



## Inside



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# Oakura School celebrates 150 years

"It's a place where you perhaps had your first fight, your first kiss maybe," said New Plymouth and District mayor Andrew Judd, speaking at the Oakura School 150<sup>th</sup> celebrations held last weekend. "It's where we come together to grow and learn," said the mayor who congratulated the organisers of the success of the event which he said was an opportunity for many to "celebrate and reminisce".

Oakura School celebrated 150 years last weekend with an event that attracted over 400 registrations, far more than they'd anticipated said Claire White, Chairperson of the Jubilee Committee.

"The interest in the event had far exceeded what we expected with up to five generations of some families having attended the school, echoed the Principal of Oakura School Lynne Hepworth. She noted families like the Looney family who were foundation students and had someone from each generation attend the school since.



Oldest former pupil Colin Kochran cutting the Jubilee cake with the assistance of youngest pupil Phoebe Bennett.

The celebrations began with a meet and mingle at Butlers Reef on Friday night which was attended by around 170.

On Saturday morning in a large marquee pitched at Oakura School, formal speeches were held followed by the cutting of the anniversary cakes and decade photos. Later in the morning artwork by

all the students at Oakura School to represent each of the decades were unveiled. Various fun events were held in the afternoon and in the evening a dinner and a band

concluded the celebrations.

In her address the principal stated that there were originally three schools in the region. Koru School in Koru Road was started in 1866 "operating out of a private residence." In 1880, the first building was built on site. In 1924, a smaller school, Kirihau School was established in Kirihau Road (off Koru Road) to cater for those employed in the timber and saw mills in the district and ran for 10 years. In 1939 Koru School with 25 pupils amalgamated with Oakura School. Nothing remains of Kirihau or Koru Schools though a flag placed over the weekend roughly marked the spot where Koru School once stood. Oakura School today has 14 classrooms and 350 pupils.

Since the last jubilee celebrations 25 years ago, there have been many changes at the school. The dental clinic, for example, has gone much to the relief of pupils. The school now has a library and there are more classrooms. They've gone from chalk boards to white boards to

ipads said the principal. These days students choose where they work, on the floor, at a desk or a quiet place of their own choosing. "We're having to manage a continually growing roll," said the principal remarking on the number of new sub divisions in Oakura.

Colin Kochran who at 97 was the eldest ex pupil attending the celebrations began attending Oakura School in 1925 when he was 6. He started a year later than the usual five because of the polio epidemic. He and his

Continued page 3.

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The little dog that won the hearts of Heydon Priest customers.

## Mitzu

Mitzu, the mascot of Oakura's Heydon Priest and companion of owner Ashley Heydon, has passed on. The cute little dog who was 15 died peacefully in his sleep at 2am on February 23. He was born in Australia and was a Shih Tzu breed. Ashley has received cards

of condolences and a little memorial has been set up on the counter at Heydon Priest where people can pay tribute to the little dog who was such a fixture at the Oakura garage. A much loved little dog we share with Ash our sadness at his passing.



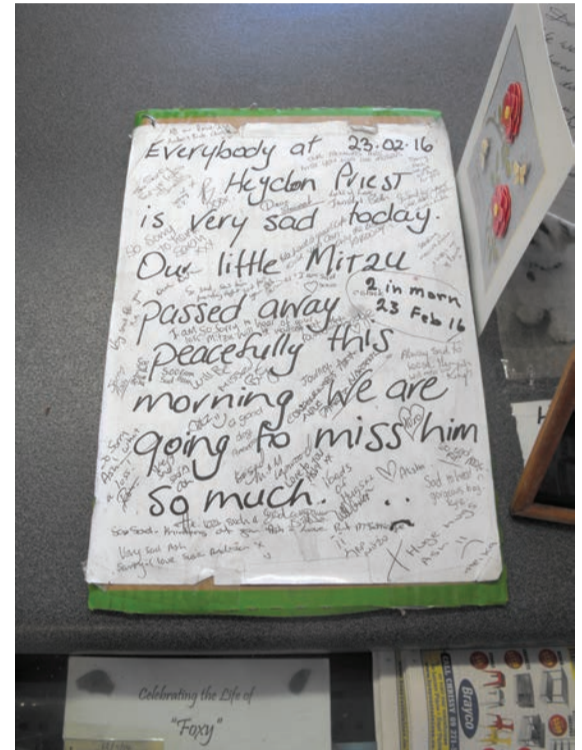
### Letters to the Editor

#### Thank you

A huge thank you to David Knapman for his wonderful work in beautifying the southern entrance to Opunake. It is looking very tidy and the

plantings are so colourful. What a great welcome to our town. Now the rest of us need to keep doing our part - pick up that litter, keep our street frontages tidy.

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### BBC:

We are all cursed, or at least we come into this world and we will all die.

"Surely, if this is God's world and He loves us this wouldn't happen. There would be no death, no sickness, no sorrow."

Aha, but this isn't God's world. And this isn't the life God meant us to live. That is because right back in the beginning, things took a turn for the worse.

In the Bible story, Eve, the first woman, was beguiled into creating life. The story goes that the serpent was a

### Birth

very subtle beast. Now most people will think of a serpent as a snake, but right back then he wasn't. He had arms and legs and he could talk, he could reason, he could deceive.

There are two sources for human ideas, God or the devil. We might think we are imaginative and creative, but we are subject to influences. Virtually everything we know, we learnt from someone else. Even how to create life is taught.

So there was innocent Eve and the worldly wise serpent.

The result was obvious. As well as Adam's son Abel, Cain was born. Two sons, but not the same father.

Not sure? The Bible tells us that Satan, or the devil, was a liar and a murderer from the beginning. (John 8 v44) We know that if we plant wheat seed we grow wheat. So if the Devil planted a murderer and a liar, then the fruit will be murderers and liars. And that is exactly what Cain was. Abel was different, a shepherd, a spiritual man.

But it didn't stop there. The pure people mixed with

the devil's people (Genesis 6 v1-3). We all became a mixture of good and bad. It is the way things are today.

So all of us now have good and bad in us. All have fallen short of the glory of God. (Romans 3 v23)

That is why God called us to be born again.

Our first birth isn't good enough. What God is offering is forgiveness in this life and a brand new start in the next.

*Richard Oliver*  
 Pastor Eltham Message Church  
 www.messagechurch.com

## OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Registered office: 23 Napier Street, Opunake  
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 Accounts accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

website: www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor Bernice M°Kellar -  
 Journalists/Sales Rolland M°Kellar  
 Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith  
 Tina Chapman  
 Thursday, fortnightly

Delivery: Registered as a newspaper.



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




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# Oakura School celebrates 150 years

Continued from page 1.

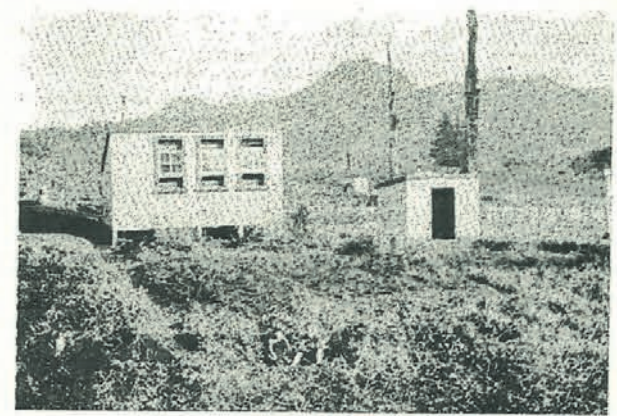
do the rest," he says of the 40 cow herd. His younger sister Atholie (88) who was also at the Jubilee said there were 6 children in the family and says Atholie they sadly lost their mother when she was 8. After returning from school Atholie would put the tea on. If there was any homework she often would be doing it at 10pm. "It was hard but it was good," says Atholie.

Brian Green who attended Oakura School leaving in 1948 to go to high school has some amusing memories of the school. He and his twin brother used to "swap identities" to confuse the teachers. He remembers one occasion when a farmer was shifting a herd of bulls. "The bull ran through the school and straight past me where I was sitting - over my legs - and into the boy's toilet. Roy West jumped on the roof with a whip. The frenzied bull however couldn't be subdued and smashed the toilets and then took off."



Four generations. Mike and Lila Jans and two of their sons Neville and Greg at the meet and mingle. Mike's mother went to Oakura School, while Lila's father attended Koru School. Mike went to Oakura School and their children all attended the school and some of the Mike and Lila's grandchildren. Mike remembers the school when he attended as having just two rooms. Mike's parents were among the first settlers in the region and owned 100 acres of land in Oakura. They also started the motor camp in Oakura. Mike said they had a two aside hand milking shed. Jans Terrace in Oakura is named after the Jans family.

Brian also recalls being "knocked out" by a fellow pupil though won't mention names.



KIRIHAU SCHOOL & SHELTER SHED 1929



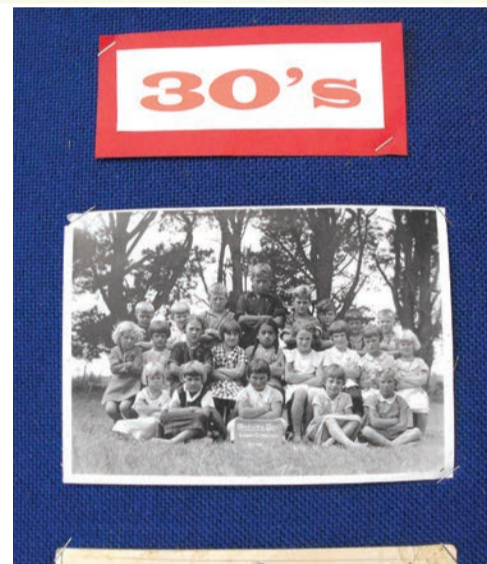
Koru School, 1929.



Chairperson of the Oakura 150th Jubilee Claire White (right) with former Oakura pupil Brian Green and Tania Fraser.



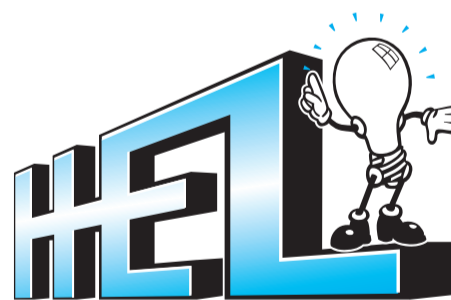
Current head pupils who spoke at the Jubilee from left Ariana Shewry, Quinn Jackson, Eva Hilliam and Robbie White.



Oakura School, 1930. One of the photos on display.



Andrew Judd, mayor of New Plymouth district, and those who attended the formal speeches.



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# COUNCIL COMMENT Opunake flood works

On March 3 the Community Board received a briefing on the work council, and others, are planning and doing to minimise the risk of future flooding in the Opunake Township. While the removal of vegetation and drain cleaning has occurred in a number of the town main drains, this will not overcome the major risks of a future event. On March 9 a meeting was to be held between the Taranaki Regional Council and STDC to discuss the feasibility of a "cut-off channel" to run above the town and divert flood waters

to the Waiau River. While this is not finalised, nor definite, the Regional Council has done a considerable amount of work checking levels and possible routes so we are hopeful it will occur. However, if approved, the earliest work will start is next summer. Once the decision of the cut-off channel is known, decisions will be able to be made on the sizing and replacement of a number of culverts within the town. Work that will shortly commence includes an upgrade of pipes to overcome the problems of Pohutukawa Drive and improvements to the retention pond and out-flow. A number of backflow preventers have already been installed within the town to overcome the problems some properties had with waste water overflows.

A public meeting is to be held to allow questions to be asked and answered near

the end of March or early April. This will be further advertised.

The Opunake flooding highlighted the issue of town drains throughout South Taranaki. There have always been issues with drains in



Ian Armstrong

almost all of our townships. These issues have included problems with ownership, cleaning responsibilities, what structures can be built over them and the like. In an attempt to clarify matters and give consistency, Council has approved a stormwater policy which can be viewed on the council web site or requested from the Library Plus centres.

Parts of Opunake have also experienced two other problems, such as poor water quality in terms of dirtiness, as outlined by Jean Roach in the last edition of this paper, and an intermittent bad smell by Hickey Place.

The Engineering Department will provide an update in the next edition. The water problem is a result of dirt accumulated in the pipes from years gone by, and apparently really becomes apparent during periods of high pipe flow. The pipes will be cleaned during the winter months when demand is lower than currently. This process demands a lot of water, and probably involves flushing, which they do not want to carry out during hot weather. The intermittent bad smell is from a breather on the sewage line, and will be overcome with a carbon scrubber which is to be fitted to the pipe.

