

OPUNAKE & COASTAL

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Firefighters form a guard of honour for Brian. On Brian's right isTaranaki Area Commander David Utumapu.

Brian's 60 year service a second for New Zealand

How do you celebrate a record of 60 years with the New Zealand fire service? That is the question fire chiefs pondered earlier this month when recognising Brian Vincent's record of 60 years' service, the bulk of it spent with the Opunake Fire Brigade.

On December 6, there was a celebration at the Opunake Fire Brigade to recognise the 60 year milestone.

"I first joined 60 years ago in East Coast Bays. Who would have thought I'd be here today," says Brian." I had no idea about what the Gold Star was. I joined up to

help the public, which is what I've always done."

Brian transferred to the Rahotu Brigade in 1963, and to Opunake in 1967, where he's been ever since.

A photo of Brian with his 50 year service medal is there at the Opunake Fire Station for all to see. Those who remember his contributions around the table at meetings of the Egmont Plains Community Board will be familiar with his knowledge and grasp of local history. So it was perhaps appropriate that on this day he had another of his quirky facts at his fingertips. It was 40 years to the day since the

current Opunake Fire Station opened on December 6, 1980, he recalls.

Brigade members past and present lined up to give him a guard of honour as he walked into the station.

It was a chance to talk to longstanding friends like Mick Guthrie who Brian knew back at the Rahotu Brigade. Also there was Jack Gernhoefer who was chief fire officer at Opunake from 1966-70 and is now patron of the Taranaki Fire Brigade Gold Star Association.

Taranaki Area commander David Utumapu says it is unusual for anyone to have 60 years with the New Zealand

Fire Service, so there are few traditions available to honour someone who reaches this milestone.

"I understand there's only been one other recipient and that's only recently been awarded. The Taranaki Fire Brigade has had 150 years of operation, and here's Brian who has done nearly half of that."

He says he has known

Brian since moving to Taranaki 12 years ago. Assistant Commander Steve McSweeney has known him for longer.

"I remember starting in the 1980s as a greenhorn. There was so much going along and Brian was always there. He was an unsung hero, doing things you never got to hear

Continued page 3

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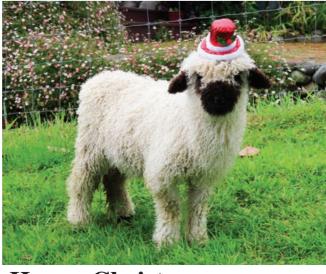
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Happy Christmas everyone.

Candy the Valais Black Nosed lamb getting into the festive spirit.

Photo: Gail Simons, Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park Inglewood



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.



Thriving small business

Now any town, city or community in our country that has small businesses, they are like big businesses extremely vital, not only to any province, but also to our country's economy, just like Oakura Automotives, as it was eight years ago in 2012 when Hadden Ryan bought his business, and he has an extremely good business going, and is getting quite popular.

He seemed he grew up in the Waikato, and worked mainly in the rural areas of Taranaki, a fully qualified mechanic for 30 years. They moved from Inglewood to Okato. Also he has Chris, a mechanic, a keen fisherman while he does up old boats, then sells, while Amanda, like Chris lives in Oakura, and she works as a part time administrator.

So let's not all downgrade any small business, as every one of them plays a huge part in our cities, towns, provinces and country's

Tom Stephens New Plymouth

Peter Snell remembered

Recognising that it will soon be one year since the passing of Sir Peter Snell (December 12, 2019), please find attached a small tribute to him in the form of verse.

I would be grateful if you would consider it for publication in an appropriate issue of the Opunake & Coastal News.

It is also intended, as I hope is apparent, as an acknowledgment of the contribution towns and rural communities have made, and continue to make, to New Zealand's sporting and cultural heritage.

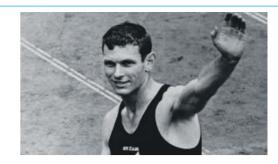
had a connection to running all my life. Indeed, my father was an acquaintance of Arthur Lydiard, having played in the same team as Arthur at Eden Rugby Club prior to the Second World War. This acquaintance led to Arthur visiting us while we were holidaying in Stanmore Bay, north of Auckland. It also led to my father taking me to run at Cornwall Park with Auckland Joggers in the mid-1960s. Colin Kay, later to become mayor of Auckland, was an influential member of that group, the likes of which soon sprung up across the country as 'jogging' became a popular recreational activity, laying the foundation for the running boom of the 70s and

I'm proud and pleased to say I also met and spoke briefly with Sir Peter on a couple of occasions, once when I was a young boy at a YMCA camp on Motutapu Island in Auckland's Hauraki Gulf (Mr Snell took part in a cross-country race in which he graciously allowed a number of boys to beat him. Sadly, I was not

Should you need further information of any kind regarding my submission, please don't hesitate to contact me.

I thank you in advance for your time and consideration. Ngá mihi

> Brett Reid Auckland



Southwest Taranaki Man

In memory of Sir Peter George Snell (1938-2019)

Opunake was already on the map. In the 1870s, back before Mourie assumed captaincy of the All Blacks, and young Jimmy Bolger roomed with what's reckoned a lesser honour, there was a military camp with barracks.

After Murray and Pete built Rome in an hour our new favourite son got locations like Santry, Perry Lakes, Western Springs, Cooks Gardens mentioned on Mondays in smoko conversations. With Tokyo's double the korero grew louder.

Japan's sun eventually set. Touring on the run, as The Beatles found out, wore thinner than the singlet he hung. Time, as they say, waits for no-one, not Carl, who propped scrums, or the man who stopped the clock at 3.54.4 and 3.54.1.

And lest us locals forget, 1.44.3 has never been topped. West of Owairaka, in Tāmaki Makaurau, the Waitakeres stand tall, even as dieback unsettles. So let's take a second to recall, gold graced the hills where bullocks once hauled the tracks.

BRETT REID

Anne Clough

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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.

Fringe Garden organisers delighted with success

"We absolutely loved it, thank you for keeping it affordable for those of us who have to travel, we were able to see so many beautiful gardens. Theother thing to mention is how friendly, knowledgeable and helpful the hosts were."

This is just one of the hundreds of comments made by visitors to the gardens of the 16th Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival held recently over 10 days from 30th October to 8th November 2020.

Our gardens included compact town sections which are smaller in size but pack in a vast selection of plants., large country gardens on the slopes of the mountain which have a cooler climate, cottage gardens, native gardens, coastal gardens which have to contend with salt spray, structured and rambling gardens, so something for all tastes, and plenty of Places of Interest to visit along the trail.

Over 45,100 garden visits were made to our Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival, visitors came from all over New Zealand, all were very happy this year to have a destination to travel to, and a great garden event to be inspired with. Over 57 motorhomes were pulling into some of our gardens. They all expressed what a high standard the gardens were and appreciated being welcomed into the gardens and made to feel part of

the family. We averaged 981 visitors per garden/

Place of Interest, this is a 27% increase on 2019. Twenty-five of our private gardens had over 1,000 visitors. Over 80% of our visitors were from outside Taranaki this year.

It goes hand-in-hand that when we promote our Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival to the public, we also in turn promote our beautiful Taranaki region and what it has to offer, a win-win for everyone.

The festival is now over for this year but the committee and our garden owners are already planning for next year to ensure our gardens really are "Real Gardens for Real People".

Thank you to everyone who has supported our festival & we look forward to seeing you all next year.

RIGHT: Camtiki Country Lodge in rural Opunake - one of the gardens in the TGT.

Please like us on Facebook our festival happenings to ensure you receive your 2021 Garden invite and TGT SecretaryAdministrator are kept up to date with



We would like to thank all our customers for their continued support in 2020.

> We will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, 28th December, New Years Day, 2nd and 4th January.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Continued from page 1.

A number of presentations were made acknowledging not just Brian's contribution to the fire service but to the wider community. This has included 12 years as a member of the Egmont Plains Community Board, with a presentation made

by board chairman Andy Whitehead. Brian has also been involved with the Lions Club, Opunake RSA and the historic Bayley Road lighthouse.

David Utumapu says hearing about Brian's other community involvements came as no big surprise.

"Volunteers are a special breed," he says. "New Zealand was founded on volunteerism. It's no surprise to us that as well as the 60 years he has volunteered with us, there's all these other things he has volunteered for."

Deputy chief fire officer

paid tribute to Brian's wife Maureen and the support they had given Brian over the years, as well as paying tribute to a fellow firefighter.

"He's had a very calming effect. Nothing seems to have fazed him."



Brian Vincent with wife Maureen outside the Opunake Fire Station.

ADELPHOS

Connecting the dots—Christmas 2020

As a seven year old I remember those colouring books where you connected the dots. Maybe you remember them too? Only after connecting all of them did they resemble a real hippopotamus. Then after colouring in the picture it looked like a real and living work of hippopotamus art. It was really my mum or dad's approval that made me feel

This Christmas, how many of us can connect the dots to get a picture that resembles the real Jesus? Will your dotted outline be one of a baby? Or maybe a tightmuscled bearded carpenter? Messiah world's hanging on a cross? Possibly a smiling resurrected Jesus ascending into heaven? Perhaps your picture is of just a great prophet, or nothing at all?

Different dotted outlines of Jesus will be drawn by different people. After all, we all have unique fingerprints, DNA and personalities: That's the way God made us. So a one size picture doesn't fit all. Perhaps a divorce, death of a loved one, sickness or the 2020 Covid-19 experience has changed how you connect

the dots and see Jesus. The first step in forming a picture or understanding of someone is to meet with them. After a number of meetings, you begin to better understand who they are and what they're really like. You can then base your picture of them on those experiences. That seems to be the best way to connect the dots to begin getting a clearer picture of the real Jesus as well.

This kind of connecting the dots colouring book metaphor might seem a bit childlike to some. But didn't Jesus remind His highly educated and intelligent opponents that "...unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself like this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3-4 NIV). After all, the Saviour of the world didn't arrive as a rich and powerful military king. He came from heaven to earth that first Christmas as a poor and sinless infant: in an

ordinary, yet extraordinary,

family.

All you need right now is a little faith, a genuine desire and a New Testament to begin talking to God directly in prayer. Keep it simple. It first helps to thank and praise God for who you are: the good, the bad and the ugly. Be honest. Then He'll gradually become your closest and eternal best friend as your relationship grows, you read His Word

and connect a few more dots. That's the way Christians historically, and around the world, have connected the dots to more fully know the reality of Jesus. During the Christmas rush, I hope this article helps us all make better connections. As God desires to transform you, me and our pictures of Jesus into real and living works of art. I pray that 2021 will give you a brighter perspective with a more hope-filled future with Jesus as our BFF (Best Friend Forever).

Happy birthday Jesus and Meri Kirimete,

Adelphos









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NEWS

Merry Christmas



Karam's Clothes on the Coast would like to thank their customers for their support throughout the year.

Wishing you all a safe, happy and peaceful festive season.

Christmas Eve we will be opened until the end of the parade.

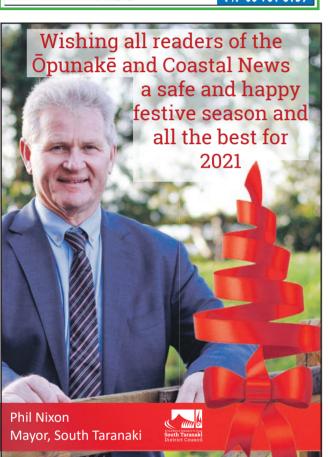
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STDC MAYOR'S MESSAGE



2020 has certainly been a year like no other. The CO-VID-19 global pandemic presented our community, our nation and the whole world with disruption on a scale not seen in my lifetime. But in true kiwi style we faced this unprecedented challenge with purpose, fortitude and good spirit. It wasn't easy. Whether you were an essential worker that kept services running, a business owner facing an uncertain future, someone who lost employment, or someone living alone isolated from friends or family, I just want to say a heartfelt thank you. While the crisis is not over yet, there is light at the end of the tunnel and the way we responded

A year like no other

as a nation has set us up for a quicker recovery.

While it can be hard to recall other events under the cloud of a global pandemic, there have been a number of notable achievements to celebrate: Work on the \$277 million Waipipi Wind Farm is well underway with several of the massive turbines already operational and producing energy for the national grid. Implementation of the Hāwera Town Centre Strategy continued with extension of the Little Regent Street carpark, completion of the Nelson Street one-way, and refurbishment of the town square. Plans for a Manaia combined community facility, an upgrade to the Manaia Swimming Pool and for improving Eltham and Waverley main streets have been developed and will be implemented in 2021. The Hawera subway bridge mural and the footbridge across Otahi Stream in Opunakē were also completed.

Significant infrastructure projects completed during the year included the stormwater upgrades at Wilson Road, Fox Street and Dieffenbach Street, Öpunakē, the new Waiinu wastewater treatment plant and the Waverley Water Treatment Plant. The Eltham Water Treatment Plant trunk main replacement programme was started and will be finished in 2021. Stage one of the District Business Park was also approved and work has started. We received substantial government funding to support both Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga (our new District Library, Arts, Culture and Information Centre) and the Nukumaru Station Road extension, projects which will both get underway in the New Year. The Council was able to do these things and implement a zero % rate increase for the 2020/2021 year as well as a freeze on fees and charges.

South Taranaki is an awesome District and I feel very

your community

A community board for

privileged to have the opportunity to lead the Council team. Next year Council will share our Long-Term Plan (for the next ten years) with you. We are really looking forward to working with all our communities and getting stuck into a range of projects designed to make South Taranaki an even better place to live and do business.

Finally, while Christmas is a great time for catching up with family and friends, it can also be a very stressful and lonely time for some - so please keep a lookout for those who need support. If you're driving over the holiday season take care on the roads - no drink driving, buckle up and don't use cell phones when driving - remember to stay calm and take plenty of breaks.

I wish you all the very best for Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

> Phil Nixon Mayor of South Taranaki

COUNCILLORS COMMENT



Many of our community assets have been built by our communities and for our communities, but with new rules around earthquake strengthening, building compliance and health and safety regulations there are fewer volunteers to do these

tasks, and these costs are now placed onto our council. Taranaki Coastal Community Board has a small amount of cash that we feel extremely privileged to hand to worthy community groups. We encourage you to put in requests for assistance from our limited funding pool but more importantly we invite you to attend these meetings to share your views on what is important to you in your area.

will be held in Manaia on January 28. The proposed Manaia Combined Facility design will be the hot topic. On March 12 we will be returning to Opunake for a meeting in the Town Hall. Here we should have an update on Bowen Crescent playground, Town Centre master plans, town hall and facility usage over the summer period. On April 211 we will hold our meeting at Cape Egmont Boat Club

to find out more what is happening in the Northern. end of our district.

We wish you a safe and happy Christmas and wish you all the best for 2021. Remember shop local and support the community that supports you, more importantly remember it is your time and love that is the real gift not the price tag.

> Andy Whitehead, Chair Taranaki Coastal Community Board.

Reflecting on 2020, looking forward to 2021

2020. What a weird and wonderful year it's been. And I don't know about you but I feel like it's just been flying by. The Annual Foodbank appeal has recently been and gone, and Christmas Parades are happening in our towns. Can you believe we are so close to Christmas?

Our first meeting next year

Recently I attended Etown's 10th birthday Celebrations. Such a neat event, and watching the videos of all the youth and children that have been involved showed how many young people have been through the doors at Etown. The videos also highlighted all the amazing projects that they have been a part of, for example the Skate Park in Eltham, the mural by the Historic Society building, Art shows in the Village Gallery, and so much more. ETown is a credit to the people that run it, and an amazing place for the youth of our town to go. Well done to Etown Youth Centre for making a

difference in so many young people's lives. I was privileged to be able

to present awards at the Community Awards that were held in October. Awards went to Fluer Le Bas and to the Eltham Lions Club for their work in the community. It was a cool evening, and the people and groups that received awards were all very different but very deserving, and help contribute to the

success of our district. Wishing you a safe and enjoyable holidays and we hope that next year is full of all the good things, and that we can all achieve our goals. Take care

Karen Cave Eltham Kaponga Community Board Chairperson





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This is us

After what has been a strange year the people of Eltham were determined to make a statement with this year's Christmas parade.

2020 might have seen Covid and lockdown, but judging by the Christmas Parade it looked as though they wanted to finish on a high

The Eltham Lions Club has been running the parade every year since Lions Club member Geoff Harris pushed for it to be resurrected 20 years ago.

On late Friday afternoon floats were lining up along Stanners Street to be judged before making their way into Bridge Street and on to High Street.

This year the parade's theme was This is Us, a counterpoint to the This is not us theme in vogue after the 2019 Christchurch mosque shootings.

It was perhaps appropriate then that this year's win-



The Eltham Pony Club evoking memories of frontier times.

ning float was the one from Nature's Wonders featuring photos of each of the children attending the pre-school, with the Ngaere Environmental Group coming third, and Eltham Four Square finishing second.

"This is fantastic," Lions Club president Paul Roberts said as he noted an ever growing line of floats.

"I thought we were only going to get a few and now I see this line going way back in the distance. There's a fantastic local spirit getting behind us, and we're putting on the

weather as well."

The Eltham Baptist Church and the Christian Harvest Centre harked back to the first Christmas with their nativitythemed float, complete with Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus and angels. Maria Lehrke said they were joining with the Hope Project, a movement seeking to bring the Christian message back into public discourse.

"There hasn't been a nativity float in the parade since I've been here," she said. "We wanted to put Jesus Christ back on the streets."

The Eltham Football Club came with a Santa's Workshop theme, while also pushing their message of no fees for players up to the age of 15. Eddie Sanderson, the club's juniors' administrator said no fees for juniors had led to a doubling of the number of players at junior level.

"If you have families with kids playing, and they all pay fees, that's expensive," he says.

Eltham Business Associa-

tion president Fi Perez who had been judging the floats said that given the challenges of the previous year it was important for people in smaller communities to connect with each other, and this message was reflected in the success of the Christmas parade.

"You have everything from pre-school to aged care. It just goes to show this is for everyone," she says.

A pipe band led the parade followed by the Lions Club float. Lions also made their presence felt around town as street marshals. Riders from the Eltham Pony Club making their way along Bridge Street past the iconic shop frontage perhaps harked back to memories of the town's former times.

Shops were open and a big crowd of all ages congregated along the town's footpaths to see the parade go by.

The one man everyone wanted to see was always going to be the man in the red suit, and he was there waving to his many admirers along the way.



The man in the big red suit hitched a ride on the big red truck.

Another year over

Another year over and what a year it's been.

When the news of the global pandemic broke we had readers pleading that we not write any more about it. They were sick of it. That was in the early days of the outbreak and of course the covid epidemic went on to dominate the news internationally in a way that media hasn't seen since perhaps the world

It's been a sort of war with the same deadly effect in terms of lives lost around the world.

Hopefully, the end of the battle is now in sight with the discovery of vaccines.

Maybe one day the word covid will recede from consciousness but alas sadly not yet.

All print media of course are facing another battle and have been for some years.

2020 saw Stuff Media, which includes New Zealand's oldest newspaper here in Taranaki, enter into local hands for the princely sum of \$1.

This year media have been helped, as were other businesses, by the Government subsidies intended to tide people through over the lockdown. The idea behind it was to keep industries forced into lockdown buoyant and able to retain their staff.

Not all businesses did this. Some eagerly grabbed the subsidy and then decided subsequently to either close their doors or lay off staff.

The battle all print media face is with the Internet which is gobbling up advertising that would have otherwise gone to media endeavouring to supply news to their readers and reflect, in our case, the local community.

The Internet of course reproduces the efforts of these local news gatherers which is unfair as they did not pay for the news.

It's disappointing to see

business associations urging businesses to put their sales and events online.

They are also via this encouraging people to shop online. There has been a big push nationally to support local. We at the Opunake & Coastal News want people to advertise such things in the newspaper. We want people to shop local and via that support local jobs, local businesses, thus strengthening our local communities. As we all know the viability of newspapers has been affected by digital media and many have folded – a loss of important focus for their communities.

The Opunake & Coastal News is a local business, we employ local people, we use local businesses in its production and since its inception are helping to promote Opunake and the Coast and rural Taranaki. We are, of course, solely financed by advertising.

I hope that those reading

this will take note and recognise the importance of supporting local.

Happy Holidays everyone. Our next issue will be on January 28 2021.

From us all at the Opunake & Coastal News all the best for the festive season.





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COASTAL COPS



Kylie Brophy

Summer is here and our town will be getthroughtravellers out the holiday period.

almost Safety Tips A reminder not to leave you presents under the tree exposed, if people can see it from the streets it's not a good place. Don't leave the expensive Christmas present packages next to the recycle bin. Be smart don't advertise

the new giant 60 inch TV empty box to the community. about reminder liquor zones. Tasman Street between Ihaia Road and Hickey Place and all public places adjacent to these streets and within this area, including service lanes, footpaths, car parks and parks are alcohol free 24/7.

The public areas of the Opunake beach area (excluding the Opunake Beach Camp) and the surrounding cliff tops and the public areas of the Opunake Lake Reserve area surrounding the entire lake, and all public places adjacent to these streets and within these areas, including service lanes, footpaths, car parks and parks are all alcohol free zones between the 18th of December 2020 through to the 10th of January 2021.

Where are your kids

What are they doing

this summer?? Who are they hanging out with??

We currently have issues with out youth hanging out with those slightly older and being exposed to harmful substances and behaviours. Just be cautious and educate your children on peer pressure.

Scams

Carrying on from out last column. There will be an increase of Facebook sales, no doubt of those unwanted Christmas presents. Please make sure you do your research. You may find a better deal during boxing day sales!

Thursday, December 17, 2020

• Don't give out any private information over the internet or through mobile phones about you, your family, friends or other people that you know

• Only accept friend requests from people you actually know

- Don't engage or respond to trolling or abuse; report it to the provider
- Don't believe everything you read sure you it's coming

Further

from a reliable source • Don't hide behind a computer screen. If you wouldn't say it to their

face, don't say it at all • If you are suspicious of a website, carry out a web search to see if you can find out wheth-

er or not it is fraudulent Further information about cyber safety can be found online at the Netsafe website reminder for all road users Drive to the conditions. Follow the road rules, they are there for a reason (YES this included seatbelts). We haven't had too many accidents on our roads of late and we would like to keep it that way. All information will be treated as confidential and

no information is too small. That's about it for now. Remember, if you have any info for us give us a call we are more than happy to help. Alternatively you can call Crimestoppers at 0800 555111 with all anonymous information Be aware, stay safe and CHRISTMAS!

> Kylie Brophy Opunake



Aerial shot of Opunake.

Rahotu Four Square wishing everyone a Merry Christmas & a prosperous New Year Dipal, BK & all the staff

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punake joins banking trial

banking hub swung into action last week with the first deposit being made by revenue under-secretary Deborah Russell.

Based at Opunake Library Plus, the regional banking hub brings together the country's six largest banks in a one year trial in four selected provincial towns around the country. Opunake had been selected as one of these along with Martinborough, Stoke and Twizel. Opunake was the last of these hubs to be launched.

Assisted by concierge Quisandra Webby, Dr Russell made the first transaction on the Smart ATM which handles transactions for customers of any of the six banks taking part in the trial.

."This is a massive collaboration between the banks, local government and central government to keep banking services going," said Dr Russell. "This is an experiment we hope the people of Opunake will respond to and make a success.

She says she knows Taranaki well. Although she now calls Auckland



Thursday, December 17, 2020

Revenue Under Secretary Deborah Russell makes the first deposit at the Opunake banking hub watched by South Taranaki District Mayor Phil Nixon and concierge Quisandra Webby.

home, she had been born in Whangamomona and grew up in New Plymouth. She still gets back to Taranaki when she can. Dr Tony Ruakere who practiced as a GP in Opunake was an uncle

She says she's aware of the challenges faced by people living in provincial centres when they lose their banking services and are forced to travel longer distances..

"In Auckland if a bank closes down, it just means a bus ride," she said.

Also at the launch were of Dr Russell's two parliamentary colleagues, New Plymouth MP Glen Bennett and Te Tai Hauauru MP Adrian Rurawhe.

"This is an interesting time with an overall move away from face to face banking

to online banking," says Mr Rurawhe. "Some people don't have access to online banking or have the ability to use it, so it is good to have something like this here to help them. It will be good for getting people into the library as well."

TSB head of branches Sharon Lawson said the TSB had been keen to put their hand up and offer Opunake as a candidate for the trial. She said staff at the local branch of TSB are pleased to see the arrival of the hub.

"We're really excited that one of our branches is connected. They live and work here, and it's a wonderful addition to their community."

Bankers New Zealand Association chief executive Roger Beaumont has been to the launch of all four hubs. He says they wanted a geographical split, with two hubs in the North Island and two in the South Island.

"We wanted a mix of communities. Opunake is quite different to the

other North Island hub at Martinborough. This is a dairy industry supported environment and we wanted to experiment in a community where there is a bank branch still operating, he said.

"Each small community is very different. We will be tweaking things as we go as we find what people want and don't want.

South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon said he was excited to see Opunake chosen to be part of the trial. "We find that in a lot of our smaller centres we're losing our facilities, so it's fantastic to see one of these facilities growing."



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Blessing ahead of safety improvements

A blessing was held last week to mark the start of construction on the Rapanui passing lane and an intersection upgrade at Tongaporutu on State Highway 3.

Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency Acting Portfolio Delivery Manager Wilton thanked kaitiaki Rae Hinerau Wetere for performing the blessing. The ceremony called for spiritual guidance and protection over the work and the people involved.

really appreciate "We support of local iwi for these improvements.

"The works will make the road safer, more resilient and more enjoyable to travel on. They involve widening

Ξ



Kaitiaki Rae Hinerau Wetere led the blessing at Rapanui.

a 1.6km section of highway north of Tongaporutu to create a northbound passing lane. At Tongaporutu we are widening the Clifton Road/SH3 intersection and installing side barriers."

Rae Hinerau Wetere says it was wonderful to bring everyone together to the whenua and acknowledge those who have come before and others who follow.

"It's important for us to demonstrate manaakitanga. Our role is to keep everyone spiritually physically.'

Some services for the Rapanui passing lane will be relocated in the leadup to Christmas before earthworks get underway in the new year. The work, expected to be carried over two construction seasons,

is due for completion in autumn 2022.

The passing lane and intersection upgrade are part of safety and resilience improvements on SH3 covering 58km between Awakino Gorge and Mt Messenger. Other work underway on the highway includes retaining walls that will be completed this year in the Awakino Gorge and near the Awakino River. A southbound passing lane at Ladies Mile is expected to be completed this month.

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One of the strangest years of our lives

close and we move into family time, many of us will be reflecting on one of the strangest years of our lives. Who would have predicted for your world-class protein

As the year draws to a arrival in January that we would now be physically isolated from the rest of the world by Covid 19? Thank goodness our trade prices as we celebrated New Year's and food exports have held



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Steph Lewis

MP for Whanganui



Barbara Kuriger MP

up to the benefit of all New Zealanders.

Many of you will be your supporting local tourism businesses over the holiday period and I know they will be very thankful for your support. This is the area that has been hardest hit in Taranaki King Country during the pandemic.

As I write this column, I am with Louis who is driving me to Wellington after an early start due to a flight cancellation. The traffic is moving at snail pace and it makes me grateful to represent an electorate where traffic jams are rare, albeit our roads needs a bit of attention. As Associate Transport Spokesperson with special interest in Regional Roads I will be keeping the pressure on the Government for improvement to our state highways.

