



Inside



Coastal Taranaki School's outstanding scholar (Dux). Turn to pages 4 and 5.



Brody Chapman is now a university graduate. See page 18.



Outstanding students at Opunake Primary School. See pages 6 and 7.



A concert to raise money for the victims of measles in Samoa. See page 17.



Former All Black great Jazz Muller dies. See page 56.

Farewell Sir Peter Snell

Peter George Snell was born on December 17, 1938 in Opunake at what was once the Opunake Maternity Hospital; now it is the Cottage Rest Home. He attended Opunake Primary School when it was, at that time, situated in King Street (since demolished). He loved sport of all types and was good at such activities as running, badminton, hockey, golf, rugby, cricket and especially tennis. He wasn't so keen on classroom lessons.

His father George, who was manager of the Opunake Electric Power Board and Peter's mother Margaret received shocking news when they learned that one of the employees driving a Ford truck had collided with their son (aged about six) who was riding his bicycle. Luckily, only a few cuts and bruises were the result.

When Peter was about eleven (1949) the family moved to Te Aroha where he continued to be keen on sport. He attended Te Aroha College and later, Mount Albert Grammar in Auckland.

In his late teens Peter was a very promising tennis player and capable runner and had to choose between the two. He joined the Owairaka running club in Auckland where he met New Zealand's greatest athletic coach Arthur Lydiard and he developed even further under his coach's tutelage. The club had several champion athletes in the making including Murray Halberg (later Sir), Bill Baillie and Barry Magee.

Arthur used to get his



Peter Snell in Tokyo having just won his third Olympic gold medal.

runners to run huge distances in the Waitakeres to build up stamina through endurance training. Initially, Peter found it hard to keep up with the others. Once Bill Baillie passed him and commented, "Crikey you're weak." On one such run Peter made it to Arthur's home and burst into tears in front of his fellow runners.

By the time the Rome Olympics (1960) were

drawing near Peter was winning at the top level in the nation. He made the qualifying time for the Olympics in the 800 metres just once and was ranked 26th in the world. He was duly selected for the NZ team. Murray was expected to do very well, but Peter wasn't expected to be amongst the medals.

Peter did well enough in the heats and semifinal to make it to the final where the expected gold medallist was Roger Moens of Belgium who held the world record for the distance. In the race, Peter worked himself up towards the leaders and suddenly found himself just behind the outright leader Roger. As the tape loomed he thrust himself forward, it was neck and neck.

"Who won?" he asked Roger.

"You did," was the exhausted reply. Peter was now an Olympic champion. As a bonus he also set a new Olympic Games record for the event (1 min 46.3).

Peter felt bad winning a gold medal before his mentor Murray, but was delighted

metres and the mile (twice), as well being a member of a four man relay team which broke the existing world record. Surprisingly, he never set a world record for the 1500 metres.

In one race in Christchurch in 1962 he even set two world records; 800 metres (1 min 45.1sec) and 880 yards (1 min 45.1sec).

As the Tokyo Olympics (1964) loomed Peter had a flat patch. Consistently beating him was John Davies. Sports columnists began to dismiss Peter and hail John as the new one to watch. However, Peter returned to form and had his greatest triumph winning the 800 metres (1min 45.1, an Olympic Record) and the 1500 metres. John Davies took the bronze medal.

Early during his career Peter met and married Sally and the pair headed to the United States in 1963 where Peter met the best they had to offer, people like Jim Grelle, Dyrrol Burleson and Jim Beatty. "If we can't beat this guy on his honeymoon, we'll never beat him," joked one athlete.

In May 2007 a statue was erected to honour Peter and it is situated outside Opunake Library Plus. Dr Fridtjof Hanson was the sculptor. and it was bronzed by Ross Wilson. Peter and his second wife Miki visited so that Peter could unveil the statue. There were media everywhere and students were marched from

continued on page 3.

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Prisoners voting

I really believe our government has made the right decision towards allowing those prisoners who were given less than three years sentencing the right to vote, as it seems there are 1900 prisoners eligible.

The previous government when sentencing offenders for less than three years just put them into prison instead of just giving them home detention and community service. They just kept filling up and filling up our prisons with petty offenders with petty offences.

We do have some offenders who really do suffer with



some sort of mental anxiety, depression, poor literary skills, suicidal tendencies and come from abusive family life.

To me, people like this should be put into a proper institution, something like a closed down rest home and be able to get the proper help and care they all need. As for being in prison, they never do get the proper care they all desperately need.

I do agree with your editorial that all prisoners should be allowed to vote, while at the same time I wouldn't worry about

what the opposition leader Simon Bridges says, as he's only trying to score brownie points against the government.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth

Community Service awarded

For any city or town like Opunake to have an advocate like Brian Vincent is a godsend, as it seems that this gentleman has belonged to many different organisations within Opunake itself, and it's great to see he's been awarded a plaque thanking him for his great contribution within this area.

May I remind everyone

that people like Mr Vincent are extremely special and knowledgeable, while willing to listen to people who always have new ideas. It's great to have people like this gentleman around as it's always good to hear their opinions too.

Now if there are people around like Mr Vincent they could be used as an advisory committee, especially if there's a certain issue that might crop up which needs more input before any positive decision is properly made, as committees like this one are extremely handy to have around.

So I must congratulate Mr Vincent for his wonderful help over the years, and just keep doing I hope what he's been doing, as a person like this gentleman is very hard to come by.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

Christmas greetings

Once again we see that Christmas is fast approaching with people throughout the world rushing here, there and everywhere looking for those Christmas bargains which are around, but one has to look for them, while many cities and towns have had their annual Christmas parades.

Christmas, as most of us know it commemorates the birth of Jesus Christ 2019 years ago in Bethlehem, yet we still have the same people who still think

it's just another time for drinking, but forget the real reason the whole world celebrates Christmas, while at the same time it's getting too over commercialised simply because they really don't know what Christmas is all about.

I wish the staff of this wonderful newspaper, the printers, those who read this newspaper and everyone in the greatest province in NZ which is Taranaki, an extremely Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tom Stephens
New Plymouth.

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As kings and tribes withered and strayed.
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The golden calf, Jacob's hip,
Solomon's song and a false

lover's lips.
Ezekiel's parable of a useless vine.
God exited heaven and entered time.

Mary's child arrives—
born for us each Christmas Day.
Eden's gate soon reopens with no snake to prey.

Listen one and all to hear His angels sing:
"Be born from up above like Jesus Christ The King!"

Adelphos Christmas Story

PS. A very blessed, merry and safe Naki Christmas to all!

On this month in history Ronald Hugh Morrieson dies

On December 26, 1972 Taranaki's best known writer James Ronald Hugh Morrieson died aged 50 at his Hawera home in Regent Street.



Ronald Hugh Morrieson

He has the distinction of being the only New Zealand writer who has had all his novels made into feature films.

His four novels were The Scarecrow, Came A Hot Friday, Pallet On the Floor and Predicament. The opening to his first novel The Scarecrow is the most famous line in New Zealand literature. "On the night our fowls were stolen Daphne Moran had her throat cut."

His films attracted such great actors as Billy T James and Bruno Lawrence. Came a Hot Friday was judged the best NZ film of the year and the filmed versions of his novels (apart from Pallet On the Floor) have won many awards both in New Zealand and overseas.

Ronald attracted the positive attention of such literary greats as Frank

Sargeson, Professor CK Stead and Maurice Shadbolt who commented that he was our most original novelist and deserved to be New Zealand's best seller

Ron was also a great musician who could play several instruments including guitar, piano, saxophone and piano. He played a variety of music but jazz was his great love. He played in bands such as Rhythm Masters and The Harmonisers for many years and later was a music

teacher.

Taranaki's Ronald Hugh Morrieson Literary Awards are held annually for emerging writers to submit their short stories, drama scripts and poems. This year Dame Fiona Kidman was one of the judges.

The richest treasure of Ronald Hugh Morrieosn memorabilia is at Tawhiti Museum which even has the restored attic where Ron wrote.

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We would like to thank all our customers for their continued support in 2019.

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Farewell Sir Peter Snell

continued from page 1.

the schools to be part of the celebrations. Peter was especially concerned that the students were not optimally protected from the sun and commented that children of that age were especially susceptible.

The evening before, there was a dinner at Dawson Falls Restaurant for the Egmont Plains Art Committee (who commissioned the statue), Fridtjof and some of Peter's relatives including sister Marie Berry and his sister-in-law Daphne Snell. I was lucky enough to be seated beside Peter. I noticed that he was much more interested in talking about his current life as a scientist than his athletics exploits of the 1960s. At one point he looked at me very steely eyed and said, "I failed University Entrance twice."

Peter was always regretful that he had allowed his interest in sport to overshadow his education. When he retired from athletics at age 26 he studied at tertiary level and ended up with a science degree and



Peter Snell (top right) with some classmates at Opunake Primary School, King Street.

later a doctorate in exercise physiology (Washington State University). He ended up as an Associate professor and Director of the Texas Southwestern Medical Centre.

After the statue was unveiled he walked with a group of excited youngsters around Opunake. At one stage they took him on in a fun race. He kindly

paused by one of his two childhood homes (14 Dorset Street) to allow me to take a photograph.

In later years he had become very keen on table tennis and entered competitions.

It should be mentioned that another statue was erected in his honour, this time at the Cook's Garden where he set the world record (3min 54.4 secs) for the mile in 1962. He

later improved that to 3min 54.1 sec. while competing in Auckland.

More recently he had suffered cardiac problems and had a pacemaker fitted. Last month he had some sort of 'turn' and crashed his car into several parked vehicles.

Sir Peter Snell sadly died on December 12, 2019, aged 80, leaving his wife Miki and two daughters, Amanda and Jacqui, from his first marriage to Sally.

His legacy is outstanding, as the winner of three Olympic Games gold medals, two Commonwealth Games gold medals and he set eight world records. Less well known is the fact he was New Zealand Cross Country Champion one year. It was no surprise that in 2000 he was named the New Zealand Sports Champion of the Century. Also, he was an outstanding scholar who earned the highest degree – a university doctorate.

Roland McKellar



From left Josef Odlozil (silver medal), Peter Snell (gold medal) and John Davies (bronze medal) after the final of the 1500 metres at the Tokyo Olympics in 1964.

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-the-world 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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Mayor's message



Phil Nixon.

Season's Greetings to all. Christmas is nearly here, and it's a good opportunity to reflect on the year just gone. 2019 has been another busy year with a number of district projects either completed or well on their way. Just a few that come to mind include the completion of the new Countdown Supermarket in Hāwera. The associated works and adjacent Nelson Street upgrade have completely transformed that area of town.

In May, Council started a consultation process to develop town centre masterplans for Eltham, Ōpunakē, Manaia, Pātea and Waverley. This was completed in October and the next steps will be to develop a suite of actions for each town's CBD which can be included in our 2021 - 31 Long Term Plan.

In Pātea the historic Hunter Shaw Building was earthquake strengthened and restored, and the town's LibraryPlus centre

was renovated. Substantial renovations were done to the ablution's facility at Ōpunakē Beach Holiday Park. We also continued to invest in our infrastructure with construction (ongoing) of a new \$2 million water treatment plant for Waverley, a new \$1 million wastewater treatment plant at Waiinu Beach (almost completed) and \$600,000 of stormwater improvements in Ōpunakē.

In September work started on the new \$277 million Waipipi (formerly named Waverley) Wind Farm. Building the wind farm will take around 18 months to two years and employ about 150 people.

We had our local body elections in October which saw six new Councillors and ten new Community Board members elected. I would like to take this opportunity to offer a heartfelt thanks to all those who served their communities so diligently in previous terms. A special thank you to Ross Dunlop who has dedicated

a huge part of his life to his community having served 33 years on Council, 12 of those as South Taranaki Mayor.

South Taranaki is an awesome district and I feel very privileged to have the opportunity to lead the Council team. We are really looking forward to working with all our communities and getting stuck into a range of projects over the next three years 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 - 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

A present from Jacinda at CTS prizegiving

Coastal Taranaki School held its annual prizegiving last week, ending the year on a high note. The school roll is up and the prizegiving even came with a prime ministerial nod.

The school roll had gone from 204 to 274, school principal Scott Walden said. "Our roll has turned the corner and is growing rapidly," he said.

Ben Sapwell-West when announcing the sports prizes said that 70 per cent of the school's students were in organised sport, which was well above the national average.

Continued page 5



Scott Walden speaking at Coastal Taranaki School Prizegiving.

Wishing all readers of the
Opunake and Coastal News
a safe and happy
festive season and
all the best for
2020



Phil Nixon
Mayor, South Taranaki



**Season's
GREETINGS**

**A huge thank you for all your
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Wishing you a very merry and safe Christmas/New Year

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A present from Jacinda at CTS prizegiving



The Coastal Taranaki school Dux is Brandi Dakin-Spershott.

Scott spoke about how the school got started following the closure of local primary schools and the merging of Okato’s primary and secondary schools.

“Two years ago we found that we were still operating as two schools on the one site. We have moved away from that and are continuing to move into one school face.”

“The reality is we are endeavouring to be the best version of ourselves we can be. We have no plan to replicate what they do in town.”

Next year will see a new school uniform and a new logo.

Deborah Burmeister, the

chairperson of the school’s board of trustees said the school had gone through some challenging times but were now reaping the rewards of the hard work that had been done.

This year’s Dux is Brandi Dakin-Spershott, daughter of Diane Dakin and Ronald Spershott. She says she is uncertain about her plans for next year but would like to teach swimming. She is spending the summer as a lifeguard at the Okato Swimming Pool.

Proxime accessit is outgoing head prefect Lucy Cruden-Powell.

In a change from last year, two head prefects have been named for 2020, MacKenzie

Hill and Te Ahumairangi Waaka.

A feature of this year’s awards was a Prime ministerial award. In August Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern had launched the Prime Minister’s Vocational Excellence Award which aims to raise the status of vocational study and recognise the achievements of students excelling in vocational education. Secondary schools can apply for the award which comes with \$2000 prize money and a certificate to be awarded to one top student at the school, with the Ministry of Education considering applications against criteria developed with industry representatives. Receiving the

Continued from page 4

award for Coastal Taranaki School was Jasmine Stone.

Pathways co-ordinator Glenda Palmer said that in the last 2-3 years Jasmine had shown excellence in the food and beverage industry and had extensive experience around the local community including Pukeiti. Her achievements had included recently gaining a London Guild certificate in food safety.

This was not the only special award picked up by the students on the Pathways programme. Andrew Brooker from Pukeiti presented special awards to Chaz Taipari, Edward Rona and Jordon Tunnicliffe-Fougere.

“These guys turned up no matter what the weather,” said Andrew. “In the last three years Pukeiti and the Taranaki Regional Council have built a strong relationship with your school.”

Among the other awards were ones which looked back to the school’s origins like the Newall School Community Cup which came from one of the country schools merged to form the Coastal Taranaki School. Others like the Komene Memorial Cup, Gaye Taingahue Memorial Award and Cheryl Vosper Memorial Award looked back to people associated with the school. The Dan Holmes Freemasons Award remembered a one-time Grand Master of New Zealand. Ross Corbett made the trip from Hawkes Bay to present the Corbett Award for Knowledge and Kindness, bringing with him a spade which his grandfather Ernest Corbett who was MP for Egmont and a cabinet minister in the 1950s had used to plant a tree in Windsor Park while visiting England for the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

This was a time for farewells from head prefects Lucy Cruden-Powell and Nicole Whittle. Lucy was the third member of her family to be head prefect at Coastal Taranaki School.

“Your school years are something you only get one chance at, so put your all into everything that’s thrown your way,” she said.

Nicole voiced similar sentiments.

“At the end of the day you only regret the chances that you never get to take,” she said.

Also there as a guest speaker was last year’s head prefect Kiana Armstrong who has just completed her first year of a diploma in mechanical engineering from WITT.

“I recommend going after every opportunity that’s given you. The more opportunities you take up, the more you can broaden your horizons,” she said.



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COASTAL COPS

Be careful this festive season

Kia Ora Koutou,
Firstly, Season's greetings and thank you to everyone in the Okato community for making my family and I so welcome over the past few weeks. The information I received of this community being a great one is certainly ringing true. It's been wonderful to meet many of the 'locals' in both Oakura and Okato.

I've thoroughly enjoyed an active role in the community over the past month, being able to attend the school duathlon and prize giving, leading the Okato Christmas Parade and attending the

Fire Brigade Kids Christmas party.

Unfortunately, I have been disappointed to deal with a couple of acts of vandalism at the Coastal Taranaki School. Some people, likely to be locals, have broken windows and then spray painted a large amount of graffiti around the school over the past 2-3 weekends. I struggle to understand that people can behave in such a way towards a place which is a special part of the community. Thankfully, I have names of people I need to speak with.

As we move closer to the festive season I ask that we

are safe on our roads, taking our time to get from A to B and being conscious of other road users. I have dealt with a number of traffic complaints in the area which relate to speed and unsafe passing manoeuvres. Please use the passing lanes provided and follow other motorists at a reasonable distance. The speed through both Oakura and Okato can be slowed considerably and I know some locals are getting frustrated with this behaviour.

Lastly, I would like to emphasise the need for security around home and

businesses in the next few weeks and beyond. Lock all cars on the roadside, in your driveway or shed and make sure valuables are taken out of them. Be conscious of securing doors and windows when you leave the address and at night.

That being said, I do hope you all have a special time over the next few weeks with family and friends and enjoy your much deserved break. Until next time.

Matt Stone

Okato Police

OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Summer brings busy time for Opunake Brigade

Here are some of the calls we have been to lately. On November 19, the Opunake Brigade was called to the Club Hotel with an Alarm Activation set off by the service agent. On November 24, Rahotu and Opunake were called to a hay barn fire in the Opourapa road/

Dawson Road area. Rahotu had it under control and sent Opunake home. There was an early morning call out on the 25th to a diesel trailer roll over. They managed to right the trailer and tow it down a quiet side road to safely remove it from the Opunake Road. We had a

call to Pihama on the 29th to assist Police. They had it under control so we weren't needed. On December 3 there was a call to a control burn which was out of control, which had the Brigade putting out a small scrub fire. The last call was on the 9th to power lines down across

a truck. They managed to drive out of danger and Opunake headed home.

The Opunake Brigade will be down the beach for Carnival day, so drop in and say hi.

Have a fantastic Christmas and we will see you in the New Year.



Opunake Primary Teachers strut their stuff at prizegiving.

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-the-world 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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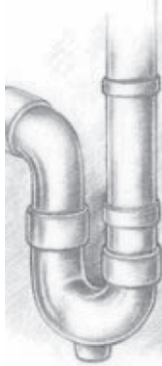
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COASTAL COPS

Be careful this festive season

Kia Ora Koutou,
Firstly, Season's greetings and thank you to everyone in the Okato community for making my family and I so welcome over the past few weeks. The information I received of this community being a great one is certainly ringing true. It's been wonderful to meet many of the 'locals' in both Oakura and Okato.

I've thoroughly enjoyed an active role in the community over the past month, being able to attend the school duathlon and prize giving, leading the Okato Christmas Parade and attending the

Fire Brigade Kids Christmas party.

Unfortunately, I have been disappointed to deal with a couple of acts of vandalism at the Coastal Taranaki School. Some people, likely to be locals, have broken windows and then spray painted a large amount of graffiti around the school over the past 2-3 weekends. I struggle to understand that people can behave in such a way towards a place which is a special part of the community. Thankfully, I have names of people I need to speak with.

As we move closer to the festive season I ask that we

are safe on our roads, taking our time to get from A to B and being conscious of other road users. I have dealt with a number of traffic complaints in the area which relate to speed and unsafe passing manoeuvres. Please use the passing lanes provided and follow other motorists at a reasonable distance. The speed through both Oakura and Okato can be slowed considerably and I know some locals are getting frustrated with this behaviour.

Lastly, I would like to emphasise the need for security around home and

businesses in the next few weeks and beyond. Lock all cars on the roadside, in your driveway or shed and make sure valuables are taken out of them. Be conscious of securing doors and windows when you leave the address and at night.

That being said, I do hope you all have a special time over the next few weeks with family and friends and enjoy your much deserved break. Until next time.

Matt Stone

Okato Police

OPUNAKE FIRE SERVICE

Summer brings busy time for Opunake Brigade

Here are some of the calls we have been to lately. On November 19, the Opunake Brigade was called to the Club Hotel with an Alarm Activation set off by the service agent. On November 24, Rahotu and Opunake were called to a hay barn fire in the Opourapa road/

Dawson Road area. Rahotu had it under control and sent Opunake home. There was an early morning call out on the 25th to a diesel trailer roll over. They managed to right the trailer and tow it down a quiet side road to safely remove it from the Opunake Road. We had a

call to Pihama on the 29th to assist Police. They had it under control so we weren't needed. On December 3 there was a call to a control burn which was out of control, which had the Brigade putting out a small scrub fire. The last call was on the 9th to power lines down across

a truck. They managed to drive out of danger and Opunake headed home.

The Opunake Brigade will be down the beach for Carnival day, so drop in and say hi.

Have a fantastic Christmas and we will see you in the New Year.



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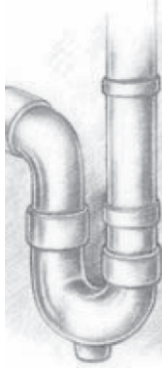
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Looking forward to a big year

Each year around this time it's customary to look back on the year that's gone. It seems to me that this particular year has been incredibly busy and has gone very quickly.

I take my responsibilities as an electorate MP very seriously, and helping people who are having trouble with a government department is a key part of the role. The areas of concern for



JONATHAN YOUNG MP
FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

constituents coming to my office this year have again centred on access to Work and Income, the District Health Board, ACC and Housing New Zealand, but by far the biggest issue has been immigration. There have been a number of cases from around the coast of worried farm workers, while partnership visa worries

have increased markedly. The End of Life Choice Bill, Euthanasia and Arms legislation have also all generated a great deal of interest.

As well as my constituent clinics in Opunake, this year I've held meetings for farmers, over-65s and those with an interest in the Government's firearms changes. I'd like to thank everyone who took the time to attend, and also Bob Clark who has been tremendous in helping organise these gatherings.

2019 has been an active year in my other responsibilities of chairing the Economic Development, Science and Innovation select committee at Parliament, and portfolios of Regional Economic Development and Energy

and Resources. Enormous amounts of research are required to keep on top of the latest issues and initiatives. In particular I have gained some valuable insights on how systems work and how we can look to secure our energy supplies while moving towards a lower emission economy.

I'm looking forward to a big year in 2020. Already a number of National Party MPs are lined up to visit the electorate, following a full programme this year, which covered education, the environment, agriculture, forestry, finance, technology, policing and business. MPs tell me they always enjoy coming here because there are so many interesting people to meet, they always get a warm welcome and

there is so much for them to see.

This year, my office will close from December 20 to January 13 over the Christmas break.

I hope that the festive season brings you everything you wish and that you can spend some quality time with friends and family.

From my family to yours, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth
National Party
Spokesperson: Energy & Resources
National Party
Spokesperson: Regional Economic Development (NI)*

Meri Kirihimete me ngā mihi o te tau hou



Adrian Rurawhe
MP for Te Tai Hauāuru

0800 ADR1AN (237 126)
tetaihauauru@parliament.govt.nz
PO Box 7080, Whanganui
/RurawheAdrian
@adrianrurawhe



Authorised by Adrian Rurawhe MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

Positive change is clear

I want to mihi to all local kura and whānau benefiting from Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announcing the biggest capital injection for school maintenance funding in at least 25 years.

328 schools, wharekura and kura in Te Tai Hauāuru will share in over \$50 million to help 77,599 local tamariki reach their potential.

In case you missed it, we're giving nearly every state school \$693 per student (min \$50,000), so they can stop 'making do' and catch up on their repair wish lists that were neglected by the previous Government.

Opunake High School - \$218,988, Opunake School - \$145,530, and Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Tamarongo - \$50,000. This amazing mahi will also create jobs and income for local tradespeople.

This week, this



Adrian Rurawhe MP

Government will pass a Bill to officially pardon Rua Kēnana and apologise to our Maungapōhatu whānau for his wrongful imprisonment and the lasting damage done to their wairua, hearts and mana.

This apology has taken too long to occur, and I am proud that I and the rest of the Labour Māori Caucus get to set things right.

Our announcement that

New Zealand history will be taught in NZ schools by 2022, will raise awareness about actions like those around Rua Kēnana, that will help us collectively move into the future with increasing confidence.

The positive change this Government is making for our people is clear.

New figures show, just one year after we made seeing the doctor cheaper for over 540,000 struggling New Zealanders, 57,000 fewer adults are putting off seeing their GP due to cost than the year before.

50,000 fewer say cost is no longer stopping them from picking up their prescriptions.

Focusing on the right skills to further rebuild our previously underfunded health system, Health Minita David Clark has made his appointments to our DHBs.

I am proud that there is now the biggest Māori voice ever at the top tables of our public hospital system. I and the Labour Māori Caucus advocated hard for this result.