A couple of weeks ago I was part of a group selling potatoes for the Lions Club going door to door around Opunake. I was surprised at the number of houses shut up, and obviously holiday homes, probably frequented for only a few weeks each year. While the owners of these properties pay rates and are entitled to all the services council provides, there are a lot of services in small towns that are very dependent on volunteers. The Fire Brigade, Ambulance Service and Everybody's Theatre to name but a few.

People owning such holiday homes don't usually give in these areas, but expect and enjoy their benefits. While perhaps controversial, I do wonder whether a surcharge or similar could be charged on such properties. I would welcome any comment.

Ian Armstrong

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## Name a community hero for a Citizens Award

Nominations have opened for the New Plymouth District Citizens Awards 2016, and the search is on for anyone who has made a significant contribution to the community or local residents. "That contribution could be a one-off exceptional action

or something that has been done over a long period of time – the quiet workers in the background who usually don't get any glory but are crucial for organisations and community services," says Mayor Andrew Judd.

"We all know someone who

deserves an official well done for their work or dedication to a cause. These awards are the chance to give these people the credit they deserve."

Nominations close on Friday 22 April, but Mayor Andrew urges people to not wait until the last minute to

send in a form.

"If you know someone who should be recognised for their efforts, send their name in now so that they can be considered," he says.

Up to 12 Citizens Awards will be presented by the Council.

## Four days of rain

Rainfall for February was varied throughout the region, with totals ranging between 58 and 181 per cent of normal, according to figures released by the Taranaki Regional Council.

Rainfall for February was very low, until the rainfall event from February 16-19 started to bring up the rainfall totals for the month. After that event, rainfall was once again very scarce for the rest of the month.

At the Dawson Falls site there was 560.0mm during

the February 16-19 event, with 330.0mm falling in one day, and a maximum rainfall intensity of 64.0mm in one hour, which is the largest one hour rainfall recorded at the site since five minute recording of data began in 1998.

Year to date rainfall is ranging between 68 per cent and 139 per cent of normal, with the New Plymouth area, eastern hill country and South Taranaki being below normal to date.

## Water restrictions lifted

All water restrictions in New Plymouth District have

been lifted. Due to recent rainfall, residents are no longer be restricted to watering their gardens on the odds and evens system.

However, water and wastes manager Mark Hall asks people to use water wisely at all times.



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# And then there were none

Manaia has been left reeling after fire gutted the Waimate Hotel in the early hours of February 29. The 110 year-old building, which was the town's only remaining pub was completely destroyed. There was nobody in the building at the time of the fire, and the cause is being investigated.

At one time the town had three pubs within a short distance of each other. There is a carpark where the Manaia Tavern once stood. The New Commercial Hotel was destroyed by fire on the night of April 26, 2006, and the site is now home to the Manaia Skatepark.

It appeared the fire which destroyed the Waimate Hotel had already been going for some time before the Manaia fire brigade were alerted at 4.15am, Manaia chief fire officer Shane Taylor said.

"On our arrival it was fairly well going for it. We upgraded to a third alarm so we could get more trucks and more manpower to contain the fire," he said.

As well as Manaia, fire trucks from Opunake, Okaia-wa, Hawera, Eltham, Kaponga and New Plymouth attended.

"At the peak there were 13 trucks and 35-40 firemen on the ground," Mr Taylor said. "With the building being just over a hundred years old, the timber was pretty dry, so when it catches fire it travels pretty quickly."

Mr Taylor said it had taken an hour and a half to contain the fire. They could then concentrate on dampening the hot spots.

With an alleyway separating the hotel from Manaia Four Square, there were concerns the fire could spread over here as well as other neighbouring



Dampening down the blaze which destroyed the Waimate Hotel

buildings.

"We managed to stop the fire spreading with some good work from our fire crews. It's been 10 years since the New Commercial burned down, which was one of the last big ones in Manaia. I'm very happy with the way the firefighters worked in together. No firefighters were hurt, which is a big thing."

Manaia Four square owner Phillip Wong said he had been alerted that something was amiss at about 5am.

"As I drove down Manaia Road I could see the flames, and thought that's awfully close to the shop, and I could see the street blocked with policemen and firemen. When I saw it was the hotel, I felt relief that it wasn't the shop, but horror as well that it was such a substantial iconic building that's been there forever and a day. Everyone thinks it's their building, as

they do in a small town."

He said there was "two or three inches of water" on the shop floor, slight cracking of the brick wall facing the hotel, and some stock had been damaged by collapsing roof panels. Catfood, paper products and soap powder had been particularly hard hit, power was out, and the shop was closed that day.

He said it was fortunate the fire had started on the west side of the hotel, giving firefighters enough time to turn their hoses on the store to stop the fire spreading. Otherwise things could have been a lot worse.

"About 20 people helped us clean up the mess which was fantastic. In a small town like this, everyone gets together to get things sorted out, and local businesses also pulled in, taking in stock and helping with the cleaning."

"The town's still basically

in mourning. People come in here and tell us they are glad we didn't burn down, because that would have been a double whammy for the town."

Josie Bigham who worked at the Waimate Hotel for many years remembers a camaraderie between the hotels in town, with workers in the Waimate Hotel and Manaia Tavern yelling across the street to each other.

"In a little place like Manaia you all have to be friendly," she said.

She had begun working at the hotel back in the 1950s.

"I was walking past the hotel, and Snow Jenkins said, do you want a job? I'm losing my cook in a couple of days. So I rang my husband who was working at the Patea Freezing Works, and he said could you do it? I said I'd give it a go, and I gave it a go, and I kind of stayed there.

It's where I learned how to cook for big numbers. There were quite a few dinner parties and things like that. We were quite busy with travellers and lots of overnights and family groups staying in the school holidays."

She also recalls seeing patrons furtively entering the hotel before and after the designated opening and closing times. The last publican she worked for was Russell Hosie.

"I was thinking about it the other day. Most of my working mates are gone. I'm the last of the Mohicans," she said.

Her daughter Bonita Bigham is a South Taranaki district councillor and says memories of the Waimate Hotel will linger for many years to come.

"I have memories of being there with family and friends

on many occasions, both sad and happy," she said.

The loss of the last hotel in town will pose challenges for Manaia, she said.

"It will be an interesting adjustment for Manaia. We all know that pubs can be the centre of lots of socialising and community teams and community spirit. It's not the be-all and end-all of the community, but they are icons that are remembered with fondness. We are a resilient bunch in Manaia, and I'm sure we can deal with this and with anything else that comes along."

"All I can hope is people will drink responsibly and carefully and remember first and foremost their personal safety and their responsibility to others. I want to see everyone stay safe while out socialising, and look after each other."

**Phillip and Adrienne from Manaia 4 Square would like to thank everyone who helped, supported and assisted us to keep our 4 Square up and running following the fire and sad loss of the Waimate Hotel.**

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## Man rescued after Manganui Gorge fall

The Taranaki Community Rescue Helicopter successfully winched an injured man off Mount Taranaki on Saturday morning.

The man, in his late teens, had been injured after a fall in the Manganui Gorge. He was found soon after the accident by a Taranaki Alpine Cliff Rescue and Taranaki Rescue Helicopter Alpine team volunteer, and helped by bystanders, he applied first aid and provided updates on the patient's condition.

The Taranaki Rescue Helicopter took along a St John



The Taranaki Community Rescue Helicopter once again saving the day and perhaps a life.

paramedic and an Alpine team member, and landed at

the Manganui Skifield. The crew then walked to the pa-

tient, who was treated by the medic, packaged into a winnowing stretcher, winched from the gorge, and flown to Taranaki Base Hospital.

"Cloud rising up the mountain meant there was a limited window in order to winch the man from the mountain," Taranaki Community Rescue Helicopter crewman Andy Cronin said.

"The medic and TRHT Alpine team members worked efficiently in order to safely extricate the patient."

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# Americarna comes to town

Americarna rolled into Opunake on February 26 in good weather and in strong numbers. The annual tribute to the American automobile had made its way down Surf

Highway 45 for a refreshment stop at the Sandfords Event Centre before proceeding on to Hawera.

This year there were 637 vehicles taking part, 75 more

than last year.

"This is the second largest group we've had," event director John Rae said.

It was, he said, a good number to have. The most cars they ever had was over 800, a number they wouldn't want to go back to.

The man whose name has become synonymous with Americarna appeared to be enjoying himself and stopped to compliment the sellers at the Opunake Primary School stand on the American Hot dog he had just bought there.

"We've been here an hour and cars are still arriving," he said. "It's about bringing all our entrants to enjoy the province, and allowing our province to enjoy the event. Looking at the expressions on the faces of Taranaki farmers, you can tell they have been under a lot of pressure. Hopefully as they come here and enjoy the cars, it can give a little lift for our farming community."

He said this time round, he was noticing more cars from the 1940s, 1950s, 1960s and 1970s.

"We've got lots of hot rods this year which is good. I don't care what they are, so long as they are American or American themed."

He said he had been speaking to somebody from Alexandra who was there for the second year in a row. Americarna was also attracting an increasing number of foreign visitors.



Vicky and Peter Cottam and their 1956 Bel Air.

Also enjoying the occasion was Glenys from Hamilton, who for the second time brought along her 1968 Cadillac.

"You put on good weather again for us. Thank you," she said.

In the United States, parades are traditionally led by police motorcycles, so keeping in with the spirit of the occasion, Dennis Stewart was there, dressed in California police uniform, with a patrol bike that had once belonged to the police in El Monte, a suburb of Los Angeles. Dennis said he would be riding this bike to lead the parade in New Plymouth that night.

Vicky and Peter Cottam from New Plymouth are here most years, and this was the second time they brought their 1956 Chevrolet Bel

Air 1956 convertible along, which they had picked up from Texas.

"It's got all the bling. It's just a beautiful car," Vicky said. She said they had enjoyed their trip along the coast.

"The farmers out in the paddocks and the schoolkids all got excited. It's just a really happy atmosphere here," she said.

Graham Giacometti from Okaiawa was cleaning the windscreen of his 1934 Packard.

"They were all handmade back then," he said. "You have got to concentrate to drive it. There's no power steering."

Graham has had it for 10 years. The previous owner had picked it up at the Shannon car auction in

Sydney, and then did four years restoration work on it, including converting it to righthand drive.

Since Graham's had it, the Packard has been rallied in the South Island and been to Warbirds over Wanaka. Graham has only missed one Americarna, and that was last year.

The action wasn't confined to the Event Centre, with shuttle buses taking visitors into town, while others took advantage of the fine weather, and made the journey by foot.

Opunake Business Association president Alison Hayward said the Association had provided kits encouraging businesses to decorate for the occasion,

*Continued page 7*



Graham Giacometti giving a shine to his 1934 Packard.



American and American-themed cars were at the Sandfords Event Centre in their hundreds

## Mangatoki WI learn about Lake Rotokare

On December 2nd, 2015 about 24 members, friends and three children met at Colonel Malone's Restaurant in Stratford, and enjoyed lunch together. Much talking done. Robyn Roberts, our president, read

out a few notices which were passed around. This was followed by a gift exchange.

Our February meeting was held on February 3, when seven members met up at Lake Rotokare School room.

Simon and Liona gave us a talk about the setting up of Rotokare as a whole, and the work that has been done and that of the future. They were thanked and given a donation by Robyn Roberts,

and then we all had a picnic lunch. After lunch, five of us walked around the lake which was enjoyable.

Our next meeting in March is the A.G.M.

*Lucy Moger*

## Manaia WI adopts Manaia School

The March meeting of the Manaia Women's Institute was held on March 1. The speaker was Noleen Dwyer who spoke about a trip to India with Peter Mathias

The national theme for Women's Institute this year is "Adopt a....." and

the Manaia WI decided to adopt the Manaia School, so are helping with their Discovery time, teaching the girls how to knit, sew, and do scrapbooking and card making. They will also be helping with other things around the

school during the year. The wondering coin was won by Anne Megaw. Competition winners. Shrub - Diane Wineera 1st, Joy Brogden 2nd, Phyllis Malcolm 3rd. Any Other Stem - Joy Brogden 1st, Phyllis Malcolm 2nd, Ann

Chisnall 3rd. Homecraft - Biggest Potato - Phyllis Malcolm 1st, Marion Smith 2nd, Daphne Ashley 3rd. Handcraft - Jenny Hamley 1st, Ann Chisnall 2nd, Diane Wineera 3rd.