Rural communities are a great place to live traffic wise, however the pressure needs to be kept on regarding our education and health services. I have noted recent media on rural schools needing to use more virtual lessons due to the shortage of teachers available. While I applaud the services of the Virtual Learning Network who do a great job in supplementing the knowledge and subject availability of our teachers, they are not intended to be a replacement for teachers in the classroom.

While we have a network of schools, the availability of primary healthcare service is much more limited. I am committed to working with our team on ways we can improve access rurally. We won't all have the privilege of living next to a hospital but we should have the certainty of receiving our primary care as close to home as possible. I am keeping a close watch on the Rural Health Alliance and others who are in the driving seat of groups who can define how we need to

operate moving forward. Aligned with the health requirements the necessity for better connectivity, not only for our road safety needs but also for any telehealth options that come our way. If we are going to be connected to specialists by local health professionals then we are going to need this connectivity to be of a high standard.

On top of all of the above, the need for connectivity technology productivity environmental benefits is of the utmost importance to our rural communities.

With all of these things in mind for our communities, and much to do in 2021 on vour behalf, I sign off this column by wishing you all the very best for the festive season. I hope you all have a wonderful time with your family and that 2021 is much kinder to everyone than 2021.

Barbara Kuriger MPTaranaki-King Country

Busy summer maintenance for Taranaki state highways

Waka Kotahi Transport Agency complete an extensive programme of road repairs, renewals and resurfacing on state highways throughout Taranaki this summer.

Taranaki System Manager Ross I'Anson says the \$18 million maintenance programme in Taranaki is intended to maintain and improve state highways across the region to make and them safer resilient.

"In Taranaki, we generally schedule these works for March-April, when we expect more settled weather.

"However, much of the work scheduled for earlier this year was unable to be completed due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Since the lockdown, wet weather has seen some sections of

Taranaki state highways significantly deteriorate.

"This summer undertaking a much larger maintenance programme to compensate for the lost time and to address as many issues on the network as possible," says Mr I'Anson.

State Highway Kakaramea south of Hawera has recently been rebuilt and SH3 Mangamaio, north of Urenui is programmed to be completed before Christmas.

Significant sites for the new year include SH3 at the Rugby Road underpass between Tariki and Norfolk Road near Stratford, SH3 at Inglewood, and north of Urenui. We will also be carrying out maintenance at other locations along SH3 so there will be some disruption to traffic.

Work to repair the failed road surface at the intersection of SH3 and Rotokare Road, south of

Eltham was scheduled to be undertaken before Christmas but has been postponed until early in the new year due to wet weather. Crews will undertake temporarily repairs before Christmas, until the road can be permanently repaired in January.

Road repairs will also be undertaken on SH3 New Plymouth to Stratford, SH43 at Whangamomona and SH3 Waitara to Urenui in December before resealing in the new year.

"Waka Kotahi is committed to ensuring the safety and reliability of our roads," says Mr I'Anson.

"Taranaki is a challenging environment for maintenance. The volcanic ground conditions, coupled with significant groundwater and rainfall mean the road surface isn't as resilient as in other regions."

Motorists are advised to Christmas holiday period.

take care on the roads during the busy summer months.

"The roads are likely to be very busy over summer, with more people travelling to holiday destinations and more work sites and road

"Traffic management, such as temporary speed limits, signs and cones, is used to alert road users to a change in the road or to works ahead, and it helps to ensure the safety of our road

"Please be patient. When motorists disregard the traffic management, they put their safety and that of other road users and our road workers at risk."

With the exception of emergency works, all road works will be paused from 23 December to 5 January, keeping the roads clear for people to travel safely over what is expected to be a busy





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New director appointed for art gallery

Dr Zara Stanhope has been announced as the next director of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre.

Dr Stanhope is currently the curatorial manager of Asian and Pacific Art at Queensland Art Gallery/ Gallery of Modern Art in Brisbane and will bring nearly 30 years' experience as a curator and director in both Australia and New Zealand to the role.

NPDC Group Manager Community and Customer Services Teresa Turner says Dr Stanhope brings an incredibly rich and relevant experience to the leadership of New Zealand's foremost contemporary art museum.

"This is a significant appointment and one which



Dr Zara Stanhope is the new director of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre.

will enable the Govett-Brewster to continue its work in showcasing contemporary

the stories of our region and nation, and engaging people with contemporary Zara's international experience and connections will be immensely valuable in keeping New Plymouth on the global map while contributing to the cultural, and artistic economic wellbeing of the district."

Dr Stanhope is looking forward to joining the Gallery and playing a part in its growth.

"It is a real privilege to be joining the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre at this significant point in its unique history, and I am looking forward to working with the highly motivated Gallery team, the Len Lye Foundation and Te Kaunihera-ā-Rohe o Ngāmotu New Plymouth District Council," Zara says.

"This is an opportunity to strengthen the institution's

position as a leading centre for contemporary art in the Pacific, prioritise diverse local communities and artists, and expand national and international audiences.

"Together we can foster shared understanding in a manner that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles of partnership, participation and protection and contribute to leading conversations through contemporary art that explores and celebrates who we are as people, place, communities, cultures and histories."

Dr Stanhope joins the Govett-Brewster team from 1 March 2021.

Dr Stanhope is an Adjunct

Professor in the School of Art and Design at AUT University, Auckland. She holds a PhD from the School of Arts and Social Sciences at the Australian National University, Canberra.

She's worked in lead roles at Auckland Art Gallery Toi o Tāmaki, Heide Museum of Modern Art and the Monash University Museum of Art (Melbourne) and the Adam Art Gallery (Wellington).

Dr Stanhope has curated more than 50 exhibitions including New Zealand's presence at the 58th Venice Biennale in 2019.

On this month in history Darwin visits New Zealand

On this month in history Darwin visits New Zealand

On December 21 1835 naturalist Charles Darwin arrived in the Bay of Islands on a round-theworld voyage that led to his famous book On the Origin of Species. He spent nine days in New Zealand and was not impressed. He wrote

in his diary: I believe we were all glad to leave New Zealand. It is not a pleasant place. Among the natives there is absent that charming simplicity which is found in Tahiti; and the greater part of the English are the very refuse of society. Neither is the country itself attractive."

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A happy ship the HMS Neptune

On December 19 it will be 79 years since HMS Neptune went down.

In 1941 the Admiralty suggested that NZ accept responsibility for a further cruiser and Prime Minister Peter Fraser agreed.

The Neptune was a sister ship to Achilles and Leander. NZ naval men already on loan to the RN were posted from other ships to join the Neptune as she completed a refit.

The Commanding Officer Captain Rory O'Conor RN. achieved a total empathy with the whole of the ship's company. It is said that he knew all by name.

After the heavy losses and many damaged ships during the Greece and Crete campaigns, the NZ Government agreed that Neptune work alongside Leander which PM Peter Fraser had also agreed to deplore into the Mediterranean. For five months Neptune worked hard on many operations.

While in Alexandria the NZ Broadcasting Service recorded Christmas messages from Neptune's NZ sailors, intended to. be broadcast on radio for Christmas 1941.

One of the continuing tasks for the fleet was to interrupt the passage of Italian supply convoys to Libya.



The HMS Neptune.

On November 27, Ajax and Neptune with two destroyers were sent to reinforce Force K in Malta.

In mid-December, an Italian convoy was reported sailing south and the cruisers of Force K, Aurora, Neptune and Penelope with four destroyers, all under the command of Captain O'Conor sailed to intercept. Close to the Libyan coast the ships ran into a deep water minefield- Neptune exploded. a mine in the paravanes streamed from her bow. Neptune went astern, to come out the same way

she had go in, but exploded a mine under her stern, destroying her rudders and propellers.

Aurora was also badly damaged by a mine and headed back to Malta A destroyer Khandahar going in to tow Neptune hit a mine and was immobilised. Neptune drifted onto another mine. The cruiser was extensively damaged. By then she was unreachable and with dawn approaching and the threat of enemy bombers, the other ships had to leave. Neptune hit a forth mine, rolled over and sank.

With heavy casualties on board only a few abandoned ship; in the cold sea and poor weather. Many soon succumbed. One raft drifted for four days; Captain O'Conor was one of the last to die. Later that day an Italian destroyer picked up the last and only survivor AB Norman Walton.

December 19 is a special day of remembrance for RNZN.

We remember those 159 sailors

Geoff Williams

Important choices ahead for energy sector

Greater flexibility for remaining natural gas permits could help protect our energy security and deliver a smoother transition, according to a post-election energy briefing from the Petroleum Exploration and Production Association of

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New Zealand (PEPANZ).

"New Zealand's energy security is at risk. Despite having our own natural gas here in the ground, we could end up reliant on imported

LNG from Australia if we aren't careful," says PEPANZ Chief Executive John Carnegie.

"As a country the choices we make now will have major impacts given that natural gas production is forecast to shrink 60% over the next 10 years. Already we are seeing

preventable?

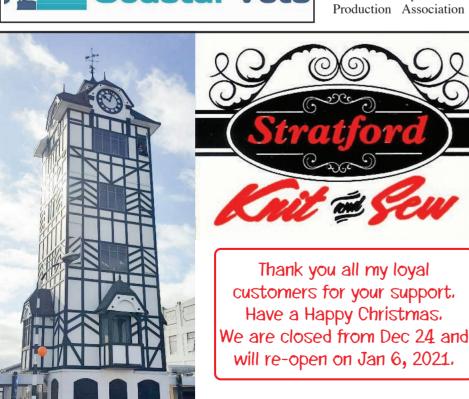
many major employers considering their futures in New Zealand in large part due to energy costs.

"We can have a prosperous and sustainable New Zealand as we rebuild from the impacts of Covid-19 if we have affordable, reliable and sustainable energy.

"A more secure supply of domestic natural gas would give us more options as we transition, protect our security of supply and put downward pressure on energy costs for families and

businesses."

To achieve this, the report recommends providing more flexibility for petroleum exploration and production permits, which could include extensions of both geographic areas and time limits. It also supports the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) as the best tool for reducing emissions and changes to the RMA and Exclusive Economic Zone Act.





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HMNZS Achilles.

New Zealand cruiser at allied naval victory 81 years ago

On December 13 1939, ACHILLES, **HMNZS** helped achieve the earliest and one of the most heroic naval battles for the Allies in World War Two at the Battle of the River Plate.

Achilles with HMS Ajax, and HMS Exeter stalked and searched the South Atlantic Ocean for nearly a month for the German pocket battleship, "Admiral Graf Spee" which had up to that time sank nine merchant ships in that area.

On December 13 on a clear day, a smudge of smoke was seen on the horizon and the three

cruisers changed course to identify, thinking it may be their ship that they were looking for.

Achilles was then in the NZ Division of the Royal Navy. London-born Captain Edward Parry, was the Captain.

When "Action Stations" was sounded off NZ Signalman Willie Williamson ran aft with the battle flag under his arm with cheers from his fellow sailors and the flag was hoisted at the head of the mainmast, Achilles became the first to carry the flag into battle.

"Graf Spee" had the firepower and the range to blow the three cruisers out of the water one by one. They came very close to sinking the "Exeter" which bore the main brunt of the firepower in the first stage of the battle. The German ship could fire a broadside of 1932 kg over a distance of 15 miles, The British had it over them in speed.

Commander Hopwood took a gamble of splitting up his force into two, Exeter and Ajax and Achilles which would divide the firepower of Graf Spee under.the command, Captain Hans Langsdorf.

Hopwood was convinced that Langsdorf was plying his destruction of Merchant ships in the River Plate area. Langsdorf thought he was being engaged by a cruiser and two destroyers.

Exeter in the first half hour suffered the most.

It lost its forward turrets, was taking water and had to reduce speed. She was forced to retire. Achilles and Ajax continually engaged Graf Spee with shells and Langsdorf tried fighting them one at time, which failed. As the Graf Spee suffered more damage, she fled to the to the safety of the River Plate at Montevido in Uruguay.

Ajax and Achilles sailed to stop her from sailing out, waiting for HMS Cumberland to join

the fray.

Langsdorf and Graf Spee were given 72 hours of refuge. Langsdorf was led to believe that the aircraft carrier HMS Ark Royal and battle cruiser HMS Renown were outside of the harbour, but they were at least 1500 miles away.

On December 17 Admiral Graf Spee" sailed out into the harbour with Langsdorf, four officers and 38 ratings the only ones on board, when she was scuttled. Two days later Captain Has Langsdorf committed suicide.

On this month in Wilkins history wins Nobel Prize

On December 10, 1962 molecular biologist Maurice Wilkins, who was born in the Wairarapa, was named as the joint winner of the Nobel prize in Physiology or Medicine for discovering the molecular structure of nucleic acids and its significance for information transfer in living material. Simply put Maurice Wilkins (and Francis Crick from England and James Watson from the United States) discovered the structure of (deoxyribonucleic acid). He was the second New Zealander (after Lord

Rutherford) to win a Nobel

During the battle Achilles emerged with the least damage, four ratings lost their lives, two seriously wounded.

1936 Achilles of 7,000 tonnes, light leander class cruiser replaced HMS Dunedin and Diomede which served in NZ waters and was on loan from the RN. Achilles became part of the RNZN in September 1941.She saw further action in the Pacific, losing 13 men in a Japanese divebomber

attack at Guadalcanal in January 1943. After the war Achilles returned to the RN and was sold to the Indian Navy as INS Delhi, until she went the shipwreckers yard in 1978.

Captain Edward Parry rose to the rank of Admiral. He was the first naval member of the NZ Naval Board during the war and as Rear Admiral commanded a force during the Normandy Invasion

Climate emergency just empty rhetoric

"While declaring a climate emergency is an important gesture, successive governments in Aotearoa/NZ have given us nothing but empty rhetoric when it comes to implementing solutions to solve our global climate crisis" says Urs Signer, spokesperson for community group Climate Justice Taranaki.

"Jacinda Ardern and her ministers had three years to bring about meaningful, urgent and transformative change and so far we just haven't seen it. Our communities in Taranaki - unions, community and environmental groups - have been calling for a just transition away from fossil fuels. Activists up and down the country have called on the agricultural sector to embrace regenerative practices, to move away from synthetic fertilisers and palm kernel feed. Instead, let's diversify production and reforest waterways and wetlands. Public transport users have been campaigning for appropriate investment to connect rural and urban communities."

"The School Strike movement and hapū and iwi have all been pointing to the over-

arching issue of inter-generational equity. Inequality, poverty, precarious work conditions, theft of land and resources are all interconnected with the present climate crisis and the dramatic extinction rates and loss of biodiversity we are witnessing. To rapidly reduce emissions, consistent with the government's rhetoric, we need to see urgent amendments to key legislation, including the Crown Minerals Act, the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf Act and the Resource Management Act, to turn around the climate crisis."

"We have demonstrated that decisive collective action can bring terrific results during a global pandemic. Our climate needs us to embark on urgent systemic change while we only have a few years to turn things around for future generations. The last thing we need is a government that is full of empty rhetoric and no action," says Urs Signer.



Mike, Julie, Jacinta & Erik wish you all a Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

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With the COVID crisis Travel in Strandon, New travel agencies have had to Plymouth. Previously they rely on domestic tourism would be getting thousands to survive, says Bev Ellice of bookings a year she said.

the manager of Helloworld "Since borders have closed



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Bev Ellis from Helloworld is weathering the fall in international tourism.

we haven't been able to sell international travel," she savs.

"People who do want to travel when they come back to New Zealand they have to isolate at their expense,"

which certainly acts as a disincentive. There's also a problem actually isolating even if you can afford it.

"At the moment there's no isolation hotels available till mid-February," says Bev.

Travel seems to be mainly restricted to people who have to go to a funeral or visit family who are sick. On their return they are still liable for the \$3000 isolation cost in New Zealand. Some countries, though not New

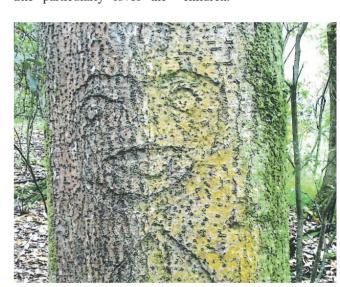
Zealand, are allowing people to self isolate.

Bev who has had to lay off two of her six staff said to keep the business going they have put tours together that are "quite unique" and include the Chatham Islands, Stewart Island, the Catlins and Waiheke Island. She is also organising a harvest festival in the Wairarapa at the beginning of March. She's also hosting two cycling tours around the Abel Tasman area. The first in early March is fully booked, the second in which there are still places, is in late April.

Recently Bev says she took a party to the Kimbolton Garden Festival. "We stayed in Palmerston North and also cruised the Whanganui River which was enjoyable. She particularly loves the Chatham Islands which really appeal to farmers and will be escorting a tour in November next year. They're "very remote, very laid back, great fishing." Pitt Island is particularly fascinating, she added. There's a lot of emphasis on conservation she says adding that the wood pigeons there are huge - a third bigger that

Cruises leaving from Lyttelton and covering the bottom of the South Island are also popular but you need to book ahead, says

Glamping tours are also popular, she says as family holidays and she often suggests them when asked for a holiday suggestion for a couple of adults and three children.



The Moriora rakau momori tree carvings etched into the back of Kopi trees.



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Nairn House, built in the 1880s for prominent trader and farmer Walter Hood on the Chatham Islands.



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great party in the town hall

The annual Christmas lunch put on by the Opunake Lions in the Opunake Town Hall was attended by, despite terrible weather, around 80 people who enjoyed a first course of ham, salad and new potatoes followed by a desert of meringues, icecream and fruit salad and then Christmas cake.

On arrival each person was given a choice of a white wine, orange juice or lemonwood.

It is the twelvth year the Opunake Lions have hosted the popular social event which people are invited to attend.

Geoff Williams asked those gathered to observe a minute's silence to remember "those who were not here today."

Then it was onto the usual rejoicing with Santa Claus



Daphne and Geoff examining the wine. Is it the right vintage?

putting in an appearance and handing out a gift to each of the attendees.

The luncheon was timed to coincide with the Opunake Friendship Club's monthly meeting.

"It's a marvellous thing – it gets us all out," said Bev Henderson from Opunake who had just celebrated her 93rd birthday two day's

It's good for the "youngies" added Bev who clearly refuses to concede anything to her advancing years. She still lives in her own home and takes a great interest in politics. Her late husband Len was a former editor Clough who has been secretary of the Opunake Friendship Club for over 17 years. She explained they had had few presidents in that time as people tend to stay in office for years.

The Friendship Club meets on the last Monday of the month at the Opunake Town Hall.

at 1:30 They meet Usually pm. there's entertainment followed by afternoon tea.

Anyone, any age is welcome to come along. Entry is just \$2 which includes afternoon tea and a raffle ticket.



Waiting eagerly for the next course from left Nell L'Ami, Kay Fleming and Val Coombe

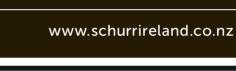
of a previous Opunake newspaper.

Among the revellers were Jean Lowe, and her two sisters Marilyn Watts and Pauline Davey all from Opunake.

The Opunake Friendship celebrated its 50th birthday in June during Lockdown so celebrations have been postponed till March next year, explained Pauline



DOMESTIC COMMERCIAL



NEW PLYMOUTH

p. 06 759 0105

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4 January 2021



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The Moody Coastline Opunake



Photo Dana Mc Murray

Manaia WI celebrate their Christmas meeting but remember needy children

Manaia Women's Institute celebrated their Christmas meeting at Sue's Verdigris Gallery in Stratford. Members decorated wooden hearts with a Christmas theme, which they later took home.

A lovely lunch at a nearby cafe, and a visit to a Craft and Garden shop finished a great day.

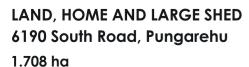
Members bought along gifts for children which will later be distributed by the Salvation Army to needy children.

Members were also asked to help Santa distribute ice blocks at the Manaia Christmas Parade.



Wooden hearts with a Christmas theme.

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Powhiri at Chaddy's Charters provides a Maori blessing

A powhiri was held at Chaddy's Charters on Sunday December 6 at the Ocean View Parade premises on the New Plymouth waterfront. This was organised by Chaddy (David Chadfield) conjunction with the Ngati Tawhiti hapu, on behalf of new owners Carl Hayman and Kiko Mathews. The moving ceremony was conducted by local iwi led by Kaumatua Trenton Martin. About 50 people were at the powhiri and at its conclusion an excellent lunch was enjoyed, with fresh crayfish provided by Kiko and Carl a highlight.

This part of the foreshore, as well as the nearby Sugar Loaf Islands, are in Ngati Tawhiti's jurisdiction and is steeped in their history and mana.

The ceremony was held in pleasant weather conditions, with many children enjoying the day in cheerful spirits.

Carl has recently returned from a nautical course, held in Nelson, where he spent five weeks earning his Skippers Restrictive Licence. "The course was very thorough," he remarked. He added, "I really enjoyed it."

Of the powhiri he said, "It is great to have the support of the local Maori." He feels the local iwi are very important in this venture, with emphasis on their history. "Our venture is



Just after the powhiri the many people gathered for a special picture outside Chaddy's Charters.

very significant for them for a number of reasons." There are a number of important historical sites in the area, he explained.

Carl said that he and Kiko want to continue the great programmes that Chaddy ran for so long, but they do have "some exciting plans" for the future. "We just want to keep a good thing going for a start, then re-assess things about April 2021." They intend, for example, to establish educational seminars to inform about the seashore environment, including a historical

perspective. This tuition would be mostly focused on "the younger generation." The couple want to engage with the local community as much as possible, as they continue their programmes and education, with respect for the environment foremost

"We are keen to educate the environmental and cultural history foremost," comments Kiko.

Carl is delighted to be involved in this new venture. "I've always been passionate about the outdoors and also about the

ocean." Carl is well-aknown as an outstanding All Black, who was born and bred in Taranaki. He grew up on a farm in Oaonui, near Opunake. Trained teacher Kiko has also a deep love of the outdoors and is famous for rowing the Atlantic Ocean in a record time for a woman. She raised a huge amount of money for a worthwhile medical charity. We wish Carl and Kiko well in their new venture at Chaddy's Charters and it is obvious they will build further upon the excellent start they have already made.



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What has happened to our Summer?

LEFT: Cheerfully playing in the December rain is Ezra Williams at Opunake Playcentre. Photograph taken by Grace Gatenby who has kindly supplied it for publication in our Christmas issue, which is our final paper for 2020.



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Coastal Taranaki School is a vibrant area school situated in Okato, only thirty kilometers from Taranaki's main city New Plymouth. The school caters for students from Years 0-13 (5 to 18 years old) and offers a variety of learning experiences alongside the core subjects required by the New Zealand government.

2020 YEAR AWARDS

Jai Coppen Most Improved: Room 17 Most Improved: Room 17 **Mason Coppen** Florence Moorby Diligence: Room 17 Most Improved: Room 24 **Caleb Jones** Diligence: Room 24 Josh Williams Most Improved: Room 18 **Eloise Moorby Bree Neha-Simons** Diligence: Room 18 Most Improved: Room 16 Sophie Juffermans Diligence: Room 16 **Abel Hendrix Lilly Julian** Most Improved: Room 15 **Lucy Gibson** Diligence: Room 15 Kalani Dalton Most Improved: Room 21 Diligence: Room 21 **Lara Smith** Excellence Year 1 **Rhys George Gabriella Grendon** Excellence Year 2 **Pixie Debreceny** Excellence Year 3 **Henry Stone** Excellence Year 4 Eleni Wheeler Most Improved: Room 19 Diligence: Room 19 **Elena Barron** Most Improved: Room 22 Jemma Hofmans

Diligence: Room 22 **Cody Lightband**

Xavier Healy Megaw Cup - Excellence Year 5 Stewart Cassie Memorial Cup - Excellence Year 6 Amelie Staunstrup-Moore

Alyssa Rayner Most Improved Year 7: Room 2 Francie O'Sullivan Most Improved Year 7: Room 3 Mia Wade Best All Round Year 7: Room 2 Jasmin Kemsley Best All Round Year 7: Room 3

Jasmin Kemsley Top Academic Year 7

Most Improved Year 8: Room 2 **Dustin Snowden Emma Goodin** Most Improved Year 8: Room 3 **Leyton Quay** Best All Round Year 8: Room 3 **Billie Thomson** Best All Round Year 8: Room 2

Billie Thomson Top Academic Year 8 **Deakin Phillips-Sinton** Most Improved Year 9 **Angelina Pitcher** Best All Round Year 9 Soren Grevers-White Top Academic Year 9

He Tairoa Goodin RSA Trophy - Most Improved Year 10

Jordan Smith Best All Round Year 10 Top Academic Year 10 Ailya Fever

Henderson Trophy - Sustained Effort Year 11 **Phoenix Papa**

Top Academic Year 11 Caleb Rayner

Donald Sisters Cup - Consistent Effort Year 12 Jorja Sole

Sarsha Dakin-Spershott Top Academic Year 12

2020 PRIZEGIVING AWARDS

Whenua Whanau Champions

Cheryl Vosper Memorial Award: Service to the Ivy Loveridge

Library

Kora Hardaker Kgystern Manual Memorial Award: Enthusiastic

Learner Year 1 - 6

Dan Holmes Freemasons Award (Ikoroa Lodge) **Angeles Gardiner** Corbett Award - Knowledge & Kindness in Year Hayley Sulzberger

Isabella Gattsche Citizens Award Year 1 – 6

Rebecca Goodin Newall School Community Cup - Most Helpful

Year 6 Student

Gold Cup - Service to Intermediate School Fynn Megaw

Lathanael Goodin Carpe Diem Cup (Seize the Day)

Mackenzie Hill Head Girl Te Ahumairangi Waaka Head Girl

Te Ahumairangi Waaka Te Rangi Uenuku: Gaye Taingahue Memorial

Award

Nalani Renau Komene Memorial Award

The Joseph Manu Cup: Best Maori Scholar **Angeles Gardiner Lathanael Goodin** Proxime Accessit Cup - Runner up Dux Crossman Cup - Dux Highest Academic **Angeles Gardiner**

2020 SUBJECT CUPS

Julian Trophy - Agriculture & Horticulture **Alex Gibson**

Art Cup: Year 9 - 10 **Angelina Pitcher**

Brianna McCready-Scouller Segedin Memorial Trophy - Art Year 11 - 13 Sarsha Dakin-Spershott Herbert Smith Trust - English Year 11 - 13 **Lathanael Goodin** Sandra Titchener Cup: History and Geography

Ryan Hall Gwen Mathews Memorial Music Award

He Tairoa Goodin Mathematics Year 9 - 10 Nalani Renau Mathematics Year 11 - 13 **Jordan Smith** Physical Education Year 9 - 10 **Angeles Gardiner** Physical Education Year 11 - 13

He Tairoa Goodin Science Year 9 - 10

Sarsha Dakin-Spershott David Adams Memorial Cup - Science Year 11-13

Soren Grevers-White Social Studies Year 9-10 Technology Hard Materials **Alex Gibson** Year 11 Food Technology **Phoenix Papa**

Tourism and Foods Year 13 (Foods and Nutrition) Lathanael Goodin

JP Art and Frames - Year 5 Speech **Isla Stewart** Butterworth Speech Cup - Year 6 Speech Grady O'Sullivan Francie O'Sullivan Intermediate Speech: Year 7 - 8 **Angelina Pitcher** English Department Year 9 - 10 Speech

Ngahuia Hohaia Speech Year 11 -13

Vocational Pathways: Primary and Service Jorja Sole

Industries

Vocational Pathways: Service Industries Nalani Renau Sarsha Dakin-Spershott Vocational Pathways: Primary and Service

Industries

2020 SPORTS AWARDS

Athletics: Year 5 Champion Boy Athletics: Year 5 Champion Girl Athletics: Year 6 Champion Boy Athletics: Year 6 Champion Boy Athletics: Year 6 Champion Girl Athletics: Year 7-8 Champion Boy Olivia Sv Athletics: Year 7-8 Champion Girl Athletics: Year 9-10 Champion Boy Athletics: Year 9-11 Champion Girl Athletics: Senior Boy

Athletics: Senior Girl Swimming: Under 10 Champion Boy

Swimming: Under 10 Champion Girl Swimming: Under 12 Champion Boy Swimming: Under 12 Champion Girl

Oliver McLellan Hannah Terry Grady O'Sullivan **Benjamin Moffitt Elena Barron Thomas Moffitt Caleb Terry** Pirihira Chapman **Chaz Taipari** Taysha Ryder Grady O'Sullivan **Emma Keech Dustin Snowden** Jasmin Kemsley

Swimming: Under 14 Champion Girl Swimming: Under 14 Champion Boy Swimming: Senior Boy Swimming: Senior Girl Cross Country: Senior Primary Girl

Cross Country: Senior Primary Boy Cross Country: Intermediate Girl Richardson Cup Must Outstanding Netballer Netball: Certificate of Participation

Netball: Certificate of Participation Netball: Certificate of Participation Netball: Certificate of Participation Netball: Certificate of Participation Netball: Certificate of Participation **Angelina Pitcher Caleb Terry Phoenix Papa** Mackenzie Hill **Elena Barron** Grady O'Sullivan Jasmin Kemsley Jasmin Kemsley Coastal Ferns: Year 1 & 2 Coastal Tui: Year 3 Coastal Tui: Year 4 Coastal Kereru: Year 5 Coastal Kereru: Year 6

Coastal Kahu: Year 7 & 8

Coastal Taranaki School Prizegiving 2020

The Prizegiving Ceremony for Coastal Taranaki School 2020 was held on Tuesday 15th of December and took on a different format this year, all certificates and prizes for Year 0 -13 are part of the same celebration. Although this year has been quite a different one for us all with Lockdown, which required learning from home and lots of hard work by students and teachers to reach the expected levels of curriculum and NCEA requirements. Sports was the most affected area of the curriculum with COVID-19, the sporting awards list reflects this as many sporting

fixtures had to be cancelled. Many of our awards have past community connections such as the Corbett Award, which is presented to a student for demonstrating knowledge and kindness. The spade given as the trophy was the original spade used to plant an Oak tree for Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in England. It is awarded to a Year 6 student and this year's recipient Hayley Sulzberger.

