junior Boys won The Taranaki Secondary School Sports Association Tournament at the Hawera Hub last month Michael McCarty, Ben Sinclair, Scott Quinnell, CJTaamaru, Joel Clement, Corbyn Sutcliffe, Cormach Hughson How, Regan Bloemen, Kenan Sionetama

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## Indoor bowls results

The Taranaki Centre Indoor Bowls team of Trevor Bourne, Sue Bourne, Arthur Podjursky and Bari Oliver from the Cardiff club won the zone final of the Mixed Fours at Stratford on Saturday defeating teams from North Taranaki, Wanganui and King Country. They will now go on to the National Play offs in Lower Hutt on July 23.

The final round in the Taranaki Indoor Bowls Inter Association competition was

completed on July 1. Results Waimate 115 Central 99 South 74.

The B grade rep team played North Taranaki for the Hamley Trophy in New Plymouth on July 3 with North Taranaki winning 65.5 to Taranaki 42.5. The Juniors also played for the McCallum Trophy with North Taranaki coming out winners 65 - 43.

The Taranaki Senior Selector has named the following players for the annual Chal-

lenge Trophy to be played at Upper Hutt.

Trevor Bourne (skip) Karl Hughes, David Brunton, Andrea Berry - Don Semple (Skip) Jenny Hamley, Ray Finlay, Winnie Finlay - Sue Bourne (Skip) Arthur Podjursky, Noel Thompson, Bari Oliver - Gordon Hamley (Skip) Wayne Cameron, Jane Augustine, Noeleen Picard.

Reserve: Raewyn Fredrickson.

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# Cooper's Taranaki tenure extended for two more years

Colin Cooper's successful reign at the helm of Taranaki Rugby will continue for two more years, with the 57-year-old Port Taranaki Bulls head coach committing to the amber and blacks for the 2016 and 2017 seasons. Since Cooper's most recent tenure as head coach began in 2010, he has guided the Port Taranaki Bulls to a national provincial competition title in 2014, a Ranfurly Shield win in 2011 with eight successful subsequent defences, produced six Taranaki All Blacks and coached scores of Port Taranaki Bulls players into Super Rugby.

Taranaki Rugby chief executive Mike Collins said the Union was thrilled to retain Cooper as head coach due his immense expertise and contribution to all levels of rugby in the province.

"We are delighted that Colin has agreed to extend his contract to coach the Port Taranaki Bulls until the

end of 2017. Not only has Colin delivered outstanding results over the past six seasons including winning the Ranfurly Shield and the ITM Cup, but he has also contributed a significant amount of time, energy, and knowledge to the Nexans Academy and sevens program, coach education, club rugby competitions as well as assisting referees.

"The positive impact Colin has had on rugby in Taranaki, cannot simply be quantified by results on the field. Taranaki Rugby is excited to extend Colin's contract and we look forward to working with him and his management team to continue to grow rugby in the province and pursue results on the field," said Collins.

Colin Cooper said: "I'm extremely pleased to have the opportunity to coach the Port Taranaki Bulls for another two seasons. A major driver in my decision



Colin Cooper (right) with Leo Crowley.

to continue coaching here is being able to work with the management team and players we have, and to contribute to this Union and our wider community. I'm very excited about

what we're doing as a Union particularly in terms of player development.

Watching club player's work hard to grow into full time professionals is a real buzz and to play a role

in helping them develop is very rewarding. On a personal note, staying here in Taranaki with my family was certainly a compelling factor."

Colin Cooper is closing in

on his fourth decade of an impressive representative playing and coaching career. The Taranaki Centurion and former loose forward played 101 games for the amber and blacks between 1979 -1987. A proud member of the Ngati Pukenga iwi, Cooper represented the Maori All Blacks in 1982 and 1983, a team he maintains an unbeaten record with since his appointment as head coach in 2013.

Cooper's current tenure with Taranaki is his second, having coached the team from 1999-2002. He was head coach of the Hurricanes from 2003-2010, leading the team to semifinals on four occasions and a Finals berth in 2006. Cooper coached the New Zealand Under 21s that won the International Under 21 tournament in 2001. In 2005-2009 he coached the Junior All Blacks - a side which included an IRB Pacific Nations title.



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## Port Taranaki Bulls pre-season squad named

A wider training group of 34 motivated men has been named to face Counties Manukau, Hawke's Bay and Waikato as part of the Port Taranaki Bulls 2016 pre-season preparations. With the amber and blacks set to open their Mitre 10 Cup campaign next month, and the introduction of new laws to this year's competition, the three confirmed pre-season fixtures will play an integral role in preparing the squad for the challenging season ahead.

The Port Taranaki Bulls wider training group excludes the contracted Super Rugby players who will rejoin the squad from their respective franchise bases in early August. The amber and blacks have been bolstered by the addition of former Taranaki representative Leon Power who returns from France to add to the 22 caps he accrued from 2007-2009 for the Port Taranaki Bulls.

