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# New mayor says we should build on endorsement by Lonely Planet

The newly elected mayor of New Plymouth is 44-year-old Neil Holdom, who lives in Lepperton, but was raised and bred in Awatuna. Mr Holdom didn't expect to be elected mayor this time, explaining that the two highly regarded councillors Deputy Mayor Heather Dodunski and Richard Handley were likely to fare better than him, on this his first election. "I wanted to be elected mayor but thought I'd have to wait three more years." He added, "I wanted to get my name out there this time." Mr Holdom was officially confirmed as mayor on October 9.

Mr Holdom was also the highest polling councillor for the City Ward.

Mr Holdom is still the Corporate Affairs Manager for Powerco. He is currently holding both jobs until Christmas when he will be able to focus on just being Mayor. His workload, just now, is huge, with 80 hour weeks par for the course. A university graduate Mr Holdom has also worked as a journalist and was the editor of a community newspaper.

Mr Holdom considered that the mayoral debate of September 22 was a positive turning point in the campaign, when it was widely agreed



New Plymouth Mayor Neil Holdom getting down to work

he spoke very well; in fact he easily won the exit poll of attendees at the event; 53.19% was his quota with the next candidate Richard Handley back on 20.7%. "It was a key thing that swung the election," commented Mr Holdom. He went on to point out that considerable media coverage followed - yielding him a "huge profile."

One of his first initiatives was to set up a simpler

committee structure. The reason was to "simplify" the committee structure. The status quo has been replaced by the establishment of a Performance Committee (Chaired by Cr Richard Jordan) and a Planning Committee (Chaired by Cr Roy Weaver).

Mr Holdom has definite plans, including the promotion of tourism favouring a Ten Year Plan

hopefully involving all the Taranaki Councils. He was delighted that Lonely Planet ranked Taranaki as second in the world and feel we should build on this favourable publicity and endorsement. "I want to promote Taranaki as the lifestyle capital of New Zealand," he says. A "subtext" of this is promoting Taranaki as a great place to live from all aspects, including employment opportunities

and housing affordability.

He feels we need a definite programme. "A steady stream of events,"

although he thought we were off to a good start with such established events as WOMAD and the Garden Festivals.

Mr Holdom explained that there was no set job description for his job. With a smile he said that the "performance review" will be in three years - referring to the next mayoral election.

He has sad feelings about leaving Powerco soon because they've been a great firm to have worked for. Of his co-workers he says, "They are "amazing people." He made special reference to Nigel Barbour, "an incredible leader - I've been pretty lucky." However, a less onerous workload would not go astray for this committed family man. He is definite about one thing; Sunday is sacrosanct so he can spend quality time with his wife Melissa and his three young children, aged 5 to 10.

Although Mr Holdom realises that his job as mayor will have its challenges he feels he will be greatly helped by the high calibre of the elected councillors who will be with him.

## World now knows how wonderful we are

A short time after including the Opunake walkway in its 2017 New Zealand guide, Lonely Planet has now said Taranaki is the world's second best region to visit.

The world's largest independent guide book publisher officially announced Taranaki as the second best region in the world to visit in its *Best in Travel 2017* publication, launched simultaneously around the world at 9pm (NZST) on October 25.

The list places New Zealand behind Choquequirao in Peru, and ahead of the Azores.

Taranaki's civic leaders have welcomed the news.

"We are delighted with this tribute and thank our Taranaki community - residents, organisations and businesses - for supporting us," a statement from New Plymouth mayor Neil Holdom, South Taranaki mayor Ross Dunlop, Stratford mayor Neil Volzke and Taranaki Regional Council chairman David MacLeod said. "The vision and sustained investment shown by all the councils in

this region, is reflected in this accolade. We look forward to continuing to welcome visitors and promoting ourselves around exceptional natural beauty as well as exciting arts and cultural attractions. It also recognises the work that Venture Taranaki does on behalf of the region, promoting Taranaki to the world."

Lonely Planet's *Best in Travel 2017* yearbook says, "From dairy farms to legendary surf breaks, the region's natural assets have long been envied. But in recent years a powerful arts and cultural set has elbowed its way to the fore, sustaining New Plymouth's notable Puke Ariki Museum and Govett-Brewster Art Gallery, and one of the world's finest music festivals - WOMAD - held in pretty Pukekura Park. Now that New Plymouth has its own answer to the Guggenheim - the hard-won

and community funded Len Lye Centre - the stage is set for Taranaki's star to shine." Coastal Taranaki's

accolades do not end with the Opunake Walkway, as Lonely Planet singled out

*Continued page 3*

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**Letters to the Editor**

**Keep up the good work**

I've read the North Taranaki Midweek, the South Taranaki Star and it was the first time I've actually read your community coastal newspaper when picking one up in Hawera. I was extremely amazed how well it's been set up which covers most of what's going on in Opunake and in surrounding coastal towns, which is really great. Have you ever thought of sending your newspaper to here in New Plymouth? I've always liked reading on what's going around our province as if it wasn't for our towns and villages, Taranaki would not exist, so to me it's extremely important to have our community newspapers spread around our province as sometimes no one knows what's going on, especially our overseas visitors.

I'm a former employee of the Daily News. I was in their commercial printing department as a guillotine operator plus helping customers choosing their different types of paper for letterheads etc etc etc. I also had relatives - George Koea who was the editor of the Taranaki Herald before it closed down. Plus knowing all the reporters also.

Please keep up the good work and, in my humble opinion, it's extremely

colourful, no spelling mistakes, and well laid out. and instead of calling what it is here's my thoughts about a more snazzy name - I'd call it *Opunake Coastal Times*.

Anyway, think seriously about sending copies of your newspaper into New Plymouth, Waitara, Urenui-maybe Mokau, Awakino and other places also.  
*Tom Stephens  
 New Plymouth*

**Climate change**

The wayward weather patterns of late are of considerable concern.

The strategy to reduce the impact of climate change does not seem to get to grips with this situation. As I see it humanity is only tinkering with the problem.

More decisive decisions need to be made, and we should look at one of the major contributing causes, "deforestation."

Let us go back to when the first Europeans arrived in New Zealand. Many thousands of hectares of bush were cleared to make way for agriculture and settlements. This not only happened in New Zealand but in many countries, and it is still going on. According to Nassa we lose in excess of 77000 square kilometres of forest per annum. (That is more than Tasmania) This has to stop. An international fund needs to be set up to

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pay people not to clear any more forest. There also are many thousands of hectares of marginal land in many places on earth not suitable for food production but suitable to plant trees. People should be paid from the international fund to plant trees indigenous to their area and re-establish forests. This will have many short term and long term benefits especially in poorer countries creating employment and providing habitats for many of the endangered species of life-forms. It can also encourage tourism which has many economic benefits. This will re-establish the carbon sponge as well, which has been decimated for many years. Future generations will thank us for it

*A P Groot  
 New Plymouth*

**Safety mural**

When seeing the coloured photo of Powerco's safety mural at Opunake Beach straightaway I thought it was brilliant.