Our 2020 Head Student Te Ahumairangi Waaka receives the Te Rangi Uenuku Gaye Taingahue Memorial Award for displaying pride and caring for our school.

The Proxime Accessit cup (runner up Dux) this year goes to Lathanael Goodin. He was also presented the top awards in Tourism and Foods for Year 13, the Sandra Titchener Cup for History and Geography, the Carpe Diem Cup for demonstrating the core values of the school, and the very prestigious Vocational Pathways Award. Over the past 3 years Lathanael successfully participated in programmes in the hospitality sector at both WITT and at School. He achieved class awards and was involved in catering as part of the Young



Dux for 2020 Angeles Gardiner.



Proxime Accessit winner Lathaniel Goodin.

Programme Enterprise at school. His excellence has been rewarded with a to continue their studies \$2000 scholarship which in the trades, technology

recognises and encourages talented young people and creative sectors of the workforce. Lathanael is enrolled to study in Bachelor of Hotel Management programme PIHMS next year.

The Coastal Taranaki School Crossman Cup for Dux 2020 this year was presented to Angeles Gardiner along with Physical Education Years 11-13. Additionally she received the Joseph Manu Cup for Best Māori Scholar and the Freemasons award for a student attending Tertiary Education in 2021.

The newly elected leaders of the Area School was clear cut according to the staff and student votes. The elected Head Students for 2021 are Taysha Ryder and Nalani Renau. Both students are existing and active, charismatic leaders within the school as Year 12 students and are well equipped to proudly lead the Coastal Taranaki School students in the New Year.

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Pukeiti's giant rata has been felled for safety

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Pukeiti's iconic giant rata has been felled because it was in danger of falling over and presented a risk to public safety.
Cracks had been identified in the lower trunk of the 800-year-old tree, says Taranaki Regional Council Gardens Manager, Greg Rine, and further bad weather has exacerbated the

"Recent strong winds and heavy rain have lengthened and widened the existing cracks in just a few days. The structural integrity of the tree was compromised and it was in danger of falling over, so we had to take action quickly. "We're absolutely gutted that we had to fell this wonderful old tree, but, ultimately, keeping Pukeiti

visitors safe is our priority. "Unfortunately because of its sheer size, bracing the tree was not a feasible option.

The giant rata was a star attraction at Pukeiti, having featured in countless selfies, videos and social media posts over the years says Mr Rine.

"The rata is enchanting and has provided many

generations of families and children with wonderful memories as they've woven in and out of the roots playing games and hiding. "It will be greatly missed by visitors and garden staff alike, but we're not letting her go without saying a proper goodbye. A karakia was said by local kaumatua, and as nature intended, the tree will lie where it fell and be allowed to decompose naturally. Those with close links to Pukeiti including local hapu and the Pukeiti Rhododendron Trust were advised prior to felling and have been kept appraised of the situation, says Mr Rine.

Fifty years on and moving forward



Awatuna and Districts Playcentre celebrated their Christmas party on Monday December 7 with an eventful fun party including a bouncy castle, face painter, and a visit from a number of mascots. We look forward to welcoming new families into the centre in 2021 along with celebrations of 50 years in our community.

Awatuna and Districts Playcentre.

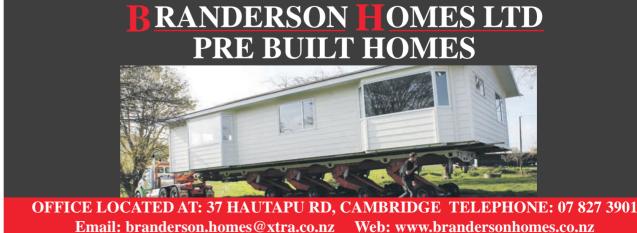
DairyNZ support call to rethink research funding

DairyNZ say they agrees with the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment Simon Upton's call for the Government to rethink how environmental research is funded in New Zealand.

"We urge the Government to accept the PCE's advice and reconsider our national strategy and funding allocation for environmental research," said DairyNZ chief executive Dr Tim Mackle.

"As a country we face some significant challenges to reduce our environmental footprint, reduce emissions and improve water quality. To be successful we will need substantial, long-term research investment based on a shared strategy.

"The current research system is not having the impact it could. It's costly, cumbersome and doesn't always direct funding to the areas that will really make a difference on the ground."



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A clear eyed vision of the future



Back row. From left. Grace Cribb, Gaye Whitu, Hera Ratahi. Front Tapakione Skinner.

In 1833 invading Waikato were stopped dead in their tracks by the Taranaki defenders of Te Namu Pa. The leader of the defenders of the pa near the modern town of Opunake was given the name Matakatea, or the "clear-eyed" because of his leadership and his marksmanship with the gun. Today Wiremu Kingi te Matakatea remains an inspiration for both Te Kohanga Reo o Te Namu and for Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Tamarongo. The kura has a roll of 10 tamariki, aged from six to

"The curriculum here is all about Ngati Tamarongo and Ngati Kahumate, of Taranaki Tuturu, and uniquely derives from their ancestor Wiremu Kingi Matakatea and his philosophy for the best future for his people," says principal Gaye Whitu. She says the future for the kura looks bright. There is a new curriculum that is uniquely Tamarongo. Tamariki are being taught to respect the whenua, the waterways and the moana. Their identity, language, spiritual and physical wellbeing is supported within the principles of Te Aho Matua and Tamarongotanga. Tapakione Skinner who was the kura's first principal says students at the kura learn how to handle

themselves on the marae, and are taught to respect the places they go to and learn the manaakitanga. From this point, other attributes, including academic success are able to thrive.

The latest Financial Audit for the kura for 2018 and 2019 is positive.
With support mechanisms put in place by the Ministry of Education the kura no longer requires a Limited Statutory Manager.
The kura and Te Kohanga Reo o Te Namu have a bond that ties the two organisations together under lore our cultural heritage.
The original goal of being

able to add secondary

school education to the mix remains a live one. Things haven't always been so bright.

Gaye was Acting Principal in 2017, she was appointed Sole charge Principal in 2018.

Kui Tapakione Skinner had been the Kura's first principal and Grace Cribb took over as chair of the Board of Trustees supporting Gaye in her role. All the staff and whanau members , parents of 2017 through to 2020 have been instrumental in developing growth and up lifting the mana of the tamariki and

Tamarongo.
"The Board of Trustees and whanau have the power to

make decisions for them," says Gaye. "We have a new curriculum, and now it's time to move on. We can look forward to the future." Te Kura Kaupapa Maori o Tamarongo was the first Kura Kaupapa Maori in Taranaki, and in the Aotea district

"They are the ones carrying

on the journeys with their ancestors. Kia Tupakari ait e Raukura.

'Ma Mua Ka kite a Muri, Ma Muri, Ka ora a Mua' Those who lead give sight to those who follow, Those who follow give life to those who lead.

Gaye Whitu



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Taranaki property market is running hot

Like many New Zealand regions, Taranaki came out "emotionally bruised but far from physically battered" by the impacts of lockdowns – with some property sectors faring better than others and median residential property values now at an all-time high.

Bayleys Taranaki GM Dean File said activity within the region following lockdown was generally reflective of what was going on elsewhere in the country.

"Once the people got over the initial forecasts of how Covid-19 was predicted to negatively impact on the economy, they have shaken off initial fears and got on with life in general".

"Additionally, we have also seen a trickle of expats returning back to Taranaki as part of the wave of Kiwis returning to their birthplace. We are seeing the flow on form of this with strong enquiry from outside of the region, particularly in the middle and upper-end price ranges for residential and lifestyle property".

Bayleys have a strong auction culture and are achieving impressive results with this competitive and transparent method of sale. "We do however sell



The Bayleys New Plymouth Office - A night shot.

properties by other methods, but always looking to get the best possible result for our

vendors."
Bayleys of service

offer a fullreal estate experience both locally and across New Zealand. Bayleys are also involved in supporting numerous groups and organisations in the region.

"We are proudly a part of this community and enjoy giving back to it," says Dean.



Thank you from the team at Bayleys Taranaki for your support throughout 2020. We wish you a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful New Year. We are available during the holiday season should you wish to get together and discuss your real estate needs for 2021.

Whatever your property needs, contact Bayleys Taranaki.

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Honda Hub Hawera is located at 250 Waihi Road, Hawera under the ownership of managing directors Shane Rooney, Jackie Brookes and Cory Rooney. (The respected firm was located in Princes Street under the old name of Cooks Honda until recently). Shane and Jackie and their staff shifted into their much more spacious ("Double the size") premises on November 30.

The building is owned by the couple's family, which ensures stability of location. Honda Hub Hawera sell and service virtually everything under the Honda brand including motorbikes (on road, trail, farm and moto-cross), Honda Marine outboard motors (7 year Warranty), ATVs (250cc-680cc), brushcutters, generators, water pumps, lawnmowers, tillers, power carriers, post hole borers as well as the amazing Versatool (25cc or 35cc), which does just about anything you need to maintain your section; hedgetrimmer, blower, edger, pruner, brushcutter, extension pole and



From left: Jackie Brookes, Brendon Holtham, Mike Van de Velden, Bruce Sutton, Selwyn Bluett and Shane Rooney.

cultivator. Like everything at the firm this fuel efficient, low emission device has a four stroke motor, which Shane maintains is superior to the two stroke alternative. A definite asset for the firm is the experience of the staff, who have notched up a considerable number of

years in the service of the firm – would you believe 100 years! "The men have only ever worked on Honda merchandise," comments Shane.

Backing up this expert experience is the extensive amount of diagnostic

equipment, which allows the rapid pinpointing of where a fault is positioned.

Honda Hub Hawera has an extensive range of accessories such as utility gloves, safety glasses, face shields, ear muffs, chest protectors, kidney belts, Shane and Jackie are

convinced that Honda products are superior to all others, with their genesis extending back to 1953. "We're lucky we have a very good product." Perhaps this quote sums it up: Honda continues to be a leader in the development of low-emission, fuel efficient, environmentally friendly 4-stroke engines for use in generators, water pumps, lawnmowers, outboard motors, and many other power equipment applications.

The opening hours are Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm. In the New Year it is expected Saturday 9am to midday will also be available to customers.

Friendly expert service is available when you call at Honda Hub Hawera at 250 Waihi Road, just beside the Hawera Racecourse. You can phone them on 06 278 5972 or mobile 021 0885 1188. You can also email shane@hondahub.co.nz

Garden Edge wishes all of our customers a Merry Christmas. We will be closed from the 25th Dec to the 28th. Open 29th Dec to 4th

lan 2021.



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Our office will be closed from the 24th December until the 13th January with after-hours numbers available on our answer phone message.

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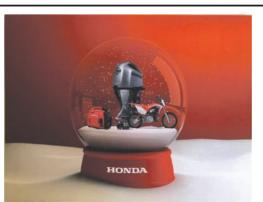
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Shane Rooney with Versatool.







Honda Hub Hawera - Holiday Hours:
Thursday 24th December - Open until 2pm
Friday 25th December - Closed
Monday 28th December - Closed
Tues 29th December - 9am - 1pm
Wed 30th December - 9am - 1pm
Thurs 31st December - 9am - 1pm
Friday 1st January - Closed

Wis closed
Friday 1st January - Closed

Normal trading hours resume from Tuesday 5th January 2021

Monday 4th January - Closed

n (w/s closed - Retail only) n (w/s closed - Retail only) n (w/s closed - Retail only) Thank you for your support through out the year, 2020 definitely threw us all a curve ball!
We wish you a safe and very merry Christmas!
Our holiday hours are as below, for

Our holiday hours are as below, for anything urgent please call or text Shane: 0210 885 1188



For all things Honda powered, call in and see the team at Honda Hub. The Honda name has earnt the reputation over the years as a brand that will last and can be trusted. Hawera: 250 Waihi Rd, 06 278 5972

New Plymouth: 169 Gill St, 06 757 3612

Teen body dissatisfaction predictor of adult depression

New research, published in the Journal of Epidemiology & Community Health, shows a credible link between adolescent body dissatisfaction and the onset of depression in adulthood. Young people who experienced dissatisfaction with their appearance faced an increased risk of depression in their early adult lives of between 50% to 285%. The trend was present in both male and female teens, with the

likelihood of developing severe depression being much greater for boys. The University of West England, Bristol study used a population sample of nearly 4000 British adolescents born in the early 1990s. Participants were drawn from the Avon Longitudinal Study of Parents and Children (ALSPAC), which monitors the lives of individuals living in Somerset, England. Each individual was asked

to rank their feelings about their physical appearance from 0 (extremely dissatisfied) to 5 (extremely satisfied). At age 14, girls reported being more dissatisfied than boys with their weight, figure, body build and specific body features. "Girls tended to dislike their thighs, stomach, and weight, but liked their hair and hips. Boys tended to be dissatisfied with body build, stomach, and hips, but weren't bothered about their hair, weight, or legs.' "Nearly 1 in 3 (32%) of the girls and around 1 in 7 (14%) of the boys were dissatisfied with their weight, and around 1 in 4 (27%) girls and 1 in 7 (14%) boys were dissatisfied with their figure."

At age 18, the participants were formally assessed for depressive symptoms, using a validated scale (CIS-R). Comparison of these results with the body dissatisfaction data given by the participants at age 14 accurately "predicted depressive episodes of all degrees of severity among the girls, and mild and

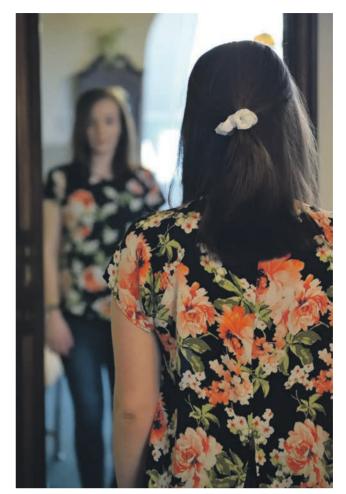


Photo by Taylor Smith on Unsplash

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severe depressive episodes among the boys by the time they were 18 years old. These findings held true, even after taking account of depressive symptoms at the age of 14."

By age 18, girls were more likely to experience depression than boys. "One in 10 (10%) of the girls reported at least one mild depressive episode compared with 1 in 20 (5%) of the boys. Nearly 7% of the girls and nearly 3% of the boys reported at least one moderately severe depressive episode, while severe depressive episode(s) affected 1.5% of the girls and less than 1% (0.7%) of the boys.'

The findings revealed that intense bodily dissatisfaction as a

teenager was associated with a heightened risk of experiencing a severe depressive episode in early adulthood.

"Among the girls, each increase in the body dissatisfaction scale at the age of 14 was associated with a heightened risk of experiencing at least one mild (63%), moderate (67%) and/or severe (84%) depressive episode at the age of 18."

For boys, the risk was much higher. The likelihood of experiencing at least one episode of severe depression from age 18 was 285% greater for teen males who experienced high levels of body dissatisfaction at age

The researchers believe much of this negativity is a result of the contemporary social environment. "It is possible that in the era of social media and increasing pressures on body ideals, male adolescents have also become sensitive to [idealised body image] pressures, which may translate into later depressive episodes". The findings suggest body dissatisfaction is a serious public health issue "of pressing concern." Alongside depression, negative body perception can lead to eating disorders and unhealthy relationships with food and exercise. Depression also has wellrecognised links to the increased risk of suicide.. The effects of this trend are not limited to the United Kingdom. Negative body image is a global issue.. Up to 61% of adolescents worldwide experience some level of dissatisfaction with their bodies., according to comparative international studies. And this trend is increasing.

The University of West England study fills an important gap in the existing research on body dissatisfaction and depression by exploring how the Millennial generation (those born between 1981 and 1997), and young males in particular, are influenced by the internet, technology and social media.

had limited ethnic and socioeconomic diversity, which the researchers acknowledge "may limit the wider applicability of the findings." The questionnaires were also skewed toward female appearance ideals and did not account for sexual orientation or those that do not associate with the gender assigned to them at birth.

The ALSPAC data

However, the researchers hope their findings can lead to positive social change, since "reducing body dissatisfaction might be an effective strategy to reduce mental health issues." Possible areas of intervention suggested in the paper include schoolbased media literacy programmes targeting appearance discrimination and bullying; and a more holistic public health approach to both physical and mental well-being that shifts attitudes from "weight control to weight outcomes, and appreciation of the body in relation to its functionality as opposed to its appearance."

Caroline Lord

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Your experts around the Coast'

Your Summer Guide

Whats on in TARANAKI

Over the Holiday season

Welcome to the Opunake and Coastal News 2020-21 Summer Guide to What's On in Taranaki showcasing what our region has to offer. Surfing, Golfing, Adventuring - you found it! We also showcase our Beach Carnival (a fantastic family day out). As well as some places that you must visit. Keep this guide and use it over the coming summer months.



Where else would you rather be?

Welcome to Taranaki: Things you can do

The list of things to do in Taranaki is endless.

Tawhiti Museum is just minutes from Hawera, and is one of the best private museums in the country. Nigel Ogle has recreated a world of historical snapshots in his dioramas that reflect Taranaki's past. Learn about how Taranaki came to be a dairying province, and take a boat ride to enjoy the Traders & Whalers exhibit.

The Elvis Presley Museum in Hawera is a world famous attraction that even the King himself would want to visit (if he could...

Opunake is a town well worth a visit, with the Beach Carnival and Holiday Park attracting visitors year after

year. It has great surf to be enjoyed.

Check out the Opunake Loop Trail, including the Opunake Lake, Cliff Top Garden and sites of historic interest around Opunake including the Te Namu Pa site. This is user friendly for

both walkers and cyclists. For garden lovers the Taranaki Regional Council has three gardens open to the public at Pukeiti and Tupare near New Plymouth, and Hollard Gardens near Kaponga.

Take an invigorating walk on the Coastal Walkway in New Plymouth with great views of the coast and sculptures. You may also spot a seal or a penguin.

Photo by Staci Holmes Opunake

To get up closer to a seal colony, take a boat trip with Chaddy's Charters which will take you on a cruise around the Sugarloaf Islands..

Puke Ariki has three permanent exhibition galleries that explore the region's history, taonga and natural world.with a wealth of literary and historical treasures to experience. Just minutes away is the iconic Govett Brewster Gallery where you can see the Len Lye inspired masterpieces.

The Festival of Lights in Pukekura Park is a sight you'll never forget. The Festival also has a range of musical treats and other entertainment at different

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festivaloflights.nz #iloveFOL 19 December 2020 – 31 January 2021 Of



Free regional buses, supported by **TSB Community Trust, will be running:**

- Saturday 19 December
- Saturday 2 January
- Saturday 16 January

Buses depart from:

- Hawera / Normanby / Eltham / Stratford / Inglewood
- Urenui / Waitara / Bell Block
- Opunake / Rahotu / Pungarehu / Okato / Ōākura

Bookings are essential and close midday one day before event. Phone NPDC on 06-759 6060 to register.

Departure details will be confirmed at the time of booking. You must be 14 years or over to use this bus service unless accompanied by an adult.

History Snapshots



Janet Frame (1924-2004). who is generally considered to be NZ's best writer (with Katherine Mansfield), lived in Stratford from 1976-79. One house, in Juliet Street has been demolished, but her 124 Miranda Street still exists.



Jim Bolger (1935-) became NZ's 52nd Prime Minister in 1990. (He eventually lost the National Party leadership to Jenny Shipley in 1997). He was born in Opunake and grew up on a farm near Rahotu (in Opuratu Road) and attended Rahotu Primary School and Opunake High School. He farmed in the area until 1965 when he bought a sheep and beef farm near Te Kuiti. In 1972 he entered Parliament and was soon elevated to cabinet minister status - he was Minister of Maori Affairs and, later, Minister of Labour. After



leaving Parliament he was

NZ's Ambassador to the US

and, later, Kiwibank's CEO.

Dr Peter Snell (1938-) is generally considered to be NZ's greatest sportsperson of all time. He won three Olympic gold medals and two Commonwealth gold medals and set eight World Records as a 1960s middle distance runner. He twice broke the World Record for the mile. As a child he lived in two houses in Opunake, including 14 Dorset Street.

In his biography 'No Bugle No Drums' by Garth Gilmour, he talks about running through the Opunake Beach sand dunes as a child.



Gustavus Von Tempsky (1828-1868) Born in Prussia, he travelled the world and arrived in NZ in 1862 - attracted by the Coromandel gold rush. He joined the Colonial Defence Force in 1863 and his Forest Rangers were involved in European-Maori clashes. He was promoted to captain - then major. He was killed fighting Titokowaru's warriors at Te Nguto-o-te-manu. He is not only remembered as a brave soldier, but also as a painter; some watercolour pictures are held in the Alexander and Hocken Libraries.



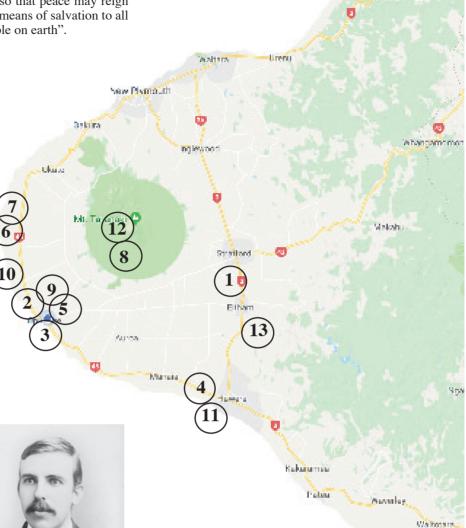
Don Clark (1933-2002) played at fullback for the All Blacks between 1956 and 1964, scoring 781 points. He is described as the "greatest goal kicker of his time". He could kick goals huge distances - even from deep in the opposition's half. As a child he lived in Pihama and attended Pihama School, which was recently closed. He emigrated to South Africa and established a tree felling business.



Te Whiti-o-Rongomai III (1830-1907) was born in Pungarehu. He lived in Parihaka and practiced non violence and passive resistance to the confiscation of

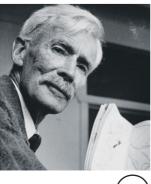
Maori land. He is as close

a figure as we can get to the great Indian leader Mahatma Gandhi with his principles of non violence. Te Whiti spent some time in prison for his stand on land confiscation. His memorial in Parihaka says: "He was a man who did great deeds in suppressing evil so that peace may reign as a means of salvation to all people on earth".

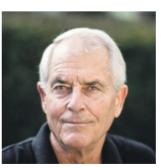


A map of Taranaki

Lord Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) is generally considered to be the greatest New Zealander of all time. The scientist won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908. He is best known for 'splitting the atom'. His family lived in Lower Parihaka Road, Pungarehu; the homestead was demolished in 1980. Coming from Surf Highway and nearing the sea, two Norfolk pines (one diminished by a lightning strike) mark the site - on the left. The Rutherfords had a flax mill near their home and also in Warea and Opunake (at Opunake Lake).



Sir Alfred Reed (1875-1975) He is better known as AH Reed. He is remembered for founding NZ's biggest publishing company, writing over 70 books (the last one when he was 98), walking huge distances while in his 80s, and his Christian and philanthropist kindness and donations. As regard walking, he walked from Sydney to Melbourne in his 90th year. At 86 he walked the entire length of NZ. He twice became the oldest person to climb Mount Taranaki. Stratford's Mountain House has a photo of his achievement at the age of 86. He also, at this time, walked right round the circumference of Mount Taranaki.



Graeme Lav (1944-) was born in Foxton. He is a well known writer. As a child he lived at 31 Ihaia Road, Opunake and his parents had a shop in Tasman Street where the Opunake Op Shop is situated. He was inspired by the short stories of Frank Sargeson and eventually became a friend of the great writer, often visiting him in his Takapuna home (He is Secretary of the Frank Sargeson Trust). His novel 'The Mentor' was loosely based on Sargeson. We have published some of Graeme's short stories in this newspaper.



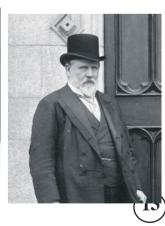
Dame Malvina Major (1943-). The famous classical singer was born in Hamilton, but lived on a dairy farm near Opunake (Lower Kina Road) with her husband Winston. Sadly, Winston died suddenly when he was in his 40s. Earlier, Dame Malvina studied under Sister Mary Leo. She won the 1963 NZ Mobil Song Quest, beating Kiri Te Kanawa in the process (Kiri came second). She has taken breaks from her singing career - in 1985 she returned to the international stage in Brussels with 'La Finta Giardiniera'.



Ronald Hugh Morrieson (1922-1972) has been described as "the most original novelist NZ has produced". He wrote such books as 'The Scarecrow', 'Predicament', and 'Came a Hot Friday'. More of his novels have been made into films than for any other NZ writer. He lived in his Regent Street, Hawera house for most of his life. A fast food outlet marks the spot. Parts of his house, which was controversially demolished, exist in an excellent eatery called Morriesons Cafe Bar in Hawera.



Sir Edmund Hillary (1919-2008) He is known as the conqueror of Mt Everest, leader of the third overland party to reach thegby footballCaptain Scott) and many other expeditions. However, he considered his building of schools, hospitals, bridges etc for the Nepalese people as his greatest achievement. He also has climbed Mt Taranaki.