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# Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade News

Here is a hint about space-saver wheels. They weren't designed to be used at speeds around 100 kilometres an hour. They are only to get you back to civilisation so you can get your punctured tyre repaired. One poor soul forgot this point on the night of Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup>, and earned himself, his partner and their baby a ride to the Taranaki Base Hospital in an ambulance. The Rahotu

and Opunake brigades were both called to this incident on the straight a little north of Pungarehu. The car veered to the right side of the road, clipped a cabbage tree, spun around and came to a stop after it hit another tree. Luckily only moderate injuries were sustained and the brigades didn't have to use any specialised equipment to extract them from the vehicle. On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> we attended an incident on the Watino

Road when a person felling trees got himself into a spot of bother. One of the trees being cut caught on another tree and twisted, subsequently knocking and pinning him under the foliage. Kaponga and our own brigade had to hack a track into retrieve him before he was placed on to the helicopter stretcher for a speedy trip into the Intensive Care Unit at the Base Hospital. We hope he

is making good progress with his recovery and will soon be back out getting the winter fire wood ready. As you know, it was Black Monday in Manaia on the 29<sup>th</sup>. The last hotel in town was burnt to the ground in an early morning blaze. Our day started off at 4:16 a.m. when we were called to supply water in an effort to slow the fire. Luckily, the fire crews were able to put a water blanket (screen) between the hotel and the Four Square, and this saved the day for the shop owner. The shop's smoke

alarm was screaming but the fire didn't break through into the premises. Once things were manageable, we were dismissed and were back at our station by 8:00a.m. We were called to an address on Fox Street on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup>, when a kind friend of the house owner tried to get into the locked house via a window. Things didn't go according to plan, and she became wedged between the window sill, and frame, suspended out into the room. The situation became desperate, so the brigade was called

to extract her, as well as make entry into the locked house. The two Hannah girls from our brigade, Jana and Jozien, left on Wednesday to take part in two tower climbs and other events in the United States to mark the 9/11 attacks. We wish them all the best for the climbs and hope they have packed the Voltaren for those aching leg muscles. Good luck girls.

*The Fire Bell*

## Americarna comes to town

*Continued from page 6*

and most had. "It was a day where business owners needed to be out on the street," she said. "There was a relaxed welcoming atmosphere here in Opunake, and thanks to Murray McEwan for the live music. I feel the Americarna people would have gone away with a positive feeling about Opunake." Visitors appeared particularly interested in Everybodys Cinema, she said. "Hopefully, we'll get the opportunity to improve even more next year," she said.



Dennis Stewart keeps the peace.

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## Coastal couple enjoying new business

*We love it*, say Harley and Susan Coombe who bought the New Plymouth business Brake and Clutch Rebuilders in November last year. This is despite "the odd argument here and there" which usually ends in a compromise. Susan says although it's mainly Harley who "knows the business," she has quite a lot of input. "We bounce ideas off each other," she says. The couple both grew up on dairy farms on the coast. Harley was from Oaonui while Susan (nee Barlow) came from Pihama. "I was always more interested in being in the shed tinkering around with motorbikes, cars and machinery," says Harley rather than milking cows. Harley has spent, including his apprenticeship with WR Phillips in New Plymouth, 17 years in the brake and clutch industry. He says business ownership was a natural progression. A fully qualified automotive technician, he comments "We got to the point in our life when it was time to do it for ourselves." And he clearly has no regrets and is "absolutely" enjoying it. Though they are brake and clutch specialists they "do anything" says Harley. They carry out a lot of trailer repairs and carry a lot of parts for trailers including caravan and boat trailers. "If you can tow it, we can fix it or have parts for it." They also sell kiwi built car trailers. There's been a few changes to the business. They have increased their stock level "tenfold". As well they've invested in a brake hose and power steering hose machine for manufacturing and

repair of hoses. "It's one of those things in our industry we've really got to have," says Harley. "It speeds up the service". Formerly there was an overnight waiting, now "You can do it on the spot." Susan and Harley's daughter Lacey is now 19 months old. Interestingly - and conveniently - both sets of grandparents live in the same area as Susan and Harley who live on Carrington Road within half a kilometre of both. Harley's parents moved to Carrington Road 8-9 years ago. Susan and Harley subsequently bought a house nearby and then 19 months ago, Susan's parents chose a house they liked without knowing its exact location and discovered it was a stone's throw from Susan and Harley. The grandparents share babysitting 2 days a week. "Having both sets of grandparents so close has been a godsend, we've been very lucky" they say. The business which is on the corner of Molesworth and Eliot Streets - with distant sea views - is a main thoroughfare for a lot of the city traffic. "A lot of boats drive by," says Harley, "we have all the bearings and brakes etc for these." For both Susan and Harley if they are not at work "spending quality time with Lacey is a priority". Brake and Clutch Rebuilders is open 6 days a week, 7.30am - 5.30pm and 8am - 12pm Saturdays.



Harley and Susan Coombe with daughter Lacey

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# Supporting hard working kiwis



**Jonathan Young MP for New Plymouth**

As an MP, I know one of the most important things I can do is work towards a stronger economy and more jobs to support our families and households.

That's why National's economic plan is focused squarely on building a stronger economy that delivers higher incomes and provides more security for all New Zealanders.

As part of that focus – and

because National believes in supporting hardworking Kiwis – we're increasing the minimum wage by 3.4 per cent.

From April 1, the adult minimum wage will rise to \$15.25, and the starting-out and training hourly minimum wage will increase to \$12.20. National has increased minimum wages every year since coming into office.

It is expected to directly benefit more than 150,000 workers and lift wages throughout the economy by \$75 million a year.

This is well above annual inflation of 0.1% and gives our lowest paid workers more money in their pocket, without imposing undue pressure on businesses or hindering job growth.

We're also seeing wage and job growth across the economy as our businesses

grow in confidence.

When our businesses have confidence that our economy is in good shape, and in strong hands, they invest for growth and create new jobs. This also contributes to building a more competitive and productive economy.

Through our Business Growth Agenda, we're delivering initiatives across infrastructure, capital markets, skills, innovation, export markets and natural resources. With our support, businesses are increasingly confident and backing themselves on the world stage.

We also know that quality infrastructure such as transport, telecommunications, energy, and water helps give businesses confidence to invest another dollar and employ another person. Infrastructure projects also deliver thousands of real jobs for

New Zealanders.

Since coming into office we've committed billions of dollars in infrastructure such as the Roads of National Significance involving around 35,000 construction jobs.

Regional State Highway improvements are expected to result in a further 2100 jobs. The Ultra-Fast Broadband and Rural Broadband Initiatives are supporting over 4000 jobs between them. And around \$17 billion has been committed to the Canterbury rebuild which is employing thousands of people.

National believes people in employment can gain more skills, higher wages, and a better lifestyle, which is why we're continuing to work hard on building a stronger Kiwi economy.

*Jonathan Young MP*

## No MP should be on the side of the slumlords

Housing Minister Nick Smith has written that he is doing all that is needed to improve the deplorable state of our rental houses. He wasn't telling the truth.

The Children's Commissioner says there are 42,000 hospital admissions and 15 children a year are dying due to cold, moldy, and damp houses.

He also says the "Government made a promise to New Zealand children: We will make your house healthy. Three years on from that Budget promise, this bill will do little for children living in cold, damp, moldy housing. It is a wasted opportunity and a broken promise to our children."

In short, the Government's policy will see children continue to get sick and die.

I have a bill that will be debated in Parliament that does what the Government has failed to do. It requires rent-



**Andrew Little MP, Leader of the Opposition**

als to have proper insulation, to be weathertight, and have adequate heating.

For most landlords, it will mean no change because they already do a good job. For the few who rent out slums to our poorest families, it will mean they have to lift their game. It is a law that will save lives.

Nick Smith says it would be too expensive to get slum landlords to upgrade their

properties to a livable standard. He exaggerates the cost but, more importantly, he seems to know the price of everything and the value of nothing.

When it comes to decent housing we don't need to reduce lives to a monetary value.

I make no apology for standing up for the simple idea that every Kiwi child deserves a decent place to live. That principle is part of what New Zealand is all about. A decent place to live is at the heart of the Kiwi dream.

Last year, a bill similar to mine came before Parliament and lost in a 60-60 tie. This year, if the same parties vote for my Bill it will pass 61 to 60.

But I want the vote to be 121 to none. No MP should be able to sleep at night knowing they voted for kids to die in unhealthy houses. I want the Government to back my bill because they know they are

not doing enough, and they know they can do more.

No MP should be on the side of the slumlords. No MP should be on the side of kids getting sick. One hundred and twenty votes to save 15 children's lives. It's not too much to ask.

One last point. Even as children like Emma-Lita Bourne die in slum-like state houses, National is profiting off those houses by taking a dividend of \$100m a year.

That's \$1,500 per state house - enough for basic repairs that would have made those houses livable. Any government with any morality would stop taking a profit off state housing immediately. It would put that money into maintenance and upgrades so those Kiwi kids have a decent home to live in.

*Andrew Little MP, Leader of the Opposition*

### On this month in history Roosevelt accepts nomination

On March 4, 1932 Franklin Delano Roosevelt accepted the Democrat Party's nomination for the US presidency. He was eventually elected an unprecedented three times.

In his famous 'fireside chats' he outlined his plans to combat the Depression and reduce unemployment.

As a result of adult-onset polio he was often in a wheelchair and was generally photographed from the waist up. His well-known saying was, "All we have to fear is fear itself."

## Chester Borrows MP FOR WHANGANUI

**HAVE AN ISSUE OR NEED TO SPEAK TO YOUR MP?**  
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# Mobility and More thriving in new location

For one month in 2002 Kevin Bromell lay dangerously ill in a coma, hovering between life and death. The registered electrician had fallen off a ladder while working in Stratford. His wife Marilyn anxiously awaited news of her husband's situation, day-by-day.

Thankfully Kevin emerged from his coma, but had to spend about six weeks in hospital as he recovered. He was, however, not in good shape and needed extensive rehabilitation. He was off work for two years.

However, this story has a happy ending and Kevin made a virtually full recovery. He remains grateful to the people who had helped him and he wanted to do something for others who had suffered unfortunate accidents or other disabilities. He says the key word is "empathy" and continues, "That's why we are doing this."

This was the genesis of Mobility & More which Kevin runs with Marilyn. Apart from the immense range of products to be purchased (new, second hand, & on behalf of) to aid people with disabilities, the other services include the hire of all products such as mobility scooters and repairs to equipment. Kevin will travel anywhere in Taranaki and Wanganui. "I'll go anywhere for repairs or demonstrations," he comments.

The first premises opened five years ago in Stratford before a shift to Hawera in December 2013. Their current premises at 154 Princes Street were occupied in November, 2015 are much more spacious than their first two premises, allowing an more extensive list of aids able to be stocked including electric hospital beds. "It's bigger, brighter, warmer and has off street customer parking as well as being more visible," explains Kevin who adds,



Kevin and Marilyn Bromell - owners of Mobility and More.

"It's got a good workshop and storage."

Here is just a small sample of the products Mobility & More stocks for sale or hire:

- Dressing aids
- Kitchen aids
- Visual aids
- Electric bikes
- Golf carts



Marilyn with a range of quality products.

- Mobility scooters and accessories
- Electric and manual wheel chairs
- Rehabilitation equipment
- Pressure relief cushions
- Hand rails
- Walking aids
- Daily living aids
- Bathroom aids

- Toilet surrounds
  - Incontinence products
- "If there is anything you need please ask us and we will endeavour to get it for you," explains Kevin and Marilyn.

Marilyn has worked as a caregiver (rest homes and private residences) virtually her whole life. She is especially aware of how embarrassing it can be to ask for certain products such as incontinence items. The shop has a huge range of these, such as Absorbent Bed & Chair

**Don't be late to book your advertisements for our next issue. We need them by Monday 21 March at the very latest. Our next issue is March 25.**



Kevin standing by an electric hospital bed amongst many other disability aids.

## On this month in history: Dr Benjamin Spock dies

On March 15, 1998 Dr Benjamin Spock, a paediatrician, died aged 95. He influenced generations of parents with his books on child rearing including 'Common Sense Book of Baby and Child Care', which

sold over 30,000,000 copies. He was a member of the US rowing team which won a gold medal at the 1924 Olympics.

He also for a time held officer rank in the US military. Later, he spoke out against

US military involvement in Vietnam and visited NZ in this capacity.

He also protested against nuclear weapons and was arrested on occasions.



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# SOS is keen to go digging



Dave Collins of SOS with his truck and digger combination.

Dave Collins of SOS (Specialist Outdoor Services) is keen to stress the excavating (digging) aspect of his business, as he has recently purchased a four tonne digger, which

he'll use in conjunction with a Isuzu truck (which has a 5.5 tonne load capacity). He expects to be engaged in more farm work as a consequence, such as trenching for water and effluent pipe lines.

The Hyundai digger has a number of interchangeable buckets to suit whatever job is required, such as a narrow bucket for trench work, and a wider flat blade for flattening out the

ground. A wide bucket will allow the loading of metal. Other rural work that can be carried out include the removal of shavings, and chips from calf sheds. Also the scraping of the sides of

cow races can be completed, with the extraneous matter taken away to be disposed of.

He feels that his smaller digger has certain advantages, as he can carry out work that larger diggers cannot – thus saving farmer considerable amounts of money

Dave can also carry out all kinds of section work including landscaping, driveways, excavation preparation, as well as tree stump and plant removal.