Maybe this concrete building houses an 11,000 volt Powerco electricity transformer with associated equipment and cables, but having paintings of jellyfish and bluebottles on it, now it comes with a powerful message of electricity safety, as these sea creatures are found mostly on the beach.

Whoever thought of this idea needs to be congratulated. Not only does it bring a powerful message of safety, but someone was thinking outside the square of normal, instead of having just a blue painted concrete building.

*Tom Stephens  
 New Plymouth*



The safety mural at Opunake Beach.

**BBC: Farewell**

This is likely to be the last BBC I will write.

I'm not too well again, another illness has got at me and writing has become more difficult. I have decided to call it a day and make this my final farewell.

I would like to thank the

Opunake and Coastal News for the opportunity to present my views and for you, the readers, for putting up with me over the last few years.

God is love. I can look back on my 70 years and see how God has helped me understand His ways. He

also seems to have given me special insights into His love for us all.

The first two laws (of the Ten Commandments) are Love. (Matthew 22 v37-40)

Love God first and then love others as much as you love yourself. On these two

laws hang all the laws and all the teachings of the prophets and all the Bible.

Heaven isn't a place we can go to if we have been good. It is a place we can go to because Jesus has paid the price for our entrance fee. He loved us before we loved Him. All we have to do is believe that Jesus has done all that is necessary to buy us our place with Him.

Live for others, not for self, and your life will mean more than it ever could if it were centred only on self.

Farewell.  
 May God bless us all.  
*Richard*  
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Thank you Richard for your thought provoking contributions. We have really appreciated them as have our readers. Our best wishes for the future.  
*Editor*



## Letters to the Editor

### Keeping our waterways clean

If anglers and farmers are being urged to keep our province's waterways clean, us city and town dwellers and factories should all do the same thing also, as too often we see people at times polluting our waterways - yet just walkways are being taken to our environmental courts.

I myself only knew that we had land pests, not knowing we have fish pests like koi carp, gambusia, rudd and brown bull headed catfish only with Aquatic Week and algae, plus diseases affecting our freshwater ecosystems.

Now, if we do have these fish pests, is it possible that us the public could have photos so if we do see some unwanted fish pests we can then report these sightings to D.O.C.

*Tom Stephens, New Plymouth*

### Robin Hood in reverse

Jonathan Young's column of October 21<sup>st</sup> bragged about National's responsible economic management and the resulting surplus.

Don't you think they're more like Robin Hood in reverse, stealing from the poor to give tax breaks to the wealthy?

*Mary Moore Manaiia*

## EDITORIAL US Presidential Elections

With just days to go until the US Presidential Election many people will be relieved the politicking will soon be over. It has been an appallingly unpleasant campaign, with character assassination and alarming revelations par for the course. Neither the Republican's Donald Trump or the Democrat's Hillary Clinton have been above board. Calling Hillary Clinton "a crook" was unfair and her camp calling Donald Trump "a puppet of Russian leader Putin" just plain silly. (and smacks of McCarthyism).

The most able candidate, who missed out during the Democratic Primary Campaign (despite a good showing), was Bernie Sanders. The American public have, in effect, missed their chance. He would have likely have made a very good president.

Neither Donald Trump or Hillary Clinton are optimal candidates, with her electoral support of the illegal invasion of Iraq in her background (amongst other matters) where thousands of civilians have died (or been maimed) along with many young servicemen from the US and Iraq, not to mention Great Britain, Spain and Australia. At least Hillary Clinton has admitted that she made a mistake in voting for the invasion of the Middle Eastern nation and its resultant destabilisation, as well as the associated surge in terrorism.

Trump has advocated the use of torture! With the appalling Guantanamo Bay Detention Centre, which the (mostly) Republican politicians have prevented President Obama from closing in mind, we do not need another George Bush act-alike (waterboarding etc). The revelations of Trump's actions towards women are disturbing - so many women have now come forward.

Overall, we have to hope that that Hillary Clinton prevails in the Election, as the alternative would not be acceptable, to put it mildly.

*Rolland McKellar*

The American people are poised to hopefully elect their first female president.

Eminently qualified, it is surely her time. I had hoped 8 years ago Hillary Clinton would get the Democratic nomination. That she lost out to a person who would also make history and be a role model to another under represented portion of voters however was some consolation.

Now it is time to once again make history and elect someone who will be a role model for a much bigger slice of the population.

But it's not just about race and gender. Should she lose out to an opponent who has by his actions - could anyone take the former owner of a beauty pageant seriously - and statements repeatedly shown his lack of respect for women it will be a retrograde step and a slap in the face to all women. As Hillary Clinton said wistfully in one of the presidential debates when her opponent remarked on one of his female detractor's appearance, every woman in this room knows how that feels. To be judged not by her character and achievements but solely by her appearance.

So God willing when the next issue comes out we will hopefully have a decent, admirable president who will, by her example as to what one dedicated woman can achieve be an inspiration to all women (and perhaps a few men). So go Hillary. The whole world's watching.

*Bernnice McKellar*

### On this month in history Dr Livingstone located in Africa

On November 10, 1871 Sir Henry Morton Stanley uttered the famous words, "Dr Livingstone I presume." The meeting was in present day Tanzania at Lake Tanganyika. The explorer/doctor/missionary Dr David Livingstone had not been heard of for five years and the New York Herald sent Stanley to try and find him - and he succeeded.

Dr Livingstone was seeking the source of the Nile.

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## World now knows how wonderful we are

Continued from page 1

Surf Highway 45 among the province's specific attractions. Others are Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre, Mount Taranaki, Egmont National Park, and specifically the Pouakai Crossing one-day walk, Puke Ariki Museum, Pukekura Park, New Plymouth shopping and dining, WOMAD, and the TSB Bank

Festival of Lights.

Lonely Planet's Best in Travel 2017 publication will promote Taranaki to an unprecedented global audience by being printed in English, French, German, Italian and Russian. Taranaki was evaluated by an independent team of international travel experts who shortlist in line with criteria such as topicality, excitement and wow-factor.



## Halloween

From left Taylor Koboski, Jorja Sole and Rhonda Manukonga out halloweening at Okato.