Richard Seddon (1845-1906). He was our longest serving leader - called Premiers in his day, not Prime Minister. The Englishman led the country for 12 years and died in office on board a ship on the Tasman Sea. He enjoyed having meals at Eltham's Railway Hotel. The photo of the pub on the historical plaque was captured in 1893, which is appropriate - it was this year that women were allowed to vote and he was Premier. NZ was the first country in the world to allow women to vote.



jacqui Sturm (1927-) is best known for being the wife of the poet generally considered to be our greatest - James K Baxter. She was also Janet Frame's closest friend. However, she is an acclaimed award winning writer in her own right. She grew up in Gisborne Terrace, Opunake with Nurse Wehipeihana - her maternal mother died when Jacqui was very young. Although better known for her prose when younger, she has recently concentrated on poetry. Her anthology 'Dedications' won the Honour Award for Poetry in the Montana Book Awards in 1997. In 2003 she was made an Honorary Doctor of Lit



Chew Chong (1830-1920). He was born in China, but emigrated to NZ after 11 years in Australia. He made a lot of money by collecting edible fungus in forests especially from mahoe trees. He established stores in New Plymouth, Inglewood and and Eltham. A historical sign marks the spot in Eltham (Eltham Road) where he had a dairy factory.

J James John (J.J) Patterson who died in 1937 was reputedly the world's largest dairyfarmer. He owned more than 4000 dairy cows on over 35 farms from Taranaki through to Waikato. Five years earlier the New Zealand Dairy Exporter called him "The man who owns the largest number of dairy cows in

the world."
C.P.McMeekan later said his estate was the largest single producer of milkfat in the Southern Hemisphere.

sphere.
Born in 1859, he had lost

both his parents in 1864. In 1885, he had set himself up as a blacksmith in Manaia. As the years went on, Patterson acquired more farms, including the Glenn estate at Kaupokonui and the Lysaght block at Ohangai. The first of his farms to convert to dairying was one at Normanby which later became the Waimate West Demonstration Farm.

Having acquired these blocks, he divided them up into dairy farms. Of the sharemilkers he took on, many went on to own their own farms, while others carried on working for him for up to 20 years.

During his lifetime, J.J.Patterson had wanted to set up swimming baths in Manaia as a safer alternative to the swimming hole in the Kapuni River. In 1940, the town finally got its baths, complete with plaque dedicated to the memory of J.J and his beloved wife, Catherine.



Born in Hawera, Michael Campbell won the US Open in 2005, defeating Tiger Woods by two strokes. He remains one of only two New Zealanders to win a golfing major. The other is British Open winner Bob Charles.

Other golfing achievements include being part of the New Zealand team which won the Eisenhower Trophy in 1992. He now lives in Spain and conducts golfing workshops around the world.

Michael Campbell has iwi links through his father Thomas to Ngati Ruanui and the Taiporohenui Marae at Hawera, and through his mother Abby to Nga Rauru and the Waio-Turi marae at Whenuakura.

He has never forgotten where he came from, says Bruce Campbell, his uncle, "one of many."

Michael took up golf as a seven year-old and his early golfing experiencing was played out on golf courses like Hawera, Patea and Manaia.

His father's work meant the family shifted to Porirua. In 2018 Michael was inducted into the South Taranaki District Sporting Hall of Fame.

Battle of Waireka

Just south of New Plymouth (and a few kms north of Oakura) is the tranquil Waireka Road, but 160 years ago it was far from peaceful as many people lost their lives in a bloody battle.

Five settlers were ambushed and killed near Omata township on March 2, 1860; two of the victims were boys aged 14 and 12, respectively. The five were either shot, tomahawked or both.

It was thought the perpetrators were from Kaipopo Pa, which had been recently established overlooking the Omata Stockade and the Main Road South. The pa was 8 km southwest of New Plymouth and four km from the Omata Stockade. The pa was occupied by Maori (about 500) from the following iwi – Taranaki, Ngati Ruanui and Nga Rauru. One of the chiefs was Manahi.

It was a time of unrest against the background of the disputed land sale in Waitara where some land was sold to the Crown by one chief Te Teira, while his ownership was disputed by many others including the most influential Wiremu Kingi. There had been several minor Maori-European clashes and many settlers had left their farms to seek relative safety in New Plymouth itself. Many of these farm homesteads and farm buildings ended up being ransacked and burnt, with the stock driven off or killed. To be fair the situation was something of a vicious circle; the British led soldiers (65th Regiment) would destroy most pa they captured including belongings and crops, while, perhaps in retaliation, the farms of the European settlers would be targeted.

Anyway, the Battle of Waireka became the most serious clash of what was known as the first Taranaki War (March 1860 – March

1861). The Governor at the time was Thomas Gore Browne (1855-1861), who was followed in turn by George Grey (1861-1868). Governor Browne was concerned about the safety of settlers who lived in the locality and various contingents set off to the locality. A consultation between the Governor and overall military leader Lt-Col Gold led to a military rescue plan. Two settlers in possible danger, were Rev. Henry Brown and Thomas Gilbert, although they professed to be neutral.

One military group set off on March 28 along the coast under the leadership of Captain Charles Brown (later relieved by Captain Charles Stapp), while Lieutenant-Colonel G.T. Murray approached Omata by the usual inland route. His orders



Today a peaceful site. In 1860 the site of a bloody battle.

were to return to New Plymouth by nightfall as he was needed for the defence of the town, if needed.

Under the various leaders were British soldiers (who had overall authority), local volunteers (Taranaki Rifle Volunteers), local militia and even seamen from the HMS Niger, at dock on the New Plymouth waterfront. Captain Peter Cracroft was in command of this latter group.

Some Maori warriors had left the Kaipopo Pa and taken up positions in the bushes and flax lower down near John Jury's isolated farm homestead (near Waireka Stream). They engaged with some European soldiers who were mostly the locals (Taranaki Rifle Volunteers and militia), who came under heavy fire. Their weapons were mostly double barrelled shotguns, although some had rifles. Ammunition was also running low

with each volunteer having been given just 30 rounds for their Enfield rifles.

There was a definite expectation that Lt-Col Murray would come to the rescue of the volunteers who were holed up in the vicinity of the isolated Jury farm homestead. However, Murray stuck rigidly to his orders (back by nightfall) and headed back to New Plymouth around 5.30pm leaving the volunteers to their fate. His actions were strongly criticized and there was an inquiry after the event. (Just after midnight the volunteers made it back to Omata Stockade).

Meanwhile Captain Cracroft had approached the pa in the late afternoon and bombarded it with rocket tubes. Captain Cracroft offered ten pounds to any soldier who captured their flag. Seaman William Odgers obliged and won a Victoria Cross for his bravery. The pa was cap-

tured.

There are conflicting accounts of how many people lost their lives on both sides. One estimate stipulated that as many as 150 Maori warriors lost their lives, but some authorities (such as historian James Bellich) have stated this is wildly exaggerated. The European soldiers killed numbered about ten.

At the corner of Waireka Road West and Sutton Road is a small stone memorial established by the Historic Place Trust. The plaque reads: About this hill the first major engagement of the Taranaki War The Battle of Waireka was fought, 28 March, 1860. My guess is this (and Sutton Road) marks the location of Waipopo Pa. Three minutes' walk down the hill is the Waireka Cemetery, where John Jury's grave can be seen. I expect his farm homestead was on the flat area just below the western boundary of the cemetery (where the Waireka Road wind down towards the sea).

In the cemetery is the grave of Antonio Rodriguez Sardinha, one of the Taranaki Mounted Volunteers. He died on 12.5.1905, aged 73. He was awarded the NZ Cross, served under Captain Mace and was frequently mentioned in dispatches for bravery.



The grave of John Jury.

local businesses, local sport, local arts and events.
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Local news, Local people,



hat's on at Puke Ariki this summer :Home Work

Home Work exhibition brings together artwork created around Taranaki and acknowledges the vital role art plays in forming a vibrant community. In 2019 we invited local artists to submit new and unseen artworks that embody the theme of 'Tuku Iho', celebrating the link between present, past and future. Fifty seven pieces, from established and emerging

our region is known for, the in an impressive and diverse body of paintings, prints, sculptures and more. Collectively, these artworks represent the current art scene in Taranaki. Use our virtual reality headset to explore the workspaces of several of the artists too - listen to their stories and learn about the materials and techniques they use.

> VR experiences are available daily in the exhibition, 12:30pm - 1.45pm.

about your favourite piece and you could win vouchers to the Puke Ariki Store.

Exhibition closes 8 February 2021. **Museum Gallery Activities** This summer we are bringing our museum galleries, and their stories, to life with a range of different activities to participate in throughout the month of January. Check the Puke Ariki website for times and details of what activities are happening and



Taranaki Art work on display at Puke Ariki.



Not only a stunning piece of art, this bag created with a pillow slip and bottle tops by artist Deborah French, you can also drop in a card with your lockdown memories to go into Puke Ariki's Lockdown Life project

Art Day Saturday 9 January, 10:30am -12:30pm & 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Join us for a fun filled day of art inspired by our Home Work 2020 exhibition! Drop by for some hands-on and family friendly activities.

A Celebration of Art Friday 29 January, 5:30pm - 7:30pm. Come and enjoy a night celebrating the joy of art. Join us for a panel discussion

on how art enriches lives followed by live music and a chance to enjoy our three current exhibitions. Home Work 2020, Redecorating Taranaki and Therapeutic Agent after hours.

Once you've explored the Museum, head over to Puke Ariki Library where we have lots to entertain the kids this summer, including the Unbelieve-a-Bubble Science Show on Sunday 17 January at 10am.

Learn about the science that goes into making bubbles and explore rubber bubbles, bubbles in a bubble and even see a bubble on fire. The show is suitable for ages 5 to 105. See all our summer events and activities at www. pukeariki.com

Ariki Puke F r e e entry Open days.



TARANAKI ART 2020

26 SEPTEMBER 2020 - 8 FEBRUARY 2021

TEMPORARY GALLERY PUKE ARIKI MUSEUM

Puke Ariki



Local landmark features in new exhibition at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery



Tai Moana Tai Tangata

is one of the Taranaki landmarks that appear in the Govett-Brewster's new exhibition, Tai Moana Tai Tangata by artist Brett

Te Namu pā in Ōpunake Graham (Ngāti Kōroki-Kahukura, Tainui). Curated by Anna-Marie White (Te Ātiawa), Taranaki history is brought to life through monumental sculptures,

commemorating historic relationships between Tainui and Taranaki iwi in the face of new challenges brought on by European settlement.

Join in on a guided

on in Tai Moana Tai Tangata. **Arty Fernery Fun**

exhibition tour on Saturday

January 16 at 2pm, for an

insight into the artworks,

themes and histories touched

Have an arty afternoon of fun at The Fernery with the Friends of Govett-Brewster Art Gallery on Thu January 7 and 14 from 2 - 3.30pm. All materials will be provided so you can get creative and capture the beauty of our park on paper.



January School Holiday Art

Drop in with your kids to make art that surprises and inspires every day between January 6-22, 10am – 12pm.

Kids' Flicks

Free films especially for children screen weekdays at 10.30am and 1.30pm and on weekends at 10.30am between December 19-24 and January 4-22.

Len Lye Centre Cinema

A handpicked selection of films continues to entertain, transport and inspire film-lovers throughout summer. Tickets are available online or in-store at the Govett-Brewster Shop.

Gift the unexpected

The Govett-Brewster Shop is your secret stash of unique gifts and objects inspired by art: fascinating books, smart stationary, hip homewares, along with Govett-Brewster and Len Lye exclusives, and curiosities connected to the current exhibitions.





"One of the most powerful shows I've ever seen"

Brett Graham Maungārongo ki te Whenua, Maungārongo ki te Tangata (detail), 2020

Open seven days: 10 am - 5 pm New Plymouth District residents - Free (w/proof of address) All under 16s - Free | 65+ years - \$10 | Visitors - \$15

42 Queen Street New Plymouth Aotearoa New Zealand







Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

What's happening at Todd Energy Aquatic Centre

The outdoor pools at the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre are now open for the summer season. Then of course there are the indoor pools at the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre, complete with one of the largest wave pools in New Zealand, as well as the country's tallest hydroslide. There's also the Aqua Climb wall, Tarzan swing and giant infl atables which are a hit with kids of all ages. The turboslide is popular with thrill seekers, and swimmers looking for a more relaxing experience can always take some time out in the sauna, steam room or spa. The children's playground area outdoors which was funded by naming rights sponsor Todd Energy is sure to be popular with the younger visitors. After hours bookings The pools are a great place to have your Christmas function, a birthday party or work function. You can burn some energy on the infl atables and in the waves, get a thrill on the hydroslides, or relax in the spa pool. There are several options available. Contact the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre for more details or to make a booking. Retail Store A range of swimming products are



The Todd Energy Aquatic Centre is located at 8-16 Tisch Avenue, Kawaroa Park New Plymouth.

available for purchase at the Aquatic Centre including goggles, caps and swimwear for all ages. We stock Spank, Adidas and Arena swimwear and we are also the exclusive retailer of the Funkita range for New Plymouth. Relaxation If its relaxation you're after, the aquatic centre has several options. You may prefer relaxing

indoors in the dry heat of the sauna or the wet heat of the steam room. These are both beneficial forms of therapy for muscular aches and pains, and a wonderful way to unwind following exercise or on cold days. If you want to pick a quiet time to visit the Aquatic Centre, come along before 10am or after 6.30pm. The times in between are

the fun times when families and children are enjoying the pools, so things do get a bit lively. Swimming Lessons The aquatic centre offers swimming lessons for all ages and abilities from six month old babies up to adults. Contact our swim school for more information. For general enquiries about the Todd Energy Aquatic

Centre or the district pools, phone 759 6060 or email enquiries@npdc.govt.nz. More information is online at www.newplymouthnz.com. Weekdays 6.00am–8.15pm. Weekends/Public Holidays 7.00am–6.45pm. Fitness Centre. Weekend/Holiday Hours 7.00am–6.45pm. Kawaroa Park, New Plymouth Phone 06 759 6060

www.newplymouthnz.com.

Golden Homes Splashfest is hitting our community pools, bringing the pool parties to you for a whole week. Hop on down to the pool closest to you for half price entry and enjoy an afternoon of swimming, games and competitions. Prizes will be provided by Golden Homes, the Pools team and the Three Waters team.

GOLDEN HOMES SPLASHFEST WAITARA POOL 26 JANUARY 2021 1pm-3pm Half price child pool entry today, only \$1

GOLDEN HOMES SPLASHFEST NEW PLYMOUTH TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE 27 JANUARY 2021 1pm-3pm Half price child pool entry today, only \$2

GOLDEN HOMES SPLASHFEST OKATO POOL 29 JANUARY 2021 1pm-3pm Half price child pool entry today, only \$1

GOLDEN HOMES SPLASHFEST INGLEWOOD 30 JANUARY 2021 1pm-3pm Half price child pool entry today, only \$1

See the Festival of Lights website for more details





Katchafire at Butler's Reef

Katchafire was formed in Hamilton in 2000, originally as a Bob Marley tribute band. The name draws inspiration from Catch a Fire, The Wailers debut album. The band has toured Australia, the UK, Europe, , the United States, New Caledonia and Brazil and have played on the same bills as The Wailers, The Marleys, Steel Pulse, Third World, UB40, Shaggy, Lauryn Hill, Fiji, and Horace Andy..

In 2020, Katchafire performed alongside several other New Zealand music acts at Hoani Waititi Marae in West Auckland as part of the Waitangi @ Waititi event.

Their sound is built on the foundations of classic roots reggae with an RnB and funk rub, mashing modern dancehall and slinky reggae pop. Katchafire has crafted a universal vibe, capturing something truly special in a diversity of instrumentation and clarity of sound.

Built on a family movement, It all started when lead guitarist Grenville Bell, father of Lead Singer Logan Bell and drummer / singer / songwriter Jordan Bell, moved into an apartment building in town with his then teenage sons where they could make music all night, and the rest is history.. Countless jams and sell out concerts later they are now an 8 piece collective of multitalented songwriters and musicians and have become a staple on the Californian and Pacific Roots scenes. The fire just continues to get hotter following invitations to acclaimed events such as Glastonbury, and opening circuits through Europe, Portugal and Brazil, as demand continues to grow for the non-stop feel good vibe of their incredible live shows.

They are playing at Butlers Reef in Oakura on 26 December.



Katchafire are again playing at Butlers Reef December 26th

Trinity Roots coming to Oakura



January 4 Trinity Roots play at Butler's Reef in Oakura.

Aotearoa has been swept up in the music of TrinityRoots - a boil-up of ingredients that seems to embody the very essence of our home, land and sea.

Wellington-based band TrinityRoots was founded in 1998, separated in 2005, and then re-formed in 2011.

On January 4 they play at Butler's Reef in Oakura.

Although they are commonly associated with New Zealand reggae they also embody a stripped back, jazz and soul-influenced rhythmic sound, which often builds up to highly emotional drum- and guitarled crescendos.

Like their contemporaries Fat Freddy's Drop, TrinityRoots formed a loyal fan base through live performances and word of mouth. They played alongside international acts including Ben Harper, Lee Scratch Perry, The Mad

Professor, as well as local bands like Fat Freddy's Drop,Salmonella Dub and Che Fu. Trinity Roots has also toured small towns on sellout tours. The band's song "Little Things" was featured prominently in an episode of the cartoon bro'Town.

The band separated in 2005, playing their final concert in February 2005 in a sellout concert to raise relief funds for the Boxing Day Tsunami.

The influences that the group bring together join the dots between head-nodding reggae, slow-burning funk and jazz adventurism to form undeniably indigenous waiata, unconstrained by genre boxes.

Since their inception, hiatus and then reformation in 2010, TrinityRoots have performed sell-out shows locally and globally, building on their reputation as a multi-award winning, platinum selling band

Butler's Reef Summer Music Menu



Dec 26: Katchafire with Sons of Zion and Laughton Kora

Dec 28: The Beach Ball
Daffodils, Marlin's Dreaming
& Soaked Oats

Dec 31: JoJo Rabbit

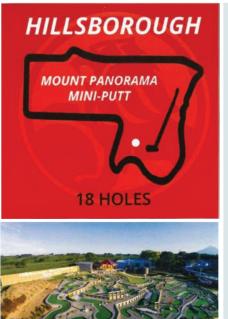
Jan 02: The Feelers with Elemeno P

Jan 04: Trinity Roots
Jan 05: King Tide P-Money/SWIDT/Wax
Mustang/Vayne and Teto



Butlers Reef

1133 Main Sth Rd, Oakura



683 Egmont Rd, NP
Ph: 027 447 0708
Mini Putt school holiday
hours 10am-5pm daily.



An immaculately displayed personal collection of Holden cars and memorabilia.

683 Egmont Road, RD2, New Plymouth Mob: 027 4470 708 Opening hours 10am-4pm weekends and Public Holidays

The Hideaway Cafe will be open Thurs, Fri, Sat, Sun from 9am-3.30 pm

New owners at Chaddy's looking to give back

It's been a busy couple of months for Kiko Matthews and Carl Hayman settling into the new life down at Chaddy's Charters but it's been a lot easier thanks to all the support from local businesses and individuals. They have been overwhelmed by the kindness of everyone who has come in as well as the resilience of the punters who have loved some of the Taranaki swells in recent weeks.

They are happy to be in such a great community, and are giving back by supporting local charities and schools, including a special Christmas Day boat trip for those who may not be having the greatest time over this festive period.

They are excited to develop their business using local

talent and services as much as possible, for example their website, signage, fishing gear, uniforms and accountants. They also welcome the SuperGold discount for the Wildlife Tour and the addition of fishing trips to the activity offerings.

Despite some pretty bad weather and sadly, lots of school cancellations, they are feeling optimistic for the Christmas period and summer holidays (open every day except December 25)

The team at Chaddy's wish everyone a Merry Xmas and thank everyone for their support. Please call 067589133 for more information. Come down to the boat shed to buy gift vouchers, or book online if you fancy an unforgettable experience.



The Rescue 3 heading out on a trip around the Sugarloaf Islands.

Twilight Cruises



How about a twilight cruise?

Twilight cruises, just the name enticingly conjures up sunsets, the mountain and the stunning Taranaki coast.

Barry Watkins from New Plymouth has just started Twilight Cruises leaving from the Ngamotu Marina twilight cruises.

in Breakwater Bay. They include afternoon cruises, half day cruises and full day

Barry also does fishing and dive charters.

"I love doing it," he says.

A commercial fisherman, he says he delights in taking people out on the water and sharing his love of the sea.

The trips vary according to the length of the cruises which go out round the islands, up to the Rewa Rewa Bridge and, for the full day cruises, down to Okato, Cape Egmont as far south as Whanganui.

Barry adds "It's a great idea for a birthday present, Christmas present or a group function." Certainly, a novel gift for the person who has everything.

Barry says he's seen whales off Okato and adds, "There's plenty of dolphins around" and of course seals.

He is clearly passionate



about the sea and has always been interested in it, he says keen to share his passion.

Invites Barry "Come and enjoy."

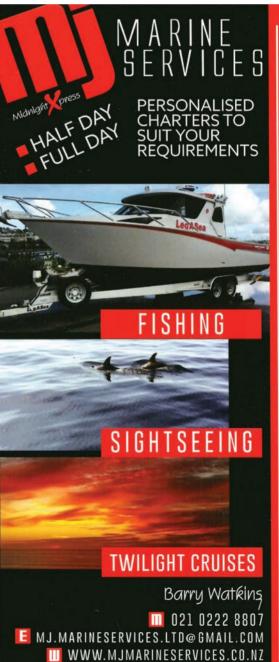
FISHING & DIVING CHARTERS - BOAT CHARTEF

TWILIGHT CRUISES

TARANAKI











Swinging in to Summer



Ashleigh Tonga and her son Reign Robinson enjoying time at the Opunake Beach Playground.



FROM THE TEAM AT COASTAL AGRI SERVICES



WISHING YOU ALL
A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS
Our shop will be closed 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th
Dec 2020 and the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th of January 2021.
FOR CALLOUTS CONTACT:

0800 761707

Get into Actionaki



Paintballers prepare and suit up in the nets at Actionaki. Paintballing is one of the many activities available which are ideal for birthday parties, teambuilding, work functions and school group activities.

Actionaki is now part and parcel of what's going on around Taranaki. Since starting 12 years ago, all sorts have come through, fromseven year-old birthday parties through

to corporate events, team building crews and stag and hen parties. It's really been great meeting new people and watching them step up, take themselves out of their comfort zones and achieve their goals. Archery is a really poular activity at Actionaki. Off to shoot a few claybirds. Paintballing in the forest. The events we cater for include claybird shooting, .22 rifle target shooting, Stag and

Hen dos, work dos, family gatherings, kids' birthday parties, team building days, archery, Frisbee golf, Paintball, surfcasting outings for kids and adults, and golf chip challenges. So if you, your family or your team need a break or activity at holiday time, we are only a phone call, facebook or email away 0800824836 Paddy



- Paintball
- Clayshooting
- Archery
- Frisbee golf & golf chip
- 22 rifle shooting
- Team building
- work do's
- stag and hen do's
- family gatherings
- Birthday parties
- Surfcasting
- BBQ'S

182 Opua Road, Opunake, Surf Highway 45 paddy@actionaki.co.nz







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CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

from Glenn & Toni

SYMES OUTDOOR & SPORTS

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Opunake Community Pool

Wow, what a great start to our 2020 season. Our pools are open, warm, and ready for lots of fun over the summer period until we close in April. Thank you to Todd Energy who sponsored our open day allowing a free swim and sausage for everyone to enjoy, it was a great way to start the season. We have had our Learn To Swim program and Aquatots throughout Term 4 which

has been well supported as always even with the not so tropical weather we have had. I want to acknowledge our Aquatots Instructors who volunteer their time every Tuesday morning to teach our babies and preschoolers, Andie, Tania, Aleisha & Patsy, thank you! Aquafit is underway on Tuesday & Thursdays at 9am and a high impact class on Tuesday 5:30pm. Give

your joints a break and take your exercise to the pool.

Our lifeguards are all trained up and on board keeping everyone safe this summer. We love having our pools as a safe place for children and families to play and enjoy. One thing we will not condone is bullying of any sort, if you see or hear anything that we miss please notify a lifeguard or send me a message.

As always, I want to shout out to the quiet workers behind the scenes, there are many helpers keeping everything running smoothly, you know who you are and are very much appreciated.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and happy holidays. Stay safe.

Hannah Drought



Pungarehu Community Pool

Open Soon
Pick up keys from Farmsource
Pungarehu \$60 cash only
Open 11am-9pm
Ph Terry 027 815 0713

Thank you everyone for your continued support this year.

I wish you a

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Summer shoes, hats and sunglasses plus more gifts



OPUNAKE COASTAL PHARMACY

55 TASMAN STREET, OPUNAKE - PHONE: 06 761 8599 (NEXT TO THE FOUR SQUARE)



Kenzie Field, Kourtney Gulliver, Connor Marshall at the Westside Martial Arts Xmas pool party.

Pungarehu Community Pool



Volunteers scrubbing the Pungarehu Community Pool preparing for another busy summer.

Opunake Community Baths – School Holiday Opening Hours Effective Saturday 18th December 2020							
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Lane	6:30-8:30am	6:30-10am	6:30-8:30am	6:30-10am	6:30-8:30am	7-10am	
Swimming	6:00-8pm	5 - 8pm		6:00-8pm			
Aqua Fit		9-9:45am		9-9:45am			
		5:30-6:15pm					
Public	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm

*Public Holidays – Open 1-4pm public hours. No Lanes or Aquafit Sessions.
Closed Xmas Day. Closed the evening sessions of Xmas Eve and NY Eve.

Entry Fees – Cash Only

Adult - \$4 Student/Senior - \$3 Preschooler - \$1.50

Concession Cards (12 Swims) - Adult \$40 Student/Senior \$30

Private Hire \$50/hour Swimmer Nappies \$2

<u>Contact:</u> Pool Office (during open hours) – 0220819350 General Enquiries – Hannah Drought - 0278748981 Facebook – Opunake Community Baths Society



punake Beach Carnival 2021

The 2021 Opunake Beach Carnival will be a great day for the whole family with more than 40 craft and food stalls, musical entertainment and a range of activities for the kids. The event is on Saturday 9 January from 10am - 3pm at Opunake Beach. Entry is free of charge. The action will begin right at 10am with the babies and toddlers kicking off the run of Pageants. Categories this year are 0-2 mixed, girls 3-5, 6-8, Miss Junior Opunake 9-12 and Miss Opunake 13+. Junior Mr Mini Muscle is 3-7 and Mr Mini Muscle 8-12. There are fantastic prizes to win, kindly donated by local businesses. \$2 per entry, Miss Opunake is \$5 to enter. The always popular Big Dig, where children dig in the sand for winning popsicle sticks will once again be a highlight. The major prizes are a brand-new bike from Symes Outdoor and Sport

for each section, the sections are 0-4, 5-7, 8-12 years, all prizes are kindly sponsored by Campbell Contracting. The Big Dig is scheduled for around 1pm, depending on the tide. While the kids are digging in the sand, Taranaki funk rock and roll band, The Blistered Fingers will be entertaining the crowd with live music. All day activities include Tinka the Train, Kids Cars, Laughing Clowns and a shooting gallery. Carnivalgoers will be spoilt for choice with food options aplenty, including kebabs, souvlaki, Filipino cuisine, ice-cream, coffee, hot dogs and chips to name a few. Back by popular demand is the Hourly Raffle, the first prize to be drawn is a Prime Spot within the dell, under a gazebo accompanied by light refreshments. The Beach Road will be closed on the day but the Carnival Committee will be running a shuttle service thanks to



Big Dig Sponsor Rusty Campbell with the 2020 Carnival major prize winners.