All Blacks Sevens representative Beaudin Waaka also rejoins the side in 2016 following a year off fifteens rugby to focus on his sevens ambitions. The 11-cap utility back was a member of the 2014 Mitre 10 Cup-winning Port Taranaki Bulls. Waaka's All Blacks Sevens teammate Declan O'Donnell joins his brother Kylem in the squad this year, bringing experience and pace to the backline.

The pre-season squad Forwards. Jared Proffit (Spotswood United), Reuben O'Neill(NPOB), Mike Kainga(Coastal), Asaeli Sorovaki (Spotswood Utd), Sione Lea (Clifton), Caleb Mawson (NPOB), Harry Jones (Inglewood RFC), Leon Power, Ben Matwijow, Fin Hoeta (NPOB), Leighton Price (Tukapa), Micaiah Torrance-Reid (Spotswood Utd), Mitchell Crosswell (Tukapa), Jesse Parete (Southern), Berny Hall (Inglewood RFC), Toa Halafihi (Spotswood Utd), Adrian Wyrill (Tukapa), Dylan Juffermans (Coastal). Backs. Kylem O'Donnell, Cody Whittaker (Clifton), Liam Blyde (Clifton), Daniel Brooks (Southern), Johnny Fa'auli (Coastal), Pomare Samupo (Tukapa), Isaia Tuifua (Tukapa), Daniel Waite (NPOB), Blake Hohaia (Inglewood RFC), Jackson Ormond (Southern), Stephen Perofeta (Clifton), Beaudin Waaka (Clifton), Manasa Mataele (Spotswood Utd), Trinity Spooner-Neera (Southern), Declan O'Donnell, Logan Rei (NPOB).

The final squad will be announced on August 2. The first of the pre season fixtures will be versus Counties-Manukau at 1pm on July 30 at Otorohanga. On August 6 they play Hawke's Bay at Hawera, and on August 12 they play Waikato at Inglewood.

# Taranaki Tigers staring down barrel of relegation

Are the Taranaki Tigers an endangered species? The looming possibility of going to the second division can only be stopped by some top shooting in the coming weeks of competition in the National Districts target shooting championships. Taranaki Achilles' heel is in the juniors who are all C and D graders shooting against higher grade shooters from the other top teams. The results against the top team Manawatu Marauders almost wiped out the Taranaki Tigers. The only glimmer for the Tigers were a 300.24 by Bruce Cameron and 100.6 by Mathew Peters a wonderful effort by Mathew, especially so as it was his first 100 ever, in team competition where it

is always harder. These two shooters were the only ones to score any points for the Tigers, who scored 2 against the Manawatu Marauders 16. Taranaki Tigers scores were: Bruce Cameron 300.24, Kevin Bocock 296.15, Dave Fake 294.20, Jason Cameron 294.19, Brent Moratti 294.11, Frank Eustace 293.18, Sam Gooding 293.12, Doug Gibson 292.14, Paul Tidswell 291.12, Trevor Jupp 286.08, Billy Moratti 290.12, Adrian Clark 290.09, Paul Longstaff 287.09, Graham Moratti 286.10, Kat Mischefski 279.06, Mathew Peters 92.01, 100.6, Heather Symonds 94.03 94.03, Eliah Magnus 94.03, 92.01.

Frank Eustace



Mathew Peters who scored his first hundred numbering targets for the range.

# Hawera target shooting results

Over the next few weeks Club members will be involved in a knockout Competition. This is a competition with handicaps added, and it looks likely that one of the younger members will win through. The standout from the shooting on July 6 would have been Tenneile Crump Conchie who on her first whole card scored a 94.1 for a personal best. Alex Munro scored well to be the top Junior shooter. In the seniors Bruce Cameron and Frank Eustace both scored hundreds. Scores were: Dylan Farr 88.1, 88.1, Llewellyn Farr 84.0, 86.2, Alex Munro 92.3, 96.2, Dwayne Rangi 89.0, 89.0, Clayton Robinson 79.0, 75.0, Christina Starr 91.0 92.0 Rico Symes Patterson 90.1, 93.2, Tenneile Crump Conchie 94.1, 83.0, Joe De Costa 94.1, Hayden Andreoli 93.2, 95.4, Bruce Cameron 99.6, 100.9, 198.13, Jason Cameron 96.6, 99.5, 198.13, Frank Eustace 97.6, 100.4, 99.7, Sam Gooding 99.6, 99.6,