He is happy to deliver any material such as fine metal and chips. Notwithstanding the recent focus on excavation

Dave still will continue his other activities, such as lawnmowing, tree maintenance, house painting, waterblasting, earthwork, demolition work, and the removal of green or inorganic waste. He has a 5 metre trailer for the delivery of pipes and troughs.

Dave also supplies firewood at a great rate.

Just give Dave a ring on 027 605 8437 for friendly expert service at very competitive rates. He has 25 years experience as an independent contractor.

## To fund or not to fund?

A petition calling on the government to fund the melanoma drug Keytruda, has attracted over 45,000 signatures.

The drug has been listed as 'low priority' by drug funding agency PHARMAC. Health minister Jonathan Coleman said he would be pushing to increase funding for PHARMAC in the next budget. Dr Francis Hunter, Research Fellow, Auckland Cancer Society Research Centre, University of Auckland said the treatment of advanced melanoma in the New Zealand public health system is at least five years and 10 clinical trials behind international best practice.

"While PHARMAC is an effective and appropriate model for deploying the available pharmaceutical resources, its \$800m budget is simply too low to provide New Zealanders with access to many of the best cancer medicines. "Melanoma is the most acute example of this shortfall, where seven modern drugs have been developed, but none are funded in New Zealand. The tumour response data for pembrolizumab (Keytruda) are strong enough to warrant provision of temporary access until long-term

survival data for Keytruda and its competitor, nivolumab (Opdivo), become available.

"The efficacy of cancer drugs is measured in two ways. One is to evaluate tumour responses, or how many tumours shrink after treatment, which can be determined using CT scans soon after the drug is given. The more definitive test is whether the drug prolongs the life of patients. To collect that information, patients have to be followed over a period of several years. "With Keytruda, we are waiting for the long-term survival data, but the tumour response data that are available now already suggest the drug to be very effective." Prof Tony Blakely, Department of Public Health, University of Otago, Wellington, says Keytruda is a potential break through drug for the treatment of melanoma. "Early results of trials are very promising. But we do not yet know whether the people who have enjoyed amazing reductions in disease burden will go on to be cured, or the disease will just come back," he said. "Given that a large

Continued Page 11

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# Dr Evert Ditzel – 25 years with BP

Dr Evert Ditzel, who was born in Opunake. Evert and his wife Marian Thomas spent several days with Margaret Shegedin, who is Evert's first cousin.

Evert's father worked in the local mill in Opunake mostly involved in tanalising. When Evert was still a child the family moved to Richmond.

Last year Evert clocked up 25 years with British Petroleum (BP) working as a chemist at their Hull Plant in England. "They were a very good company work for," he comments.

Evert is highly qualified and has completed two university degrees. His first degree was a Bachelor of Science with Honours, majoring in Chemistry. Mathematics was also a major part of his BSc (hons). He did so well that he was awarded a Scholarship which allowed him to study for Doctorate (PhD) at Cambridge; his successful thesis involved the study how catalysts are implicated in chemical reactions. "This was one of the happiest times of my life," he says. His early work experience

involved several university positions - including one at the University of Alberta, Canada where he met Marian his wife to be. He was a Post-doctoral researcher at the Australian National University a position Marian also held. Back in England he was appointed as a Junior Research Fellow.

When he first started with BP Evert was an experimental research chemist. The Hull plant was quite exciting to work for because, when Evert started, "It was a big new plant." One highlight was being integrally involved in developing new technology to allow the plant to deliver new state-of-the-art processes in 2000.

Despite his retirement Evert isn't likely to be taking it easy. He is involved in a recorder (tenor) group, reads avidly and expects to do some swimming (He has lifesaving qualifications).

Although he is "loving it" being back in NZ, Evert and Marian return soon to England where they have lived for the last 30 years. They live near Hull, in Howden.



Dr Evert Ditzel and his wife Marian.

Continued from page 10

## To fund or not to fund?

disease burden will go on to be cured, or the disease will just come back," he said.

"Given that a large proportion of people with disseminated melanoma have such a favourable early response, does this long-term data matter? Yes – from the funders perspective. Pembrolizumab is very expensive. If it, say, gives an extra year of life to one third of patients who respond, and it costs \$200,000 for a course of therapy, then we as tax-payers are paying \$600,000 per life year gained. A country like New Zealand would normally spend up to a maximum of about \$50,000 per quality adjusted life year gained. "However, this scenario above is probably pessimistic. If I was a betting man, I would bet that many patients are going to enjoy long-term remission, and possibly even cure. If so, this will make Pembrolizumab cost-effective – even at \$200,000, say, for a treatment. "So why doesn't Pharmac just get on and fund it? Many reasons. But most importantly, because the long-term data is not yet in.

This creates a great deal of uncertainty. So, Pharmac is put in the corner here – it has a drug before it that has huge uncertainty about what its long term effect and cost-effectiveness is, but the best guess might be quite good – it is just very uncertain. On the other hand, there are other drugs that have better long term data, and more certainty about effect and cost effectiveness. «What about setting up a system whereby Pharmac can provisionally fund a new drug for a year whilst results come in? This is appealing at one level, but not necessarily the best approach. It essentially relieves the pharmaceutical companies of the need to present their data. Civil society becomes part of the completion process in trials. This may be a good idea, maybe not.

One is still faced with the conundrum. Something like Pembrolizumab is funded temporarily, with large uncertainty about its cost-effectiveness, whilst other treatments for other disease with more certainty are not funded."

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# Taranaki gets the ball rolling

The first of 11 regional finals of the New Zealand Dairy Industry awards was held in Hawera on March 4. The others will be held around the country through March and April culminating in the National Awards Dinner in Wellington on May 14.

Around 360 people turned up at the TSB Hub to see who would win the coveted titles of dairy trainee, dairy manager and share farmer

of the year. There had been a number of changes to the awards this year to better reflect the changing face of the dairy industry, MC Robert Reid said. These included renaming the previous sharemilker/equity farmer of the year category to sharefarmer of the year.

The new sharefarmer category is open to percentage sharemilkers,

contract farmers, equity farmers and lessees, while the dairy manager competition is open to entrants who are not self employed or don't have equity in any dairyfarming business.

There have also been changes to the dairy trainee competition. Contestants shouldn't have been in the industry for more than three years, and be aged

18-25. Previously the age limit had been 30 years old.

In recent years Taranaki regional final winners have done well in the nationals. Last year's Sharemilker/Equity farmer winners, Rob and Mel Van den Brand of Otakeho finished third in the national final, while 2014 winners Charlie and Jody McCaig, then farming at Inaha went on to take the national title.

The McCaigs were there as regional managers on the awards night. They acknowledged the challenges which climate and economic factors have posed this last year. "This night is not

about doom and gloom, but celebrating the best and brightest in the industry," Charlie said.

Taking the Sharefarmer title this year were Waitotara couple Ben and Belinda Price who milk 680 cows on David and Adrienne Hopkins' 234ha property. Their anticipated production this year is 252,000kg/ms.

The last time they entered was four years ago, when they finished third. Back then they were at Meremere milking 280 cows. They also took out the Human Resources, Leadership, Farm Environment, and Business Performance awards. Judges

had commended them for their awareness of the effect that environmental management has on the public perception of dairying, as well as helping out with Primary ITO teaching and mentoring, and school fundraising.

Belinda, who once worked as a travel agent, said their employers had put in a wetland on their farm, and invited school pupils to visit and place plants.

"Our farm owners are very environmentally aware, and we've taken on their passion," she said. They have two sons,

Continued Pg 13

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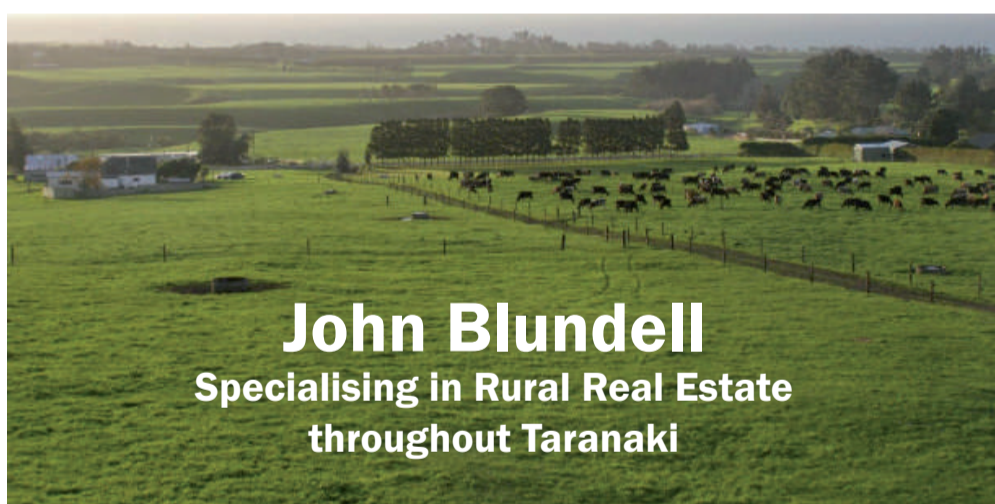
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# in Dairy Industry Award season

Continued from Pg 12



Dairy Manager of the Year Sam Howard.

Hayden(9) and Tobi(7). “Our goals are to pay some debts and look into farm ownership in the next five years,” Belinda said.

Dion and Johanna Bishell of Manaia who milk 475 cows for the Drought and Kalin Family Trust finished second, while Alistair and Nicola Wicksteed of Eltham who milk 355 cows for the Porter Family Trust finished third.

Top dairy manager was Sam Howard, a former DairyNZ economist who entered the dairy industry two years ago. He now works as production manager for Allan Mills in Kapuni, milking 313 cows, with an anticipated production this year of 161,000kg/ms. Matt Kelbrick of Ohangai finished second, with Sam Symonds of Inglewood third. Nineteen-year old Sam

Hughson, who works as herd manager of 810 cows at Steve and Maria Poole’s farm at Kapuni is this year’s top dairy trainee, ahead of second place getter Jerome Grey of Waverley and Becks McKee of Opunake who finished third.

Jody McCaig said the evening was “definitely a big success.”

“The winners of all three categories were very deserving,” she said. “It’s up to the winners to make the most of the opportunity of holding the title.

All the winners would have discovered on Friday night that they had the chance to get their names on the big screen, meet other people and make contacts in the dairy industry. They can now look at their own business goals and come to grips



Dairy Trainee of the Year Sam Hughson

## Improving care for bobby calves

Feedback from farmers on how to improve care for bobby calves from farm to processor will be used to help DairyNZ and six other industry associations to develop an action plan for the next calving season. DairyNZ, the Meat Industry Association, Federated Farmers, the Road Transport Forum, the New Zealand Petfood Manufacturers Association, the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand, the New Zealand Veterinary Association, and the Ministry for Primary Industries have made a joint commitment to stamp out any mistreatment of calves.

The farmer insights are the result of 20 face to face interviews conducted by DairyNZ staff across Northland, Waikato, Lower North Island, Canterbury and Southland. The respondents selected were farm owners, sharemilkers or operational managers. They form a farmer feedback group, representing a cross-section of farm ownership type, farm system and size. DairyNZ chief executive Tim Mackle says the dairy industry is focused on its actions in preparation for the next calving season and giving good advice to farmers. “Resolving these issues will depend, not on words, but on actions. We are committed to working with everyone in the supply

chain, including farmers, to ensure bobby calves are well cared for. We have ensured some good practice advice is already available and that farmers have forums available where they can share their own good management practices with others.” Tim Ritchie, chief executive of the Meat Industry Association says that the meat processing and export industry is subject to a comprehensive regulatory framework, and that the meat industry, together with the dairy industry is undertaking a systematic review from farm to processor to identify any opportunities for improvement. This will be completed before the next bobby calf season. DairyNZ animal husbandry and welfare team leader

Chris Leach says it is important to test any ideas and process mapping with farmers to ensure everyone has a robust and practical understanding of the on-farm elements of bobby calf care. “Farmers gave us valuable feedback in the interviews. It is essential that we work closely with them to ensure that any changes are well-thought through, practical, workable, cost effective and result in genuine welfare benefits. We’ll continue to keep talking to farmers as we finalise advice on improvements that farmers can implement this coming season. Generally those interviewed saw our initiative as a positive opportunity to review the current process and how to improve it, particularly when viewed through

public eyes. Another saw ‘education, not regulation’ as the answer,” he says.

with what they need to know to make them succeed.” Anyone wanting to see for themselves how the Prices came to take the title, and meet the other winners can come along to the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards field day at Waitotara on March 22.

