

OPUNAKE & COASTAL Vol. 30 No 20, November 4, 2021 www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz **Published every Thursday Fortnight** NEY Phone and Fax 761-7016 A/H 761-8206 for Advertising and Editorial ISSN 2324-2337, ISSN 2324-2345

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Literary awards zoomed in

Due to Covid restrictions the Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards were held on the evening of Thursday October 21 via the virtual platform Zoom. The event's organiser Katherine Bosworth, Community Librarian, Outreach introduced the evening. She must be commended for the excellent way the event has been organised, especially with the strictures of Covid. An important guest was Phil Nixon, Mayor of South Taranaki. "The Lysaght-Watt Trust Ronald Hugh Morrieson Awards are a

very important part of the South Taranaki literary calendar," he explained. He concluded, "I am sure Ronald Hugh Morrieson would be very proud to know he has inspired so many people to continue to share our stories."

Later there were addresses by Ken Horner of the Lysaght-Watt Trust, Normanby & Districts Lions president Bryan Kirk, as well as two of the three judges; Eileen Merriman (Short Stories) and Vaughan Rapatahana (Poetry). The third judge Matt Rilkoff (Research Article) was unable to be part of the proceedings.



Stuart Greenhill who was first and second in the Open **Poetry section.**

"I was very impressed by the quality of entries and found it quite difficult to separate the winners of each section." He added, "Ronald Hugh made a few appearances across the pages too. As he should do – without him there would be no awards." He continued, "I selected poems which impressed me with distinctive word choice and innovative combination, as well as clever imagery which made me think "Yes" as I read them."

In the Secondary School Short Story section Hawera School students High dominated with Krishay

a Void, as well as taking

third place with The Jigsaw

Puzzle. "I was very pleased,

very happy, but I was sort

of surprised as it was a last

minute entry," said Krishay.

He explained that Miss

Grieg, a teacher, persuaded

him to enter his two stories.

Krishay, who is a Year

12 student and a prefect,

degree.

Jordan Dawson made it a clean sweep for the school by taking second place with Theatricals.

Hāwera High School continued its dominance in the Poetry section with Jacob Taylor winning with his poem Love, Actually. "I was pretty blown away



Rolland McKellar who won the Open Short Story section. See page 18-19 for winning story Dear Eleanor.

by winning, it was quite exciting," Jacob said. The Year 11 student explained that he started to write poetry last year during lockdown – he mostly writes about youth and teen experiences. One day he'd like to publish a book of poetry. He intends a career which is psychology-based when he leaves school.

Lexi McQuaig (Ōpunake High School) came second with Society of Filo Pastry Girls and Aria Brophy (Opunake High School) came third with Unannounced Arrival.

Bruce Finer (Hāwera) was awarded both second and third place with Holiday in Cambodia and Dale the Destroyer, respectively. Dr Merriman did not award any Commended accolades for either the Open or Secondary School sections.

The Open Poetry section first and second places were taken by Stuart Greenhill (Stratford) with Hanging on a Wire and Pukengahu Andy, respectively. "I was thrilled to win, I really was, but I knew the poems were strong, so I wasn't surprised," commented School) for Te Maunga o Taranaki.

New Plymouth schools did well with the Research Article section. Thea Irys Lacanaria (Sacred Heart



Commended status was awarded to Anne Larcom

(Taranaki Diocesan School

for Girls) for The Shell

rolls over with the Tide and

Bethany Gyde (Hāwera High

Thea Irys Lacanaria who won the Research Article section

Girls College) was awarded first place with The Sweet Smell of Success. "I was a bit surprised. I didn't expect to win." The Year 10 student studies English, Maths, Science, Music and Art and hopes to study Biomedical Science at either Otago or Victoria (Wellington) University when she finishes school. She also writes poetry and has had one published in Toi Toi magazine. Thea Irys' winning article followed the fortunes of a couple from the Philippines who overcame challenges to establish a doughnut baking business in New Plymouth.

Taking second and third places was Samuel Salisbury (New Plymouth Boys High School) with Life is Music and Neo Hatcher (New Plymouth Boys High School) with Dennis Crow: Success and Service.

In the Open section for Short Stories Rolland McKellar (Ōkato) was placed first with his entry "Sheer Dear Eleanor. disbelief," was his reaction to his success. However, with his 75,000 word draft biography of Ronald Hugh Morrieson finally finished and being tidied up for publication, he says the result is "timely."

continued page 3

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Jacob Taylor (left) who won the Secondary Schools Poetry section. and Krishay Lal who was first and third in the Secondary Schools Short Story section.

Dr Merriman commented, Lal winning with Lost in "Ultimately, the stories that stood out were those that approached a topic in a unique way that experimented with form, that made me laugh, or in the case of the first-place winner, did all three." She continued, "The story that won first place immediately captured my attention with its unique form and humour." Dr

enthusiastic about the poems.



Send your your views to: Letters to the Editor 23 Napier Street, Opunake. Fax: (06) 761 7016 email: editorial@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz You are welcome to use a pseudonym but must supply your name and address to us.

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www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Editor: Bernice McKellar

Journalists/Sales: Rolland McKellar, Bryan Kirk

Advertising/Production: Vanessa Smith Production/IT: Shane Butler

Delivery: Thursday, fortnightly

Registered as a newspaper.

Member of the Community Newspapers Association of New Zealand



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

Thursday, November 4, 2021

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

Conspiracy theories and COVID

Conspiracy theorists and anti-vaxxers of many stripes rely on a little bit of information, misapplied, misaggregrated and misinterpreted. They are usually misguided as well. People have a choice. They must accept the ramifications of their decisions either way. I am not a virologist, an epidemiologist or even a GP so I will refrain from offering detailed advice on the technicalities of the Pfizer vaccine. What I can do is say this: If you want to go to a concert, a cinema, a restaurant and virtually all other public activity involving people outside your bubble you will need a vaccination certification, and to be double-jabbed. If you want to be imprisoned at home, that is your choice. The Pfizer vaccine reduces the chance of death to 4% following infection, and the

ADELPHOS

This Adelphos article readers is requesting of The Opunake and Coastal News to submit questions/topics to the editor by email (editorial@ opunakecoastalnews.co.nz or phone number 06-761-7016) for 2022 Adelphos articles. The editor will then pass them on to me. But please be warned: I'm not "the answer man." My goal is to equip people to make their own informed decisions chance of hospitalisation to just 16%. It retards the virulence of transmission but does not eliminate it. Boosters will probably be necessary because there is already a Delta sub-variant in the UK killing 230 people a day, and a Mu strain in Mexico which is very troubling. If you understand mRNA, you will understand why this is necessary.

Ultimately, the virus does not care about your beliefs or mine, nor wacky conspiracy theories; if you are unvaccinated---you are taking a massive risk. The best measure of Serious Adverse Reactions (SAR) is from our own Medsafe. This is extremely low for this mRNA vaccine. In the UK, every adverse reactions is recorded, ranging from soreness at point of entry to more serious reactions, also rare, and low incidence so you have to analyse the data.

Most of us have had measles, mumps, diphtheria, tetanus, meningicoccal (and for older folk tuberculosis

and polio) and this vaccine is much safer than all those combined because of the action of this vaccine and its evaluation. There is far too much community ignorance, scaremongery and errant nonsense being disseminated. It would be useful if those people supplied their credentials to make what are mostly noisome and unsupportable assertions that expose these pedallers to extreme and prejudicial ridicule. That is also preventable. I hold four Masters Degrees, but I do feel qualified to advise others what they should do. I can however point out the implication of nonvaccination can be pretty dire, socially and medically. I know people in ICU Taranaki Base Hospital with experience of COVID patients (at other hospitals, and just how arduous COVID is on those infected, and how it can take a long time to recover from. Add age and co-morbidities and you are really playing an even more inane version of Russian Roulette. As I say, your choice. ..kei te pai.... accept the responsibilities that go with it, and think

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

If you can live with that, kia ora rā but this is largely preventable and it is about whānau and community and keeping others safe. *Trevor M Landers*

MA, MPM, MEd, MCW

Three Waters

The Three Waters reform will take control of drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater from 67 councils across New Zealand and create four government-run entities. The government has attempted to sell Three Waters as the silver bullet to water issues in New Zealand. Still, these reforms have been branded a disaster by people across the political spectrum.

The governance structure of these entities moves power away from ratepayers and elected councillors to an entity board. According to the Department of Internal Affairs, a local representative group of local councils and mana whenua will be 'created'. They will select a panel of people who will then appoint a governing board. The power of voting and local consultation over

Continued page 3

Questions I'd like to ask

of others not just yourself.

and healthy choices. Articles will be based on my opinions and experiences as a trained teacher, guidance counsellor, minister and family court relationship counsellor. Questions relating to these areas would be fine. Of course I cannot address all questions/topics but will confer with the editor. And it doesn't matter whether you have any religious beliefs or not.

My intent is to give an

honest answer to an honest real life question. I'll do my best. I don't need or want to know your name. But I suggest that you might be community-minded and be identified by the awesome Taranaki area you live in.

You might ask questions like: Why does my teenage son say he hates me? Don't all good people go to heaven? Or why does God allow suffering if he is good and all powerful? AIs it time for me to get a divorce? Is God male or female? Why aren't there lots of miracles anymore

Farm Source, Pungarehu

Okato Takeaways

Tim's Barbershop, Moturoa

like in the Bible? Did Adam have a belly button? How many angels can dance on the point of a pin? What do I do if my daughter is cutting her arms? Does God really hear people's prayers? What happens if my child is suspended/stood down from school?

Both Bernice, the editor, and I look forward to your interesting questions as soon as possible. We want to have a good collection in your storehouse.

Thanks in advance, Adelphos

Deadlines for copy

We find we are working very late on a Tuesday night to put the paper together for it to be at the printers first thing Wednesday morning.

Our deadline for copy is Monday 10am.

This gives us an opportunity to proofread the copy.

We continue to receive a lot of material on Tuesday and are struggling to process it all as well as put together the paper.

If you have trouble meeting this deadline can you let us know.

This deadline does not apply to the Cops and Fire Service columns where incidents can occur on the Monday and Tuesday.

We do appreciate your contributions, so thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Editor

Opunake & Coastal News Paste Up Night



We have printed more copies of the Opunake & Coastal News. It is available on stands at the following locations New Plymouth: Ate Forty One, Tukapa St, Westown Challenge Spotswood The Health Shop on the ground floor at Centre City The Store, Cnr Tukapa St & Wallath Rd Waitara: Outside the North Taranaki Community House Trust, 67 McLean St Inglewood: Inglewood Book Centre, 31 Rata St Stratford: Stratford Knit & Sew, 202 Broadway Hawera: Outside First National, Cnr of Victoria and High Streets Outside Nursery Rhyme, 158 High St Papers are also available at The Sunshine Dairy, Hawera The Normanby Dairy Swetes Dairy, Manaia Pastimes in Öpunake

More Opunake & Coastal News' out

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

Continued from page 2.

how councils manage water is completely wiped out by three layers of governance dreamed up by the Labourled government.

Even after a \$3.5 million ad campaign, bribes offered to councils from the government to the tune of \$2 billion, mayors around the country united against the changes and most consumers against it, the changes are still going ahead. Instead of democracy and listening to the people, the government has decided to mandate the Three Water reforms. National and Act have both said they will repeal these reforms. Even the Green Party has said the government should 'stop and listen'. Instead, Labour mandates.