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**COUNCILLORS COMMENT**

**Back to work at the Council table**



Cr Bryan Roach

Hi Everybody Local body elections are over and thanks to all the people who took time to vote this year. Congratulations to Mayor Ross Dunlop and all the successful candidates who were voted onto Council. In the Egmont Plains Ward area there are 3844

registered voters of which 1220 voted. This represents 31.7% for the Egmont Plains area and for the South Taranaki District area it was 38.39 per cent voter turnout. Taranaki was announced as the number two region to visit in the world in 2017 by the Lonely Planet Guide. You can look this up at LonelyPlanet.com. This will mean a boost to our towns from the visiting tourists coming into Taranaki, so take care on the roads and watch out for all the campervans. Opunake Water – Our engineers have completed flushing (cleaning) the town network to remove historic silt and sediment. The flush-

ing programme went well, however there may still be some localised issues so they need your help. Please ring the Council on 0800 111 323 every time you experience discolouration of water. They need to know what parts of town might still be having issues so they can sort it. This term your Council has to decide on Easter Trading Hours, the number of councillors on the Council and the number of Wards, Maori representation and Community Boards. Other projects still ongoing are the Opunake Beach Master Plan, Earthquake strengthening Manaia Town Hall, progress on our digital devel-

opment fund and the Government's Broadband initiative. Also there is \$258,000 to help build a storm water diversion channel for the Opunake Township. We are also building a new \$1.6 million access road to Wai-inu Beach. This is to bypass the Lime Works Bridge in Waitotara which sustained severe damage during last year's floods and has a limited life span left. We expect to get help with 55 per cent of this cost from the New Zealand Transport Agency. To my fellow dairy farmers, dry winter, wet spring what's next?

*Roachy from the Coast*

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**Remembering Gail Drought**

Gail was born in Hawera to Nevis and Ron Brewer and at six months old moved to a farm on the Witiara Road Oaonui. There she developed a deep seated love of animals and as with many farm children, had a favourite Friesian cow simply named 23. One day she spotted the neighbour Harold Pollard bringing his cows to the shed on horseback and this sparked a life

long affair with the equine species. Her first horse, called Misty, was ridden all over the Oaonui farm and she teamed up with the Bishop girls and Lynley Harrop to explore the district on horseback, and riding in to Opunake for Pony Club.

In 1983 she married Gary Drought and they went farming for his parents Barney and Betty on the Main South Road just South of Opunake. Her three children Nigel, Sarah and Casey have all done well with her guidance and are a credit to her. Gail and Gary progressed through the ranks of farm workers, sharemilkers and eventually farm owners. Along the way they developed a herd of pedigree Holstein Friesian cows and took to competing in the local calf club and A & P Shows. Most of the early children's photos feature ribbons and cups from this era. Around this time Gail trained as an AB technician, and as she had often accompanied her father Ron when he was a stock agent, applied for a position as a stock agent.



Gail Drought.

Gail went on to become the first female stock agent in Taranaki and proved that women could be successful in this field. Gail and Gary purchased another farm near Te Kiri in 2000, and in January 2002 they bought their first racehorse 'Kind Return' from the Cambridge Stud. She proved to be very successful, and this started their venture into racing and breeding horses. Sadly later that same year Gary passed away.

Gail struggled on for the next few years juggling her stock agent role and running two farms, until she decided to sell part of the home farm and cows, while retaining the house and ten acres, which was turned into a proper horse stud, and then built a beautiful stable

Around her 40<sup>th</sup> year a friend gave her a horse, re-starting her interest in riding, and in particular the hunts. She became a member of both the Taranaki Hunt Club and The Egmont Wanganui Hunt Club. She was also a member of the A & P Association, Opunake and New Plymouth Racing Clubs and

the Opunake Pony Club. Unfortunately, in 2003 she was diagnosed with breast cancer and later bone cancer. This did not deter her as she kept working and riding right up to the end, which turned out to be nearly 13 years later. She participated in her last hunt and finished the season this year. She kept talking about the future and getting back into it when she could get over the latest onslaught against one part of her body or another.

In the last decade Gail made the most of life and fought a very personal and determined battle with the various stages of cancer that afflicted her. What she packed into this time was remarkable and included taking combinations of her children on trips to England, Europe, South Africa, and even last year to Croatia with Sarah who was amazed at how well Gail had coped with the heat and the huge amount of steps involved in seeing the sights without complaint. She even went on a cattle droving holiday in Australia and trekking trip to Canada and a number of solo trips to England and Europe to horse sales.

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# Deputy mayor calls time

Ian Armstrong has served three terms on the South Taranaki District Council where he ended up as deputy mayor. He had earlier served one term on the Taranaki Regional Council. Now he has called it a day, and last month's local body elections were the first since 1998 that his name has not been on the ballot paper.

"Last weekend was the first weekend in a long time where there was no council reading to do," he said.

Ian says he will be busy until the end of May working on his farm business with Charlie and Jody McCaig. Beyond that he is looking forward to doing the things he wants to do.

"I want to dust the cobwebs off my pushbike," he said.

Ongoing interests will include helping develop a civil defence plan for Opunake, and he sees the Opunake Sculpture Trail as something he could be interested in.

He will also continue his involvement in Lions, which he first joined while working on a contract for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tanzania.

"I had previously been involved in Rotoract, and before that Interact while at high school, and my father was a Lion, so I suppose I was brought up in a service club environment," he said.

Ian grew up on a Waiteka Road farm and attended Opunake High School and New Plymouth Boys High School. It was then on to Massey University where he graduated B.Ag.Sc(Hons) followed by five years working for the Department of Maori Affairs in Hamilton and his two years in Tanzania, where his duties included helping set up an Agriculture diploma course, teaching and assisting local farmers.

It was a time of increasing New Zealand involvement in this country dating back to a friendship between New Zealand prime minister Norman Kirk and Tanzanian president Julius Nyerere. Relations between New Zealand and Tanzania strained over the issue of sporting contacts with South Africa when Ian



Former deputy mayor Ian Armstrong.

was there, and for a time there were plans for a possible evacuation after concerns had been raised for the safety of New Zealanders living there, but nothing had come of this, Ian said.

Tanzania is a country for which he has fond memories. "It was a neat place to work, and the people were friendly and treated you very well," he said.

Ian and his wife Judith returned to New Zealand in 1982 to farm on the Eltham Road. Three years later he was elected a director of the Egmont Dairy Company and was deputy chairman at the time of the Moa-Nui merger. He continued as a director and was deputy chairman when Moa-Nui merged into Kiwi, of which he also ended up as deputy chairman.

He says the merger process was something which came at a cost, but at the time had to be done.

"There were huge costs for the local communities in particular, but under the payment systems at the time we didn't have any other choice. A little cheese and casein company like Egmont was not going to survive."

As well as his dairy company directorships, he was

also on the board of Mainland Products.

With a number of streams on his farm, Ian says it was only natural he have an interest in riparian planting.

"I've always taken an interest in protecting the environment. I'm interested in the natural fauna and flora, and want our properties to be something we can be proud of, so riparian planting is a natural part of that."

He says that in 2001, with his commercial and farming background as well as his interest in the environment, he felt he had something to offer, so stood for the Taranaki Regional Council and got elected. Three years later he was defeated.

In 2007, Ian had put his name forward for another crack at the regional council when two South Taranaki mayoral candidates asked him about standing for the District Council instead. So began his three terms representing the Egmont Plains ward.

During that time Ian has chaired the Council's Corporate Services Portfolio Group, which morphed into the Audit and Risk Committee. This committee has oversight of the Council's finances includ-

ing the Long Term Investment Fund, which now has over \$137 million.

Ian says he is particularly pleased with the review of the district plan, which was finished and put out to public scrutiny just before the election.