43 of 76 new appointments to DHB governance and four of 13 appointed chairs are Māori. That's a good start.

Joined by Taranaki DHB's new chair, Cassandra Crowley (former General Manager / Kaitumuaki of Te Korowai o Ngāruahine Trust) and new Board Member, Patsy Bodger (Te Atiawa), I am confident these people will make a significant difference towards improving health outcomes for Māori.

*Meri Kirihimete whānau.
Adrian Rurawhe
MP Te Tai Hauāuru*

On this month in history Liberal Party era ends

At the general election on December 19, 1911 the lengthy era of Government by the Liberal Party faltered. The Liberals, led by prime

minister Sir Joseph Ward had won 33 electorates, but the Reform Party, led by William Massey had 37. In addition, the Labour Party won four electorates and independents were elected in six others.

Sir Joseph managed to cling briefly to power and called for a sitting of parliament in February rather than the usual June start with the aid of the four Labour MPs and the Speaker. However, he resigned in March and the

next leader of his party was Sir Thomas Mackenzie.

William Massey (1856 – 1925) became prime minister in July 1912 until he died in office in 1925.

Merry Christmas and
Happy New Year

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Jonathan

Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth

Authorised by Jonathan Young MP, Chr Gill & Liardet St, New Plymouth

Mere Kirihimete me nga mihi o Te Tau Hou Merry Christmas and New Year greetings

Harete Hipango MP for Whanganui

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Suite 7, 210 Victoria Ave, Whanganui 4500
06 348 9150

Hawera Office
44 Victoria St, Hawera 4610
06 278 4059

Stratford Office
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Protesters to OMV It's not over

Protestors from around the country wrapped up a three day, 60 hour occupation of the OMV headquarters in New Plymouth the way they started - dancing.

Choreographed by School Strike 4 Climate activists, at 6pm on Wednesday December 5, the group of around 100 got up and danced off the site to songs including the Macarena.

Led by Greenpeace, the three day occupation brought together people young and old from across the country, with groups including Climate Justice Taranaki, Extinction Rebellion, 350 Aotearoa, Oil Free Wellington, and many more, joining forces to disrupt Austrian oil company OMV's operations.

At least 300 of the oil giant's staff were forced to stay away from the office during the protest.

It followed a three day occupation of OMV's support vessel, the Skandi Atlantic in the Port of Timaru. There,



Oil exploration underway out at sea.

around 30 people occupied what they dubbed OMV's 'henchboat', preventing it from leaving port to join the oil giant's monster drill rig

sitting off the coast of New Plymouth.

OMV is preparing to drill a series of wells around 50 nautical miles off the

Taranaki coastline, and a deep sea well in the Great South Basin.

Climate groups up and down the country have also

held protests targeting OMV in regions including Auckland, Tauranga, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. Greenpeace climate and

energy campaigner, Amanda Larsson, says OMV must give up its permits and leave New Zealand.

"Over the past year, tens of thousands of people have signed petitions, held local events, occupied ships and offices, and even scaled a 24-storey building to tell OMV that their climate destroying agenda is not welcome here," she says.

"News of New Zealand's resistance has spread to Austria, the home country of OMV, where protesters have targeted their offices and international media have covered their contentious drill programme here.

"This three day occupation in Taranaki may have come to a close, but it's certainly not over. People around Aotearoa will continue to be all over OMV at every turn, right up until they give up their permits and leave. We're over companies like OMV continuing to search for new oil in a climate emergency."



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Friendly freedom camping brought Jane to Opunake

Jane Forkert says Love Actually is her favourite film of all time. Jane who is reviewing films screened at Everybodys Theatre in the Opunake & Coastal News is a bit of a film buff.



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Merry Christmas



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Animal lover Jane with puppy.

She describes Love Actually as “very well written” and comments that it has lots of story lines that knit well together. And she would know.

She has a Bachelor of Arts in Writing Studies (from Waikato University) and has also completed post graduate Screen and Media Studies including a paper in script writing which she particularly enjoyed. “That’s what I’d really like to get into,” she says.

“I find it easy to get into a character and write in their voice,” which was noted by her lecturers. Including Catherine Chidgey who she described as “Quite blunt, you always learnt so much from her.” Later Jane realised Catherine was a famous author. Catherine Chidgey is a New Zealand novelist and short story writer who has won numerous awards.

Last year Jane toured Paramount Studios in Los Angeles where she sat on the seat used in the Forrest Gump film, which she says was “really uncomfortable.” They’d built it on an angle so he (Forrest Gump played by Tom Hanks) would sit up very straight. It was also a great thrill to visit the set of the Netflix series Grace and Frankie in which Jane Fonda was starring and the set where the massively popular film Ghost was filmed.

Jane’s not a great fan of horror movies, she feels they often “don’t have much substance.”

Having moved to Opunake in April this year, she is now a volunteer projectionist at Everybodys Theatre.

How she came to settle in Opunake is a story in itself. She grew up in Matangi between Hamilton and Cambridge. When her mother died last year she returned to the area briefly to settle up her mother’s affairs.

Then, as she puts it, “I got in my car and freedom camped around the North Island – looking for the place that seemed right” to settle in.

She began by driving north to Cape Reinga visiting friends en route, then drove south visiting various towns but “nothing felt right”. She passed through Opunake on her way to see friends in Patea. Also looking at houses in surrounding areas. “I liked Waverley,” she says and looked at a few places there.

However, she ended up staying in Opunake “because freedom camping was so welcoming and it felt right”. Eventually with the help of a friend of a friend who contacted an estate agent she was shown a house that really appealed. Though she still had houses to see in Norsewood and Dannyvirke. “I kept thinking about this

one” which she eventually bought.

Jane is a qualified therapeutic massage therapist working from her premises in Opunake.

As well, she has “an affinity with animals” and has studied animal healing in America.

She also does Vipassana meditation and has done ten day courses, including ones in Melbourne. “You don’t talk for 9 days,” she says. People come out feeling really changed. “You develop equanimity”.

Jane says she’s really enjoying living in Opunake and says “It a very friendly town, so much happening, just a lovely place to live.”



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4th Wall Theatre the place to be

Some amazing music is coming to the 4th Wall in early 2020. What a line-up First up is the bi-annual Taranaki Classical Guitar Summer School Concert Season January 12-16 which showcases the talents of all the invited guest performers from New Zealand and around the world. Starting with Slava and Leonard Grigoryan who are counted amongst the finest musicians of their generation embracing genres such as classical, jazz and contemporary. Followed by New Zealand Guitar Quartet members Jane Curry and Owen Moriarty, Barkin Sertkaya from Anatolia, a classical guitarist, educator and a space enthusiast, Vladimir Gorbach (Russia) and Duo Amythis, made up of classical guitarists Véronique van Duurling (Belgium) and Harold Gretton (Australia).

Paul Ubana Jones is back on Friday January 31. Over the years, Paul has shared the stage with various artists, including Taj Mahal, Keb Mo, Norah Jones, Bob Dylan, Tuck and Patti, Crowded House and many others. A national treasure, Paul is so much more than one man with a guitar. He



Paul Ubana Jones is among the acts to look forward to at 4th Wall Theatre in the New Year.

is a conjuror of unique and original songs, rooted in primal “Blues and Soul.” Adam McGrath and Esther

Swift are showcasing their unique talents on Thursday February 6. Adam is well known

here. The lead singer and songwriter from mythical mongrel Christchurch folk/ country band The Eastern, he will be spinning his yarns and songs that speak to the times. Adam will be joining forces with Esther Swift (Scotland) who has travelled the world extensively with her music making and embracing many different influences in her virtuosic harp playing, composing and song writing. French for Rabbits with Glass Heart String Choir (Seattle USA) Friday February 7. Glass Heart String Choir’s music is compelling in its use of sweeping cinematic strings layered and looped, intricate harp, piano and guitar arrangements, and add to that Wellington dream-pop act French For Rabbits, the band who have had music featured in Vampire Diaries, Being Human and they have opened for the likes of Lorde, Agnes Obel and more – what a night.

Rachel Hair and Ron Jappy on Saturday February 8 are two of Scotland’s most lauded traditional musicians who bring their passion for Scottish music to New Zealand for the first time. Take the oldest Scottish instrument, the clarsach (harp), and the newest addition to the traditional music arsenal, the guitar, and throw them in the musical blender of Scotland’s biggest city Glasgow and out comes Rachel Hair and Ron Jappy. Hayden Chisholm on Saturday February 15 might

be a native of Taranaki, but these days lives in Europe where he has made his home for more than 25 years. He will be joined by New Zealand music legends Paul Dyne - bassist with Malcolm McNeill, Rodger Fox Sustenance, Julien Dyne - drums with Fat Freddy’s Drop, Ladi6 and Norman Meehan - pianist/composer performing original music that might know about jazz, but also dances with Indian raga, chamber music, and folk traditions.

Award winning Joel Fafard from Canada is back again on Saturday February 22. He performs Southern roots and blues classics with the soul of a purist and the showmanship of a seasoned entertainer. He sings with the sexy, sandpapered-sounding vocal style of the new-generation bluesman. He tells his hilarious between-song stories with the confidence of a late show host delivering his monologue. And when he lets rip a solo on his resonator guitar, it’s easy to hear how he once earned both a Juno nomination and a Western Canadian Music Award for

his skills on the axe. The Nukes are here again on Friday February 28. At the helm is Dave Parker, inveigling with a sparkling voice and a compelling custom uke sound that commands respect. Swabbing the decks is Curious percussionist ‘mysterious’ Mike Burrows (who also packs a spry falsetto) while the audacious slide ukulele and wry humour of Ben Collier keep the whole shebang on an even keel. It’s original, quirky and Kiwi.

If you see that The Nukes are coming your way, don’t duck and cover, don’t try and be a hero. Just gather all your friends and head for ground zero. The Nukes have appeared at WOMAD NZ , SPLORE , Auckland and Canterbury Folk Festivals , New Plymouth Festival Of Light , Wanaka Festival Of Colour, Coastella Festival , Southland Festival Of Arts , Bluff Oyster Festival and a successful nationwide Arts On Tour NZ March 2017, They have also toured extensively in Australia.

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Gordon Lawson- a community life



Gordon Lawson (centre) with former South Taranaki District Mayor Ross Dunlop (left) and present Mayor Phil Nixon. Previous mayors Gordon has been associated with are Eltham Mayors Red Bourke, Fred Taylor, Margaret Smith (Taranaki's first woman Mayor) Tom Abbott (district Mayor) Pierce Joyce and Mary Bourke (STDC Mayors).

"The issues are the same but the processes are different," is the view of Gordon Lawson after 53 years involvement in local government, 35 as a local authority administrator and 18 as councillor for Eltham-Kaponga.

Gordon's commitment to local government was sparked by a visit from the then Town Clerk of the Stratford Borough Council, Gerry Grace. At that time Gordon, having completed his education at Stratford Primary and High Schools, was working in his first job with a Stratford accountancy firm.

Mr Grace asked Gordon what he knew about local councils. Gordon admitted "not much" and Mr Grace then proceeded to give him a lesson on councils' roles in a person's daily life. These included provision of water, footpaths, lighting, sewerage, rubbish disposal, parks...

Gordon said he realised that councils were involved in people's lives "virtually from the cradle to the grave." So he applied and became an assistant town clerk at the then Hawera Borough Council in 1966. Three years later he and wife Patsy moved to the Waikato where Gordon was assistant town clerk for the Cambridge

Borough Council.

When the job of Eltham Town Clerk became vacant, Gordon applied and was appointed in 1973. He and Patsy were happy to return to Taranaki as it meant being closer to their families. "We thought we would just be here for a few years," he said with a smile, "but" the few years became a permanent home in Eltham.

Over the next 35 years Gordon's work in local authorities included conducting training courses for council staff throughout New Zealand and being the returning officer for local elections.

He has been involved in the many changes in local governance, the biggest of which was the total reform of the Local Government Act of 2002 which resulted in the formation of district councils and community boards.

The reformed local government act also broadened local authorities' responsibilities

Gordon said that under the old local government act, councils were restricted, "the act basically told councils what they couldn't do." The reformed act eased those restrictions and broadened council responsibilities to include social aspects. It also streamlined council activities.

Gordon recalls how when he started work in local government, committees were formed for everything. "It was nothing at attend 14 committee meetings in a week," he said. And of course all minutes and reports were handwritten then typed.

The reformed local government act resulted in cohesive streamlined council activities. Along with these changes was the move from manual systems to computerisation

Local government issues such as provision of infrastructure and facilities are still the same, he said, but the processes for achieving these have changed.

Also changed is the conducting of council meetings. He recalls council meetings of the past as very formal "a bit like a court." The mayor always presided wearing his chain of office and councillors and any others present all stood when the mayor entered the council chambers.

Meetings now are much more informal with the mayor and councillors talking to members of the public present before the formal proceedings begin.

Local Government changes meant Gordon moved out of his administrative role to becoming an elected representative for the

community. He served on the Eltham Community Board and was the Eltham-Kaponga councillor on the South Taranaki District Council for 18 years.

Besides his work with councils, Gordon has served on various other public bodies, including the Taranaki Regional Council's transport, Creative Communities and Sport Taranaki.

Appointed a Justice of the Peace in 2008, Gordon has been and is still involved in many local community groups, such as the Eltham District Health Trust, the then Mount View Trust and now ETown. Added to the list are clubs including Lions, Golf, Athletics, Forest and Bird, RSA, Community Care and the Savage Club.

In his spare time (when and if he has some) Gordon is a keen golfer and an avid rugby fan. In his schooldays he was a rugby rep for Stratford High School.

He pays tribute for the support of Patsy over these years, admitting that "sometimes we were ships passing in the night."

Local Government has been his life and passion and he has never regretted his decision all those years ago to move from private to the public sector. "I've enjoyed it," he said.

Merry Christmas to all and have a happy holiday

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On yer bike Eltham

With the weather improving and long summer days ahead, now is the time to get out on the bike and get fit. Need a goal? Eltham Lions can provide the perfect one.

On February 16 (you have plenty of time) they are organising a Mountain

Bike event around the back country of Rawhitiroa. Starting and finishing at Rawhitiroa Hall, the ride takes in farm tracks, ridges and only a few roads towards Lake Rotokare and back again.

There will be two courses. The short one of 17km will

be suitable for families and those who don't want to be too challenged. The more advanced course will be 23km, and involves some ridge top travel.

A sound mountain bike is required for both rides.

Registration forms will be available soon. There is

a small charge which goes towards administration and a BBQ at the finish. The Rawhitiroa Pool will be open to cool off and the surrounding area great for a picnic. Enquiries can be made through David Turner 7645353 or Alan Liddington 7645221

Eltham Happenings

Community Pools Summer

South Taranaki District Council is proud to provide towns around the district with community pools, free of charge, that open during the summer months (from early December - Taranaki Anniversary at the beginning of March). These pools are upgraded regularly and are amazing facilities to offer our residents.

All community summer pools are open, and patrolled, Monday – Friday 3.30pm – 7pm (during the school term) and from 12noon – 7pm during school holidays and weekends and from 12noon

- 6pm on public holidays. Please note that the pools close at 5pm on Christmas and New Year’s Eve and they are closed on Christmas Day. The pools are available to hire outside public hours by arrangement.

If you want more information, please contact the team at the Hāwera Aquatic Centre on (06) 278 0021 or 0800 111 323.

All children under the age of 8 must be actively supervised by a caregiver 16 years or older.

Blast Off

Eltham children are set to have a blast this summer.

The Eltham Library will

be running a revamped summer programme as part of an initiative of the South Taranaki District Council.

The Summer Blast Holiday Programme is open to children 5-12 years old and aims to expand all their talents. Unlike previous programmes which focussed more on reading, Summer Blast offers space and challenges not only for readers but dreamers, time travellers, artists and inventors. The programme lasts six weeks. Registrations are now open at Eltham Library Plus.

Bye bye Mrs Nicholls

Eltham Primary School

pupils hip-hopped and be-bopped as their special tribute for the retirement of a much loved and respected teacher.

Heather Nicholls will be retiring at the end of this month after 40 years of teaching and setting young children on their first steps of learning and getting ready for the world. Pupils devised and put on a show of music song and dance as their thank you to Mrs Nicholls. Performed in the assembly hall earlier this month, the show was attended by former pupils, parents, friends and teacher colleagues. Also present were her father, daughter

Kirsty and grandson Cooper.

Each class put on an item with senior pupils helping the younger students. A show stopper was the haka of Mrs Nicholls’ own class, the boys backed by senior boys.

And they did it again at Mrs Nicholls’ request....”I just love the haka” she said.

After the speeches the special show concluded and all joined a celebration hangi.

CLUB OF THE MONTH

Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust



Morning Glory. Graeme Pitman.

Rotokare Scenic Reserve is a stunning 230ha native wetland forest with a 17.8ha natural lake 12km inland from Eltham. The reserve is a popular family destination for recreation including boating, picnics, camping, walking, and enjoying native biodiversity.

The Rotokare sanctuary is community-owned and community-driven by the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust. The Trust was formed in 2004 after rising concerns of the forest’s declining state. After installing an 8.2km pest-exclusion fence and eradicating 12 introduced mammalian pest species, Rotokare is the only predator-free site in Taranaki, and hosts many rare and endangered native wildlife including Kiwi, Tīeke/Saddleback, Toutouwai/North Island Robin, and Hihi/Stitchbird.

Summer is busy at Rotokare, with locals and tourists enjoying the free-access reserve. Two walking tracks—the leisurely Lake Walkway (4km loop) and the more challenging Ridge Walk (6km loop including 1220 steps)—offer fantastic views and great birdwatching opportunities. The first 600m of the Lake Walkway is barrier-free, allowing visitors with strollers or wheelchairs to explore the forest and access the lake’s floating pontoon.

While the lake welcomes non-powered crafts and kayaks all year, it opens to power-boats every summer from December 1 to April 30, subject to Council water testing (Rotokare recommends contacting STDC before visiting with a boat). Limited freedom camping is available (first-come, first-served), allowing

campers to enjoy the lakeside by night (donations are encouraged).

Rotokare can be explored independently or with the Rotokare Education Programme (school visits, guided tours, and holiday programmes). This summer Rotokare will be hosting activities for children, including its famous Survival Game (January 14) and Leafy Forest Art (January 22).

Rotokare’s success lies in

its dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers, who support the reserve in everything from maintenance to education to kiwi care. Summer volunteer tasks include pest monitoring, weeding, and track maintenance. Visitors are welcome to lend them a hand to support the local community and New Zealand conservation. For more information on Rotokare and volunteering this summer, call 06 764 8500 or email the team at

Eltham news collated by Maree Liddington Ph 764 5221 Helen Pickford Ph 764 7476

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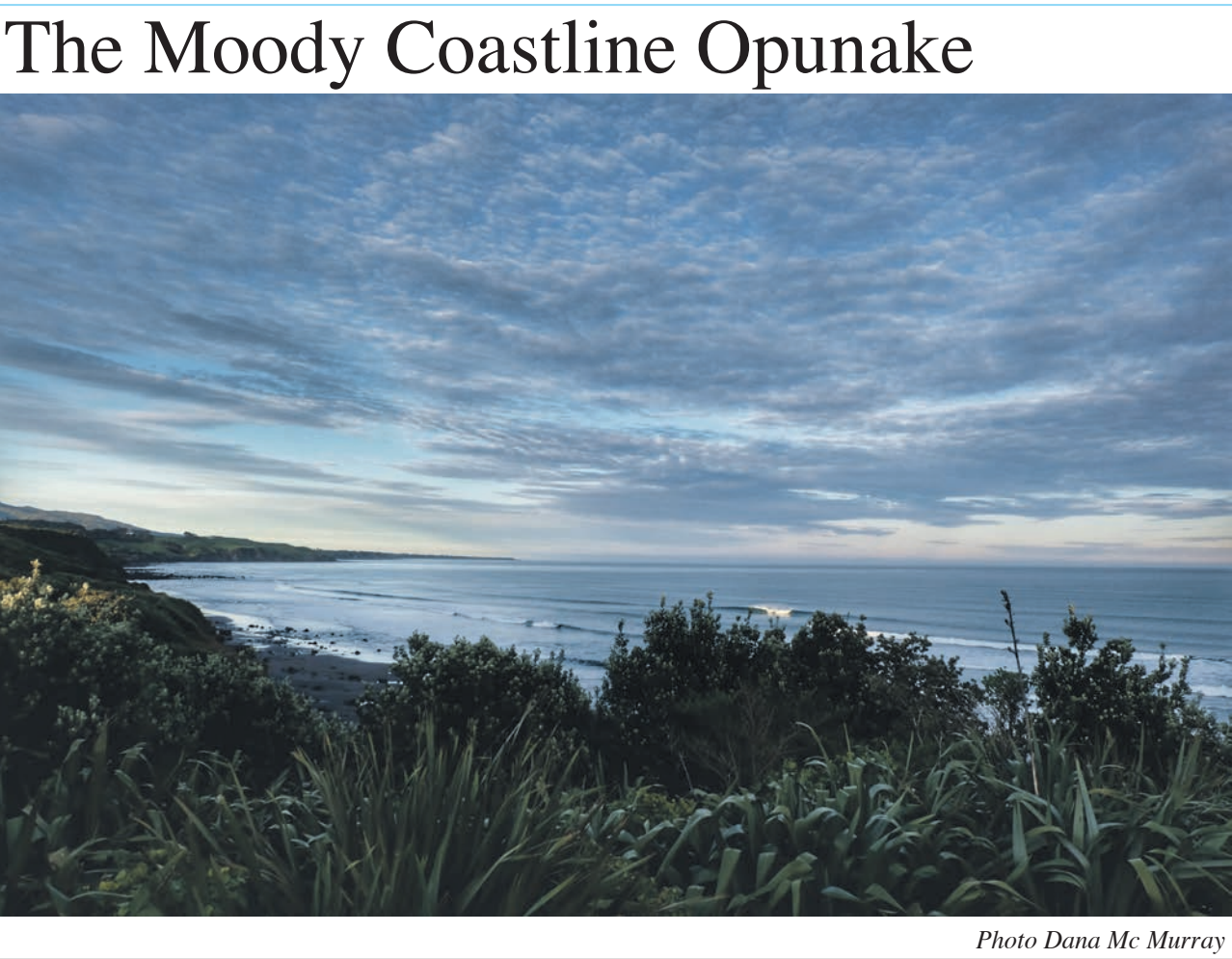


Photo Dana Mc Murray

Military tattoo comes to Palmerston North

Palmerston North is delighted to host the New Zealand Military Tattoo on 4 April 2020, which will feature all three of our world-renowned military bands, and the very best pipers, drummers, highland dancers and brass bands from all across the country. Converging for one night only, this is a unique opportunity to see performers that routinely wow audiences around the globe, altogether right here at home.

Palmerston North Mayor Grant Smith says the range and quality of bands and performers gathering for the Tattoo, plus the epic overall scale of the event make this an unmissable night's entertainment.

"This will be only the fourth time in history that the New Zealand Army, Navy and Air Force Bands are all performing together. Plus we have champion Kiwi pipe bands, brass bands and dancers who have performed at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo and other shows around the world, and who've succeeded at elite international competitions," he says.

Headlining the show is the New Zealand Army Band. Earlier this year they performed at the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo for the sixth time, and



Murray Mansfield Air Force musician reservist and New Zealand Air Force Band lone piper, who is also leading the pipe bands for the New Zealand Military Tattoo 2020.

were awarded the Pooley Sword as the performers who made the greatest contribution to the event. Their display combines precision marching with a sense of humour, and features their distinctive brass interpretations of some classic Kiwi tunes.

"New Zealanders have

always had great pride and respect for our military heritage, going back to the likes of the Anzacs and the Māori Battalion. In Palmerston North, we have deep connections with the New Zealand Defence Force with Linton Military Camp and RNZAF Base Ohakea so close by, so we believe this

is the ideal place to honour and celebrate their service," he says.

"New Zealand stories will feature powerfully throughout the Tattoo. In particular, we're honoured that Rangitāne iwi will welcome people to the show, and are creating a very special tribute to the heroes of the 28th (Māori) Battalion, which first assembled here in Palmerston North on 26 January 1940," says Mayor Smith.

The show will be narrated by Judy Bailey, whose father was Base Commander at RNZAF Base Ohakea, and who has presented Anzac Day television broadcasts for a number of years.

The Tattoo also features displays of Police dog agility, a battle sequence, fireworks and an Air Force flyover.

Tickets for the event are now on sale through Ticket Direct and start from \$15 for children and \$29 for adults (excluding booking fees).



Hudsy getting a kiss from Mini Kune Kune piglet Tuppence at Stoney Oaks.

News from the Cottage

The Cottage residents have had a busy few months with entertainers, outings, local community school students, church groups, and visits from Elizabeth R, Eltham Care Home and Hospital, Ngati Ruanui kaumatua, social group from Hawera and participating in our activities program, sharing stories, trophy challenges, and sharing a meal with our residents and day service visitors.