Labours slogan should be 'If the people don't like it, we will mandate it'.

Better yet, because the new water entities have no competition, the government has admitted these changes will create monopolies of New Zealand's water infrastructure. The assets for these monopolies were paid for by us - local ratepayers. The new entities will have "the power to rate" and generate revenue from local consumers (us), and with no competition, they are no doubt monopolies. As a result, the government has decided to expand its power and introduce more bureaucracy to watch over the entities and ensure they aren't price gouging. Our councils, whom we have elected to run our water infrastructure, were accountable to us, the people. Under the new regime, the water monopolies are not responsible to the people but to a bureaucratic machine that's never set foot in our region - another nail in the coffin for democratic accountability.

Water is precious. The Labour government is naive to believe that a state-

sanctioned asset grab into the hands of government monopolies is a better way forward. It sounds like we are all about to pay a lot more for our local water assets.

> Joel Zimmerman Oakura

The End of Honour

I appreciate the promotional aspect of the book (The End of Honour by M.J.Burr), but for the most likely and evidential account of Titokowharu's withdrawal from Tauranga Ika I hope the author has read Ruka Broughton's MA thesis at VUW which provides Ngā Rauru Kiitahi accounts of these events, radically different from Jamie's supposition around sexual impropriety but more to do with an invocation of the ātua Uenuku by a skilled adversary. He would need to be able to read Te reo Māori but this has been discussed by a current Professor of Māori Studies/History in an

more years ago. Trevor Landers

article in JPS some ten or

Lodge should be saved

NEWS AND VIEWS

As you are aware the Dawson Falls Accommodation Lodge is too distant to be demolished even though part of this building was built in 1896. We believe the original part of this historic building should be saved.

One thing is for sure the visitor's book which has lived in the building since 1896 needs to be found and either be kept by DOC or Puke Ariki. It is too valuable disappear.

Ian McAlpine

3

Literary awards zoomed in

$continued \ from \ page \ 1$

Bruce Finer (Hāwera) was awarded both second and third place with Holiday in Cambodia and Dale the Destroyer, respectively. Dr Merriman did not award any Commended accolades for either the Open or Secondary

School sections.

The Open Poetry section first and second places were taken by Stuart Greenhill (Stratford) with Hanging on a Wire and Pukengahu Andy, respectively. "I was thrilled to win, I really was, but I knew the poems were strong, so I wasn't surprised," commented Stuart. His novel Dante Fog was published in Great Britain in 2020 (Austin MacCauley). He is currently writing another.

Third place was awarded to Mikaela Nyman (New Plymouth) for Lonely Sailors. Dr Rapatahana awarded ten Commended accolades, which are as follows: Germana Lewis (Hāwera) for Requiem for my Father, Kate Byrne (New Plymouth) for Campsite 18, Rosemary Joyce (Manaia) for Deliverance, Mikaela Nyman (New Plymouth) for Date with Sisyphus, Dave Lee (Hāwera) for Karanga te ra whakatuwhera i te waharoa ki rangatapu pa, Maakere Edwards (Hāwera) for Fibres, Feathers, Earth & Sky, Willow Noir (Hāwera) for Street Life, Stuart Greenhill (Stratford) for Taranaki Weka, Koren Miller (Hāwera) for The Scream of the Butterfly and Michaela Stoneman (Pātea) for Till Spring.

A copy of the finalists winning entries can be found in the 2021 Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards booklet. You can order a copy from any South Taranaki Library Plus for \$5.



Ronald Hugh Morrieson wrote four novels in a short literary career of about 12 years. These included The Scarecrow (1963), Came A Hot Friday (1964) and after his death Predicament (1974) and Pallet On the Floor (1976).

Also, two short stories were published in Landfall namely Cross My Heart and Cut My Throat (1974) and The Chimney (1974).

Ron passed away on December 26, 1972. His centenary looms early next year. Despite the age he;d be if still alive there are still a number of people who remember him and miss his unique and humorous qualities. LEFT:

Ronald Hugh Morrieson is the only New Zealand writer to have had all his novels made into feature films.

Also, the first line of The Scarecrow is generally considered to be the best known line in New Zealand literature.

Although not fully given his due while alive his good friend Maurice Shadbolt considered him the most unique writer and worthy of being the most treasured.

He was also a brilliant musician who played in several bands and could play a number of instruments including the guitar, piano, double bass, violin and saxaphone.

It is rumoured that he is sometimes a silent guest when events such as the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards are held.





The precise way to grow grass this Spring.



Thursday, November 4, 2021

Reforms take power away from community says mayor

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon has slammed the government's announcement that councils would no longer be able to opt out of the proposed Three Waters reforms.

"I'm angry and appalled with the Government's decision to mandate that Councils have to be part of the Three Waters reform," he said last week. "We were consistently told by





STDC MAYOR PHIL NIXON

Lokesh

four publicly owned water

entities and their operation

philosophies will need to

be carefully planned, but,

as a water quality scientist,

I view these reforms as 'a must have' for the New

Zealand water sector.

"The existing fragmented

structure of 67 council-owned

and managed water service

providers is disadvantageous

to infrastructure upgrades

and creating forward-

looking water management

practices nationally. For

example, New Zealand is

not considered a global

leader in water treatment

the Government that there would be opportunity for full public consultation on this hugely important matter. But now, and after the majority of councils have asked the Government to pause and rethink, they have ignored us and taken any decision making completely out of our hands. It's wrong, its anti-democratic. This Government seems determined to centralise everything. Let's not forget that the assets we're talking about have been paid for by our communities, not the Government. To say that our Council will retain

ownership under the existing proposal is a joke. The claims the system is in crisis are highly inflated as are the benefits of reform. While we accepted that things needed some change, this move to take decision making out of our communities' hands is totally unacceptable. Our Council will be letting government know the our dissatisfaction in no uncertain terms, however I'd also encourage every resident to contact their local MP to let them know what they think about the Government's decision."

Three Waters reforms a must have Simple But The Government has Significant confirmed it will create four publicly-owned water entities to manage New Zealand's drinking water, wastewater, a and stormwater. simple Most of the country's water infrastructure is currently cremation overseen by local councils. It is estimated \$185 & burials billion is needed to fix, upgrade and maintain New Zealand's water services Helping Taranaki families with a range of simple, professional over the next 30 years. funeral services. With affordable caskets, urns & jewellery. Dr Padhye, Department of **233 Carrington St** 0800 236 236 233 Carrington St Civil and Environmental www.asimplecremation.co.nz New Plymouth Engineering, University of Auckland, comments: "I understand the opposition You can YON US to these reforms, as change www.rockgastaranaki.co.nz always triggers fears about for your energy needs the future due to uncertainties. However, as the Hon Nanaia Mahuta has pointed out, this change cannot wait any longer. The structure of the



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lan Grawford

and management practices.

Inquiries into the Havelock North incident ultimately concluded that New Zealand needed to better observe international principles for drinking water safety. "The reforms open up the possibility that a principlesbased approach can be taken to managing drinking, storm and wastewater - along with two linked challenges. The first is freshwater reform across our entire rural landscapes, recognising the embodied value of these landscapes in the reputation of our exports and tourism. The second, and most timely given the bipartisan announcement on urban densification, is the need for investment in Three Waters infrastructure to affordably support the nation's future quality of life. "Ultimately, the announcement reflects that the ability to stabilise the investment and decisions

required through local government processes has proven contentious. The interactions of central and local government under the Resource Management Act and other processes over the past 30 years have left infrastructure funding deficits, and a lack of clear principles to guide a stable way forward. Interactions across levels of government are complex, and have been struggling to accommodate the benefits expected from improving Māori engagement to give effect to Te Tiriti around water issues. Today's announcement is a change in course toward more integrated and likely more principled solutions. This doesn't guarantee success but provides new ways forward that could enable better outcomes, in both economic and environmental terms.



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A rescue helicopter was called to the scene of an accident at Ihaia Road.

Pillion quad bike passenger helicoptered to hospital

A 26 year-old man was helicoptered to hospital following an accident on Ihaia Road on Sunday, October 31 at around 2pm. The man who was a pillion passenger on a farm bike was knocked off the bike when it collided with a car. He sustained a head injury. A helicopter arrived at the

scene just over 7 kilometres out of Opunake shortly after the accident which was attended by the Opunake Fire Service, ambulance and Opunake Fire Service as well as the paramedics in the helicopter.

A Taranaki District Health Board spokesperson said the man was originally from Whanganui and was

Mangawharawhara Stream

in Bridger Park in Eltham

has been closed until

planned refurbishment work

Waite says the Council

has budgeted to refurbish

bridge, however an

recreation

manager Phil

20-year-old

and

crossing the

The

footbridge

is completed.

STDC

the

facilities

engineer's report has recommended that the bridge is closed for public safety until the refurbishment work

is completed. Mr Waite says rather than attempting to get a crane into the park to remove the bridge, the work will be undertaken with the bridge in-situ and will include cleaning the structure, replacing steel work, the timber deck and painting.

"I hope the work can start soon but unfortunately,



The Bridger Park foot bridge. due to the difficulty in getting tradespeople at the moment, we don't yet have a timeframe for when the work might begin." The bridge refurbishment is

one of a number of upgrades that have been done at the Park over recent months including the mobility access path and the Bridge Street entrance garden area.





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Kura hosts vaccination clinic

One afternoon last week, Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Tamarongo in Opunake was transformed into a COVID vaccination clinic.

A team from health provider Tui Ora supported by Te Kahui o Taranaki Iwi had been taking the vaccination message by carrying out clinics like this one around Taranaki. On Thursday afternoon they were at the kura. Earlier that day they had carried out a similar clinic at Te Potaka Pa at Oaonui.

For those getting their vaccinations, food was available and gift packs were handed out which included face masks and drink bottles.

Although there had been the occasional single person coming in to get vaccinated, most were coming in with their whanau said Nicky Ritai of Tui Ora. There was also a good mix when it came to people getting their first or second vaccinations.



Tamara Rangi of Tui Ora was on hand to take the details of people coming in to get "It was quite a mix, which said they wanted to take

is not the norm. We would have had half firsts and half seconds, which is cool." Tamara Rangi of Tui Ora

the message to people in environments where they felt comfortable "I think it's about korero,

getting into a safe space for people, so we've been getting into work places and schools to have the conversations." A similar sentiment was voiced by Te Kahui o to thank Tui Ora and Te Taranaki Iwi communication engagement manager Raymond Tuuta.

"When you look at the whanau who have been vaccinated in today's clinic, it's an environment that's relatable to them," he said."Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Tamarongo is a significant place for Taranaki, the same as Te Potaka Pa. In reality it's just a matter of time before COVID comes down here. For me it's up to whanau to make the decision to be vaccinated, and we're just here to support and provide the opportunity for whanau to be vaccinated and to support them in that."

Kura principal Robyn Davey said she was glad to have the team from Tui Ora at the kura.

"I think it's fabulous. I'm really chuffed, and I want

Kahui o Taranaki to be able to have this here. It's about protecting our whanau and our whakapapa and our future."





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Reservoirs and new Oakura water treatment plant boost water network

Two multi-million dollar drinking water infrastructure projects are coming on-line, giving a major boost to the New Plymouth District's water resilience.

