



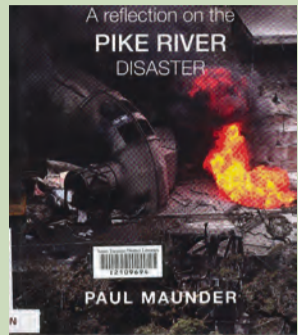
# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

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## Inside...



A book on the Pike River Mine tragedy. See page 11.



Make your dreams come true. Page 13.



Constable Jeremy Bull of Manaia Police has some words of wisdom and caution. Refer to page 6.



Dennis Lattimer's remarkable mural 'Pharmacies through the Ages'. See page 12.

## A lucky escape



A local constable looks on the unfortunate vehicle in the stream. Perhaps he's wondering how on earth to get it out. The mishap occurred just north of Opunake.

A woman was lucky to escape serious injury when her car ended up in a creek at the northern approach to Opunake on Thursday May

5 in the early afternoon of the day.

The sole occupant of the car was travelling south when she failed to take the bend at

the approach to the town and instead left the road and hurtled down a steep bank into the creek where the vehicle rested semi-submerged.

The woman was taken to Taranaki Base Hospital, but did not sustain serious injuries we are pleased to report. Constable Nigel Dey from

the Opunake Police, who attended the accident, said it appeared that speed may have been a factor in the accident.

## Sir Ian McKellen kills them - with laughter!

Sir Ian McKellen captivated the Stratford audience at his unique one man show on Saturday May 5 at the TET Kings Theatre. This was the first show in a nationwide tour to raise money for the earthquake damaged Isaac Theatre Royal in Christchurch - the last venue Sir Ian acted at in this country. He was in 'Waiting for Godot' in July 2010.

Sir Ian started his show on



Sir Ian had these volunteers where he wanted them - dead on stage. But only for a brief while.

a dramatic note, with impressive, rousing music. He gave a speech as Gandalf from the Lord of the Rings films. He wielded a sword and set the scene for the relaxed nature of the show by inviting member of the audience to come

and handle 'Glamdring' the famous sword.

He spent time answering questions in an informal early segment of the show. During this time he revealed that he held Dame Judi Dench in very high regard. "She's one

of the great, great actresses", he enthused.

"I've been in love with the theatre as long as I can remember", he also said.

Sir Ian is quite a showman and very funny. Something else showed through - he is a genuinely nice person.

His audience were treated to

a uniquely diverse show. At one stage in the second half,

which was dominated by monologues from Shakespeare, he strode through

the audience demonstrating an excellent knowledge of such plays as Hamlet and Coriolanus. Occasionally

*continued on page 4*

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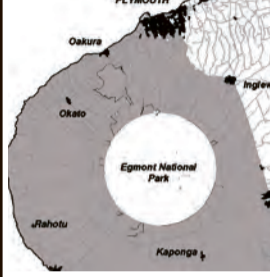
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## EDITORIAL Cr Michael Self and fracking

We applaud Cr Michael Self for his stand against the very dubious practice of fracking. Why it should make Basil Chamberlain, chief executive of the TRG, so cross, is confusing to put it mildly.

Why are Cr Self's comments a *disgrace*? - Cr Self is doing no more than expressing his - and many - rate-

payers opinions. And he has spent time researching the issue. It would appear that Mr Chamberlain has not.

It is of concern that Mr Chamberlain claims there is no evidence against the practice. Is Mr Chamberlain not aware that the Commissioner for the Environment is conducting an investiga-

tion of the practice? Is he unaware of a groundswell of legitimate concerns about the practice?

Two areas of concern that Mr Chamberlain should bone up about is that fracking increases the likelihood of earthquakes? A pertinent issue don't you think? Also, to use chemicals in such a

way cannot help but lead to contamination of groundwater on land and at sea - the ocean. Possible contamination of the food chain is a distinct possibility.

Well done, Cr Self. You have our support for your stand. You deserve applause - not petty denigration.

## B.B.C. Bible Believers Corner

### The end is nigh

This saying has been going around for nearly two thousand years. It will probably be going on for another two thousand, or will it?

What Biblical signs are there that we could, finally, be near the end?

One sign is the return of Israel to her homeland. Israel officially became a nation in 1948. She regained Jerusalem in 1967.

Another sign is the concept of a week, six days of work, one day of rest, the Sabbath. It was about two thousand years from pre flood people such as Adam and Noah to Abraham. It was about two thousand years from Abraham and Israel to the coming of Jesus. And it's been about two thousand years since Jesus of Nazareth till now. Six thousand years in all, and a thousand years is as a day in the eyes of God! That means we are approaching the Sabbath, the millennium rule of Christ; the Day of the Lord.

Then there's Daniel prophecy: "Many shall run to and fro and knowledge shall be increased."

Travel is now so easy that many have been around the world more than twice, something almost unheard of 50 years ago.

Knowledge used to double every hundred years, it now doubles in a year or less. Daniel's daily sacrifice can't be taken away yet as the third temple has to be built first, but everything is ready

to build it!

Luke 17 lists other signs. Noah's sign was many marriages. That can only happen if there are more divorces. Divorce rate increased from around 3% in the 1960's to over 10% now. And if today's high number of failed de facto separations were included then the divorce rate and number of "marriages" would be a lot higher.

Lot's time in Sodom, when homosexuality was accepted as normal, is also sighted in Luke 17. Homosexuality was a crime in New Zealand until 1986, and homosexuality made normal by the 1993 New Zealand Human Rights Act.

We are the first generation ever to see all these signs.

Maybe the end really is nigh!  
Refs: Isaiah 11 v12, II Peter 3 v3-8, Daniel 12 v4 & 11, Luke 17 v26-30

Richard Oliver, Eltham Message Church, www.messagechurch.com

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also...

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For accounts (including remittance slips if emailed): [accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](mailto:accounts@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

We also now have a website. [www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz](http://www.opunakecoastalnews.co.nz)

If anyone wishes to email any of us individually our Christian names - all in lower case - followed by @opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

## Correction: Obituary of Sir Fred Allen

In our obituary on rugby great Sir Fred 'the needle' Allen in the last issue (May 3; page 16) we made an error. Sir Fred did not throw his boots into the sea, he

should reach us. ie bernice@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz

We advise that we are now able to process pdfs.

Also we request that photos emailed to us should be sent as an attachment in the Jpeg format.

Articles sent as an attachment are easier for us to process.

We very much appreciate everyone's co-operation in the above and in using our new emails which also appear on the inside on page 2 will hopefully streamline our production.

Editor

placed kicked them over the side of the homeward bound ship and into the sea.

We appreciate a reader pointing this out.

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What happens when you hit a tourist travelling towards you on your side of the road.

## The accidental tourist

Kelvin Jordan of Automobile at Rahotu had a lucky escape when his truck he was driving collided with a tourist from France traveling in the opposite direction. The accident happened just before Egmont Village. Explains Kelvin who was travelling towards New Plymouth, a tourist accustomed to travelling on the opposite side of the road turned hard right into a driveway

straight in front of him. Fortunately there were no major injuries though Kelvin said he was "suffering a bit of whiplash". His step brother who was in the passenger seat beside him which took the main impact, fortunately had the foresight to pull his legs up onto the dashboard and out of danger. Had he not it could have been a different story believes Kelvin. The truck which Kelvin bought just a month ago and travelled

to the South Island to pick up is a write off however. The Swiss born tourist from France who spoke limited English admitted liability straight away. Egmont Village is not far from where Kevin Anderson who then owned the Mountain House was killed on Pembroke Road when he collided with European tourists travelling on the wrong side of the road.

# The Naki Bus - more user friendly



Your bus ticket comes with a friendly smile from John Walker and Ann Olsen (pictured).

They used to leave at 6am. It's more user friendly says John Walker, who in August last year bought the former Dalroy Express bus service with wife Johanna.

Renamed the Naki Bus, they offer a daily bus service to Auckland leaving from Hawera at 6:45am stopping at Eltham, Stratford, Inglewood, New Plymouth

and New Plymouth Airport and arriving in Auckland at 2pm. The service also caters to Taranaki passengers wanting to travel around the eastern side of the mountain on the Hawera /New Plymouth route, as well as those wanting to go to the airport, avoiding the expense of leaving their cars in the airport car park.

The bus from Auckland departs from Quay Street bus station in downtown Auckland at 9am arriving in Hawera via New Plymouth at 4:30pm.

On Friday there is an additional bus service, leaving Hawera at 2:15pm which John himself takes - returning home for the weekend to Pukekohe where he and

Johanna live. In New Plymouth the buses leave outside the New Plymouth Bus Centre in Ariki Street opposite Puke Ariki. John is based in the office. Ann Olsen also assists in the reception work, "when I'm not here," says John.

"There's a lot of competition," between bus companies admits John, who adds they pride themselves on their service. There's an 0508 number and "a real person answers the phone 24 hours a day unless we're already on it" explains John. People can also pay the driver and don't have to pay in advance.

Their 19 seat buses are slightly smaller, which means they're lower down and easier to get into.

"A lot of people do like the smaller ones," commented Ann. Added John they run very late model vehicles, they're comfortable and air conditioned.

John and Johanna have been in business for 40 years and in buses for the last 20 years. Both drive buses themselves.

John recalls last year during the big storms being caught by a big slip just



The distinctive Naki Bus Depot.

south of Whanganui en route to Palmerston North and, on the diversion, encountering yet another slip and the bus having to be towed out. Apart from the occasional unruly passenger though there's not too many dramas.

On the Auckland route the drivers change over at Te Awamutu. There's a half hour break at Mokau, Otoro-

hanga or the Big Apple south of Otorohanga.

And does anyone ever get left behind? There are some bus companies though who run a pretty tight ship and won't wait if passengers are not back on the bus when the half hour's up. But not them insists John with a grin.

It's all part of the service.

## Coastal Care Update

The Coastal Taranaki Health Trust has recently posted a letter of thanks and receipts to the many individuals and families who have contributed to the fundraising for Coastal Care. This is one small but important way to

acknowledge people's generosity.

In the meantime the Trust is working on several fronts to secure funds from other sources and will keep you up to date with how this is going. The Trust welcomes ongoing

support given at any time, so that it can get even closer to the community fundraising target of \$411,000.00.

If you wish to donate a cull cow, contact either Riverlands: Bruce Thompson 06 278 7432 or 027 4455 285

or 0800 654779 or email [bt-thompson@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bt-thompson@xtra.co.nz)  
Silver Fern Farms: Dex Newland 06 7580760 or 027 6660 264 or email [dex.newland@silverfern farms.co.nz](mailto:dex.newland@silverfern farms.co.nz)

State the number of cows and the donation is for the Coastal Care Health Trust. Be aware that there are tax responsibilities with this type of donation; you may prefer to sell the

animal(s) as usual and then donate the value to the Trust. For those who have mislaid their form, and still wish to help, simply clip this form and send it in.

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# Dragging yourself through the day?



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Are you feeling empty, depleted? Perhaps your vital energy disappeared and still hasn't returned, and you've even heard rumours it's been spotted lazing on a sunny beach somewhere in the South Pacific! Everyday tasks seem like impossible mountains to climb when you are running on empty. And if you feel this way to any degree, it's normal to hope that it will get better if you just try harder, exercise more, eat better. "If I could think more positively, get fitter, eat better, then surely I will feel better". These things are important and do help to maintain a healthy equilibrium. However, if you discover you've reached

a state of depletion as described above, trying harder and doing more can actually end up leaving you feeling more tired, more drained.

But before you book a flight to track down your missing mojo, ... there are steps you can take without leaving the country.

Seriously, the fastest way to recover your vital energy is to see someone for help before you are at your wits end. It is easier to remedy the problem, before it becomes a major issue.

Find a counsellor, naturopath, practitioner or doctor you trust, who understands the best ways to refuel your vital energy. It worries me that so many people wait until they are incapacitated by symptoms including depression, anxiety, sleep problems and immune dysfunction before they seek help. At this stage of depletion the only solution may seem to be prescribed medication, for example antidepressants. There are also natural solu-

tions that are very effective particularly if they are utilised earlier rather than later.