The staff at the Cottage Rest Home have adopted as saying “Our residents do not live in our workplace. We work in their Home.”

At the moment we have a lot of short term residents staying with us for respite care which is fantastic for the facility, and currently sitting around 90% occupancy. This is great news, that we are able to assist local people in their hour(s) of need with a family member or neighbour. A steady flow of near full occupancy will give us more chance of receiving suitable funding for the building of the semi independent (x3) suites hopefully starting next year. We see this as the first priority for future building upgrades on our wish list at this time.

Life has been busy lately with our spring cleans, both inside and outside of the buildings. Alistair AKA Cookie and his team made a great start on our gardens which have got out of control. He now has a small team and will be guided by Phil Brown to get right around the

facility on a regular basis. There are more gaps if you have some spare time to assist. Once the weeds are under control we will look at putting bark on the gardens to keep them tidier and less work going forward.

Also we have given four rooms a makeover with walls painted, new curtains and linen including towels, some new furniture and will be laying some floor coverings also. A good tidy up within the building, and we have converted a small area into a semi private lounge for the residents and guests to use as required. We are extremely fortunate to get funding from a local member of our community to make some improvements to our existing kitchen facilities and a new combi oven has been purchased and being installed on January 20. Likewise we have also been successful with a couple of funders, and around the same time we will be putting ensuites into two of the existing rooms. There are new displays including Edwin’s paintings and Lynda’s photography which Melanie is constantly updating around the public areas plus her artwork outside.

The fiber optic install was duly completed at the Cottage, so hopefully by the end of January we should have a new phone system and laptops operating to make it easier for all concerned.

We have been very



Opunake Mosaic Sofa. Photo Dana McMurray

fortunate to subcontract Aretha’s secretarial skills from Coastal Care, assisting both the Trust Board and Sandra with admin tasks such as payroll and accounts. Already in a very short period, we are seeing the benefits of Aretha’s skills.

This year for Christmas Day we are opening our doors for Community Christmas luncheon and invited our local folk that currently receive meals on wheels and also other people in our community that we know are all alone. We have been very fortunate with offers from our staff and Trust to assist with this day. Please contact the Cottage Rest Home before the 20th December 2019 if you would like to join the residents, family and staff on this day. As this is the first

time of offering this, it is by invite only. .

The staff and Trust Board of the Cottage, would like to take this opportunity to thank our community for their continued support through 2019 and we wish you and your families a Merry Christmas followed by a wonderful and healthy 2020 - stay safe.

Opunake Cottage Rest Home.



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Special needs employee wins national award

Brian Gordon has been helping a student at Opunake Primary School for about two years and has had considerable, measurable success. Brian, who works with several youngsters in Taranaki, was one of 55 people nominated throughout New Zealand for a national award. “I was surprised to be nominated. The nomination recognised what I’ve done this year, but it’s all about the student,” he commented. Next, he was startled to be notified that he had actually won the award from the numerous nominees. The award will be presented in a special ceremony next year at a function organised by a social welfare body.

Brian is quick to point out that the student’s improvement is the result of the input of several people, including Amanda Caradas, the classroom teacher and Principal Lorraine Williamson.

“The intervention wouldn’t have worked without them,” he insists.

Lorraine comments, “Brian is such a kind empathetic man who has done an amazing job with the student.”

Amanda has a similar comment. “He has been amazing. Nothing is too

much trouble,” she enthuses.

Brian says, “I find this work rewarding and I feel privileged to be able to make a positive difference for youngsters.” He explains that he has a “passion” for helping young people in this way.

Graduation Mitchell



Mitchell Langton
Graduated Otago University BPhEd - Bachelor of Physical Education.

Son of: Haydn and Bex Langton; and Margaret Dalton-Langton.

Grandson of: Rex and Lorraine Langton.

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SCIENCE INTERNAL EVALUATION

Opunake Communities Kindergarten would like to thank everyone for contributing to our Science Internal Evaluation this year. We have had amazing support from whānau and the wider community which has impacted how our children’s working theories have been supported and extended. Aniwaniwa was the long term project in the Maunga Room and the Moana Room were involved in a hands-on garden project. All the tamariki contributed to our learning journeys and as a result they are showing greater curiosity in general and are challenging their own thinking as well as that of their peers. The tamariki have learnt that information can come from anywhere and that it is perfectly normal to change one’s mind along the way when trying to figure things out. The tamariki are thinking more deeply and the kaiako are demonstrating that they have more knowledge to identify, support and extend children’s working theories (within a science context as well as others).

LOOKING AT NATURE



Finn and Cohen observe Arthur choosing to make the soil healthy by adding in his mandarin peel from his lunchbox as we rehome one of our indoor plants.



Jethro, Lucy, Finn and Bella feeding the worms in the worm farm, about to collect the worm juice to create healthy soil to plant our Berronia in.



Brooke and Lucy observed Leonie weeding the garden and took the bucket to a new space and started weeding together. Lots of discussions were had about what is growing in our garden – weeds and plants.

COLGATE RECYCLE BOXES



Did you know that you can recycle your tooth-paste tubes and caps, toothbrush and toothpaste tube outer packaging and floss containers into the recycle bins at Farm Source? The waste is sent to Terracycle and the waste is recycled or upcycle into various products.

H- HEALTH WEEK

HEART Week at Kindy.
The letter H in our philosophy stands for Healthy in Mind, Body and Spirit. Thank you to our visitors who came to talk to the tamariki about how to keep their bodies healthy and share their knowledge.



On Tuesday, the Opunake High School touch team came and taught the tamariki ball skills and the rules of a game of touch. Keeping fit is one way we can support our bodies to be healthy.



Farewell for Shirley:
Thanks to everyone who came to celebrate Shirley’s time at Kindy and say ka kite ano! Matua Paora said a lovely speech and even sang too, how lucky are we! Shirley has already been back to help us at our Enviroschool Open Day.



On Wednesday Dr Hannah Lawn and Ambulance Officer Kieran Lawn (Will’s whānau) taught us all about our hearts and how they function. The tamariki got to see a short video clip of a heart beating, Kieran brought in the Ambulance’s defibrillator and Pauline was our "patient" so the tamariki could see her heart beating and Hannah listen to the tamariki hearts beating using her stethoscope. Thank you Hannah and Kieran for sharing your knowledge and resources with Kindy.



New Kindy Cushions
We have recently purchased some new cushions that have local places on them to support our tamariki in connecting more with their local area they live in and belong to.



On Thursday also had a visit from Lifeguard Nathan Smith (Brodie’s Dad) and he talked to the tamariki about how he has to keep fit and look after his body so he can be a lifeguard and help people on the beach and in the sea. Thank you Nathan for sharing your experiences



St Joseph’s School Visit:
We recently had a visit from the St Joseph’s School New entrant class. The tamariki really enjoyed coming back to play their old friends and revisit their favourite activities at Kindy.



On Friday the tamariki made fruit Kebabs using fresh fruit and also Meera made a healthy omelette with the tamariki. Lots of conversations about healthy food. For Move More Time the tamariki did some calming yoga under our tree.

Stained Glass Music Night raises money for Samoa



Justine Francis entertains everyone with her soulful violin playing.

Stained Glass Music Night raises money for Samoa

A special event was held at St Paul’s Church, Okato on Sunday December 15, which was called the Stained Glass Music Night. Organised by Lesley Dowding, the event was intended to raise money for measles treatment in Samoa, where many people have died from the epidemic. “We raised money to send a team to help grieving parents who had lost children from the measles outbreak in Samoa through CWS Childhood and Adolescent service,” explained Lesley. Various performers including several musicians, a poet and Lesley herself as a well-known story teller donated their services free of charge. The performers included Justine Francis, Leonie Smith, poet David Merrett and musical groups including Uncle John’s Band (Andy Bassett, Sandy Weir, Deb Harding and Mike Harding) and the Alpine Connection (Aaron Bosch, Bernhard Schmid and Malcolm Alder) ensured that everyone was entertained. The evening concluded with the audience singing Christmas carols to musical accompaniment by the Alpine connection.

The event raised about \$300 for this great cause, but more money is expected. “We are hopeful it will reach \$400,” commented Lesley.

If you’d like to help, donations can be left with the staff at Downtown Café, Okato.

Decision highlights need for independent Māori voice

The Government’s failure to act on ending the discriminatory local and regional government Māori wards provision is unacceptable and highlights the need for independent Māori voices in Parliament says Māori Party candidate Debbie Ngarewa-Packer. Currently, the establishment of Māori wards in local government can be put to a referendum, whereas general wards can’t be – they are decided by councils alone. Last year five councils had proposals for Māori wards put to referendums and voted down.

“In 2019 its completely unacceptable that any government would choose to not act on removing racist provisions in law,” said Te Tai Hauāuru candidate Ms Ngarewa-Packer.

“There is broad support in local government to tackle what the United Nations have called “persistently low” levels of Māori representation

- Local Government New Zealand has called the provision ‘anomalous’ and ‘discriminatory’.

“As a former Deputy Mayor of South Taranaki District Council, I understand how important it is to have Māori at the council table but also how difficult it is to get elected.

“Parliament has had many opportunities to act but has failed to do so. They voted down Marama Davidson’s bill last term, ignored Andrew Judd’s petition, and have now said they will not do anything this term.

“This is a simple change to ensure the process for establishing Māori and general wards is the same. To not act is turning a blind eye to racism.

“The failure of the Government to remove this provision from law proves why we need independent kaupapa Māori voices in Parliament.

“In her comments, Nanaia Mahuta made it clear that Labour are unwilling to even

seek NZ First’s support for changing the law, which suggests that Labour’s Māori MPs are failing to challenge their colleagues on kaupapa Māori.

“We need representatives who will fight for kaupapa Māori solutions, every moment of every day. If elected next year, that’s exactly what I will do,” said Ms Ngarewa-Packer.

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Happy New Year
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Graduates

William



William Andersen-Gardiner, son of Clare and Paul Andersen-Gardiner graduated with a Bachelor of Communications from AUT (Auckland University of Technology)

Neihana

Neihana Tapiki graduated Waikato University with Bachelor of Health, Sports and Human performance. Neihana is the son of Sharlee Mareikura and David Tapiki Opunake And Grandson of Joan and John Tapiki, and the late Dianne James. Educated at Te Kohanga Reo o Te Namu, Opunake Primary School and Opunake High School.

Neihana was deputy head boy at Opunake High School and was also awarded best all round boy at the school in 2013

Sarah



Sarah Lofthouse-Hana recently graduated with a Bachelor of teaching and learning (ECE). Sarah says she will be carrying on studying next year doing a graduate diploma in primary school teaching. With Sarah are Aaron Hana, Alisha Mitchell, Leon Mitchell and Te Paea Lofthouse-Hana

Brody

Brody Chapman graduated from Waikato University with a Bachelor of Science Technology with a major in Ecology and Biodiversity and a minor in Molecular and Cellular Biology.

Brody is the son of Dean and Tina Chapman from Opunake and his grandparents are Emily Redin and the late Tom Redin of Opunake, and the late Tom and Allison Chapman of Rahotu.

Brody was Head Boy at Opunake High School in 2015, as well as Best All Round Boy and holder of the good character award.



Neihana Tapiki and Brody Chapman.

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to all our valued customers
and we hope to see you all
in the New Year
- John & Diane*

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Rinnai

Sacred Heart Medical Box a winner

Smaller regional and rural schools from across New Zealand swept the National Finals for the Tahī Rua Toru Tech in-school challenge this year.

Among these was Sacred Heart Girls College, New Plymouth. Their Team Red took out the Senior Secondary (years 11-13) Challenge, creating a medication box that sends bluetooth messages to your phone to remind you to take your medication, and has a motion sensor and lock and software designed to reduce under or overdosing.

The 2019 National Winners were announced following 10 regional finals held across New Zealand in October. The National Finals were attended by the regional winning teams with students coming from around the country.

As part of the Tahī Rua Toru Tech Challenge, teams of 3-4 students find a problem in their local school or community and use digital technologies to solve it. Teams are paired up with tech industry mentors and given support and resources. Over 6500 students participated in the Challenge this year.

“Regional and Rural New Zealand were the winners this year, with winning teams coming from Hāwea Flat near Wanaka, Morrinsville, Rotorua and New Plymouth,” IT Professionals New Zealand CEO Paul Matthews said.

At the Discovery

level (years 0-5), Hāwea Flat School’s Team Happy Hawea took out the title, completing a set of challenges in the fastest time. It came down to split-seconds in the end and was hotly contested.

Morrinsville Intermediate’s Team Thunderbolts took out the First Challenge (years 6-8), creating an app game to encourage fitness by getting the user to move around Morrinsville to scan QR codes whilst seeing the ‘Herd of Cows’ (sculptures) on display within their town.

John Paul College, Rotorua’s Team ShumbaLeon won the Secondary level (years 9-10), created a website

showcasing cultural diversity in their school and a platform for students to share their own stories and culture with other students.

The Ministry of Education’s Deputy Secretary for Early Learning and Student Achievement Ellen MacGregor-Reid said she was impressed by the level of innovation.

“A huge scale of learning has clearly gone on in the challenge. The majority of

the students didn’t know how to write any code at the start – and yet that was such a stand-out feature of the innovations I’ve seen,” MacGregor-Reid said.

The Challenge will enter its third year in 2020 and is part of a suite of resources and tools to help teachers and schools implement changes to Digital Technologies and Hangarau Matihiko in the Curriculum in a safe and supported way.

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Opunake & Coastal News**

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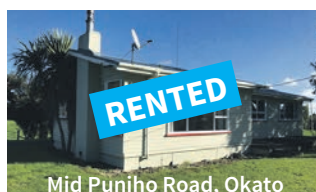
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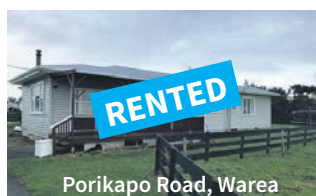
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“Your experts around the Coast”

Bayleys proud to support the community



Dean and Milly.

Club, Indian community Dilwali Festival, Around the Mountain Cycle race amongst a wide range of other groups or events.”

Amongst some of the other groups or events that Bayleys supports are: Operatic Society, Coastal Rugby, Egmont Boat Club, Taranaki Racing Club, Egmont Racing Club, NZ Dairy Industry Awards, Beef & Lamb, Ballance Farm Environmental Awards, Fitzroy Bowling Club, Life Education Trust, as well as supporting local charities with the auctioneering

services of Bayleys salespeople, Christina Harvey and Graham Cochrane.

“This year we have also had a Giving Tree in our New Plymouth and Hawera offices to support Taranaki Women’s Refuge. We have been absolutely blown away with the support of our staff and the wider community with the gifts that have been put under the tree for the Women’s Refuge team to deliver to less fortunate families leading up to Christmas,” said Dean.

Supporting the Flanagan cup.

Bayleys Taranaki are proud to support a number of community groups and organisations throughout the region, not only financially but with many staff actively involved with a number of these.

On a national scale Bayleys have a partnership with Make a Wish and staff from all over the country, including the Bayleys Taranaki team,

support the Make a Wish Foundation in granting wishes for children with life threatening illnesses across New Zealand.

Bayleys Taranaki raised over \$30,000 at a charity dinner and auction for Make a Wish during the winter this year.

Amongst other long standing events on the Taranaki sporting calendar that Bayleys support is

the annual Flannagan Cup, held at Ngamotu Beach on Waitangi Day.

“it is extremely rewarding to put something back into the communities that support our business,” says Bayleys Taranaki General Manager Dean File. “I appreciate first-hand how tough it can be for many groups to operate and anything we can do to help them is awesome. I certainly encourage our

staff to get involved in these community organisations or events, which often means more than simply writing out a cheque.”

“This year Bayleys have also partnered with Taranaki Rugby and sponsored the TRFU Academy, as well as supporting the Taranaki Thunder Women’s Basketball team, New Plymouth Surfriders club, Taranaki Western Riding



ALTOGETHER

WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



From the team at Bayleys Taranaki, 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 2020.

Whatever your property needs, contact Bayleys Taranaki.

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Your Summer Guide

Whats on in

TARANAKI

Over the Holiday season

Welcome to the Opunake and Coastal News 2019-20 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.



Photo by Staci Holmes Opunake

Welcome to Taranaki: Things you can do

The possibilities of things to do are endless, but here are a few possibilities.

Perhaps the best private museum in New Zealand is the Tawhiti Museum, just minutes from Hawera. Curator Nigel Ogle has created a historical wonderworld to reflect Taranaki’s past. You can wander through the original restored attic of Taranaki’s best known writer Ronald Hugh Morrieson, see the Traders& Whalers and have a ride on a train.

For refreshment and meals stop by at Morrieson’s Café Bar in Hawera, which has intriguing items made from timber from Ron Morrieson’s former homestead, as well as other memorabilia.

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

Heading north The peace village Parihaka is well worth a visit. This is where Maori leaders such as Te Whiti and

Tohu used peaceful means to protest against the land grab which was regrettably sanctioned by the authorities of the 1800s.

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.

For garden lovers Pukeiti is a must with a plethora of native and exotic trees and shrubs in a uniquely peaceful setting of many acres.

In New Plymouth itself the Coastal Walkway allows an invigorating walk with great views of the coast and sculptures. You may also spot a seal a penguin or orca .

If you want to get up closer to a seal colony pay a visit to Chaddy’s Charters where a boat trip on an old english rescue boat will give you a close view of a seal colony on nearby Sugarloaf Islands.

Chaddy also hires out kayaks ,canoes for leisure on the water and bikes to pedal

along the Coastal walkway..

Shopping trips to buy Christmas gift of great variety and quality are guaranteed in all the towns with something for everybody at competitive prices.

Puke Ariki has a wealth of literary and historical treasures to experience.They currently have the Illusion Exhibition running which is well worth a visit Just minutes away is the iconic Govett Brewster Gallery where you can see the Len

Lye inspired masterpieces.

In the evenings the Festival Lights in Pukekura Park is a sight you’ll never forget. The park also has a range of musical treats at different times, especially on the Hatchery Lawn.

Hillsborough Holden Museum is a recently opened attraction that features a Bathurst-themed mini putt course.

Fun activities for everyone.



TSB

Festival of Lights

NPDC

Catch a ride to the TSB Festival of Lights for free!

festivaloflights.nz #iloveFOL

14 December 2019 – 1 February 2020



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

- Saturday 4 January
- Saturday 11 January
- Saturday 18 January

Buses depart from:

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

Booking close at midday one day before the event. Phone 06-757 5783 or head to tranzittours.co.nz/tsb-festival-of-lights 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.

TSB COMMUNITY TRUST

History Snapshots



1
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.



2
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.



3
Dr Peter Snell (1938-2019) 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.



4
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.

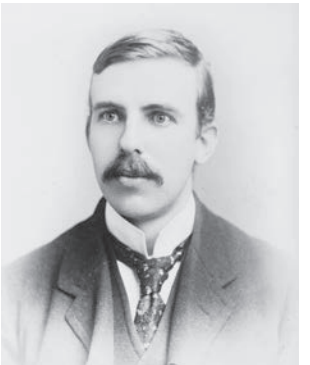


5
Don Clark (1933-2002) played at fullback for the All Blacks between 1956 and 1964, scoring 781 points. He is described as the "greatest goal kicker of his time". He could kick goals huge distances - even from deep in the opposition's half. As a child he lived in **Pihama** and attended Pihama School, which was recently closed. He emigrated to South Africa and established a tree felling business.

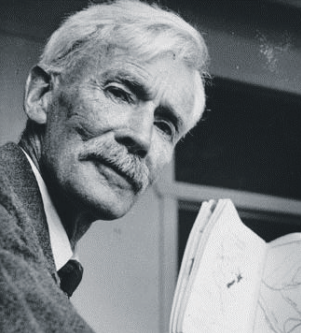


6
Te Whiti-o-Rongomai III (1830-1907) was born in **Pungarehu**. He lived in **Parihaka** and practiced non violence and passive resistance to the confiscation of Maori land. He is as close

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".

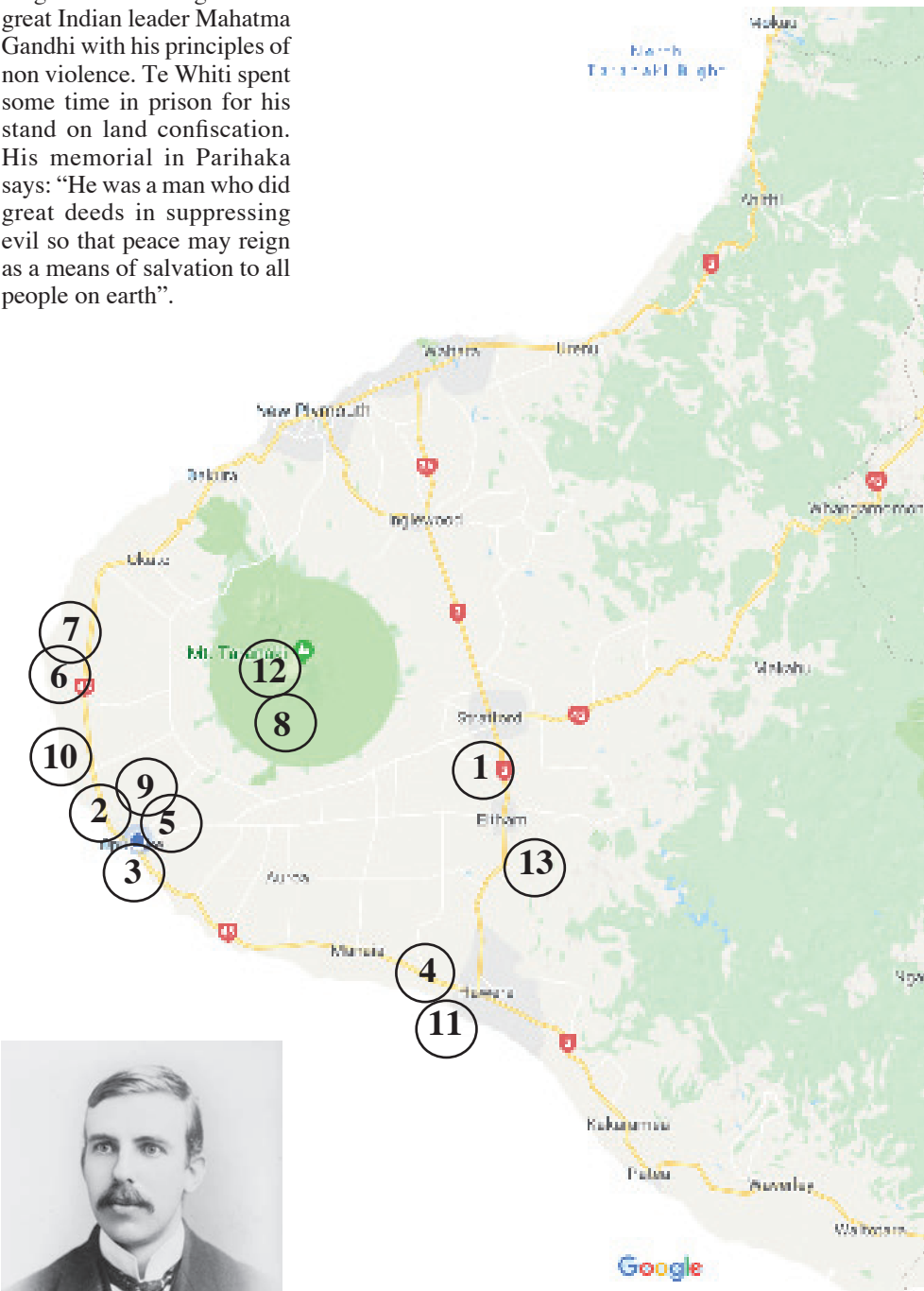


7
Lord Ernest Rutherford (1871-1937) is generally considered to be the greatest New Zealander of all time. The scientist won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908. He is best known for 'splitting the atom'. His family lived in **Lower Parihaka Road, Pungarehu**; the homestead was demolished in 1980. 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).



8
Sir Alfred Reed (1875-1975) He is better known as AH Reed. He is remembered for founding NZ's biggest

A map of Taranaki



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.



9
Graeme Lay (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.



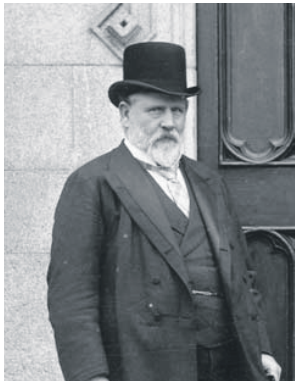
10
Dame Malvina Major (1943-). The famous classical singer was born in Hamilton, but lived on a dairy farm near Opunake (**Lower Kina Road**) with her husband Winston. Sadly, Winston died suddenly when he was in his 40s. Earlier, Dame Malvina studied under Sister Mary Leo. She won the 1963 NZ Mobil Song 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'.