A week earlier, a wet night did not stop shooting of a high standard. Christina Starr had a personal best with 95.4 a result of fine tuning of position and rifle. Tenneile Crump Conchie had a tight 100 group and new shooter Kris Chandra wasn't far away with two 98 groups. In the seniors Jason Cameron had the best result with 299.17 which included two possibles. Scores were: Crais Evans 83.1, Declan Evans 91gr, Renee Evans 92gr, Sainda 95gr, Dylan Farr 86.0, 89.2, Llewellyn Farr 168.1, 82.0, Alex Munro 93.0, 95.2, Clayton Robinson 73.1, Christina Starr 176.3, 95.4, Rico Symes Patterson 88.1, 87.0, Joe De Costa 88.0, Kris Chandra 98gr, 98gr, Tenneile Crump Conchie 98gr, 98gr, Bruce Cameron 98.6, 99.7, Jason Cameron 100.7, 100.5, 99.5, Frank Eustace 97.3, 94.3, 99.6, Sam Gooding 99.6, 98.4, Mathew Peters 188.1, 92.3.

Frank Eustace

# Family competition to the fore at Eltham

There were some strong results on the night's practice at the Eltham Smallbore Rifle Club on July 1.

Paul Tidswell continued his high average with a possible 100.7 in his second shoot of the night, and followed up with further high scores.

The Van Loo family's competition with one another on the grouping cards provided further interest.

Scores for the night were Murray Chinery 89.3, 91.0; Alan Drake 95.3, 93.1; Bob Bramley 91.0, 94.3, 95.2; Clare Bramley 92.2, 92.2, 96.1; Paul Tidswell 98.5, 100.7, 197.11; Paul Longstaff 93.3, 184.3; Adrian Clark 97.6, 97.6, 99.7, 96.9, 97.3; Brian Hicks 93.1, 91.0;

On grouping cards: Carola Van Loo 97, 98; Kevin Van Loo 95, 96; Karel Van Loo 100, 95.

On Monday's club night Garry Rowlands top scored. Family competition was tense between Clare and Bob Bramley, with Cameron

and Heather Symonds continuing their progress.

Scores for the night were: Murray Chinery 89.1; Kat Mischefski 97.3, 95.5; Paul Tidswell 98.3, 98.4, 99.6; Adrian Clark 98.7, 98.4, 96.4; Bob Bramley 89.2, 96.2, 95.2; Clare Bramley 92.2, 94.2; Heather Symonds 94.4, 92.2;

Cameron Symonds (grouping card) 99, 100; Garry Rowlands 99.5, 99.7, 98.5; Don Litchfield 90.1, 93.1; Frank Eustace 96.4, 98.3, 197.12; Steve Smith (Scoped Class) 97.5, 99.9, 98.7.

A week earlier, Master grade shooters were the expected leaders in that week's shoot at Eltham. Garry Rowlands had the highest score with a very good 100.9, closely followed by Paul Tidswell with 99.7.

Beginner shooters had good scores on the grouping cards with Keira McLeish having a good average with 96 and 97.

Newcomers Kevin and Carola Van Loo started well

with 98 and 95 each.

Other scores were: Steve Smith 99.5; Murray Chinery 93.1; Kat Mischefski 98.5, 97.4; Paul Tidswell 97.4, 99.7, 198.14; Paul Longstaff 90.1, 95.1; Clare Bramley 95.2; Bob Bramley 87.0, 88.1; Matt McLeish 91.0; Don Litchfield 96.5; Alan Drake 93.3; Garry Rowlands 100.9, 195.4; Adrian Clark 97.6, 98.4, 95.4, 186.3.

Friday night's practice saw some more new shooters trying their luck: Karel Van Loo 97, 100; Kees Van Loo 93, 96, Carola Van Loo 97, 100; Kevin Van Loo 95, 96; Katie Kemp 95, 97.

Other scores were Alan Drake 93.3, 96.2; Paul Tidswell 97.6, 198.14; Bob Bramley 92.2, 92.2, 88.2; Clare Bramley 97.2, 96.4, 94.2; Matt Sulzberger 96.5; Adrian Clark 95.4, 93.1, 97.5, Brian Hicks 92.1, 95.3.

The final shoot for June again saw father and daughter Keira and Matt McLeish having a tussle on their grouping cards with 98,99 and 100, 100

respectively.

Other scores were: Murray Chinery 87.2; Steve Smith 95.4, 96.7, 97.5; Bob Bramley 96.5, 96.6, 91.1; Clare Bramley 93.0; Paul Tidswell 100.6, 98.6, 99.7; Adrian Clark 96.4, 96.2, 97.2, 97.6; Alan Drake 92.0; Don Litchfield 96.5, 97.4; Brian Hicks 94.3, 93.3.

# Racing ban welcomed

Animal advocacy group SAFE has welcomed the greyhound racing bans announced by the NSW and ACT State Governments.

The bans follow a Commission of Inquiry report said there was widespread and systemic animal abuse. "The Australian bans are an enormous step forward in abolishing this cruel pastime and SAFE is calling on the New Zealand Government to follow suit," says SAFE Executive Director Hans Kriek. "Greyhound racing sees many dogs die each year. Some get injured on the

track and are killed as their injuries will prevent them from racing again. An even larger number of healthy dogs are killed simply because they do not run fast enough and therefore do not provide a financial return.