Enlisting help before major symptoms emerge gives you the fastest path to recovery. Symptoms to watch out for might include ongoing tiredness lasting more than a week or two, low mood that doesn't resolve in a short amount of time, increasing anxious feelings, continued aches and pains, frequent headaches. This is your body's way of telling you that it needs some support. Don't wait until you feel like you are literally dragging yourself through every day before you seek help from someone who understands the role vital energy has to play in your overall physical, mental and emotional health.

If you seek help before you reach rock bottom, your body, mind and spirit respond much more quickly and effectively.

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## Sir Ian kills them - with laughter

*continued from page one*

His audience were treated to a uniquely diverse show. At one stage in the second half, which was dominated by monologues from Shakespeare, he strode through the audience demonstrating an excellent knowledge of such plays as Hamlet and Coriolanus. Occasionally he would pause in front of a theatre-goer and powerfully recite several lines from one of the bards' works, as though the patron was in the play.

He also recited from memory several poems from such poets as William Wordsworth and GM Hopkins.

Elsewhere he was singing a song, perhaps not something he was all that comfortable with. In a loud comic aside he asked the audience to keep it quiet or "Next they'll be requesting 'Some enchanted Evening' at my next show.

One of the audience was 1983 Mastermind champion Ida Gaskin and Sir Ian acknowledged her with a kiss. He spent some time asking the audience to tell him all of Shakespeare plays, all 37 of them. There was some playful interplay between Ida and Sir Ian, as she claimed he was one short.

After the audience had come up with all the plays, Sir Ian presented Ida with the ticked off list as a souvenir, which she claimed she'd have framed.

Although there was a lot of humour and witticisms, there were a few revealing moments as Sir Ian let us into the world of the working actor. "I did 21 plays in three years, he commented of his Cambridge period.

Early in his career he overheard a major figure in drama - one William Squires - run-

ning him down as an actor. "McKellen's absolutely dreadful", Squires spat. At his next performance, Ian looked at the audience and thought all these people agree with Mr Squires; he

was unable to utter a single word. Judi Dench, sharing the scene with him, rescued the situation - to a degree, by finishing of the scene by reciting both her lines and Sir Ian's. He said this was the only time - more or less - that stage fright got the bet-

ter of him.

It would be hard to imagine a more satisfied audience. In fact, many didn't seem to want to leave. After demanding that the patrons dig deep for more money "Every dollar will go to the restoration of the Issac Royal Theatre", Sir Ian stood near the entrance signing programmes. What a show from a great actor.

Last word goes to Ida Gaskin "The show was absolutely wonderful. Terrific",

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## Weed discovery puts boaties on alert

Boats and other equipment should be well cleaned before departing Lake Rotorangi to help prevent the spread of hornwort, also known as coontail.

Hornwort is classed as an unwanted organism under the Biosecurity Act, and its sale, propagation and distribution is banned. It rapidly invades most freshwater habitats, crowding out native species and impeding drainage, irrigation and other uses.

"Hornwort is not listed in Taranaki's regional pest plant strategy but it is banned nationally," says the Taranaki Regional Council's Compliance Manager, Bruce Pope.

"We're particularly concerned about this discovery because many boaties who use Lake Rotorangi also use nearby Lake Rotokare, where the local community has put a great deal of effort into establishing a pest-free sanctuary.

"We'd also like people to watch out for it in other Taranaki waterways, and let us know if they see it."

Hornwort is a submerged freshwater weed found in still and flowing waters, growing in depths of up to 16m in clear, deep lakes. Leaves are finely divided, with minute teeth which make the plant feel rough to the touch. It lacks roots but has modified leaves that anchor the plant in bottom sediments.

It is widely distributed in the North Island but until now there have been no confirmed reports of established infestations in Taranaki.

Mr Pope says its discovery here is a reminder that boaties and other recreational users should check and remove all weeds and unwanted material from boats and equipment before leaving any waterway.

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# A most entertaining night

A long time ago I saw on television a trilogy of plays called The Norman Conquests. The playwright was Alan Ayckbourn. He has remained a favourite ever since and it was a great thrill to see the Opunake Players choose three of his one acts plays for their first production of 2012.

Interspersed between the plays, all written in the 1970s and selected from the English playwright's collection of Confusions, were musical interludes in which local talent performed popular '70s songs.

I went home thoroughly entertained.

The plays, directed by Jenny Trolove, were quite different yet had as their theme, as in The Norman Conquests and indeed all of Ayckbourn's plays I've seen, relationships with the struggle for domination often at the core.

The first in which Suzie Stanley played the slightly loopy Lucy was intriguing. When her neighbour Rosemary (Michelle Julian) drops by, followed later by Rosemary's husband Terry (Bill Hayward), Lucy's loopyness takes on sinister overtones as she, targeting the inoffensive Terry, insidiously takes charge of their relationship.

The second play, my favourite, is set in a restaurant. Two couples arrive separately. The play cleverly switches between the dialogue of the older couple, Mr and Mrs Pierce and Martin who works for Mr Pierce - and his young wife Polly.

Both women clearly have some beef with their men. Angry barbs are fired as the obsequious waiter played charmingly by Peter Trolove tries to serve them and confusingly gets inadvertently



Mayhem at the Gofforth's Fete. Councillor Pearce and Milly in foreground as the vicar (left) and lover look thoughtful.

caught up in the conflict.

The irritable Mrs Pierce spoiling for a fight and comically played with restraint by Helen Duff, suspects her husband (Darrell Hickey) just returned from business in Italy, has not been alone on his trip.

Polly who tellingly tries to persuade her husband to go to another restaurant when she spies the older couple has just coincidentally also returned from a holiday in Italy.

Both the men appear to be oblivious to their wives ill humour.

The insensitive Pierce, well played by Darrell Hickey, in vain tries to temper his wife's venom. Martin - his extraordinary hair cutting a comic figure - meanwhile seems to be equally unmoved as an indignant Polly berates him for his indifference to her. When it eventually tran-

spires that she has been with Mr Pierce in Italy his main concern is how it will affect his future promotion, further enraging her.

The last play about the opening of a community hall and the revelation that the tea lady has become pregnant after a fling which is announced to the waiting crowd on the sound system which they didn't realise was on, was hilarious.

With the dignified councillor (Alison Haywood) attempting to give a speech against the backdrop of a drunken cuckolded boyfriend (Mike Smith) singing Ten green bottles and a tea urn that no one can turn off, mayhem reigns. Paul Anderson-Gardiner as the lover Gosforth and the vicar (Arthur

Hughson) vainly attempting to pacify the situation while the demure mother-to-be and tea lady (played demurely by Wendy Smith) made for some great comic moments.

In the incidental entertainment we got the see again the multi-talented Helen Duff on guitar accompanying Lynelle Kuriger - clearly having a great time and a natural dancer, Jo Lane - injecting much passion into her singing and Chloe Danz adding substance to the line up.

I particularly enjoyed the Elton John number and the humorous Lonnie Donnigan number My Old Man's a Dustman with humorous lyrics went down a treat.

Thank you Opunake Players.

Bernice McKellar

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# COASTAL COPS: Okato and Oakura



**Rich Corry**

Hello all.  
First of all I want to thank those out there that informed me of a group from Auckland

down this parts looking to purchase your scrap in particularly old vehicles.

Now it would appear at this stage that these people are not registered second hand dealers, and I for one don't want them snooping around your property.

One of them has been spoken to and the other yet to be as he looks to have moved further down the country, so again a big thanks to those that took the time to inform me.

I also want to thank those of

you that are taking the time to let me know about our boy and girl racers out there who continue to put themselves and other road users at risk; keep the info coming please. I have often said that I cannot Police the community on my own.

I also see that there are a couple of job vacancies being advertised for farm workers. A suggestion that I have is that you get any possible employees to sign a form that they will allow a police check

to be completed on them prior to their employment.

Now this takes some time and may not fit in, but at least if they sign it that is a good start and if they refuse perhaps we don't want them moving into the community anyway. As I said in my last column you should also check their driver licence and gun licence if they have one. Anyway must go. Catch you all later and be safe.

Rich

## Manaiia



**Constable Jeremy Bull**

Constable Jeremy Bull, sole change constable at Manaiia Police had been in his position for almost a year and all is going well. He is especially pleased that both crime and serious car accidents are down. "There is not a lot of crime, but it is still a needy community in some ways", he says.

Constable Bull has a preventative approach to his position and is able to act in such a way that minor incidents are dealt with early before they escalate into more serious ones. He refers to such examples as domestic incidents as well as dishonesty episodes.

"It is surely better to prevent trouble than be the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff", he explains.

Quite a lot of Constable Bull's focus is on traffic safety. He is proud of the fact that there have been no fatal car accidents on his watch. He feels three risk variables motorists need to be aware of

are excessive speed, driving fatigue, as well as drivers allowing themselves to be distracted while at the wheel.

Constable Bull has worked in stations with varying numbers of police, as in Hawera, as well as the Armed Offenders Squad. However, being in sole charge is not a concern. "I've lived here for 6-7 years and am part of the community". His work with junior rugby keeps in closely involved anyway, as well as his interest in a round of golf.

He concluded, "I'm enjoying it here". He adds, "You can resolve problems before it's a major problem and can see the benefit of what you've done".

*Now a few words of wisdom from Constable Bull himself.*

Here are a few proverbs of wisdom I would like to share with you:

If you deal, grow or whatever with drugs and your deal goes sour and a bit of retaliation gets sought against you or your property .... whatever made you think that I will provide a sympathetic ear - *sleep with dogs wake up with flees.....*

Selling Ritalin even if it is your own or a close family members is actually illegal. Ritalin is a class B drug which, if you get caught selling, you might want to hope the presiding judge is in a good mood as the maximum penalty is fact 14 years imprisonment. I have no problem with people choosing to live in or around the outskirts of our fair town. Why shouldn't you enjoy the wonderful long hot summers, mild winters, gentle sea breezes like the rest of us. What I do have a real problem with is when you or

your lifestyle starts affecting other members of our community

There are a lot of hidden messages in the above. For a number of people it will make quite clear sense, but if most of the above confuses don't worry it obviously was not meant for you.

Over the weekend a residential house in Manaiia was broken into and a large number of firearms were stolen. Now these guns need to be found and taken off the streets before they fall into the wrong hands and are used in a far more sinister way. If you know anything let me in on it. Anything I'm told will be kept in confidence. Otherwise; leave me a phone message at the station 274 8342.

Take care

*Constable Jeremy Bull*



The scene of the accident on the northern approach to Opunake where a vehicle ended up in a creek. (Refer front page).

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Dorothea Henry



## On this month in History

On May 7, 2007 the Privy Council in London ruled that there had been a substantial miscarriage of justice and quashed David Bain's convictions for the murder of his entire family at Every Street, Dunedin in June 1994. The dead included his parents, two sisters and younger brother.

Earlier in 2003 the NZ Court of Appeal had ruled that a new trial should not occur on the ground that the defence's newly presented evidence would not have

changed the original verdict of the High Court jury in May 1995.

David Bain was released on May 15, 2007 and went to stay with former All Black Joe Karam, long tireless campaigner in upholding for his belief in David Bain's innocence.

The case remains highly controversial, especially as David's presumed innocence casts a judicial shadow on his father Robin as the likely person to have carried out the terrible crimes.

# Pihama WI News features Cancer walk and ANZAC

On April 18 approximately 80 men, women and children set off on the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Pihama Cancer walk.

The day was clear and sunny, but a keen south easterly breeze was on hand to join the happy bunch of walkers

The 8km course was set over farmland, passing the Lizzie Bell Cemetery, heading toward the cliff

tops, the trig station and meandering over countryside back to the local hall, where a delicious luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Staff from the Cancer Society also joined in the walk and were on hand at the hall to answer any questions and they had information packs available.

To date just over \$1700.00 has been banked. Once

again a great effort, and many thanks to all who participated.

The Anzac service was well attended by both young and old held at 6pm on April 25.