11
Ronald Hugh Morrisson (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 Morrissons Cafe Bar in Hawera.



12
Sir Edmund Hillary (1919-2008) He is known as the conqueror of Mt Everest, leader of the third overland party to reach the by Captain 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**.



13
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.

Govett Brewster



Len Lye, Govett Brewster centre.



Kinetic Art, Len Lye.



Mark Dwyer Exhibition.



Waiata in the Gallery.

Govett-Brewster Art Gallery

Aotearoa New Zealand’s Contemporary Art Museum
Arty Fernery Fun

Thursday 9 & 16 January. 2 – 3.30pm. Pukekura Park. The Fernery. Free. No booking needed

Capture the beauty of the park on paper at the Pukekura Park Fernery. No booking is needed for these free annual art sessions. All art materials are provided.

Summer Scene

Re-Imagine

Friday. 17 January. 11am – 1pm. Pukekura Park. Hatchery Lawn

Do you have a piece of clothing you’d like to change up or re-create? With the Govett-Brewster educators you’ll learn techniques to upcycle clothing. When you’re done you can choose to keep or exchange what you’ve made. Bring your own piece of clothing to re-work.

Goethe-Institute film series

Short Export 2019 - Made in Germany. Sunday 26 January. 4 pm.

Various ratings. Free. Book at govettbrewster.co

This years’ programme ranges from bizarre and exciting to warm-hearted and hilarious stories, told as fiction, documentary or animated short films. See the website for full details.

Māori and Pasifika Film Series

Hunt for the Wilderpeople. Sunday 5 January 4 pm. Herbs - Songs of Freedom

Sunday 2 February. 4 pm. Rated PG. Free. Book at govettbrewster.com.

See the website for full details.

Waiata in the Gallery

Wednesday 5 February. 12.30 - 1 pm.

Acknowledge the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi 180 years ago with a mid-week waiata session to celebrate Māori culture the day before Waitangi Day. No singing experience necessary. We’ll provide a waiata book, and you can bring your interest and enthusiasm. Booking required for groups, ph 06 759 6715

50 years of the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery Collection

A new exhibition featuring 300 artworks from the Govett Brewster Collection by 190 artists, is the first event to honour the Gallery’s 50th anniversary.

Spanning the entire contemporary art museum, each of the galleries is dedicated to 10 years.

The summer exhibition, *The scene in which I find myself / Or, where does my body belong*, is developed by New Plymouth-born artist Ruth Buchanan (b.1980), of Te Atiawa, Taranaki and Pākehā descent, living in Berlin.

Established by New Plymouth woman Monica Brewster (nee Govett), the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery was founded on a visionary exhibition and collection policy in 1970. Today Buchanan is asking why the Gallery has collected what it has in the last 50 years, and what should it collect and hold for the next 50 years.

The exhibition (Sat 7 Dec – 22 Mar 2020) presents artworks by many of New Zealand’s leading artists from the last five decades, including Ralph Hotere, Tom Kreisler, Colin McCahon, Gretchen Albrecht, Christine Hellyar, Fiona Clark, Darcy Lange, Len Lye, Mary Louise Browne, Michael Smither, Peter Peryer, Francis Upritchard, Ngahina Hohaia, Reuben Paterson, and Lisa Reihana.

Into 2020 celebrate the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery’s 50th anniversary with a party on Queen St, on Leap Year’s Saturday 29 February, 3-9pm. Join in with art, music and refreshments for all ages.

42 Queen Street
Ngāmotu New Plymouth
Aotearoa New Zealand

Open seven days: 10 am – 5 pm | Closed Christmas Day
New Plymouth District residents and Friends of the Gallery – Free (w/proof)
All under 16s – Free | 65+ years – \$10 | Visitors – \$15

Govett-Brewster Art Gallery

50 years ahead since 50 years ago

govettbrewster.com



Revisit
50 years

Rethink
50 more

Roll up, roll up, the Mechanical Circus is in town



Puke Ariki a magical place to visit these school holidays.

NPDC’s Puke Ariki Museum has been temporarily transformed into a circus - complete with tents, carnival props and lots of toys. For ages five to 95 and everyone in between, The Mechanical Circus is all about exploring the mechanics of toys and automata. There’s over 20 interactive exhibits that put a modern twist on the golden days of fairgrounds and travelling circuses.

From the Queen’s royal wave, the piano playing man and the crazy cog wall - to the old style hand cranked projector and cylinder film strips, there’s something to entertain everyone. Museum manager Colleen Mullin said The Mechanical Circus was a wonderful mix of science and technology and will be one of the most hands-on exhibitions ever to be held at Puke Ariki. “Museums often have signs



asking visitors not to touch the exhibitions but it’s the complete opposite with The Mechanical Circus,” says Ms Mullin. “We are actively encouraging people to get hands on, press the buttons to explore and figure out how things work.” “We’re looking forward to The Mechanical Circus bringing the carnival atmosphere of scientific wonder and amazement to NPDC’s Puke Ariki.” The exhibition is a collaboration between Holland’s Museum Boerhaave and the Cabaret

Mechanical Theatre and has toured Europe before coming to New Zealand. Once you’ve been to see The Mechanical Circus in the Museum, head over to Puke Ariki Library where we have lots to entertain the kids this summer - there’s a reading programme with prizes, storyteller Moira Wairama, LEGO Masters sessions and the annual Puke Ariki bookmark competition. See all our summer events and activities at www.pukeariki.com Puke Ariki . Free entry . Open 7 days.

THE

Mechanical

CIRCUS

PUKE ARIKI MUSEUM

2 NOVEMBER 2019 - 26 APRIL 2020

Roll up, roll up!

The Mechanical Circus is in town!

See marvellous mechanisms spring to life, test your strongman skills, and fight your way out of the Lion’s jaw!

Puke Ariki

rijksmuseum boerhaave

NPDC

TSB COMMUNITY TRUST

CABARET MECHANICAL THEATRE

MECHANICAL CIRCUS

GAZE IN AMAZEMENT AT...

THE SELF-TURNING SAUSAGES
ANUBIS THE JACKHAMMER
TAP DANCING MAN
BULWARK THE DANCING BIRD
TIPPOOS TIGER
THE KICKING LADIES
MUSCLE MAN
CRAZY COG WALL
LIFT THE STRONGMAN’S WEIGHTS
OPTICAL PUZZLES
AND MORE!

New Plymouth Raceway Entertainment



Children line the barrier fence keen to see the action.

Friday 27 December

Entertainment galore at ‘the races’ this summer starting with the iconic 27 December meeting, where the eight race card is complemented by DJ Ash during the day, and Roadhouse playing all your favourite tunes after the last race. The popular food village will be back, behind the grandstand, where you will have plenty of food choices to delight your taste buds. Gates open 11.30am | First Race 12.44 | Under 18s always Free | GA just \$10 | Hospitality packages start from \$39

Sunday 29 December

A new race day, which is all about the kids. New Plymouth Raceway is hosting an InterIslander Summer Festival which provides lots of free family fun, including Air-Zone Bumper Bubbles, face painting, sack races, tug-o-war, and lots of prizes. You’re welcome to bring a picnic (no BYO). Midlife Crisis and DJ Ash will also be providing musical entertainment. There will be plenty of seating available for the public, you’ll be able to seek shelter under our new precinct area, and we’ll have plenty of family friendly food options on the day too. Gates open 11.30am | First Race 12.37 | Under 18s always Free | GA just \$10 | Hospitality packages start from \$39



Get your friends together for a great day at the races.



Dress up for a great day at Pukekura Raceway.

Summer of Racing

Come for the racing, stay for the party!

newplymouthraceway.co.nz

NPR
NEW PLYMOUTH RACEWAY

Fri | 27
December

Sun | 29
December

Sat | 01
February

Sat | 29
February

Todd Energy Aquatic Centre



Fun in the sun at the 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 inflatables 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 inflatables 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 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 AquaticCentre

Splash Fest Series! 1pm - 3pm each day
Inglewood Pool 20th January
Waitara Pool 22nd January
Todd Energy Aquatic Centre 23rd January
Okato Pool 24th January
Join us for an afternoon of swimming, games and competitions from 1pm to 3pm. We'll have the barbie fired up too so you can enjoy a sausage sizzle. Entry is half the normal price too, so only \$1 at Inglewood, Waitara and Okato and \$2 at Todd Energy Aquatic Centre. See the Festival of Lights website for more details.

The Todd Energy Aquatic Centre welcomes all visitors to Taranaki. Freedom Campers are able to come and freshen up in our showers for the regular entry price of \$4.50 as well as the all day use of the pools and access to the yummy food available in our Cafe.



JUMP INTO SUMMER

Todd Energy
Aquatic
CENTRE

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A fun outing for families



Hillsborough Holden Museum Egmont Road New Plymouth.

The Hillsborough Holden Museum and Bathurst-themed mini putt is a fun outing for the family and a great social opportunity conveniently only 10 minutes from the centre of New Plymouth at 683 Egmont Road.

The Holden Museum

is a must see with 39 cars and loads of memorabilia. Entertain the whole family with a game of mini golf, ride on the train and merry go round, challenge your brains to a game of outdoor giant chess or draughts, or just relax in the sun or shade and enjoy a coffee, ice cream

or cold drink from the kiosk. Opening hours are 10 am to 4 pm weekends and public holidays for the Museum and 10am to 5pm for the Mini Putt and later by appointment. We are also available for private functions, To book call 0274 470 708.

Lights shine brighter this season

NPDC's Events team have pulled out all the stops to make this season's TSB Festival of Lights bigger and better.

Starting on 14 December and running for seven weeks, the numbers speak for themselves: 125,000 visitors each summer, 14 new light features, more than 50 live acts, 24 Summer Scene Kids events, eight activities for Summer Seniors, four bands for the Powerco Lights Up The Night New Year's eve celebration and one Woofstock party for pooches.

Located in the world-class Pukekura Park, the lights come on every night until 1 February from 8.30pm to 11pm, rain or shine.

"The team has done an absolutely fabulous job in bringing new and highly original displays to our

stunning Pukekura Park for this season's TSB Festival of Lights," says NDPC Recreation and Culture Manager Teresa Turner.

"NPDC's TSB Festival of Lights plays a huge part in making our district the place to be each summer and is a great example of how we are Building a Lifestyle Capital."

We've got something for everyone: Summer Scene Kids There's daytime events that inspire, entertain and excite kids from five to 12 years old. A highlight is Splash Fest – a week of pool parties around Taranaki including Waitara, Inglewood, Okato and Todd Energy Aquatic Centre.

Summer Seniors This has become a mainstay of the festival and this year has rock 'n' roll at the Bowl,

Tai Chi, art in the park and the chance to learn creative floral design.

New Year's Eve The Powerco Light Up The Night is a family-friendly event featuring silent discos, food trucks and four live bands including headline act Racing.

Festival Hub Light Bites returns with food trucks in the Festival Hub. Also in the Hub will be VR experiences, a rock 'n' roll pop-up, a roller disco pop-up and free Wifi.

Entertainment From 26 December to 19 January, more than 50 home-grown, Kiwi and international acts will entertain festival-goers at the Hatchery and Fred Parker lawns.



Pukekura Park waterfall.

Chaddys Charters



Chaddy (Dave Chadfield) has also been an enthusiastic penguin guardian for nearly 30 years and along with the Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society installed a camera in a penguin burrow a few years ago to learn more about blue penguins'

survival. Chaddy also feeds the curious stingrays that come to visit him. Take a trip with Chaddy on the rescue boat or hire bike and cycle the New Plymouth foreshore on a gorgeous Taranaki summer day. Chaddy was recently



awarded as a Local Taranaki Hero in a recent ceremony



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Hillsborough Museum

Hillsborough Holden Museum

Newly opened and unique to NZ. This immaculately displayed personal collection of Holden cars and memorabilia is now open to the public. The vehicles range from 1949 to the latest models. This is a must see!

683 Egmont Road, RD2, New Plymouth
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Open between Christmas and New Year. Closed Christmas day.

drax project

NZ SUMMER SHOWS 19/20



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Bands at Butlers Reef

Drax coming to Oakura

Drax Project are embarking on their biggest summer tour yet. And the Kiwi pop sensations are taking a top-notch line-up of emerging New Zealand talent along for the ride.

Presented by The Edge and Eccles Entertainment, the Drax Project Summer Tour 2019-2020 will kick off in Riwaka on Saturday, December 28, before winding its way through some of New Zealand's hottest holiday spots and ending with a

bang on Friday, January 10 in Havelock North.

The tour also takes in summer hot-spots Whitianga, Oakura, and Mt Maunganui. Drax Project will bring some of New Zealand's hottest new acts along for the ride with special guests for the tour announced soon. Exciting up-and-comers Foley, eleven7four, La Women, Niko Walters and Paige will take turns at joining Drax Project at various spots on the tour.

Note: some shows are R18 and others are all ages. After a whirlwind few years, which has taken their music to the top of the charts and around the globe, Drax Project are without question, one of the hottest tickets in music right now. Their recently-released self-titled debut album has dominated the airwaves and Spotify, with smash hits such as 'Woke Up Late' feat Hailee Steinfeld; 'Catching Feelings' feat. SIX60; 'All

This Time' and 'Toto'.

While studying jazz at college in Wellington, Drax Project—Shaan Singh (vocals, saxophone), Matt Beachen (drums), Sam Thomson (bass), and Ben O'Leary (guitar)—took what they learned in class and applied it to another pursuit, making pop their own. The group gained a following after reworking vocal hooks of famous pop songs into saxophone licks. Their cover of Kimbra's track, 'Goldmine' went viral and caught the attention of an influential producer, giving acclaim to the newly-introduced group.

The band has performed across the globe supporting the likes of Ed Sheeran in New Zealand, Christina Aguilera on the European leg of The X Tour as well as standout performances at Rolling Stone's Coachella party.

Drax Project are an unstoppable musical force and this is a tour not to be missed!



Drax Project play at Oakura.

Feel the nostalgia

Pioneers of the kiwi music industry the Feelers are thrilled to announce a comprehensive NZ tour this summer; joined at select locations by iconic NZ band Stellar* who celebrate the 20th anniversary of their debut album Mix.

The Feelers will be bringing their anthems to New Zealanders alongside their mates Stellar* in a nostalgic reunion of two illustrious NZ bands. The Feelers will also be dropping a new single appropriately titled Summer Ride. Stay tuned to make sure you hear another anthem in the making.

The Feelers have amassed

some remarkable statistics including a quarter of a million album sales, five multi-platinum albums, five number one albums, seven number one singles, and they remain the largest selling NZ band ever signed by Warner Music NZ in their 48 year history. They have also accumulated five NZ Music Awards, three APRA most played song of the year awards and more radio airplay than any other New Zealand artist or band since radio stats began in 1999.

Some of the many hits they promise to play at the upcoming gigs include, Pressure Man, Venus,

Communicate, Larger Than Life, One World, Astronaut and of course the 2011 Rugby

World Cup song Right Here, Right Now, a cover of the Jesus Jones hit song.



John Toogood

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Summer exhibitions at Koru Galleries featuring collaborative and invited artists

A new year for Koru Galleries is already gathering artistic momentum with bookings for some exciting exhibitions ahead to June 2020.

Showing at Koru on Devon this summer.

January 10. Koru celebrates the work of father and daughter Richard Landers and Renee Landers.

“Form” exhibits Richards internationally recognised glass sculptures and Renee’s Contemporary Portrait work. These works will exhibit alongside: Te Kupenga symposium (small sculpture) exhibition in Koru’s long Gallery area as part of their 2020 International sculpture symposium event on the New Plymouth foreshore.

Further to this, Volker Hawighorst, assemblage artist will exhibit in Koru’s glass room.

Koru collective artists will also be showing in



Koru on Devon at Brownsons Jewellers.

this amazing space right on Devon St Central next to Junk & Disorderly in the Western Precinct’s buzzing community in the City, with

fabulous coffee, jewellery, food, Florist and great Irish Pub, to mention a few of the important features.

March 6. Brings some very well known and respected Taranaki artists into Koru Galleries “Coasties Exhibition,” featuring Michael Smither, Dale Copeland, Paul Hutchinson, Waldo Hartley, Graham Kirk, Peter Lambert, Fay Looney, Linda Mcfetridge, Steve Molloy, Margaret Scott.

Koru Galleries will be open limited hours over the holidays (see our ad for opening days). However if you wish to see any works out of normal hours please feel free to call 021410030 to arrange a time suitable to view.



Cape Egmont Historic Light & Museum
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Koru on Koru corrugated cows.

Cape Egmont lighthouse



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

Where better to place the light than a replica light-house? 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.

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Koru Galleries

Koru galleries Holiday hours

Koru on Koru

283 Koru Rd. Oakura

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Open every other day 11am - 3pm.

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@Oakuraartgallery

instagram.com/koruondevon

Koru on Devon

49 Devon St. West, New Plymouth
(Next door to Junk & Disorderly)

Open 10am -3.30pm from
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Closed new years Day and 2nd January
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Lots of things you can do with Actionaki



Paintballing in the forest.



Archery is a really popular activity at Actionaki.



Off to shoot a few claybirds.

Actionaki is now part and parcel of what's going on around Taranaki. Since starting 10 years ago, all sorts have come through, from seven 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.

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

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Opunake and Coastal News is distributed free to every home & 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 Hawera city border and inland to Kaponga & Eltham.

We want to be involved with your business. Call today and discuss your marketing options with us.



Promote your business or event in our area, call us on:
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or e-mail us: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

Off to great start at Opunake Community Baths.

Welcome back to another fantastic season at Opunake Community Baths. If you haven't been in for a dip yet the water is lovely and the pools are looking fantastic with their new paint job which was done over the winter break.

Our training team has been busy supporting four new lifeguards through their qualifications and completing all the steps to be able to keep our community safe in the water. Its great to see the new faces on

poolside, and our returning lifeguards too of course.

The Learn to Swim saw 125 children participate and learn new skills around swimming technique as well as survival skills in the water. Our Aquatots Preschool Program had 50 little ones from six months to five years come along and build up their confidence and have fun in the water. A huge thank you to everyone involved with helping with the coordination of these programmes, the volunteer

teachers and instructors. It really is a team effort to get the best outcome for each child. Swimming is a vital survival skill, especially for our coastal community with many waterways, so we urge parents to please enrol your children if you haven't already.

This term our SwimFit programme saw improved results and is growing in popularity. This is a guided swimming group focused on building up swimming fitness for all ages and

levels. Thank you to Trish for running these sessions. If you like the group environment or need a bit of guidance around your swimming this is a great opportunity and the only cost is pool entry.

Our Aquafit classes are back up and running with Jenny and Kay taking the lead. Why slog it out in the hot sun when you can enjoy great fitness in a nice refreshing pool with a fun social vibe? Our lane swimming sessions are building popularity as the weather warms up too. There is no fitness like swimming and the benefits for your body are amazing.

As always, a huge thank you to our fantastic team on the poolside and behind the scenes. A lot of time and effort goes in to keeping the pools at a high-quality level for everyone to enjoy.

Private hire for events and parties have been a real hit so far. It's such an easy way to accommodate for a large group. Give us a call to confirm a spot or for more information.

When sending your children along for a swim this season please ensure they are aware of the rules and show respect for the employees, the pools' property, and other users. We are not a business. This

is a community owned pool providing service for the community. In the unlikely case of an accident at the pool it would be helpful to send some contact information along in swimming bags, so lifeguards can make contact if need be.

If you have any feedback or would like to get something new up and running at our

facility let us know.

If you aren't already on our Facebook Page please give us a 'Like' to keep up with any updates.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Hannah Drought
Opunake Baths Committee.



Mahuki Mariekura, Hoani Ratahi and Spartan Mariekura at Opunake Pool

Pungarehu Community Pool



Pungarehu pool gets a tidy up before opening for the season.



Pungarehu Community Pool

Open Soon
Pick up keys from Farmsource
Pungarehu \$60 cash only
Open 11am-9pm
Ph Terry 028150713

Opunake Community Baths – School Holiday Opening Hours							
Effective 17 th December 2019							
	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
Lane Swimming	6:30-8:30am 6:00-8pm	6:30-10am 5 - 8pm	6:30-8:30am	6:30-10am 6:00-8pm	6:30-8:30am	7-10am	
Aqua Fit		9-9:45am 5:30-6:15pm		9-9:45am			
Public	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm	1-4pm

*Public Holidays – No Lanes or Aquafit Sessions. Only 1-4pm public hours.
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

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

Merry Christmas

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Thank you everyone for your continued support this year.

I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We are CLOSED on December 25/26 and January 1st/2nd Otherwise open

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Opunake Beach Carnival



Fun in the sun at Opunake Beach.



Mike Starsmore and Rusty Campbell are great supporters of the Opunake Beach Carnival Big Dig. Mike and the Opunake Lions run the Big Dig and Rusty sponsors the Big Dig prizes.

The 2020 Opunake Beach Carnival will be a great day for the whole family with more than 40 craft

and food stalls, great local entertainment on two stages and a range of activities for the kids. The event is on Saturday 4 January from 10am - 4pm at Opunake Beach. Entry is free of charge.

The action will begin right on 10am with the babies, toddlers and mini muscle men showing off their talents at the Opunake Beach stage contests. Derin Thompson will be hosting on the day and will get the crowd pumping. 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 Collins Sports Centre 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 11:30am, depending on the tide.

Miss Opunake Beach contests will be held in the afternoon. Categories will be Miss Junior Opunake 10-12 years, Miss Teen Opunake 13-15, and Miss Opunake 16 years and over. Fantastic prizes. \$2 per entry, Miss Opunake is \$5 to enter. At the conclusion of the Beach Carnival talented local musicians will take to the stage to entertain the crowd.

All day activities include pony rides, a bouncy castle, face painting, laser tag,

archery, coconut shy and a shooting gallery.

Carnival-goers will be spoilt for choice with food options aplenty, including kebabs, souvlaki, Vietnamese and Filipino cuisine, ice-cream, coffee, hot dogs, chips and a BBQ to name a few.

The Beach Road will be closed on the day but the Carnival Committee will be running a shuttle service 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.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from the Opunake Farmlands Team

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OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL

Sat 4 Jan, 10am - 4pm

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Opunake Beach Carnival

Collins Sports/ Actionaki Take a kid fishing



Take a Kid Fishing at Opunake Beach.

Take a kid fishing will be held on Friday January 3rd. 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 Collins Sports Centre, Thursday 2nd January till midday and all day Friday 3rd until 5pm a \$2 entry fee applies.

We will weigh any species caught on the day

on a hook line and sinker. No nets, boats or Kontiki lines please. Final weigh in will be at 5-6pm, scales at the Opunake Beach stage, followed by prize giving and lolly scramble. Every child receives a prize and

certificate and a chocolate fish.

The Opunake Surfcasting and Angling Club will be at the weigh in will be on hand to help out on the day.

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Friday 3rd Jan, 2020

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Ages: Primary School & under

Registration at Collins Sports Centre - \$2 per kid

Weigh in at Opunake Beach Stage from 5 to 6pm. Dont be late!

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Summer at the Beach?




Senior Patrol members Eliza Snow, Reuben Tulloch, Meg Gibson, Callum Hickey, Cormach Hughson- How, Caleb Lawn and Joe Gibson.

Opunake Surf Life Saving Club has been operating since 1923 with volunteer lifeguards and committee people running the club. This Summer, we also have regional lifeguard (paid) guards Monday to Friday over the main summer weeks. You'll know when we are on patrol by the flag being flown on our main deck and by the flags on the beach. Hours vary depending on whether it is Monday to Friday or our volunteers patrollers on Saturday and Sunday. Generally, if conditions allow, you'll always have lifeguards on patrol over the peak of the day and finishing around 4pm. The north end of the beach (in front of clubrooms) is usually the safest place to swim, however rips can happen at anytime. ALWAYS swim with others, between the flags and never at the tail race/south end of the beach (by the left hand side rocks in front of car parks) as this is where you usually have more chance of a rip developing. We will once again be at the Opunake Beach Carnival selling our tea-towels (1 for \$15 or 2 for \$20) though these are available any time (just message our facebook page). Junior Surf programme continues to grow with over 100 kids involved. Our lifeguard numbers were boosted this October when we had 5 new lifeguards gain their 'bronze medallion' lifeguard qualification with approx another 5 undertaking it in January. This is a massive achievement for our club and helps secure the future patrols of our beach over the summer season. Remember jandals for the hot sand, sunscreen, hats and cover up during the peak hours of the day - sunburn can strike anytime especially when the sun reflects off the sand and the water. We have trained first aiders on duty when we are on patrol, please just come and see us if you have any problems. Stay within your ability when you are swimming and we can keep our beach safe! Have the best Summer and Holiday period with your friends and family.




Closed from Dec 20 to Jan 13.
However Steve will be around for any queries or service calls!
Any problems call 0800107006 or 067617531



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Beachtop Garden



David Knapman with the driftwood dog he built that pees water into the dog water basin when you lift his hind leg. The Stone work around the Best friends drink together water fountain and basin was constructed by Ian Baker.