Another concern has been civil defence.

"In Opunake we are vulnerable and it's easy to be isolated from Hawera or New Plymouth. The local volunteer system had been allowed to deteriorate and slip away in the last 7-8 years, and I felt something needed to be done about it. The flooding last year was fairly timely, obviously."

He says that back in 2007 when he had been asked to give up his regional council aspirations and try for the district council he had some reservations. Nine years later

he says he had found his time as a district councillor more satisfying.

"As a regional councillor I felt I was very much the boy.

At the district council I was involved at a higher level more quickly, and had more day to day involvement on issues."



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## Flushing Programme Completed

South Taranaki District Council operations engineer, Herbert Denton says the programme to flush (clean) Opunake township's entire water pipe network has been successfully completed and thanks residents for their patience.

"The flushing programme which was started mid-September went well, however an additional flush of the main line was needed a couple of weeks ago after we received notification from some residents that they were still experiencing discoloured water," says Mr Denton.

because over many years fine sediment accumulates in the water pipes which can cause the water to be discoloured," he says.

"There may still be some localised issues so it would help us if you could please ring the Council on 0800 111 323 anytime you experience discoloured water. We need to know if any part of town might still be having issues so it can be sorted out."

Mr Denton says the Council flushes the town's reticulation monthly to keep the pipes clean, which involves opening the main hydrants at the dead-end mains to flush the water through the pipe

network.

Mr Denton says further work planned for the Opunake water supply includes a full clean of the town's reservoir.

"This will happen over the winter months next year, when water demand is at its lowest. The work will include completely draining the reservoir and cleaning the inside of it before refilling it and bringing it back into use. After this has been done, the town's reticulation network will again be fully flushed and cleaned, but we'll let everyone know in plenty of time when this work is about to happen."



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# OKATO COPPERS Time to keep things locked up

Hi Everyone  
With the weather getting warmer there will be more people about – this usually leads to police getting a bit busier.

One issue that always rears its head when summer rolls around is motorbikes on the beach. This usually prompts plenty of callers to the police complaining about motorbikes and their riders. The beach is classed as a road so therefore all its users are subject to the same rules as if they were riding on a public road. Think about this before you have a few beers and decide to go for a hoon on the beach or decide to take your car on the beach and do a few donuts.

The New Plymouth District Council forbids motorbikes on the beach between Weld Road and Tapuae by the way of a council by law. This means that no motorbikes can be on the beach in this zone. If there are motorbikes



Constable Rhys Connell

on the beach the first port of call is to the council. Police will respond if the rider is operating the motorbike dangerously and is putting beach goers in danger, but for all other calls give the council a ring.

We have had a few burglaries and thefts around the coast the last month or so. Petrol and farm bikes seem to be the most common items at the moment. Due to being part of the Taranaki Rural Security Group I keep a close eye on rural

farm burglaries. As I have mentioned in this column many times, insecurity and the ease of which thieves can access goods is astonishing. We keep seeing the same patterns where 70-80% of these thefts can be prevented if we learn to lock our things. Just in the last few days I have called on a few people to have a friendly chat. On one occasion the garage at the house I was visiting was wide open with plenty of expensive items in plain view and another the house was wide open with front and back doors open and no one home at either place.

Houses, cowsheds and sheds in general that are close to the road are classed as at risk properties, especially in the respect of cowsheds and sheds that do not have a dwelling nearby. These type of locations form a large part of our burglary statistics due to the fact that they are easily accessible. Offenders can

drop someone off and return to pick them up when they have had a good look around. Please don't keep expensive items in these sheds that you can't afford to lose and if there is no option then look to put security cameras or other security measures in place. Technology is moving at a great rate of knots and there are really good and inexpensive options out there to help with your security.

On another note, about two months ago I found two small bikes leaning up against the wall by the Okato skate park at 3am when I was driving past. I picked them up and took them to the station for safe keeping so they wouldn't get stolen. I have put a few notices out but no one has come to see me about these bikes. Give me a ring if you think they are yours. You will have to describe them to me so I know you are not trying to get a cheap bike!

Have a good week

Rhys



The scene of the 'accident'.

## Joint exercise for emergency services in centre of Opunake

It's early evening on Halloween in Opunake. A drunken driver hits another vehicle carrying a mother and two children, pushing it off the road into an LPG cylinder. He clammers out, dripping with blood. He calls out to his female passenger who is trapped inside the

vehicle now lying on its side. The emergency services arrive, lead the driver away and get to work rescuing the trapped occupants of the two vehicles.

This was all part of a simulated exercise carried out by the Opunake Fire Brigade, St John's Ambulance and

police on the evening of October 31. Andrew Pentelow of the Opunake Fire brigade said this was one of the exercises which the Opunake emergency services carry out from time to time. He said he wanted to thank the Opunake Service Station for letting them use their

premises for the exercise. The exercise finished with a helicopter landing site being prepared for the accident victims.

Meanwhile the drunken driver who caused everything was left to answer to the long arm of the law



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# Opunake Volunteer Fire Brigade News

You may have read or heard about the recent woes with the Samsung Galaxy Note 7 smart phones, and the worldwide recall of this model. The reason for their demise seems to have been caused by the light weight battery construction and the ease in which the battery is able to be "squashed." I will explain this a little later in the article and hope you see the benefits of treating your phone with respect.

The Samsung Note 7 certainly isn't the first phone to catch on fire, or be the first for a giant recall. In 2009, Nokia recalled 45 million phone batteries that were at risk of short circuiting. Apparently, no brand or model is necessarily safe and although this latest major problem has been with the Galaxy Note 7, other smart phones have also burst into flames.

Samsung realised there was an issue with the Galaxy Note 7 after 35 reported incidents world-wide crossed over the CEO's office desk. He made the decision to recall every single one sold and replace the batteries. The battery replacement idea didn't solve the problem so all phones were again recalled, and this particular model was canned. The problem was not only with the battery construction, but also with the lightweight styling of the phone. It

unfortunately couldn't take the slightest bit of "physical abuse" (actually a knock), and if the phone did, it often created some fiery excitement for the owner.

The science behind phone battery fires is actually pretty simple. The phones use lithium ion battery packs for their power, and it just so happens that the liquid swimming around inside most batteries is highly flammable. If the battery should short circuit, say by puncturing the incredibly thin sheet of plastic separating the positive and negative sides of the batter, the puncture point becomes the path of least resistance for electricity to flow. It then heats up the flammable liquid electrode at that spot, and if this happens too rapidly, the battery can catch on fire or worse still, explode.

The battery manufacturers have known for years that lithium ion batteries pose a risk. However they still use the flammable formula because the batteries can be made so much lighter and smaller than the less destructive alternative. What they do have to do is make the insides a lot sturdier and more resistant to knocks and bangs, and educate owners to treat their phones with a little more care.

We were called to St. Josephs Primary School

during the week when the fire alarm was activated by a few of the lads. This draws a lot of fire fighters from their normal activity to attend these senseless call outs, so a couple of our fire fighters gave a stern warning to the students.