After two years of construction, the connection NPDC's two new of reservoirs to the water network has just been completed and is supplying water to residents. These \$18 million reservoirs on Henwood and Mountain roads add the equivalent of 36,000 full bathtubs to the supply for Bell Block, Waitara, Lepperton and further north. They were officially opened by New Plymouth District Mayor, Iwi, contractors and on Thursday neighbours October 28.

"These new 4.5-million litre reservoirs will provide precious drinking water

Dunlop Insurance

to residents north of New Plymouth and it's great they have been commissioned into our water network. As we continue work to Fix our Plumbing with a \$248 million investment in drinking water, storm water and sewage networks, these reservoirs remind us of the scale of the job that's needed above and below the ground," says New Plymouth District Mayor Neil Holdom. "As we saw yesterday, there's a lot going on around the central government mandated Three Water reforms and Council recently wrote to Government expressing significant concerns about the proposed model, outlining alternative options and improvements but, no matter what the outcome of the Government's reform agenda, we need to continue



Neil Holdom.

to invest in our community's water infrastructure because it's the right thing to do for our children and future generations."

Another major water improvement project nearing completion is a new \$3.3 million water treatment plant for Ōākura.

operated

UV treatment - the same system used at the Okato plant - and filtration have been installed so that the bore meets new standards brought in after the Havelock North water contamination scare in 2016. The new plant is due to be finished by the end of the year.

As part of the 10-Year Plan 2021-2031, NPDC recently approved a \$248m investment to upgrade their three waters network over the next 10 years, including replacing some of the 800km of pipes in the district.

New Plymouth District has four separate water supplies: New Plymouth, Inglewood, Ōākura and Okato.

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While we wait for the lights

Clear, concise ideas. Tangible solutions, the Government could pick up and run with right now, to get New Zealand open and back in business.

It's what National has been working on to get New Zealand out of COVID-19 grievance mode, while the Government dithers. On September 29 we released Opening Up — our

BARBARA KURIGER MP



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oodward's

plan to end lockdowns, get COVID under control, and re-open New Zealand. On October 20, we issued Back in Business — an actual roadmap to saving livelihoods and our economy.

Why? Because we needed to. Despite the resources and power at their disposal, and 18 months to sort it out, the Government was no closer

to any cohesive strategy. Instead they have squandered the time, chasing massive centralisation moves in health, education, workplace relations and water, while sending our debt level into the stratosphere.

That is, until October 22.

As expected, the Government announced it will swap alert levels for a traffic light system and vaccination certificates.

But that won't kick in until there are 90% full vaccination rates across every district health board region so it's difficult to see a path to freedom by Christmas.

Meanwhile many Kiwis are struggling as inflation rockets to 4.9%. People are losing jobs, businesses, and homes, and children have missed weeks of school.

As an opposition party, we've been doing our job questioning Labour on its COVID management.

Watching the daily doses from the podium, is like being in a picture theatre

with them, viewing a different movie. National's plans are about certainty, here and now, and

pave a clear path to a post-COVID future. Opening Up includes supercharging the vaccine

rollout, boosters; upgraded contact tracing, a dedicated agency to manage New Zealand's COVID response, purpose-built quarantine facilities, a digital app for vaccination authentication, and fast tracking new hospital wards to increase capacity.

We believe in a full vaccination target of 70-75% to end lockdowns, then an 85-90% vaccination point with a suppression strategy, so we can slowly open up to the world.

In our Back in Business plan, we outline a raft of measures, but a key component is tax relief.

We give business owners choice, without recrimination, to require staff to be vaccinated, customers to show proof of vaccination on entry, and operate without capacity constraints and help with rental costs.

We'd extend wage subsidies to cover Alert Level 2, offer targeted support for tourism, hospitality and accommodation, and establish an insurance scheme for major events.

Other measures include a two-year moratorium on any regulations and legislation which would add to business costs, and includes plant cost write-offs and reinstating the asset write-off schedule at \$5000.

In the past 18 months many businesses have gone to the wall and thousands of Kiwis are now dependent on a benefit.

National launched the plan because we want small businesses which have hung on for the last 18 months to survive the next 12. Business owners don't want

pity and handouts, they need certainty and clarity. They want a plan.

We've now given the Government two of them.

Barbara KurigerMP Taranaki-King Country.

Taranaki lets get to 90%

With the weather getting warmer, many people in Taranaki will already be counting down to summer and barbecues at the beach.

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uthorised by Barbara Kuriger MP, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn





This year, the key to a safe summer is simple: ensuring as many people as possible have had their two shots, so we can all do more of what we enjoy.

It's been fantastic to see so many people here in Taranaki rolling up their sleeves and getting vaccinated, and it's been great to see many people encouraging their friends, family and workmates to get vaccinated too. Almost four million Kiwis have now been fully vaccinated, including over 66 percent of people in the Taranaki DHB region, but we still have a way to go if we want to make the most of the upcoming summer. This isn't just about keeping

our community safe – although that's a big part of it, as we know that getting

We have moved to 50 Union Street

vaccinated means you're significantly less likely to catch COVID, and if you do, then you're far less likely to pass it on to your loved ones and people who can't get vaccinated, like young children. However, being fully vaccinated will soon open up more opportunities too.

The Government has set out a new COVID-19 Protection Framework. This will help protect New Zealanders into the future, while providing a pathway out of lockdowns, offering certainty to businesses, and giving vaccinated people more options.

Under the framework, if you are vaccinated, you will be able to visit bars and restaurants, reconnect with family and friends, and do the things you love with greater certainty.

continued page 9



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Taranaki lets get to 90%

continued from page 8

Businesses that require people to show they're fully vaccinated before entry will be able to operate with fewer restrictions. Just like you need to show your ID to enter a bar, you'll need to show you've been fully vaccinated before you can enter your favourite café or attend events like festivals.

That's why if you want to make sure you can do more of the things you love this summer, it's really important you get vaccinated now.

The good news is that if vou haven't had vour first dose yet, there's still time to get your two shots for summer. You can book an appointment by logging on to bookmyvaccine.nz, or by calling the COVID-19

Vaccination Healthline on 0800 28 29 26. If you're ready to get your vaccine today, there are plenty of places that don't require a booking. Head to covid19. govt.nz to find a walk in or drive through vaccination centre near you. Make sure you let your friends and family know that if they want to do the things they enjoy this summer, they'll

need to get their two shots as soon as possible too.

We'll transition into the new framework once 90% of eligible people in each DHB region are fully vaccinated. Of course, 90% isn't the end goal – our target is getting as many people as possible fully vaccinated, so we can make sure as many people as possible are protected. However, by ensuring at

least 90% of eligible people have had their two doses, we can be confident that our communities are safe as we take the next steps. Getting to 90% vaccinated also provides more certainty to local businesses, meaning they can safely operate with fewer restrictions going forward.

We know we're all looking forward to another great summer here in Taranaki but before we get there, we need to make sure as many people as possible have had their two shots. If you haven't

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vet, make sure to get out and get your free COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can. If you still have questions, or you are feeling a bit unsure about getting vaccinated, please phone Healthline, or talk to one of the nurses at a nearby vaccination clinic. They are more than happy to talk through any questions or concerns you have.

> Glen Bennett MP New Plymouth Steph Lewis MP Whanganui

No MIQ spots for dairy workers

"The fact that only two dairy workers have made it past the post and into the country instead of the 200 granted border exceptions by the Government is again a reflection of the shambles of our MIQ system," says National Agriculture spokesperson Barbara Kuriger.

"Minister O'Connor is blaming COVID's Delta strain for lack of numbers making it through.

"So I find myself reflecting on what I said last week regarding the lack of 50 MIQ spots for qualified vets who are desperately needed and trying to get into New Zealand.

"After 18 months in a pandemic, the Government announced it will finally allocate 300 priority spaces a month for healthcare workers from November 1. "The question is: 'Why can't they do same for dairy

workers and vets?. "New Zealand's dairy industry actually needs

Looking good at Stoney Oaks



This highland cow looks very curious. Who blinked first?



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between 2000-4000 workers. but we'll take the 198 still owing as an immediate start. "A mental health crisis is happening in the dairy sector, as farmers exhausted from the 2021 calving season, now get on with AB/ mating, crops, silage, maize and the 1000 and one other jobs that lie in front of them this summer.

"Overseas skilled helping hands are needed badly, and the sector needs reassurance now Minister O'Connor, that help is on its way."

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Opunake Lions club members raising funds for Yellow Ribbon at the Opunake Market Day.

Not only do sunflowers ooze colour and brightness, but they also communicate with each other. They are the ideal flower to push a mental health message, and will be front and centre at the Opunake Sunflower Festival on February 18-20 next year.

The Opunake Lions Club had been growing sunflower seeds for the last 10 years. For the last three years they have been using them as a means of raising funds for Yellow Ribbon which highlights suicide prevention . Next year the sunflower will take centre stage with the first Opunake Sunflower Festival. Planned events including sunflower growing competitions, a progressive dinner and a garden and art safari. "It began as a small idea,

and it's been growing and kept on growing each year," says Andy Whitehead of the Opunake Lions Club. "It's been very well received by the wider community, by businesses, by schools and early childhood centres. Suzie Pentelow from the kindergarten has been a big driver in making this happen."

The Opunake Kindergarten will be organising a Gardens and Arts Safari, and a number of groups have come on board including the Opunake Business Association, as well as Egmont Seeds and OMV.

The Lions are encouraging people to grow sunflowers for Yellow Ribbon, with several competitions to be held come festival time. Andy says that depending on COVID restrictions, some of

these competitions may have people have been affected to be judged on photos alone. by suicide, and they see the

just for fun," says Andy. a positive in some fairly "We started to get so much tough moments.. positive feedback from people seeing these flowers, to be a flower that we thought we could use that communicates with each feel-good factor to support a other underground. They cause like Yellow Ribbon..

that's personal to me, and sometimes everybody needs a bit of a pick-me-up. The sunflower symbolises So far this year they brightness and happiness, and have already reached that everybody knows somebody who has been affected by suicide.

"Mental health issues have been a big concern in rural communities, and I think that with anxiety that has increased that feeling. It's good for the community, and it's also for a worthy cause. It's quite amazing how many

"We started off doing it symbol of the sunflower as

"Sunflowers are supposed are all a consistent height "Mental health is something and don't want to be taller than each other in the field." Last year the Lions raised \$300 for Yellow Ribbon. target with the \$300 they raised from donations for sunflower seeds at their stall at the Opunake Market Day.

He has high hopes for the festival in February.

"I hope it will bring people into Opunake while the weather is still nice," he says.



"THE SOUTH TARANAKI AND WANGANUI REGIONS"

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Mother and daughter duo win Garden Edge prizes



Alice Arnold with her winning exhibit.

Alice Arnold of Hawera won the adult's first prize for the Travel Suitcase competition, while her daughter Mikayla won the children's prize. The official judge this year (and last year) was Maree Tong. "Her attention to detail is amazing," commented owner Lynne Newell. "She knows how to

pick a winner." The prizes are monetary and can only be described as generous.