Rose and Les Ratahi are some of the dedicated volunteers maintaining the Clifftop Garden pictured with one of the birdboxes created and donated by Ron and Nevis Brewer.

Go for a lovely stroll along the clifftop garden its a wonderful spot on a sunny day.

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.

Come down and see the gorgeous 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.

Rose Ratahi one of the volunteer gardeners said that they are always happy to accept donations of plants as well as a few fruit trees, particularly apple or feijoa which would grow well in the area.

Whoever has been pinching plants please stop doing this. The Volunteers are happy to give some cuttings if you ask nicely.

The Garnden will soon be lit up with christmas lights which give the garden a magical quality at night . take the kids and the dog for a walk and meet the cheeky driftwood dog.



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Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

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Okato 752 4084 | Manaia 274 8084 | Kaponga 764 6084 | Opunake 761 8084 | Stratford 765 4499

The Pouakai Crossing

The newly established Pouakai crossing looks set, in time, to rival the central North Island's popular Tongariro Crossing and will hopefully divert the adventurous tourist to Taranaki. The 19 kilometre one way tramp takes in some lovely country passing by several delightful huts at which you can stay. You can walk the track from either direction though there is less climbing if you start from the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre to Mangorei Road. This is a backcountry tramp so expect the track to be rough, muddy or wet in places advises the Department of Conservation who run and maintain the huts that are open to the public on all of Mt Taranaki. Beginning at the Egmont National Park Visitor Centre where you can catch a coffee before you embark on the track, the first leg, a 3-4 hour hike takes you to Holly Hut and is well signposted. The track climbs through montane Forest and subalpine scrub and passes beneath the towering lava columns



The Holly Hut.

of the Dieffenbach Cliffs. Past the Kokowai Track turn off, the track descends to the Ahukawakawa Track Junction and a 5 minute walk to the Holly Hut. From the

Holly Hut you can take a one hour round tramp to Bells Falls if you want to see a mighty waterfall. The route continues to Pouakai Hut where you

are rewarded with some spectacular views of the Taranaki coastline. From this enchanting hut there is a long descent through forest with mosses

and lichens known locally as the Goblin Forest. As this is a one way tramp you will need to arrange transport to/from one end. Shuttle services are available.

History

- The track takes you past:
- **Ambury Monument /Ambury Bluffs:** This monument on the Holly Hut Track is named after Arthur Hamilton Ambury who gave his life in a heroic attempt to save W E Gourlay who slipped on the ice on 3 June 1918. Both died in the fall over this bluff.
 - **Dieffenbach Cliffs:** These cliffs take their name from Ernst Dieffenbach (1811-1855) who organised the first ascent of Egmont in Christmas week of 1839. He was accompanied to the summit by a whaler, James Herberley. They reached the top on 23 December, having left Richard Barrett's whaling station at Moturoa on 19 December.

Please remember the Mountain must always be treated with respect.

Know before you go

Weather on the mountain changes rapidly – you must be well prepared with suitable clothing and equipment



The Pouakai tarns which you pass by.

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Thank You.*

*Your custom over the past year is
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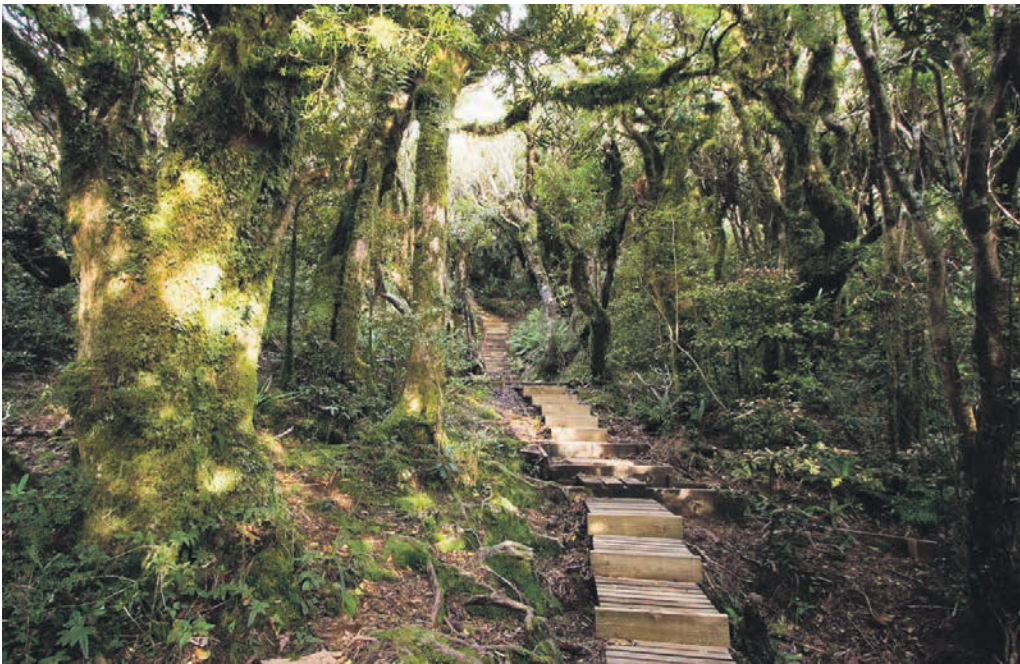
Email: barronz@xtra.co.nz

The Pouakai Crossing

for all weather and conditions.

Snow, high rainfall and storm damage can make tracks impassable – many rivers and streams are unbridged.

C h e c k t h e
Egmont National
Park weather
forecast before
you set out



The Goblin Forest on the Pouakai Crossing.



The Pouakai Hut.



On the Pouakai Crossing.

On top of the world



On top of the world - it feels like it when you summit Mt Taranaki.

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.

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 Ihaia Road.

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 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.

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The attention to detail, now a trademark of the Tawhiti Museum displays, is obvious in the new early motoring diorama just recently completed.



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Well, of course there’s a car in our town – but that hasn’t always been the case. Horses ruled the streets of Taranaki’s early towns – often muddy, poorly formed streets – and not a car in sight. Old postcards proudly record early town scenes, the progress being made and ever increasing solid, new buildings. But dating the arrival of the first car from them is difficult – they just suddenly appear in later

photos.

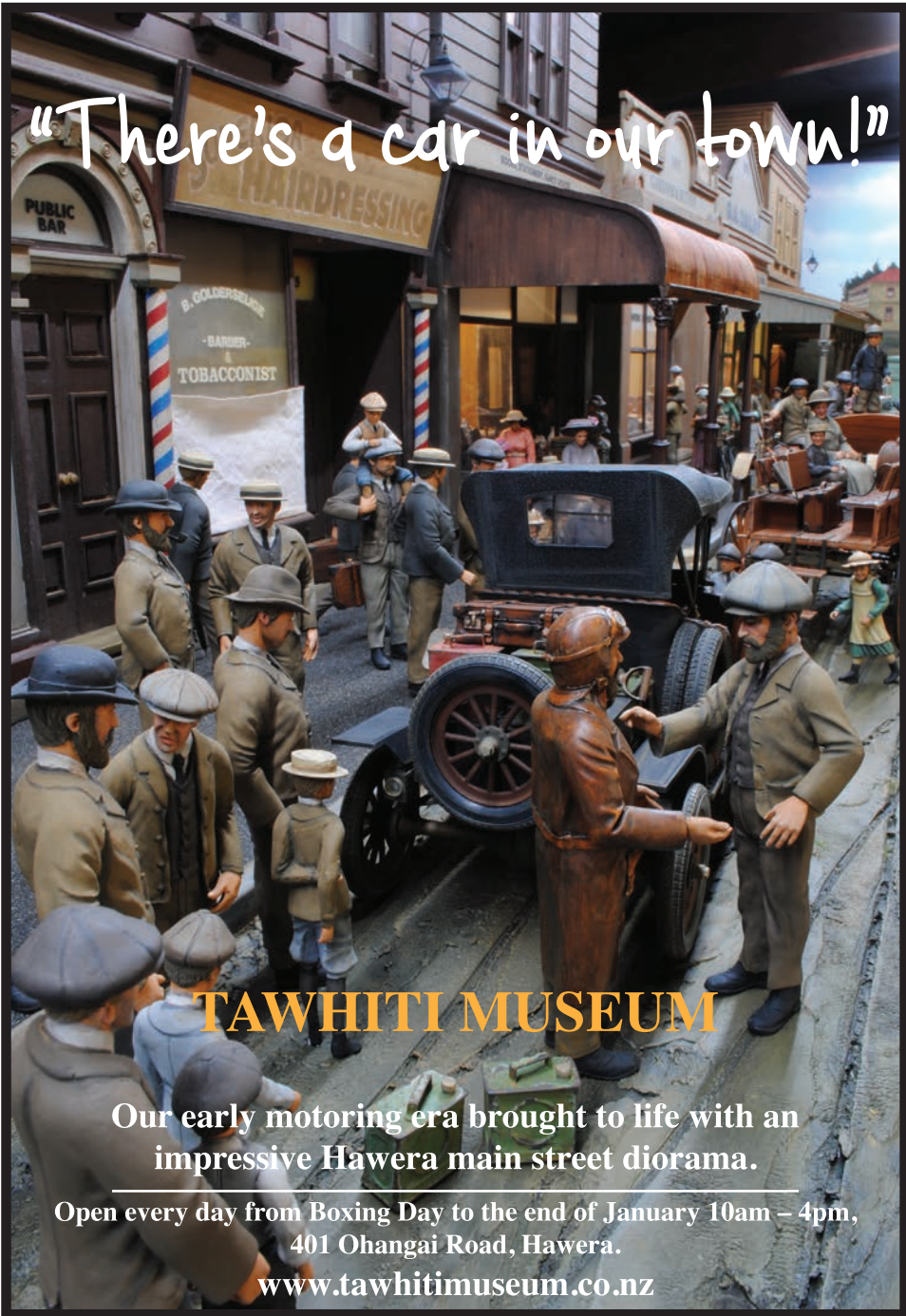
In Hawera’s case, early newspapers also appear to have overlooked that vital information – when? who? where did it come from? The first car arriving in town would have been seen as a major event by its citizens, but why didn’t the newspapers cover it?

An out of town newspaper recorded that a young man brought his fiancé from the Manawatu through to Taranaki in his new car in 1902. There’s every chance he passed through Hawera, but it wasn’t reported locally. James Livingston, a local

land owner, purchased a Darracq car in 1904, but prior to that he had owned a steam car built by A. W. Reid in Stratford – but what year did it arrive in Hawera? It must be a strong candidate for Hawera’s first car I would say. A court case in Hawera, 1904, related to a Mr. Thomas Lindsay driving his car into town, sounding his horn and seriously upsetting the horses in the street. For his efforts he was charged with causing a public disturbance. The case was dismissed, but the incident was well reported in the press and so became a milepost in Hawera’s history.

Tawhiti Museum’s new display covers the early years of motoring in Taranaki. The large diorama features an early car arriving outside The Empire Hotel in High Street, Hawera. Horses, wagons, gigs, horse-vans, mums and daughters, dads and sons, dogs, cats, bicycles all feature in an incredibly detailed 4.5 metre, 1:15 scale diorama which has taken two years to build. Other aspects of that early motoring era are being worked on currently, but that first large diorama will be on display from Boxing Day

“There’s a car in our town!”



TAWHITI MUSEUM

Our early motoring era brought to life with an impressive Hawera main street diorama.

Open every day from Boxing Day to the end of January 10am – 4pm,
401 Ohangai Road, Hawera.

www.tawhitimuseum.co.nz

A whole lot of Elvis in this building



Elvis lives! At least he does at Kevin D Wasley’s astonishing museum, which houses more than 10,000 of the King’s records and a mind-blowing collection of Elvis memorabilia collected over nearly 60 years. ‘Passion is an understatement’, says KD, who’s grey hair is slicked back and on theme. Admission is by appointment – phone ahead.



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**OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS**

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, Margaret Briscoe and 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 non-golfers and golfers, and it's become a popular family friendly event. Business House Golf starts on January 8 (see advertisement). On January 19, the club will be hosting its fifth annual Multi-Sponsored Tournament with over \$15,000 worth of prizes including three cash draws of \$200 (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.

Great views for a round of golf



The Pungarehu Golf course has wonderful sea and mountain veiws. Come for a drive around State Highway 45. You will find a lovely country course with country hospitality. An easy course of 4763m with views of Mount Egmont, Tasman Sea and the Cape Egmont Lighthouse, part of the course winds around a historic Pa site and a few lahars complete the picture, Par 68 for men and 71 for the ladies.Bring a Picnic and relax.

Manaia Golf Club



Membership for the club is \$520 full member ,\$275 for new members , \$60 for secondary students , \$30 for primary and \$20 green fees . The course also provide powered sites for 5 motor homes with toilet ,shower and laundry facilities available .The course offers a well maintained course that is a gentle contour for easy access no booking is required. A beautiful country course please come and enjoy .



Opunake Golf course.

Pungarehu Golf Club
6199 Main South Rd, Pungarehu
Green Fees \$10 18 Hole Course
Subs:Adult \$250 Students \$75
Just rock up and play!
Bring along a picnic lunch and
enjoy the country air
Call Sharon 06 763 8365

Manaia Golf Club
Green fees \$20 per round
on our historic course
Boxing Day Tournament \$10 entry
Turn up on the day from 9.30am
New members welcome
Ph Jackie 06 764 6412

OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB
6th Annual Multi-Sponsored Tournament
New Year Open Tournament
Sunday 19th January 2020
Entry Fee \$40 includes Meal, Two's, Nearest to the pins. Free Halfway house.
Five divisions Nett/Stableford & a Field Gross
Tee Times: 7am to 1pm
Contact Callum Roach
Ph 027 212 7115

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Entry Fee \$12 per team per night (meals available)
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Teams of 4 (golfers and non-golfers)
If you require players or are available to play contact the Golf Club on 06 761 8070 or Aarun Langton on 027 226 5386
Everyday Play Available
\$10 Green Fees - Affiliated Golfers
\$15 for Non Affiliated Students \$10



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Taranaki


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Garden fun in the summer

Celebrate summer at Taranaki's premier heritage properties - Pukeiti, Tupare and Hollard Gardens. Each has its own character, style and fascinating history, and there's plenty see and do. The gardens are open all day, every day and entry is free. Pukeiti - 2290 Carrington Rd, New Plymouth No matter what the weather, there's always something interesting to see and do at Pukeiti. It has one of the world's biggest and



Excitement and discovery on the Kids Treehouse Trail, Pukeiti.



Family tucker time at the free gas barbecue on the Tupare River Flat.

most diverse collections of rhododendrons and other exotics -- their rich colours burst into life against a backdrop of lush native rainforest. The 360ha property also boasts an all-weather visitor centre and a great range of free, family-oriented activities and walking tracks for all fitness levels. Check out the Kids Treehouse Trail, the Garden Passport Challenge or Founders Café. And there's much more! See the Pukeiti Facebook page or www.pukeiti.nz. Hollard Gardens - 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga This delightful oasis of colour in the heart of fertile dairy country boasts an incredibly diverse plant collection that's recognised as nationally important. It's built on the legacy of renowned plantsman Bernie Hollard, who established the garden in the 1920s. Year-round, Hollard Gardens buzzes with the sound of insects and birds feeding on seasonal flowers, fruits and seeds. Kids will love the quirky playground in the Family Corner, with free gas barbecues on hand. And Bernie's Home Garden has lots of ideas for the keen home gardener. Check out these and more on the Hollard Gardens Facebook page or www.hollardgardens.nz. Tupare - 487 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth It's almost unbelievable that a steep hillside overlooking

the Waiwhakaiho River could be sculpted into such an elegant landscaped garden with luscious borders, majestic trees and secluded outdoor rooms. Established by the Matthews family in the 1930s, Tupare's central feature is a majestic house in the Arts and Crafts architectural style, based on a design by the renowned James Chapman-Taylor. Bring the family and make the most of the beautiful gardens and picnic spots, the tennis court and the river flat with free gas barbecues. See the Tupare Facebook page or www.tupare.nz. Gardens Passport Challenge Visit the Pukeiti exhibition at Puke Ariki before 20 February and pick up a Garden Passport. Collect the four passwords and write them in your passport. This will give you the secret code which you will need to enter the competition to name a new hybrid rhododendron. Submit your rhodo name at



Getting to know a resident at Bernie's Home Garden, Hollard Gardens.

www.nameavireya.nz at the new Family Hut Competition closes 29 nestled in the Pukeiti February 2020. You'll win a rainforest. free night's accommodation



Fun in the fast lane at Hollard Gardens.

Garden Events Calendar

SAT 4 JAN	TŪPARE Tūpare Summer Fair 10am to 2pm - free family fun	SUN 1 MAR	HOLLARD GARDENS Children's Day 10am to 2pm - free family fun	TUE 7 APR	TŪPARE World Health Day From 7.30am - free event
SUN 26 JAN	HOLLARD GARDENS The benefits of herbs 10am to 12pm - free workshop	SUN 22 MAR	HOLLARD GARDENS - \$100pp Easy cheese-making 10am to 3pm - booking essential	MON 13 APR	TŪPARE Easter bunny hunt From 10am - free family fun
SAT 2 FEB	TŪPARE Kids' Fest 10am to 2pm - free family fun	SUN 22 MAR	PUKEITI Pukeiti Adventure Trail 10am to 3pm - fun run	SUN 19 APR	HOLLARD GARDENS - \$100pp Soap making and cleaning 10am to 3pm - booking essential
SUN 16 FEB	HOLLARD GARDENS Fundamentals of gardening 10am to 12pm - free workshop	SUN 5 APR	PUKEITI Feelgood Fest 10am to 2pm - free expo	SUN 26 APR	HOLLARD GARDENS Chestnuts and quinces 10am to 12pm - free workshop
SUN 23 FEB	HOLLARD GARDENS Sustainable Food Festival 10am to 6pm - free family fun	SUN 5 APR	TŪPARE - \$100pp Easy cheese-making 10am to 3pm - booking essential	www.trc.govt.nz/whats-on	

TŪPARE
487 Mangorei Rd, New Plymouth
www.tupare.nz

PUKEITI
2290 Carrington Rd, New Plymouth
www.pukeiti.nz

HOLLARD GARDENS
1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga
www.hollardgardens.nz

Gardens are open all day, every day - free entry

0800 736 222

Loop Trail a walk in progress

The Opunake Loop Trail continues to steam ahead with our Opunake Lions Club having good conditions in the past month allowing for progress to be made at the north end of the track, with a large concrete pour taking place to form a bridge that covers a drain leading to the Otahi Stream. Once this has taken place, the bones of the trail will be complete, except for a small section that follows the stream behind the old dairy factory (with this section hoped to be completed soon) and the walkway through the newly formed Hurst Park. The outstanding work our Lions Club has made to form the Loop trail has been no easy feat, and their dedication to the project is to be applauded. We know this is greatly appreciated



The walk gives a stunning view of Opunake Beach.



More scenic views.



And a seat to rest.

by the wider community. The Opunake Loop Trail committee has been hard at work collating the community's wishes around the vision of the trail, and planning for development stages is underway. As you can appreciate, such a large project it will take time, but with our town and wider community's support the project will enhance the township and provide great recreational, social and environmental benefits. Please enjoy the Loop Trail over the summer months, but always take care as some parts still have work to be completed. If you have any suggestions or would like to know what's happening around the Loop, please follow our Facebook page "Opunake Loop Trail" for up to date information and details on how you can help. We will be holding regular working bees in the coming year to enhance sections of the trail so please come and join in.

Opunake Loop Trail Committee



Mary Dobie who was murdered. Her grave is near Opunake Lake. Several years ago a book was published about the historic case.

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Sounds on the Sand



Photo Dana Mc Murray



Sounds on the Sand is returning to Ōpunakē this summer. The South Taranaki District Council is bringing *Roadhouse* to Ōpunakē Beach on Saturday January 18 from 1.00pm.

Roadhouse will fill the beach with relaxed vibes as they play a variety of covers for all to enjoy. *Roadhouse* is based in New Plymouth and has played together on and off for 25 years, playing right round Taranaki, but they particularly love playing out on the coast.

"It is exciting to give a Roadhouse the opportunity to perform at this event," says Community Events Co-ordinator Hayley Old. "*Roadhouse* are a polished group of musicians who have a passion for entertaining. They play a wide range of genres including reggae, pop, soul and rock – so there is bound to be something for everyone!"

Pack a picnic, or grab some food from the campsite shop, and bring the whole family down to make an afternoon of it.

This free community event is proudly bought to you by the South Taranaki District Council.

SUMMER SOUNDS ON THE SAND

Saturday 18 January, 1pm
Ōpunakē Beach

FEATURING

R O A D H O U S E

For more information contact South Taranaki District Council
on 0800 111 323 or events@stdc.govt.nz

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To provide a caring, Catholic, family environment where faith, values and skills are nurtured, enabling pupils to be successful and responsible citizens.

Year 8 Graduates

We acknowledge the contribution of our Year 8 students who are leaving our school. Thank you for always representing our school with mana and integrity. We wish you all the very best on the next part of your learning journey. Opunake High School are gaining: Charlie Carr, Shinae Minhinnick, Stak Hickey, Caleb Neil, Amiel Sabuero and Cheska Centeno. Going to Sacred Heart Girls College is Kayleigh Fleming, Sophia Thompson, Paton Bartley and Alika Hunn. Francis Douglas Memorial College enrolments include Toby O'Rorke, Jono Lang, Jerram Sinclair and Andrew Lawn. May God Bless you.

Tag Oil Tough Kids Challenge

Students in Years 6 - 8 had the opportunity to take part in the Tag Oil Tough Kids Challenge, run by Sport Taranaki, which was held in Hawera, at the A & P Show grounds on Friday November 29th.



Alika Hunn, Shinae Minhinnick and Charlie Carr having fun in the sun at the Tough Kids Challenge.

The students had so much fun completing the obstacle courses, firstly as individuals and then in teams of four. Water, Mud, and challenges aplenty made for an exciting day!

3 Bees Rewards

Three lucky students were drawn out of the hat to have morning tea this term with Mr Murfitt in recognition of their awesome efforts at school. Congratulations to Amy O'Rorke, Holly Gulliver and Kiarn Robins. Many thanks to Arty Tarts for being our hosts over the year.



Looking ahead to 2020

We have five vibrant classrooms next year staffed with amazing teachers.

Year 0 - 1 - Stephanie van Vuuren, Year 1 & 2 - Clare Andersen-Gardiner, Year 3 & 4 - Gill Danson, Year 5 & 6 - Rochelle Griggs, Year 7 & 8 - Brook Murfitt. We have achieved amazing results this year with 93% students achieving at or above curriculum expectations in mathematics, 88% of students achieving at or above curriculum expectations in reading, 80% of students achieving at or above

curriculum expectations in writing. A huge thank you to all our staff for working so tirelessly for our students throughout the year.

Next year will see the Board of Trustees start the process for appointment of a new principal with the resignation of Mrs Margaret Duynhoven, as of the end of Term 1 2020.

Margaret has been an inspirational and colourful leader over the last 7 years at our school.



Mrs D - aka Geronimo Stilton with Melissa Kuriger - also dressed up as Geronimo Stilton on our Book Character Dress Up Day.

Gladiators Production

Over Term 3 the entire school took part in practicing for the end of year school production. Paul Andersen-Gardiner once again shared his artistic talents with the school and directed this colourful production. The senior students, who had leading roles, performed confidently and sang beautifully. Thank you to all of those involved in the making of this spectacular event. Particular thanks to Mrs van Vurren and Joshua Ramos (Year 6) for playing the piano and the organ. Well done to all students.



Kayleigh Fleming and Cheska Centeno were stunning goddesses



Amiel Sabuero and Payton Bartley as the Emperor and Empress



Gladiators were Stak Hickey, Ayla Torbett, Jono Lang, Toby O'Rorke, Charlie Carr and Jerram Sinclair.

Meri Kirihimete to All from St Joseph's Primary.

Dairy Environment Leaders are embracing change

The DairyNZ Dairy Environment Leaders in Wellington and are returning to their individual communities optimistic about the future of dairy

MALCOLM CAMPBELL LIVESTOCK

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Dairy Environment leaders meet at Te Papa.

farming and energised to drive positive change, says DEL chairwoman Tracy Brown.

"This year's theme was about embracing change and supporting communities' which we strongly believe are two sides of the same coin. You can't have one without the other" Mrs Brown said.

"Farmers are demonstrating a real willingness to embrace change, and New Zealanders need to see that willingness and support our rural communities and famers on their journey to a more sustainable future. We are all in this together and we all want the same thing at the end of the day.

"I've never met a farmer who didn't want clean waterways and a sustainable climate – but I've met plenty who are anxious about the pace and scale of change required and the tools available to help them meet changing public

expectations.

"We need to move at a pace that communities can keep up with and ensure our farming businesses remain internationally competitive and economically viable.

"Our Dairy Environment Leaders are an incredibly positive and engaged network of farmers who are actively demonstrating what is possible for our sector through their actions. The public sees what they are doing and so do other farmers.