"The Australian greyhound racing industry used to claim that their animals were well looked.. It took an undercover investigation by animal rights groups to blow these lies out of the water," says Mr Kriek. "It was discovered that many dogs die on the track and that thousands of healthy animals are destroyed each year. Many greyhound trainers were also found to

be involved in the practice of live baiting to train their dogs. Live baiting means that small live animals such as piglets or rabbits are used as lures to be chased and ripped apart by the dogs."

"SAFE is calling on the New Zealand Government to launch an independent inquiry into the New Zealand greyhound racing industry. It must also stop letting the industry police itself. "The Australian experience shows that industry representatives cannot be trusted to speak the truth. Our Government must take action to stop this needless suffering," says Mr Kriek.

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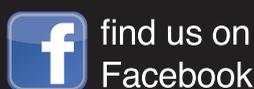
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**Taranaki Regional Council Environmental Awards**

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Or contact:

Rusty Ritchie, Communications Manager

Taranaki Regional Council

Ph: 06 765 7127

[Rusty.Ritchie@trc.govt.nz](mailto:Rusty.Ritchie@trc.govt.nz)

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*Sponsored by Ngāruahine, Ngāti Ruanui, Te Ātiawa, Taranaki and Ngāti Mutunga*



**SPCA are again running Calendar Competition**

South Taranaki SPCA are once again running their very popular calendar competition, so now is the time to start photographing your favourite pets. Noeleen Andrew, manager of the Empawrium SPCA Op Shop in Hawera, said the concept will be run along similar lines to the very successful one published in 2015.

Submitters can provide a photograph of their favourite pet. Their photo is guaranteed a spot somewhere in the calendar. All images are judged by

Nicholson Photography in Hawera and the 12 best pictures will be featured as "Pet of the Month". The entry fee is \$20 per entry, which includes a free copy of the calendar.

All types of domestic animal can be entered. Last time these included pigs, roosters, cats and dogs. This makes it much more interesting.

Noeleen added that local businesses are sponsoring the printing of the calendar, so it is



hoped there will be a good amount of entries to help with fundraising.

The South Taranaki SPCA is a voluntary organisation, focused on the care and protection of animals, and they receive no government funding for their activities. Regularly dealing with dumped or abused animals costs the centre approximately \$120,000 annually. The Empawrium Op Shop brings in about two thirds of what is needed, so the shortfall is made up by other fundraising activities.

The calendar competition is open until Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. All photographs submitted will appear in the calendar, and twelve lucky pets will appear as 'Pet of the Month'.

Entry forms are available from The Empawrium, 75 High Street, Hawera, SPCA Centre, Beach Rd, Hawera, Opunake and Coastal News, Napier Street, Opunake, or by calling 06 278 8600 or email: [animals99@xtra.co.nz](mailto:animals99@xtra.co.nz) or post entry form to PO Box 648 Hawera.

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**SCHNITZEL NIGHT**

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

**COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY**

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

**CLUB HOTEL HOLDEM POKER LESSONS**

Friday Nights at the Club Hotel

**SURF INN**

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

Pool comp

**COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS**

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

**TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA**

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

**EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB**

Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

**CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM**

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

**TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE**

Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.

**COASTAL SINGERS**

7pm every Thursday night. Contact 761 8654

**ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS**

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

**PERCY THOMSON GALLERY**

Fibreworks, Saturday 25 June - Sunday 17 July.

**THE VILLAGE GALLERY**

COLOUR and SOUL, a solo exhibition by JONI MURPHY of New Plymouth

Runs 4 July – 29 July.

18th July Workshops for Children

register at the Gallery \$2 per child.

Adult workshop 4-p.m. same day \$20 or phone Lorna 765 8121

**OPUNAKE COMMUNITY BATHS AGM**

Wednesday 20 July 2016, 7pm, Headlands. All welcome.

**HAWERA REPERTORY SOCIETY PRESENTS**

Biggles Flies Undone!. 21-30 July 2016. Refer advert for full details.

**BUTLERS REEF**

Medieval Winter Feast, Saturday July 23. Refer advert for full details.

**LIVE BAND AT THE OPUNAKE SURF INN**

'Celsius', Saturday 23 July from 9pm. Refer advert.

**POWERWORX OPUNAKE CUP DAY**

Saturday 23rd July, Pukekura Raceway, New Plymouth. First race 12.33pm. Refer advert.

**PIHAMA LAVENDER MARKET DAY**

Sunday 24th July, 10am - 2pm.

**SOUTH TARANAKI SPCA CALENDAR COMPETITION**

The calendar competition is open until Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Refer advert and article for full details.



# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

## Publication Dates for 2016

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
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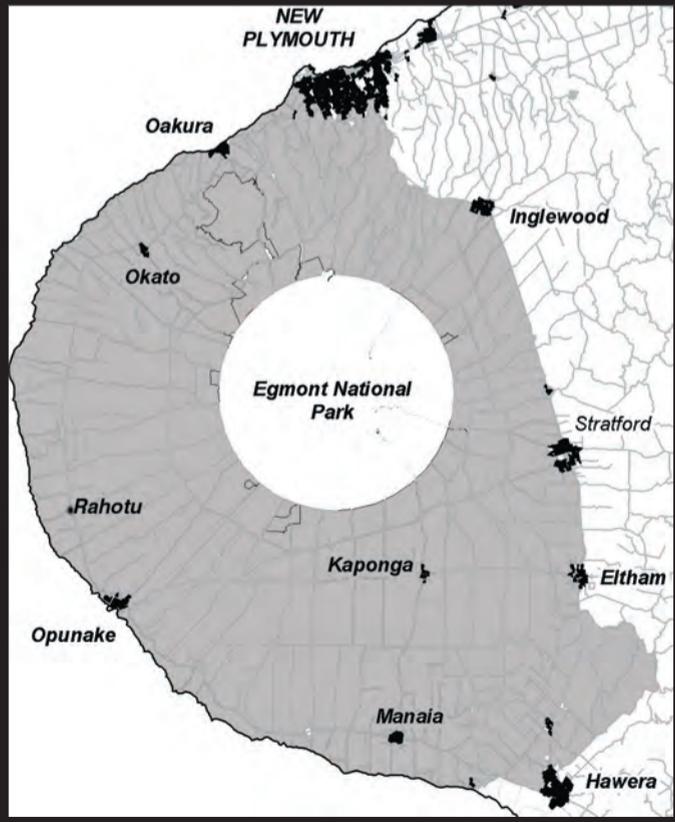
  

SEPTEMBER							OCTOBER							NOVEMBER							DECEMBER						
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**DEADLINES:**

**EDITORIAL** - 5pm Friday prior to publication email: [editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)  
**DISPLAY ADVERTS** - 5pm Friday prior to publication email: [ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)  
**CLASSIFIEDS** - 3pm Monday prior to publication.  
 Adverts and readers' contributions may be emailed, faxed, posted or dropped into the Opunake & Coastal News: Phone and Fax (06) 761-7016 or a/h (06) 761-8206, 23 Napier Street, PO Box 74, Opunake. [www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](http://www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

# WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA? TALK TO US



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

We are an independent newspaper based in Opunake, which is targeting both the towns and rural communities and we aim to have news coverage within all the areas of our distribution.

We want to be involved with your business call today and discuss your marketing options with the team.

COVERING THE COAST

Promote your business or event in our area call us on (06) 761-7016 • 23 Napier St, Opunake • Ph/Fax 761-7016 • email: [ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

## Promote your events in the OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Ph/Fax: 06 761 7016 - Call in at 23 Napier Street, Opunake or e-mail us: [ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

People who put in public notices and display adverts in the **What's On Section** for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos **FREE OF CHARGE, to help promote the event.**



This newspaper is subject to NZ Press Council procedures. A complaint must first be directed in writing, within one month of publication, to the [editor's/website author's] email address. If not satisfied with the response, the complaint may be referred to the Press Council P O Box 10-879, The Terrace, Wellington 6143. Or use the online complaint form at [www.presscouncil.org.nz](http://www.presscouncil.org.nz) Please include copies of the article and all correspondence with the publication.

Hawera Repertory Society presents

# Biggles Flies Undone!

written by Mike Isle directed by Charles Pittams

**21-30 July 2016**

Repertory House, 59 Collins Street, Hawera

**Guaranteed to Offend!**

Tickets \$28

(Booking fees apply)

Tickets from **TicketDirect** **SITE**

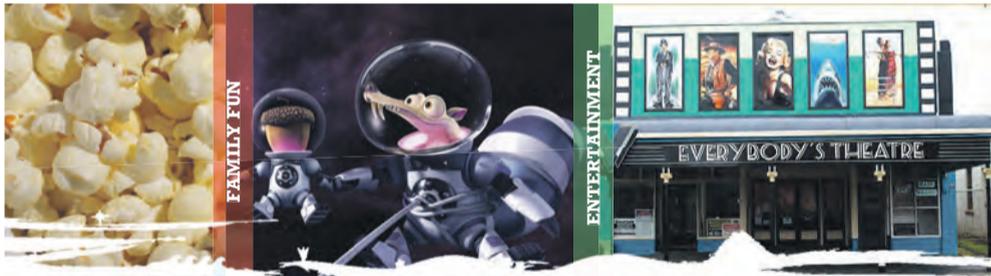
**Promote your events in the**

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

People who put in public notices and display adverts in the **What's On Section**

for events are welcome to additionally provide extra editorial and photos **FREE OF CHARGE, to help promote the event.**