We attended a car accident (MVA) on Surf Highway 45, between the Watino Road and the bridge near the Pihama lavender factory. When we arrived, there were two unharmed passengers sitting in the vehicle and the driver strolled off. Luckily a responding ambulance officer spotted the culprit and mentioned it to our crew. This resulted in the appliance being fired up and the chase was on. We located him and returned him to the accident scene where he could be checked over by the ambulance crew, and then have a wee chat with a police officer.

On Sunday October 30 we were called to help the ambulance crew lift a patient out of his house on Tasman Street and into the ambulance. We hope this gentleman has a steady recovery and is back with a bowling ball in his hand this summer.

Our practice on Monday October 31 got the Facebook followers highly motivated when various folk posted comments regarding a serious motor vehicle accident

outside the old ET Motors. I must admit it did look realistic with one vehicle on its side and a second car rammed up to the LPG storage tank at the petrol station. The Police, St Johns and the Fire Brigade were involved in a training exercise scenario which saw patients with specific injuries and heavily made up with blood. Very realistic and a marvellous training opportunity for the 30 plus volunteers who took part. The "accidents" had been thoughtfully set up by our training officer Andrew Pentelow. Great job Andrew!

Our brigade express its deepest sympathies to Karol and family, with the passing of our ex Chief Fire Officer Colin Butler. Colin was the chief at the Opunake station for an amazing 25 years. Under Colin's watch we received a new fire station, two up graded fire engines and the Holmatro cutting equipment for extricating crash victims. The fire police unit (now Operational Support) was formed to assist the fire fighters with various tasks and duties eg traffic management, lighting, people power and transport. Colin was a very keen supporter of brigade competitions, both local and national, and will be sadly missed from the Opunake community.

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## Fire ravages Inaha house



The recent house fire on Inaha Road.

The Manaia Fire brigade was called out to a house fire on the Inaha Road at about 4.15pm on October 28 after receiving multiple 111 calls.

The fire was fully involved when the brigade got there, Manaia chief fire officer Shane Taylor said. The occupants of the house had already evacuated when the brigade arrived. The Hawera and Okaiawa brigades also turned up and the alarm was later upgraded to a second alarm so breathing apparatus could be used to gain access to the house.

Mr Taylor said the start of the fire had been pinpointed to a bedroom. It appeared the fire may have gone up the

wall into the ceiling cavity. The house did have smoke alarms, but these hadn't been activated because the smoke had not reached them.

"Perhaps this is a reminder

for people to have smoke alarms in the bedrooms as well as the hallway," Mr Taylor said.

Material from the house had been taken away to be

analysed with results still to come in, he said. About 80% of the house had been damaged. The brigade was at the scene for about four hours.

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# More cops needed to curb crime

Crime is on the rise in New Zealand. We need more police. There's no doubt about it. So it's something of a shock to see National claiming crime is falling and we don't need more police - as Chester Borrows wrote recently.

In the Taranaki Police Area, burglaries and thefts are up by a quarter in the year to June; assaults on police are up by a third; serious assaults and domestic violence are up 45 per cent; and robberies are up a shocking 70 per cent.

It's not good enough for National to shrug its shoulders and say there's no problem.

Safe communities and good policing are vital parts of Labour's vision for a New Zealand that is a country of opportunity and where everyone can have a fair shot at the Kiwi dream.

That means police that are properly resourced, so that when New Zealanders need help, they can answer the call. We need to ensure that



Andrew Little MP

families have the freedom and security to live in their homes, that businesspeople can have the freedom to go about their business with confidence, and that people have the freedom to walk in the street without becoming victims of crime.

People have to be safe in order to live the Kiwi dream.

We need more police. We need more cops on the beat.

That's why I have announced that, in government, Labour will recruit a thousand extra police in our first term. We'll boost the total Police

Budget in line with the increase in officer numbers. There will be money for extra equipment, cars, non-sworn staff, training and all the other things we need to support our police on the front line.

Police have been underfunded by National for years. There are fewer police officers today than there were two years ago, even though population growth means there are 200,000 more New Zealanders. The thin blue line is stretched to breaking point.

This isn't an isolated problem. It is part of National's philosophy of starving vital public services of the money they need. The same underfunding has been happening in our schools, our hospitals and our housing sector.

And every time it happens, the community suffers through longer waiting lists for vital operations and people dying because our hospitals can't afford the latest medicines; schools

relying on donations to provide the education our kids deserve; a housing crisis that is destroying the Kiwi Dream of homeownership and forcing families to live in cars; and more crime, leaving New Zealanders feeling unsafe in their homes, at their places of work, and on the streets.

For the good of New Zealand, that has to change.

Labour will invest in the public services that New Zealanders need. We'll invest in health, in education, and in housing. And we'll invest in police.

A thousand more police will mean more foot patrols and more community policing, which will help prevent crime before it happens. It will also mean more staff to catch the criminals behind the surge in violent and invasive crimes.

Labour will back our police to get back on top of crime, and restore safety to our communities.

Andrew Little .MP

# The end is nigh ..... and the end will crown the work

It's that time of year again.

The pressure is now on with exams, so I suspect there's plenty of midnight oil being burnt as students at all levels, revise, swot, cram (whatever you like to call it) towards the big final. Getting ready for exams is made no easier by daylight saving and all those better things you would like to be doing on a lovely spring or summer evening.

If you are anything like me, you will leave everything until the last minute and desperately try to recall facts from earlier in the year and cram them into your head, hoping that they would last the distance of a three hour exam. But my high school days and possibly those of your parents were different. It was an unsophisticated employment market albeit with fewer choices but with some prospective employers like retailers, banks and some trades pro-actively contacting parents of school-leavers with attractive job offers. And some people went off and spent forty fulfilled years in their chosen vocation.

It is entirely possible to get so engrossed in assignments,



Chester Borrows MP

tests and presentations that the reasons for a good education can be lost sight of. It's a changing employment world and one thing is for sure; it will keep changing.

If it's any consolation, when you're getting square-eyed from computer work, sitting between piles of reference books with coloured post-it reminders stuck all over the place, it can be natural to question 'why does this stuff count'? or 'when will I ever use this?'

Let's consider some facts. Only three out of ten school leavers will go to university, but 98 per cent of recent graduates will get a job within the first year of seeking em-

ployment, 90 per cent of them into a degree-related job. And there's still plenty of choice for the other 70 per cent who are leaving school; trades, academies and dual pathways among them, where the emphasis is on developing broad capabilities so that the student of today is going to be as prepared as possible for what could be a hugely diverse career path.