"The Dairy Environment Leaders Forum is about equipping these farmers with the skills and knowledge they need to be positive and effective ambassadors in their communities.

"Day 1 was about the challenges we face, day 2 was focused on breaking down those challenges to manageable pieces, and day

3 was about picking up the challenges and embracing them.

"What became very clear as we worked through this process was that the way forward for our sector will be through enabling farmers to co-develop the solutions.

"We will continue to look for opportunities to create transformational partnerships with people and organisations that want to work with us to improve environmental outcomes – and that includes the Government.

"It was really positive to hear the Prime Minister reiterate to our delegates that she has a real willingness to engage with farmers and work with our Dairy Environment Leaders to amplify our voice, come up with workable solutions, and drive change.

"One of our delegates

shared some wise words with the Prime Minister: If you want to go fast, you go alone. If you want to go far, you take people with you.

"This year we have already seen the agricultural sector and Government come together in a world-first partnership to build an enduring farm-level emission reduction framework and we are hopeful that something similar might be possible when it comes to other environmental challenges.

"Yes, there will be an economic impact, but this isn't just a cost – it's an investment in the future of our industry – and the future of our rural communities. We want our children and grandchildren to be able to farm with pride as we have if they choose to. It's also about doing what's right" Mrs Brown concluded.

Launch of Vision for primary sector

Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor has welcomed the release of a bold new vision for the country's vital food and fibre sector.

"I'm delighted that New Zealand's major farmer and grower organisations are supporting the Primary Sector Council's vision – Fit for a Better World," he said.

"The international consumers who buy our world-class product increasingly want to know the story behind their food. They want to know it's climate friendly and sustainably produced, with high animal welfare

standards and by a workforce that's treated with respect and paid fairly.

"By using Fit for a Better World as our guide, I'm confident we'll achieve premiums in the marketplace from consumers seeking out our food and produce.

"As a government we're committed to helping farmers and growers get more value for their work while protecting our unique environment.

Mr O'Connor thanked the council for its work.

"Our nation's farmers and growers produce some of the highest quality food and fibre in the world, but we must

adapt to our consumers' changing needs.

"I established the Primary Sector Council to provide fresh thinking and develop a vision to help sectors navigate the environmental and sustainability challenges it faces.

"The council's engagement with Kiwi farmers, growers, fishers, makers and crafters has resulted in a vision which the sector can rally around."

Mr O'Connor said the council would develop its final report and recommendations, which were expected in March 2020, to deliver meaningful change."

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DeLaval has introduced its latest addition to the VMS product line. The new DeLaval VMS milking system V310 comes with the new DeLaval RePro that detects heat and pregnancy automatically during the milking process.

The DeLaval VMS V310 builds on the success of the VMS V300 launched last year. The features of DeLaval InControl, DeLaval PureFlow and DeLaval InSight are standard on both systems with DeLaval

RePro standard exclusively on the VMS V310. DeLaval RePro provides dairy farmers with accurate insights into the reproductive status of each cow in the herd. Using progesterone based sampling and analysis, heat and pregnancy can be detected in real time as well as cows that are not cycling as they should. This new feature allows farmers to save both time and cost of managing reproduction and unwanted open days.

DeLaval VMS V310

automatically confirms pregnant cows, which can result in healthier cows and reduced veterinarian costs due to cows becoming pregnant at the right time with more productive lactations.

“With the VMS V310, the robot is in charge of 90% of our tasks. Before we needed ultrasounds, but with Repro we hardly need them anymore because the system tells us when the cows are pregnant,” says Christian Legret, DeLaval VMS V310

owner, France.

Having two models available means there are options to choose the voluntary milking system that best matches needs and farming style.

Both the VMS V300 and the VMS V310 feature the core functionality that can help ensure cows are milked to their full potential, and the VMS V310 automatically confirms pregnancy.

The DeLaval VMS V310 will become available in Oceania in 2020.



Next year the latest in robotic milking maybe coming to a farm near you.

EU clawback takes dairy opportunities off the table

The ongoing expansion of the EU’s geographic indication (GI) agenda will now prevent New Zealand dairy producers from exporting feta and other commonly produced cheeses to the high value Chinese market, as part of a recent agreement between the EU and China say the Dairy Companies Association of New Zealand(DCANZ).

New Zealand’s dairy exports to China were valued at over NZD5bn in 2018, with cheese exports across all products valued at over NZD340m.

“The EU-China Agreement is part of a rapidly growing number of trade agreements the EU has negotiated with third countries such as

Japan, Mexico, Vietnam, and Singapore. Through these agreements the EU is seeking to monopolise a wide range of cheese terms that are in common use globally and produced in significant quantities outside of the EU” says DCANZ Executive Director Kimberly Crewther.

“Opportunities for cheeses that New Zealand has produced for decades and never called any other name, like parmesan, feta and gruyere, are gradually being eroded”.

DCANZ is concerned about where these efforts to protect generic cheese names will end.

In 2017, the EU registered ‘Danbo’ as a protected

term, despite previous acknowledgement by the Danish dairy industry that Danbo is a generic cheese name and the significant global production outside of Europe, including in New Zealand.

More recently, the EU has registered ‘Havarti’ as a protected term for sole use by Denmark in the EU, despite a majority of the global production being outside Denmark and the EU’s own implicit recognition of the term as generic through the prior Codex standard setting process and to trade rules under the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

“The registration of Danbo and Havarti as protected GIs raises serious questions

about the integrity of the EU’s GI registration process and framework” says Crewther.

DCANZ has no objection to the EU’s GI protections for cheese names that are genuinely unique to a particular geography. However, past recognition of genericity via international agreements, and a significant history of production in other geographies as a result of shared cultural heritage, should be respected as disqualifying criteria.

“The approach of protecting internationally recognised, and commonly used terms demonstrates that the flawed EU GI system is too often used for the EU’s own self-interest and economic

gain, and not for legitimate intellectual property protection,”0 says Crewther.

“If Havarti meets the definition of a GI, then there are no cheese names that wouldn’t. There is no certainty around where this attempt to claw back commonly trade cheese names will end”.

These developments come amidst ongoing EU-NZ Free Trade Agreement (FTA) negotiations, in which the EU is seeking changes to New Zealand’s current regulatory settings in order to protect 2,200 terms with provision for additional terms to be protected in the future.

“DCANZ continues to register its concerns that

the extensive GI framework proposed by the EU in the negotiations could stifle local investment and innovation in local cheesemaking, limit consumer choice in New Zealand, and significantly undermine New Zealand’s opportunity for added value cheese exports.”

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New laws look to back farmers

The passing of the Farm Debt Mediation and NAIT laws shows the Government's commitment to working alongside and helping farmers, says Agriculture and Biosecurity Minister Damien O'Connor.

"These new laws are necessary to address the previous Government's nine years of neglecting the big issues facing the primary sector.

"By passing these pieces of legislation the Coalition Government has helped ensure the future sustainability of the sector.

"The Farm Debt Mediation Act supports the mental, emotional and financial wellbeing of farmers and farming families who find

themselves in financial strife.

"Total farm debt in New Zealand is \$62.8 billion – up 270 per cent on 20 years ago.

"The failure of a farm business can lead to the farmer and their family losing both their business and their home. For many rural communities the failure of one farm can have a ripple effect through those communities and the regional economy.

"Farmers who operate a family business often don't have the resources to negotiate their own protections when dealing with lenders.

"This scheme will help to provide certainty for those facing the hard challenge of paying back debt. It'll



Damian O'Connor.

provide a way to help them get through, so they can get on with running their businesses and supporting their families."

Mr O'Connor said the ongoing efforts to eradicate Mycoplasma bovis highlighted flaws in the NAIT scheme.

"The previous government

set up the scheme and then let it languish, with little to no oversight and no consequences for lack of compliance. We've addressed their inaction and created the animal tracing scheme New Zealand needs to keep our primary sectors and economy safe.

"We've done our best to make compliance easier for farmers, including transition periods where possible to help farmers adjust. Combined, these steps will see real changes for the industry and improvements to our biosecurity system."

"We had great cooperation from industry to help improve the Act quickly and efficiently, and now we have a NAIT system that's fit for the future."

Great advertisement for select committee process

The passing of the Farm Debt Mediation Act and amendments to the NAIT Act is not only good news for the agriculture sector but a great advertisement for New Zealand's select committee process, Federated Farmers says.

"The squabbling and name-calling in the Parliamentary 'bear pit' tends to grab the headlines, but away from the limelight in select committees our MPs are more willing to put aside politicking and strive for practicable solutions," Feds Vice-President Andrew Hoggard says.

"We certainly saw this with the Farm Debt Mediation and NAIT bills. MPs from all

sides of the House listened closely to submissions from Federated Farmers and other industry representatives, and asked probing questions. The result, in both cases, is legislation that is significantly improved from first drafts."

Federated Farmers acknowledges the work of NZ First, in particular Mark Patterson, the Agriculture Minister Damien O'Connor, as well as Ministry officials to develop farm debt mediation legislation that should help facilitate better conversations between farmers and their banks and if necessary a more structured way to address problems.

As Mark Patterson noted, the legislation is not a "get out of jail free card", and won't absolve farmers who make poor financial decisions.

"But it does go some way to addressing the power imbalance between a farmer whose business is also their livelihood and often the family home, and major multinational financial institutions. There's now a process that ensures some fairness and transparency," Andrew says.

The farm debt mediation legislation goes live in June 2020 and in the meantime MPI will be setting up the architecture for it and working to get mediation

bodies accredited.

On the NAIT front, the select committee adopted a number of Federated Farmers' suggestions – including that farmers not the Government own core data entered on the system, and a review period for the 'unsafe to tag' provisions.

"Like the Government, Feds wants much better NAIT compliance and we welcome the acknowledgement that the latest rule changes are but first steps as we continue the drive for progress on operational and ease-of-use improvements to ensure we have a system that is fit for purpose and able to deal with foreseeable future risks."

EPA releases findings on Mapara 1080 operation

An aerial 1080 operation that was linked to the deaths of eight cattle in the King Country substantially complied with the relevant controls and procedures, an inquiry has found.

The Department of Conservation (DOC) pest control operation was conducted over the Mapara Wildlife Reserve – 1,400 hectares of Conservation estate 35 kilometres southeast of Te Kuiti – in September 2018.

The Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) has concluded, on the balance of evidence, that livestock owned by farmers Mark and Paula Stone entered the operational area

where the 1080 was dropped via an insecure fence and ate the poison.

The scope of the EPA's enquiry was to determine whether the operation was compliant with Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act controls and procedures, and determine the circumstances of the cattle deaths.

The Authority identified one breach by DOC of its standard operating procedures, where they did not advise the Stones of a decision to exclude a pocket of bush which the Stones had earlier consented to include in the operation. It was determined that this

breach however, was not a factor in the cattle deaths.

The report makes a set of recommendations intended to improve the consultation process for aerial 1080 operations by providing more clarity for operators and landowners. They include the use of higher quality mapping, and better information about how 1080 behaves once spread, in terms of bioaccumulation and biodegradation. Improvements to information, particularly for farmers, regarding "withholding periods", caution periods, and label and signage requirements, are also recommended.

In the months preceding

the operation, DOC staff gained permission from farmers Mark and Paula Stone to extend its operation onto 65 ha of bush on their land. The Stones' property borders onto the Mapara Reserve. Three days after the operation, Mr and Mrs Stone found eight of their cows dead. Two months after the incident, the EPA determined that it was appropriate to independently investigate the incident.

DOC and Mr and Mrs Stone, along with the Ministry of Health, Ministry for Primary Industries and WorkSafe, provided feedback on the enquiry report before it was finalised.

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Zinc a priority as facial eczema risk heightens

Facial eczema could be costing dairy farmers more than \$100,000 a year in lost milk production, according to a recent study led by Veterinary Enterprises Group (VetEnt) Research. DairyNZ estimates that for every clinical case of facial eczema there will be 10 cows with subclinical. And that can be costly, not only in dollar terms, but also for animal health.

Not all animals affected by facial eczema show physical signs, but there is likely to be underlying liver damage, which is irreversible.

As the summer nights get warmer and humidity rises, the risk of facial eczema increases, posing risks to farmers' herd health and



A field day learning about facial eczema.

their bottom line. Graincorp Feeds General Manager Daniel Calcinai is

encouraging farmers to start their zinc dosing early ahead of the danger period.

"The fungus that causes facial eczema produces spores at the base of pasture when grass temperatures start to rise and humidity sets in, typically between January and May," he says.

"There is no cure for facial eczema, so farmers should be dosing their herd with zinc now as a preventative measure before these spores develop."

Calcinai warns farmers that high doses of zinc can be toxic for dairy cows, while under-dosing won't provide adequate levels of protection.

"It's important to know the weight of your animals to ensure you get the dosage rates right," he says.

This was the key message at GrainCorp's recent zinc on-farm fielddays, held in the Waikato in partnership with animal nutrition specialists, Nutritech.

"The Waikato and Taranaki's warm, humid climate means there is a

particularly high risk of facial eczema in these regions at this time of the year," says Calcinai. "The objective of the fielddays was to encourage farmers to be proactive about managing FE and discuss effective preventative measures."

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by Rolland McKellar

The mysterious tragedy

Up until 1930 this was the worst alpine disaster in New Zealand. We thought readers might be interested in this account which involved a relative of Rolland and Bernice McKellar of the Opunake & Coastal News. The worst mountain disaster since was on Mt Taranaki in 1953 when six people died. The victims, while roped together, fell over a bluff.

One of my most treasured possessions is the photograph album, which belonged to my late (half) uncle – John Edward Eldridge Blomfield – known as Teddy Blomfield – along with some large framed photographs of the man in mountain climbing garb.

I was aware that my uncle, who died before I was born, had died “in the mountains”, near Mt Cook in heroic circumstances, aged just 20, but I was unsure *when* the tragedy had taken place, or the circumstances. The black-leaved photo album was nearly full with many (133) photographs of mountains and climbers, virtually all annotated in Teddy’s neat white writing, but the last few pages were blank and last entry was 12/9/1929, although several later photos had captions without dates. Also, the last few photographs were not captioned. This raised the question in my mind – did the tragedy occur in early 1930, or perhaps very late 1929? It was time to do some research.

This tragedy, New Zealand’s worst alpine accident (up until that time), was big news at the time, with pages in newspapers devoted to the tragedy and subsequent recovery of the five bodies. Headlines such as these in Dunedin’s Otago Daily Times ‘THE TASMAN TRAGEDY’, ‘RECOVERY OF THE BODIES’, ‘DIFFICULTIES OF SEARCH PARTY’, and



Teddy resting with his alpine gear.

Photo of Teddy Blomfield with his climbing gear and ice axe. It appeared in the Otago Daily Times on January, 1930 in enlarged form.

‘GUIDE BLOMFIELD’S HEROISM’ captivated the newspaper’s many readers.

Shocked Canterbury readers read similar headlines in the The Press; ‘FIVE LIVES LOST’, ‘TRAGEDY AT MT COOK’, ‘FIERCE BLIZZARD’, and ‘DEATH DUE TO COLD’. All over New Zealand newspapers echoed these, or similar, headlines.

In his final alpine photograph album, Teddy Blomfield had written “Proud Peak – climbed on skis by self and V. Williams 14/9/29 – A 1st Winter Ascent”, accompanied by

three photographs. Just over four months later Teddy lay dead on the Tasman Glacier, where it meets the much smaller Rudolph Glacier – near the bodies of his four companions – all female.

The scene of the tragedy is referred to as ‘the De La Beche Corner’ – after

nearby Mt De La Beche and the corner formed by the juncture of the Tasman and Rudolph Glaciers. The date of the tragedy was 19 January 1930. Ironically, Teddy’s climbing companion during the Mt Proud ascent, Chief Guide Vic Williams, was involved in the recovery of Teddy’s body just three months later.

It was small comfort to his mother Jessie May (nee Sinclair) McKellar and stepfather Dr Thomas George McKellar that Teddy Blomfield was awarded a prestigious award for bravery, posthumously – for his valiant attempt to save his companions, whom he was guiding, which included giving much of his own clothing in a vain effort to help the other four keep warm. “Blomfield was practically naked, all his clothing having been given to the women” (Otago Daily Times, 22.1.1930).

The Press (23.1.1930), in a tribute to Teddy echoed the words (in his personal diary) of *Captain Robert Falcon Scott* of Antarctic fame, “...a tale of gallantry unexcelled in the history of New Zealand. ...We mourn the loss of these young lives, but rejoice that a young New Zealander has proved *once again men can endure hardships, help one another and meet death with as great a fortitude as ever in the past...* Teddy’s name will live forever as a shining example of youthful chivalry.”

Teddy Blomfield (born 1909), had passed his second year medical student exams and was a member of a prominent Dunedin family. His father was the late Dr Edward Blomfield – Jessie May’s first husband. Teddy’s grandfather (Jessie May’s father) was the well known lawyer Sir John

Sinclair. Teddy was also an accomplished mountaineer – having pioneered some first winter ascents in the Southern Alps and he was a trainee alpine guide. He had also been overseas. For example, I have a 1927 alpine photo of him at St Bernard Pass, Italy, but I’m unsure if it was a *mountaineering* venture – although I suspect it was.

From the photographs in his album, Teddy appears slight of build, below average height with a fair complexion. Despite the fact he was studying to be a medical practitioner, in several of the photographs, a cigarette can be seen between his lips. He always looks very relaxed and rather carefree. He was evidently a superb guide. “The fact that the bodies were found on the right and recognised route on the glacier reflects very great credit on Guide Blomfield, especially in such a storm the visibility would be practically nil,” stated Professor R.M. Algie of Auckland University. He added that a mountaineer who had travelled with Teddy, “... writes of him in the highest possible terms.” (Otago Daily Times, 21.1.1930).

In those days, a bus made daily trips from the Hermitage to the Ball Hut, the hut which was closest to the road – near the base of the Tasman Glacier about 50 kilometres away (the last 6km had to be walked). The Ball Hut was on the west (Mt Cook) side of the glacier, fairly close to the Hochstetter Icefall. In Teddy’s photograph album is a photo of the bus with his caption “The Bus waiting to leave” – positioned just outside the entrance to The Hermitage. The alpine



The Malte Brun Hut c.1929, Teddy Blomfield is on the left with skis over his shoulder.

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Taking a break on the Tasman Glacier journey. From left, Dr T.G. McKellar, Guide Peter Graham, Jessie May Blomfield and Dr Blomfield.

party would have boarded the bus here on January 18, 1930; this included Teddy and the four women. The women were Doris Herbert-Brown (38), Mary Monteath (20), Helena Keene (24) and Dorothy Smith (26). After the bus stopped, they walked

the final six kilometres to the Ball Hut (1188 metres) on the west side of the Tasman Glacier. At that time there were at least two other parties of climbers intending to climb in the Tasman Glacier area – one member wrote, “Five

young lives were lost in a storm which swept the Southern Alps in the middle of the summer in 1930 and to this day no one has been able to furnish a satisfactory explanation as to why those young people died. The tragedy remains one

of the most baffling alpine accidents New Zealand has known ...” “All kinds of theories have been advanced to account for the deaths, but none has been satisfactory.” (p118 in ‘More NZ Disasters’ by E. Grayland, 1978).

In 1924 British mountaineers George Mallory and Sandy Irvine were last seen near the summit of Mt Everest, climbing vigorously – never to be seen alive again. The world’s most famous alpine mystery – did they reach the summit? Here in NZ, just six years later, the Blomfield party were on the verge of creating this country’s biggest alpine mystery – how could they have succumbed to the conditions so rapidly?

On January 18, Teddy Blomfield’s alpine party made their way up the Tasman Glacier towards the old Malte Brun Hut (1737 metres) on the opposite (from the Ball Hut or Mount Cook) side of the Tasman Glacier, where they were to

spend the night. For at least some of the way the three separate parties travelled together as they made their way up the glacier. About 14 kilometres ‘as the crow flies’, the journey took them four and a half hours.

Another alpine party (as described by Grayland, 1978) eventually headed off in the direction of the Haast Hut – they were intending to climb Mt Cook. Significantly, from their vantage point in a different hut – high above the Tasman Glacier, the worsening weather led to a decision the next morning to stay put and abandon the intention to climb New Zealand’s highest peak.

After a good night’s sleep and breakfast, Teddy and the four women set off the next morning at 10.30am (January 19) from the Malte Brun Hut to retrace their route down the Tasman Glacier and return to the Hermitage, via the Ball Hut. The Malte Brun Hut, incidentally, was well known to Teddy. In his photo album is a photograph of himself (preceding photo) and two others standing in heavy snow with skis. Teddy has written above the photo the simple caption “At the Malte Brun Hut” – with no mention of the names of his two companions - one male

and one female.

However, on the day of misfortune - should they have set off? Bad weather threatened and it was raining. There was a discussion about the advisability of setting off just then. However, as two of the women were scheduled to catch the bus out of the Hermitage (Mt Cook’s hotel) the next day – they elected to set off, despite the inclement weather. “This was a fatal decision, costing the lives of the whole party” (p. 120 ‘The Disaster on the Tasman Glacier’ by GE Mannering, 1930).

Another trainee alpine guide, Charles ‘Charlie’ Hildendorf (21) elected to stay back and tidy up the hut, but eventually set off at 12 noon after the other five. (Charlie was not a member of the Blomfield party, but a member of Dr Bradshaw’s party). However, by now a storm was in full swing. “... a violent storm gathered, accompanied by much thunder and lightning. The wind was from the N.W. and of hurricane force, compelling him to crawl at times.” (p120, Mannering, 1930). As Charlie said at the inquest (22.1.30), “The conditions were so unpleasant that the metal head of my ice-axe sparked and sang whenever the

Continued page 52



The hummocky ice on the Tasman Glacier, with (from left) Bernice and Rolland McKellar.



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ABOVE
Colour photo (circa 1969) shows virtually the same scene, but much closer. The person in red, Dr Paula McKellar, is standing in the vicinity of the 1930 tragedy and is pointing towards the location of the De La Beche Memorial Hut (built 1931) - perched about 20 metres beyond the top of the moraine embankment.

The mysterious tragedy

Continued from page 51

lightning hit it.” (Otago Daily Times, 23.1.1930).

Just eight kilometres (and two hours) down the glacier, at the juncture of the Rudolph and Tasman Glaciers (De La Beche Corner), on the west side, Charlie came across a scene of disaster. Firstly, he came across Teddy Blomfield’s discarded ruck sack. Just 80 metres on, he encountered the body of the first woman, “...lying in a hollow as if sheltering from the wind” (p120, Mannering, 1930). Forty metres on he came across three more bodies, close together. He did not encounter Teddy - alive or dead! Charlie was about eight kilometres below the Malte Brun Hut and a kilometre below the De La Beche Corner. “In a direct line this spot is two and a half miles from the Malte Brun Hut.” (p121, Mannering, 1930).

Charlie Hildendorf reached the Ball Hut at 3.30pm – exhausted. A member of another party, Dr Bradshaw headed off for the Hermitage to break the terrible news. “... Guide Hildendorf came staggering out of the storm with news of what had happened at De La Beche Corner ... in a state of collapse ..” (Otago Daily Times, 23.1.1930).

Ball Hut Guide Michael Bowie and six others headed off in the direction of the tragedy and reached it in a rapid 90 minutes, with some glimmer of hope in their minds, “They took blankets, lanterns and food.” (p121, Mannering, 1930). They went past the four obviously dead women and found Teddy 150 metres further on. Could he be just barely alive? They covered him in blankets and rubbed him vigorously. However, their strenuous attempts at saving him failed. After giving most of his clothing to the women, Teddy was in the process of heading back towards the Malte Brun Hut for help. Abrasions on his hands and knees indicated much of his rescue attempt was on hands and knees. With the weather so appalling, they wrapped the bodies in blankets and returned to Ball Hut. The bodies could not be recovered just then.

Another climber and his party arrived at the Ball Hut to learn about the tragedy after passing a ski party coming up the glacier. “We were stunned by the news – those lovely young girls so full of life and laughter, with whom we had danced at the Hermitage; and the bright young student guide – all gone. The ski party we had seen on the glacier had been

on its way to recover the bodies.” (Grayland, 1978).

Ironically, some 25 years earlier, in 1905, Teddy’s parents had passed the very location where misfortune had overtaken their son. Just like Teddy’s party, their destination was the Malte Brun Hut. On the “hummocks of Tasman Glacier” is “A beautiful photo with a haunting sadness as time eclipses a human tragedy”, according to the caption. The photo shows a party of seven, with Dr F.R. Riley, Dr and Mrs (Jessie May) Blomfield, famous guide Peter Graham

and, my grandfather, Dr Thomas George McKellar, (whom Jessie May later married after Dr Blomfield’s death). My father, now deceased, was Professor T.P.H. (Peter) McKellar – Teddy’s younger half brother.

Everyone responds in a somewhat different way to the death of a family member and the recovery with the passage of time varies. It is my understanding that my grandmother (Jessie May Blomfield /McKellar) never got over the tragedy. I cannot recall her ever mentioning the death of her eldest son

to me.