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# High performance mānuka creates new revenue stream for hill country farmers

A group representing primary sector and apiary interests says high performance mānuka seedlings could enable hill country landowners to reap the benefits of what is expected to be a \$1.2 billion industry by 2028. Mānuka Research Partnership Limited (MRPL), has its sights on increasing the supply of highly sought after medical-grade mānuka honey to significantly lift the value of the industry. MRPL wants to lift the value of New Zealand's mānuka honey industry from an estimated \$242 million last year towards a target of \$1.2 billion annually by 2028. MRPL has launched a com-

mercial arm, Mānuka Farming New Zealand, to provide a full package of services to landowners interested in establishing a mānuka plantation to diversify their businesses and at the same time protect erosion prone land. Mānuka Farming NZ's commercial manager Allan McPherson said the latest high performance seedlings are now able to be ordered for planting in 2017. These plants will enable economically viable honey production as early as 2020. "We had high demand for our first release of seedlings and we're confident that our second release will also be highly sought after.

Landowners interested in establishing mānuka plantations to help address erosion issues are able to apply for funding through the Ministry for Primary Industries' Afforestation Grant Scheme (AGS). Mr McPherson said Mānuka Farming NZ is set to quickly become the preeminent supplier of genetically improved mānuka cultivars that have been extensively field tested and matched to individual sites. Mānuka Farming NZ will also provide access to services for land environment planning, site appraisal, planting and husbandry, and be able to introduce landowners to apiarist partners and assist with funding applications. "Our collective knowledge places us at the forefront of the science and practical knowhow regarding the successful establishment of mānuka plantations and integrated apiary requirements. "It's important that we provide a full range of services and support for landowners that are interested in this fast growing industry. MRPL has invested



Manuka honey a buzzing business

significantly in the science of growing mānuka and we have got cultivars that will suit a wide range of climate and environment situations throughout New Zealand. "We can match a proven cultivar to the land and environment and we can back that up with a range of support services right through the production cycle. Mr McPherson said over 1000 ha of trial sites throughout New Zealand have been testing a range of mānuka varieties, with 400 ha being more closely monitored to gather knowledge of the plants' performance in different environments. This includes establishment, growth, nectar production and quality, floral traits and apiary performance. "We are talking with landowners throughout New Zealand and advising them on the many benefits of planting mānuka. It's not just about providing an additional revenue stream but also minimising the risk of erosion and keeping sediment out of waterways. It's a win-win," he said. Mr McPherson will be promoting mānuka plantations at the Central District Field Days in Field-

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# Ravensdown leads with further urea price cuts



**Taranaki Ravensdown regional manager Mike Davey.**

For two consecutive months, Ravensdown has initiated a price cut on key farm inputs like urea, N-Protect, DAP and granular ammonium sulphate.

On top of February's \$50 per tonne saving for urea, Ravensdown has cut a further \$20 per tonne from March 2. Urea was already the lowest price it had been since 2007. Regional Manager Mike Davey is happy that the co-

operative is in a position to lead on price reductions for the agri-sector as Taranaki farmers' autumn-to-spring focus turns to home-grown pasture as the lowest cost feed.

"All-year value is part of our commitment to all our shareholders, not just a short-term reaction to certain sectors' current challenges. It's about continuously buying well

and managing the supply chain. Tight negotiation with great suppliers, shipping efficiencies and a prudent currency position mean we can currently pass the saving on," said Mike. According to Mike, the drop from \$525 to \$505 per tonne for urea will be welcome as farmers plan to leverage NZ's pasture-growing capability which is the envy of the world. "When

pasture is still growing in the autumn, that can be the best time to get the fertiliser on because as the saying goes 'grass grows grass'." When comparing with supplemental or imported feed, pasture tends to be cheaper in terms of costs of each kilogram of dry matter. As more grass is grown, phosphate and sulphur can need replenishing through superphosphate to prevent soil fertility suffering.

Farmers will benefit from flow-on changes in related products. For example, conditions are still right in many parts of the country to apply N-Protect which reduces the amount of nitrogen lost to the atmosphere in dry conditions. "We'll keep looking to pass on price reductions along the way while targeting a sensible annual rebate for the end of our financial year," concluded Mike.

# Biosecurity beagles greet trans-Tasman passengers



**Beagles at our borders**

Arriving air passengers from Australia may be greeted by detector dogs as soon as they step off the plane under stricter biosecurity measures imposed by the Ministry for Primary Industries.

The move follows an outbreak of Mediterranean fruit fly in Adelaide. The South Australian government has imposed a quarantine zone in the city following the discovery of the fly in home-grown peaches.

"Our intelligence team determined there was a biosecurity threat to New Zealand, so we've swung into gear very quickly," says Craig Hughes, MPI Manager, North Passenger and Mail.

He says the use of dogs at the arrival gate allows greater scrutiny of hand luggage – the most likely source of fruit and other "risk items" that could harbour fruit fly.

"In the past, passengers would not have come across a biosecurity detector dog until they had passed through customs. Moving detector dogs as close as possible to the arrival point is something international passengers are going to see a lot more of in the future.

"In addition to the extra dogs, the Adelaide outbreak has prompted a stricter approach to our risk assessment. If there is any doubt, passengers will be screened by x-ray and sent to our search benches.

"Over the last year, MPI

has added 24 new detector dog teams and 90 new staff. It has also significantly boosted its intelligence-gathering capacity.

"One of the payoffs from this investment is having the capacity to ramp up border biosecurity when and where needed."



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# Representing New Zealand at Crufts



**Alysha Judson**

Alysha Judson will take on the world's best this month and is looking forward to the challenge. The 14 year-old Hawera High School student from Inaha who won the New Zealand Kennel Club national junior

dog handling title last year will be competing for the world junior title at Crufts in Birmingham, England. Competitors from forty seven countries will take part, ranging in age from 11 to 19. Some will be there

for their second or third time. Last year's winner, a Canadian who is now too old to compete, won't be there to defend the title. Alysha admits to being a bit less nervous about going than she has been. She

already knows something about the competition through a Facebook chat group to which 30 of the

competitors belong, and has developed something of a rapport with her Australian and Canadian counterparts.

Beyond that, much of the competition will involve moving into uncharted territory. She will be given two dogs to work with. One will be from a breed of her choice, the other will be from a breed chosen by the judge. The breed could even be one unfamiliar to New Zealand dog handlers. One year the New Zealand competitor was landed with a Chinese Crested dog.

Another unknown will be the judge. In New Zealand, the traditional practice has been to have such matters settled by a judging panel. At Crufts, the competition will be decided by a sole judge, a Swedish woman, who Alysha's mother Michelle says they have not been able to find out anything about. "She's off the radar," Michelle said.

As well as the judging system, the rules won't necessarily be the same as Alysha has been used to. Some practices acceptable in New Zealand would not be allowed at Crufts and vice versa.

The trip over there from

Auckland to Shanghai to Frankfurt to Birmingham will take 26 hours. Then there will be four full days before she competes. There's the dinner the night before the big event, with competition starting 6.30am the following day, going through to the crowning of the winner at 6.15pm.

On top of this, there's the challenge of getting used to the temperatures, going from the mid 20s of New Zealand to the likes of six degrees, with a low of minus three degrees recently recorded in Birmingham.

It is a competition in which no country appears to have established a dominance. The last time a New Zealander won was back in 1992.

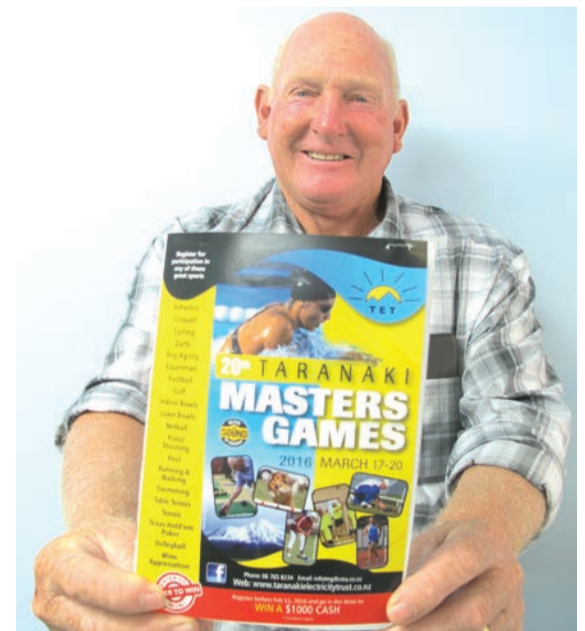
Alysha has been preparing by putting in extra training sessions, and getting more practice handling types of dogs with which she may not be so familiar.

Win or lose, there's always next year. Shortly before heading off to the UK she qualified for the nationals, to be held this year in Christchurch, giving her the chance to defend her national title in October, and with it, the chance to go back to Crufts again.

## First time lucky

Entering the Taranaki Masters Games by the earlybird draw date of February 12 paid off for Warren Vendt of Opunake (pictured) when his name was drawn as the winner of the \$1000 cash prize.

Warren said he and his wife were first time entrants in the Taranaki Masters Games, and would be playing in the Lawn Bowls. He said they had some special celebrations coming up in July and so the cash had come at just the right time.



**Warren Vendt**

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# Opunake Bowling Club News



Opunake has another Taranaki title holder. Paddy Deegan, a keen and unassuming bowler won the final of the Taranaki Junior Singles, beating Danny O'Sullivan 21-16. Paddy, who is only a second-year bowler puts the time in practicing, and this has paid off for him.

On February 10, the final of the Championship Singles was played, with Bev Robinson beating Kay Fleming 21-16. There were a lot of very close heads, and many good shots played.

On February 11, at the Ladies Fours and Pairs, 14 teams competed in great weather with the greens running beautifully.

Winner: Joy Collins, Heather Radford, Pat Barrett and Kay Fleming. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pat Eynon, West End. 3<sup>rd</sup> Wilma Crawford, Paritutu.

**Fours and Pairs. Opunake March 2016. Joy Collins, Heather Radford, Pat Barrett, Kay Fleming**



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## Fines – for fishing without licences.

Fish and Game Otago has sent a polite reminder to overseas visitors – if you plan to trout fish, you need a licence.

This summer, staff have seen a large increase in the number of overseas visitors who have been caught without fishing licences, says Otago Fish and Game operations manager Ian Hadland.

Nine overseas visitors faced prosecution, and some have already paid fines – mostly for fishing without licences.

“Naturally we welcome foreign tourists to fish our waters, but at the same time, to protect our fisheries, some of the best angling world-wide, we must enforce the rules.

“New Zealand’s tourist numbers are up and trout fishing is a great thing to do in our outdoors,” Mr Hadland says.

“But the resource isn’t limitless, and of course we have plenty of New

Zealand anglers who’ve bought licences over many years. We have to protect their interests as well.”

Mr Hadland says it will come as no surprise that offenders were mainly caught in the busy tourist areas of Wanaka, Hawea and Wakatipu.

He urges visitors not to try and play the ‘I didn’t know I needed a licence’ card.

“We’ve seen cases such as three German lads who tried to plead ignorance about the need for a fishing licence when caught angling at Albertown.”

Their casual attitude to New Zealand angling has been “reshaped” by a \$500 fine, Mr Hadland says.

Visitors should not be surprised to find that they are not offered a warning for certain offences, he adds.

“We have to be even-handed – we don’t give warnings to locals flouting the rules, so why would we let tourists get away with it?”

Fish and Game’s angler

compliance checks of back country rivers in Otago had also turned up disappointing results.

A number of anglers haven’t been complying with the back country licencing requirements, even though this fisheries regime has just entered its second decade of operation, says Mr Hadland.

A recent ranging trip found that 20 per cent of anglers interviewed did not have a back country licence. They now face prosecution.

Anglers have a responsibility to get a back country licence and carry it on them before they set off up river.

“The regime is aimed at maintaining the high quality angling experience that Otago back country fisheries offer. Back country licences are essential for the ongoing management of sensitive fisheries.”

More pleasing were the results of interviews with back country anglers and their overwhelmingly positive

responses, says Mr Hadland. “Most anglers have had great fishing and are very satisfied with their fishing experience.”

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

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

**CARPETS** second hand, large selection After Disaster Ltd 223 Devon St West, NP. Phone (06) 769 9265

**LAWNMOWING** for commercial or residential. Free quote. Phone 021 149 7285 or email HEDBERG-S L A W N M O W I N G @ G M A I L . C O M

**COASTAL GIB STOPPERS.** Phone Glenn 027 524 5745

**HomeWays LBP** The Replilers – Ph: 06 215 7227

**LAWNMOWING** and section maintenance by local contractor SOS. Free quote. Ph 027 605 8437

**FOR SALE**

**NEW AIR RIFLES** from \$79 at Collins Sports Centre.

**HAIR ANALYSIS**, shows vitamin, mineral and amino deficiencies, if any bacterial or viral infections, food intolerances, etc results back within the hour. \$90 at Hardys the health shop in centre city. 7587553

**PROTECT YOUR IMMUNE** system and help fight off bugs. Viral ex 60 caps \$29.90 savings \$15.50 at Hardys the health shop in centre city 067587553

**FISH OIL** 1500 mg 200 caps, \$19.90 at Hardys the health shop in centre city. 7587553 Hardys the health shop in centre city 067587553

**SYSTEM WELL** covers all immune areas, ie respiratory, digestive, skin, etc, buy 90 caps receive free 45 caps, \$49.90 Hardys the health shop in centre city 067587553

**WANTED TO BUY**

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

**PERSONAL**

**36 YEAR OLD LADY** seeks man 35-43 years for friendship and outing. Txt 64 21083 16812 with name, age, brief bit about yourself.