**Our next issue is due out July 29**  
Phone us today to advertise your event  
**06 761 7016**



## Family Fun at the Movies

**Sunday 14 August 2016**  
**Everybody's Theatre, Opunake**



**12noon**  
Tickets \$5 per person

**General Admission and 2D only. PG movie.**



Tickets on sale now at **Opunake LibraryPlus** or **TSB Hub, Hawera.**

Phone 0800 111 323  
www.southtaranaki.com



# Petroleum Conference 2017 to be held in New Plymouth

Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of New Zealand (PEPANZ) Chief Executive Cameron Madgwick says the hosting of the New Zealand Petroleum Conference in New Plymouth next year is a vote of confidence in both the region and the industry.

Mr Madgwick says the Conference, which is held annually, is New Zealand's premier oil and gas event and will be held in the city from March 21-23.

"The Conference has traditionally been held in Auckland or Wellington, but now is the right time to bring the event to New Plymouth, which is at the heart of New Zealand's oil and gas industry," says Mr Madgwick.

"New Plymouth will be a fantastic host city and will allow us to showcase the New Zealand oil and gas industry in action to the over 500 delegates, who will be attending from across the country and around the world.

"While the lower oil price has meant activity has been reduced recently, next year's conference provides a fantastic opportunity to not only highlight the future growth potential of the industry in New Zealand, but also show off the fantastic regional support the industry enjoys from the people of Taranaki as well as show off the best of Taranaki to the delegates."

Mr Madgwick says the Conference, which will be held at the TSB Showplace,

will deliver an exciting programme and feature industry leaders, international experts, and representatives from a wide range of organisations.

"We have already confirmed Professor Iain Stewart as our first keynote speaker. Iain is a Professor of Geoscience Communication at Plymouth University in the United Kingdom and has presented a number of science programmes for the BBC, including last year's hit series Planet Oil."

Mr Madgwick says New Zealand has a long history of oil and gas production, which is centred in Taranaki.

"The first major commercial field, Kapuni, was commissioned in 1969. Right now there are 20 on and off-shore

fields producing oil in gas in the Taranaki basin," says Mr Madgwick.

"Taranaki, however, is just one of 17 basins in New Zealand's exclusive economic zone, and there is genuine international excitement about the potential of these basins, with a number being currently explored.

"The industry currently contributes around \$600 million in royalties and company tax every year and generates around 11,000 jobs directly and indirectly. A significant oil or gas discovery in just one of these other basins would increase these numbers significantly and have major economic benefits for New Zealand."

# Five dollar movie event for South Taranaki

South Taranaki's 'Family Fun at the Movies' event returns this year and for the first time Everybody's Theatre in Opunake will be taking part too.

South Taranaki District Council events co-ordinator, Jody Bloor, says she wanted to get Opunake on board last year, but as the theatre

was under renovation the timing wasn't right. "With all renovations now complete the Theatre committee was really keen to participate and have been really supportive of the event" says Jody.

"Hawera Cinema 2 always gets behind this event which has been running for several years now, so it's fantastic to have Everybody's Theatre on board too," she says.

The idea of the 'Family Fun at the Movies' event is to offer a movie at a discounted price

of just five dollars a ticket. That's for kids, students, adults – everyone.

"It's a great chance for those who may have missed these popular movies or maybe for those bigger families who sometimes don't get to go together due to cost," says Jody.

'Family Fun at the Movies' will be held at Everybody's Theatre in Opunake on Sunday August 14 with the movie Ice Age – Collision Course (PG) in 2D. The

Hawera Cinema 2 event will be on Sunday 28 August with two movie screenings, Finding Dory (PG) and the very popular Hunt for the Wilderpeople (PG), both in 2D.

Tickets for the Opunake event are available on Thursday July 14 from Opunake LibraryPlus and tickets for the Hawera event go on sale Thursday August 4 from TSB Hub.

# Brushing up on whitebaiting regulations

With whitebait season getting closer, it's time to familiarise yourself with some of the regulations covering all the country except the West Coast of the South Island.

Whitebait nets must have a mouth no larger than 4.5 metres (measured around the inside of the net frame) and framing material no wider than 120 mm. Drag nets must be no taller than 1 metre in height and be flat when laid on a flat surface.

Drag nets are any net or

any rope, material or device used in conjunction with the net that is weighted on the bottom edge, and operated by surrounding any whitebait and being drawn through any water.

Both whitebait nets and dragnets must be no more than 3.5 metres in length.

No fishing gear shall be more than one-third of the water channel width or be used in conjunction with another person's gear to exceed more than one-third

of the channel width, and be more than 6 metres in total length

'Fishing gear' includes all nets, screens, lines or other devices that are used, or are capable of being used, to take whitebait.