Many years later (1969), my family made a nostalgic trip - also in summer - up the Tasman Glacier, past the location of the 1930 tragedy, to the De La Beche Memorial Hut – built as a tribute to those who died in the alpine accident. Our party included my mother Dr Paula McKellar and my youngest sister Bernice. I recall a long arduous trek, up the centre of the glacier, mostly on the hummocks of white ice, but we, unlike Teddy and his companions, experienced pleasant weather. We finally climbed a moraine wall on

the west side of the Tasman Glacier, some distance past the Hochstetter Icefall and located the memorial hut where we stayed the night - then retraced our steps the next day.

The hut was orange and clad in roofing iron. On the hut wall was a plaque which read: *De La Beche Memorial Refuge. Erected by friends and relations in memory of John Edward Eldridge ‘Teddy’ Blomfield, Doris Herbert-Brown, Mary Heret Monteath, Dorothy Marion Smith and Helena Keane, who perished in a great thunderstorm on the Tasman*

Glacier 19th January 1930.

The original De La Beche Hut was built in 1931 – near a rock bivouac. It was built in just five weeks by the NZ Alpine Club and was the first private (i.e. non-government) hut built in the Mt Cook region and cost 400 pounds (\$800). GE Mannering, who discovered the nearby rock bivouac (or bivvy) in 1889, put in the first screw of the memorial plaque at the official opening function on April 4, 1931. A second hut, at a slightly higher altitude, was built in 1979 by the NZ Alpine club. The original memorial hut has been demolished.

Teddy Blomfield’s last alpine photograph album, is in such pristine condition it is hard to believe it is 80 years old. It has photographs of climbs Teddy pioneered – such as several ‘first winter ascents’ in his short life, sometimes with the time taken carefully recorded, as well as the heights of peaks. There are also alpine scenes with fauna, such as keas and chamois. At the Ball Pass he writes “See Chamois disappearing near Sky-line” under one photograph. Teddy mentions a lot of names of people he encountered or climbed with, such as Arne Larsen and Alf Brustad “Taken after climbing Mt Cook Jan 30th 1929”, wrote Teddy. He even came across members of the Byrd Antarctic Expedition “Messrs Kessler, Perkins and Dr ” (he never found out his name). According to the photographic record, their huskies transported timber and iron for the proposed new Malte Brun Hut. Admiral Richard E. Byrd (USA) is best known for being the first person to fly over the North Pole (May 9, 1926) and, later, the South Pole (November 29, 1929).

Prophetically, there is a photo of a pyramid-shaped memorial of three climbers who lost their lives - “Memorial in Memory of S. King, D. Thompson and J. Richmond who were overwhelmed by an avalanche on the Linda Glacier”, was Teddy’s caption. This tragedy occurred in February 1914.

As Teddy snapped this photo, and later wrote the caption, little did he realise he would be part of the very next – and *worst* (up until that time) ‘alpine’ disaster in New Zealand’s history.

Writes one of the recovery team, famous mountaineer G.E. Mannering, “Since the inception of mountain climbing in New Zealand We have been singularly free from fatal accidents in the Tasman district, where most of our mountain ascents



‘At Pineapple Rock’ was the caption Teddy wrote.

“At Pineapple Rock”, was the caption Teddy wrote.

of Teddy Blomfield



The 1905 party passing the vicinity of the yet-to-occur tragedy on the Tasman Glacier. At the front is Jessie May Blomfield (Teddy’s mother) with famous guide Peter Graham just behind her. Third from the end are Dr Thomas George McKellar (Jessie May’s husband after Dr Blomfield died), Dr Edward Blomfield (Teddy’s father) and Dr F.R. Riley. Photo reproduced with the permission of John Blomfield who wrote, “It always struck me as particularly poignant that Teddy’s parents had enjoyed such fun, before he was even born, at the very place where he was to die so tragically.”

(have occurred) ... the one notable exception being the disaster on the Linda Glacier ... The present disaster is in a totally different class, and happened to a party of walkers out on the open glacier, where practically no climbing dangers are present” (p.119. Mannering, 1930).

For most photographs Teddy has written neat, legend in white on black paper, but the last few pages he had not managed to get around to describing photos – perhaps a job for when the climbing season was over.

Of course, there are photographs of Tasman Glacier itself “At Pineapple Rock” and other parts of the glacier, which he knew very well. On a grim note, Pineapple rock figures in the recovery team’s sad task. “After about one hour of carrying we reached Pine Apple Rock, where the bodies were left reverently covered with a tarpaulin dump from the timber dump.” p123-4, Mannering, 1930).

“Blomfield was a most skilful guide, said Mr Twynham, and no one at the Hermitage, guides included, knew the glacier better than he did” (Otago Daily Times, 22.1.1930). Perhaps these photographs of the glacier were taken about September 1929 near where he died

just three months later. The recovery party found timber and iron for the Malte Brun Hut, as described by Teddy, covered by a tarpaulin at this mound of medial moraine, with the interesting name. A tarpaulin was dragged off the hut materials and used to cover the bodies at 7pm on January 21 beside Pineapple Rock.

After several attempts over four days, a party of 23 men set off from the Ball Hut at 4am on January 22, and managed to retrieve the bodies, which were finally deposited by motor vehicle at the Hermitage at midday. During some of the recovery attempts over those few days, conditions were so bad, “... they were fortunate not to lose some of their number.” (p121. Mannering, 1930).

An inquest was held in the afternoon of January 22. E. McDonald J.P. of Fairlie acted as coroner, Constable A. Mackintosh represented the police, L.E. Finch appeared for the Mount Cook Tourist Company (who employed Teddy as guide over two seasons) and W.D. Campbell represented Teddy’s relatives. The verdict, as reported in the Otago Daily Times (23.1.30) was “*That the five persons died on the Tasman Glacier on Sunday January 19, their deaths being due to*

exposure, as the result of being caught in a blizzard.”

However, how valid was this verdict? GE Mannering, whose niece Doris Brown was one of the victims, believes the actual cause of the fatalities was lightning. He points out that exposure does not usually lead to death after such a short time – he notes that his niece’s watch stopped at 12.49pm, the probable time of the mishap. Therefore, they had been walking in storm conditions for less than two hours. Also, several cardigans were unused and still in the women’s rucksacks. He concludes, “My own considered opinion, after alpine experiences extending over 44 years ... is that the disaster was caused by lightning. I have searched 41 volumes of ‘The Alpine journal’ and cannot find a parallel case where a whole party died so suddenly from mere exposure”. (p125. Mannering, 1930).

With the passage of years, the original verdict of exposure has been superseded, in the opinion of many mountaineers, by the one suggested by Mannering – lightning. For example, a more recent publication states, “ ... most believe that the five people killed on the Tasman Glacier in 1930 were electrocuted” (p96 in ‘Mountain Guide’ by



The original De La Beche hut, nestled at the top of the moraine wall we climbed. Note the famous rock bivvy to the right of the hut.

Michael Mahoney and Harry Ayres). For the moment, there the matter rests with the most plausible explanation to this tragic mystery.

This tragedy remained New Zealand’s worst alpine accident until July 1953 when six people died on Mt Taranaki (Mt Egmont).

Rolland McKellar
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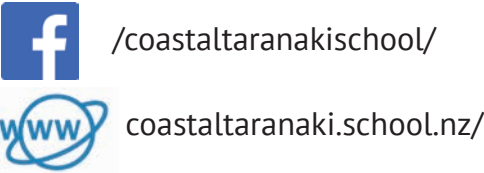


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Award (1-4 Year old Prize givinging List)

Ava Lind-Mitchell	Swimming: Under 8 Champion Girl
Te Mokena Walden	Swimming: Under 8 Champion Boy
Pixie Debreceeny	Most Improved: Room 17
Isla Gilchrist	Diligence: Room 17
Lily Williams	Most Improved: Room 24
Kyan Cox	Diligence: Room 24
Hannah Terry	Most Improved: Room 18
Isla Stewart	Diligence: Room 18
Noah Worby-Ryan	Most I – mproved: Room 16
Enzo Staunstrup-Moore	Diligence: Room 16
Noah Hill	Most Improved: Room 15
Jacob Barron	Diligence: Room 15
Brooke Barron	Most Improved: Room 23
Keira Stewart	Diligence: Room 23
Milly Barnett-Robinson	Excellence Year 1
Milly Sole	Excellence Year 2
Luka MacLean	Excellence Year 3
Kenzie Southorn	Excellence Year 4
Riley Styles	Kgystern Manual Memorial Award - Enthusiastic Learner Year 1-6

Award (5-13 Year old Prize givinging List)

Pixie Debreceeny	Most Improved: Room 17
Isla Gilchrist	Diligence: Room 17
Lily Williams	Most Improved: Room 24
Kyan Cox	Diligence: Room 24
Hannah Terry	Most Improved: Room 18
Isla Stewart	Diligence: Room 18
Noah Worby-Ryan	Most Improved: Room 16
Enzo Staunstrup-Moore	Diligence: Room 16
Noah Hill	Most Improved: Room 15
Jacob Barron	Diligence: Room 15
	Most Improved: Room 23
Keira Stewart	Diligence: Room 23
Milly Barnett-Robinson	Excellence Year 1
Milly Sole	Excellence Year 2
Luka MacLean	Excellence Year 3
Kenzie Southorn	Excellence Year 4
Louis Edwards-Carter	Most Improved: Room 19
Elena Barron	Diligence: Room 19
Scarlett Worby-Ryan	Most Improved: Room 22
Cairah Forrest	Diligence: Room 22
Amelie Staunstrup Moore	Megaw Cup - Excellence Year 5
Mia Wade	Stewart Cassie Memorial Cup - Excellence Year 6
Emma Goodin	Most Improved Year 7
Billie Thomson	Best All Round Year 7
Ella Southorn	Top Academic Year 7
Deakin Phillips-Sinton	Most Improved Year 8
Sebastian Loveridge	Best All Round Year 8
Soren Grevers-White	Top Academic Year 8
He Tairoa Goodin	Most Improved Year 9
Ashlee Price	Best All Round Year 9
Rebecca Walshaw	Top Academic Year 9
Byron Hunt	RSA Trophy - Most Improved Year 10
Tait Hetherington	Best All Round Year 10
Brianna McCready-Scouller	Henderson Trophy - Sustained Effort Year 11
Sarsha Dakin-Spershott	Top Academic Year 11
Lathanael Goodin	Donald Sisters Cup - Consistent Effort Year 12
Mackenzie Hill	Top Academic Year 12

Award (Sports Trophys)

Athletics: Year 5 Champion Boy	Grady O'Sullivan
Athletics: Year 5 Champion Girl	Elena Barron
Athletics: Year 6 Champion Boy	Shia Brisco
Athletics: Year 6 Champion Girl	Francie O'Sullivan
Athletics: Year 7-8 Champion Boy	Tai Smith
Athletics: Year 7-8 Champion Girl	Danica Chase
Athletics: Year 9-10 Champion Boy	Cale Snowden
Athletics: Year 9-11 Champion Girl	Taysha Ryder
Athletics: Year 11-13 Champion Boy	Chaz Taipari
Athletics: Year 12-13 Champion Girl	Brandi Dakin-Spershott
Swimming: Under 10 Champion Boy	Grady O'Sullivan
Swimming: Under 10 Champion Girl	Francie O'Sullivan
Swimming: Under 12 Champion Boy	Seppy Binsbergen
Swimming: Under 12 Champion Girl	Millah Barron
Swimming: Under 14 Champion Boy	Caleb Terry
Swimming: Under 16 Champion Boy	Chaz Taipari
Swimming: Under 16 Champion Girl	Mackenzie Hill

Award (Special)

Whanau Champions	Whenua
Cheryl Vosper Memorial Award - Service to the Library	Lathanael Goodin
Dan Holmes Freemasons Award (Ikoroa Lodge)	Lucy Cruden-Powell
Corbett Award – Knowledge & Kindness in Year 6	Tula MacLean
Citizens Award Year 1 – 6	Francie O'Sullivan
Newall School Community Cup - Most Helpful Year 6 Student	Shiloh Baylis
Gold Cup - Service to Intermediate School	Deakin Phillips-Sinton
Carpe Diem Cup (Seize the Day)	Brandi Dakin-Spershott
Head Girl	Nicole Whittle
Head Girl	Lucy Cruden-Powell
Te Rangi Uenuku - Gaye Taingahue Memorial Award	Lucy Cruden-Powell
Komene Memorial Award	Te Ahumairangi Waaka
Proxime Accessit Cup - Runner up Dux	Lucy Cruden-Powell
Crossman Cup - Dux Highest Academic	Brandi Dakin-Spershott

Christine Prichard to present Prime Minister Award for Vocational Excellence: Jasmine Stone

Andrew Brooker from Pukeiti to present 3 Garden Cadets: Chaz Taipari, Edward Rona, Jordon Tunnicliffe-Fougere

CTS Sports Team of the Year - Canoe Polo



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Te Ahumairangi Waaka &
Mackenzie Hill



Dux - Brandi
Dakin-Spershott



Jasmine Stone and Andrew
Brooker from Pukeiti



Jasmine Stone Prime
Minister's Award

The New Horizons Mentoring Group attended a field trip to the Blue Rata Reserve on Wednesday 13th of November. This was attended by our Principal and eight middle school students who were joined by the mentors, New Horizons team and DOC staff. The initial welcome by Matua Kere acknowledged those in attendance who included staff from DOC, staff and students from Devon Intermediate, Manukorihi Intermediate and Coastal Taranaki School. Mr Cody Luckin from DOC was the first presenter. Cody is a proud graduate of Coastal Taranaki School whose career with DOC was triggered by some the early learning experience at our school when he was intermediate aged. He shared a range of traps and demonstrated how these operate. Predator identification was next and those present were fascinated with the similarities between the Weasel, Stoat and Ferrets. Ms Fern Brand from DOC supported the presentation before leading a 1080 discussion and taught the students about the 'Cultural health indicator assessment'. Group work followed to investigate the health of the river, bush and cleared land at the Blue Rata Reserve. It was very wise that a shared kai of Subway was enjoyed well before the three schools took to a section of the Blue Rata Trapline. Of the 5 traps CTS students rebated and reset, 3 very dead decomposing rats were found. These traps had only be reset a week earlier by some of our senior students. The students had previously constructed traps during their mentoring programme that are now included in the trapline. Our senior students are currently working on a plan to ensure our ongoing involvement and responsibilities for checking and resetting this trapline in the future.

Golfer and league player make Hall of Fame cut

Bruce Campbell is often called on to stand in for his famous nephew, golfer Michael Campbell. Last week he did so again as Michael and rugby league player and coach Graeme West were the latest to be inducted into the South Taranaki Sporting Hall of Fame.

Michael Campbell now lives in Spain and conducts golfing workshops around the world and was unable to make it, although Graeme West who has spent much of his life in Britain, but now lives in Auckland was there for the induction.

Born in Hawera, Campbell won the US Open in 2005, defeating Tiger Woods by two strokes. Other golfing achievements include being part of the New Zealand team which won the Eisenhower Trophy in 1992.

Graeme West took up rugby league playing for the Hawera Hawks and went on to captain the Kiwis before playing for Wigan. He then embarked on a successful coaching career with Wigan which included a World Cup Challenge win over the Brisbane Broncos in Australia. The Graeme West Rugby League Tournament is competed annually among Hawera primary schools.

At a gathering at the TSB Hub in Hawera family and friends of these two men were among those present for the unveiling of the Hall of Fame portraits. The portraits will now hang alongside those of other South Taranaki sporting greats, Jimmy Hunter and Graham Mourie (rugby), Stan Lay (javelin), Adine Wilson (netball) and Roger Cox (shearing).

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 Wai-o-Turi marae at Whenuakura.

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

"Michael was born here, just down the road at the



With portraits of Michael Campbell and Graeme West are from left Michael Campbell's uncle Bruce Campbell, South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon and Graeme West.

Hawera Hospital, and he lived just across King Edward Park. This is still his base, his Turangawaewae. He still looks towards here. At the US Open he was always looking towards here," says Bruce,

Michael still occasionally returns to visit and was in New Zealand earlier in the year when he was inducted into the Maori Golfing Hall of Fame.

"We had some real good chats and some real good korero," says Bruce.

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.

"Thomas played golf and that's why Michael took it up. He would just be off, following his father around the golf course, doing what he was told,"says Bruce.

Thomas's work meant a family shift to Porirua. Thomas and Abby who still live in Titahi Bay weren't able to make it to the induction so they asked Bruce, who lives in New Plymouth to represent the family, accepting the portrait from South Taranaki District mayor Phil Nixon.

Graeme West recalled having a wide range of sport

to choose from when he was growing up in Hawera. He even had a stint playing hockey while getting over a rugby injury.

He was a rugby union player when a mate suggested he have a go at the less familiar 13 man code. He was on the bench in the second half, with the team having sustained three or four injuries, when he was called on to play. He ended up scoring a couple of his tries, helping his side on to a win.

His career with the Kiwis national team as "Kiwi 517" did not start well and he was dropped.

"I was a second rower and they put me in as blind side prop. I had never played there before," said Graeme.

It took him four years to get back into the national team.

Of such experiences come valuable life lessons, says Graeme.

"It builds character. You have to earn the respect of your employer, your coach, your teammates and your workmates. You've got to be prepared to get out of bed in the morning and do a good job."

Graeme played 18 tests for New Zealand. Four of these were as captain with a record of two wins and two losses.

Among those he coached at Wigan were Andrew Farrell who had international careers in both league and union, and has just taken over as coach of the Irish Rugby Union team, Shaun Edwards who also later made the switch to union and assisted Warren Gatland in coaching Wales, and Great Britain international Sean Long.

"When I coached those young fellows they had already been coached well by the previous coach. I just helped them along the way," he said.

Graeme says he had enjoyed living in Britain where he still has family, but still enjoys coming back to Hawera.

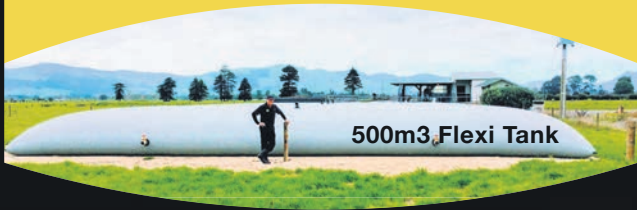
After the ceremony, Graeme's brother-in-law K.Ropiha could be seen admiring Graeme's portrait.

"I can remember that tackle," he said.

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OBITUARY Brian Leo (Jazz) Muller 11 June 1942-12 December 2019

A colourful servant of Eltham, Taranaki and New Zealand rugby passed away last week.

Brian Leo (“Jazz”) Muller played prop in 14 tests for the All Blacks at a time when New Zealand rugby boasted legendary props like Ken Gray and Keith Murdoch.

A legend developed around the Eltham freezing worker who was known for his strength that he used a lawnmower to trim his hedges. He was also known as a practical joker, with even the formidable All Blacks coach, Fred “The Needle” Allan at one time falling victim to one of Muller’s exploding cigarettes.

Muller played his first game for Taranaki as a 21 year-old in 1963 and had to wait until 1965 to be selected again. A strong performance against the 1966 Lions put him in the frame for higher honours. In 1967 he was selected for the North Island and made his All Black debut against the Wallabies in Wellington. He

Brian (Jazz) Muller

was then selected for the All Blacks tour of Britain and France, appearing in tests against England, Wales and France and scoring tries against Eastern Canada and Monmouthshire.

He toured Australia in 1968 and South Africa in 1970, and also appeared against the touring Welsh side in 1969.

He appeared in all four tests when the 1971 Lions toured New Zealand. This remains the only time the British Lions have ever won a test series in New Zealand. The tour also marked the end of several All Black playing careers, including that of Muller. After three appearances for Taranaki he ended his rugby career, after 111 first class appearances.

Brian(Jazz)Muller who was born in Eltham passed away at Telford Life Care and Village aged 77.

Progress being made on Yarrow Stadium

Detailed design work has been completed for repairs to Yarrow Stadium’s earthquake-prone stands and is being peer reviewed before going out for public tender, says the Taranaki Regional Council Chair, David MacLeod.

He says the team has been very busy on the detailed design work for major aspects of the stadium repair and refurbishment project.

“We’re all highly aware of the need to get the stadium back to work as soon as possible, but we’re also determined to ensure the project is built on a firm footing right from the start,” he says.

“Peer review is a vital final step before a single sod is turned. We have to satisfy ourselves that every possible factor and contingency is covered off before we commit to physical work on

the ground.

“If all goes well, we can expect site work to begin within the first half of the New Year.”

Mr MacLeod says he’s delighted with the calibre of the governance team that’s been assembled to oversee the Yarrow Stadium project. “We’ve got some experienced and respected people with us, including Bruce Robertson, a former Assistant Auditor-General

with special responsibility for local government.

“Bruce has extensive experience and expertise in local government financial oversight and is well placed to offer independent advice and assurance as the project progresses.”

“If all goes well, we can expect site work to begin within the first half of the New Year.”

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Manaia Golf results

Saturday Men. 1. Paul Hunn. 2. Jacob Gopperth. 3. Denis Hurcomb. 4. Bruce Duffus.

Juniors. 6 short holes. Jack Gargan, Jahkoda Smith. 9 short. 1. Luke Norris. 2. Abby Marsh. 3. Jayden Marsh. 9 Full holes. 1. Destiny Climo. 2. Drej Climo. 3. Maxwell Stetchman.

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Gabriel Winter and James(Batman)Langton at Barbwire Boxing.

Barbwire Boxing is Batman’s new venture

Opunake dairyfarmer James(Batman)Langton decided to take up boxing when his rugby playing career was coming to a close. He had notched up over 200 games for the Coastal Rugby Club and then went on to pick up two national boxing titles. He won and lost the New Zealand National Boxing Federation Cruiserweight title and then shifted gear to pick up the New Zealand Pro Boxing heavyweight title. Now he has added boxing gym owner to his CV, having eight months ago set up the Barbwire Boxing Gym in Opunake. He sees the gym as a way of giving back to the community which supported him during his boxing career. Boxing he says carries important life lessons. “As a fighter you have got to have confidence and discipline, but the biggest thing is you have got to believe in yourself. These

are all attributes for success in life. Boxing is a path to making better people.” James’s son Shamus who is studying design at Victoria University got to work on a logo for the gym. James says the Barbwire name sums up his own background. “I wanted to take something from my own life, with the rural community and farming and bring it into the ring.” James says the Monday and Wednesday night boxfit classes he runs at the gym are proving popular and he wants to add some classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings as well. “It’s open to people of any shape, size or fitness level. It’s very good for getting off a few kilos and getting the toning back.” He says boxing and UFC(Ultimate Fight Championships) fighting are currently the world’s fastest growing sports, attracting

interest from women as well as men. He cites the example of a family member, his wife Kelly’s niece Saskia who attends Taranaki Diocesan School in Stratford and comes over to Opunake to train. He says there has also been a lot of interest from “some young guys learning a trade” who want to progress on to taking part in fights next year. Training at the gym twice during the week and at weekends is 15 year-old Gabriel Winter. “I wanted to be more disciplined and to be more fit. I wanted to do something with my life, and boxing gives you a positive outlook” he said. He had lived in Opunake, shifted to Auckland for three years and then come back to Opunake. He said he is pleased there is somewhere in Opunake he can further his interest in boxing. James says he was impressed with how well

Gabriel had been boxing compared with others who had been in the sport for much longer. “Gabriel’s showing promise as a fighter. He’s been consistently training and prepared to get stuck in and go on the journey and see where that ends up.” James’s own journey shows no signs of slowing down. Although he has lost his Pro Boxing heavyweight title because he has gone for a year without defending it, he says he has been talking with promoters about a fight next year against an opponent still to be determined. “I’m definitely keen to have that fight in Taranaki, in Hawera or Opunake,” he says. “My sharpness and fitness is where it’s always been.” He also has the ideal place to train, the Barbwire Boxing Gym.



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Plan for a safe, enjoyable summer on the roads

As people take to the roads across Waikato, Bay of Plenty and Taranaki to embark on their summer holidays, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency is encouraging motorists to plan ahead, be patient and allow plenty of time to ensure safe and enjoyable holiday journeys.

Acting Director Regional Relationships Ross I'Anson says motorists should prepare for the roads to be busier than normal.

"Congestion and delays are inevitable in peak times, but if everyone leaves plenty of time for their journeys, drives to the conditions and plans ahead before leaving home, there will be less frustration

and everyone can concentrate on arriving safely at their destination.

"In the Waikato, delays are predicted on State Highway 2 at Maramarua, on State Highway 25 at Tairua, and on State Highway 1 at Taupiri, Karapiro and Tirau.

"Bay of Plenty motorists should be prepared for heavy traffic on State Highway 29 over the Kaimai Ranges and on State Highway 2 between Paeroa and Waihi and Katikati and Tauranga.

"There will be roadside electronic signs displaying estimated journey times at key locations between Auckland and Tauranga to help motorists make

informed decisions about their route and ease some of the congestion.

"Traffic between Katikati and Tauranga is expected to be at its heaviest on 2 January, due to the Bay Dreams event in Mount Maunganui."

Increased holiday traffic is also likely on State Highway

3 in Taranaki.

The Transport Agency's Holiday Journeys map shows predicted traffic flow across popular journeys over the peak summer holiday period, based on previous years travel patterns.

Motorists should consider travelling outside peak times,

when traffic is lighter, Mr I'Anson says.

"Allow plenty of time. Remember you're on holiday, so there is no need to rush.

"People driving in unfamiliar environments, increased traffic volumes, congestion and tiredness can pose a risk to anyone using the roads at this time of year."

Mr I'Anson also encourages motorists to access up to date information about travel conditions before hitting the road.

Check your car is in good "health" before you head off. Check your tyre pressure and tread, windscreen wipers indicators and lights.

Take extra care when travelling in holiday periods because of increased traffic volumes, congestion, tiredness and people driving in unfamiliar environments.

Drive to the conditions - whether it's the weather, the road you're on, the time of day or amount of traffic.

Avoid fatigue. Take regular breaks to stay alert.

Keep a safe following distance from vehicles in front so you can stop safely.

Be patient - overtaking is unlikely to make a significant difference to your journey time due to the amount of traffic expected over the weekend.

Allow plenty of time. Remember you are on holiday, so there's no need to rush.



Hudsy Simons 7 years with Marble the Speckled Park calf at Stoney Oaks Wildlife Park.-- Daisy chain fun..

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Summer Blast Holiday Programme

South Taranaki Libraries popular summer reading programme is being revamped this year to offer a new, dynamic way of encouraging children's learning and discovery while not being limited to just reading. South Taranaki District Council Children and young adults librarian, Pam Jones, says the *Summer Blast* programme is a new and innovative holiday programme for 5-12-year olds that will spark their imagination and set them on a road of discovery.

"Over the six-week summer holidays, the Summer Blast programme offers children the opportunity to choose from a fun set of challenges and activities that appeal to them and then go in the draw for some fabulous prizes," says Pam. "The programme covers a multitude of literacies, including visual and digital literacy - not just reading and writing. Traditionally, libraries were places where you could go to find knowledge. Today libraries are places where you can find, create and use



Highland calves from Left McDundee and Dougal at Stoney Oaks.

knowledge. The Summer Blast programme empowers our children to find, use and create knowledge, and use that knowledge in a meaningful way."

Registrations for the *Summer Blast* programme open from 16 December at your local LibraryPlus or online www.southtaranakisummerblast.com

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Te Kiri Scholarship gives helping hand

This year we received a wonderful thank you and full report with many photos from Hilary Penwarden, a recipient in 2018 for a course run in the USA in 2018-19. Here is a short excerpt from Hilary's long and full letter to our committee. The TeKiri Scholarship committee is proud that our community continues to help people from our area achieve their goals. "The Professional Training Programme (2018/19) at Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theatre The first term, beginning

September 2018, was devoted to physical self-discovery, with physical training and investigations in the natural world, classes in voice, mask, dance, yoga and improvisation, and weekly assignments developed in ensemble and presented in Performance Lab. The second term, beginning January 2019 and concluding July 2019, continued classes in movement, voice and physical training, along with five-week studies and public

performances of Commedia dell'Arte, Melodrama and Clown, followed by a ten day Rural Residency arts engagement at Table Bluff, a local Native American reservation. I want to humbly and sincerely acknowledge the Te Kiri Scholarship Committee for your financial contribution to this project. Thank you for your investment in my training and contributing to the growth of New Zealand theatre." This scholarship was set up following the closure

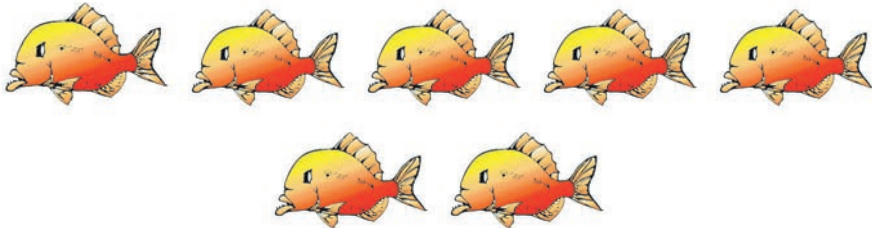
of Te Kiri School in 2003. To date we have given 103 scholarships totalling \$26,200. Applications are now open until 20 February for people who meet the criteria, please contact Mike Starsmore at 067617228 for further information. Te Kiri Scholarship Committee.

Stevenson Calf Rearing

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

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Opunake Boat and Underwater Club Annual Competition



OMV Sponsored \$1000 Snapper Tournament 2020

Date 25th January to 8th February inclusive
Final weigh-in finishes at 5pm on Saturday 8th
All boats must launch and land at Middleton Bay, Opunake
Competition rules are on the official entry form.

Entries - \$50 per angler

The entry fee applies for all anglers aged 16 years and over as of 1st June 2019, this must be paid by all anglers on the boat before commencing fishing in this tournament.

Early bird tickets will be available from the 6th January at Collins Sports, Opunake, Tasman Marine and West Coast Marine plus the Middleton Bay clubrooms will be open for registration and a social time on Friday the 24th evening and will accept entries until 8pm.

Early Bird Draw

Get your tickets early, an **Early Bird Draw** will be held at prize-giving for a cash prize of \$500 for all entries purchased up to and including the 24th

Lucky Snapper Draw

A new category this year is the **Lucky Snapper Draw** sponsored by Gibson Plumbers. To enter you need to weigh in any snapper weighing from 4Kg to 6Kg inclusive, only one entry allowed per angler, this will be drawn at prize-giving for a cash prize of \$1000.

There are a large number of sponsored spot prizes also to be drawn at prize-giving for those who have not weighed in a fish in the competition categories.

For Early Bird, Lucky Snapper and spot prizes you must be at prize-giving to claim the prize otherwise it will be re-drawn.



Hilary Penwarden leading the band of clowns. Photo by Terrence McNally.

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Europe’s premier Rod Stewart tribute show is coming to Taranaki

While most of us wind down for the festive season local entertainment company, Raybern Entertainment, is busy preparing for a busy 2020.

Owners, Ray and Berna Hayward who continue to recover from the serious injuries they sustained in their major motor vehicle crash in October last year say “that while 2019 has been a challenging year rebuilding our business following the

crash we’re super excited about what’s in store for 2020”.

Ray says “bookings for the incredibly talented female duet Just Us continue to roll in with nearly 75% of their calendar filled for next year.” And he says “we have a lot of other things happening as well with karaoke and DJ events. But that’s not to say we can’t take more bookings.”

However the big event that

they have coming up is the Rud Stewart & The Atlantic Crossing Show - A Tribute to Rod Stewart coming up on Friday February 21 at the Plymouth International Hotel in New Plymouth. Due to an overwhelming response and success from his previous sell out tours of 2014 and 2015 Europe’s Premier Rod Stewart Tribute Act «Rud Stewart» is returning for a tour of New Zealand in January, February and March 2020 as part of his world tour.

And Ray says “Raybern Entertainment is super excited to be bringing him to New Plymouth as part of that World Tour. This is his only Taranaki show.”

Englishman Rud Stewart is the second best Rod Stewart who performs between England, Sweden, USA, Germany and Majorca, Spain, and is often mistaken for the real Rod Stewart. He has been performing his tribute shows to Rod Stewart for the past 18 years.

Rud has performed with the stars and for the stars, one



Rud Stewart.

of them being Rod Stewart himself. Rud is that good he was asked to perform at the Rod Stewart’s 63rd birthday party in Los Angeles, which he did.

Ray says “Rud is an internationally renowned tribute to the amazing legend that is Rod Stewart. Vocally identical with an amazing

likeness to the original, this is one show not to be missed. This show is as good as it gets. It’s the real deal.”

Tickets for the show are on sale now from the Plymouth International Hotel or online at www.eventfinda.co.nz. There are two ticket options available...three

course Dinner & Show for \$90.00 per ticket or Show only for \$40.00 per ticket.

Ray adds “ we’re aware that there’s another big show on in New Plymouth the same night but not everyone wants to go to that. Our show has limited tickets available so if people are keen to go, they should get their tickets quickly.”

“Who doesn’t like a bit of Rod?” says Ray.

And on the subject of shows, Raybern Entertainment have two more coming to Hawera in 2020. In April one of Australasia’s best Elvis Tribute Shows will be performing, and in November the highly acclaimed Queen Tribute Show will be performed. Watch the Raybern Entertainment Facebook page for more information.

For now Ray and Berna would like to thank everyone for their support in 2019 and wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Joyous New Year.

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AN EVENING WITH
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AND THE ATLANTIC CROSSING
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SHOW ONLY \$40.00 TICKET ENTRY @ 7.30PM
SHOW STARTS 8.00PM
TICKETS FROM The Plymouth International
ONLINE AT www.eventfinda.co.nz (Booking Fee's Apply)



Knives Out – a film review

This film *Knives Out*, which was released on 27 November, was simply superb. I watched enthralled as the many twists and turns led to the astonishing ending. It is admittedly a lengthy film (130 minutes), but time sped by. It was, without doubt, one of the best films I have ever seen.

It has been positively

reviewed. One reviewer described it as “A murder mystery masterpiece.” Newspaper reviewer James Croot awarded it five stars (out of five) in his recent review. He knows a great film when he sees one.

The film was directed and written by Rian Johnson and my thought was how could someone come up

with such an incredibly, intricate plot. The direction was outstanding and the pace just right.

The film has a stellar cast with Christopher Plummer starring as the millionaire mystery writer Harlan Thrombey who is found dead. But is it suicide or murder? Keep in mind that his extended family and relatives have just learned that he has just altered his will. “The family is truly desperate. When people get desperate the knives come out.”

Harlan’s offspring and, in turn, their offspring, are best described as eccentric as they are (mostly) parasitic.

Daniel Craig (a former James Bond) is superb as the detective Benoit Blanc who strives relentlessly to get to the bottom of things.

Harlan’s nurse, the Hispanic immigrant Marta, splendidly played by Ana de Armas) is kindly, but is there much more to her than that?

Some of others in the numerous cast include Jamie Lee Curtis (Best known for the comedy A Fish Called Wanda), John Johnson and Toni Collette. These three and the many others play their parts with finesse.

Overall, an excellent film in every sense of the word. I am so pleased I saw it.

Rolland McKellar

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- **EVERYBODY'S THEATRE XMAS EVE MOVIE** 24 December 1pm - Frozen 2. Visit their website for all listings.
- **OPUNAKE BEACH CARNIVAL** 4 January 10am - 3pm Free Entry, includes Miss Opunake Pageant & Mr Muscles, The Big Dig, Raffles, Music, Food & Activities for all ages! www.opunakebeachcarnival.com
- **TAKE A KID FISHING DAY** Friday 3rd January. Sponsored by Collins Sports & Actionaki. Registrations open now. Ph: Paddy Walsh on 027 230 5820 for details.
- **OPUNAKE SURF CLUB DISCO** Saturday 4 Jan 7-9pm at the Opunake Beach Surf Club

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Bellbird

Screening at Everybody's Theatre on Saturday December 21 at 7pm and Waitangi Day – February 6. Directed by Hamish Bennett. Written by Hamish Bennett

Bellbird is a long spring afternoon filled with the smell of fresh cut hay, daffodils, and warm cowpats. It's everything rural New Zealand, minus Fred Dagg. The cinematography is superb. I love the tiniest touches – an emotive scene blurred by the fronds of a tree. Ross, played by Marshal Napier, is a private bloke, he communicates better with his land than he does his family, though his wife, Beth (Annie Whittle) understands him to a tee. This role was made for Whittle, and it's a pity we don't see more of her.

The pace of *Bellbird* wouldn't win any Melbourne Cups, and it'd be interesting to hear from our overseas relatives in regard to the subliminal Kiwi humour. I had a few flashback moments to Hunt for the Wilderpeople, the talented Cohen Holloway and Rachel House star in both. House's comic timing is apt, and I wonder if she grew up amongst the characters she plays. She knows them well. The storyline has a few similarities too. *Bellbird*, however, floats along



in comparison. The fluid turning points and character arcs are notable, but not in your face. For instance, Ross dishes out the tea he himself has made. This subtle silent scene speaks volumes to his growing capabilities as a recent widower. In the opening scene Beth is whistling the titular song. Ross switches on the radio, drowning her out which sets the scene for his own theme song of difficult husband and father. The movie is filled with these nuanced indications. You could watch it several times and still not pick up on all of them. Kahukura Reitimana plays the young neighbour Marley. His lines are nostalgically reminiscent of my childhood

with neighbour Arthur, complete with Chopper bike. We glimpse Ross through all the characters eyes, but I think Marley's view is most moving. Along with Clem (Stephen Tamarapa), the very informative vet, just the right amount of humour is added. "Thought you said this was an unveiling. Not a bloody working bee!" – Clem. There is no pretence on this Northland farm. It's all very Kiwi, and very real. Hamish Bennett does a marvellous job directing his script. He holds the reins just tight enough without holding back the talent. Look forward to what he brings us next. A quick shout out to *Brittany runs a Marathon*, screening on Boutique Night,

Sunday January 5 at 7pm. Also Wednesday January 8 at 7pm. This will be a fun night out, but do expect the unexpected. I anticipated the usual funny, flab, skim-along-the-surface storyline of a Rebel Wilson movie, but got so much more. Paul Downs Colaizzo bases his script on a true-life friend, and his debut into directing goes very well for him. Jillian Bell plays Brittany, depicting her roller-coaster journey with a realism that draws you in and holds you there for the length of the movie. Inspiring, uplifting – yes. Not quite enough to run a marathon myself, but I'd definitely watch Brittany run hers again.

The Good Liar

The Good Liar is a Warner Brothers film and stars Dame Helen Mirren and Sir Ian McKellen. It is directed by Bill Condon and runs for an absorbing 109 minutes. The brilliant script was written by Jeffrey Hatcher and is based on a novel by Nicholas Searl. I was absolutely enthralled by the film and was astounded by all the twists and turns of the intriguing plot, which was supported by superb acting. An extra bonus were the fascinating scenes in London and Berlin where the film was shot. Two older people meet via a dating website. They include Roy Courtney (Sir Ian McKellen) and retired academic Betty McLeish (Dame Helen Mirren), a rich widow. After their first meeting they both confess that they have used an assumed name, share their 'real' names and seem to be getting on famously. The reality is that Roy is a criminal whose specialty is separating his victims from their money using his considerable charm as a weapon. He also uses

his fake arthritic knee to gain sympathy, which leads Betty to invite him into her home – just until his knee improves. I don't want to say too much to spoil the film, but I will point out that almost nothing is as it first appears. Ever present is Betty's supposed nephew Stephen (played by Russell Tovey), who is alarmed by Roy's move in on his aunt – on many fronts, not just financial. Other actors in the film include Jim Carter as Vincent – Roy's partner in crime and Mark Lewis Jones as Bryn, another intended victim. Laurie Davidson and Celine Buckens play younger versions of the two main leads. I am aware that not all reviews of this film have been totally positive. However, each to their own; it is certainly one of the best films I have ever seen. Anyway, come along and see it and judge for yourselves. I don't think you'll regret it. *Rolland McKellar*



Dame Helen Mirren and Sir Ian McKellen..



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MOSLEY Animation, Kids 1hr 38mins PG: Sat 28th Dec 1pm Fri Jan 3rd 1pm Fri 24th Jan 1pm	FROZEN 2 Adventure, Animation 1hr 27min G Wed 24th Dec 1pm Mon 30th Dec 1pm Sat 6th Jan 1pm Sat 11th Jan 1pm
PAW PATROL: READY, RACE, RESCUE Kids, Family 44min G Sat 21st Dec 1pm Fri 27th Dec 1pm	KNIVES OUT Drama, Mystery 2hr 10min M: Language Fri 20th Dec 7pm Sun 29th Dec 7pm
ARCTIC JUSTICE Comedy, Animation 1hr 33min PG Fri 20th Dec 1pm Mon 23rd Dec 1pm Sat Jan 4th	LAST CHRISTMAS Romance, Comedy 1hr 42min M: Language, sexual references - Sun 22nd Dec 7pm
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PLAYMOBIL THE MOVIE Animated, Adventure 1hr 39mins G Wed 8th Jan 1pm Mon 13th Jan 1pm Wed 22nd Jan 1pm	FORD VS FERRARI Biography, Action 2hr 32min M: Language Sat 4th Jan 7pm Fri 10th Jan 7pm Wed 15th Jan 7pm
SHAUN THE SHEEP: Farmageddon Animated, Comedy, 1hr 26min G Fri 10th Jan 1pm Wed 15th Jan 1pm Sat 18th Jan 1pm	JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL Action, Comedy 2hr 3min PG Fri 17th Jan 1pm Sun 19th Jan 7pm Mon 20th Jan 1pm Fri 24th Jan 7pm
GOOD LIAR Drama 1hr 49min R13: Violence, language nudity Fri 3rd Jan 7pm Sun 12th Jan 7pm Fri 17th Jan 7pm	STAR WARS: The Rise of Skywalker Action, Fantasy 2hr 35min TBA Sat 18th Jan 7pm Sun 26th Jan 7pm Mon 27th Jan 1pm
ADDAMS FAMILY Animation, Comedy, Family 1hr 26min PG Sat 11th Jan 7pm Sat 25th Jan 1pm Fri 31st Jan 7pm	THE GOOD LIAR Drama 1hr 49min R13: Violence, language nudity Fri 3rd Jan 7pm Sun 12th Jan 7pm Fri 17th Jan 7pm
JUDY Bio, Drama 1hr 58min M: Language and drug use Wed 22nd Jan 7pm Wed 29th Jan 1pm	LITTLE WOMEN Drama, Romance 2hr 15min G Wed 29th Jan 7pm

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO OUR PATRONS

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Holiday Hours:

OPUNAKE MEDICAL CENTRE and OPUNAKE PHARMACY
CLOSED on 25th & 26th December and 1st & 2nd January.

COASTAL PRINTERS - CLOSED from 5pm 20th December and returning 22nd January 9am.
Please see Aretha if you require an order inside of these dates.

TAYLOR DENTAL - CLOSED from 4pm 19th December and returning 9th January 9.00am

NP PHYSIO - Tuesday 24th Dec and Tues 31st Dec from 8.30am then every Tuesday 8.30am – 5pm and Thursday 12.30pm – 5pm

AGUIRRE - OSTEOPATH - returning 21st January.

Most other **COASTALCARE** services will be CLOSED from 5pm 20th December and returning the week beginning 6th January.

Please phone Aretha with any queries regarding Christmas closures.
Have a happy and safe holidays!

Thank you for your support during 2019.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Opunake Cottage Rest Home

The Cottage Staff Social Club would like to take this opportunity to thank the wonderful people of our community and wider community for the support given to us and the Cottage Rest Home in 2019. We all wish you a happy and joyous Christmas and New Year.

4 Square 45 \$50 Meat raffle
Donated by Gary and Mari Fisher

Raffle results:
Items Kindly donated by friends of the Rest Home:
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RAFFLE RESULT

Rahotu Pungarehu Lions Club
RAFFLE RESULTS
Xmas Raffle.
1st. Joan Cook.
2nd. Alan Crowley.
Thank you for your support.

CHURCH NOTICES

Christmas and Combined Church Services

Mon 24th Dec - 8:30pm: Our Lady Star of the Sea
Tues 25th Dec - 9:00am: Service at Pungarehu
Tues 25th Dec - 9.30am: St. Pauls
Sun 5th Jan - 10am: St Pauls
Sun 12th Jan - 10am: The Wave
Sun 19th Jan - 10am: St Barnabas
Sun 26th Jan - 10am: Our Lady Star of the Sea

TO LET



HUGHSON & ASSOCIATES
Accounting for the future, today
23 Napier Street, Opunake

Office Rooms/ Board Room available
Long term, short term or casual basis
Building has kitchen facilities, wheelchair access, cleaning services and plenty of parking on Napier Street or at rear of building on King Street.
Inquiries to Brenda Pittams - Ph 06 278 4169

Lysaght Watt gallery

‘Present Time’

25 Nov - 24 Dec
Dezine Wedding Flowers - Inkie Fingerz -
LJH Pottery - Reborn Earth & Friends
All Welcome at 6 Union Street
Follow us on Facebook
4-6 Union Street, Hawera
Ph 06 278 7611



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Meeting 1st MONDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 5.30PM

Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake (opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)



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Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahotu Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St 9.30am every Sunday and the Rahotu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays

Opunake Catholic Church

Sunday 8.30am at Pungarehu (St Martins), 10am at Opunake (Our Lady Star of the Sea) 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

The Wave

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett St, Opunake Sunday Services 10.30am
Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday
Men's Group 7pm Wednesday
Youth Group 7pm Friday
Come along or contact Pastor Murray 027 688 7378

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 6.30pm Sunday at Hempton Hall. Everyone welcome

RESULTS IN REAL ESTATE

Natalie Willetts



021 0494 332 | 06 278 2000
natalie@metcalfe.nz

Buying or Selling? Call me First!



NOTE NEW TIMES

Our Lady Star of the Sea Opunake Catholic Church
From November 30
10am every Sunday

St Martins Pungarehu
8:30am every second
and fourth Sunday of every month

Carol Lamain, Parish Officer

Motor vehicle round trip to New Plymouth:

Time: 1.75 hours,
Cost: 122 kms at 0.76 cents (AA published rate) \$92.72

Motor vehicle round trip to Hawera:

Time: 1.25 hours,
Cost: 88 kms at 0.76 cents (AA published rate) \$66.88

Community Spirit

It abounds in Opunake and it is PRICELESS
SHOP LOCAL



OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Actionaki	Gibson Plumbers	Opunake High School
Allied Opunake	Ian & Judith	Pastimes
Bob Clark	Armstrong	Phoenix 45
Campbell Contracting	Jean Roach	Pickering Motors
Club Hotel	Karams Clothes on the Coast	Pihama Lavender
Coastal Care	Little French Bird	R.D. 1
Coastal Vets	Photography	raybern
Cottage Resthome	Margaret Holmes	Entertainment
Country Connections	Michael Holmes	Retro on 45
Craig Corrigan Ltd	Opunake & Coastal	Sinclair Electrical &
Dreamtime Surf	News	Refrigeration
Fabulous Flowers	Opunake Chinese	Turn Heads
Farmlands		Viv Scott
Your business could be here if you join the Opunake Business Association		

PUBLIC NOTICES

HAWERA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2020 School Year begins Friday
January 31 10am -2pm
.School starts Monday February 3
Please enquire about
fees scholarships for 2020
466 South Road, Hawera - Ph: 06 278 4210

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT
DURING THE YEAR
HAPPY CHRISTMAS



Ethel Anne's
POP UP
SHED SHOP

POPPING UP for a limited time only on
Saturday 7th December,
Saturday 14th of December &
Saturday 21st of December 10am-4pm
6 Princes Street, HAWERA
SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

No Idea what to give for Christmas!!?
How about a Gift Voucher!
60 minute Therapeutic Massage
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NEWS

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What's On Listings



ONGOING
Jonathan Young: Need to chat with your local MP Jonathan Young? Jonathan will now hold his meetings at Coastal Care. For more information phone: 06 7591363. Or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz
Movies at Everybodys Theatre in Opunake: Playing several days and nights each week. Refer timetable in newspaper.

SUNDAYS
Opunake Country Music Club: Second Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome
Open Mic at the Rahotu Tavetrn: Every second Sunday from 1-5pm.

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.
Opunake Business Association: Usually meet on the 1st Monday of each month.

TUESDAYS
Club Hotel Pool: Tuesday nights. New players welcome.

WEDNESDAYS
Lisa Keen Audiology at Coastal Care, Opunake: Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
Schnitzel Night: Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato
Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker: Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.
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
Club Hotel Texas Holdem Poker: Wednesday and Thursday Nights at the Club Hotel.
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.
Egmont Euchre Club: Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club

FRIDAYS
Eltham Business Association Friday Markets: 9:30am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.

WEEKENDS
The Historic Cape Light & Museum: Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.
LYSAGHT WATT GALLERY, HAWERA
‘Present Time’ exhibition till December 24.See advert
BUTLERS REEF
Various bands appearing over the holiday. See Holiday Guide.
4TH WALL THEATRE
Lots happening, see page 10, 11

The Opunake & Coastal News is available at newstands in:
New Plymouth - Challenge Spotswood, The Health Shop, Westside Grille
Waitara - Outside North Taranaki Community House Trust
Stratford - Perera's Paper Power
Hawera - Outside First National

Local news, local people, local businesses, local sport, local arts and events.
Delivered free around the mountain every fortnight.



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OPUNAKE & COASTAL
NEWS

2Litre Milk - two for \$5.99
\$1 for bread

Opening Promotion
All Shoppers go in the draw for a chilly bin FULL OF CHRISTMAS GOODIES

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