**TO LET**

**OPUNAKE** tidy unit, insulated, sunny and warm. 2 bedroom + garage. \$200 pw. Please phone Brenda 09 445 9721 or 021 365 652. Sorry no pets.

**WORK WANTED**

**29 YEAR OLD** male seeking work. Experienced in all aspects of farming, fencing, tractors, milking. Anything considered. Own transport. Ph: 020 408 61392

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Meeting 1st Monday of each month at 5.30PM  
Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake



**MANAIA & DISTRICT RETURNED AND SERVICES ASSOCIATION (Inc) AGM**  
Monday 21st March 2016  
7.30pm  
to be held in the lounge of the Manaia Fire Station  
*All Welcome - P.R. Marr: Secretary*

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027 630 9922 or email: paulflems@gmail.com

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**COASTAL RUGBY**

Training from 6.30 pm  
Tuesday and Thursday



**Rahotu Domain UNDER 20's**

For more information contact your coaches.  
Gareth 0274 104 991 Mark 0276 083 538  
Team Manager Ryan 0273138391

**SENIOR 3rds**

For more information contact.  
Coach Skinny 0273 319 925  
Manager Keechy 0272 227 920

**CHURCH NOTICES**

Please note the Church Notices are on page 21

**PUBLIC NOTICES**



**TARANAKI COUNTRY BASKETBALL INC A.G.M.**  
Thursday March 17th - 7.00pm at Sandford's Event Centre Opunake  
**ALL WELCOME**

**Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016**

**OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS**

Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016  
Next issue out **March 25**



**Dame Malvina Major Foundation**

www.dmmfoundation.org.nz

**PUBLIC NOTICES**




**CREATIVE COMMUNITIES SCHEME Funding Local Arts Activities**

Applications for funding assistance for community-based arts activities in South Taranaki beginning after Friday 13 May 2016 are now being called for. Your application will need to meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- Broad community involvement** - A project that will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- Diversity** - A project that will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- Young people** - A project that will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and actively participate in the arts.

Application forms are available from all LibraryPlus Centres, at the Council Contact Centre in Albion Street, Hawera or the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator, or on the Council website [www.southtaranaki.com](http://www.southtaranaki.com) under Funding/Grants.

For further information, please contact Maryse Ropiha, the Creative Communities Scheme Administrator at:

South Taranaki District Council  
Private Bag 902, Hawera 4640  
Phone 0800 111 323 or 2780555  
Email [maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz](mailto:maryse.ropiha@stdc.govt.nz)

Applications close **Friday 22 April 2016 at 4.30pm** (for projects beginning after Friday 13 May 2016).

# WHAT'S ON



**JONATHAN YOUNG**

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

**OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**

Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month.

**OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB**

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

**SCHNITZEL NIGHT**

Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato

**COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY**

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

**SURF INN**

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

Flight of Fancy, March 4 – 27. Refer advert.

**PIHAMA DOMAIN BOARD**

AGM March 4<sup>th</sup> at 11.30am at the Pihama Cricket Club. All welcome.

**COASTAL JUNIOR RUGBY CLUB REGISTRATION DAYS**

7th March 2016 5.30pm - 7.00pm

12th March 2016 10.00am-11.00am Sandfords Event Centre. Refer advert for full details.

**ELTHAM SMALLBORE RIFLE CLUB**

Annual General Meeting, Monday 7th March at the Clubrooms, 5 Pinny Drive, Eltham at 7.30pm.. Refer advert for full details.

**OPUNAKE JUNIOR SOCCER**

AGM Wednesday March 9 at 7pm, Sandfords Event Centre.

**HOLLARD GARDENS SUMMER MUSIC**

with the Funksters. Sunday March 13, 5-8pm. Refer advert for full details.

**THE VILLAGE GALLERY**

Artist Meet up and Hang up a collection of 30 Taranaki Artists. 15 March to 8 April.

**TARANAKI COUNTRY BASKETBALL INC**

A.G.M. Thursday March 17th - 7.00pm at Sandford's Event Centre Opunake.

**HOLLARD GARDENS**

Photography Workshop, Sunday March 20, 10am - 3pm. Refer advert for full details.

**GROWERS AND MAKERS MARKET AT PIHAMA LAVENDER**

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March, 10am – 5pm. Refer advert for full details.

**ST. MARY'S DIOCESAN SCHOOL OPEN DAY**

Tuesday 22 March 2016, 10am to 2pm

**BUTLERS REEF**

Quiz Fundraiser, Wednesday 23 March 2016 - 7pm. \$10 per person or \$70 per table (up to 8 people). Spot Prizes and Raffles. Refer adveert

**ROSE OF TRALEE**

Easter Monday - 2016 Taranaki Rose Interviews & HHRC Races presentation, Hawera 11am-4pm. 2016 Taranaki Rose Selection Saturday 2nd April, Plymouth Hotel NP, 6.30pm

**TET CUE THEATRE PRESENTS**

The Fox on the Fairway. April 2 - 16, 2016. Evening performances at 7.30pm, Sunday Matinees at 2.00pm. Refer advert for full details

**ARTHRITIS SEMINAR**

Come to a seminar on osteoarthritis and find out more! Wendy Kopura, arthritis educator from Arthritis NZ, will talk about pain management, Kevin Bromell, from Mobility and More, will demonstrate handy gadgets! 7<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 10am to 12.30 pm at the Opunake Coastal Care Health and Community centre 26 Napier Street, Opunake. Refer advert.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**OUT OF HOURS MUSIC and ART CLASSES**

Funded by the Ministry of Education

Weekly group instrumental or performing arts classes for **Primary School children up to Year 8.**

All classes are held outside of normal class hours, (i.e. before or after school)

**Below is a list of the Instrumental and Performing Arts classes that will be starting within the next couple of weeks.**

**All enrolments and enquiries should be directed to the school hosting the classes.**

Places in some classes will be limited.

There may be a small annual administration fee, payable to the school hosting the classes.

Please note that students will need to either own or hire their own instruments.

Instrument	Venue	Phone Number
(Art) Mural	Frankley School	06 7536436
(Art) Print/mixed media	Coastal Taranaki	06 7524022
Brass / trumpet	Fitzroy	06 758 3084
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
	Mangorei School	06 7587860
	Merrilands School	06 7588644
	Westend	06 7589331
Classical Guitar	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
	Inglewood Primary	06 7568040
	Mangorei School	06 7587860
Drama	Opunake	06 761 8367
Drums	Coastal Taranaki	06 7524022
	Devon Intermediate	06 7585266
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
	Ramanui	06 2787412
Flute	Devon Intermediate	06 7585266
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
Guitar	Coastal Taranaki	06 7524022
	Devon Intermediate	06 7585266
	Frankley	06 7536436
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
	Kaponga School	06 7646693
	Turuturu	06 2782200
	Woodleigh	06 7539585
Kapa Haka	Manaia Primary School	06 2748283
Keyboard	Coastal Taranaki	06 7524022
	Devon Intermediate	06 7585266
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
	Ramanui	06 2787412
	St John Bosco	06 7583165
Marimba	Omata	06 7512308
	Woodleigh	06 7539585
Performing Arts	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
Saxophone / clarinet	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162
Ukelele	Frankley	06 7536436
	Mangorei School	06 7587860
Violin / Viola	Devon Intermediate	06 7585266
	Highlands Intermediate	06 7584162

Out-of-Hours Co-ordinator: Susan Case: susancase@clear.net.nz

TSB  
COMMUNITY  
TRUST

Are you planning a major project, programme or event to benefit our community? Do you need to apply for funding?

## 2016 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

for GRANTS OVER \$100,000

The Trust considers Over \$100,000 Grant applications once per year ONLY.

The Expression of Interest process is the first step.

Only organisations with a successful Expression of Interest may be considered for an Over \$100,000 Grant.

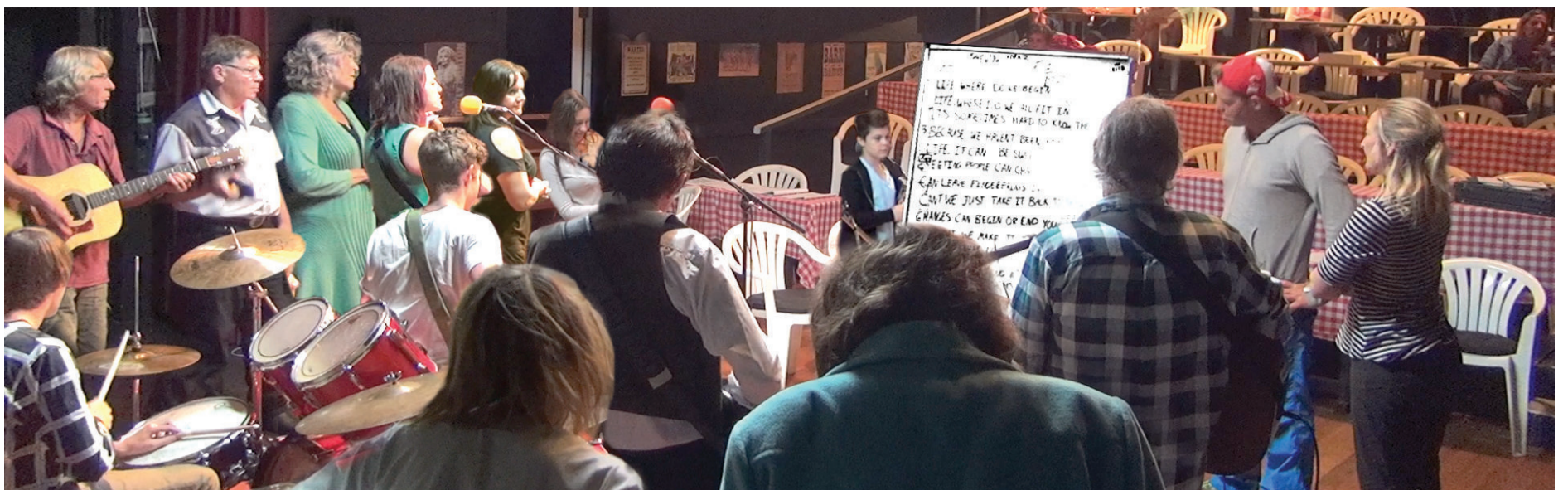
To discuss your project and find out whether your organisation may be eligible to submit an Expression of Interest, contact the Trust office.

Phone 06 769 9471 or email [info@tsbtrust.org.nz](mailto:info@tsbtrust.org.nz)

**OPENS:**  
1 MARCH 2016

---

**CLOSES:**  
15 APRIL 2016



Music Development Workshop at Opunake Playhouse Theatre

# One evening to write a song

Music Development Workshops were held at Opunake Playhouse Theatre on March 1.

The group led by Ashley Pedersen from Colour Conversions, combined everyone's collective ideas and musical talents to write an original song in one evening. Artists were asked to create a title and subject, followed by words and music. A large white board was erected in front of the stage, and so the song began

to develop. It was great to see the teenagers and adults contributing ideas for lyrics and chords. I noticed younger participants preferred to play in minor keys, and adults in major chords. Some had puzzled faces while trying to position their fingers onto newly discovered chords. Playing with other musicians is a good way to learn and improve chord knowledge.

What a wonderful way for the adults and youth to learn the valuable input that both

can offer for ideas. Daniel Potier was happy to take charge of writing lyrics on the white board, and Ariana Dingle took a photo with her mobile phone, so she could follow the music whilst playing the piano. Teenagers were asking for advice from the adults, and visa versa, excellent collaboration. Then, after the song was developed to a draft level, there was still opportunity for most artists to perform at least one item before the end

of the evening.

Kevin Haycox introduced the lyrical content of his song.

"Keys hold stories and memories, and no one wants to be responsible for throwing these memories away," he said. Then, in his pleasing folkie style, he sang a song about long forgotten keys.

A highlight was hearing mother and daughter duo, Jo Lane and Chloe Danz singing and cementing their reunion with an outstanding rendition of "Better Be

Home Soon" by Crowded House. A listener called out, "you look just like her sister", so true. Jo used to live in Opunake, but has been living in Darwin, Australia for about three and a half years. She recently returned to Taranaki, and is now based in Hawera.