During the Taranaki Garden Festival (October 29-November 7) the entrants were tasked with creating a travel suitcase using elements of flora and fauna. The results were "amazing" and are displayed proudly at

Gardening with Palmers Gardening Centre

another prize to be awarded - the People's Choice, so make sure you stop by, have a good look and vote for

Garden Edge, 52 Fantham

However, there is still

Street, Hawera.

your favourite exhibit. The last day will be Saturday November 6 (4pm). Alice's winning exhibit is

been made out of felt (from constructed of huge Puka meat packaging) and seeds. leaves - chosen for their The strapping is made of strength. Flax has been used Monkey Toe tree. The backing consists of recycled

to bind everything together.

Several travel badges have

been affixed, which have

wrapping from My Food

Mikayla Arnold Travel Suitcase competition winner.

Companion Planting

nearby plants. Nasturtium, which grows well in Coastal Taranaki, helps repel woolly aphid and marigolds are great for discouraging white fly. Visit www.palmers. co.nz for a handy companion planting guide.



Some plants are just meant Whether to be together! its to encourage growth or garden health, or to discourage pests, consider companion planting for your garden this Spring. Companion planting is the grouping of plants together in a combination that is beneficial to themselves or other plants around them. Basil is a good place to

start and is one of the most valuable herbs in the garden. Bees love it and therefore it brings fertility to the whole garden. It also deters aphids, fruit fly and the common house fly. Coriander will also help keep aphids away. Give your vegetable garden a boost by planting borage. Borage is rich in organic potassium, calcium, and Grow natural minerals.

near cucumbers, tomatoes, squash, and strawberries. Cabbages grow better when mint, thyme, sage, rosemary, and dill are planted around them. Celery also likes dill and carrots like chives, sage and coriander planted between their rows. Lovage, marjoram and tarragon planted freely vegetable and flower gardens will improve the health of all

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Bag. Alice had to do a lot of foraging for materials and the whole creative process took about two months, but obviously it was all well worth it. Congratulations to you both,

NEWS

11

Alice and Mikayla.

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See States



Stewart, Christine and Sharon from Taupo and George the dog were intrigued by the yarn bombed ut outside the TSB on display on Opunake's Market Day.

"We didn't know it was so cold you have to wrap your cars up here," quipped Stewart. Sharon added that in the Hokianga they wrap the trees in yarn but the yarn bombing in Opunake was something else.

Sun shines on Market Day

Opunake's Market Day last Saturday attracted a big crowd. With the sun shining it felt like summer had arrived.

The Rahotu Wesley Church raised \$700 at their stall at Opunake's Market Day.

"It's been absolutely fantastic. A wonderful day," said Elva Symons.

"It's been lovely being able to chat with people," she said adding she'd enjoyed meeting people, including a number of outer towners.

She commented that they sold a lot of their produce. "We could barely get it out of the car, she said. In past years they've tended to sell crochet and knitted good among other things. This year however they focused on baking and home made preserves and plants as well as other goods and found they'd done very well compared to previous years. "It's been a fun, friendly day," she said as they were packing up the few items

they had left.

Kathy Stanley from the Lakeside Lions said their stall had sold everything from flowers to home baking and Christmas decorations. "There was plenty of variety." Rachel Norgate added that it was lovely to see a lot of families with young children enjoying themselves."

There was a also a happening next to The Emporium art gallery and gift shop with three hours

music courtesy of DJ Wayne Wilson-Wong who had some of his own award winning photography of scenic Taranaki landscapes on display in the window for the duration of the Garden Festival. A Fine Arts graduate, Wayne's photos on display are moonlight landscapes taken at night when a full moon under long exposure. They're well worth a look and are for sale.



The Truck rear view.



Peter Snell dressed as Peter Pan.



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The work is planned to take place in November.

In the event of bad weather, work will be rescheduled.

Thursday, November 4, 2021

13 **NEWS**

Sun shines on Market Day



From left Kathy Stanley, Elva Symons and Andrea Thomas.





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Opunake Community Kindergarten stall at

Opunake's Market Day. From left are Kezia

"They have so many

commented Raewyn

amazing plants,"

Jo Smith.

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A new documentary lays bare the distress and urgency felt by environmental kaitiaki, as myrtle rust compounds an already precarious situation for threatened native species.

Mate Tipu, Mate Rākau follows Department of Conservation Ranger Graeme Atkins (Ngāti Porou, Rongomaiwahine), as he reveals the rapid devastation that the airborne fungal pathogen myrtle rust (Austropuccinia psidii) is having on the East Coast.

The nine-minute documentary, produced and directed by videographer Fiona Apanui-Kupenga (Ngāti Porou) and her team at Te Amokura Productions, is one of the first creative projects commissioned by Toi Taiao Whakatairanga, a cross-disciplinary

collaborative research project hosted by Creative Arts and Industries at the University of Auckland. The project brings together arts, science and Te Ao Māori, to raise awareness of biological threats to our ngahere and wider ecological systems.

Over three years the project is commissioning Māori artists to develop new public artwork through creative engagement with iwi, hapū and community across areas impacted by two invasive plant pathogens - kauri dieback disease (Phytopthora agathidicida) and myrtle rust.

"This project aims to engage with how public arts practices can cultivate and grow public awareness and positive action to do with kaitiakitanga, caring for and respecting the mana of our ngahere/forests", says project lead, Dr Mark Harvey (Mātāwaka) senior lecturer, Faculty of Creative Arts and Industries.

Myrtle rust was first observed on mainland New Zealand in May 2017 and quickly outpaced Ministry for Primary Industry-led efforts to eradicate it. Atkins has been raising a red flag about the severity of myrtle rust impacts on native species, charting the impacts of the disease by sharing observations through social media networks, since his first sightings on ramarama trees in April 2018. In the documentary he warns that the risk of local extinction is acute.

"In three years, all the ramarama on the East Coast is gone...."

A p a n u i - K u p e n g a's documentary was one of the first creative works commissioned by Toi Taiao



Myrtle rust was first observed on mainland New Zealand in May 2017.

Whakatairanga. Having previously worked closely with Atkins, including on Tihei Taiao, a series of online videos introducing viewers to species of native trees, she was familiar with the urgency of the situation for ramarama.

Designed as a call for urgent action, Mate Tipu, Mate Rākau hints at the potential for much wider ecological - and economic – collapse as other species are impacted. There are 15 species of native myrtle trees and plants (myrtaceae) in the region with increasing observations of myrtle rust, including on one of the most important economic crops for iwi in the region, mānuka. Other myrtles at risk as the disease spreads across the country include pōhutakawa, rata, maire and kānuka.

Toi Taiao Whakatairanga recognises the potential and role the arts have in promoting care for, the natural environment. "

With previous creative projects undertaken to raise awareness on kauri dieback disease, I've seen first-hand how art can connect people emotionally to an issue, how arts-led projects can spark community education and make a safe space for cross-sector and community discussion", says Toi Taiao Whakatairanga researcher, curator Ariane Craig-Smith.

By tracing the dynamics of interactions between communities, artists, scientists, mana whenua and others engaged in forest kaitiakitanga, Toi Taiao Whakatairanga also aims to demonstrate how artistic practices can engage with mātauranga Māori frameworks.

Other artists engaged in the first year of the project include designer Tyrone Ohia (Ngāti Pūkenga, Ngāi te Rangi) and visual artist Charlotte Graham (Hauraki, Waikato, Ngati Mahuta, Ngai Tai, Ngati Tamaoho). The project is also planning to work in Northland with Te Roroa iwi in collaboration with film and sound artist Danial Nathan. The project will run until 2023.

The Mobilising for Action research rōpū seek to make 'on the ground difference' to how kauri dieback and myrtle rust are being understood and addressed. Public knowledge and behaviour has a critical role both in informing this research and in developing management strategies, says Dr Harvey.

"Localised reporting shows how the disease is operating in different ways on different species. These observations are critical. not only to inform wider scientific and management responses, but the Toi Taiao Whakatairanga research team also suggest that localised solutions will be key to preserving and supporting native myrtaceae "Iwi and populations. hapū, with their specific mātauranga about these species and environments. and unique relationships with their whenua, are going to have a critical role in that process."

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WI Awareness Month commemorated



Women's Institute members at the Manaia Walkway.

As part of the South Taranaki Womens Institutes' Awareness Month, members gathered for lunch at the Waimate Hotel and enjoyed a lovely lunch and sociability.

Rain was falling steadily and we waited for the rain

to stop, a blue patch of sky appeared and we were off on our mission.

The beautiful walkway was a hidden treasure to some of our members and many commented on both the beauty and it's well maintained presentation tucked behind the Manaia Golf Course.

All New Zealand federations had been presented with a kowhai tree, and we, as one of those federations, felt very proud to be united in commemorating the centenary of the Women's Institute in New Zealand. *Phyllis Malcolm*

In our last issue. The above photo went with the wrong story. We apologise for the error.







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Moo: A book of happiness for cow lovers (Exisle Publishing), Hardback \$24.99. Out in November.

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With photos of around 50 of the world's most popular cattle breeds, this is the perfect gift for anyone from bovine experts to folks who happen to find cows cute (you'll be surprised by how many famous names agree).

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Public

Stronger internal borders needed

Auckland's hard boundary has been put into focus after two Covid-19 cases were detected in Christchurch, one of whom had returned from a visit to Auckland. It was announced that

Christchurch will stay at Alert Level 2 settings. Regarding New Zealand's

international border, the Government announced that people returning from abroad will have a reduced stays in New Zealand's Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ) facilities from 14 days to seven, followed by a three-day stay self-isolating at home and rapid antigen

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Professor Nick Wilson, Department of Health, University of Otago, comments: "We need tighter internal arrangements border urgently. "With the

reported Christchurch cases, it is clear that there is an urgent need to tighten the internal borders around Auckland and Waikato where there are community cases. It is now a very serious deficit that people crossing these borders are not required to be fully vaccinated and are not required to have a rapid antigen test at the border crossing point. The rest of the country needs to avoid Covid-19 outbreaks for as long as possible so that there is time to improve vaccination levels and to vaccinate 5-11-yearolds when that approval is obtained. Fortunately, there is still a reasonable chance that elimination status can be regained for Christchurch (as it has after Delta cases were identified in Wellington, Blenheim and Palmerston North). "The international border

should probably be different for people just returning to Auckland. "It

was somewhat

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surprising that the Government made no announcement that the MIQ system was to be made much simpler for people returning just to Auckland. Given that the goal of Covid-19 control in Auckland is no longer elimination, but rather to just suppress the level of community transmission so as to reduce the burden on the healthcare system, there

seems to be a need for a different approach to MIQ for that city. "So perhaps vaccinated people returning from overseas to just Auckland should be able to by-pass MIQ facilities completely and go straight to home quarantine for a few days (ideally with testing requirements). As perhaps a third of people wishing to return to New Zealand might be wanting to just return to Auckland, this would help a lot in reducing pressure on the MIQ system. But for those returning to the rest of New Zealand, the current 14day stay in MIQ might still be needed for some weeks and months (though less if Covid-19 spreads around the country due to deficient

internal border controls)." Dr Dianne Sika-Paotonu, Immunologist, Associate Dean (Pacific), Head of University of Otago Wellington Pacific Office, and Senior Lecturer, Molecular Pathology & Medicine, University of Otago Wellington says the changes to the MIQ system are needed.