The service was led by Fr. Peter Brockhill, and Pastor Geoff Williams, assisted by Colin Butler, Ian Smith and Bob Morris representing the RSA.

Each year on this day it is a chance to remember those young men and women who fought for our country, and for our generations it is difficult to comprehend the atrocious conditions these servicemen had to endure in the fight for freedom.

May they rest in Peace.

## Opunake Friendship Club meet Tarzan, Peter Pan and more!

The April 30 Friendship afternoon was a real treat for the Forty Plus who braved the cold wind to attend.

Everyone was welcomed by a member of the committee. After birthdays were acknowledged the audience sat back to be thoroughly entertained by members of the 'Wave Church'. They were a very talented group and a lot of thought went into their production, which had as its theme Heroes accompanied by appropriate musical scores. The highlight was Tarzan swinging down from the stage to rescue Jane.

I guess we all remember

those great stories and their heroes and anti heroes who featured in the entertainment. These included Captain Hook, Peter Pan and Wendy, Robin Hood, Maid Marion and the evil Sheriff of Nottingham, Zorro who took on in a sword fight Cat Woman plus Batman and the Joker. I loved it when the Joker lured Cat Woman into the cage with a packet of Whiskas. The most popular hero of the afternoon was Popeye the Sailorman. Just a point but if there weren't any damsels to rescue there wouldn't be any heroes.

The group finished their

entertainment with some lovely singing. Pastor Murray concluded by mentioning the one hero who has done so much for mankind (and womankind). Even after the persecution and suffering at the hands of his enemies he forgave them. That man, Jesus, the true measure of a hero.

Afternoon tea was provided and served by the entire Church members.

Thank you all for a wonderful afternoon, also for your time and talent.

The Friendship Club AGM is on May 21 at St Barnabas Hall at 9:30am. All welcome.

Finally just a wee story: A certain lady was going out to entertain, we'll say in Hawera. She had lunch with a friend but had left her car lights on and flattened her battery. She called a taxi to take her to the venue and told him to pick her up at 3 o'clock. He drove her back to her friend's place and kindly jump-started her car. She wrote to the Hawera Star to thank the taxi driver adding there are still knights in shining armour rescuing damsels in distress. When she told her family about the experience their comment: But why would he rescue the dragon!

Publicity Officer

## Earthquake risks identified in many Council buildings including TSB Showplace

Further investigations are to be done on five New Plymouth District Council buildings following an initial evaluation of how well they would stand up to an earthquake.

A recent Monitoring Committee meeting heard that of eight key Council buildings, four were identified as being of potential earthquake risk, and one – the original portion of TSB Showplace – has been ranked as earthquake-prone.

The committee noted that more detailed structural assessments are being done on TSB Showplace and also on the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, the next lowest-rated building.

Further assessments will also be done on three other buildings – Oakura Town Hall, Inglewood Town Hall and Puke Ariki's South Wing – to identify the feasibility of bringing them up to 67 per cent of the current building standards.

In December last year the Council adopted a policy for identifying earthquake-prone buildings and

specifying timeframes for property owners to address any issues.

"Under this policy we undertook an initial evaluation of eight Council buildings in Oakura, Inglewood and New Plymouth," says Manager Property Peter Handcock.

"The Building Act states an earthquake-prone building has less than one-third of the seismic bracing strength required of a new building designed to current codes, and so is considered unacceptably unsafe in an earthquake.

"The Opera House part of TSB Showplace has a score of 26 per cent, and the Govett-Brewster is close to that one-third threshold with 36 per cent. We're taking a closer look to confirm the situation and identify options to strengthen them."

The eight buildings investigated were:

- TSB Stadium: 140 per cent of new building strength.
- Puke Ariki North Wing (museum): 113 per cent.
- NPDC Civic Centre: 68 per cent.
- Inglewood Town Hall: 62

per cent.

- Oakura Town Hall: 56 per cent.
- Puke Ariki South Wing (library): 42 per cent.
- Govett-Brewster Art Gallery: 36 per cent.
- TSB Showplace (original section): 26 per cent.

The New Plymouth Opera House was built in 1925 and the oldest portion of the Govett-Brewster was built in 1918 – both well before design standards for buildings in earthquakes were developed in 1935 as a result of the Napier earthquake.

TSB Showplace is listed as a category A item in the District Plan and a category II building with the Historic Places Trust – one of four registered opera houses in New Zealand.

Initial evaluations will also be undertaken on the Downtown Car Park, Yarrow Stadium, Te Henui Vicarage and Civic Centre stairs.

The New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering recommends that buildings should meet 67 per cent or more of the new building

standard. The Council's policy is to encourage owners to strengthen their buildings to this level.

- Following the introduction in 1935 of design standards for buildings in earthquakes, further changes came in 1965 with the identification of three different earthquake zones, and in 1976 which allowed for more

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## Alcohol Reform Bill



**Jonathan Young,  
New Plymouth MP**

Alcohol consumption is a part of life; some would say too much a part of life. Alcohol has been recognised as the cause of significant social and health-related harm, and is implicated in 30 per cent of all police-recorded offences, 34 per cent of recorded family violence, and 50 per cent of all homicides. ACC estimates that almost a quarter of all claims are alcohol-related, as are up to 70 per cent of emergency department presentations for injury.

The Law Commission's report to the Government in 2010 was clear in their recommendations. Things have to change in New Zealand in regard to alcohol consumption. The Govern-

ment has responded quickly and strongly by presenting a bill to Parliament which will bring changes to the law.

Key proposals in the Bill include:

**A split purchase age** – the purchase age to be increased to 20 for off-licence retailers such as liquor stores, supermarkets and grocery stores but remains at 18 for on-licences such as restaurants, bars and clubs where drinking takes place in a controlled environment.

**A risk-based licence regime** – licence fees will reflect risk factors such as type and capacity of venue, trading hours and previous conduct of a licensee. Low-risk premises such as wineries will pay the lowest fees.

**Parents and guardians will be responsible for their children's drinking** – it will be an offence for anyone else to supply alcohol to an under-18-year-old unless they have the parent's or guardians express consent and if so, must supervise responsibly. Supply of alcohol to minors without consent or in an ir-

responsible manner may be liable for a fine up to \$2000.

**Local communities will have more say about where and when alcohol can be sold** – local authorities will be able to limit the sale of alcohol, set conditions on licences and there will be broader criteria for objecting to alcohol licence applications, through local area plans.

**Liquor licence will be harder to get and easier to lose** – licences will be harder to get through local alcohol policies with broader criteria for objecting to licence applications and licensees and managers who persistently fail to comply with the law will lose their licences.

**Tighter restrictions on the types of premises that can sell alcohol and when they can sell it** – dairies and convenience stores won't be able to see alcohol. There will be national maximum hours that premises can be open for alcohol sales.

**Tighter restrictions on the irresponsible promotion of alcohol** – especially ir-

responsible promotions that targets young people.

Legislation alone won't turn around our binge drinking culture which is why the Government recently announced further non-legislative measure to target alcohol related harm. The Nation-led Government will commit an additional \$10 million a year for alcohol treatment services. This funding will come from alcohol excise revenue and is on top of the approximate \$120 million spent on alcohol and drug treatments services each year.

An expert forum will also be set up to consider the effectiveness of further restrictions on advertising and sponsorship to reduce alcohol-related harm. The forum will report back within a year of the bill becoming law.

I invite you to go to my website [www.jonathanyoung.co.nz](http://www.jonathanyoung.co.nz) and use the **Have your Say** facility to give me your feedback on whether the drinking age and the ability to purchase alcohol should be changed.



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## 2012 Budget must deal with the real issues



**Andrew Little, List MP**

Next week's budget will be an important one.

But look out for the platitudes. The language will be

interesting.

We're four years into the aftermath of one of the worst financial crises the world has seen. New Zealand has fared better than many other developed countries because by the end of 2008 our government debt was so low, as was unemployment, we could absorb the shock a little more readily.

Since then, government debt has nearly tripled and unemployment has doubled.

But the government has had plenty of time to adjust to the conditions and prepare for recovery.

Trouble is, there is very little the government has done to genuinely respond to changes in economic performance and to start creating the conditions for improved investment and development of our skills base.

You will hear the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance talk about making the economy flexible and competitive. But these are weasel words designed to cover

up retrograde measures such as making it harder for working people to negotiate pay rises or watering down health and safety rights.

You will hear the finance minister talk about the global financial crisis and the Christchurch earthquake as some sort of explanation for the position we are in today, including the massive growth in government debt. What you won't hear about is the ill-judged 2010 tax cuts and the impact they have had on the nation's finances. Remember, 90 per cent of the benefit of those tax cuts went to the top ten per cent of earners. The rise in GST to 15 per cent was meant to balance out the cuts in personal income taxes.

The results are clear to see. This financial year, government revenue is about \$1.6 billion, or 3.8 per cent, below forecast. The biggest reductions in revenue are in the GST take and in personal income tax.

Two weeks ago, the household labour force survey showed 9000 fewer jobs

in New Zealand and unemployment creeping up. We've seen a fall in commodity prices which will affect earnings from our export agricultural goods, and last week manufacturing figures showed a sudden contraction in that sector.

If we are honest with ourselves, we will accept that our prospects are looking challenging. What we need is an investment approach. We need government to use its procurement power to emphasise jobs in New Zealand and training New Zealand citizens to do skilled work here. And we need measures to encourage new investment here, not just overseas buyers picking up existing local businesses and sucking the profits off to another country.

Right now, the more Kiwis than ever before are seeing better opportunities overseas and leaving New Zealand.

Next week's budget will be a test of how serious this government is about tackling the real economic issues in New Zealand.

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## New equipment at Mobility and More



**Proprietor Kevin Bromell on an e-Bike - a two-wheeled-self-balancing scooter.**

Stratford's Mobility and More has acquired some new items of merchandise to help disabled people. Proprietor Kevin Bromell has developed a nifty aid for disabled people who wish to do gardening. Designed by Kevin himself, the Mobile Gardening Stool retails for \$199.

The stool allows the user to get low to the ground without having to kneel - a movement many disabled people find difficult. The big rubber

wheels make the manoeuvrability over the lumps and bumps in the average garden much easier. It also won't sink down into the soil. The nonslip handle grips are also useful for arthritic hands.

The stool has other uses besides gardening. For example it allows a person to access cupboards that are low down and to clean the lower reaches of glass surfaces. It would be useful if the person was endeavouring to paint

walls at the level of the skirting board.

The stool can also be used to transport material from one place to another, such as bags of compost.

Another new item that Kevin has purchased is the e-Bike. This aid is powered by two re-chargeable battery powered motors.

You stand upright on the device and control it by body movement. It moves you along at slow walking pace or up to 18kph if you want to go that bit quicker. Kevin says the use of the e-Bike goes beyond being useful for disabled people - others can also find it a boon. He can envisage it being used by people wanting to explore the New Plymouth Walkway, such as tourists.

One feature of the device is, if you step off it and let it go - accidentally or otherwise - the e-Bike will park itself as soon as it meanders to the nearest obstacle. The e-Bike retails at \$3,500 compared to the original Segway which retails at approximately \$11,000.

Apart from these two new additions there are a myriad of devices to help the disabled. Kevin also is happy to give talks to outline the many ways disabled people can be enabled to live an easier life.

Kevin Bromell's shop Mobility and More is at 29 Broadway, Stratford. Free-phone 0800 765 763.



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# Coastal Taranaki School team makes finals

On May 7 the Taranaki Secondary School Literary Challenge was held and Coastal Taranaki School of Okato were finalists. This event was part of the NZ Post Book Awards and was held at the Community Centre in Hawera.

The team included Sam Ure, Jared Wooldridge, Ella Beaumont, Sydney Corry and

Jaydene Transon. The team was under the supervision of Delwyn Pearce, CTS librarian, who put a lot of effort into preparing the team.

Sam Ure (female) a member of the team won the Lysaght-Watt Trust student prize on the day.

The prize meant Sam attended the NZ Post Book Awards ceremony to present



The Coastal Taranaki School team, which was a finalist in the Secondary School Literary Challenge, which was held in Hawera recently.

the Children's Choice Award to the winning author at the Wellington event.