Lee-Anne Shegedin sang beautifully, completely unaccompanied. A special thank you to Dennis Carswell and Russell Wicks for helping her to obtain the key and chords for her song, and for offering to

accompany her on guitar at the next session. These kind collaborative gestures have become a common occurrence at music meetings.

All artists willing to perform, with the ultimate goal of working toward future live concerts are welcome to join us at the next meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday March 15 at The Lakeside Playhouse, Layard Street, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery

100 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE PH: 761 8213

## The Club Hotel

Opunake

Book in your private function

Pool Tuesdays

Poker Wednesday & Thursday

Dine in or Takeaway Meals available

- TAB -

Calling all Entertainers  
7:30pm Tuesday, 15th March 2016  
Young, old, amateur, professional.  
Are you a musician, singer, actor, poet or dancer?  
Do you have a talent that can entertain?  
Opunake Players Inc. and Colour Conversions (Video, Audio and Graphic Productions) are starting regular performance driven evenings that will result in creating an entertainment platform for covers and original performances.  
Join us for the beginning of a new opportunity - be part of future live shows.  
Bring your own instruments, basic amplification will be provided.  
Call us on 027 897 8941 for details. The ninth gathering - 7:30pm Tuesday 15th March 2016 Opunake Players Theatre, Layard Street, Opunake.  
Web Site [www.colourconversions.com](http://www.colourconversions.com)  
**Colour Conversions**  
Video, Audio and Graphic productions  
027 897 8941

BRING THE FAMILY  
and a PICNIC  
to the  
**AUROA SCHOOL  
& DISTRICT'S**



**125<sup>th</sup> JUBILEE**

Saturday March 13 2016

**FUN DAY**

10.30am Parade



FREE Kid's Entertainment  
Bouncy Castle

Swimming Pool open with Life Guards

BBQ Food Available

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HC TLS1313 \*Terms & Conditions apply. See website for details.

# Good reasons to consider St Mary's Diocesan School, Stratford

Our parents tell us that they choose St Mary's Diocesan Stratford because they want an all-girls setting for their daughter's secondary education; an environment where she will be nurtured as an individual, to realise her full potential.

Centrally located in the heart of Taranaki, St Mary's Diocesan has been raising amazing Year 9 to Year 13 girls for 102 years.

We are the only school in Taranaki that specialises in boarding, with great girl centred facilities. We offer unique boarding options tailored to the individual needs of your family including seasonal boarding for the farming community.

From Classical Studies to Statistics, our NCEA results show that our girls excel across our broad range of subjects. Their academic studies are complemented by co-curricular choices as varied as Young Farmers Club, Kapa Haka and Young Writers Group, as well as traditional whole school



Eva Langton Head Girl.

sports and music events.

Our first class pastoral care and Big Sister programme ensure that new girls are connected to the St Mary's

Diocesan family from their first day with us. Leadership and service opportunities are key components of our school life.

Small class sizes, passionate teachers and high academic expectations sit alongside our values of respect, responsibility, perseverance, service, and care, and reflect the special Anglican character of St Mary's Diocesan.

Our girl's-only environment, family atmosphere and boutique boarding facilities all allow girls to discover who they can be.

Help your daughter to realise her potential by selecting St Mary's Diocesan for her life-long learning journey



Hannah Landers Year 12.

Boarding enrolments for 2017 are now open. Come and visit St Mary's Diocesan on Open Day – Tuesday 22 March - and discuss with us your boarding needs tailored to suit your daughter.



## St Mary's Diocesan School Stratford

An integrated Anglican Year 9 – Year 13 Boarding and Day School in the heart of Taranaki

*Raising amazing girls*

**OPEN DAY**  
**TUESDAY 22 MARCH 2016 - 10am - 2pm**



*Come and visit St Mary's Diocesan on Open Day  
Discuss with us your boarding needs tailored to suit your daughter*

61 Broadway North, Stratford 4332 Telephone 06 765 5333  
Email: [office@stmarysstratford.school.nz](mailto:office@stmarysstratford.school.nz)  
[www.stmarysstratford.school.nz](http://www.stmarysstratford.school.nz)



Mike Gordon rehearsing with the Ritz band for performance at the Taranaki Jazz Club. Mike will be performing 'Hallelujah' on March 13th.

## Fundraising bike ride across NZ

Adrian McKenzie, a father of three from Wellington has embarked on a 23 day ride across New Zealand on a tandem bicycle to raise funds for the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation – the charity which enabled his physically disabled son to enjoy the simple act of riding a bike.

The Raumatī Beach resident started his 'Adrian's Ride For Halberg' journey yesterday in Cape Reinga. Adrian is riding a tandem bike received from funding from the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation for his seven year old son Ted, who has cerebral palsy from contracting pneumococcal meningitis as a baby.

The tandem has been specially modified so Ted can

sit in the front to join Adrian and his family for bike rides. It has been a big part of Ted's rehabilitation as he received it when he was five and unable to walk. The fitness and core strength it provided him assisted greatly and soon after using the bike his family saw Ted taking his first steps.

"The Halberg Disability Sport Foundation has been fantastic supporting Ted and the tandem bike has had a huge impact on our family. We now do weekly rides and it's provided a fantastic bonding experience for us and created some great memories," says Adrian.

Adrian's Ride For Halberg will travel through the country and finish in Bluff on Monday 21 March.



Adrian McKenzie with son Ted

### Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

#### St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu

Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St, 9.30am every Sunday and the

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

Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays.

Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays.

#### Opunake Catholic Church

SUNDAY 8.30 am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star Of The Sea).

#### Other areas

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs).

Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

**ALL WELCOME**

#### THE WAVE

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett Street, Opunake

**Sunday Services 10.30am**

**Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday**

**Men's Group 7 pm Wednesday**

**Youth Group 7pm Friday**

Come along or contact Pastor Murray

027 688 7378



**Artist Meet up and Hang up**  
 a collection of 30 Taranaki Artists  
**15 March to 8 April at**  
*The Village Gallery 166 High Street, Eltham*  
 OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 10AM -3PM

- Miranda Woollett
- Martin Carryer
- Margaret Scott
- Lee-Ann Dixon
- Justine Giles



Martin Carryer

# Flight of fancy

4-27 March

The Birds of Aotearoa

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY  
 MIRANDA ST. STRATFORD  
 PERCYTHOMSONGALLERY.ORG.NZ 06 765 0917

# When Irish eyes are smiling

The Taranaki Irish Club is busy organising the 2016 Taranaki Rose Selection. Entries are open to single women aged 18-27 years with Irish heritage. If you love to socialise, travel and would like the opportunity to represent our region, then this is for you. Judges will be looking for someone who can communicate and relate well with others, has an awareness of the community, and be an ambassador for the Taranaki region. Entries are now filled in online on the international website [www.roseoftralee.com](http://www.roseoftralee.com) if you need more information before filling in your entry, contact Louise Buhler ph 06)274 8494.

Everyone seems to be so busy these days, but if you can encourage someone you know to enter, it promises to be a great experience. This is a fun contest where you can meet new people from all around the world and have a chance to explore your Irish heritage.

The contest starts on Easter Monday with a Meet and Greet, individual Rose interviews with the judges, and a light lunch at II Chefs restaurant at the Furlong in Hawera. The Roses will then attend the Hawera Harness Racing Club's race day, where President John

Hosie will introduce them to the crowd in front of the members stand. The 2016 Taranaki Rose will be announced after the Roses have a short onstage interview with MC Peter McDonald at the final on Saturday April 2 at the Plymouth Hotel in New Plymouth. Everyone is welcome to attend, enjoy a buffet dinner and a night of entertainment, music by Campbell Vibe and a performance from the Taranaki Irish Dancers. All tickets will be available at the Plymouth Hotel reception.

This year the lucky Taranaki winner will win a trip to Queenstown for the NZ final in June. Regional Roses from around NZ will have a full schedule of events over a long weekend, attending functions, enjoying the sights of Queenstown then travel further south to Invercargill for the National final where the NZ Rose for 2016 will be announced. Last year the title was won by Maggie Fea of Otago.

The successful NZ winner will travel to Ireland in August for the International Rose of Tralee festival in Tralee, County Kerry. This year there will be 68 international Roses from all around the world representing their Rose Centre, compared to 32 last year. Live Rose interviews will be televised over three nights and watched by 1.7million viewers. This is the largest festival in Ireland, now in its 58<sup>th</sup> year, with numerous events from family fun to partying all night. The small town of Tralee comes alive with live bands, street parades, side shows, a circus, fashion shows, discos, fireworks, plus so much more - with the highlight being the Rose of Tralee selection, and everyone is making the most of the last weeks of holidays



Antonia Smith 2015 Taranaki Rose at the 2015 NZ final in Wellington. Photo David Duffy. Emotief.

and the Irish summer. A Rose represents the collective aspirations, social responsibilities and ambitions of a variety of communities and backgrounds, united by a desire to celebrate Irish heritage. Roses are chosen by centres throughout the world including the UK, USA, Australia, New Zealand, the Middle East, Luxembourg, Germany, and of course Ireland. Judges consider many different attributes including, in the words of William Mulchinock's song *The Rose of Tralee*, an indefinable quality that captures "the truth in her eyes". The Rose of Tralee International Festival celebrates modern young women in terms of their aspirations, ambitions, intellect, social responsibility and Irish heritage. The Rose of Tralee is not the only event hosted by the Taranaki Irish Club and other activities include Gaelic Football - coached

by John Passmore at the St Pius X school field, in New Plymouth on Wednesdays for the children's teams, and on Thursday for the Adults. All welcome, come give it a go. Irish Dance classes - held after school during the school term on Tuesdays in Hawera, and Wednesdays in New Plymouth. Spaces still available. Traditional Irish Music - Jam sessions regularly held in New Plymouth at the Hour Glass and the Black Harp on alternate Thursday nights. Join us and the current Taranaki Rose Antonia Smith in the Ethnic Day parade down Devon Street New Plymouth this Saturday March 12. For more information "LIKE" our facebook page "Taranaki Irish Club" or email [p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz](mailto:p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz) More photos and videos can be viewed at the NZ Rose centre website [www.roseoftralee.co.nz](http://www.roseoftralee.co.nz)

**Enter Online**  
[www.roseoftralee.ie/roses](http://www.roseoftralee.ie/roses)  
 2015 International Rose of Tralee  
 Elysha Brennan

## 2016 Taranaki Rose Selection

**Easter Monday 28th March: Rose Interviews & HHRC Race Day**  
 Light Lunch, Meet & Greet, Furlong II Chefs Restaurant Hawera 11am - 2pm  
 followed by HHRC Race Day presentation Hawera Racecourse

**Sat 2nd April: ROSE Final** Dinner, Dance, Live Band, Irish dancing, Rose Selection  
 Plymouth Hotel, New Plymouth 6.30pm - Tickets at reception - book a table

# Birds of a feather congregate at Percy Thomson Gallery

An intimate portrait of some of this country's most loved birds is currently on show at Percy Thomson Gallery. It features the work of five New Zealand artists; Amanda Woollett, Martin Carryer, Margaret Scott, Lee-Ann

Dixon and Justine Giles. Zealand bird and landscape artist Miranda Woollett's vibrant oil paintings depict birds in their natural landscape. "The idea behind these oil paintings is to try and represent how I feel emotionally as an artist and to communicate on an environmental level. Rather than using people as my subject, I choose the bird. It is vulnerable, yet gets on with life regardless of circumstances, and has a neutral persona. Its environment is affected by the choices we make. "My art is sourced exclusively from my home and garden and my paintings reflect that uniqueness." Martin Carryer's wood and metal sculptures capture the

**HOLLARD GARDENS WORKSHOP**  
*The art of garden photography*  
 Hollard Gardens  
 Sunday 20 March  
 10am - 3pm

Bring your camera and photograph the wonderful flora in Hollard Gardens. Followed by a discussion and critique session, including tips for composition and lighting.  
 Please register by email: [workshops@trc.govt.nz](mailto:workshops@trc.govt.nz)

**Taranaki Regional Council**

**Next event**  
 Pukeiti Puffer Fun Run  
 Sunday 3 April  
 10.30am to 2pm, Pukeiti

Hollard Gardens  
 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga  
 Ph: 0800 736 222  
 Open daily 9am-8pm  
[www.hollardgardens.info](http://www.hollardgardens.info)

**2015 Taranaki Rose**  
**Antonia Smith**

Contest for Single women 18-27yrs with Irish Heritage

If you love to socialise, travel and represent your region, then this is for you

"Enter Now"

**Taranaki Irish Club**

Enquiries Phone Louise 06) 274 8494 - [p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz](mailto:p.lm.buhler@xtra.co.nz)

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**Taranaki Rose of Tralee Supporters Group**

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**SANDFORDS ravensturn**

# Passing on the baton

Margaret Brandt has been with the Opunake Food bank since it first started 25 years ago. For 16 of these years she has been chairperson, and for much of that time Judy Gillbanks has served as secretary/treasurer.