"We've sadly ended up with a situation in Aotearoa New Zealand where there is more Delta spreading in our communities than entering at our borders.

"The option for 'selfisolation' at home for those fully vaccinated travellers wanting to enter Aotearoa New Zealand will be within reach once the government's vaccination target of 90 per cent for each DHB has been reached, and the transition made from the current Alert Level system to the Traffic Light System/ COVID-19 Protection Framework-announced by the Government last week.

"To ensure no-one is left behind, vaccination target details for Aotearoa New Zealand actually needed to include at least 90 - 95 per cent full vaccinations for Māori and Pacific peoples. This would help keep our most vulnerable communities safe from COVID-19 - and also includes protecting our children and young people.

"Accessibility issues persist for hard-to-reach communities and more vaccination outreach activities and events that are resourced appropriately are needed. Although improving, Māori and Pacific vaccination rates remain behind the overall rate as more time was needed to catch-up with other groups

given the initial vaccination roll-out in Aotearoa New Zealand prioritised other groups to get vaccinated first. "Leaving any of our most vulnerable behind and unprotected, given the adverse health impact already seen for vulnerable groups in Aotearoa New Zealand, will have far reaching consequences. It will be important for DHBs to ensure an equity focus for their vaccination efforts that results in appropriate and targeted approaches for people that reduces barriers and builds trust, to get help and assistance out to those who need it most.

"Please get vaccinated and keep others round you safe."

"The new cases detected in Christchurch indicate Delta is on the move and continuing to transmit beyond borders across Aotearoa New Zealand. Border controls require focus - we have to stay vigilant.

"A high degree of risk remains for all in Aotearoa New Zealand, but especially for our most vulnerable communities at this time.

" "Although vaccination have improved, rates focus and momentum must continue, with work underway to increase accessibility and reduce barriers for those needing the COVID-19 vaccine still needed - this also applies for COVID-19 testing and prevention efforts.

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To mandate or not to mandate

With COVID-19 case numbers going up and vaccination targets still some way to being met, the question is being asked of whether vaccinations should be mandatory.

the question is Dr Bodo Lang, Senior Lecturer, Department of Marketing, University of Auckland, comments: "Mandatory vaccinations are long overdue and in line with many other behaviour change strategies. "Many organisations want to affect behaviour change. The first step to behaviour change is typically raising awareness and offering something that individuals value, so they freely adopt the desired behaviour. Think advertising for highly successful brands. They never go on sale. They are so well designed, consumers simply want them. "However, awareness and intrinsic value are to affect enough not behaviour desired the change in all individuals.

Other individuals require incentives for adopting the behaviour or disincentives for not adopting the desired behaviour. "Mandatory vaccinations are long overdue because those who remain un-vaccinated or under-vaccinated impact everybody else in New Zealand. The more people are negatively affected by a behaviour, the more important it is to make the behaviour mandatory and to have clear rules in place for those who may flout those rules. It seems uncomfortable and risky. But it isn't. "This is where the government can take comfort from how they handle other mandatory behaviour change strategies: speeding in one's car, driving while under the influence, or causing an environmental disaster as a business. The rules are clear as are the incentives for adopting the desired behaviour: speeding and drink driving: to live, arrive safely and continue

environmental disaster: to be well respected by the community and to continue to operate as a business. The disincentives are also clear: fines, possible loss of being able to operate a vehicle or not being able to continue to operate as a business. "Therefore, mandatory vaccinations have to supported by clear be incentives and disincentives. This will maximise how many New Zealanders will be doubly vaccinated and how quickly they will do so. remaining "The only question is why the desired behaviour is not mandated across all businesses. Collectively we stand to lose too much to make vaccinations optional."

Professor Michael Plank, Te Pūnaha Matatini and University of Canterbury, comments: "When we move to the new traffic light system, we will be relying more vaccination and less on on blanket restrictions to manage the spread of Covid in the community. This is a good thing because nobody wants more lockdowns. But it means that the health risk we all face in our day-to-day lives will depend on whether people we come into contact with are vaccinated. "Vaccine certificates and the new vaccine mandates for workers are first and foremost a tool to reduce the spread of Covid and to protect people's health. If an unvaccinated person goes to a venue, an event or a workplace, they are putting the health of those around them at risk. They are also adding to the overall burden of Covid on our health systems. "There is no magic bullet to get rid of Covid so we have to do what we can to minimise its impact. We can either use blanket measures like lockdowns which place restrictions on everyone. Or we can use vaccine certificates which restrict the freedoms of the small minority of people who choose not to be vaccinated."



OPEN DAY NEXT WEDNESDAY

TENDER | HANDY AND WELL LOCATED RUNOFF

Arawhata Road, Opunake

If you are looking for a runoff to graze some heifers or run some beef cattle along with making some supplements, 4pm, Friday 19th November 2021 this could well be what you're after

Located on Arawhata Road this 31.03Ha (76.68 acre) West Coast Lease block is currently grazing 107 May-to-May dairy heifers and cutting supplements.

Being rectangular in shape, the farm is well fenced into 10 paddocks, and has the reliable Oaonui water supplied to the front half of the farm with the remainder being of natural sources.

The land is of easy contour with some small Lahar at the front running back to more easy and flatter contoured land at the back where the vendor cuts approximately 7Ha for supplements annually.

There is a large barn with a capacity to hold approximately 165 bales of hay (15's) and a handy set of cattle yards with load out on the Arawhata Road frontage.



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Wednesday 10 November

10:30am-11:00am

Tender Closes

Open Day

17

NEWS

OPEN DAY NEXT WEDNESDAY



Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park



to drive; not causing an

Charlie the new Nubian goat kid at Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park pictured with his mum Anya. She decided to have him in front of a visiting crowd at Stoney Oaks much to the delight of adults and children alike. It was the first time a lot of them had seen a baby born and some were open mouthed in shock. Others had their hands over their faces so they couldn't see and others were just so excited, dying to be the first to pat him as he entered the world even though he was wet and slimey. Great experience for everyone there.

Gail Simons



TENDER | OPUNAKE RUNOFF WITH OPTIONS

4782 South Road, RD 31, Opunake New to market and bordering both South Road and

Arawhata Road, Opunake here is a block you can't ignore.

Comprising 28.32 hectares (69.98 acres) and in 4 titles. this block is currently growing replacement dairy heifers, a few beefies and cutting supplements

This is a top little block and is flat in contour, well raced, fenced and as an extra is on the Oaonui water scheme.

The home comprises an older but very tidy 4-bedroomed villa which is set back off the road and support buildings include a 3-bay storage shed/barn, separate barn and a disused cowshed with yards.

The options on offer here are few and far between these days and anybody looking for a runoff, support block or a larger lifestyle must see what is available here

eieio.co.nz #0PR00922 **Tender Closes** 4pm, Friday 19th November 2021

at McDonald Real Estate Ltd 50 Tasman Street, Opunake

Open Day Wednesday 10 November 11:15am-11:45am





FOR SALE | PREMIUM DAIRY FARM WITH SCALE 139 Bayly Road, Pungarehu

_ocated on the popular Bayly Road is this top quality, 174.38Ha (430.89 acre) dairy farm which is currently milking approx. 450 cows through a very tidy and fully automated 44 bail rotary cowshed. Currently in 3 titles with 3 homes, the main home being a large 4-bedroom brick family home set in magnificent gardens, this farm is well subdivided, has very good race systems, fencing and water reticulation. The land is largely flat to easy in contour and has a mix of strategically planted live hedging and shelter belts which, as well as providing shelter, gives the farm the appearance of a park-like setting. Currently operating as a level 1-2 system, this farm is growing about 25Ha of crops compromising of 20Ha of Chicory and 5Ha of Maize. With an engineered effluent storage system installed in 2019, numerous farm buildings for hay, storage, implements and calf rearing purposes, everything is in place to carry on as the vendors have done for many years. With the addition of an adjacent 26.7Ha lease block currently being utilised in the farming operation (possibly available to purchasers), there are plenty of options available on the table for purchasers, including a Going Concern. Viewing will not disappoint and as such is highly recommended.

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Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards Winner of the Open Short Story Section

Dear Eleanor by Rolland McKellar

6 Morrieson Street, Hawera Taranaki New Zealand

4 January 2021

Dear Eleanor

Sorry I missed sending you my usual cheerful Christmas letter. I delayed because I have been doing some serious thinking. Instead, this is my New Year's Letter, which is inspired by a New Year's Resolution that I'm determined to always tell the truth, no matter what. Yes, I know I'm a Pollyanna, always putting a positive spin on everything to the point of being a bit dishonest. Well, more than a bit, truth be told. This year I'm telling it how it really is and I must explain it's not in the usual way where I put a gloss on everything. I also want to correct a few things I claimed (boasted about) in my last Christmas letter.

Let's start with my beloved partner Burt, or

should I say Burp – because that's what he does all day long after guzzling a mountain of beer, when he's not high on marijuana, that is. I know I've bragged that he's a talented artist who won first prize (it was actually Commended) in the Lysaght Watt Art Contest a while ago and is entitled to some artistic licence, but I now realise he's basically a lazy slob, who leaves blobs of paint, discarded paint brushes and paint smeared palette knives all around the place for me to deal with, while never doing a scrap of work. Yesterday, I even had to fish a paint brush out of the toilet bowl – what on earth was he painting? No,

let's not go there. I should have left him years ago, but there is still that large life insurance policy of his to be considered, worth \$100,000 (Yes, I know I boasted that it was a million bucks – I lied). I've been watching that television channel Bravo, which features criminal cases in your country where a big life insurance cover can lead to some fatal consequences. Burt's lucky I'm a lawabiding citizen, but I'm getting a few ideas.

Now, let's turn to my wonderful son Cowsten, grotesquely named after his paternal great grandfather, Cowsten J. Palance, who was a carpetbagger in your country. Turning the honesty switch onto full, woeful is a more apt description of my son. What sort of a name is Cowsten anyway, cow stain more like? Like what happens to your shoes if you stand anywhere in a cow paddock, without looking. I don't need to tell an American cowgirl like you what I mean, do I?

Yes, he did write a story, which won the short story section of the Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards – what I wrote last Christmas was true. He was invited on stage at a special assembly by the school principal to be compared with a young Hemingway. What I didn't tell you was that I came across a very similar story in a book of short stories on his bedside table that he'd obviously looked at very closely. His winning story wasn't word for word, but it was way too similar. Plagiarism I think it's called. This year the principal has

called him up to her office, several times, but in disgrace because of something the little sod has done wrong. A while ago it was for cheating in an exam. He had been allowed (reluctantly) to go to the bathroom where he had some notes and a couple of text books secretly stashed. They toppled off a high ledge just as a teacher came to see why he was taking so long in the toilet cubicle and crashed down on the man's head when the door was slammed. Cowsten had earlier claimed, during the exam session, that he had an upset stomach and urgently needed to get to the

bathroom.

Last time, just a fortnight ago, he was caught smoking a joint (pinched from his father's stash) in the same place. The principal let him off with a warning, not expulsion, because of his supposed literary talent, the male equivalent of our Katherine Mansfield. In reality, he's a disgrace and a chip off the old block, his blockhead father, that is.