I should acknowledge my colleague Hon Hekia Parata here for her steady stewardship of the education portfolio since 2011. When she recently announced her intention to step down from politics, she admitted it was a rewarding job but being Minister of Education was never going to be the most popular job you could hope to have. Yes, the education portfolio always carries many vocal factions to be appeased, but on Hekia Parata's watch there has been \$887,000 allocated in extra funding targeted to those kids in the Taranaki, Whanganui and Manawatu regions most at risk of not achieving. Education of secondary students has taken on a more holistic approach to making students more productive in both personal and working lives so that they get more ideas during their time at school of what is out there in the ever-changing job market. Polytechs and industry training groups are more in tune with both their world (the employers) and the intakes (their students). The secondary/tertiary partnerships with the Ministry of Education and the different vocational path-

ways recognise that anyone leaving school today needs to be ready to re-invent themselves, as some traditional jobs will most likely disappear through advancements in technology and others, demanding different skills and aptitude, will emerge. These requirements of an education system are mind-boggling to me and probably to your parents, but it's a good reminder to strive hard and do well at school so that you have the best chance of gaining employment that is reasonably secure, financially rewarding and hopefully enjoyable.

I would like to wish every school leaver a smooth path way towards employment, but in a fast-changing world that may not be realistic. Just think of what's changing every day in our banks and supermarkets and you're face-to-face to sweeping changes, so I'll return to the swot.

Keep at it, stay healthy and hydrated, keep calm and do your very best. Bring on that exhilarating feeling that can only come from leaving an exam room with a great summer in mind and knowing that the job has been well done.

I can recall just one Latin phrase from my secondary school days : *Finis Coronat Opus* - the end crowns the work

Chester Borrows MP

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# WI regional day at Pihama Lavender



Troy Stevenson entertains.

On October 19 Pihama Women's Institute hosted the Regional Day for the Women's Institutes from the West District. More than 120 ladies travelled from as far away as Wanganui to the event which was held at Pihama Lavender.

Guests were welcomed and after morning tea provided with a variety of interesting activities. There was the option to explore the lavender farm and to visit a number of other craft stalls that were on display for the day. These included carving, patchwork and quilting, fibre arts in the

form of spinning and dyeing, damson plum products, home made soy candles, and home sewn and knitted goods.

Jo Hoogenberd was presented with an award for 50 years service to WI by Leonie West, President of South Taranaki WI.

A sumptuous lunch was provided by the ladies of Pihama WI, made more special by being served on lovely crockery. After

lunch there was musical entertainment from Troy Stevenson and an interesting talk about the work of Taranaki Hospice. Guests were then able to spend extra time visiting the craft stalls and garden.

One of the aspirations of WI is to "strive to touch and to know, the Great Women's heart common to us all". The friendship enjoyed on the day showed that this is alive in Taranaki.

## Opportunity for Taranaki businesses

Taranaki's innovative entrepreneurs and businesses will have a new path to launch with the establishment of the Taranaki Investment Group Incorporated.

The group, which will operate as Launch Taranaki, aims to provide local investment for innovative start-up and early stage business enterprises.

"Taranaki's regional economy has been missing this vital component in the business growth process. Launch Taranaki will fill that gap," says the group's chair Ian Frame.

"We currently have more than 20 experienced investors in the group, who are all interested in encouraging, enabling and developing innovative entrepreneurs in the Taranaki Region. We expect this number to grow."

"Launch Taranaki will simplify the process of making and managing investments into startup and early-stage growth businesses, and at the other end of the relationship will enable our smart business ideas and smart business people to launch and grow, without having to

look beyond the region for support."

The Launch Taranaki website will take online applications from those looking to receive business investment. An online tool will assess proposals, with those whose applications meet the criteria invited to present their plans at face-to-face meetings with prospective investors.

The site will also enable potential investors to join, with an online application process and more information on the group and the process.

The group works to the angel investment model, a widespread concept throughout New Zealand and globally that, until now, hasn't formally existed in Taranaki.

Angel investors provide early stage start-up funding for people with good commercial ideas. Investment is typically made in groups, with individual Angels choosing what they will invest in and contributing a relatively small amount of funding to that investment.

"Each individual Angel firstly decides which projects

they want to invest in and then supports those specific projects with funding typically in the \$5,000 - \$10,000 range per project. With, say, 10 individual Angels supporting a specific project, the total funding available for that project would be \$50,000 to \$100,000."

"In this way, Angels can limit their individual exposure and spread their funds over a broad portfolio of investments, while each project gets the total funding it requires," Ian says.

"We recognise that not all angel investments prove to be successful, however, the process has provided a launch pad for many companies that have grown into large and successful enterprises. Trade Me is a fantastic example of this."

A benefit of Angel investment is the close involvement Angels have with the companies they invest in, so they can assist them to perform well. This may be through an individual Angel's knowledge of the target markets or their experience in technology, sales, marketing or finance and accounting. Sometimes

an Angel can simply open doors to opportunities through their networks.

"The group will focus on facilitating Angel-level investment and on supporting established businesses that have good growth potential. I'm sure there are existing small to medium sized businesses around Taranaki that require funds and advice to enable them to grow and reach their full potential," Ian says. "I expect Launch Taranaki will be able to support that."

"The success of Launch Taranaki will be determined by the growth of the companies it supports and the returns that group members receive on their investments, but ultimately our goal is to further develop the Taranaki economy and grow the budding entrepreneurs within it."

The concept of promoting Angel investing in Taranaki was initially promoted by Venture Taranaki who took the idea to a group of potential investors and provided assistance to get it underway, a process that has taken more than a year.

## Mangatoki WI

Our September meeting was held at lunch time at the Mangatoki Hall, when 15 members attended and five apologies received. Our President Karen Joblin presided over the meeting. The minutes and financial report were read, confirmed and signed. The South Taranaki Federation newsletter was read. There was to be a South Taranaki Federation visit to the Lavender Farm at Pihama on October 19 and a meeting about Antarctica at The Kapuni Hall on October 3.

There was a payment to the Cancer Society \$150. Much was made from knitting done by Bev Marx. The Eltham Daffodil Day made over \$2,000. Bev Marx made numerous pots of marmalade which she donated to be sold there.

Competitions: Flower: 1st. Lucy Moger, 2nd. Marlene Henn, 3rd. Annalisa Evans. Shrub: 1st. Annalisa Evans,

2nd. Marlene Henn, 3rd. Cathy White. Daffodils: 1st. Lucy Moger, 2nd. Annalisa Evans, 3rd. Cathy White. Favourite Wine Glass: 1st. Annalisa Evans, 2nd. Marlene Henn, 3rd. Karen Joblin

Jen White gave an interesting talk and slide

show on her recent trip to South Africa, and was thanked by Bev Marx.

The raffle was won by Karen Joblin. After the meeting, we all enjoyed a finger lunch and catch up chat.

On the evening of October 5, ten members met at

Morrieson's Cafe Bar in Hawera for a meal. After dinner, seven of us went to Cinema 2, to watch the film "Bridget Jones's Baby", which we all found amusing. An enjoyable evening was had by us all.