Margaret and Judy are both stepping down from these positions, but will still be on the committee. "I will still carry on helping out, but there needs to be somebody younger," Margaret said.

Taking over will be Ian Phillips as chairperson, Aretha Lemon as secretary, and Cheryl Campbell as treasurer.

Keeping in touch with local schools and approaching Sanitarium for free Weetbix have been among the things keeping Margaret busy lately.

"Weetbix is good for big families. At least you know they are having breakfast," Margaret said.

The Opunake Foodbank had been started up by Val Wallace in 1990. Among the others who had been active throughout the years included Gwen Muller who was district nurse, Margaret said.

"I worked for the Taranaki District Health Board for 29 years. And that's how



Outgoing Opunake Foodbank chairperson Margaret Brandt and incoming secretary Aretha Lemon.

I started. I was working in the office at Havelock Street where the foodbank was based, so I got put on the committee."

Around 1999, the Foodbank had to close down for a short time, and Margaret was one of those who got it up and running again. At this time, Rosalie Drummond came on board as budget advisor. In 2000, Margaret took over as chairperson.

Today the foodbank has

around eight volunteers, and on average, they give out two parcels a week.

"We are not a very big foodbank, but we're still needed," she said.

The emergency food parcels are designed to get people through a day or two until money comes in, so donated items like sugar and washing powder are broken up into manageable units. Anybody coming for assistance more than twice is referred on to a budget advisor.

The people who come for assistance include people who may have been injured and still waiting on their ACC payments, or new arrivals to Opunake waiting for their first pay packet. Other financial pressures include unexpectedly high winter power bills, and having to fork out for auto repairs or accommodation bonds.

Solo fathers and large families are among other users of the Foodbank.

Margaret said the Foodbank

receives donations of food and money, particularly around Christmas time, from individuals, businesses, churches and groups like the Lions and Masons.

Donations of meat such as sausages or mince are always appreciated. These and other perishable items can be donated at the Coastal Care complex.

Aretha said the Opunake

Food Bank owes a lot to the volunteers who kept it going, like Margaret and Judy, and Pat Gibson who often helped out with bagging up food parcels.

"We've got a small but enthusiastic group at the Foodbank, and people like Margaret and Judy have put in a lot of hard yards," Aretha said.



## Arthritis doesn't have to hold you back!

Come to a seminar on osteoarthritis and find out more!  
Wendy Kopura, arthritis educator from Arthritis NZ, will talk about pain management,

Kevin Bromell, from Mobilityandmore, will demonstrate handy gadgets!  
There will be time for questions.

7<sup>th</sup> April 2016

10am to 12.30 pm

Opunake Coastal Care Health and Community centre  
26 Napier Street  
Opunake

Please register with Wendy on 06 34 52377 or 0800 663 463

[wendy.kopura@arthritis.org.nz](mailto:wendy.kopura@arthritis.org.nz)

Or Aretha at Coastal care health 06 761 8488

[info@coastalcare.co.nz](mailto:info@coastalcare.co.nz)

Attendance is free and donations are gratefully appreciated



## CoastalCare Health and Community Centre

Some of the regular services we currently have running are:

### FOODBANK

Tuesday's and Wednesday's 10am - 2pm, providing basic food parcels for those in need.

### BUDGET ADVICE

advice and assistance with budgets and finances, every second Wednesday.

### TARANAKI PODIATRY

every 3rd Tuesday - specialised foot care for all ages in clinics

### TUI ORA

\* Haumiri massage koha based - every third Friday

\* Alcohol and Drug Counselling - weekly one to one counselling

### SIAS HOFFMAN

one to one counselling for any need, specialising in anxiety, depression and relationship therapy.

### DAIRY NZ

once a month course - delivers industry training to those in the Dairy Industry

### PRIMARY ITO

milk quality courses, a one day course looking at how to get the best quality milk production.

### COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

weekly - supporting offenders to help them address their offending and gain skills that will help them lead a crime free life.

Also permanently residing in the building are:

- OPUNAKE PHARMACY
- OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE
- ST. JOHNS AMBULANCE
- PLUNKET
- HEALTH BOARD SERVICES.



CONTACT: ARETHA, MANAGER, on 761 8488

## EVERYBODY'S THEATRE

Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE

For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre  
[www.everybodystheatre.co.nz](http://www.everybodystheatre.co.nz)

Lollies, popcorn, drinks, ice-creams, chocolate bars, tea/coffee for sale		MARCH/APRIL 2016		Adults \$10, Students 4-16 \$8 Under 4 Free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-pos	
	<b>Room</b> Drama, Festival & Independent   1hr 58mins   M   Offensive language <b>Friday 11<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b>		<b>The Danish Girl</b> Drama, True Story & Biography, Historical   2hr 00mins   M   Nudity & sex scenes <b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b>		<b>Deadpool</b> Action, Comedy, Science Fiction, Thriller   1hr 48mins   R16   Graphic violence, sex scenes and offensive language. <b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b>
	<b>The Peanut Story</b> Animated, Comedy, Kids & Family   1hr 33mins   G <b>Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March 1 pm</b> <b>Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March 1 pm</b> <b>Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> March 1 pm</b>		<b>Dad's Army</b> Comedy, War   1hr 40mins   PG   Low level violence <b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 1 pm</b> <b>Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 7 pm</b>		<b>Mahana</b> Drama, Historical   M   Sexual references & content that may disturb <b>Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 1 pm</b> <b>Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 7 pm</b>
	<b>The Lady in the Van</b> Drama, True Story & Biography   1hr 44mins   M   Offensive language <b>Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 1 pm</b> <b>Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b> <b>Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> April ** Boutique Night **</b> <b>HAIL CAESAR - comedy</b> <b>\$25 pp includes a drink &amp; food</b> <b>Bookings &amp; payment essential</b> Tickets available from Debbie Campbell 027 290 or email <a href="mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com">everybodystheatre@gmail.com</a>			

Wednesday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	11 Room 7 pm	12 The Peanut Story 1 pm The Danish Girl 7 pm	13 Room 7 pm
16 The Peanut Nut 1 pm Deadpool 7 pm	18 Deadpool 7 pm	19 Dad's Army 1 pm The Lady in the Van 7pm	20 Dad's Army 7 pm
23 The Lady in the Van 1pm Dad's Army 7 pm	25 Mahana 7 pm	26 The Peanut Story 1pm Deadpool 7 pm	27 The Lady in the Van 7 pm
30 Mahana 1 pm The lady in the Van 7 pm	1 April Dad's Army 7pm	2 <sup>nd</sup> April Oddball 1 pm Mahana 7 pm	3 <sup>rd</sup> April Boutique Night Hail Caesar 7 pm

**Movies coming in April 2016**

How to be Single – Last Paradise – Batman vs Superman - Kung Fu Panda 3 – Zootopia

*What's On* **butlers reef**

## Quiz Fundraiser

Wednesday 23 March 2016 - 7pm  
 \$10 per person or \$70 per table (up to 8 people)  
 Spot Prizes and Raffles

All proceeds go towards a group of girls from Dance Highway 45 to go to a workshop in Palmerston North run by professional dance choreographers.

**To book your table please email:  
 Sarah.Mitchell326@gmail.com**

**1133 Main South Rd, Oakura  
 Phone 06 752 7765 - www.butlersreef.co.nz**

# Tee for more than two at Cue

The cast and some of the backstage crew of Ken Ludwig's "The Fox on the Fairway" enjoyed an hour or so on the links at Inglewood Golf Club, discovering some of the joys of golf last weekend, courtesy of long time club member Graeme Small.

On a gloriously sunny afternoon they were shown around the club, admiring the spectacular display of trophies, asking questions about the club, the great game itself, and venturing on to the green, armed with an array of golf bags, clubs and balls.

There was much excitement and laughter, but not a lot of promise shown, although it was reported that one actor

managed a successful putt. Fortunately they all show much greater talent on the stage. at Cue Theatre, rehearsing for this very entertaining comedy, the story of which bears absolutely no resemblance to the Inglewood Golf Club or its members!

"The Fox on the Fairway" opens at Cue Theatre on April 2 and runs until April 16. We hope that the golfers in our audiences will gain extra enjoyment, understanding the game as they do. Our team certainly enjoyed the hospitality and the beautiful grounds of Inglewood Golf Club, preparing for their performances.



**Helen Cloke (with golf club), Karlina Nickson, Chris Allemann, Niall Corbett, Jeff Lowe and Valda Hinz (in background).**

TET Cue Theatre Presents

## "The FOX on the FAIRWAY"

By Ken Ludwig  
 Directed by Joan Ertel

**2<sup>nd</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> April 2016**  
**Evening Performances @ 7.30pm**  
**Sunday Matinees @ 2.00pm**

**A charmingly madcap adventure about love, life, and man's eternal love affair with .... golf.**

This play is one for you golfers out there. Set at the Quail Valley Country Club on the eve on an annual golf tournament.

Joan is on the green and her team is about to tee off:  
**Helen Cloke, Karlina Nickson, Valda Hinz, Jeff Lowe, Niall Corbett and Chris Allemann**

Let the Tournament Begin!

**Book your tickets at Inglewood Book Centre  
 Ph: 756 7032  
 \$20 per person or \$22 for prepaid groups of 10+**

**TET Cue Theatre  
 38 Matai Street, Inglewood  
 www.cuetheatre.co.nz**

*continued from page 22*

## Birds of a feather congregate at Percy Thomson Gallery

essence of our much-loved New Zealand native birds, while also alluding to the destruction of the birds' natural habitat by humans.

Martin Carryer's work is driven primarily by a fascination with form and a passion for the process of translating that form into his lifelong medium of wood. Martin first delved into woodwork around the age of 10, crafting 'samples to demonstrate the beauty in the grain of various timbers. Though his livelihood was farming in Taranaki and the Manawatu, Martin started making furniture in the 1970s, one-off pieces in native timbers. In the last decade he has become increasingly interested in contemporary design and has become progressively experimental.

Martin began sculpting birds in 2009, developing a

style through investigation of the form. He is enchanted by capturing the expression of New Zealand native birds and by the identity associated with birds in our history.

Margaret Scott has lived all her life on the Taranaki coast. Her work reflects the rural environment where she lives, beautiful coastal, mountain and bush vistas, often with symbols and motifs which represent her surroundings. Margaret has had numerous solo exhibitions in the Taranaki region and has exhibited widely throughout New Zealand.

Margaret has recently published her second book titled 'Portrait of a Puaa', part autobiographical, part anecdotal with art tutorials and tips and, of course, paintings. Margaret now works from her "Art by the Sea" studio at Oakura and regularly offers workshops and classes.

Originally from Marlborough, Lee-Ann Dixon has been in Nelson since leaving school. She graduated from NMIT in 2005 with a bachelor of Visual Arts.

"Since then I have been juggling my art practice with raising my four children and work. As my life changes,



**Artist Miranda Woollett is inspired by the birds who congregate in her garden, and is pictured with her work, 'Cultural Alienation'.**

so does my artwork. Mostly it is an ongoing theme of motherhood and domesticity. As my children grow older I have more time to reflect and remember my own childhood and identity."

Her subject matter reflects the particular phase of life she is in.

"When the kids were smaller it was tea cups and teapots

referring to nurture, family and precious time out for a stressed mum. Now it's moths, birds, animal skulls and even teddies." Lee-Ann paints on recycled silver trays.

"This was born from watching my late mother's china cabinet full of her treasures and the special memories attached to them. Sadly, when I went to the recycle centres and garage sales I saw many of these same treasures that had been discarded. "I collected the trays to represent these treasures and to breathe new life into once loved objects." Her works in this exhibition are about childhood memories of growing up in the countryside in the 1970s.

Justine Giles' art practice incorporates primarily drawing, watercolour and found objects and is concerned with the themes of trace and potential, the literary, and text as image. Justine gained her MFA with First Class Honours at Whitecliffe College of Arts and Design in 2015. Her bird portraits are delicate and fine with great attention to detail.

*Rhonda Bunyan*

**HOLLARD GARDENS**

# Summer Music

*with 'The Funksters'*

**Sunday 13 March, 5-8pm**

The Funksters roll out their repertoire of jazz, funk and soul classics for your enjoyment. Bring a picnic, pizza and coffee on sale.

**Holland Gardens**  
 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga  
 Ph: 0800 736 222  
**www.hollandgardens.info**

*Wet weather alternative venue will be the Kaponga Hall*

Taranaki Regional Council

Hawera Repertory Society presents

# DUETS

A comedy play by Peter Quilter,  
 Directed by Samantha Turner

**15 - 23 April 2016**

**Repertory House**  
**59 Collins Street, Hawera**

Adults - \$28  
 (Booking fees apply)

Tickets on sale from **TicketDirect**