What about my daughter Grace, is she my one and only pride and joy? Well, she was, past tense. Most of what I said last Christmas was true (apart from winning the Opunake Beach Teen Contest) with not too much exaggeration (She was actually placed third). But she has become really insolent and lets me know how her best friend Juliet's mum is way cooler than me, allowing her to do more, as well as staying out later.

This next thing I don't really want to tell you, but I have to stick to my New Year's Resolution. Grace has been seeing a no hoper called Jason Watson. He's way too old for her at 21 to her 16. When it got past 10pm the other night, I asked him to leave, as Grace had a big day ahead. He replied, politely, "Yes, of course, I understand. Goodnight," and, moments later, I heard the front door close.

Next thing, around midnight, I heard some odd noises coming from Grace's bedroom. The hall light bulb had blown, so torch in hand, I turned her door handle. I heard a sort of shuffling. Once inside the darkened bedroom, I noticed Grace was head down seemingly asleep, but the torch beam revealed a muddy shoe under her bed. The window was partly open, which was odd because ravenous mosquitoes mean we have to keep them shut at night. I shone the torch underneath

Continued next page

10 CELTIC SEA SALT BENEFITS

Humans cannot survive without salt because it helps regulate the water content in the body. Most people think they should eliminate salt from their diet, which is not a complete truth. While table salt or refined salt is toxic and unhealthy, your body needs natural pure salt to complete several processes. It means you should avoid the wrong type of salt but look for a better alternative such as Celtic sea salt, harvested through the Celtic method that uses wooden rakes to prevent exposure to metals.



IT STABILIZES BLOOD SUGARS

Celtic sea salt benefits also include its ability to stabilize blood sugar. People with diabetes have a hard time maintaining their blood sugar levels, and that is when Celtic sea salt can be of great help.

IT IMF

IT IMPROVES ENERGY

You are going to feel tired when your body does not have enough sodium and trace minerals. The solution is to include Celtic sea salt in your diet, which helps regenerate hydroelectric energy in the cells.



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IT HELPS WITH KIDNEY STONES

If you have been dealing with kidney stones for a while now, consider replacing refined salt with Celtic sea salt..



IT HELPS CONTROL SALIVA

Drooling in your sleep can be quite embarrassing and troublesome too. It sometimes means you do not have the right kind of salt in your body or you are dehydrating.

1

3

IT IS HIGH IN SODIUM Sodium is an essential mineral need

Sodium is an essential mineral needed by the body to control blood pressure and volume.

IT HAS HEALING PROPERTIES

One of the many Celtic sea salt benefits is that it balances out the minerals in the body and offers healing benefits.

IT IMPROVES YOUR CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH Unlike refined salt, Celtic sea salt is actually good for your cardiovascu-

lar health. Consuming Celtic sea salt with adequate amount of water actually helps stabilize irregular heartbeats.



Regular consumption of sea salt improves the health of nerve cells. This makes it easier for them to communicate and process information.

IT ALKALIZES THE BODY

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PH 06 758 7533

Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards Winner of the Open Short Story Section

the bed and spotted the Watson lout - naked. I delivered a big kick to his bum as he took off, clutching his trousers - out the window. I just managed to get a second kick in as he was swallowed by the shrubbery.

I dread to think what's been going on or about to go on. Luckily, her period has just started, but now Grace won't even talk to me. I have to ask Burp, I mean Burt, to tell her what she needs to know. What a life.

Are you still looking for a pet cat? You are welcome to ours, we'll post her to you, with her head jutting out of the postal box beside the stamps. Just kidding. Now that she has turned 14 she's got muddled - feline senility I suspect. She used to head outside to relieve herself, but now she's got it arse about face. She now scurries inside to pee in the lounge corner - and sometimes worse. Yuck. Last week she peed in my favourite shoes, the ones you gave me for my last birthday. I regret to report that they are no longer cream, but a mottled yellow. They smell like a neglected cattery, as do my feet.

Finally, I'll mention my job at the primary school, our equivalent of your elementary school. I'm a teacher aide. Yes, I know, I claimed I was the Deputy Principal (sorry). The job's poorly paid, but better than nothing. However, I've been switched to a more difficult class and I don't just mean the students. Can you believe, the teacher gives me all the difficult kids to deal with, usually one to one, while she swans around the room with sickly smiles bestowed on her goody goody favourites. It gets worse; the other day I caught her painting her nails, hands under the desk, just after I had to deal with a boy who swore at me before trying to kick me. He has ADD or something, which really stands for A Diabolical Dickhead, I'm sure.

Well, that's about it. I'll end on a positive note, I still have my health, well apart She was especially alarmed from the worsening eczema when I showed her your

funeral services

W



Rolland McKellar.

and weekly migraines. Love Helen. PS. Write soon.

5320 Harry Hines Blvd Dallas Texas 75390-9034 United States

4 January 2021

Dear Helen

I haven't received your usual Christmas letter as yet. Our postal system here in the southern states is hopeless at this time of year, late deliveries are usual. I expect it has been delayed. Or worse; last week a whole pile of undelivered mail was found in a downtown dumpster under a decomposing dog, so maybe your one is there.

Nothing is going well for me here in Dallas. I've just lost my part time job at the cattle ranch because of Covid. I'll spare you the details.

Also, I am clinically depressed again, this downer worse than last time. The antidepressants I've been prescribed aren't helping much and just make me feel dopey and away with the fairies. After talking to my shrink (sorry psychiatrist), she thinks that my contact with you is making me more depressed. She described the effect of your monthly pen pal letters to me as "toxic."

vospers.co.nz

Christmas letter from a year ago. It was so filled to the brim with the wonderful aspects of your life, such as your loving and supportive partner, a talented artist. By contrast, my latest flame has just left me for a skank who works at the local supermarket. You know, the one I told you about - the Marilyn Monroe lookalike with the trout pout and fake breasts.

Reading your Christmas letter, so overflowing with your wonderful and fulfilled life, is just going to make me even more depressed. Also, there is all the positive news about your amazing kids, like your son Cowlick or whatever his unforgettable name is - which I've forgotten! He's well on the way to becoming a great writer now that he's won that Morrissey Writing Award; is that what it's called? Ernest Hemingway, get off the sidewalk, there's a new kid on the block, you said.

However, there's not too much good to say about my son Randy who's struggling at school and always getting into trouble. His teacher says I need to get him extra help with all his subjects, especially math, but that's expensive and I can't afford it on welfare. To make matters worse, my welfare exit date is racing towards me at breakneck speed,

so I'll soon be even more broke. My useless second ex-husband has ignored my plea for some extra money to lay on private tuition for Randy. He's planning to shift to Alaska seeking work on a fishing trawler, but it's really about escaping his responsibilities as a father. Salmon fishing, he claims, will earn big money then he can afford to help, he says. Yeah right! Asshole.

However, I do have some news about my daughter She's Corinne. trucking with a couple of unemployed guys in their early twenties - losers I'd call them. Well, even though she's only 15, I think she's pregnant. I'm keeping my fingers crossed she's not; I don't need any more mouths to feed. Also, the idea of being a grandmother in my forties is the absolute pits and beyond depressing.

Anyway, I'm sorry to have to say this, but please no more pen pal letters, especially your cheerful Christmas one. If one arrives that has been delayed in the post, I'm afraid I won't risk reading it. My shrink says it is cathartic (or something) to screw it up, jump on it, before tossing it in the fire.

I'm just so terrified of things getting out of hand if I get worse and end up doing Something Stupid apologies to Sinatra. Luckily, I survived that last

episode, but was spitting out bits of gritty charcoal for days and my mouth tasted like surgical rubber.

Anyway, make sure you continue to have a great life, at least one of us should. I'm sorry to have to end our pen pal friendship, but I have to put my mental health first.

I know you were planning to visit me in August (Covid allowing) so we could finally meet in person after 19 years as pen pals. Please put that on hold - permanently. Take care. Love Eleanor.



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We will include a Dining Guide to let people know where the best places are to eat, drink and relax for a while when travelling around Taranaki during December and January. We would love to help send them in your direction. Please email ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz Deadline Monday 6th December. Ph: 06 761 7016

A new cow shed = new opportunities for Waimacher Farms

Waimacher doesn't let opportunities pass them by. Aaron has been running two neighbouring properties and when the opportunity arose to buy an adjacent block the company grabbed it. From there it was full steam ahead in amalgamating the farms and building a new cow shed which also meant a new effluent management system.

'Amalgamating the farms provided us the opportunity to make everything more efficient. Investing in a new cow shed and effluent system just made sense.'

Once plans for the cow shed were underway it was time to focus on how to



MICHAEL PRESTIDGE

manage the effluent. Having visited the farm a few times, Aaron was happy to take advice from Nevada Effluent Management Specialist, Mike.

'Aaron's goal was to have an efficient system that minimised labour and

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For Waimacher Farms a new cowshed meant a new effluent management system.

maximised flexibility in when we could apply effluent fast. We worked through all the options to come out with a solution that suited the new farm's operations.' – Michael Prestidge, Nevada Effluent Management Specialist

The first consideration was storage. A large HDPE lined pond was the best option to be able to store plenty of effluent over wet periods when spreading isn't an option. A weeping wall was considered, but instead Aaron installed a double stone trap to allow organic solids to pass through into the pond.

'We considered a weeping wall but couldn't see the point in creating two products to be dealt with, keeping the effluent liquid was easiest for us.'

From there a powerful Nevada electric stirrer gets the pond well mixed before a Sabre progressive cavity (PC) pump (which is big enough to handle future expansions) pumps the effluent out to a Greenback Magnum travelling irrigator. 'It's [effluent management system] very efficient. Much less work than we thought. We just run the stirrer for around 10 minutes before pumping and it gets a good mix. It certainly grows grass!'

> Michael Prestidge | Nevada Effluent Management Specialist

Sunsmart farming is smart farming

Federated Farmers wants to remind farmers and growers this is a good time to be thinking about getting "sunsmart" for summer. More than 4000 people are

every year, accounting for 80% of skin cancer deaths in New Zealand. It has been estimated up to 25% of farmers and growers

diagnosed with melanoma

have had a skin cancer. Farmers and growers are at higher risk of catching melanoma due to New Zealand's UV radiation intensity, and the time they spend outside.

However, melanoma and skin cancers are preventable

and curable diseases. The right protection techniques and annual checks can save a life, Federated Farmers vice president and Wairarapa arable farmer

"It needs to become routine

to put on sunscreen before going outside. On our farm

Karen Williams says.

we have got big pump bottles of sunscreen at the house and down at the sheds, and smaller bottles in all the vehicles, along with plenty of brimmed hats.

"As we know, farmers are very busy people, but an annual check on your health and wellbeing, which includes a skin check, could save your life," she says.

Regular checks with a specialist or GP are the best way for those at risk to receive skin monitoring, and if melanoma is detected early enough it can be successfully treated.

Federated Farmers supports Melanoma New Zealand's recent campaign 'Get Spotted' which aims for a New Zealand with no deaths from melanoma. Farmers who get

themselves checked and stock up on sunscreen for themselves, family, staff, and farm visitors will help see this vision realised.

"It's a legitimate farm expense. It's no different than buying a high vis vest to be seen, helmets to protect your head, or safety boots to protect your toes," Karen says.

We welcome your contributions Please send to editorial@opunakecoastal news.co.nz

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Federated Farmers welcome free trade deal

Federated Farmers the has welcomed announcement of a free trade deal between the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

"The United Kingdom is walking the talk when it comes to promising a truly global Britain," Federated Farmers National President Andrew Hoggard says.