No person shall set or use more than one whitebait net at a time. Every person who sets or uses a whitebait net must remain within 10 metres of the net. Fishing gear must be removed from the water at the end of fishing or the end of the day, whichever is earlier. No person shall possess whitebait in conjunction with any whitebait net that is not permitted to be used under the whitebait regulations, whether or not that net is being used for fishing at the time

Unlawfully taken fish must be immediately returned to the waters from which they were obtained, taking care to ensure their survival. No person shall discard or dump on shore any fish taken when fishing for whitebait.

No person shall fish for whitebait within 20 metres of any tide gate, floodgate, confluence or culvert, or fish from any bridge, or from any vessel.

## WHITEBAIT NETS

Designed and made locally  
only available at **COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE**



Scoop Nets	\$65-\$170
Small Set Nets	\$200-\$295
Ali Netting	\$12m

**Accessories:**  
Hip & Chest Waders,  
Binding Wire,  
Sunglasses, Headlamps

**WE WILL RE-NET  
YOUR OLD  
RUSTY NETS**

**COLLINS SPORTS CENTRE**  
Tasman St. OPUNAKE Ph 761-8778 OPEN SAT 9AM TO 12NOON



Midwife Jo Lockton

# Midwife for Coastal Care

Jo Lockton says that being a midwife doesn't come with any set hours. "Because I'm on call all the time, it's not a nine to five job," she says. "Although most appointments are nine to five, I'm on call for births and urgent appointments." She originally hails from West Wales, but is looking to make Opunake her home, with Jo Lockton and Surf Side Midwifery being among the latest to set up shop at CoastalCare in Opunake. She has 16 years' experience as a midwife in New Zealand both in hospitals and

independently, as well as six years as a nurse and midwife in the UK before that. She currently lives in Maxwell but is in Opunake two or three times a week and hopes to have a clinic one day a week. From September all her work will be in the Opunake area. "I had been looking after women in Patea and Waverley, and more and more people were approaching me so I was getting closer and closer to Hawera," she said. "I realised what a nice maternity unit they had in Hawera, so I decided to move

further into South Taranaki. I had really only travelled through Opunake, then I stopped for a look and liked it. As well as that, Opunake is in quite a good position between Hawera and New Plymouth." Jo says she is looking forward to shifting to Opunake and getting to know everyone. Coming with her will be her two high school-aged children and her husband Andrew who will be giving her a helping hand with office administration. She has another three children who have already left home.

In her work she sees women from the early stages of pregnancy until when their babies are six weeks old. If any medical complications occur, she refers them to a specialist. She can be contacted by phoning 0800 SERENITY or (027)622-1099. Alternatively pregnant women are advised to look at the find your midwife website.



CoastalCare would like to welcome Jo Lockton – Surf Side Midwifery  
Jo is taking new clients and does home visits as well as clinics at CoastalCare on an as needed basis  
She can be contacted on the cell below or  
Freephone 0800 7373 6489

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

**Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE – HIRE**  
For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre July

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale		Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos		
	<b>TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLE 2</b> Action, Adventure, Comedy, Fantasy, Science Fiction, Blockbuster   1hr 52mins   PG   Violence & scary scenes Monday 18 July 1pm		<b>MONEY MONSTER</b> Drama, Thriller   1hr 38mins   M   Violence, offensive language and sex scenes. Saturday 16 July 7pm	
	<b>FINDING DORY</b> Adventure, Animated, Kids & Family, 2D   1hr 43mins   G Saturday 16 July 1pm		<b>NOW YOU SEE ME 2</b> Action, Crime, Fantasy   2hr 09mins   M   Violence. Friday 15 July 7pm	
	<b>THE LEGEND OF TARZAN</b> Action, Adventure, Blockbuster   1hr 49mins   M   Violence. Sunday 17 July 7pm Wednesday 20 July pm Friday 22 July 7pm		<b>THE BFG</b> Adventure, Kids & Family, Fantasy, Blockbuster   PG Wednesday 20 July 1pm Saturday 23 July 1pm	
	<b>LOVE &amp; FRIENDSHIP</b> Drama, Romance   1hr 33mins   G Wednesday 27 July 7pm Friday 29 July 7pm		<b>WARCRAFT – THE BEGINNING</b> Action, Adventure, Fantasy, Blockbuster   2hr 03mins   M   Fantasy violence Wednesday 27 July 7pm Friday 29 July 7pm	
	<b>CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE</b> Action, Comedy   PG-13   Saturday 30 July 7pm Sunday 31 July 7pm	<b>Resin Workshop</b> by Verdigris Creative Studio at Everybody's Theatre Sunday 17 July 2016 – 12 -3pm \$25 Contact Jenny Bennett 06 761 8329		
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Sunday</b>
11 Finding Dory 1pm	13 Zootopia 1pm Now You See Me 2 7pm	15 Now You See Me 2 7pm	16 Finding Dory 1pm Money Monster 7pm	17 The Legend of Tarzan 7pm
18 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle 2 1pm	20 The BFG 1pm The Legend of Tarzan 7pm	22 The legend of Tarzan 7pm	23 The BFG 1pm Love & Friendship 7pm	24 Love & Friendship 7pm
	27 The legend of Tarzan 1pm Warcraft-The Beginning 7pm	29 Warcraft-The Beginning 7pm	30 Finding Dory 1pm Central Intelligence 7pm	31 Central Intelligence 7pm



### Opunake Music Workshop

7:30pm Tuesday, 19th July 2016

Catholic Church, 33 Whitcombe Road, Opunake..