Pickering Motors, which will be a koha donation to the committee to help fund

projects for the improvement of the beach and the funding of future Opunake Beach Carnivals. This is a community led event for the community to enjoy and any

profit made goes right back into the community.



78 Tasman St. Opunake Ph 06 761-8778





Robyn & Dennis



Floral creations for special occasions 3 Napier St, Opunake Ph 06 761 8652





Symes Outdoor & Sports 06 761 8778

Get in early to get a grat spot to view the onstage entertainment at the 2021 Opunake Beach Carnival. Bring a picnic or choose food from one of the many food stalls available this year



Take a Kid Fishing



The Opunake Annual Take a kid fishing competitionwill be held on Thursday 7th January The competition is open to all children primary school age and under.

Mums and Dads, Aunties and Uncles get out there and get the kids fishing.

Great prizes to be won. Register at Symes Outdoor and Sports (formerly Collins Sports Centre) \$2 entry fee

We will weigh any species caught on the day on a hook line and sinker. Weigh -in at the Opunake Beach stage. No nets, boats or Kontiki lines please.

Final weigh in will be at 6-6.30pm, scales at the Opunake Beach stage, followed by prize givingand a lolly scramble.

Every child receives a prize and certificate.

Paddy and Mark Walsh will again be on hand to help new sponsors Glenn and Toni Symes of Symes Outdoor and Sports Opunake with the Legends of the Coast and the Surfcasting and Angling Club with the weigh in.

This wee guy was trying for a record haul of herrings

There is a prize for the most herrings caught on the day





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We will be open between Christmas & New Year BUT will be closed from Friday 18th Jan. 2021. We will re-open Monday 1st Feb.

The team at Opunake Auto Repairs would like to thank all of their customers and wish them all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year





Proud to Sponsor the $Big\ Dig$ since 2010







Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the team at Campbell Contracting



Rusty 027 280 0743



OPUNAKE SURF LIFESAVING CLUB

New members most welcome
5-13 years contact:
Claire Hunn Ph 027 254 9548
14+ years contact:
Michael Debique 027 582 6224
All other enquiries contact Trent Olliver,



Opunake Surf Lifesaving Club

Summer is Here...

With so many NZ'ers keeping it local this year, we are expecting our beach to be busier than ever.

From December 18 to the end of January and Monday to Friday we have our regional guard team on duty 10-4pm daily led by our awesome head guard Holly Hore

On the weekend, our volunteer team takes over.

We have over 30 guards this year volunteering on weekends to keep your beach safe and we are very grateful for this.

As always, swim in front of the surf club building, not to the south/left of it. There are often ripsthat form in this 'tail race' area. Never swim alone, and if you do get caught in a rip, remember the three 'Rs' - Raise, Ride and Relax and then when the rip ends you'll have strength to swim back to your nearest shore line.

Raising your hand early gives the guards time to reach you - never be worried about asking for help, we would much rather help you to safety than have to rescue you later.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and safe New Year. Be safe, never swim alone and stay at your comfortable depth.

We have sunscreen, first aid and our guards always love a selfiewith their adoring fans - call in and say hi!



Opunake Junior Surf lifesaving training.



No job too big or too small
Wiring the Coast - 26 years experience
Craig 027 207 7775 | Natalie 027 508 8174
Email: craigandnats101@gmail.com



Opunake Surf Lifesavers are on patrol at the beach this summer.



Closed 24th December to 11th January

Any problems call **0800 107 006**

Merry Christmas and a happy and safe New Year. See you in 2021.

Proud sponsors of Corkill Coastal Colts 2020 Taranaki Division Champions

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Shining on through the years

seas off Taranaki in the 19th century, the lighthouse often gave a sense of comfort knowing there was that signal to warn them of possible

Built in 2007, the Historic Cape Light and Museum on Bayley's Road serves as a memory of those bygone days when wrecks off the Taranaki coast were a not uncommon occurrence.

"The idea of putting up the lighthouse had started with a newspaper photo of an engineer dismantling the old light from the Cape Egmont lighthouse and replacing it with a more modern New Zealand-made Vega replacement, trustee Len Pentelow

The question then arose of what was going to happen to the old light, he said.

"We made a few inquiries with Maritime New Zealand in Wellington and spoke with the chief lighthouse engineer Mr Ken Belt, who informed us that the light could be made available for display to the public, but not allowed to go into a collector's possession. So an arrangement was made that it's now on permanent loan to the South Taranaki District Council, but still belongs to Maritime New Zealand. A trust was set up and the council gave us the task of resurrecting the light and showing it to the public."

Where better to place the light than a replica lighthouse? The Bayley's Road lighthouse has similar dimensions to Cape Egmont, but is only two thirds the height. Whereas the Cape Egmont lighthouse is made of cast iron, the one at Bayley's Road is made of steel and reinforced concrete.

The light which it houses had been built in Stockholm,



The Historic Cape Light and Museum is a reminder of Coastal Taranaki's maritime history.

and been operating since

"During the course of its life, it's seen many modifications to bring it up to its present day operation," Mr Pentelow said. "The old light runs reasonably well. We have had issues, but we feel we have overcome them."

In former times, the Cape Egmont Lighthouse would use acetylene gas which was turned by a clockwork mechanism driven by a weight which would gradually drop down the centre column of the lighthouse, revolving as it went. The lighthouse keeper would wind the weight up before the start of each evening.

Now, illumination has been improved by a 1000 watt light bulb, with electric motors turning the light.

Mr Pentelow said that with improved signage on the corner of Bayley's Road and Surf Highway, he has noticed an increase in visitor numbers.

A Keeper's Cottage has been added where volunteers can set themselves up and greet the public.

Despite the advent of GPS, Mr Pentelow still sees lighthouses continuing to have

"If you are out at sea it gives a measure of comfort to know there's a signal out there to warn you to keep away from danger," he said.

The lighthouse also houses a fascinating museum on Taranaki's most illustrious son, Sir Ernest Rutherford which is well worth a look.

It is open weekends from 11am till 3pm and also open on Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

Also open other times by request. Phone Len on (06) 763 8489 or Brian on (06)

CG Fleming Ltd

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Okato 752 4084 | Opunake 761 8084 | Stratford 765 4499

We are open Boxing Day, New Year's Day and other days by request. Cape Egmont Historic Light & Museum Open 11am - 3pm Weekends Gold Coin Donation - Bayly Road, Warea

Do you know what happens if you don't advertise?

nothing

MERRY CHRISTMAS & SAFE MOTORING from the team at Challenge Rahotu 5800 South Rd, Rahotu Ph 06 763 8848 CHALLENGE Kiwi-As Service Stations

Opunake Loop

The Opunake Walkway takes in some stunning views and scenic spots.

Beginning at Opunake's picturesque lake, going clockwise, the walk encircles the lake and then goes past the Opunake Cottage Rest home. A steep track locally referred to as the goat track leads down to Opunake Beach. A walk along the length of the beach culminates in another steep track which leads back to the top of the cliff.

From here proceed along the sheltered clifftop track which meanders through the charming cliff top garden lovingly tended by volunteers.



The plants in the garden are all donated by local gardeners and some local businesses have contributed to the upkeep with various donations. Some of the volunteers travel out from

Hawera and New Plymouth to work in the garden. Note the gorgeous new bird boxes built and donated by Ron

Brewer and beautifully painted by his wife Nevis. They already have happy

singing residents, Ron also built the little clifftop libraries so you can check out a book and relax reading

in the garden.

Opunake Lake.



Opunake Beach.



The cliff top track.





Take a pew in the cliff top garden.

Track

There are further plans to plant fruit trees. Donations of apple or fejoa trees which grow well in the area would be gratefully accepted.

The track continues along the cliff top via Dudleys Bridge and traces around the cliff past the Lions Lookout.

A brief walk on the road takes you to steps leading down to Middletons Bay past the Opunake Boat and Underwater Club. Middletons Bay is popular with fisher people. The road from Middletons Bay leads back to the clifftop where the track resumes and continued to weaves round the cliff again then goes inland past the old dairy factory which has been extensively planted out with native plants. Look out for several artists studios enroute.

Crossing the main road at the northern approach to Opunake and you rejoin the track which follows a stream and ends up back on the streets past Hurst Park and the main street of Opunake where you're no doubt ready for a coffee and a sit down at one of the cafes in the town.



Opunake's Loop Track.

Redoubt a reminder of town's origins

While the Manaia Walkway may not be as wellknown as its Opunake Coastal counterpart, it still has enough to keep visitors interested, including the town's own redoubt.

Leading up to the redoubt are the Meuli Steps, named after Lieutenant Lorenzo Meuli who was killed in the First World War

The people of Manaia had wanted to keep the redoubt as a reminder of the town's beginnings when all the other frontier redoubts were removed. When all the other frontier redoubts were removed,,

Today much of the original Manaia Redoubt still remains, and is an integral part of the Manaia Walkway. The redoubt had been built in 1880 after a force of 80 Armed Constabulary under Colonel John Roberts were ordered to set up a position on the right bank of the Waiokura Stream. A veteran of the battle of Te Ngutu-ote-manu, where the legendary Von Tempsky met his end, Colonel Roberts would a little over a year later lead a 1500-strong invasion force to Parihaka to arrest Te Whiti and Tohu.

The Armed Constabulary chose the disused pa site Te Takahe, and built a redoubt with watchtower and blockhouses. Two years later they left, leaving the local Waimate Mounted Rifles in charge.

The double walls of the blockhouses were filled with gravel, to hinder any bullets from coming through. In 1885, with the Waimate Plains firmly in settler hands, the order was made to remove the redoubts, but the Manaia one stayed. The original wooden tower, the Watchtower of the Plains blew down in a storm in 1912, and was replaced by the concrete tower which can be seen today. The blockhouses have had a few repairs in the years since, and concrete floors



The Watchtower of the Plains.

have been put in. They are the last of the frontier posts still on their original sites.

It has been noted that in recent times the sounds of bird life, particularly tui have become more prevalent along the walkway, which appropriately reflects the origins of the names of two nearby streets in Manaia. Karaka Street is named after trees that attracted birds to the area, while Patukukupa Street refers to where the birds gathered for food.

Visitors to the walkway, which starts at the Manaia Domain can enjoy contributions made at different times by local volunteers, organisations and businesses. made at different times by individuals, organisations and businesses. There's the Yarrow Dell, named for local businessman, the late Noel Yarrow, and a seat by the Waiokura Stream which was made by Keith Smith.

made from old power poles. When safety issues were raised about the sides of the bridge, the Manaia Lions Club stepped in and provided the railing.

Three totaras commemorate Kaupokonui farmer and longstanding Waimate West County councillor Jack Landers, who died in 2008.

Other groups to have donated trees include South Taranaki Rural Women and the Manaia Womens Institute.

Forty species of native trees have been planted, attracting in more recent times the likes of the tui and the wood pigeon.

A recent addition to the Walkway has been a planting by the Manaia and District Returned Services Association of three seedlings descended from the Lone Pine which gave its name to the battle fought at Gallipoli a century ago, followed by the installation of a seat and



Mosaic seat art

Robyn Chard and Debbie Campbell with their mosaic sofa and a rainbow out to sea complementing the one on their sofa. There are several now around Opunake crafted by the talented duo.



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Call our sales team on 06 761 7016

Hollard Gardens



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Hollard Gardens



Hollard Gardens near Kaponga are informal and intimate, with a huge variety of native and exotic plants. Many are rare and endangered.

OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

All year round, the garden buzzes with the sound of insects and birds feeding on the diversity of seasonal flowers, fruit and seeds. In spring, the vibrant colour of The Swamp is a must-see, and later in the year you won't want to miss the deciduous trees that provide a bright display of changing colours.

Bernie's Home Garden is where different methods of growing food are explored. A popular place for public workshops, it also has chickens, beehives, compost and worm farms, and a food forest.

Hollard Gardens also features a very popular family corner which includes a playground, free barbecues and kitchenette.

The Woodlands School is a study unit developed by the Taranaki Regional Council outlining the activities available for teachers and classes visiting Hollard Gardens.

The 10 activity options include walks, plant studies, birds and insects, seed collecting and



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Golf for all levels at Opunake



Something for everyone at Opunake Golf Club.

The Opunake Golf Club is located 2.5km up Namu Road just north of Opunake. The 18-hole, 5309 metre course is surrounded by pohutukawa and pine trees with spectacular views of the mountain and sea.

Members recently celebrated the closing of their competitive season with the annual prizegiving dinner. The club's life members Ron Brewer,

Dot Fisher presented the cups and trophies to all the worthy winners.

"There's golf for all levels at our club," says Club President Aarun Langton. From mid-November till Christmas, golf gets a lot more social with Twilight Golf every Wednesday from 4.30pm. This is a casual 9-hole competition open to Margaret Briscoe and Patron non-golfers and golfers, and

it's become a popular family friendly event. Business House Golf starts on January 13th (see advertisement). On January 17 the club will be hosting the Opunake Open Tournament, now a very popular event that golfers come from far and wide to enjoy (see advertisement). Opunake Golf Club Men's and Ladies Club Days continue through the summer as social

golf, with tee times between 10-10.30am on Sundays and Tuesdays respectively.

"New members are always welcome, and summer is a great time to give golf a go," says Aarun.

The course is also open to the public throughout the year and is a fun, low cost outing for those enjoying the holidays in Opunake.

Pungarehu Golf Club

6199 Main South Road, Pungarehu

Green Fees \$10 - 18 Hole Course Subs: Adult \$280, Limit \$150, Students \$75 Twilight Golf every Tuesday from 5-6pm

> Call Susan 027 448 9140 email: crowleyxfive@xtra.co.nz

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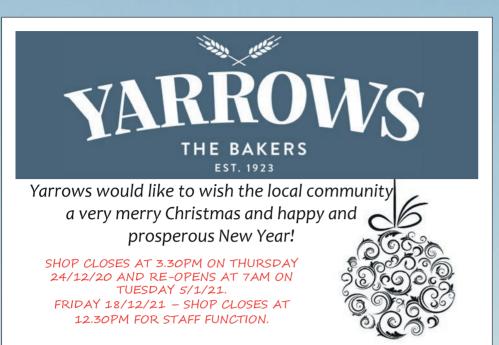
Opunake



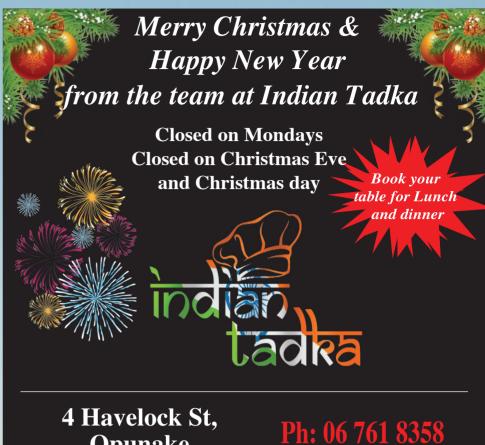
DINING & ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

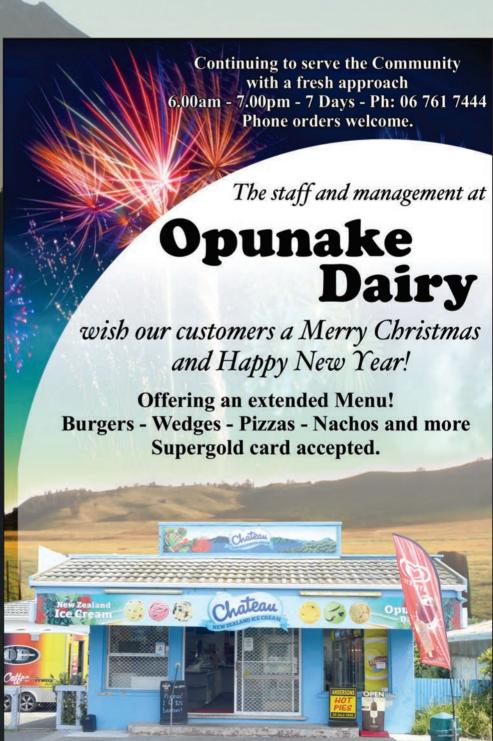
Thursday, December 17, 2020











The Mountain – a summer and

Mt Taranaki is a huge attraction for those who like bushwalks and for the more adventurous who really like a challenge and the experience of summiting a mountain. For those who achieve it, apart from the sense of satisfaction, are rewarded with magnificent 360 degree views of Taranaki and its wild coastline and further views of Mt Ruapehu in the central North Island.

There are numerous charming huts dotted around the mountain all maintained

by DOC. An around the mountain walk takes four days for the averagely fit. Huts are usually less that a day's tramp apart.

Fantham's Peak is also a challenging walk and there is a hut that you can stay in when you reach the peak.

Brahms Falls which used to run hot over a hundred years ago is worth a visit and is a slight diversion from one of the enchanting bush walks. These days the water is just tepid, a shame.

At night, watch out for some bewitching glow worms.



Mt Taranaki has numerous walks and challenges for the more adventurous.

Photo: Ian MacAlpine





For the less fit and adventurous, there are also two restaurants with accommodation on the mountain which are accessible by road. There's also a cafe and a visitors centre at North Egmont and accommodation at the historic camphouse.

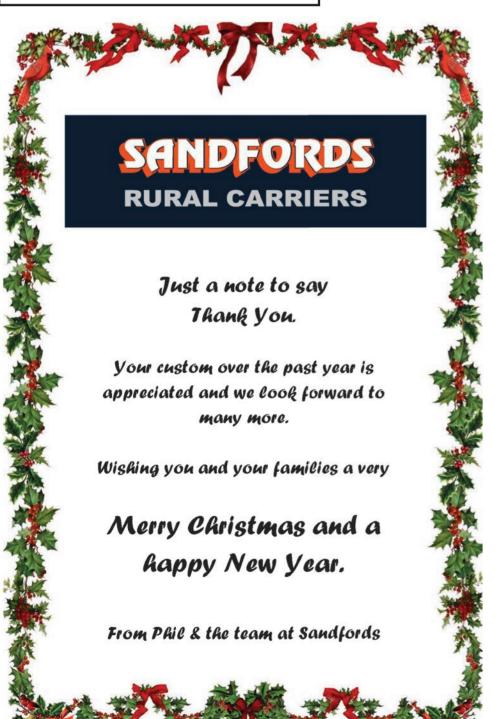
The mountain is also accessible by foot from various side roads in Taranaki. Both Ihaia Road in Opunake and, further north, Puniho Road, end in tracks that go up the mountain. The Waiaua Gorge Hut is perhaps the easiest and closest to access on foot and takes several hours from the end of

Just beware though, the mountain though easily accessible to trampers has a torrid history with many miscalculating the risks. Even in summer the weather can be changeable with teeming rain, sleet, snow and winds

Ihaia Road.

LEFT: A group at Dawson Falls.

Photo: Ian MacAlpine





Bruce and the team would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

PH/FAX 06 752 4044 MOBILE 0274 448 106 Email: www.barronz@xtra.co.nz

winter playground

that can flatten you. So make sure you're equipped for all conditions.

There are organised open climbs run by KOPAC, the local tramping club.

If you want a bird's eye view of the mountain, Precision helicopters offer a range of scenic flights, some of which traverse Taranaki and land near a scenic waterfall. PHOTOS clockwise from right:

Syme Hut in winter.

One of the numerous huts dotted around the mountain.

Debbie McKay on hard ice near the summit.

Photos courtesy of Ian MacAlpine.







Whats new at Tawhiti Museum



The Matapu quarry, about 1900,has been created in model form for a new display of early motoring and road construction at the Tawhiti Museum. South Taranaki is the focus of the display which will ultimately feature eleven dioramas – six of which are completed and will be open from Christmas Day.

Contact Tawhiti Museum 062786837 Visit us at 401 Ohangai Road Hawera www.tawhitimuseum.co.nz

Aotea Utanganui Museum of South Taranaki



Have you been meaning to dig into your family history? Or maybe you just want to know more about your local town? Aotea Utanganui is home to the Taranaki Star Archive, Ellmore-Timms Photography Collection, Waitore Artefacts and Oriwa Haddon murals as well as the Museum Trust Collection of South Taranaki. All these photographs, documents, objects and taonga spark memories into life and help people understand the current culture and history of this region. If you're unsure of what to do during this holiday we recommend taking a day trip out to Pātea to see the permanent exhibitions and temporary show Tales and Taonga.

Summer Heli Tours

Take a summer heli tour with us and fly in comfort and style in our dedicated tourist aircraft. All flights depart from our base easily located at New Plymouth Airport.

Taranaki Maunga Volcano Tour



View our sleepy giant, Taranaki Maunga from the air as well as taking in views of the city, Paritutu, Sugarloaf Islands, Kaitake and Pouakai Ranges.

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Jurassic Waterfall Adventure Tour



Head north towards the headwaters of the Tongaporutu River and travel up the Hutiwai wetlands to this remote and hidden waterfall. It is private and secluded for that amazing getaway. Landing at the base of the waterfall where there is time for a bush walk, swim or picnic; or to simply enjoy the tranquillity.

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Aotea Utanganui Museum of South Taranaki

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November rainfall records skittled

Rainfall for November was extremely wet throughout the region with totals ranging between 132% and 380% of normal, with an average of 241%. Rainfall fell regularly throughout the month, with rain recorded at monitored sites on between 15 to 22 days. Four sites recorded more than three times their normal rainfall for the month, these sites were: Hillsborough (312%), Brooklands Zoo (307%), Bell Block (304%) and Patea (380%). Sixteen sites recorded new November maximum totals since their records began, while another four recorded their second

highest November rainfall on record. The previous November maximum for Brooklands was 276.1 mm, which was recorded in 1895, and the previous November maximum for Kapoaiaia (Cape Egmont) was 209.0 mm recorded in 1952.

The majority of the rainfall for the month came from just a single event which occurred on November 24-5 which brought about widespread surface flooding throughout Taranaki.

Year to date rainfall is sitting between 78% and 110%, with an average of 96%. Duffy's Farm (Whareroa) has already received 101%

of its normal annual rainfall, with one month to spare.

Due to the higher than normal rainfall, all river flows were above normal for November. Of note was the Manganui River at Everett Park, which had a mean November flow of 40,031 L/s, which was more than double (225%) the normal November flow of 17,775 L/s.

Water temperatures for November were all below normal by between 0.01°C and 1.34°C. No new extremes were recorded.

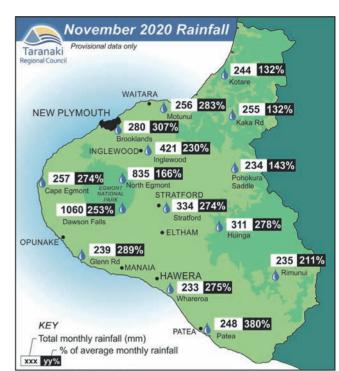
The average air temperature for the month, excluding sites on Te Maunga, was

14.87°C, which was 0.51°C warmer than the long term November average. Waitotara at Coast recorded the maximum for the month with 24.47°C, while Whareroa recorded the minimum with 3.25°C.

Soil moisture for the month was above normal for all sites by between 0.73% and 7.17%, except Te Kiri and Waitotara Valley. These sites recorded below normal by 4.60% and 2.68% respectively. A new maximum soil moisture was recorded at Kaupokonui (Manaia) with 44.41%. This was 4.71% higher than the previous November maximum. Soil temperature was above normal for all sites by between 0.29°C and 1.91°C, except Waitotara at Coast. This site had a mean soil temperature of 17.08°C, which was 0.48°C cooler than the long term November average.

Spring rainfall (encompassing September, October and November) ranged between 100% and 204% of normal, with an average of 140%. The averages were heavily influenced by the significant rainfall experienced in November.

Patea received 204% of normal for this three month



period with 521.6 mm of recorded 100% with 1971.0 rain, while North Egmont mm recorded.

Stevenson Calf Rearing

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to our friends, family and suppliers

Ph. Mark or Trish on 0800 350 340 or txt 027 495 2897 E: markstevo@xtra.co.nz Troy Stevenson 027 469 7636 E: troystevo@gmail.com

21 Paraite Road, Bell Block, New Plymouth

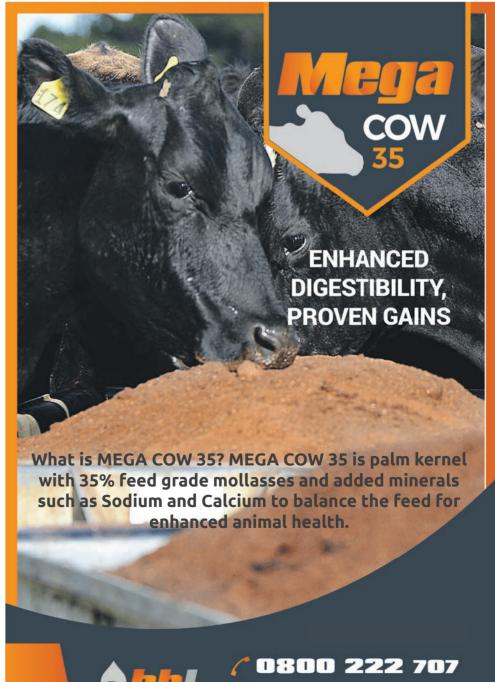
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A & P show winner



Pukekaraka Elle Delila that won the RAS NZ Cow award at the Stratford A&P Show 2020 - Royal Event Dairy





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TransAg Centre proudly agricultural in Taranaki

Ryan Nielsen, the Branch Manager of TransAg Centre in Hawera is proud of how the dealership serves Taranaki's agricultural interests. Ryan, who was Parts Manager for 5 years, was promoted to the top job just 18 months ago.

His Branch is located at 16 Glover road, Hawera and can be contacted by phoning 062785119 or 0274444401 as well as emailing ryan@transag.co.nz

TransAg Centre also have

a Branch in North Taranaki, located at 65 Katere Road, Waiwhakaiho, New Plymouth 067582274

The dealerships main franchises are Case IH Tractors, Krone, Kuhn and Polaris.

The dealership also holds other franchises which include Pearson, Rata, Walco, Sparex, Valvoline and Akcela lubricants and Manip Loaders.

TransAg has an extensive history serving agriculture in



Back, from left: Ryan Nielsen, Raymond Muggeridge, Piet Fourie, Phillip Anderson, Dhana Chengan Front, from left: Ferdio Chengan, Anthony Kemp.
Absent: Josh Vanner, Ross Plumtree.

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LIVESTOCK

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Happy New Year

NZ FARMERS

Tim Hurley - 027 445 1167 Bryan Goodin - 027 531 8511

from Tim & Bryan

Taranaki for 6 years, but the original Case IH dealership extends back further to 35+ years. "We believe that Case IH tractors are a much better

superior quality," explains

Ryan is pleased that TransAg is "very competitive, right across the board," with regards to

pricing of equipment and services.

He is especially proud of his staff, who give their very best, "There is a definite pride in their workmanship you know they have great pride in what they do." Two apprentices have

Continued page 49

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Tony Howatson (left) and Curtis Dorne from New Plymouth Trans Ag.



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TransAg Centre proudly agricultural in Taranaki

Continued from page 48

also joined the team, with a glance towards the future. The four skilled mechanics can remedy any tractor, machinery and implement problems or quertes which come their way.

The showroom has a huge range of information to cover all agricultural needs, such as power tillers, planters, triple gang mowers, single

rotor rakes, tedders and tractors.

A huge range of accessories and spare parts are also available in their showroom including lubricants, batteries, Adblue, oil change kits, antifreeze - you name it. "We stock most parts and have the biggest range in Taranaki," comments Ryan.