"We congratulate the New Zealand team of negotiators, officials and politicians who have tenaciously pursued this deal. The result is impressive. It's a job well done."

Federated Farmers has a long history of supporting efforts to free up global trade and it takes every opportunity to get producers in other countries to embrace trade liberalization, he says. "There has been

a worrying trend of growing protectionism for agricultural products since the outbreak of COVID-19.

"This FTA shows trade liberalisation remains the forward globally," way

Andrew says. Feds believes it is difficult to overstate the importance of trade to New Zealand, with the movement of goods and services from and into the country being vital to the country's generally high standard of living.

"In the past two years we have all been starkly reminded of this as our country has lent heavily on our global exporters to maintain our economy.

"Since the announcement of an agreement in principle between Australia and the UK in June, we have been hoping that New Zealand gets a deal of our own.

"Today we got there," Andrew says.

The in-principle FTA will result in the full liberalisation of all trade between New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

The deal will involve transition periods for many key agricultural goods, some key details are:

Cheese to be fully liberalised after five years, with a duty free transitional

... and champion calf

quota of 24,000 tonnes increasing to 48,000 tonnes Butter to be fully liberalised after five years, with a duty free transitional quota of 7,000 tonnes increasing to 15,000 tonnes Beef to be fully liberalised after 15 years,

with a duty free transitional volume of 12,000 tonnes increasing to 60,000 tonnes Sheep meat to be fully liberalised after 15 years, with a duty free transitional quota of 35,000 tonnes increasing to 50,000 tonnes

Champion lamb ...

Apples will be fully liberalised after three years, with a seasonal transitional quota of 20,000 tonnes. Vegetable seeds

liberalised after entry into force Onions will be fully liberalised after entry into force

for sowing will be fully

Wine will be fully liberalised after entry into force

"And now our attention will turn on the European Union. Feds would like to see EU match this ambition in its FTA negotiations with New Zealand," Andrew says.

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Amy O'Rorke with her calf Bella won Supreme Champion Calf at St Joseph's Opunake last week. This is the third year in a row that Amy has won this title. From left Barry Moore, Rob Thwaites. **Congratulations Amy.**



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Crystal Jordan won Supreme Champion at St Joseph's **Opunake with her lamb Marley**

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consideration of a national bottom line for Dissolved

Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN).

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achieve the freshwater

. Work with us on

"Work with industry to

recommendations from the

independent review of M.

bovis, address essential

system gaps and work

with industry to enable a

streamlined, efficient model

for biosecurity readiness and

10. Rework the National

"In consultation with

farmers, ensure the NPS

will meet our biodiversity

objectives, while also

working for landowners."

Indigenous Biodiversity

Statement

implementing

outcomes we all want."

biosecurity

prioritise

Policy

adequate

mobile

have

benefits for our sector." 7. Give farmers certainty

connectivity

broadband or

and rule out DIN

don't

Ten ways Government could back dairy farmers

DairyNZ is calling on the Government to partner with dairy farmers to achieve better outcomes, invest more in research and development, and stop overloading farmers with too many regulations.

Ten recommendations for Government have been drawn from DairyNZ's latest 'View from the Cowshed' survey of 425 dairy farmers.

DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle says it's critical the Government work more closely with farmers to support investment in research and development, so farmers can continue working to reduce their environmental footprint, while maintaining profitability.

"This year's survey indicates farmers are making on-farm changes to improve their environmental management and their workplaces, but are feeling

under pressure from constant regulatory changes," said Dr Mackle.

"We want to see more focus on ensuring regulations are fair, practical and don't overburden farmers with too many different requirements. "Dairy is New Zealand's leading export sector, employs 50,000 Kiwis and is forecast to contribute over \$40 billion to our economy this year, so it's important for our country's success that farmers are supported to keep contributing to New Zealand."

Fifty seven percent of farmers surveyed said changing Government regulations are causing them stress, with 55 percent also saying perception of dairy farmers by the public and in media was also keeping them up at night. Sixty seven percent of farmers feel there isn't enough support

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The View from the Cowshed survey summarises the top of mind concerns of Kiwi dairy farmers, like the Woodward family of Otorohanga.

for farmers dealing with mental health issues.

Positively, the survey revealed 70 percent of farmers surveyed have a Farm Environment Plan - a key tool farmers use to identify and manage environmental risks through adopting good farming practices.

"Dairy farmers are operating in a complex environment and managing a lot of challenges. Around half previously reported being short-staffed and 45 percent don't have the internet service they need to efficiently run farm operations," says Dr Mackle. In the past two years, the

Government has proposed changes to policy on freshwater management, wintering, climate change, biodiversity and vehicle taxes which would all significantly impact on farmers.

These issues may have contributed to 32 percent of farmers saying they feel less positive about farming than 12 months ago - despite strong milk prices. Only 17 percent reported they felt more positive.

Matamata dairy farmer Sam Owen says there isn't one cause of mental health issues in rural communities.

"It's a combination of things like the labour market, changing regulations and negative media. Most people can cope with one thing, but when there are lots of things coming at you at once, it can push you over the edge."

DairyNZ has compiled ten recommendations to address farmer concerns. The organisation will issue a copy of The View from the Cowshed report to all members of Parliament and request meetings to discuss the findings.

"We know these issues aren't going to go away overnight, but making these ten changes would make a real difference to the lives and wellbeing of rural New Zealanders," Dr Mackle

Ten ways Government could improve outcomes for dairy farmers

1. Slow down the speed and scale of regulatory change farmers are facing "Farmers know a shift

is needed but there is too much at once, and it's uncoordinated. Farmers are feeling overloaded."

2. Help the sector overcome our workforce challenges

"Supporting clear pathways into dairy jobs for local and international workers. '

with farmers and rural communities

and biodiversity."

R&D

"We need a good strategy that is properly resourced to help us tackle the big challenges we face as a country. Science is the solution to many of our challenges.'

approach internationally

gas and the exploration of alternative metrics like GWP* that better reflect the warming impact of

Invest significantly 6. improved in digital



Dr Tim Mackle.



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responses." 9. Remove the ute tax "Exempt farmers from the 'ute tax' until low emission alternatives are readily

Actively partner available in New Zealand 3. that are fit-for-purpose on farm."

"Support farming communities to drive change behind the farm gate that will lead to better environmental outcomes when it comes to the climate, water quality

4. Set a clear strategy for

5. Proudly champion our world-leading split gas



methane.'

says.



Above: Winners of the Farmlands sponsored Lambie Pairs tournament: Kelly Hill and Ken Kape (Skip), of Okato.

Opunake Bowling Club news and results

A very successful men's tournament was held on Labour Weekend. Fourteen teams entered the Lambie Pairs on October 25, and were very competitive, with the first three teams each having four wins. Results. 1. Ken Kape and Kelly Hill (Okato). 2. Gavin Horo and Cameron Horo (Rahotu). 3. Kewene Ratahi and Bob Commane (Opunake). A very good day, with the teams complimenting the

P. C. VAT

catering and the greens. On October 3 there was a good turnout of 16 members at the Peg Barrett Memorial. Three games were played with one winner, with Harry Davy, Val Langton and Sandy Oliver finishing first. The Men's Championship Fours were played on October 17. They played to win, two games out of three. The winners were Paddy Deegan, Kewene Ratahi, Daryl MacKenzie and Levi

Davis, who beat Kevin Ratahi, Peter Clement, Harry Davy and Olly Oliver.

The Ladies Club Triples were played on October 20 on a nice sunny day with a hint of a breeze and the greens were running well. The winners were Joy Collins, Eileen Rothwell and Esther Ward-Campbell. Runners-Up were Marilyn Watts, Val Langton and Anne Woods.

Kay Fleming

Value Farm Sheds



The Western

TET Taranaki Masters Games called off

Due to the uncertainty around social gatherings under COVID restrictions,

that the TET Taranaki Masters Games will not

the decision has been made be held in 2022. Further announcements will be made at a later date.

Sandfords Manaia Golf results

1. Ralph Symes. 2. Craig

Grant Gopperth. Juniors. Chipping. 1. Jude King.

October 23. Saturday Men. Jones. 3. Paul Hunn. 4. Poole. 2. Jaxon Moorehead. 3. Max Bailey. 4. Katie



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Above: Sandfords Golf Course at Manaia



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The home of the good yarn



Stacey Smith and Lisa Ison help put the Yarn bomb together.

FARMERS

A pensioned off Ford Courier farm ute dressed to the nines is among the newcomers at this year's Opunake Yarn Bomb.

"We'd always wanted to do something big," says Yarn Bomb organiser Trish Anderson. When a farm ute

was donated it seemed too good a chance to pass up. The ute was parked by the TSB in the day, and driven away at night "It had served its time on

the farm, and now it's come to us," says Trish. The Opunake Lakeside Lions Club has been running the Yarn Bomb for the last five years. The townwide tribute to colour runs in Festival Week, and in previous years has been held at the same time as the two garden festivals and the Taranaki National Art Awards. COVID has meant the Art awards will not be held this year, but the garden festivals are still going ahead. Trish says they were still hoping there will be enough visitors around to enjoy their handiwork.

"We wanted to do it for the local people any way, but there should still be a fair amount of visitors coming through," says Trish.

Yarn bombing has been defined as a type of graffiti or street art that employs colourful displays of knitted or crocheted yarn or fibre. It is believed to have begun with Texas knitters trying to find a creative way to use their leftover and unfinished knitting projects, but it has since caught on all around the world.

In Opunake, the Yarn Bomb may have started with an idea from the Lakeside Lions, but the idea appears to have caught on with the rest of the town.

"It's really been good having other people around



The 'ET' quilt at Everybody's Theatre was put together by Maree Drought.

who have been happy to help," says Trish. "We're a small club, so it would have been quite a long day otherwise.'

They had even a group from New Plymouth who had stepped in to give a hand.

Local businesses were also getting in on the act. At Everybodys Theatre, Maree Drought had put together a quilt, with the squares laid out to form the letters ET for Everybody's Theatre in the centre, which stand out all the more clearly when a photo is taken.

"I made all the individual ones and then joined them together," says Maree. "You've got to stand back to see it. It makes it more interesting."

Among those helping to put up decorations was Stacey Smith, with niece Aiyana in tow, and helped by her friend Lisa Ison.

"At the TSB we have a day to give to the community, so I decided to help the Lions Club to put up the Yarn of an update.'

Bomb," said Stacey.

Trish says with the Yarn Bomb, every year is different.

"New things come and old things get retired," she says.

One landmark that never seems to escape attention is the Peter Snell statue. This year he was decked out in green.

"Peter Snell is now Peter Pan," says Trish. "He was starting to look a bit scratchy and needed a bit

The Vicar of Dibley Christmas Special



Written by Richard Curtis and Paul Mayhew-Archer. Adapted for stage by Stella **McCallum**

Show dates are available from 16th November – 11th December.

Directed by Stella McCallum and Mary Barron, The Vicar of Dibley Christmas Special, sees the return of the wonderful Geraldine Granger (Donna Yeats) and the colourful Dibley parishioners. Our always lovable vicar attempts to organise an unforgettable Christmas nativity show, all the while experiencing both the giddy highs and devastating lows of romance. Meanwhile Hugo and Alice are adapting to the idea of parenthood, in their uniquely endearing and ever clueless ways, with the much needed help of Geraldine, David, Owen, Frank, Jim and Letitia.