Bring your own instruments, basic amplification provided.



Wedding or function, planning a party?  
Book us for Sound, Lighting or Video.

- We setup & operate our own Sound Equipment.
- We setup & operate our LED Lasers & Stage Lights.
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# A hidden talent at Opunake & Coastal News

Many residents in Taranaki would be familiar with the name 'Bernice McKellar'. She has been successfully running the Opunake and Coastal newspaper for many years, providing us with local and national news stories, plus advertising for numerous businesses and community organisations within the newspapers' Taranaki footprint.

As a business owner and journalist, with staff to manage, Bernice leads an extremely busy life which leaves very little time for herself and her favourite interests, she confided, having completed a degree in music composition, which she passed with flying colours. As part of the course requirements, she created and composed original music. We were blessed to hear her 'Tranquillity' piece on Tuesday evening July 5, a beautiful, serene melody, played on her electric keyboard. Embellishing the tune on guitar with a finger picking style arpeggio accompaniment was Russell Wicks, a singer/songwriter and musician who regularly attends the group. Even though Bernice's style of music leans more toward a classical genre, and Russell is a country rock artist, he was



Bernice McKellar at the Opunake Music Workshop

so obliging and encouraging. Bernice is a hidden talent, and until this music workshop began, she confessed, having 'never' before performed live in front of an audience outside the comfort of her own lounge room. Now, she is blossoming with confidence, and her melodies are developing into masterpieces through live

performance opportunities. This creative platform is a relaxed environment with some critical ears to help expand on talent which is already evident. Keep the melodies flowing Bernice, and one day your readers will be enchanted and surprised by your special gift. Anyone who would like to develop their talents further

with expertise, mentoring and training from regular professional musicians and singers, please join us at 7:30PM on Tuesday July 19 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery



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selected interior paint and wallpaper

winter warm up

SAVE 25% off\* thousands of styles of wallpaper

PLUS end of line wallpapers available from just \$24.99 per roll!

### Colourplus Colourcare Eggshell

SAVE 25%\*



A premium interior paint with an elegant eggshell finish. Ideal for living rooms and bedrooms. Also available in a specialty ceiling finish.

10L RRP \$198.50  
**NOW \$148.90**  
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### Colourplus Ultracare

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\*Applies to white only, tinting extra. Offer excludes existing quotes and other promotional offers. Wallpaper offer applies to Vision and other selected wallpapers. Offer ends Sunday 24th July 2016.



## Powerworx Opunake Cup Day Saturday 23rd July Pukekura Raceway

First race 12.33pm

Coastal bus available (pick-ups along the route starting at Opunake). TTR Members Free, Non-members \$10.

Contact Don Kettlewell 027 761 8362 to book a seat.  
General admission \$5 or Member For A Day \$20.

8 action packed races

Opportunity to win a men's watch valued at \$1,300

[www.taranakiracing.co.nz](http://www.taranakiracing.co.nz)

#LovePukekuraRaceway



## Taranaki @ Waiheke

Eleven Taranaki artists responded to the UPCYCLE challenge and prepared an exhibition of artworks using recycled materials. These can be seen on the Virtual Tart website at [www.tart.co.nz](http://www.tart.co.nz) during July, and hanging in the UPCYCLE shop/gallery on Waiheke Island, until mid-July. Do have a look, see what art you can make with recycled materials. Thank you to the artists who took part in the Ship of Fools exhibition. A difficult theme, but all 13 artists responded well. I just had a look at the stats for the exhibition, and there were 31,267 hits on the exhibition during June. Nice. We're going back to Paris. Art Taranaki - de retour à Paris. If you happen to be thinking of going to Europe, and if you can coincide with our show, we'd love to see you. A dozen or so of us are travelling with the show. We'll be in Paris with a big exhibition of Taranaki art at Galerie 59 rue de Rivoli, from May 9-21. Opening 6-8 on Wednesday 10th, and free music concerts at the gallery each Saturday and Sunday night 6-8. The gallery is open every Tuesday to Sunday, 1pm to 8pm (don't you love the French? They don't really do mornings) It would be great to see you. (A stranger is just a friend you haven't met yet). Dale Copeland