The yard has a comprehensive selection of equipment including, tractors (20HP up to 300plus HP), spreaders, mowers, tedders and side x sides.

TransAg Centre is open 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday. For the months of October to March they are open 9am to midday on Saturdays. However, even when closed they remain

The TransAg exterior.

on call 24/7. They also provide on-farm services if that is preferable. Try their website www.transag. co.nz to see the full range of their agricultural machinery

and implements, as well as accessories and parts.

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South Taranaki:

Raymond - 027 444 8861

North Taranaki:

Paul - 027 498 7277











Utilising effluent for irrigation

control the weather, but one thing's for sure – if you've got a dairy farm, you've got effluent. Of course if you're reading this, you

We may not be able to already know effluent is like liquid gold when it comes to fertilising, so it's also an excellent choice for irrigation. Here's how you can future-proof your farm



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Contact Malcolm Campbell M 027 234 0635 - www.mclivestock.co.nz

Taranaki based livestock agent selling all classes of dairy and beef cattle throughout Taranaki and nationwide.





Michael Prestidge

and make use of that liquid gold for irrigating.

Storage size

Whether you've got an effluent pond, tank, or something else, it's always advisable to have more than the minimum volume of storage. In winter this means you won't be worried about overflowing during times when you can't spread and leading up to summer

it means you'll have room to store more for when you need it the most for irrigation.

Get a good stirrer

Stirring your effluent well prior to pumping has numerous benefits, but one of the main ones in terms of irrigation is making sure you're not getting a build up of solids at the bottom of your pond or storage tank. Not only will this reduce the volume of storage available, but eventually you'll need to empty the storage and have the sludge dug out which can be costly and inefficient. By giving the effluent a good stir, you'll have a consistent mix that keeps the pond clean, your pump working, and your irrigation system running smoothly.

Timing is critical

Irrigating in the evening,

early morning, or even overnight is the best thing you can do to minimise liquid loss due to evaporation. During very dry spells it may be best to save the effluent for critical requirements like seed germination.

Spreading methods

A low pressure irrigator is usually recommended as these have a lower rate of volitisation, therefore more nutrients are able to make it into the ground to be absorbed. Here are some of the best options when spreading for irrigation:

RainWaveTM slurry tanker or draghose system these are an excellent choice for fast, effective, low pressure spreading. Either of these options require minimal set up to get going, making it easy to spread over a large area in a minimal amount of time. This makes them a convenient option for getting the job done before sunrise, or in the evening when the sun has set.

pressure Low travelling irrigators - these can be a great option when you have a timer and can set them to run overnight while you sleep.

• Multiple FertigatorsTM – while they are not low pressure, setting up multiple Fertigators TM throughout crops and running them during the evenings or overnight can be very effective. They provide a wide reach and work fast to spread evenly through the

Michael Prestidge | Nevada Effluent Management Specialist





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New president and board for RWNZ

Rural Women New Zealand (RWNZ) have recently elected their new national

The new Board Members are South Island Member, Emma Higgins and North Island Members, Malvina Dick and Claire Williamson. They join new President, Gill Naylor; National Finance Chair, Jenny McDonald and South Island Member, Sharron Davie-Martin.

"The new Board is a great mix of experience and knowledge from within RWNZ and skills from outside the organisation which is vital to us being able to continue to strengthen and support rural communities," says Chief Executive, Liz Pennington.

"This new governance leadership team are wellequipped for the challenges facing rural communities and our organisation - after the year we have all had, continuing to have solid, innovative, connection with people in rural communities is vital.

"Our new President, Gill Naylor has been farming for most of her life, been a member since being a young mother, and has grown her governance and leadership skills in community groups that have supported her rural community and women and children across rural New Zealand.

"In saying that, RWNZ is not just about farming. it is about empowering all those who live in rural New Zealand and the challenges they face."



Get results with specialist advice from accredited dairy effluent designers





Best result for Taranaki in 32 years



Taranaki Senior Men's golf team finished third overall in this year's National Interprovincial tournament, which is called the Toro. This is the team's best result since 1988.

There was a strong South Taranaki presence in the team, including Sam Jones who was New Zealand's Amateur Champion last year after completing a four year stint at college in the United States. His brother, Ethan will return to the USA next year to complete his studies.

The team consists of four

players from Manaia, one from Pungarehu and one from Ngamotu.

In section play, the team had wins against Tasman (4 - 1), Northland (3 1/2)- 1 $\frac{1}{2}$), Aorangi (5 - 0), halved games with Otago and Manawatu/Whanganui, and lost 1 - 4 to Canterbury. This resulted with the team finishing second in their section and playing North Harbour in the semi-final crossover. The Taranaki team lost 1 - 4, finishing third overall.

Advertise your event in the Opunake and Coastal News. Call your friendly sales team on (06)761-7016.

Back row - Ross Cleaver (Manager, Te Ngutu), Joseph Doyle (Pungarehu), Caleb Symes (Manaia), Caleb Andreoli (Manaia), Aarun Langton (Manager, Opunake) Front row - Chris Charlton (Ngamotu), Sam Jones (Manaia), Ethan Jones (Manaia).

Sandfords Manaia Golf results

Closed Xmas Hamper. Men. 1. Bruce Duffus. 2. Phil Elliott. 3. Colin Koch. 4. Logan Symes. 5. Josh Symes. 6. Andrew Gibson. Women. 1. Agi werder.

2. Marina Gopperth. 3. Jo Ropiha.

Nearest the Pin. Grant Gopperth.

Twos. Mike King, Marina Gopperth.

Ambrose. 1. Gibbies. 2. The Bots. 3.

Manaia Golf Club Xmas Hamper. 153 players sought out to win Xmas hams. Division 1. 1st Nett. Nathan 3. Michele Furness. Ngere. 1st Stableford. Logan Kennett. 1st Gross. Sam Jones. Division II. 1st Nett. Thomas Elliott. 1st Stableford. S.Hohaia. 1st

Golfing Gross. S.Crocker. Division III. 1st Nett. Fletcher Murrell. 1st Stableford. Denis Hurcomb. 1st Gross. I.Rangitonga. Women. 1st. Carolyn Koch. 2. Jo Ropiha.

> Junior Golf. 1. Liam Campbell. 2. Kobi Symes Simpson. 3. Jaxon Symes Simpson.



Manaia Golf Club.



P.L. MORGAN S. BATEMAN G. MILESTONE C. BENTON J. BRUCE B.V.Sc B.V.Sc. B.V.Sc B.V.M. & S. B.V.Sc All the team at the Okato Vet Clinic would like to thank our clients for their support during 2020 and wish **VETERINARY** them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Clinic closed statutory holidays. 24 hour emergency service provided.

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Five sunscreens fail to meet SPF label claims

Consumer NZ's latest test of sunscreens found five of 10 products didn't provide the sun protection claimed. Two of these sunscreens also failed to meet their broad-spectrum protection claims.

NZConsumer chief executive Duffy Jon said two sunscreens that failed were marketed as "natural" products: Natural Instinct Invisible Natural Sunscreen SPF30 and Sukin Suncare Sheer Touch Facial Sunscreen Untinted SPF30. These sunscreens only provided moderate protection (SPF15 to 25), not the high protection (SPF30) claimed.

Duffy said when Consumer NZ asked the companies for evidence to back their SPF claims, they provided reports from AMA Laboratories, a US sunscreen-testing facility. In 2019, the US Food and Drug Administration announced AMA's owner had been charged with, and some staff had pleaded guilty to, falsifying test results from 1987 to April 2017.

The report provided by Natural Instinct was based on testing by AMA undertaken in 2012 and 2015. Sukin's report dated back to testing done in 2011.

Banana Boat Daily Protect Sunscreen Lotion SPF50+ got an SPF of 40.4 (high protection) in Consumer NZ's test, not the 50+ claimed on the label.

Le Tan Coconut Lotion SPF50+ and Ecosol Water Shield Sunscreen SPF50+ also failed to meet their very high protection claims and the requirements for making a broad-spectrum claim.

Le Tan provided a lab report of a batch tested in Australia over 2013 and 2014. As a result of Consumer NZ's test, the company is retesting this product. It's the second time the Le Tan sunscreen has failed to meet its SPF label claim in Consumer NZ's testing.

Ecosol provided a 2015 test report from AMA. The New Zealand distributor has advised it will relabel the product as SPF30.

New Zealand has one of the

highest rates of skin cancer and melanoma in the world. "Despite this, there's no requirement for sunscreen manufacturers to regularly test their products. In fact, we have the unacceptable situation that the sunscreen standard is voluntary, so sunscreens don't have to be tested at all," Duffy said.

Last year, Consumer NZ made a submission to the Ministry of Health supporting a mandatory sunscreen standard and calling for regulations specifying how often sunscreens must be tested.

The following products met SPF and broad-spectrum

label claims: Cancer Society Everyday SPF50+, Cetaphil Sun Kids Liposomal Lotion SPF50+, Mecca Cosmetica To Save Face Superscreen SPF50+, Skinnies Conquer with Manuka Oil Sports Sunscreen SPF50+, and Nivea Sun Sensitive Protect SPF50

The following products failed to meet SPF label claims but met broadspectrum claims: Banana Boat Daily Protect Sunscreen Lotion SPF50+, Natural Instinct Invisible Natural Sunscreen SPF30, Sukin Suncare Sheer Touch Facial Sunscreen Untinted SPF30.

The following products failed to meet SPF and broad-spectrum label claims: Le Tan Coconut Lotion SPF50+, and Ecosol Water Shield Sunscreen SPF50+.

Look for sunscreens with an SPF of 30 or above, plus water resistance and broadspectrum protection. Apply sunscreen at least 20 minutes before going outside. Apply plenty – about two teaspoons for each leg, and one teaspoon for each arm, your back, your front and your face (which includes your neck and ears). That adds up to about 45ml for a full-body application. Ignore "onceaday" claims. Sunscreen

should be reapplied often - every two hours you're outside. Mopping sweat or towelling dry reduces protection: apply another coat of sunscreen immediately. A sunscreen is only one part of your defence. Cover up with suitable clothing, a broadbrimmed hat and UVprotective sunglasses and seek shade. When the sun's rays are most intense (between 10am and 4pm September to April or when the UV index is greater than three), limit your time outside.

Opunake Bowling Club

The Men's Championship Fours were held on December 6. Two teams entered and played the best of three games if needed. The winners of the first two games were Len Reader, Eddie Eves, Kewene Ratahi and Paddy Deegan. They won the first game 12-10 and the second game 15-10. The runners up were Daryl McKenzie, John Cook, Robert McKenzie and Levi Davis.

The Ladies Julian Pairs were played on December 3. After rain overnight made the greens a bit slow to start with, the day turned out fine and sunny, although quite windy.

1st. Sue Edwards and Lois Agnew (New Plymouth Club). 2nd. Eileen Rothwell and Val Langton (Opunake). 3rd Laureen Bright and Lorraine Heal (West End).



The Men's Championship Fours winners. From left. Len Reader, Eddie Eves, Kewene Ratahi, Paddy Deegan.









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Positive outlook for Taranaki Rugby



2 Elsinore Street, Stratford Langlands Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to all of our clients Diggers / Bulldozers / Tractor & Trailers / Levelling of paddocks Reforming races / Vibrating Roller / Strautmann Loader Wagon Gary: 027 229 2548 Charlie: 027 646 7673 Home: 06 761 8391

Taranaki Rugby will head to the market before the end of the year as the search begins for a new head coach following the departure of Willie Rickards. Rickards' three-year term as head coach of the Yarrows Taranaki Bulls ended after he opted to not re-apply for the job following the end of the 2020 Mitre Cup season.

Taranaki Rugby chairman Andrew Thompson and chief executive Laurence Corlett said the union was already fielding a number of enquiries from prospective coaches interested in the job, both from throughout New Zealand as well as overseas.

The pair were optimistic they could have someone appointed by as early as February before a new coaching group announced. The high level of interest, combined with a healthier-looking financial position, an improvement in on-field performance, the retention of a large number of the squad for the 2021 season and positive commercial partner feedback has Thompson and Corlett optimistic the union was heading in the right direction.

"We are really excited about next year," Thompson said. "We will go into the year with money in the bank following the MSD (Ministry of Social Development) grant the support of the local business community." The grant money was applied for by Taranaki Rugby after it suffered a significant income loss attributed to Covid-19 restrictions.

"We have had a lot of help from within the community to help get us through, and we are extremely grateful for that," he added. The stark

reality for the union was that without the injection, the union would have "had to shut up shop," Corlett said.

"It has allowed us to survive and it will allow us to function throughout 2021," Thompson added. We see a far more sustainable future in our rugby business going forward.

While the union continued to be restricted by a lack of income from not being able to use Yarrow Stadium, it continued to pursue options of increasing income streams while it played Mitre 10 Cup matches at Inglewood's TET Stadium & Events Centre.

There also continued to be uncertainty around the structure of the 2021 Mitre 10 Cup and beyond, but both administrators were confident it would still be a valid and exciting competition.

The pair were also encouraged by the 2021 Rugby Aotearoa squads which featured 13 Taranaki players.

"If we can keep the core of our squad together, which we have done so far with the number of players contracted for 2021, then I really believe we will continue to get a lot better," Corlett said.

Thompson was encouraged by the work the front room staff were continuing to do.

"They have done a great job in what has been an extremely challenging year. The feedback we have got from our commercial partners in our surveys has been positive, and it shows they are engaged with us. I think we are ticking a lot of

Glenn McLean



RACHAEL NIELSEN IS A BIT OF AN **INSTITUTION IN TARANAKI - AND** RIGHTLY SO. SHE IS WELL-KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE REGION AS THE OWNER-OPERATOR OF THE HEALTH SHOP IN CENTRE CITY AND 31 YEARS LATER, SHE'S STILL GOING STRONG!

As one of the pioneers of the natural health food and supplement industry in the region, Rachael has been at the forefront of the move towards natural health remedies. It's fair to say business was booming - until the Covid-19 pandemic came along. The Health Shop, along with most retailers, was forced to close for months.

"I was disappointed we weren't classed as an essential service, because for many of our clients we were just that," says Rachael. However that was not to be and her clients had little choice but to stock up online. That was understandable, but it has had a lingering effect and some of her former clients haven't come back. That is something she's keen to turn around.

"Before the lockdown online shopping was our major competitor, but during the lockdown that was the only way they could buy it. So people got out of the habit of coming into buy from us." The advantages of buying locally are something the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce and councils have been emphasising lately. However, that is even truer when it comes to our health

"We stand by what we sell, and if people aren't happy, they're welcome to bring it back. Being a woman, a mother and a grandmother I've been there, done that, when it comes to PMT, menopause and the many issues we have. I'm in my sixties so I've experienced the lot. "I'm always happy to give advice to anyone who asks. I know what works best for many people as well."

Rachael and her experienced team are well-known for their service and their willingness to go the extra mile for their clients. "In all the years I've been in the shop, the training I've had, the diplomas I've got and the degree I got - a Bachelor of Nursing - means I am well qualified to give that advice."

So too are her staff. "Both Jan and Janine are qualified naturopaths; Jill has been working in health for many years and she, like all the staff, is well trained. People come to us because they know us. "We also get to know our clients too and being able to see how they look and have them tell us how they feel makes a huge difference. A computer can't do that.'

Rachael says the reality is simple: "If people don't support us we're not going to be

Rachael says if anyone has a problem getting into to see her, they are welcome to contact her. "Give me a ring, or email me and we can courier your order the same day or the following day. You won't get any unordered goods because they have your credit card either, and you won't be waiting six weeks like some online businesses make you, that's for sure."

Rachael also runs regular clinics specially designed for people with sore backs, sciatica, headaches and the like. "We also do hair analysis for DNA. It goes to Germany and is back in an hour with a 32-page analysis of vitamins, viruses, bacteria, funguses, electromagnetic fields and what foods to avoid and what foods are good for you.

"The cost is \$90, which is pretty good, especially if you are not well and you don't know why. I often get people to bring in their blood tests and I go through those. If you are not well, you have to look after your immune system and it doesn't have to cost a fortune. "It seems a lot of people have trouble getting into see a doctor these days."



Beware those soft surfaces

There have only been a few minor call outs for Opunake Brigade so far this month. A van roll over on Namu Road and this is a wake call to all of us as to how soft the

side of roads can be. Once you leave the hard tarmac and tires sink into the soft mud it can drag your steering in a direction you don't want to go.

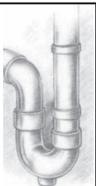
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Congratulations to Andrew Pentelow for winning the Opunake Brigades hose running competition again this year. A good fun event, winning by at least 20 seconds. Maybe next year one of us will catch him?

Just remember the Brigade is raffling off a new chain saw at the Opunake Beach Carnival in January. Tickets will be available on the day. Keep an eye out for our new Iveco fire truck in

the Christmas Parade.

Hap

Happy holidays Craig Dingle CFO



Opunake Fire Service attending an accident involving an upturned van on Namu

New speed signs go up at Omata and Millie is delighted

Millie Stonier's smile says it all.

The 11-year-old was on hand to see new speed limit signs installed in Omata after her successful campaign to improve safety on Waireka Road East.

Millie took her campaign to the New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) in September when she asked the mayor and councillors at a Council committee to cut the speed limit from 80kmh to 40kmh. She was applauded for her efforts and a full council meeting in October gave her request the green light.

Millie says she was delighted to see the 80kmh signs being taken down and replaced by new signs. "It means a lot to me because otherwise people speed along the road and don't know that it's a blind corner. I'm really happy with the new signs which I hope will make the roads safer."



Omata speed campaigner Millie Stonier with the new 40kmh sign on Waireka Road East. Holding the old 80kmh sign is engineer Alan Stenner.

NPDC Group Manager Planning and Infrastructure David Langford says Millie's efforts are a great example of how hard work and dedication can help make a difference to a community.

"Millie's done a fantastic job in highlighting her concerns

about the speed limit in Omata. To stand up at a council meeting was brave for an 11-year-old but she put forward a great argument and we've been able to get that approved and sorted just a month or so later," says Mr Langford.

NPDC is currently seeking

feedback from the public about safer speeds on rural roads as part of its wider review of safety on the district's roads. Changes could see all rural roads (not state highways) reduced to 80kmh and all roads outside rural schools cut to 60kmh.



Connector

Saturday services in December

On December 5, 12, 19 the Connector will provide one return service from Opunake via Hawera through to New Plymouth.

Departing Opunake 9.00am and Hawera i-Site 9.35am. The return service departs New Plymouth 3.00pm. Weekday route will apply. Some stops excluded.

Timetables are available from your bus driver and from www.trc.govt.nz/routes



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TalkingTaranaki

From the Chair

Counting our blessings as a challenging year draws to close



Ka mihi nui ki a koutou katoa, greetings to you all. It's been a challenging and trying year for sure. But as it draws to a close, let's take a minute to dwell on good things that happened. And as

always, a real highlight for me is presenting the annual TRC Environmental Awards.

Every year without fail, I'm impressed and delighted by the calibre of our winners and the work they're doing to protect and improve our unique Taranaki environment. And there are always surprises waiting for me – amazing projects that I previously had no idea existed. It's great to get them out into public view so they can be recognised and celebrated.

This year's awards take the total to 313 since we started making them in the 1990s. That's pretty impressive. It's a reminder of Taranaki's can-do attitude – we roll up our sleeves and get stuff done. That's why we're making good progress in preserving and restoring our environment - it doesn't happen on its own.



Mimi School was one of this year's TRC Environmental Awards winners. See the rest at www.trc.govt.nz/2020-winners

Another highlight of 2020 was securing \$20 million of 'shovel-ready' funding for the Yarrow Stadium repair and refurbishment project.

And shortly we'll see work ramping up at the site as repairs on the West Stand begin

You may already be aware we've decided to demolish and replace the East Stand, rather than repair it as originally envisaged. This avoids a lot of uncertainty about cost and outcome, and also gives us an opportunity to ensure the venue meets the region's

needs in a post-COVID world. See more about this at

www.trc.govt.nz/stadium-plus

No final decisions have yet been made about the design and placement of the new stand. We're taking the time to talk to the broadest possible range of sporting and other community groups, so we can feed their views into the design

The possibilities for cricket have been raised in the news media – our discussions with

cricketing authorities are continuing, as are discussions with many others.

Our vision is to have the best regional stadium in New Zealand that regularly hosts local, regional, national and international sporting and entertainment events. It will be Yarrow Stadium Plus.

In the meantime, have a safe and happy Christmas-New Year. I hope you have an opportunity to relax with your loved ones. See you in 2021!

David MacLeod, Chair

Around & about the region

Big interest in freshwater rules

There's been steady demand for the Council's series of Taranaki-focused factsheets explaining the first regulations introduced under the Government's Essential Freshwater package. The factsheets cover intensive winter grazing, stock exclusion regulations, wetlands, structures in rivers and lakes (fish passage), feedlots and stockholding areas and the application of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser. Download them at www.trc.govt.nz/freshwater-quality or call 0800 736 222 for copies. You need to be aware of the new regulations if you're carrying out or planning works in or near waterways.

www.trc.govt.nz/freshwater-quality



Gardens ready and waiting

Tūpare, Pukeiti and Hollard Gardens are ideal venues for family gatherings over the holiday season. Tūpare's River Flat has a free barbecue and great swimming spots, while the Family Corner at Hollard Gardens also has free barbecues as well as a quirky and popular children's playground. At Pukeiti, the Kids Treehouse Trail is an enduring hit with children and grown-ups alike. All three gardens are at their gorgeous best for summer visitors to enjoy beautiful blooms such as the stunning magenta rose pictured above.

www.trc.govt.nz/gardens

'Tis the season for extra buses

Extra Saturday bus services are running throughout Taranaki this month, aimed at making Christmas shopping expeditions easier. The extra services include Citylink routes throughout New Plymouth and from Waitara and Bell Block, and the Connector service linking Ōpunake and Hāwera with New Plymouth via SH3. Route and timetable details are available online.

www.taranakibus.info

Taking Taranaki forward

If you're curious about the work of the Taranaki Regional Council, or want to know more about getting involved in Towards Predator-Free Taranaki, check out these new videos:





Improving lifestyles

New sites added to summer swimming-spot monitoring

Water quality monitoring is under way at Taranaki's favourite beaches, lakes and rivers, with more sites than ever before

Council staff are taking samples at least weekly at up to 40 sites across the region. Results are posted on the TRC website and the Land Air Water Aotearoa (LAWA) website as soon as they are available.

New sites this year include the Waiwhakaiho River at the Meeting of the Waters, Lake Rotorangi at Pātea Dam,

Tongaporutu estuary and Waitara River at Bertrand Road. Another two - Wai-iti Beach and Wai-inu Beach - will be monitored

Samples are analysed for faecal indicator bacteria E.coli and enterococci and (at selected sites) for Cyanobacteria, which can be harmful to human health. If results indicate an alert the site will be sampled again the following day, depending on the circumstances, as known factors such as heavy rain can influence results.

If unacceptable risks are found, District Councils will warn the public while the TRC will investigate the source of the problem and take enforcement action if required

Last summer most freshwater sites were generally acceptable for recreational activities. Coastal sites were consistently acceptable.

Find current monitoring results at

www.trc.govt.nz/bathing-water-quality/ or for national results, see

www.lawa.org.nz/explore-data/swimming

Your Councillors

New Plymouth Constituency

Tom Cloke tom.cloke@trc.govt.nz David Lean david.lean@trc.govt.nz Charlotte Littlewood charlotte.littlewood@trc.govt.nz Elvisa Van Der Leden elvisa.vanderleden@trc.govt.nz Craig Williamson craig.williamson@trc.govt.nz

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Stratford Constituency

Matthew McDonald matthew.mcdonald@trc.govt.nz

Read the newsletter online: www.trc.govt.nz/talking-taranaki/

Working with people | caring for Taranaki







TaranakiRegionalCouncil

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expected visitors, and Tohu in the carly morning told them that they must not forget the rites of hospitality to 11203, o full den a o the any who came as strangers along the high road to the settlement. Accordingly the women again went to the cook houses and osing. ening cicaned potatoes ready to be cooked for the guropean visitors. These were never offered, because Tohn considered that by skirmishing across the country on their ap-10 01 to and ves of class in the proach they had lost all claim to this hospitality. The natives smoked and chatted. with an occasional word from Tohu to the effect that they were to be patient and forbearing, unresisting, whatever might happen—always this—and to have father in the first that they were the controlled the controlled to the cont mem. A880to have faith in the final cutsome of their [day.' riday

The Approach of the Troops. At a quarter-past seven, your reporter, who had taken up his position on the hill,

mentioned in a former telegram as having been occupied by Col. Roberts in his reconnoisance, caught a first glimpse of the approach of the troops. The sun, which was not yet high on the horizon, shone full in the faces of the advancing army, and the glint and glitter of steel could be observed before the bearers were seen. This was at a quarter past 7 o'clock, and immediately, like a swarm of locusts, the small boys of the Pah, 200 in number, bare to the hips, with a mat or shawl round the waist, made

a rush in true Maori war style, a perfect juvenile "taua" towards the advanciog troops, although they could not as yet see the enemy. At 7.45 scouts were seen on a hill some 30 chains distant to the left of the road. The main body having kept the highway, were not yet seen advancing. The scouts belonged to the volunteers, who formed the division advancing in skirmishing order on the left flank. The total number of troops engaged in these mancouves was 1,558, mostly from Rahotu,

who lett the main road, which runs from that

place to Pungareha at the Parapara, and

passed up the track from the beach to Parihaka, and formed a junction with the Pungarehu division at Te Kopura. Arrived at the latter place, the volunteers of the Rahotu division were despatched to the left flank, and appeared, as already stated, 30 chains from Paribaka. They passed over the hill, and breaking down the fence of a Maori cultivation, came on in single file and halted, whilst a scout was sent forward to reconnoitre the next fonce. Another advance was then made. They skirted this fence for some fifty yards, when they again broke through a fence in Titokowaru's paddock. Leaving this, they descended on to a flat, and advancing, passed along a hill and gully, parallel to the Parihaka fents, and distant some thirty yards from here. Some descended to the main track, which runs through Parihaka, whilst others remained stationed as

At 8.30, the staff was seen approaching along the main road, and the before mentioned "locusts" again formed across the road and commenced a baka. Nothing could be more expressive of utter ridicula at the idea of war than the advance of this body of boys not yet in their teens, with nothing in their hands, as an army to oppose the advancing troops.

a picquet on the ridge.

At 8.45, the advanced guard of the main army passed the staff, and marched in fours on Parihaka.

A Beporter's Retreat. On the near approach of the troops, your

reporter, with his two companions, thought it advisable to retreat from the hill they occupied, in consequence of an order pro-mulgated the previous night, cautioning all guard, and the Nelson men the leading ing Parihaka under pain of arrest. Yours, accordingly, retreated to the enemy for safety, and from his friendly shelter had a full view at close quarters of the whole subsequent proceedings.

The Investing Force.—Taking up Positions. Mr Rolleston was first observed.

came up and occupied his previous position, accompanied by a body of constabulary. Shortly afterwards, Mr Bryce appeared on horseback, and, simultaneously, the main body arrived at the toot of the hill. Tchu spoke a few words and sat down. Captains Gudgeon and Newall then led

a party of constabulary over the hill, and passed lound the pah, leaving picquets

nothing of it. It comes from the heart of the Europeans, and is to be attributed to vexation for his fall. Be strong to faith, in peace. Be of large hearts and forbearing patient and steaffast. This is a doing of war-a thing I wish to abolish." Tobu then said : " Be not sorry, but turn

away the sorrowful heart this day. We are taken as fools and go away as mistaken men. We looked for peace; we find war. Be forbearing, patient, and steadfast, Keep to the peaceful work. Be not dis-mayed, and have no fear for the ultimate result." After this To Whiti again said : "Let your dwelling be good in this place of the tribe.

Works such as the present shall cease this

After this, Kenoa, a middle aged man, a chief of Taranaki, got up amongst the Maoris and addressed them much in the same strain as Te Whiti and Tohu, adding: "Be steadfast, peaceful, and strong, even though you all be arrested on the lands you have inherited from your an-

Te Whiti and his wife and daughter, with Tohu, were taken down to Pun-

Removal of the Prisoners.

garchu in an express, where they were lodged in the blockhouse. Hiroki was made to walk down to the camp, and imprisoned in a bell tent.

The whole of the troops engaged camped nuer Parihaka on Saturday night.

High-Handed Dealings with Press Representatives.

Great obstacles have been thrown in the way of correspondents visiting Parihaka, they, in common with other civilians, being threatened with arrest if they did not leave after the Riot Act was read, and a presentiment of something of the kind took your reporter to Parihaka on Friday, and kept him there until all was over. Nothing would tempt a native to bring a mecsage to the camp. On Friday some correspondents were actually arrested and sent to the rear ; but three or four, in defiance of Mr Bryce's order, started at day-dawn on Saturday morning, before the camp was astir, and were well received by Te Whiti, through whose hospitality they were enabled, with your reporter, to witness the whole pro-

(FROM QUE OWN CORRESPONDENT).

PUNGAREHU, Saturday Night. The Demeanour of the Prisoners. Before Te Whiti's arrest, he and Tohu

spoke urging the people to peace. The demeanour of both is much admired. No anger was displayed. They were brought to the Camp in waggons, escorted by the Taranaki Cavalry, and placed in the block-Hiroki was marched down on foot.

Disposition of the Forces.

The troops camp at Paribaka for a few days, and are now erecting a Mimi redoubt. The whole movement of the forces was

carried out successfully. The Volunteers obeyed instructions splendidly. The Native Minister thanked the officers and non-commissioned officers' for their successful efforts, and said that, but for the Volunteers, the movement could not have been executed. The Wellington Volunteers camped to-

The havals were the first Volunteers to pass through Parihaka.

The natives were in meeting all day.

On the advance from Rahotu, the Thames Scottish formed the advance The Wanganui Volunteers camped on the ground commanding the aettlement, the Canterbury on the right flank, and the Marlboro' corps on the right. OPUNAKE, Sunday night, 8.15.

Volunteers Fainting from the Heat.

At Paribaka all is quiet to-day. The troops bivonacked here at night. The wolunteers were under arms from 4 30 a.m. until 5.30 p.m., but all behaved spendidly, The day was clear and warm, and the work of advancing through the bush with heavy swags is trying. Three cases of epileptic fits occurred, but two have recovered. Licutenant West of the Nelson Artillery

- and westablishy at Parle The natives who do not belong to Pari-haka are to be dispersed.

By Mr Bryce's permission, To Whiti and Tohu addressed the natives before being taken away, but the purport of their speech's is not yet known here. There is said to be a great deal of suppressed excitement among the natives. The Press Association Report.

The Press Association report substantially confirms that from our special reporter. The Association's representative was one of those who started at daybreak. for Parihaka in defiance of Mr Bryce's order. He reports that he was well received by Tohu, who placed a whare at their disposal. He estimates the numbers in the pall at 2.500 men, women, and children, and describing the recention of the troops says :

"Immediately this body was observed by

LATEST DESPATCHES.

pecially for the purpose."

The Natives Still Quiet.

PUNGAREHU, this day. At daylight this morning the natives

were assembled in the meeting house. They are quiet, but treated those who were successful in getting into the pah in a friendly way. The chief Rangipuhuahoaho addressed the people last night. This is one of the chiefs who was imprisoned at Dunedin, and he addressed the natives while in custody. He takes a promiuent part in the management of affairs at Pari-VOLUNTEERS FORAGING.

It has transpired that several pigs belonging to natives have been killed by the volunteers. Major Atkinson returned to camp this

The mounted rifles left Pungarehu for Parihaka this morning, taking with them the six-pounder Armstrong.

It is now raining heavily—the first wet

day the volunteers have had under canvas.

THE NATIVES IN PARI-HAKA.

What They are Doing.

PUNGAREHU, this day, 11 a.m.

The attitude of the natives at Parihaka the day after the arrest is practically the same as on that day or the day before. All yesterday they were collected together in the place of meeting-the marae-waiting the further development of Mr Bryce's policy of dispersion and arrest. A few were collected together during the day in To Whiti's meeting-house, called Taiwai Peraw. The conversation turned upon the trial of Te Whiti, and speculations were rife as to what crime he would be charged with, the employment of counsel, etc. As to a lawyer, it was unanimously agreed among them that there could be no better lawyer than Te Whiti himself. One more intelligent than the others, while agreeing with this, said that it would be ss well to have a lawyer to bring Te Whiti's arguments within the code of European law, and he also said that he believed the Government would find a lawyer, but one, perhaps, who would suit themselves. Reference was made to the trial of the ploughing and fencing prisoners, and an opinion expressed that although To Whiti sent those natives to gaol for the express purpose of bringing their grievances to an issue before a legal tribunal, the matter was dexterously avoided by the Government, and the men tried for creating a disturbance on land which they claimed as their own; but an inquiry into the title to which was denied in Court. It was feared denied in Court. that Te Whiti would be thus treated and not allowed to bring his argument before the Court. It was also the

unanimous opinion of all that Te Whiti

would object to the employment of a lawyer

" PLUINGIUM

A telegram received states that it is rumoure: Paribaka are talking al they have plenty of arm A notice has been pos ordering natives not belo

to clear out forthwith. Great satisfaction pr Bryce's mandate baving the Auckland STAR Pre Lyttelton "Times" co Bryce for endeavouring to STORMY INTERVIE

the Governor to-day, an that the interview was v to Mr Bryce's action at P PAINFUL AC

The Premier had a lo

GOVERN

the natives, about 200 young children were sent to the high ground in front of l'aribaka and danced a haka. From the excellent time kept by the children, whose ages MR FRANK BURTT, of with a serious accident of ranged from 8 to 14, in these movements, it noon. He was at Elle was apparent that they had been trained esother young men, afternoon they were solves by jumping the fence, when by some Burtt's animal fell and

The rider miraculously crushed to death, and had engage himself then it is would not have sustained shaking. The horse stru the attempt to rise, and large fortunately kicked on frightened animal. Blo from the wound, and hi alarmed sent at once for their friend conveyed Mr J. Smith's Newmarks

met there by Dr Goldsbro bundaged the injured po

is not considered to be a

it is hoped that Mr Burt recovered to attend to ENGLISH SHI

CERRIT

The following English a from the "Home News, of E Departurer. —September I mandel for Auckland.

The barque Paru from At on Angust 35.

The Cotopasi collided with for Adelaide, in the English of put back badly damaged.

POLICE COURT.

DRUNKENESS. - Five per EXPOSURE OF PERSON .-

EXPOSURE OF PERSON.—
charged with indecent explained.—Prisoner pleaded no called evidence.—Remaded Constable Bowman.

LARCENY OF AN AXE.—We charged with stealing an approperty of some person unexplained, and the case we are called and the case we have a with striking Mauring him when down.—Prison knocked Regan down but it —Mr Pardy said this was a cassault.—Constable Collis deg which took place in Forter Regan was helpleasly drunk, kloking him violently on the would kick his brains out.

deposed to being present and the men were sailors and her

would kick his brains out.
deposed to being present and
the men were sailors, and ha
—Prisoner said he wished to
was accordingly sworn; bu
had no recollection of a
had a very tore head,—Prison
his Worship would look over
and two young children, and
Worship thought it was

Worship thought it was a 40s aud costs, or 14 days' impri LONELY TEOMAS.—Thomas with disorderly conduct on Prisoner pleaded gulity, but sequence of the loss of his we of drink, Would not do so

of drisk. Would not do so a costs.

An OID HAND.—Richar charged with striking and his on the 5th inst—Prisoner ple Mr Pardy stated the case, an who was accommedated with a weakly state from loas of bit deposed that she hept prisoner day, Sarafield came home dillusing her; but she did not into trouble.—klisabeth Habeing in Abercrombie-street saturday. Prisoner came in a Gallagher down. Kicked her back. He then beat Mrs Didown the sters, kicked her of his boot.

in town to-day out war, and say is and ammunitie ted up at Pariham

evails here at l s Association and rrespondents. The exclude the press W WITH THE

ng interview with ery stormy, owing

CIDENI.

Cook-street, met n Saturday after ralie with several during amusing ir horses over s mischance rolled over hime he been abie me probable that ggled violently in od flowed ra doctor, and l t Hotel

his duties

langerous one,a" vill be sufficiently

drunke

The invasion of Parihaka

Parihaki was reputedly the land back to Maori. Howlargest Maori village in the 1880s with over 2000 inhabitants. It was founded in 1866 by Maori prophets Te Whiti o Rongomai and Tohu Kakahi. The two men were related. However, it was established on Maori land which had been confiscated by the colonial government.

Te Whiti (1830-1907) was a member of Te Ati Awa and educated at a mission school. He was especially interested in Bible studies. As an adult he established a flour mill at Warea, 35 km south west of New Plymouth. Evidently, colonial soldiers burned his village in Warea, which prompted the establishment of Parihaka.

He was opposed to the confiscation of Maori land, opposed land sales and urged the return of any alienated on Parihaka. Te Whiti and

ever, his methods and also those of Tohu were either passive resistance or civil disobedience. Violence was not allowed. Therefore, in protest action roads were ploughed up, as were the paddocks of settlers and surveyors pegs were also removed.

Tohu Kakahi (1929-1907) was a descendent of Nga Potikitaua and Te Ati Awa chief Rangiapitirua of Pukeariki (now New Plymouth). He was born in Puketapu. Before he became an advocate of peace he was a warrior chief of the Hau Hau movement 1864-1866.

In November 1881, under instructions from Minister of Native Affairs John Bryce 1600 armed constabulary and militia men descended

happened. He completed his report despite being threatened

with arrest if he remained in Parihaka, doing his job.

Tohu instructed the townsfolk that no violent resistance was to be carried out. What they said was accepted without dissent.

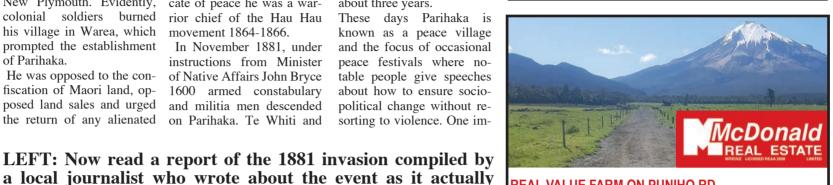
The soldiers pulled down many houses and meeting places and killed animals, notably pigs. Some women and girls of the village were reportedly molested. There were no reports of deaths, however. Tohu and Te Whiti were both arrested and imprisoned without trial for many months, ending up in Dunedin. Tohu fared worst as he was imprisoned for about three years.

These days Parihaka is known as a peace village and the focus of occasional peace festivals where notable people give speeches about how to ensure sociopolitical change without resorting to violence. One important speaker at one such event was the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and another was a relative of Dr Martin Luther King.



Grazing available For Weaners and Yearling heifers on a long term contract

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REAL VALUE FARM ON PUNIHO RD

341 Puniho Road, Newall

Located on the upper Puniho Road is this 130 Ha approx. (85 Ha effective) dairy farm which is currently milking 190 cows through an excellent 9-year-old 36-bail rotary cowshed. With two large 3-bay sheds and an old woolshed there is plenty of room for your hay, storage and calf rearing facilities. Supplying Open Country, production has been consistent averaging a little over 67,000 kgMS over the past 5 years. This farm is also well subdivided, has good race systems and a reliable water supply. There is a very tidy 3-bedroom family home with attached double garaging plus the bonus of 1-bedroom self-contained cottage. This property has plenty of potential to lift production and for a first farm you will be hard pressed to find better value for money.

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Tohu Kakahi is the old man seated on the right of the whare. Hocken Collection.

Te Whiti o Rongomai.



CLOSING DOWN

40 years in business is a long time so we have finally decided to call it a day.

30% off almost everything

Including: Shrubs, vege plants, and all stock inside the shop.

We will be closed over the Festive season from the 25th Dec until 2nd January.

Our last week of trade will be from the 3rd to the 8th of January.

This week everything will be 1/2 price. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our customers for your loyal support over all the years we have been in business. We couldn't have done it without you!

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a bountiful New Year.

Love from Murray & Eileen Baylis

NEW Life Nursery

Growing on the Coast for the Coast

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OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL

Te kura tuarua o Opunake

GROWING GOOD PEOPLE FOR A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD

OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL CONTACT DETAILS

P: 06 761 8723
Attendance: 0800 288 363
Tasman Street, Opunake 4616
PO Box 4, Opunake 4645
www.opunake.school.nz
admin@opunake.school.nz



THAT'S A WRAP

After a looooong year - its nice to look back and reflect on some of the best bits. We recently wound the year up with a great Junior Prizegiving - including the announcement of our Head Girl and Boy, successful Year 9 & 10 camps and a grand farewell to our graduating Year 13 class. Here are some of the highlights:



Aveling Family Cup & Award Character Award for Junior Students Ella Griggs (C)

Opunake High School Dream Achiever OHS Junior Dream Achiever Trophy Jorja Symes (Y10) & Charlie Carr (Y9)



Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 9 Caleb Neil

Kaupokonui Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award Top in Year 9 Charlie Carr



Lena Sharrock Award Runner-Up in Year 10 Holly Gasson

Phillips Cup and Mary Pohutukawa Award Top in Year 10 Joria Symes





Congratulations Madaline Symes & Pero Brophy on being named our Head Girl & Head Boy for 2021. We know you and the entire prefect team will do a fantastic job as leaders of our rangatahi.

GRADUATING CLASS 2021

Below is our graduating class of 2021, together with their mentor teachers.

From left - Rimu Y13s, with Whaea Kerry Walsh; Awhina, with Matua Rangiroa Rongonui & Whaea Robyn Davey;
Totara, with Mr Meyburg & Mr Griggs; Karo, with Ms Thompson.



IMPORTANT DATES 2021

Fri. 29 Jan. & Mon. 1 Feb. - Teachers Only Day

Tuesday 2 Feb. - Year 13's: 9am, Peer Support Training

Wednesday 3 Feb. - Year 13's 9am - 12noon: Peer Support Training 1 - 3pm: Y13 Dean & Mentors

Thursday 4 Feb. - Teachers Only Day

Friday 5 Feb. - Welcome Powhiri

Join us as we welcome new students into

Opunake High School, followed by our Success Iwi

Year 9 & 13's start Peer Support until the end of the day Year 10,11 & 12's to meet with Mentors & Deans for course confirmation, students may then go home

Monday 8 Feb. - Waitangi Day Holiday

Tuesday 9 Feb. - DREAMS Iwi followed by Year 9 & 13's - Marae Visit Year 10,11 & 12's - Orientation Day

Wednesday 10 Feb. - Timetabled classes commence

OPUNAKE HIGH SCHOOL HAS A SCHOOL APP!

Opunake High School has an app, packed with features so you can stay in the loop. Read our Daily Notices and latest issue of Purongo (term newsletter), use links to our Calendar, Absentee hotline, Kamar Student & Parent Portal and receive alerts with important notifications To find our app, go to the App Store on your Apple or Android device and search 'SchoolAppsNZ' to download the app onto your device. Then search 'Opunake High School' to find your school's app.











Find us at 56 Whitcombe Road, Opunake Session Times - Monday to Friday 9-3pm Ph: 06 761 7440 Email: opunakekindy@xtra.co.nz

Like us on Facebook to find out more and keep up-to-date on our latest news.

ZERO WASTE - BURIED WASTE EXPERIMENT

The time has arrived to dig up our buried waste experiment and share our findings on what happens to the rubbish we buried inside Papatūānuku. We found some worms in the netting bags and the organic materials such as banana peels, apple core, tissue, orange peel, sandwich leftovers, pieces of cardboard box and paper have disappeared. Only inorganic materials such as gladwrap, yoghurt pottle and suckies, chips bag, tinfoil and plastic wrap were still in the netting bag. It is a powerful learning experience for our tamariki as they learn about the impact of waste on our environment and the tamariki are also developing individual and collective responsibility for reducing waste and caring for Papatūānuku.







Left: Jock (4) and Monty (3) digging their buried waste experiment at home. Right: Meera and Theo K (4) digging up buried waste experiment in the mara kai (food garden).

CURIOUS MINDS PROJECTHere's an update on Our Curious Minds Project – Our Green Ōpunakē Journey. Together with Sustainable Taranaki, we will be promoting a positive shift in recycling habits! Some of our activities:

- Kids Education Session (16 Oct 2020): Jamie and friends from Sustainable Taranaki came to Kindy and worked with the tamariki and kaiako to support how well we all recycle. A lot of our tamariki knew that we can recycle hard plastics with the numbers 1, 2 and 5. The tamariki had so much fun sorting the recycling from
- Supermarket Education Sessions (27 Oct 2020 and 28 Oct 2020): The tamariki, kaiako and Jamie (Sustainable Taranaki) educating and providing shoppers / community with recycling information, and promoting positive shift in recycling habits.
- Visit to New Plymouth Recycling Centre (4 Nov 2020): Our 4-year old tamariki visited the New Plymouth Recycling Centre. We learned more about recycling and waste management. We discovered lots of rubbish in the recycling that had been delivered to the recycling centre, and saw them sort the items according to the
- Recycle Bin Audits (TBC): Thank you Suzie, Diane and their team of volunteers for getting up so early and doing a great job at completing the bin audits of the recycling bins around town.



Above: Supermarket Education Sessions – Sustainable Taranaki Team Member, Lucian (4), Aria (4), Billie (4) and Madison (4) at the 4 Square.

Top right: Kids Education Session -Tamariki learning about recycling and waste management from Sustainable

Bottom right: Tamariki at the New Plymouth Recycling Centre.





KEEPING OURSELVES SAFE

In today's world, children have an increasing need to learn skills, attitudes and knowledge to keep themselves safe in a range of situations involving interactions with other people. The earlier children get personal safety education the more likely they are to develop sensible attitudes to personal safety and to adopt and use personal safety strategies in their lives.

Our current focuses for this term are as follows:

1. My Family My Environment - Tōku Whānau Tōku Taiao

- Kev messages:
- For children: I know who I am, my family, my environment and where I belong.
- For whānau: Children need to know where they belong.

2. How I Feel - Ōku Kare ā-Roto

- · Key messages:
- For children: I listen to my feelings.
- For whānau: Be aware how children feel and respond appropriately





Above left: My Family My Environment - Griffin (3) showing Nicola his photo Above rightDisplay of tamariki's photos talking about their feelings i.e. happy, sad, angry, etc. and what or why they feel that way.

DO WORMS EAT PAPER?

We were investigating whether or not worms eat paper and the question "Do worms eat paper?" arose during a lunch time at our kai table when our tamariki were pondering whether or not they did. Tamariki and kaiako had been sharing their thoughts and we definitely have different opinions! 49% said yes worms did eat paper, 31% said no they didn't eat paper, and 20% didn't know. The question generated lots of conversations as we learned by exploring, sharing ideas and collaborating to find the answer to the question.

Note:

Did you know that when we touch worms we need to have wet hands? This is because worms like wet environment where they can slither about. This is one of the best ways we can support our worms in our environments and this is part of our Enviroschools Care Code.







Above: left Leonie, Meera, Lucian (4) looking at our 'Wonder Wall' – Do worms eat paper? Above: Nora, Maggie (3), Karlyn (4) and Tiana (4) confirm that they can see that the worms have eaten the paper in our worm experiment. Left: Kindy's Care Code.

Donation to get treatment done in Opunake

The Opunake Cottage Rest Home needs \$1500 for a condenser which helps people with low levels of oxygen in the blood.

Last week Harcourts got the ball rolling when Opunake-based Harcourts sales consultant John Smith turned up at the Cottage Rest Home to present a \$500 donation on behalf of the Harcourts Foundation.

The oxygen concentrator machine provides artificial air to people with COPD and respiratory conditions, who would otherwise have to travel through to New Plymouth to receive this treatment says Opunake Cottage Rest Home facility manager Sandra Deegan.

"This helps them get their breath back without them struggling. It saves transporting them by





John Smith presents the \$500 donation to Opunake Cottage Rest Home Facility manager Sandra Deegan.

ambulance to hospital as they can get the treatment here," she says. "Ninety nine per cent of our residents come from here, so transporting

them to New Plymouth without any family or whanau only increases their anxiety. "

The machine can be used

from two to 24 hours at a time, depending on the severity of the patient's condition.

Sandra says she would be

interested in hearing from anybody else who maybe interested in supporting the project.



Pastimes Toys and Gifts Country Connections

Michelle Hofmans - First National Fish, Chips and More Viv Scott, McDonald Real Estate Taranaki Chamber of Commerce

Opunake Lakeside Lion

Happily Equanimous Holistic Therapies Triplet baby goats at Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park, Inglewood. See advert this issue.

Photo: Gail Simons, Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park.

Power Worx

Power Supply Rural & Residential

Design, upgrade and repair overhead and underground power supplies

- Powerco Approved
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Taranaki Region Contact Bruce Wilson Manager 58 Glover Road, Hawera Ph: 06 278 4514 Email: powerworx@obertech.co.nz

- · Vegetation control around powerlines
- Network connections
- Transformer & line upgrades
- · Specialists in rural power servicing and installation

Christmas Nativity display **Opunake**

Opunake's St Paul's Church has their Christmas **Nativity** display at the church Havelock Opunake.

It will be open Sunday December 20 and also Christmas Eve.

It is also able to be viewed other times by appointment. Phone Elva on (06) 763 8650 or 021 032 0228.

Photographed Finlay (left) and Miles McCaig.



Opunake Library Plus book review

The missing pieces of Nancy Moon by Sarah Steele



It was the cover of this book that attracted me. I admit that I thought it might be another 'coming of age' style of story but I was so pleased to find it is nothing like that.

Nancy Moon is the mystery but she's not the main character.

Florence Connelly's world has crashed. Her marriage has fallen apart under the weight of grief and then her much loved grandmother has just died. Flo no longer finds joy in the world, let alone in her hobby of dressmaking. When sorting through her grandmother's things to find a sewing machine, she instead finds a box. That vintage box starts the journey of a lifetime in search of Nancy Moon and the mystery of her disappearance. Inside the box are 1960s dress patterns and inside each packet is a postcard from Europe, some fabric and a photograph of Nancy wearing the home made dress.

Florence re-creates each outfit, books a ticket and starts following the clues across Europe. On the way she makes wonderful emotional discoveries and two lives decades apart are stitched together. The author takes us on a ride between 1962 and modern

day Europe with glorious descriptions of an era filled with art, parties and famous There are also people. side references to a famous person who was in their heyday in the 1960s. Not directly but the clues make it obvious who it is so I hope you can figure that out.

A lovely read from beginning to end and the ending will make you misty eyed whilst smiling.

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

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

Maria Brewerton Kaiārahi Whare Pukapuka - Ōpunakē/Manaia | Branch Librarian - Ōpunakē/ Manaia



TOURS & SHOWS



GREAT BARRIER & AUCKLAND 7TH - 13TH FEBRUAY 2021

lourney with us to one of the most unspoiled places you will ever find, an amazing Island full of native flora and fauna. Escape to tranquility, escape to Great Barrier. Once back into the city of Sails we spend a day exploring some of the sites Auckland has on offer. \$2575.00 pp twin share Selling fast, limited seats.

COROMANDEL DISTRACTION 1ST - 7TH MARCH 2021

Rustic, relaxed and unspoiled, the Coromandel is one of New Zealands best loved holiday destinations. With rugged volcanic hills cloaked in native rainforest, and more than 400 kilometers of spectacular dividing coastline, why not let us show you around. Enquire now to register your interest!!!



JERSEY BOYS IN WELLINGTON: 22ND MAY 2021

The internationally acclaimed hit musical Jersey Boys, seen by more than 26 million people worldwide, tells the story of how four blue collar boys from the wrong side of the tracks became one of the biggest pop sensations of all time. \$495.00 (Includes, coach travel, twin share quality accommodation, dinner, breakfast & premium ticket to the show).

MID WINTER GETAWAY 10TH - 13TH AUGUST 2021

Rather than stay at home during the winter, why not travel with us to the Central Plateau for a Mid Winter Getaway. During this fabulous 4 day tour we spend two nights at the Chateau Tongariro staying in the heart of National Park. \$1050.00 pp twin share.



Visit weirbros.co.nz for more tour information or to join our database. We offer caring and comfortable tours and day trips and look forward to hosting you soon.



IRBR

Phone 06 278 5858 17 Turuturu Rd, Hawera www.weirbros.co.nz weirbros@xtra.co.nz

RIGHT:

Christmas cheer from this adorable resident of Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park at Inglewood.

Photo: Gail Simons, Stoney Oakes Wildlife Park



Topp Twins at Egmont Country Music Festival

The grandstand at the New Plymouth Raceway from January 8-10 is the place to be with unrestricted views of the stage in front to enjoy a weekend of fun, laughter and even your chance to jump on stage and sing a song. Open mic runs on Saturday morning and most of Sunday, so come and have a go. Friday night begins at 7pm with Taranaki Talent Show. On Saturday there is a full day of music and singing. In our show case evening, The Topp Twins, Linda and Jools will be on the venue from Friday onwards, so come on along and meet them. They will be arriving



The Topp Twins.

on Thursday, so there is a very good chance they will make an appearance on stage Friday night for a short time.

Also show casing is New Zealand's very own John Denver, Bevan Gardiner Dunedin, from along with singing good mate James Davy. To top off the showcase there will be Cooper's Run from Matamata.

Lynn Crawford / Putt has spent the last 10 months putting this festival together, along with a great team of supporting people. The 2020 festival in February this year was great, and she is hoping this next one in 2021 will be just as outstanding with the talent that we have lined up. There will be loads of room to park up the motorhome for four days for just \$20. Come prepared for our Taranaki weather, seat yourself in the grandstand or bring your picnic seat and sit out on the

Food, drinks, eftpos on the venue. No credit cards or cash out. Pre book at egmontfestival.co.nz phone 0273496824 A very Merry Christmas to you all, with a happy safe New Year.

There will be gate sales all weekend, and the raceway is opening the bar inside the members lounge.

exhibition at LUME

In December LUMEN Studios & Gallery is hosting a solo exhibition by Raglan based artist Mary Spacapan and a Christmas Gift Market featuring handmade gifts by local makers and artists.

The Gift Market, which is open everyday until Christmas features handmade treasures including jewellery, ceramics, wood work, felt work, weaving, prints, cards and calendars. A range of eco-friendly gifts is also available including hemp clothing and unique soap dishes made from

recycled plastic.

'Beginnings' by Spacapan documents her journey through Aotearoa. In pursuit of all that is beautiful Mary's work is strongly gestural, exploring spiritled creativity through the use of colour, composition and rich, buildable texture. Her latest body of work serves as a heart map to her examination into the subject of identity. Her oil paintings depict places she has visited including Hawkes Bay, Taranaki, Wanaka, Raglan and Fiordland.

Mary's exhibition runs until January 3 and the gallery is open every day until then, excluding Christmas and Day. Weekdays 10am-2pm and 10am-4pm on the weekends. The exhibition can also be viewed online at lumengallery.co.nz

LUMEN is an artistrun space based at the Old Cheese Factory in Tataraimaka. Founded in



Exhibition of oil paintings by Mary Spacapan with harakeke weaving by Tania Brown and felted bowls by Suzan Kostanich in the foreground.

2019, the gallery hosts exhibitions, workshops, holiday programmes and pop-up shops. Home to the art studios of Teresa

Goodin and Alice Cowdrey, at 1729 South Road. LUMEN is an evolving space with a focus on creativity and wellbeing. LUMEN is located 6km south of Oakura

GATE SALES ALL WEEKEND. BAR OPEN AT THE RACEWAY.

Christmas hours: Open Continued page 63.



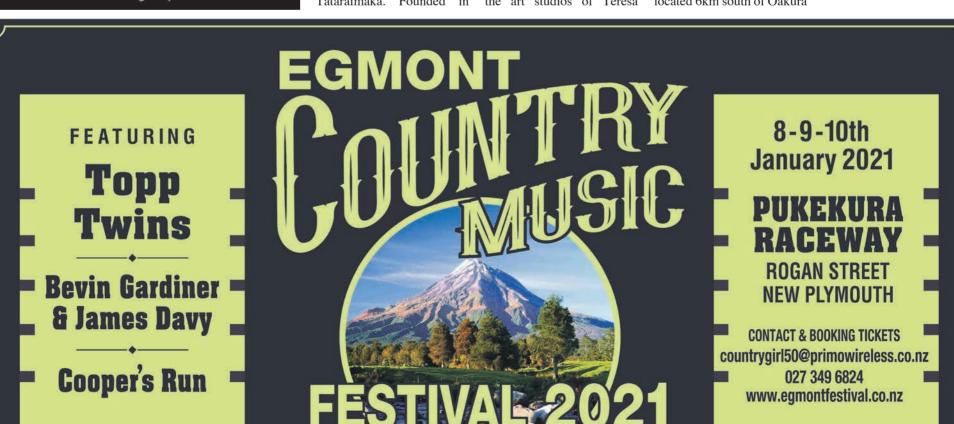
Paintings by Mary Spacapan 4 December - 3 January

CHRISTMAS GIFT MARKET

Jewellery, Weaving, Ceramics, Woodwork, Felting, Clothing, Prints, Calendars, Cards and more Open everyday until 24 December

Open everyday until 3 January, except Christmas & Boxing Day 10am - 2pm weekdays and 10am - 4pm Weekends January hours: 10am - 4pm Friday, Saturday, Sunday & Monday

1729 South Road, Tataraimaka (Old Cheese Factory) www.lumengallery.co.nz



Mental wellness advocate coming to Opunake

Building on her 25 year career as NZ's top female singer/songwriter gospel with

extensive national and international touring experience and years of work in the

classroom, Julia Grace has been a Keynote Speaker and Contributor at over 120 Conferences and Events in the last three years on the topics of Mental Wellness including crisis, depression, anxiety and stress.

. She will be coming to Opunake in January.

Officially she is a Keynote Speaker, Award-winning Singer/Songwriter,

Teacher/Writer/Blogger

and Mental Wellness Advocate. Unofficially she is funny, insightful, passionately honest about her own life and faith journey and is able to hold a crowd of any size in the palm of her hand.

Julia and her husband Mykle are based in Auckland, attend their local church and are

passionate about the ministry of encouraging and educating people around the topic of Mental Wellness as itinerant communicators. She has a weekly interview at Rhema Media on these topics and displays a knack of tackling the 'big' topics and breaking them down

into memorable ideas, giving everyone a set of practical tools to help support their brain and body. In her opinion, Mental Wellness issues are reasonable (they make sense), universal (we are all on the spectrum of Wellness) and manageable (there are many tools in the toolbox).

You'll find yourself laughing and crying as she punctuates personal stories with emotive songs, finding humour, insight and practical help in the darkest of situations.

Julia and Mykle are also developing a Small Group resource series for both Church and community

groups which lead on from Julia's keynote messages. These engaging encouraging sessions lead to a greater understanding of how the brain and the body work, with group discussion opportunities. Each of the eight sessions contains practical tips, humour, science and (for the churchbased version) Scripture. links.

Julia will be at the Sandfords Event Centre at 7pm on Saturday January 23 and featuring at a combined churches service at 10am on Sunday January 24 at the Sandfords Event Centre.



Julia Grace.

Solo exhibition at LUMEN

Continued from page 62. every day until January 3, except for Christmas and Boxing Day. 10am - 2pm

weekends. January hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday

weekdays and 10am - 4pm

10am-4pm LUMEN events

December 12 - December 24: Handmade Christmas Gift Market

December 4 - January 3: Beginnings: Mary Spacapan January 6 - February 1: Jacob Milne Exhibition



1103 Opunake Road, Mahoe, Stratford (25 mins from Opunake) - Ph: 06 764 6133

Closed 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th Dec, New Years Day, Jan 2,3 & 4. Otherwise hours Open 10am - 4pm

(6) @juliagracenz

Email: pennie@envirofur.co.nz website: www.envirofur.co.nz

Juliagrace **f**

Lockdown perspectives at Percy Thomson Gallery

Seventy Taranaki artists Covid-19 their share Lockdown creations Percy Thomson's major end-of-year exhibition.

The exhibition focuses on artwork produced during the Lockdown period and also post-Lockdown, in a reflective capacity.

Some artists found Lockdown stifling to their inner creative soul and struggled to undertake any creative endeavour during quarantine. One confided that she totally 'dried up' and couldn't bring herself to pick up a paint brush.

Others embraced 'enforced break from normal life' relishing the ensuing spare time and isolation, seeing it as a 'gift', and put

it to good use. The exhibition is diverse and covers a wide range of media.

Artists provide an overview of their creative process,

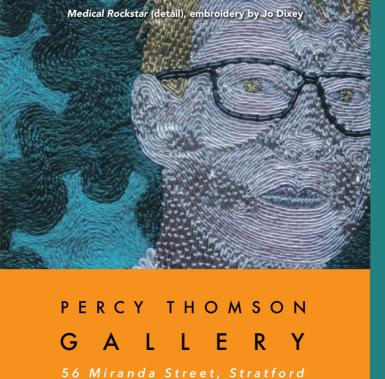


'Self-portrait with mask' by Paul Hutchinson, Oil

so viewers can appreciate into the personal realm experience. the art and also have entre of the artist's own unique

Rhonda Bunyan





PERCYTHOMSONGALLERY.ORG.NZ

Reflections

the art of

Taranaki artists and affiliates share the good, the bad, the ugly and the spiritual of Covid Lockdown

December 18 2020 to January 24 2021

AVENUE Q - Hit Broadway Musical to Open Season at 4th Wall Theatre

Puppets with Purpose

"Sesame Street meets South

This delightful parody, packed with mischief, bad behaviour and political incorrectness, that dares to ask the question, "What do you do with a B.A. in English" brings the naughtiest puppets in town to the 4th Wall Theatre stage from 22nd April to 15th May 2021. Avenue Q ingeniously combines a cast of humans and puppets who tackle subjects such as dating, racism, internet porn, being gay and finding your purpose in life and has long been the darling of Broadway, selling out to delighted consistently audiences since its inception. Winning three Tony Awards for Best Musical, Best Score and Best Book, it concluded its celebrated 15+ year run in New York in May 2019. Created by Jeff Marx and Robert Lopez, (Co-creator of Book of Mormon and writer of the songs for Disney's Frozen) with book by Jeff Whitty, Avenue Q is an irresistibly charming tale of the loveable characters on a downtown New York street trying to make sense of life's burning issues. Meet Princeton, a brighteyed college graduate who comes to New York City with big dreams and a tiny bank account, who is very anxious to discover his purpose in life. But first, he must find an apartment and a job and the only neighbourhood in his price range is Avenue Q, which is about as far away from Park Avenue as you can get. There he meets a very cute kindergarten teacher named Kate Monster, Brian the outof-work comedian and his therapist fiancée Christmas

Eve. Nicky the good-hearted slacker and his closet gay Republican roommate Rod, an Internet 'sexpert' called Trekkie Monster, Lucy the Sl*t (the name says it all) and would you believe the building's superintendent is Gary Coleman (yes that Gary Coleman) The 4th Wall Production is led by a very experienced team under the Direction of Samantha Turner (Beauty and the Beast, The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe) Musical Director Phillip Malcolm (Priscilla Queen of the Desert, Sister Act, Mama Mia) and performed by an unholy comedic

Puppets manipulated by unconcealed puppeteers who all join forces in song and dance to tell Princeton's timeless story. Welcome to the deliciously demented world of Avenue Q. As they sing, dance, and impart lessons on such improbable subjects as porn and homosexuality, you realize you will never look at puppets the same way again. Take a trip down to Avenue Q to watch this oneof-a-kind musical with a warm (and very fuzzy) heart - you may just discover your purpose, at least for now that is, so don't let your life suck – book your tickets today! WARNING! Contains full puppet nudity and vulgarities that will induce laughter Rating M (suitable for a mature audience) - Parents should use their discretion based on the maturity level of their teenagers. But we promise you this - if you DO bring your teenagers Avenue Q, they'll think you're really cool POLYTROPOS 7:30pm Saturday

alliance of 11 hugely

talented Live Actors and

Multi-instrumentalists Oscar West and Rennie Pearson are masterful, passionate players of Celtic music arranged in an adventurous, conversational style. Their infectious stage presence

January

and musicality has been a hit with audiences since their debut concert at Wellington Folk Festival in 2011 and in the intervening years they have worked extensively as professional musicians both in New Zealand and internationally. The name Polytropos -"the thing of many twists and turns" or "the muchwandering thing" - drives the spirit of their unique instrumental arrangements and represents journey each set creates for the listener. It also acknowledges the music's own odyssey from the hills of Ireland and Scotland to the rugged, natural landscapes of New Zealand. Their playing weaves together the tones of the wooden flute, fiddle, guitar, small pipes, whistles and voice to produce thoughtful arrangements of melodies that are all at once curious, pure and full of storytelling. PAUL UBANA JONES 8:30pm Saturday 30th January

Winner of three New Zealand Music awards, Paul Ubana Jones boasts an impressive four-decade career and has shared the stage with Bob Dylan, Norah Jones, BB King and many more soulful icons. Paul was playing the guitar by the age of 11 and after years of classical training, Paul forged his own contemporary style, influenced

rock, folk and jazz. This evening will showcase Paul's musical influences from Ray Charles, Otis Reading , Muddy Waters and Howlin Wolf as well as 'Folk Baroque' schools of Davey Graham/Bert Jansch and John Renbourne and of course most of the African American sounds Fiona Pears and Connor Hartley Hall 7:30pm Friday 12th February

Violinist Fiona Pears and guitarist Connor Hartley-Hall share a love of Gypsy jazz. This music was originally made famous by legendary guitarist Django Reinhardt and French virtuoso violinist Stéphane Grappelli, when they formed the 'Quintette du Hot Club de France' back in the 1930s. The music Fiona and Connor will be performing in their upcoming shows will be a mix of fiery Gypsy jazz, heart-warming ballads and some well-known classics such as 'Czardas' and 'Sabre Dance'. These shows will be exciting and dynamic; a musical experience not to be missed. BOOKINGS: www.4thwalltheatre.co.nz 0800 484 925



Fiona Pears and Connor Hartley-Hall.



Oscar West and Rennie Pearson.



WARNING: Contains full puppet nudity and other vulgarities that will induce laughter!

Get a group of friends together, book a table, and pre-order a mouth-watering

antipasto platter with a bottle of wine.... or 3!!!

BOOK NOW: www.4thwalltheatre.co.nz

11 Baring Terrace | New Plymouth | 0800 484 925

Originally produced on Broadway by Kevin McCollum, Robyn Goodman, Jeffrey Seller, Vineyard Theatre and The New Group ed exclusively by Music Theatre International (Australasia). All performance materials supplied by Hal Leonard Australi

Avenue Q has not been authorised or approved by the Jim Henson Company or Sesame Workshop, which have no responsibility for its content

EVERYBODY'S THEATRE Opunake

72 Tasman Street, Ōpunakē - www.everybodystheatre.co.nz - Phone 027 3837926 DECEMBER 2020 - JANUARY 2021

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

COMBAT WOMBAT

Kids, Family |1hr 51mins|PG Sat 12th Dec 1pm|Wed 23rd Dec 1pm

Family, Adventure|1hr 42mins|G Wed 16th Dec 1pm|Thursday 24th Dec 1pm

FOUR KIDS & IT

Comedy, Family |1hr 50mins |PG

Sat 26th Dec 1pm

THE CROODS A NEW AGE Comedy, Adventure|1hr 35mins|PG Wed 30th Dec 1pm | Wed 13th Jan 1pm

DREAMBUILDERS Family, Adventure |1hr 21mins|PG Sat 9th Jan 1pm | Wed 27th Jan 1pm

DRAGON RIDER

Adventure, Family|1hr 32mins|PG; Violence Wed 20th Jan 1pm | Sat 30th Jan 1pm

THE ELEKINS: Bakeday

Animated, Family |1hr 18mins |PG

Sat 23rd Jan 1pm

THE DRY

Crime, Dramal1hr 57minsl M: Offensive Language, Violence Sun 17th Jan 7pm | Fri 29th Jan 7pm

THE COMEBACK TRAIL

Comedy, Action|1hr 44mins|M:Violence, Language

MISBEHAVIOUR

Comedy, Drama |1hr 46mins|M Language Sun 13th Dec 7pm|Sat 26th Dec 7pm

THE WITCHES

Comedy, Family |1hr 46mins|PG Sun 27th Dec 7pm| Sat 2nd Jan 1pm Wed 6th Jan 1pm

BLITHE SPIRIT Comedy, Fantasy | 1hr 36min | PG; Violence, Offensive

Sat 2nd Jan 7pm | Sun 10th Jan 7pm

SUPER INTELLIGENCE Action, Comedyl1hr 46mins IPG Sun 3rd Jan 7pm|Fri 8th Jan 7pm

MONSTER HUNTER

Fantasy, Action |1hr 44mins| M;Violence

BUDDY GAMES

Fri 15th Jan 7pm|Sat 23rd Jan 7pm

Comedyl1hr 30mins IR

Sat 16th Jan 7pm|Sun 31st Jan 7pm

PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN

Drama, Crime | 1hr 53mins|R18; Violence, Rape,

Sun 24th Jan 7pm | Sat 30th Jan 7pm

We Wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Safe holidays. Thank you for all your support and patronage this year

I'm happy to inform you that the company Christmas Party will take place on December 21, starting at noon in the private function room at the Grill House. There will be a cash bar and plenty of drinks! We'll have a small band playing traditional carols...feel free to sing along. And don't be surprised if our CEO shows up dressed as Santa Claus! A Christmas tree will be lit at 1:00pm. Exchange of gifts among employees can be done at that time; however, no gift should be over \$10.00 to make the giving of gifts easy for everyone's pockets. This gathering is only for employees! Our CEO will make a special announcement at that time!

Merry Christmas you and your family. Patty:

MEMO

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director

TO: All EmployeesDATE: October 02 RE: Holiday Party

In no way was yesterday's memo intended to exclude our Jewish employees. We recognize that Chanukah is an important holiday, which often coincides with Christmas, though unfortunately not year. However, from now on we're calling it our "Holiday Party." The same policy applies to any other employees who are not Christians or those still celebrating Reconciliation Day. There will be no Christmas tree present. No Christmas carols sung. We will have other types of music for your enjoyment.

Happy now?

Holidays Happy you and your family. Patty

MEMO: FROM:

Patty Lewis. Human Resources Director TO: All Employees DATE: October 03 RE: Holiday Party

Regarding the note I received from a member of Alcoholics Anonymous requesting a non-drinking table ... you didn't sign your name. I'm happy to accommodate this request, but if I put a sign on a table that reads, "AA Only"; you wouldn't be anonymous anymore. How am I supposed to handle this?

Somebody? Forget about the gifts exchange, no gifts exchange are allowed since the union members feel that \$10.00 is too much money and executives believe \$10.00 is a little chintzy.

NO GIFTS EXCHANGE WILL BE ALLOWED.

Patty

MEMO:

FROM: Patty Lewis, Human Resources Director All Employees DATE: October 04 RE: Holiday Party

What a diverse group we are! I had no idea that December 20 begins the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, which forbids eating and drinking during daylight hours. There goes the party! Seriously, we can appreciate how a luncheon at this time of year does not accommodate our Muslim employees' beliefs. Perhaps the Grill House can hold off on serving your meal until the end of the party- or else package everything for you to take it home in little foil doggy baggy. Will that work?

Meanwhile, I've arranged for members of Weight Watchers to sit farthest from the dessert buffet and pregnant women will get the table closest to the restrooms.

Gays are allowed to sit with each other. Lesbians do not have to sit with Gav men, each will have their own table. Yes, there will be flower arrangement for the Gay men's table. To the person asking permission to cross dress, no crossdressing allowed though.

We will have booster seats for short people.

Low-fat food will be available for those on a diet. We cannot control the salt used in the food we suggest for those people with high blood pressure to taste first. There will be fresh fruits as dessert for Diabetics, the restaurant cannot supply "No Sugar" desserts. Sorry!

DidImiss anything?!?!?Patty MEMO:

FROM: Patty Lewis. Human Resources Director TO: All F#\$*&%** **Employees**

DATE: October RE:F&*%#\$&* Holiday

Vegetarian pr*cks I've had it with you people!!! We're going to keep this party at the Grill House whether you like it or not, so you can sit quietly at the table furthest from the "grill of death," as you so quaintly put it, and you'll get your f#\$@&*% salad bar, including organic tomatoes. But you know, tomatoes have feelings, too. They scream when you slice them. I've heard them scream. I'm hearing them scream right NOW! I hope you all have a rotten holiday! Drive drunk and die, The Bitch from HELL!!!!!!! FROM: Joan Bishop, Acting Human Resources Director TO: All Employees

DATE: October 06 RE: Patty Lewis and Holiday Party

I know you all will join me in wishing Patty a speedy recovery from her sudden sick leave. I will forward all your cards to her at the sanitarium. Meanwhile, management has decided to cancel our Holiday Party on December 21 and give everyone the afternoon off with full pay.

Merry...uh, happy holidays!

Film review

The Witches

Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Saturday 27 December at 7 pm, rated PG. Starring: Chris Rock, Bruno, Octavia Spencer, Anne Hathaway. Director: Robert Zemeckis. Writers: Robert Zemeckis, Kenya Barris, Guillermo del Toro (Screenplay by), Roald Dahl (based on the book by). Witches

were

predominant feature in my dreams as a child. Pufnstuf and The Bugaloos take responsibility for this, as in both 1970s TV programmes there were very scary ones. Neither had the wonderful backstory of Roald Dahl's versions though. He really knew how to make a threedimensional witch that translates brilliantly onto the big screen. It's been done before, The Witches starring Anjelica Huston appeared in 1990. The main difference, of course, is the development of CGI (computer generated imagery).

The Witches is rated PG, and it may be a good idea to assess whether the small people in your family are able to manage some of the more confronting scenes. The trailer on the IMDB website gives a fair idea



of content. It looks a bit freaky when the witches all removed their wigs, gloves and shoes during a mass gathering, revealing their true selves. The CGI really kicks off here.

Octavia Spencer plays the primary role of Grandma. She is brilliant in whatever she does: The Shape of Water, Hidden Figures and an Oscar winning role in The Help. I recently saw her on the Graham Norton Show. She spoke about her many scenes in this movie which involve talking to CGI mice. This means she is on her own a lot in front of a green screen pretending to interact with inanimate objects, not all that easy. So, to practise, every morning she

would order boiled eggs for breakfast. They would arrive propped up on a wire rack and she would then rehearse her lines to the eggs, then eat

Anne Hathaway is barely recognisable; she makes a convincing Grand High Witch. Chris Rock stars briefly as the voice-over for the grown-up mouse version of Hero Mouse in the opening and closing scenes. His voice is always notable, it has an energy that lifts whatever he's in. This wise casting works well for tying the two together, as the opening scene has more clarity and context when the final one has played out.

Regardless of my witch and mouse phobias, The Witches held my attention to the end, mostly due to the succinctly written adaptation and strong casting.

We would like to thank Jane for her fantastic film reviews which she has done for the last year in the Opunake & Coastal News.

Jane sadly is moving out of the area.

We wish her the very best in the future.

Editor



Haumaru ki Tai Health and Community Centre

Delivering essential community health and social services now and into the future...



CoastalCare would like to wish everyone a safe & Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year!

Holiday Hours:

OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE:

Closed Friday 25th Dec, Monday 28th Dec, Friday 1st January, Monday 4th January 2021

COASTAL PHARMACY: Closed public holidays only COASTAL PRINTERS: Closed 24th December - 22 January 2020 NP PHYSIOTHERAPY: Closed Christmas until 7th January 2021 **TAYLOR DENTAL:** Closed 25th December - 7th January 2021 BROWNING & MATTHEWS OPTOMETRISTS: back on 11th

March 2021 **DAIRY TRAINING:** back from 18th February 2021 **LEONIE LANDSHEER:** 24th December - 5th January 2021 **TDHB SERVICES:** back from 18th January 2021

GWENYTH: Closed Monday 21st until Thursday 14th January 2021 **TARANAKI PODIATRY:** - back from 10th February 2021

LISA KEEN - Closed 25th December until 13th January 2021 PLUNKET: Closed 24th December - 14th January 2021 **PLUNKETLINE:** 24/7 phone 0800 933 922

Thank you for your support during 2020.





STONEY OAKS WILDLIFE PARK OPEN advertised days only

11am to 4pm **NO EFTPOS**

Check facebook page for OPEN days or check on our answer phone: 06 756 7624

356 Kaimata Rd, Inglewood , Ph 06 756 7624 for prices and directions



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. Models always wanted; male, female, any age. If anyone is interested please call Marianne Muggeridge on 06 274 5713.

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.

THURSDAYS

Coastal Young Farmers: Meet 2nd Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.

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

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. Opunake Bowling Club Twilight Bowls: 5.30pm at the Club.

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

SEPTEMBER 26 2020 TO FEBRUARY 8 2021

'Home Work' Taranaki Art 2020 Exhibition: At Puke Ariki Museum, New Plymouth.

NOVEMBER 16 TO DECEMBER 18

'Once Upon a Starry Night' Exhibition: At the Village Gallery, Eltham...

DECEMBER 4 TO JAN 3, 2021

'Beginning' Exhibition: At lumen Gallery, Tataraimaka.

DECEMBER 18 TO JAN 24

Reflections - the Art of Lockdown Exhibition: At Percy Thomson Gallery, Stratford.

DECEMBER 19

Manaia lions Santa Parade Parade: Starts at noon.

DECEMBER 24

Opunake & District Business Association Christmas Parade: 7pm start.

DECEMBER 27

Summer of Racing: At the New Plymouth Raceway.

JANUARY 7 2021

Take a Kid Fishing : Opunake. more details to follow.

JANUARY 8 2021

Opunake Community Baths pool Party: At the Pool, 5-7pm.

JANUARY 8, 9, 10, 2021

Egmont Country Festival 2021: Pukekura Raceway, NP. See ad for more details.

JANUARY 9 2021

Opunake Beach Carnival: At the Beach, 10am-3pm.

Opunake Surf Club Disco: 6.30pm at the Surf Club





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HELP WANTED

HELPER Gardening, painting, cleaning. Contact William 761 7054.

FOR SALE

CLOSING DOWN SALE:

30% off all shrubs. Banksia, Norfolk Island Hibiscus, Pohutukawa and more hedging and shelter trees on sale. new Life Nursery, 183 tasman St, Opunake. Ph 06 761 8067.

WHY NOT GIVE a healthy gift at Christmas? Many older people come into the store and can't afford to take the vitamins they need, so how about giving Mum and Dad an immune boost for Christmas. At The Health Shop in Centre City 06 758

CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish

CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St 9.30am every Sunday and the Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Opunake Catholic Church

St Martins, Pungarehu: 8.30am every 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

Our Lady Star of the Sea, Opunake: 10am every Sunday Other areas

Manaia - Sacred Heart - 1st, 3rd Sat at 5pm (2nd, 4th & 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs) Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am All welcome

St Patricks Catholic Church, Okato

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

The Wave

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

St. Barnabas Anglican Church

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

Okato Community Church

Meets 10.30am Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT **DURING THE YEAR**

HAPPY CHRISTMAS



Contact Phill - 027 236 7129

WANTED TO BUY

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

www.moltenmetals.co.nz

Anything section. considered. Ph 022 013 0024.

WANTED TO RENT

SEMI-RETIRED

professional woman seeks 2-3 bedroomed house with garage. Pet friendly, long term, Opunake township. Contact Sandy 07 549 4239.

RAFFLE RESULTS

ST BARNABAS FAIR. Raffle Results. Grocery: Ticket 58B Mary Coombe. House Hold: Ticket 19D Carol. Bird Box: Ticket 29D Catherine Laws

SITUATIONS VACANT



St Joseph's Primary School, **Opunake**

Fixed Term, .6 Shared Teaching Position, (Reading Recovery / Classroom Release and ORS Release) Commencing Term 1, 2021

We are looking for a highly enthusiastic, motivated, and skilled classroom teacher who is passionate about children and their learning. This is an excellent opportunity to work with a dedicated, caring and skilled team that enjoys strong community support. Please state your strengths, e.g. Art, PE, Music, Science. It is a condition of appointment that the person appointed is capable of maintaining programmes and activities that reflect the special character of the school. Beginning teachers are encouraged to apply.

Applications close at Midday, Monday 11 January 2021

Please email your CV with a covering letter, along with the contact details of 2 referees to: principal@stjo.school.nz

WANTED





To accompany singing for church services at St James in Oakura and St Paul's in Okato

10.00am Sundays

Could be part of shared roster

For further information please phone: Heather on 021 617 894

Okato-Oakura Cooperating Parish

OPUNAKE & COASTAL

PUBLIC NOTICES

Manaia's Lions Santa Parade Saturday, 19th December



Parade at 12 noon

Proudly presented by Manaia & District Lions with generous support from The Taranaki Coastal Community Board

Coastal Ladies motorcycle ride



Last Sunday of every month. Starts February 2021.

Meet at the RSA in Hawera at 10am.

Please phone **021 065 8373** if interested.



Seasons greetings to Opunake Primary School Whanau and wider community. Your support for the school has been greatly appreciated.

We hope that you have a restful and happy Christmas season.

The school office will be open from January 25 and school commences for students on February 1, 2021.



ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, **OPUNAKE**

Wishing the school and wider community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The school office will be open for new enrolments and queries from Thursday 28th January.

The start date for students is Tuesday 2nd February, 2021.

OPUNAKE AND OAKURA MEDICAL CENTRE



Please take note of our opening hours for

DECEMBER AND JANUARY HOLIDAY PERIOD

Should you need medical assistance – Please call the emergency numbers 0800 611 116 or 111.

OPENING HOURS	
Thursday 24 th December	8.30am – 5pm
Friday 25 th December	CLOSED
Monday 28th December	CLOSED
Tuesday 29st December	8.30am – 5pm
Wednesday 30 th December	8.30am – 5pm
Thursday 31st December	8.30am – 5pm
Friday 1 st January	CLOSED
Monday 4 th January	CLOSED
Tuesday 5 th January	8.30am – 5pm

We would also like to take this opportunity to wish all our patients a safe and happy holiday.

HAWERA CHRISTIAN **SCHOOL**

School starts on 9th Feb, 2021 at 9am. New enrolments 5th Feb, 9am-2pm.

principal@hawerachristian.school.nz 466 South Road, Hawera - Ph: 06 278 4210

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