Andrew Foot

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ready to recruit on the spot, "Where else can you find that kind of opportunity? It's a win-win really, you can ask questions about the jobs, and show the businesses what you have to offer."

The job expo is on at the TSB Hub Hāwera and runs from 12.00pm to 3.00pm. Transport is available from Pātea, Waverley, Ōpunakē, Manaia and Eltham.

Registration to attend is recommended but not essential. All those that register to attend will go in the draw to win one of five \$50 Prezzy cards.

Registrations to attend and for transport can be made online at www. taranakichamber.co.nz/ chamber-hub or if your business would like a spot at the expo contact Chamber Hub on 06 759 9080.

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Mary Segan of Chamber Hub at Job Expo.

A job expo to connect businesses that are desperate for workers and jobseekers that are keen to be in employment will be held in Hawera next Wednesday.

Organised by Chamber Hub South, the expo will provide job opportunities to people who want them, and prospective employees to the businesses that need them. Since opening the Chamber Hub Hāwera office in April the team has supported dozens of job seekers into work.

Chamber Hub Manager, Sue Alexander says that the

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labour market is changing and there are an increasing number of businesses in Taranaki facing considerable labour shortages. "There are definitely more jobs out there than there are job seekers at the moment."

With over 20 businesses attending, there is a wide range of job opportunities on offer. Placement Support Coordinator Tina Parata says "If you need a long term job now, or a casual job over summer, this is the place to come."

"We are expecting around 200 job seekers through the

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doors on the day. This is a great opportunity for our businesses to sell themselves as a great place to work and hopefully find some amazing workers for their business." Employment Project

Coordinator Monica Willson says businesses will be there



Avast Behind! Peter Pan and Hook to battle at **Opunake's Lakeside Playhouse**

Have you ever wondered how many insults a frustrated pirate captain can throw at her hapless crew? Have you ever been bamboozled by a buccaneer? Do you believe in magic? The answer to these questions can be

discovered at Opunake Players' Lakeside Playhouse during their latest production 'Peter Pan'.

This pantomime version of the J.M. Barrie classic has been written by Amanda Stone and is directed by Lisa



DECEMBER 2 - DECEMBER || 202| Tickets \$20 Adult

\$10 Children Under 13 Under 5's Free on your knee Tickets available from. 15 November at Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration Opunake

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A rehearsal shot of Wendy (Brenna Johnson) telling a story to Nibs (Miley Davidson), Slightly (Xavier Le Prou) and Curly (Trixie Davidson) while Peter (Orlando Davidson) looks on.

Beynon. This is Lisa's first directorship since shifting from Auckland a few years ago. The Players are thrilled to have her and her vast theatrical knowledge on board. Like all good pantos, there's plenty of singing and dancing to be had. Helen Duff has taken the role of singing coach

while Elizabeth Andersen-Gardiner choreographs.

"I'm really excited about Peter Pan', says Lisa. "I'm looking forward to people of all ages coming to experience it". Experience being the operative word. Apart from the quality acting, singing and dancing Opunake Players usually produces, the

set, lighting and costumes are excellent as well. This writer has attended some rehearsals and knows you'll be impressed. If not you can feed me to the crocodile.

Lisa has assembled a hard working cast ranging in age from 6 to 60. Among some of the familiar faces are some new ones to the Playhouse

stage, especially among the Lost Boys. Opunake's acting future is assured.

And let's not forget, there is a story to be told. Will Captain Jane Hook capture Peter Pan? (Michelle Julian, Orlando Davidson) Will her less than competent pirate crew be of any help? (Alexandra Lawn, Christine Ryan, John McCarty) Will Tinkerbell's jealousy of Wendy (Monica, Brenna Johnson) thwart the Lost Boys desire to find a mother? Is there really magic? You'll have to come along and find out for yourself.

Opunake Players 'Peter Pan' is sure to be enjoyed by young and old. Just the thing to get you in a happy mood for Christmas. See the advert on this page for playing dates and tickets.

Fun fact: The name 'Wendy' was a British surname but became a popular name for girls when J.M. Barrie used it for his character Wendy Darling. He was inspired by the daughter of his friend W.E. Henley whose trouble pronouncing R meant she called her father "my Fwiendy wendy".

Paul Anderson-Gardiner





For more info visit www.stratford-speedway.co.nz

Unoriginal Sin is outstanding entertainment



Cue Theatre Unoriginal Sin. From left: Neville (Regan Tate), Eve (Jazz Gallagher), Father Tomlin (Kevin Koch), Bill (Dixon Lobb), Jenny (Cat Jordan), and Miles (Jimmy Bovaird).

have gone to great lengths to

fashion it in style complete

with bookcase, drinking

cabinet, curtains, pictures

- including one risqué one

which figures in the plot in a

The acting is at an

impressively high level with

everyone chosen optimally

for their part and contributing

to the sparkling repartee and

dialogue, whilst keeping the

The comedy opens with

a severe-looking Catholic

priest Father Tomlin (Kevin

Koch) striding out to his

pulpit to warn of possible

damnation. This is Kevin's

'swan song' after a long

to 1966. Later on in the

play he is back for some

searing moments with Bill.

If Bill does not heed his

directives, he is threatened

distinctly painful.

performance

the

Commandment,"

back

"Eleventh

which

is

audience in stitches.

career extending

with

startling way.

Cue Theatre's latest production, Unoriginal Sin, which runs until Saturday November 6, is virtually the perfect entertainment, no matter what angle it is viewed from. The adult comedy, written by David Tristram, is impeccably directed by Christine King. The capable Stage Managers are David Powell and Sharren Read. I don't think I've seen a more competently performed play, amateur or professional. It is set in the 1980s in Bill (Dixon Lobb) and Jenny's

(Cat Jordan) luxury English cottage amid divorce proceedings. The ornate and appealing

set itself is a credit to Peter Haines and his team, who

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electrifyingly superb – what a note to end on from this remarkable actor.

Dixon Lobb, as Bill, had a huge number of lines and dialogue with all the others yet managed to change pace and mood at will. His was a first class performance and the 'glue' which holds the whole comedy together.

Cat Jordan, as Jenny, plays her part with waspish finesse, her spicy dialogue with Bill most captivating. Jenny's a compulsive spender, but is she also quadriphonic? Another first class performance.

Jazz Gallagher as Eve engages in much tantalising dialogue with Bill, a writer (with a female non de plume!). She is gradually transforming herself – to the dismay of Father Tomlin and continues the process with appealing uncertainty. She manages to keep us guessing. Splendid acting from this talented actress, whom I look forward to seeing in her next role, whatever that may be.

Jimmy Bovaird as Miles is captivatingly assertive in his role as lawyer and friend of Bill's, although the friendship takes a hit when an unexpected item of clothing is found draped over the television set. His forceful personality ensures the comedy keeps momentum and verve.

Regan Tate as Neville is just downright funny as he plays the gormless fiancé of Eve with much witty innocence. Great acting.

As some are still to see the comedy I don't want to give too much away, but basically an estranged wealthy couple are going through the steps to divorce. One of the issues has been Bill's philandering, although it transpires Jenny is also not totally faithful either. Who gets what (money and property) is foremost in Jenny's mind.

There are many astonishing comic twists and turns, but one involves Eve, who, despite being engaged to Neville, is short on romantic experience. All she seeks initially is accommodation, but Bill thinks he can help out in other respects. Meanwhile, Jenny dreams up a bizarre contest.

Another positive was the excellent music, which marked the end and start of each scene. Rod Stewart, Abba and Tina Turner hits are amongst those featured.

The comedy ends in a remarkably unexpected way, rather shocking in a comical fashion. It's definitely one of the best shows I have ever seen. There's still some time, so book a ticket, you'll be delighted you did.

Rolland McKellar



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A BOY CALLED CHRISTMAS Adventure, Family|1hr 43mins|TBC Fri 12th Nov 7pm

RONS GONE WRONG Adventure, Animated |1hr 46mins |PG Sat 13th Nov 1pm|Fri 19th Nov 7pm Sat 27th Nov 1pm

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Man 405, has lived, needs beantiful independent woman

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What's On Listings

ONGOING

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

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

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

Opunake Walking Group: Every Tuesday 10am. Meet outside Club Hotel on Havelock St. Phone Margaret 027 477 5600 for more info if needed, or just turn up.

Life Drawing Group: Weekly at the Emporium, 86 Tasman St, Opunake 7pm to 9pm. \$10 to pay for the model. If anyone is interested please call Marianne Muggeridge on 06 274 5713. WEDNESDAYS

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

Okato & District Historical Society open every Wednesday: At the Okato Community Trust Hall, 47 Cumming St, Okato. phone Meg on 06 752 4566. **Opunake Embroiders Guild:** Meet 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, 10.30am-3pm at the Opunake Business Centre, Napier St, Opunake. Just come along or phone Sheryl 06 761 8769. Okato Market: In Hempton Hall, Okato 4.30 to 6.30pm.

Free singing experience with Taranaki Harmony Chorus: Meet every Wednesday at Inglewood Mamaku Centre, 7-9.30 pm Phone Helen 021 296 0700. THURSDAYS

Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at Butlers Reef Bar & Cafe, Oakura.

Taranaki Country Music Hall of Fame, Manaia: Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia. FRIDAYS

Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham. Singer Songwriters, New Plymouth: Last Friday of the month at Little Theatre, 29 Aubrey St, NP from 7-11pm.

WEEKENDS

The Historic Cape Light & Museum: Open 11am - 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea. **.OCTOBER 29 TO NOVEMBER 7**

Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival: 36 gardens and ten places of interest. \$2 per garden. www.taranakigardens.com or facebook: taranakigardenfestival

NOVEMBER 6, 13, 20,27 Stratford Speedway Racing: At Stratford Speedway. Racing starts at 7pm

NOVEMBER 8 TO DECEMBER 4

Pamela Lines 'Watercolour Reflections' exhibition: At Lysaght Watt Gallery, Hawera. **NOVEMBER 10**

South Taranaki Employment Expo: At TSB Hub, Hawera. 12-3pm. **NOVEMBER 11**

Eltham & Districts Historical Soc Inc AGM: At 71 Bridge St, Eltham, 1pm.

NOVEMBER 15

Opunake Sport & Recreation Trust AGM: At Sandfords Event Centre, 6pm

NOVEMBER 16

87 Tasman St, Opunake Ph 06 761 8151

Opunake Golf Club AGM: At the Clubhouse, 7pm. DECEMBER 2 TO 11

Opunake Players Production of 'Peter Pan': At the Lakeside Playhouse, Opunake. **DECEMBER** 4

Pungarehu Golf Club Lamb Tournament: At Pungarehu Golf course from 9am.



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Any queries 0272468604

Thursday, November 4, 2021



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The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is due out on Thursday November 18 2021. Phone us on 06 761 7016 to be in it. and decorating. Ph: Jason

Havelock Street, Opunake - St Pauls - 9.30am every Sunday Okato - St Pauls – 5.00pm, Evensong, 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm

(2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs) Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am All welcome

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays

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

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

Okato Community Church Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome