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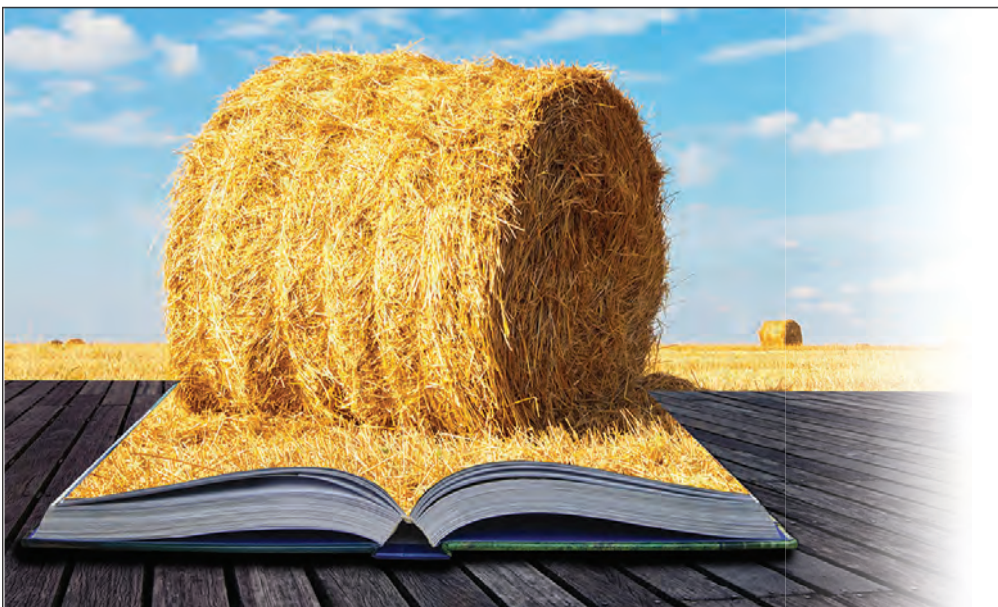
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# Win for Hawera's enterprising high school students



The 53 Streetwear team. are Joeb Cadman, Tim Preston, Jordan Buchanan.

53 Streetwear from Hawera High School are the regional winners of the New Zealand Young

Enterprise scheme. They will now go on to compete at the national finals at Te Papa on December 6. The team have worked tirelessly all year building their business and promoting their brand. Spokesman Tim Preston said they were going to continue working on 53 Streetwear next year. Taranaki Chamber of Commerce Young Enterprise Scheme (YES) co-ordinator Miranda Williams said the standard of entries gets better every year. Since July 2015 Miranda has been the

regional coordinator for the Young Enterprise Scheme under the umbrella of the Chamber. "The objective of YES is to grow our region's young entrepreneurs of the future, and my role is to organise our events; encourage and support schools who offer the programme; work with our valued local sponsors and facilitate learning using a wide range of dedicated business experts from across Taranaki," she said. Miranda highly values the willingness of the business community to be involved in all aspects of this fabulous

and rewarding programme. Young Enterprise Trust CEO Terry Shubkin said the YES programme is popular right across the country. "This year, we had more than 3400 students taking part in The Lion Foundation Young Enterprise Scheme. The programme has been running since 1981 and over that time we've reached an estimated 100,000 students. Our YES alumni include Xero founder Rod Drury, Eat my Lunch co-founder Lisa King and journalist Mike McRoberts."

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# Store promotion proves a winner for Christian

Opunake High School deputy head boy Christian Rosewarne is now the proud owner of a Stagger Party Rocker 155 snowboard courtesy of Coca Cola and Four Square 45.

Christian had gone into the draw for the snowboard after buying a certain amount of Coca Cola stock in Four Square 45 during a promotion which ran in August-September. On October 26, Four Square 45 owner Murray Gray presented him with the Snowboard.

“The competition was run in association with Coca Cola. They gave us the board and we gave it to Christian as the lucky winner,” Murray said. “We have run a variety of promotions over the years. We always try to get our suppliers to come to the party to benefit our customers.”

Next year Christian plans to do a health and fitness



Christian Rosewarne (left) receives snowboard prize from Four Square 45 owner Murray Gray.

course at WITT. He says he has gone snow boarding two or three times before.

Although this might not be the ideal time of year, he still intends putting his new prize

to good use. “I might have to wait a while, but I will try to get on it,” he said.

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## Te Karaka Foundation makes its first ever grant distribution

The trustees of Te Karaka Foundation have approved the first ever distribution from its endowment fund. Grants totalling \$4,175 will be made to enable Coastal Taranaki, Opunake, Hawera and Patea High Schools to purchase copies of the book Real World Ready for their school leavers. The book, written by Hawera High School teacher Wayne

Benton teaches real life skills to help students transition into the “real world” once they leave school.

Wayne wants to ensure young people transition successfully into the challenging and competitive “real world” of work.

“By finding a career you enjoy, making the money you save work for you, growing and eating great



Courtney Ngaia, Coastal Taranaki School Year 13 student and Glenda Palmer, Careers / Vocational Pathway teacher.

food, along with making healthy lifestyle choices, you have a greater chance of a stress free and happy life” says Wayne.

The distribution to South Taranaki schools comes from Te Karaka Foundation’s Winifred Knight Trust, which was originally established on the death of retired Hawera school teacher Winifred Knight in 1991. Administration of the Winifred Knight Trust was transferred to Te Karaka Foundation in 2015, and the

Foundation will continue to honour Winifred Knight’s wishes – using income from her fund to support community projects in South Taranaki.

Te Karaka Foundation is a charitable community foundation, which provides Taranaki people with a personal and enduring way to support the community organisations and causes which are close to their heart and close to their home.

continued on page 16

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### SANDFORDS



Friends from Okato Primary days. Back row. From left Helen Cowie, Eileen McEldowney (Rothwell), Denise Curd (Holdt), Margaret Moffitt (Daly). Front: From left, Noreen Riordan (Young), Marlene Mooibroek (Milham), Lorraine Pratt (Shaw), Bev Taingahue (Burke).

# Remembering the days of the old schoolyard

A group of friends who were in Form 2 at Okato Primary School back in 1960 like to get together occasionally. Twenty five of them, along with partners and husbands met at a function at the Pungarehu Boat Club back in 2005. Since then, they have got together as times and occasions have allowed.

At their most recent meeting when they got together at Lahar in Okato they were joined by a former classmate they had not seen for some time. Marlene Mooibrand(nee Milham) had gone to Australia 44 years ago where she married, and has lived ever since. As she was back in Taranaki from Perth for

a family celebration, the services of her older sister Kay Hall were enlisted to spring a surprise to get her to have lunch with her former classmates, many of whom she had not seen for 56 years. "I just said to Marlene let's go down the coast, reminisce about where we grew up and stop somewhere for lunch," said Kay.

Waiting for her were seven of her former classmates. There had been 48 of them in the class taught by Roy Bamford back in 1960. The group recall "Mr Bamford" as having taught at Okato for "quite a long time." With 48 in the class they don't remember any issues with staff/pupil ratios.