Delwyn commented that Sam was "extremely excited".

The Awards were held in the Ballroom of the Amora Hotel and Sam's flights and accommodation were paid for.

To enter the Taranaki Secondary School Literary Challenge, teams had read the finalist books in the nonfiction and Young Adult sections of the Awards.



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## IHC calls for entries in the Showcase Art Awards

Experts from the worlds of fashion, photography and abstract art, will choose the winners in this year's IHC Art Awards – a showcase for the talents of disabled artists. High-profile fashion designer Denise L'Estrange-Corbet, from WORLD is returning as judge for the third time, this year teamed up with Dunedin artist Kim Pieters and Wellington photographer/designer Neil Pardington. They will judge entries that traditionally cover everything from sculpture and fibre art, to painting and drawing.

Denise says she finds the artists inspirational. "It shows us that even with a disability, art transcends all boundaries as a means to express oneself in so many different forms, be it painting, drawing or sculptures."

Kim, an abstract artist who

has worked in a range of formats from paintings to photographs and music, says it will be reasonably difficult to judge work across different genres, but some works will stand out in any media. "I am especially interested when a distinctive presence comes through in the work."

Neil says the Art Awards will be a learning experience for him as a judge and he is looking forward to it. "For me art is about great ideas and execution." He says the winner "will be the work that grabs me – that has an impact when I look at it". He encourages photographers to enter.

The IHC Art Awards are open to all New Zealanders with an intellectual disability, whether or not they use IHC services. Entries open on Monday 4 June.

The top 30 entries from three regional competitions – 10 finalists from each region – will be exhibited at the Museum Building Tokomaru, Buckle Street, Wellington, from Monday 3 to Thursday 13 September.

The winners are announced on Awards night, Thursday 13 September.

Art works and entry forms must be submitted between Monday 4 June and Monday 2 July 2012. All entries must be in by 4pm, 2 July. The entry form and conditions of entry can be downloaded from the IHC website [www.ihcartawards.co.nz](http://www.ihcartawards.co.nz)

For more information please contact: Amy Watson (amy.watson@ihc.org.nz)

### Regional exhibitions:

Wellington: 2–16 August, Dudley Arthouse, Dudley Street, Lower Hutt

Dunedin: 9–16 July, Community Gallery, 26 Princes Street, Dunedin

Hamilton: 23 July–17 August, Sandz Gallery/Studio, Hamilton

### The judges

#### Denise L'Estrange-Corbet

Denise is co-founder and designer of one of New Zealand's top fashion brands, WORLD. Denise is also a published author, a weekly contributor to the *New Zealand Herald Canvas* magazine, she has a radio slot commenting on fashion and beauty trends, and is a regular public speaker. Celebrating 23 years in business recently, WORLD currently has 10 stand-alone stores. WORLD has shown at the Official Fashion Weeks in London, Paris, Hong Kong, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

Denise judged the IHC Art Awards in 2009 and 2010 and, since then, has had a continued interest in artists with intellectual disabilities.

#### Kim Pieters

Kim Pieters is an artist whose focus is abstract painting. She has for many years also produced photographs, improvisational film and music from her Dunedin studios. Abstraction for her is important because of the possibilities inherent in its openness. Kim views colour and shape and line as indications rather than end points. Her paintings

present a range of signs and atmospheres, which encourage individual interpretation. At present she is working on a series of paintings called 'Abraham's Journey – after Kierkegaard'. Kim is a New Zealander of Dutch/English descent. She started making works in the early '80s and has been exhibiting in public and dealer galleries since 1989.

#### Neil Pardington

Neil Pardington's award-winning career as a photographer developed alongside his work as a graphic and exhibition designer. The winner of the 2011 Marti Friedlander Photographic Award, he has participated in many solo and group exhibitions. He has also produced, written and directed a number of short films. Neil divides his time between his art practice and his role as a creative director of the design agency Base Two. Neil studied at Elam School of Fine Arts and the University of Auckland. He lives in Wellington with his wife Amelia Minty and daughter Billie. He is of Kai Tahu, Kati Mamoe, Kati Waewae and Pakeha descent. His *The Vault* series of photographs, taken in museum and art gallery storerooms, was developed into a major touring exhibition and publication. *The Vault* is touring throughout New Zealand.

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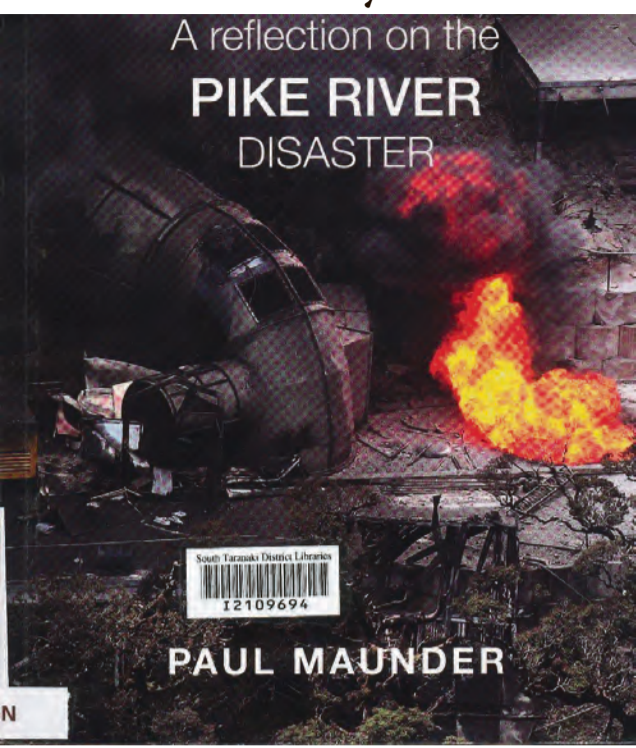


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# Was the Pike River disaster a tragedy which was preventable? - a book written by a local man



**Coal and the Coast: A reflection on the Pike River Mine Disaster**  
 Written by Paul Maunder. Canterbury University Press, Christchurch (2012).  
 A book review.

The author of this book has a special position. Not only does he live in the locality - in Blackball (the nearest town), but was a member of the first ambulance team sent in. He picked up the two

survivors; one of the men, dazed, wondered what had happened - had there been an explosion?  
 This book is concise and short (112 pages) and impressive in its careful documentation of facts, coupled with carefully reasoned analysis. Some of the book is written in diary-form. It is an extraordinarily well-written book by someone well-schooled in the area, the

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industry and known to several of the victims, such as Cr Milton Osborne of Opunake and Richard Holling his neighbour in Blackball  
 The book goes well beyond the tragedy itself to look at other mines - practices as well as legislation - including legislative changes over the years, such as the scaling down of safety inspections in the early 1990s. He also outlines the rise of the trade unions in the area; Blackball plays an important historical role.  
 The author also includes the comments of family members of the victims. "A father complains about there having been no rescue attempt. 'They went down the Strongman straight away. That was the best time' (page 23). Many wondered why a senior policeman was in charge - rather than the mine rescue people.  
 He also outlines some of

the findings of the Royal Commission, which continues to examine the tragedy and unearth many disquieting aspects. Hopefully, some good will come out of this, as there are changes that are needed, especially along the lines of safety provisions.  
 The book is well endowed with numerous interesting photographs, both modern and historical in nature.  
 The book has a dedication: *To the Pike Miners and to my neighbour Richard Holling, in particular. May your deaths not be in vain.*  
 I thoroughly recommend this book, which I obtained from Opunake Library Plus.  
*Reviewed by Rolland McKellar.*

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# Pharmacies through the ages - in Opunake

Dennis Lattimer's magnificent mural took just 17 days to complete. Many hours were spent, including the research and design. The mural shows three periods in the history of what was recently known as Cavaney's Pharmacy. Currently, the

business is known as the Opunake Medicines Health and Beauty Centre. The project was a Opunake Business Association initiative, with member Jean Roach "driving it" - according to President Monique Sinclair.

Dennis used Resene acrylic paint and employs airbrushing as part of the process. "It just pulls it all together", he explains. The mural scene nearest Tasman Street depicts the chemist shop under the stewardship of John Feaver,

who hailed from England. He was in charge from 1895 until 1933. He worked there with his son Samuel (who was a vet) and his wife. He also provided dental and optical care and even insurance. John was a keen photographer - most people are aware of the Feaver Glass Plate Collection of historic photographs, held at Puke Ariki Museum.

This first scene shows several people in an old time car - presumably the driver is Mr Feaver.

One person Mr Feaver eventually employed was George Cavaney. George - WG Cavaney - took over the pharmacy in 1935 and continued until 1983 when his son Grant took over.

George lived in New Plym-

outh initially and drove in each day to commence his duties, before eventually buying a house in Opunake. Grant worked for some years with George, having left a Napier pharmacy to join his father. Grant continued until 2009 when he retired from the pharmacy, but continues with the Egmont Soap Factory across the street.

Dennis himself pays tribute to Jean Roach whom he says contacts the owners of blank walls in Opunake and asks if a mural can be painted. She then raises money. In this way Dennis has been commissioned to paint a number of murals in the township. "It's quite remarkable what she does", says Dennis.

This mural was painted

with the financial assistance of the TSB Bank, Lysaght-Watt Trust and Creative Communities.

As he admired the finished mural, Dennis admitted he was pleased. "I seem to get better as I get older - like a bottle of wine", he says with a smile.

These days Dennis lives in the Far North in a place called Pukenui. However, he has left a rich, and much admired pictorial legacy in Opunake and elsewhere in the province.

The mural was officially unveiled on May 14 to much applause with Jean Roach delivering the opening speech. She paid tribute to the sponsors (mentioned above) and also the work STDC's Michelle McDon-

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The completed mural, which was painted by Dennis Lattimer and looks superb.

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ald did behind the scenes to bring the project to fruition - as well as many others. Most of all, artist Dennis Lattimer was commended.

There were members of both the Cavaney and Feaver families at the opening. Jenny (nee Cavaney) Sy-

mons, Grant's sister recalls washing hundreds of bottles at a farthing a bottle - later upgraded to a penny a bottle.

The people at the opening shook off the rain and headed to Opunake Library Plus for a lovely morning tea.

## 84% households digital

New Zealand TV starts to go digital in less than five months and 84 per cent of households nationally are ready for it.

New Zealand is going digital in stages with Hawke's Bay and the West Coast of the South Island, including Murchison and St Arnaud, the first to make the move on 30 September.

The Taranaki region goes digital on 29 September 2013 and across the region more than eight out of ten homes have already made the move to digital TV.

Any old TV can go digital with the right set-top box and satellite dish or UHF aerial. Going Digital National Manager Greg Harford says it is

important to remember that the move to digital will affect every TV whether it is in the bedroom, shed, bach or in a work place.

"As each region goes digital every analogue TV that you want to continue watching will need a set-top box." It also pays to think about video or DVD recorders as these will also need to go digital if they are to continue receiving and recording pictures says Mr Harford.

People looking to go digital and wanting help to work out when their region goes digital and what equipment they will need can visit [www.goingdigital.co.nz](http://www.goingdigital.co.nz) or call 0800 838 800.

# Full programme and zero rates increase for TRC

Value for money is a key theme for the Taranaki Regional Council as it finalises its Long-Term Plan for 2012-2022. After deliberating on submissions on Monday the 7th of May, the Council decided that they would budget for a zero rates increase in the 2012/2013 year. The council are satisfied that it is fully resourced to continue all its proven and successful programmes and carry out its environmental responsibilities under the Resource Management Act. They also reaffirmed the proposal to assume ownership of Yarrow Stadium, with Councilors confident the regional community understands that making an extremely small annual payment via rates secures the future of a

highly valued regional asset. Mr MacLeod says a number of submissions were made on the Yarrow Stadium which were considered carefully and "We're satisfied that the cost is fairly distributed around the region - 78% North Taranaki, 17% South Taranaki and 5% Stratford. We're talking about a very small amount of money -- \$11 a year for Stratford and South Taranaki ratepayers. That's not much to secure the future of a regional asset that continues to prove its immense value." He says it's important to remember that the New Plymouth District Council will still fund 100% of the Stadium's operational costs. "Rates money from the Taranaki Regional Council will go into a depreciation fund to protect the future of this regional asset."

He says the Council's budgets for the next year and 10 years secure the future of its varied and successful programmes and activities. These include: the Citylink bus network in New Plymouth (passenger numbers are increasing as services are enhanced); The Riparian Management Programme, one of New Zealand's largest environmental enhancement programmes and one transforming the Taranaki landscape; completion of the Lower Waiwhakaiho Flood Protection Scheme, greatly reducing the flooding risk at what has become an important retail and social amenity in New Plymouth; protection and enhancement of the region's indigenous biodiversity by identifying key native ecosystems and working closely with

landowners on predator control, planting and other work; and stewardship of the three premier heritage properties of Pukeiti, Holland Gardens and Tupare ensuring their maintenance and development for the benefit of the regional community. The Council Chairman, David MacLeod, says it is particularly pleasing to amend the Long-Term Plan to allow for a zero rates increase this year instead of the 3% increase originally planned. "It's particularly good news in the current economic climate," he says. "This Council's per capita rates are already the lowest in New Zealand and it's our firm intention to keep it that way." The amended Long-Term Plan will be audited before going back to the Council for formal adoption on 15 May.

## "We'll make your dreams come true"

Two former coasters involved in a newly established online finance brokerage company will be offering some great deals on loans.

"Whatever you need, we'll make your dreams come true," says Leah James. If you need finance for anything - from a car to a home mortgage, for farm machinery or debt consolidation or personal loans "We'll go find you the money."

Leah recently left Michael Hill Jeweller where she has been employed for the past 14 years to become a partner in the business FreshRiver Finance.

Also joining the business is employee Laurelle Dymond who, like Leah, also comes from the coast and attended Opunake High School.

Leah got involved in the business venture she describes as "an amazing opportunity" via an old family friend Zane Burnand.

Explains Leah, Zane founded FreshRiver Finance in Australia 15 years ago. Last year, with the business successfully operating in Australia, he moved back to Taranaki ostensibly to retire. Identifying a gap in the market however retirement went on hold and he decided to establish (a branch of?) the business in New Plymouth opening an office in October 2011 at 61 Devon Street West diagonally opposite Peggy



New beginnings, Leah James (right) and Laurelle Dymond, the "money savers."

Gordons. Leah joins Zane as a partner in the business.

FreshRiver Finance is a nationwide online finance brokerage company. They negotiate with the main lenders including banks and second and third tier lenders negotiating very good rates. For example their car finance rates start at 11.99%, a very competitive rate says Leah.

With the field days imminent, "There's been a lot of enquiry for approved pre-finance from dairy farmers intending to purchase at the

field days," says Leah. "Get your pre-approved loans in place before they go to the field days then you can go shopping and negotiate as cash buyers," she urges. "We do all the paperwork."

Leah is clearly relishing the job. "It's been a massive learning curve but I love it," she says adding working at Michael Hill Jewellers where she did a lot of credit applications has proved valuable experience.

"It's very different and really varied, one minute I

might be doing a car loan, next I'll be doing debt consolidation."

Laurelle who joined the firm three weeks ago from Harvey Norman, is also enjoying the new challenge. "I love it," she says echoing Leah.

She brings a wealth of experience to the position having been in charge of finance applications at Harvey Norman. Leah refers to themselves as money savers.

"We try to get them the best deal at the most competitive rate."

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# John Smith - Harcourts new man in Opunake



**Harcourts Taranaki Property Specialist's John Smith who intends to focus on auctions in the Opunake-eltham and Coastal area.**

Starting just a week ago, John R Smith *Dip Urb Valuation* has become the agent for Harcourts Taranaki Property Specialists Ltd – selling properties in the area from Opunake to Eltham.

John is well known in Opunake, both as a businessman and as an identity with his refreshing straight-from-the-shoulder style of dealing with issues and people.

His home is one of the more distinctive – certainly colourful – in the township; the Tasman/Napier Streets corner property – the old Westpac bank building. Sharing his home more recently, has

been the 45 Degrees Café and the Surf Lodge 45 Opunake, two businesses John and his wife Viola have started.

John and his family moved from Auckland to the Taranaki town seven years ago, interestingly, buying the same building his father tried to purchase three years earlier. John loves the town and his wife and two sons are proud to call Opunake home. “Where else do you get a mountain, fresh water and surf at an affordable price?” he asks.

John enjoys helping people. Our newspaper was greatly advantaged by John when

compiling our first newspaper after a shift to our new Napier Street premises. Late at night – when we had difficulties on both the telephone and computer front, John provided emergency facilities for both at his premises across the road. His timely intervention ensured the issue in question got completed and printed. At the time things didn't look too good!

John traded in real estate as Real Smith for a while, but decided the time was right to join forces with a well-known international firm in Harcourts to be part of a team and to have access to the networking the move allowed. “It's a good name – they've got a good reputation”, he explains.

John mentions that the company enacted over 20 billion dollars of business in the world last year. He says Harcourts have branches virtually everywhere, although Europe is not yet well covered.

John's role?

“It's filling a gap – joining the dots between New Plymouth and Hawera, where the firm has major branches.

John feels Opunake is in need of a new approach that he can bring, with more emphasis on auctioning properties. “I want to focus on auctioning, because it gets results”, he says.

Although John's territory is Surf Highway 45 and Opunake to Eltham area, he technically belongs to the New Plymouth operation.

Most of his work will be with residential to lifestyle properties, as well as industrial and commercial ventures. “My motto is, if I can walk to it, I can sell it”. He adds, “And I can walk a long way”.

Although his office is in New Plymouth, he says the door to his Opunake premises is always open for clients to discuss property – or anything else for that matter – over a cup of coffee.

John had two final messages for potential clients. Firstly, have a look at Harcourts website ([www.taranakiharcourts.co.nz](http://www.taranakiharcourts.co.nz)) and secondly, don't take too long to buy. “Opunake and coastal properties are probably the most affordable in the nation – but it won't be for too long”. John points out that

the NZ median property price is over \$400,000, but in the South Taranaki area it is just \$200,000-\$220,000.

Despite a busy professional life, John intends to find time for his interest in martial arts (Falun Gong). Other interests include surfing, fishing, cycling skateboarding, kite bugging, and walking. Despite a mishap while paragliding five years ago, he's keen to rekindle his active interest in that too.

John is looking forward to hearing from you. His phone number is 027 279 0648 or just knock on the door and take up his offer of a great cup of coffee – and talk real estate.

## Heritage signs appear



**Rex Langton installing the Opunake Redoubt sign), one of the first three completed signs as part of the Opunake Walkway Heritage Sign series.**

Many people from the Opunake community have been working on this project for the last 12 months with assistance from South Taranaki District Council staff to design signs with heritage information about significant historical sites that are part of the Opunake Town Walk.

Rex Langton and Charles Preddey from the Opunake Lions Club installed the three newly completed signs on April 3.

The other two signs were the Cottage Hospital and

the Fish Pass sign. There are about another eight signs to do to complete this project and funding for the project has come from the Egmont Plains Community Board and sponsorship from STOS and TRC.

The organising group are grateful to Tony Brown from Surf Highway Signs, who has worked with the group to design the signs and then made them as well as the Opunake Lions Club who have agreed to install the signs.

## Music in the air for Manaia WI

Members of the Manaia WI were entertained at their May meeting by the very talented Pat Dodunski who plays the Piano Accordion and Joy Eliason on the Keyboard. They played a selection of melodies including ‘When the Saints go Marching in’, ‘Daisy Daisy’, ‘Haere Ma'i and ‘Pokare Kare Ana’, which members thoroughly enjoyed. They were thanked by member Marion Smith who presented each with a gift.

President Ann Chisnall had been a delegate to the recent

South Taranaki Federation AGM and gave a very interesting report of the day. Some of our members had done well in the competitions including Joy Brogden 1<sup>st</sup> and Ellen Smith 3<sup>rd</sup> in the cooking and Phyllis Malcolm 1<sup>st</sup> in floral and photography – and Ann Chisnall 3<sup>rd</sup> with a door draught stopper.

Manaia also achieved second place with their Annual Programme.

Ann also reported on a very successful bus trip organized by the co-ord committee.

Members agreed to again

be a member of the Lysaght Watt Gallery and to become a Friend of the Rotokare Scenic Reserve Trust.

The Mary Hutton Trophy was awarded to Ann Chisnall and the wandering coin was won by May Mulholland.

A number of members thanked their secret friends for those yummy gifts received at Easter.

Competition Results:

Bloom: 1<sup>st</sup> Ann Chisnall  
2<sup>nd</sup> Phyllis Malcolm  
3<sup>rd</sup> = Joy Brogden and Shirley Barr  
Shrub 1<sup>st</sup> Phyllis Malcolm  
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# Keep safe while tramping

As hopes fade for missing Dunedin trumper, David Charles Palmer, the New Zealand Mountain Safety Council are reminding anyone venturing into the outdoors to plan and prepare well to ensure they have a safe and enjoyable trip.

Palmer has been described by his family as an experienced trumper, but everyone regardless of experience needs to remember the Outdoor Safety Code and follow the five simple rules for staying safe in the outdoors which are: plan your trip, tell someone your plans, be aware of the weather, know your limits and take sufficient supplies.

Telling someone where you are going and when you expect to return is not only common sense, but also provides vital 'insurance', should something unexpected happen.

The AdventureSmart.org.nz website provides mechanisms by which you can leave comprehensive 'Outdoors Intentions' information with someone you trust before setting off on your trip. You can print out a

form, complete the details by hand and leave it with a loved one or even complete the details online and email it to a friend.

'Providing detailed information such as where you are going, what track you intend to follow, where you are planning to stay and what equipment you have with you can be invaluable to search and rescue teams and can vastly improve your chances of being found and rescued quickly,' said Chris Owens, Bushcraft Manager for the Mountain Safety Council.

It is especially important, if tramping alone to make sure you take an appropriate means of emergency communication which could include a personal locator beacon (PLB), mountain radio or satellite phone. Most people also take their cell phones with them in the outdoors, but these should not be relied upon in the back-country as coverage is often non-existent.

'Our thoughts are with Mr Palmer's friends and family at what must be an incredibly worrying time and we com-

mend the many search and rescue personnel, many of whom are volunteers, who are continuing this challenging search,' added Mr Owens.

## The NZ Outdoor Safety Code

### 1. Plan your trip thoroughly

Seek local knowledge and plan the route you will take and the amount of time you can reasonably expect it to take.

### 2. Tell someone

Tell someone your plans and complete your Outdoors Intentions at [www.adventuresmart.org.nz](http://www.adventuresmart.org.nz) At the very least, process and leave a date and time for when to raise the alarm if you haven't returned.

### 3. Be aware of the weather

New Zealand's weather can be highly unpredictable. Check the forecast and expect weather changes.

Check track and hut conditions. Beware of rivers – if in doubt *Stay out.*

### 4. Know your limits

Challenge yourself within your physical limits and experience.

### 5. Take sufficient supplies

Make sure you have enough food, clothing, equipment and emergency rations for the worst-case scenario. Take an appropriate means of communication, such as a Mountain Radio or a Personal Locator Beacon and know how to use them. Take spare medication if required.

For further information about safety in the outdoors, courses and training, information on intentions forms or communication devices, please visit [www.mountainsafety.org.nz](http://www.mountainsafety.org.nz)

Email: [chris.owens@mountainsafety.org.nz](mailto:chris.owens@mountainsafety.org.nz)



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## Good news - surge in visitors to South Taranaki

The Commercial Accommodation Monitor for South Taranaki and Venture Taranaki Trust Taranaki Trends April 2012 Report indicates that for the six month period from July to December 2011, South Taranaki had a 31% increase in room nights sold

compared to the same period in 2010.

The trend for 2012 also seems to be continuing with the statistics for January reporting a 23.4% increase and February increased by 66.8% compared to the same time last year.

## On this month in History

On May 11, 1996 NZ mountain guides Rob Hall and Andy Harris were among eight climbers who died on Mt Everest during terrible weather conditions (15 died that season – the worst up to that year). Hall was marooned near the summit with an incapacitated client who he had guided up and was

reluctant to leave. The other guide simply disappeared further down the mountain – he may have fallen.

Rob Hall with the late Gary Ball were well known for having climbed the highest seven mountains in the seven continents - all in seven months.

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# TSSA Netball



Zayne McLean collects the pass at The TSSA Netball Tournament at Waiwakaho on Sunday. The boys team from Opunake High School placed third, winning their last game 16-3 against FDMC 2. Teammates Nick Higgins (partly obscured) Richard Rosewarne, Bailie Bright and Maysen Bloemen are ready.



Dekodda Tippett leaps in defence while playing against Sacred Heart College at The TSSA Tournament. Dekodda's Team OHS Junior girls played well but were unplaced.



Tyler McArthur watches Simon Mullin and Richard Rosewarne defend against FDMC 2.

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# Basketball Shots



Shea Bentley playing in the Opunake Basketball association men 's league last week

## Opunake Ladies Golf

April 3 LGU Coronation Medical Aotearoa Cup Stableford  
 L Langton net 67 40 points  
 M Langton net 69 38  
 B Gadsby net 71 36  
 Nine holes Stableford  
 M Brandt 22  
 April 10 Top Dog R1  
 L Simpson and P Smith def  
 D Forsyth and B Gadsby  
 9 Holes Sue Bunt Salver  
 M Brandt 43  
 April 17 Putting Teams Event  
 D Forsyth 29  
 L Simpson 30  
 Team for National Teams Event  
 M Wellington D Forsyth L Simpson B Gadsby  
 2's B Gadsby M Wellington  
 9 Holes Putting  
 M Coombe 16  
 April 24 Top Dog R2  
 J Deegan and M Wellington def  
 D Forsyth and B Gadsby  
 Pennant Results  
 18 Holes Opunake def Fitzroy and Pungarehu  
 9 Holes Opunake 4 points  
 Taplin Cup Opunake def Kaitake  
 Next challenge against Hawera



Iritana Hohaia TCB U13 (Taranaki Country Basketball) representative releases her jump shot at TSB Stadium in New Plymouth on Saturday the TCB U13 team played a New

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Plymouth representative side and won comfortably 79- 45 Impressively ten of the twelve girls in this squad are from the Opunake Basketball Association competition the time and effort from the coaches and other volunteers as well as the commitment from players and their parents is producing great results!

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# Coastal Rugby



## Senior A

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Coastal Senior Thirds Ross Sinclair takes down a Bell Block Player at Rahotu, with Hamish Scott and Johnathan Phillips in support.

## Altum Coastal Senior A vs. Inglewood - a struggle to the end

Altum Coastal came off the bye to contest the final game of round one on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May against Inglewood at TET Stadium. From the kick off it looked like the competition leaders had been away for longer than a week as a well drilled Inglewood side took it to the Coast. In twenty minutes the score

board showed Inglewood up by 20 points as Coastal struggled to organize its defence and be decisive in option taking. A Steve Barron penalty got Coastal on the score-board and with a sense of urgency, led by man of the match Kane Barrett, the Coastal pack gained some possession.

New centre Lewis Flood (a Welshmen via Australia) showed the skills he has as he stepped through the staunch defence of Inglewood to score near the posts for S. Barron to add the extra two. Coastal went to the break 23-10 down with a lot to do. Altum Coastal turned with a slight wind at their backs.

From this point the Coastal side never gave in with lock Kane Barrett prominent in many facets of play. The Coastal pack dominated in this half and with the backs combining, the Coastal team ran in 14 unanswered points that saw them end the game 24-23 one ahead of Inglewood. It wasn't pretty in some aspects but in the second half the Coast got on top by doing the basics right, applying immense pressure causing Inglewood to make mistakes.

As many stated the boys from the Coast were lucky to scrape home against an Inglewood team that definitely had a go. But in the end points on the board saw Altum Coastal take out the game and remain on top unbeaten in the first round.

Player of the Day deservedly went to Kane Barrett. Points Scorers. Tries to: Flood, Barrett, and Barron. S.Barron, 3 conversions and a penalty

Final score Altum Coastal 24 Inglewood 23  
Next week is the start of the second round with Altum Coastal Seniors away vs. Spotswood.

In closing we wish Kelvin Weir and Chris Barron a speedy recovery from injury.  
*Later's*  
*Rua Ngaitahu Over the Hill*  
half-time break, Bell Block crossed the line again but failed to convert their try, half-time score 12-7 to the visitors.

*Continued next page*

## Coastal Senior 3rds v Bell Block

A beautiful sunny day saw Coastal Senior 3rd's host Bell Block at home in Rahotu. The game started well but

Coastal put first points on the board with a try to Peter Grylls, and Ross Sinclair adding the extras. Bell

Block came back into the game adding a converted try to draw the game at 7-all. Just before the

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## Altum Coastal Senior A vs. Spotswood

Coastal travelled to Yarrows Stadium to play Spotswood hoping to stem the losses Coastal have had when playing Spotswood at home.

A fiery start saw Spotswood gain an early lead through a penalty that was short lived when Coastal fullback Steve Barron scored after some good lead up work that saw Barron, Mitchell Campbell and Rhys Morgan standing out. Coastal went further ahead with a try to equal top try scorer on the table Hamish Lawn. Spotswood hit back and mix ups on defence cost the Coast the lead as Spotswood, who had their tails up, scored

two tries in quick succession to go out to an 18-10 lead.

Rhys Morgan scored close to half time, just reward for all his efforts in defence as Spotswood went to the turn having caused the championship leaders a headache in the first 40 minutes.

The second half saw Altum Coastal virtually take up residence in Spotswood half. They mounted attack after attack only to be thwarted by solid Spotswood defence and Coastal's inability to hang onto the ball and score. The final score could quite easily have been in the Coasts favour, but with the goal kicking radar switched off the Coastal team had to fight

for every piece of possession they got. Jeremy Newell had a superb game in the lineout and in general play and as the time ticked away the Coast were staring down another away defeat to Spotswood.

With time up and the board showing Spotswood 18 Altum Coastal 15, the Coast was awarded a penalty in a most kickable position. The pressure was on Steve Barron to once again save the Altum Coastal team's unbeaten record. He step banged the ball through and once again, the Coast had got out of jail and remain undefeated. The game was drawn 18 all and credit must go to an enterprising Spotswood team.

Points scorers.

Tries to: S. Barron, H. Lawn, R. Morgan.

Penalty to: S. Barron

Final Score Altum coastal 18 Spotswood 18

Player of the Day J. Newell

Next game vs. Eltham Kaponga at Okato. See you there.

"Support Local Support Coastal".

Later

*Rua Ngaitahu over the Hill.*

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## Coastal Senior Thirds v Eltham Kaponga

An away game to Eltham-Kaponga at Eltham saw the home side open up the scoring with an early penalty, score 3-0. Coastal's first points came from a try to Bing Phillips who dotted down under the posts for Aaron Gopperth to add extra points; the home side responded with a converted try shortly

*Continued from previous page*  
In the second half, Coastal hit back with Aaron Taylor scoring a try in the corner, which was unconverted. Both teams had opportunity to score more points but the final score remained at 12-all.

after, score 10-7. Just before the half-time break, Ross Sinclair crossed over for Coastal's second try and Aaron Gopperth added the conversion. Half-time score 14-10 to Coastal. In the second half, Coastal was awarded a penalty which Aaron Gopperth slotted over the posts to add extra points; the home side responded with a try and conversion, locking the score at 17-all. With ten minutes to go, the home side was awarded a penalty to take them into the lead. Full-time score: 17-20 to Eltham-Kaponga.

Next games:

Vs Inglewood

away

Vs Toko

home/Okato



Coastal players Hamish Scott, Jarred Barron, Matt Koch, Aaron Gopperth and Ben Burmiester compete against Bell Block. The result was a 12 all draw.

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6.00 pm Meeting  
We welcome any member of the community to our meetings, you don't have to have a business.

**KEEP those bugs** at bay this winter with Viralex, made from the olive leaf. Don't undermine your immune system with too many antibiotics. Use probiotics, products for life. At Hardy's the health shop in centre city. 7587553 we deliver.

**South Taranaki District Council**  
**FOURTH RATES INSTALMENT**  
Ratepayers are reminded that the last day for payment of the fourth instalment of rates for 2011/2012 without incurring a penalty will be **Wednesday 30 May 2012.**  
CR Stevenson  
Chief Executive

**MOBILITY SCOOTER** \$1000, can be viewed at Heydon Priest, Oakura phone (06) 752 7753

**WORK WANTED**

**WORK WANTED**

**ARCHITECT & interior designer** available for internal or external alterations. Call Mark on (06) 751 4462 or 027 507 8113.  
**COASTAL GIB STOPPERS.** Phone Glenn 027 524 5745.

**P A I N T E R PAPERHANGER** for all your winter interior decorating and any necessary insurance work. Phone Bryan 027 465 8631.

**WANTED TO BUY**




**DOOR** for Hoover Heavy Duty clothes dryer. Can anyone help, parts no longer available. Please contact Bernice (06) 761 8206 or (06) 761 7016

**PAINTING & PAPERING**  
Tradesman - FREE quotes  
**G & E Lindsay**  
Ph (06) 752 1113

**Qualified Builder**  
**Decks, Fences, New Homes, Additions and Alterations, Farm Sheds.**  
**Phone Lucas: 027 746 0186**  
**wh (06) 761 7541**  
**No job too small.**

**FOUND**

  
A reader brought in this badge which they found in Ihaia Road, Opunake. It has engraved the words Coastal Taranaki Darts Association and Surf Highway 45. If it belongs to anyone can they contact the Opunake & Coastal News. Phone (06)

**Coastal Cleaning Services**  
If it needs cleaning - you need me.  
20 yrs exp. Inside or outside.  
No job too big or too small.  
**Ph 027 237 8563**

**LIVESTOCK**

**WANTED STEERS** Rising two-year-old or older, also heifers, cull cows and bulls. Immediate payment and pickup. Ph (06) 761-8192.

**FOR HIRE**

**NEED EXTRA ROOM?** Move a cabin to your site. Many uses. Power, insulated. 3.6 x 2.4m. Minimum hire 6 months. Very smart appearance.  
**\$50 pw**

  
**Ph 0800 111 344 or 06 754 8421**

**LAWNMOWING**  
**LAWNS NEED MOWING**  
We mow lawns! Phone 0274 572 741 or A/H 06 764-8885.

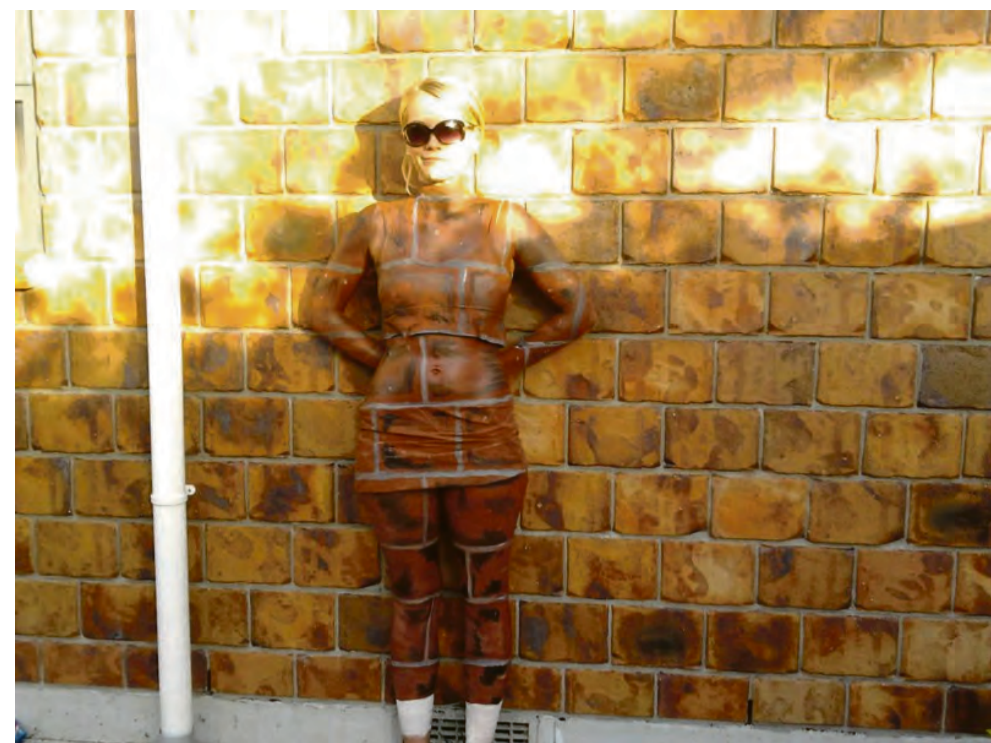
**TO LET**

**2 BED HOUSE** to rent, \$185/week. Opunake, Fox St. Contact Joe 021 175 9022.  
**FOUR BEDROOM** house, modern fittings, fully fenced, outside dog OK. \$250 per week. Phone Rachel 027 499 4555

**KITTENS**  
Four friendly kittens need new homes now. 1 Black, 3 tabby.  
Phone  
**(06) 761-8789.**

**WHAT'S ON**

- STDC - COLD CREEK RURAL WATER SUPPLY BILL - SUBMISSIONS FOR SELECT COMMITTEES.**  
Submissions are being called for the above. Refer public notice for further details.
- POKER NITE**  
Wednesdays at the Opunake Surf Inn. Refer advert.
- SCRAP & CHAT / CARD MAKERS EVENING**  
Mondays at Pastimes, Tasman Street, Opunake from 7-9pm. Beginners and new people welcome.
- KIDZSHOW 2012**  
27 April -20 May Opens Friday April 27 Percy Thompson Gallery, Stratford refer advert.
- ONCE A CATHOLIC**  
Stratford on Stage, at TET Kings Theatre, Stratford, May 16-26 at 8pm. No performances Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Bar facilities and food from 7:30pm. Refer article and advert
- OKURUKURU WEDDING OPEN DAY**  
Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May refer advert
- OPEN HOME**  
16 Heaphy Road, Opunake, Sunday May 20, 1-1:30pm, Refer advert Viv Scott, McDonald Real Estate, phone 027 441 4596
- OPEN HOME**  
110 Ihaia Road, Opunake, Sunday May 20, 1.45-2:15pm, Refer advert Viv Scott, McDonald Real Estate, phone 027 441 4596
- OPUNAKE FRIENDSHIP CLUB AGM**  
Monday May 21 at St Barnabas Church Hall, Opunake 9:30am. All welcome. Refer public notice
- BERNINA SHOP**  
Kids Clothes class starting Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May making clothes for toddlers  
Runs for 5 weeks refer advert
- AUCTION 3789 SOUTH ROAD, WAITEIKA BEACH**  
June 13 at 1:30pm at Harcourts House, cnr Robe & Vivian Streets, New Plymouth. Refer John Smith 027 279 0648
- DIRTY DUSTING**  
20-30 June, Hawera Repertory, Repertory House, Collins Street, Hawera



Jozien Hannah from Opunake has made the finals of the Miss Tui competition.

## Opunake 'bird' Miss Tui Finalist

Eight weeks, eight challenges and now eight finalists as Tui have today narrowed down the field and announced the finalists for the 2012 Miss Tui contest.

It's not an easy job being a contestant in the Miss Tui 2012, eight weeks of grueling tasks, drumming up votes and getting creative with the challenges... Phew! But the people with an even tougher job are those poor Miss Tui judges who have spent days deliberating over the 120 contestant and whittling down the finalists.

This year Opunake has a reason to celebrate as local lass Jozien Hannah is one of the eight contestants vying for the Miss Tui 2012 crown.

Over the past eight weeks Jozien has impressed the judges with her relentless campaigning and work on

the challenges, which have made her one of the judge's favourites to win this year's contest.

Jozien will be competing for the title with seven other finalists; Rosemary Brunt (Porirua), Krystal-Leigh Shortland (Palmerston North), Tina Sharp (Fielding), Vicky Paine (Masterton), Gabriela McCormack (Christchurch), Julia Hope (Dunedin) and Amber Appletini (Palmerston North).

All that stands in the way of these final eight contestants and the precious title of Miss Tui 2012, are two more challenges, which will again be judged, before the eventual winner is crowned Miss Tui 2012 on May 30.

Not only will the winner receive a lifetime of adula-

tion and the bragging rights of being crowned Miss Tui 2012, she will also receive \$2000 cash and a year's supply of Tui, 366 bottles (it's a leap year remember).

Tui Brand Manager William Papesch was impressed with Jozien and the way she drummed up votes and support, "Jozien has done a great job to be selected as one of the eight finalists in the Miss Tui contest this year. We have been impressed with the number of votes she managed to generate and how she immersed herself in all the challenges. All that's standing in her way now for the Miss Tui 2012 crown are two new challenges... Who knows the next Miss Tui might be from Opunake."

## Damsel in Distress + Taranaki Wedding Services = One Happy Bride & Groom!

Meshelle and Mark had planned their wedding for the end of the year and thought they had plenty of time to organise things. However, when Mark was offered a job in a country where they wouldn't be able to live together unless they were married, they had to make an emergency call!

They had already decided that Okurukuru Winery would be their perfect venue, they just had to see if it was available at short notice- the date they needed was already earmarked for the Okurukuru Wedding Open Day, but with some quick thinking, it was organised for straight after the Open Day finished. So with the venue sorted, there was just the small matter of

everything else to organise at short notice! Did we mention that Meshelle and Mark are at this time in Perth, Australia - so everything has to be organised by phone and email and they do not know what services are available in Taranaki and have no chance to do the usual treks round a variety of suppliers to find the ones that are right for them. Eileen, who is the wedding Coordinator at Okurukuru had a list of recommended suppliers who she had worked with many times over the 3 years she has been there, armed with details about the kind of wedding Meshelle and Mark wanted, contacted her list to see who was avail-

able and the replies came in - luckily, most of them were already going to be exhibiting at the open day anyway, so the plans started falling into place; the celebrant, Margaret Doyle was booked, the photographer, Sandra Henderson was booked, the florist, Sentiments Flowers was booked, the DJ, Good Vibes was booked and so on; the details all being tied together. The one thing neither Eileen, Meshelle nor Mark can organise in advance is the weather, so let's hope that this aspect of the day cooperates the way the Taranaki wedding service providers have done. Good luck on Saturday and for the future to the damsel in distress turned Beautiful Bride (and her Prince Charming!)



okurukuru  
CAFE · RESTAURANT · FUNCTION CENTRE · WINERY

Cordially invites you to our

## Wedding Open Day

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2012

11am - 4pm

See the venue set up as it would be for all different sizes of weddings.

Talk to the Chef and Wedding Coordinator

Speak to all the people you need to make your day run smoothly all in one place:

Celebrants, Florists, Cake Makers, Photographers, Theming/Hire Companies Bands/DJ's, Transport Options and more...

738 Surf Highway 45, New Plymouth  
(06) 751 0787

Email: [function@okurukuru.co.nz](mailto:function@okurukuru.co.nz)

Web: [www.okurukuru.co.nz](http://www.okurukuru.co.nz)

## Wet Weather Warning

It's on the way be prepared!

Stoney Creek Ladies Jacket



ISO940 Ladies Jacket



Stoney Creek Force 10 Mens Jacket



We have a great range of wet weather clothing in store



2 Aytoun Street OPUNAKE Ph 06 761 8773



**PRESENTATION PLUS - 16 Heaphy Road, Opunake**  
 This awesome Lockwood has so much to offer, so well presented inside and out. Three bedrooms with an office and a work/craft room. Near new kitchen and bathrooms, great quality chattels, double garage and room for the boat or caravan. All of this on a well manicured section, so close to Middleton Bay and Sandfords Event Centre. Great family living or retirement.



**Viv Scott**  
 O: 06 765 8835  
 M: 0274 414 596  
 viv.scott@eieio.co.nz

**Open Home**  
 Sunday 20th May 1 - 1.30pm



**AWESOME SPACE FOR A FAMILY - 110 Ihaia Rd, Opunake**  
 2023m<sup>2</sup> - (half an acre) Wow! There aren't many of these around. Currently the home of 140m<sup>2</sup> three bedroom home with awesome living areas. Fabulous double garage and workshop with an office and toilet. Great Man Shed!! The total package is built with a family in mind. RV: \$295,000 Rates: \$2,313.55



**Viv Scott**  
 O: 06 765 8835  
 M: 0274 414 596  
 viv.scott@eieio.co.nz

**Open Home**  
 Sunday 20th May 1.45 - 2.15pm



The next issue of the Opunake & Coastal News is on May 31



**Come and visit our lovely Café or stay at the Lodge for Dinner, Bed and Breakfast.**

Upper Manaia Road, On The Mountain

**Dawson Falls**  
 MOUNTAIN LODGE  
 Ph (06) 765 5457

# Percy Thompson Gallery Kidzone

A large attendance of Mums and Dads, families and friends and a great night was held with over 14 costumes from the Taranaki Daily News Fashion Art Awards 2011. They are now hanging in the gallery along with the amazing variety of artwork from the many schools and youth groups around the region. The display remains until May 20.



From left Corin Bielawski, Merit; Rebecca Poole, Highly Commended; Amy Taunt, Stratford Art Society Award; Lillian Schumachera 2nd Prize; Bridget Mestrom, Winner of the McDonald Real Estate Youth Challenge Shield; Suzy Le Flemming, 3rd Prize. Missing Sarah Hamilton - Merit, judged by Roger Morris, Judith White and Jamie Chapman.

## Youth art in the spotlight

A new show opening at Eltham's Village Gallery celebrates the creativity of youth in our communities. The mixed media exhibition, *Love the Skin You're In* will present artworks by young people aged between 8 and 15 who attend the Eltham based Youth Health and Development Service, E-Town.

*Love the Skin You're In* coincides with Youth Week, a festival held in May annually, designed to celebrate and value youth for the part they play in our society.

The artworks were created during the April school holiday and after-school programmes. Hands-on workshops with New Plymouth graffiti artist Phil Jones and Stratford photographer Ross Nolly were held to inspire and encourage the kids to rise to the challenge and try something new. The results are vibrant and optimistic, reflecting the aim to show positive images of youth within their own community. E-Town youth have also been involved with organising the exhibition, including graphic design, marketing, instal-

lation and catering for the opening event. "This project demonstrates a fantastic collaborative effort between local youth, a youth support organisation, our community gallery and council" says Rev Peter Barleyman, E-Town leader. "By encouraging young people to present their talents, share ideas, and focus on the positive aspects of being young we all grow and learn more about each other" All are welcome at the opening at 5.00pm, Tuesday 15 March - come along, enjoy refreshments and meet the young artists. Exhibition runs until 8 June 2012 - The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Eltham.

*Love the Skin You're In - An Exhibition of Art by E-Town Youth*

15 May - 8 June 2012  
 Opening: 5.00pm Tuesday 15 May 2012 - All welcome  
 The Village Gallery, 166 High Street, Hawera  
 Open: Monday-Saturday 10am- 3pm



The winner Bridget Mestrom receiving her prize from Peter McDonald.

## Good for Nothing Western a Kiwi first

The Kiwi Western, *Good for Nothing*, affectionately dubbed a Pavlova Western, rated in the top ten movies watched by New Zealanders in its opening week. Director Mike Wallis says for him and his fiancée, Inge Rademeyer, who is also the lead actress, it's a dream come true.

"We have lived and breathed this movie for the past six years and to see it showing in cinemas across

New Zealand and rating in the top 10 movies is a thrill and we're hoping that even more Kiwis get to enjoy the magnificent NZ landscapes on the big screen."

*Good for Nothing* is the first self-funded New Zealand film to receive a theatrical release in the United States and is building to release in over 65 cinemas across New Zealand from 3

*Continued next page*

### All Your Wedding Needs in One Place

- Ceremony
- Reception
- Honeymoon
- Picturesque Photo Opportunities



No other venue makes the most of the spectacular Taranaki coastline!

Come to our Wedding Open Day, Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> 11am-4pm  
 See the whole venue set up for weddings as well as meeting some of our regular Photographers, Cake makers, Florists, Transport options etc.

Contact our Wedding Coordinator and ask for a wedding package (06) 751 0787 or email: function@okurukuru.co.nz  
 738 Surf Highway 45, 10 minutes south of New Plymouth

### The 100-day Project

Dale Copeland



## The 100-Day Project

Artist Dale Copeland of Puniho is taking part in New Zealand's 100-day project, along with other Taranaki artists Sandi Hickey, Carl Fairweather, Deborah French, Julie Cannon and Milarkey. Artists choose their own action, and document their progress for 100 days. Copeland is making a collaged journal from paper ephemera found each day. As she and painter Paul Hutchinson are at present in London to see the Lucien Freud exhibition, much of the collage material is from exhibition pamphlets and catalogues. The found objects will differ when they travel up to Hutchinson's childhood areas in Yorkshire, and when they start the long flights home.

# Dirty Dusting

Please don't leave your husband at home, he will enjoy Dirty Dusting.

Laughter is the best medicine – so they say – so banish those winter blues and get a group of your friends together and join us for this hilarious comedy and delicious dessert.

Directed by Samantha Turner - who also directed the popular Ladies Night – has a very talented cast to work with, a couple who haven't been on the Hawera stage for many years. The cast is Carole Hosie, Felicity Willis, Jane Lawrence and Ben Thomas.

Samantha went to see this play in New Plymouth when it toured New Zealand and starred Lynda Milligan, Suzanne Paul and Rima Te Wiata and by the end was convinced that Hawera Repertory should produce this play as soon as the rights were available.

The play was written by two Newcastle upon Tyne journalists Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood. It played first at the Customs House in South Shields and quickly became the biggest and most popular play to come out of Newcastle in many years.



From left, cast members Felicity Willis, Carol Hosie, Ben Thomas and Jane Lawrence.

After the initial run at South Shields former Newcastle Theatre Royal Chief Executive Peter Sarah organised a 10-minute trial of Dirty Dusting in front of an intimate group of people at his venue. The audience was one of the toughest in the business – a group of the theatre's own cleaning staff. Hearing their guffaws, he booked the show for a week. Sell-out performances followed and a new theatrical phenomenon was born.

Audiences just took to their hearts the hilarious tale of Olive, Elsie

and Gladys – the cleaners who get down-right dirty.

So here we are - a trio of hard-working cleaners are facing the axe. They might be past their best, beyond their sell-by date and over the hill but they certainly won't take threats of redundancy lying down. These game 'girls' set up a phone sex service, known as "The Telephone Belles", and that's when the fun really begins. Their bosses don't know about it, their families would never guess and their very willing customers are none the wiser.

They're the only chat-line girls with dusters, attitude and their very own bus passes!

Performances at Repertory House, 59 Collins Street, Hawera will be from the 20th to 30th June 2012.

Tickets are \$28.00 and include coffee and dessert and are available from South Taranaki i-SITE, Hawera 06 278 8599

Evening performances begin at 7.30pm with the matinee starting at 2.00pm

Cash bar (no eftpos)

## Top Art exhibition at Govett-Brewster Gallery

A touring art exhibition featuring New Zealand's top secondary school Visual Art portfolios will be on display at Govett-Brewster Art Gallery until Friday, 18 May. This annual exhibition, Top Art, represents a selection of the top Visual Arts portfolios from students throughout New Zealand. All of the students involved gained Excellence for their work

at NCEA level 3 in 2011. Top Art provides an opportunity for secondary students and teachers to view the high standard of art produced in schools and gain an understanding of what is required to achieve Excellence in Visual Art at level 3. It is also an opportunity for members of the public to see the high quality art being created in schools.

The touring exhibition will be hosted by approximately 33 venues around New Zealand until September. Local students whose work is being displayed are, James Drummond, Ashleigh Ballinger, Demelza Law and Chloe Ramsamy. The 2012 Top Art collections can be viewed at: [www.topart.govt.nz](http://www.topart.govt.nz).

## Karen Dey's exhibition well worth a look

Karen Dey's exhibition continues at Opunake Library Plus until the end of May. The exhibition of eight paintings, by this award-winning artist, is well worth a look. Patrons may well recall Karen's winning exhibit in the Rural Taranaki section of the Taranaki National Art Awards in 2007.

The exhibits vary from a street scene in Kaponga, one

of flowers, to several water and seashore scenes. "This exhibition is awesome – the paintings are all excellent", commented one interested viewer.

One striking painting involves a water scene where Mount Taranaki and trees are almost completely reflected in the water. This painting – featuring Lake Mangamahoe - captured the interest of the

same patron. "I like how the painting reflects (the mountain and trees) in the water. It is just so crystal clear and beautiful", he remarked. He concluded, "This is a top class talented artist".

Make sure you see this exhibition of an excellent local artist before the end of the month.



One of Karen Dey's beautiful paintings at Opunake Library Plus. This painting is of Lake Mangamahoe.

### Coastal Podiatry

Karyn Lehrke registered Podiatrist is available for all general footcare

- Corns
- Callus
- Hard Cracked Heels

**TOENAILS**

- Ingrown Toenails
- Thickened Nails
- Fungal Infections

Orthotics, Painful Feet, Heel Pain  
ACC Registered, Footwear Advice,  
Diabetic Foot checks, Home Visits Available

Karyn Lehrke (NZ Dip Pod)

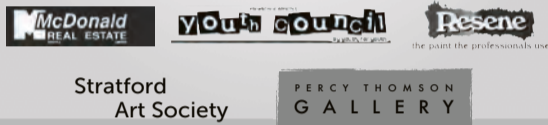
11 Dixon Street, Oakura - 35 Morley Street, New Plymouth  
Ph: 06 752 1019 Mob: 027 335 5827 By Appointment Only

## WHAT'S ON AT THE GALLERY

# KIDZ SHOW 2012

McDONALD REAL ESTATE CHALLENGE and YOUTH ART EXHIBITION

**27 APRIL - 20 MAY**



plus! A SELECTION OF ENTRIES IN THE TARANAKI DAILY NEWS FASHION ART AWARDS 2011

PERCY THOMSON GALLERY, MIRANDA ST, STRATFORD  
[PERCYTHOMSONGALLERY.ORG.NZ](http://PERCYTHOMSONGALLERY.ORG.NZ) ☎ (06) 765 0917

## FREE ADMISSION

# NZPPL Event #2

# PAINTBALL SPORTS TOURNAMENT 2012

## NEW ZEALAND

**2nd - 3rd June 2012**  
Egmont A&P Showgrounds - Indoor Arena  
End of Burnside Ave  
Hawera

**5 Players per team**  
Cup/ Plate  
Format

**Cup Prizes Money**  
1st Place **\$1000** + Free entry next event  
2nd Place **\$500** + Half entry next event  
3rd Place **\$250**

**Plate Prizes**  
1st Place Assorted prizes  
2nd Place Assorted prizes  
3rd Place Assorted prizes

Do you have the balls to play!!!

**5 man competition, go to NZPPL to register online.**

*"Hawera"*  
**Taranaki**  
Location of Event

Sponsors & Associates

Sponsored by Paintball Direct NZ  
**register your team @**  
[www.nzppl.co.nz](http://www.nzppl.co.nz)

ADRENALIN  
**PAINTBALL SPORTS**  
[www.adrenalinpaintballsports.co.nz](http://www.adrenalinpaintballsports.co.nz)



Repertory House,  
Collins Street, Hawera



# Dirty Dusting

by Ed Waugh and Trevor Wood  
Directed by Samantha Turner

20 - 30 June 2012

Some content may offend

Tickets at  Hawera 06 278 8599

# Stratford On Stage to perform 'Once A Catholic'

'Once a Catholic', a comedy by Mary O'Malley, is set in the Convent of Our Lady of Fatima, a grammar school for girls, and in and around the streets of Willesden and Harlesden, London, in the late 1950's.

The play is directed by Tracey Blake and concerns a retrospective view of the values of 1950s [Catholic convent schools](#) and the [female adolescent](#) response to those values.

Once a Catholic follows the exploits of class 5a at the school during their 'O' levels. But can the young and curious students with hormones aflush make it through the year with their regulation underwear and their sanity intact? It's a tough job – they have to cope with confused sermons about limbo, unforgiving sex education lessons and the impure temptations of Elvis Presley.

The play centres on the adventures and misadventures of Mary Mooney, Mary McGinty and Mary Gallagher as they experience life in the fifth form under the tutelage of Mother Peter, Mother Basil and Mother Thomas Aquinas.

In many ways, O'Malley's play is based on caricature and exaggeration. The adult characters are larger than life; masochistic nuns, doddering old priests and cantankerous music teachers with gammy legs all make an appearance. However, a lot of the comedy – and much of the rhetoric – comes from the ways that the three main characters deal with this backdrop. They are forced to reconcile a strict Catholic upbringing with a world that doesn't quite fit with their teachings – and each copes differently.

A most telling and funny piece of theatre, it casts a caustic eye upon the young girls' growing awareness of the world.

Once a Catholic was first performed at [The Royal Court Theatre](#) in 1977. The play won awards from the [Evening Standard newspaper](#) and [Plays & Players magazine](#). O'Malley went on to be the Royal Court's resident [dramatist](#) for 1977. The production transferred to [Wyndham's Theatre](#) in the [West End](#) where it ran for over two years.

In 2009, it was revived by the LOST Theatre Company, Upstairs at the Gatehouse, [London](#).

"A marvellous, irreverent,



The trials of controlling adolescent Catholic school girls.

affectionate and warmly comic play about the confusions and contradictions and general awfulness of being a Catholic schoolgirl". (Sheridan Morley, Punch) Once A Catholic is directed by Tracey Blake and the cast includes: Katherine Wisnewski (Mary Moon-ey), Bernadette Lina (Mary McGuinty), Ellie Hodder (Mary Gallagher), Emma

Pratt (Mary Hennessey), Renee O'Sullivan (Mary O'Grady), Jessica Thomson-Booth (Mary Flanagan,) Tyler McGlone (Derek), Grayson Kira (Cuthbert), Dave Rohe (Mr Emmanuelli), Patsy Commerford (Mother Basil), Christie Bridgeman (Mother Thomas Aquinas), Paula Steiller (Mother Peter).

The play's season runs

from May 16-26 at the TET King's Theatre, Stratford. (However, please note that there are no performances on Sunday, Monday or Tuesday).

Tickets are available at the Stratford Information Centre from April 26. Don't delay - it would be a pity to miss out.

## WINTER SPECIAL GETAWAY

**Mon-Thursday**  
**\$295 COUPLE**  
**DINNER / BED / BREAKFAST**

Enjoy Award Winning restaurant  
Bush walks  
Tui, wood pigeon  
World Famous Goblin Forest



**STRATFORD MOUNTAIN HOUSE**  
Ph 765 6100  
Your hosts Rod & Lynne Pulford

## Rahotu Tavern

### Takeaways

# Fish n Chips



Ph 06-763-8787  
Thursday to Sunday  
Open 5pm to 8pm

**Stratford On Stage presents**

# ONCE A CATHOLIC

*A retrospective view of the values of 1950s Catholic convent schools and the female adolescent response to those values.*

by Mary O'Malley



Directed by Tracey Blake

**May 16 -26, 2012, 8pm**  
No performances Sunday, Monday, Tuesday  
**Bar facilities and food from 7.30pm**

**TICKETS \$20**  
Stratford Information Centre

**Limited door sales**  
**TET Kings Theatre Stratford**  
Please note some content may offend