# NCHIP to back load health milestones for 8,000 Taranaki children

Taranaki's new National Child Health Information Platform (NCHIP) and Child and Youth Coordination Service (CaY-C) has begun back loading key health milestone information for approximately 8,000 Taranaki children onto the NCHIP system this week. NCHIP was officially launched on June 22 and provides a single online view for all practitioners involved in a child's 29 health milestones from birth to six years of age. It is a joint venture between Pinnacle Midlands Health Network (Pinnacle) and Taranaki DHB. Becky Jenkins, Taranaki DHB GM Funding and Planning said, "NCHIP is about improving the health of our children and enables early childhood health services to be delivered in a more coordinated way so that no child falls between the cracks."

assessments, immunisations, hearing and vision checks, oral health checks and B4 School Checks. The CaY-C service will assist in the tracking and tracing of children lost to providers so that no child misses out. Mrs Jenkins said, "Parents need to look out for a postcard that will be delivered to their home if they have a child or children between the ages of 0-6 years. The postcard will let parents know that their child's information is being loaded onto NCHIP. It doesn't require a response, it is purely to inform parents of this process." John Macaskill-Smith, CEO at Midlands Health Network, "NCHIP is about the kids. This is about enabling the health system to better support them by improving the way all health professionals and organisations work together." "For the first time ever, Taranaki Health providers involved in a child's care will have a shared view of a child's progress towards reaching all their health



milestones, and who else is involved in their care," he added. Meanwhile, all Taranaki newborns are automatically enrolled. Amanda Antoine, Taranaki DHB Clinical Midwife Manager said, "NCHIP fills important gaps and helps streamline processes right from when a baby is born. We are embracing NCHIP as it will ensure we keep mothers and their babies at the centre of their health care." Taranaki is the third Midland DHB to implement NCHIP, with successful roll outs already in the Waikato and Tairāwhiti.

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# Box loads of Taranaki generosity for Christmas

Over a thousand shoeboxes filled with Christmas Cheer from Taranaki and Whanganui will soon be winging their way to the Pacific Islands. The shoeboxes are put together by individual donors and tailor-made for boys and girls to receive as Christmas gifts on behalf of Operation Christmas Child, which has been running in different parts of the world since 1990 under the auspices of the Christian aid organisation Samaritan's Purse. On October 28, cartons of shoeboxes were being picked up around Taranaki by Michael Quintus and John Bakewell and taken to Auckland. As well as the shoeboxes, a number of people had made cash donations. The thousand boxes from Taranaki and Whanganui are up on the 800 sent out in 2015, which itself had been a good year, Taranaki-Whanganui co-ordinator Dee Bakewell said. "Compassion's not

dead. You have people with compassion inside of them that we never get to hear about," she said. "I want to thank all the wonderful knitters in the South Taranaki area who rose to the occasion by knitting literally hundreds of beanies which will be added to the shoe boxes. I've no idea who all these amazing people are, but I am indebted to them for their generosity. These people are the backbone of this type of charity - the unsung heroes. The Hawera Riding for the Disabled were instrumental in providing a wonderful portion of the fillers we are using. A beautiful example of one needy group giving help to another." She was encouraged by some of the stories she has heard about people who have taken part this year, like the woman who had moved to Stratford from Auckland. Her son, who attends Stratford Primary School had been active in Operation Christmas Child



John Bakewell and Michael Quintus picking up shoeboxes from Taranaki

in Auckland, and wanted to do something similar in Stratford, so he got his new school interested. The school put together 30 shoeboxes as well as adding boxes of schoolbooks which were surplus to their requirements.

"This is the first time they have been involved. I'm just so proud of the girls. They are so talented and they made some beautiful soft toys and soft toys, brought in lots of clothing and put little packs together."

Dee is particularly pleased with the 22 boxes donated by the Opunake Quirky Quilters group of which she is a member.

Dee said last year Taranaki had per capita been the most generous region in the country when it came to donating shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

## On this month in history Berlin Wall falls

No tears were shed when the infamous Berlin Wall was destroyed on November 9, 1989.

from escaping from their austere regime to relative freedom in West Berlin. About 200 people died simply by attempting to escape and were then shot by East German guards.

The wall was built on the orders of USSR leader Kruschev and stood for 28 years. It's purpose was to keep East German Berliners

In 1990 the two Germanys were formally united.



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# How will new valuations affect NPDC rates?

The results of New Plymouth District's rating revaluation for 2016 have been released by Quotable Value (QV).

The district's average residential property rateable value, which includes land and improvements, has gone up 18 per cent. The land component alone has gone up 29.7 per cent.

This compares to the district's 2013 rating revaluation increase of just 0.3 per cent for residential property rateable value and 2.3 per cent for land value.

NPDC Chief Financial Officer Alan Bird says

the effect on a property's rates will depend on how the property's change in land value compares to the district's average change.

"For residential property, the district average is an increase of 29.7 per cent – so properties with a lower percentage rise than the average will see a smaller impact on any rates movement, and those properties with a higher than average percentage increase will have a greater movement.

"But also keep in mind that a property's land value affects only the general

rate, which makes up approximately one-third of a property's total rates for an average property. The remainder of the rates are service charges and those aren't influenced by a property's rating value."

Mr Bird says the land value change in most areas in the district is in line with the district's average, with a few exceptions.

Urenui and Oakura have land value increases of just 5.4 per cent and 1.6 per cent respectively – significantly less than the average.

At the other end of the spectrum, Okato land values

for residential sections increased on average by 67.1 per cent.

"The increase in Okato came from a low base and these properties are likely to have a higher general rate increase in percentage terms than other properties in the district, while Urenui and Oakura will have a lower general rate increase than other areas," says Mr Bird.

The new rating values were prepared by QV valuers to reflect market value as at 1 September 2016, however they will not be applied to Council rates until 1 July 2017.

# Have your say on food safety rules

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is calling on food businesses and others to have their say on changes to food safety rules.

The rules are part of the new Food Act, which came into effect in March this year. The Food Act introduces a risk based approach to managing food safety, setting different rules

for higher and lower risk businesses and putting more emphasis on what people do to keep food safe.

Fiona Duncan, Director Food and Regulatory Policy at MPI says, "As the new law is rolled out, we monitor and evaluate how things are going and listen to feedback from businesses and others. These proposals

make improvements where needed, to make sure the new law works as intended."

"We propose reducing requirements for some lower risk businesses, giving them fewer records to keep and fewer procedures to follow.

Another proposal makes it easier for businesses to organise their first food safety check, known as a

verification"

"We have also reviewed some old food safety laws that are still in effect, and are revoking those that are no longer necessary and keeping the parts we still need," says Duncan.

The consultation includes a number of other minor changes to help the new law work more smoothly.

# On this month in history Paul Reeves becomes Governor-General

On November 20, 1985 Sir Paul Reeves became the first Governor General of Maori descent. The Prime Minister of the time was David Lange with his Labour Party in Government. Trained as a

minister Sir Paul was earlier the Anglican Archbishop of NZ.

Sir Paul struggled to keep his opinions to himself and Queen Elizabeth asked Lange to have a word with

the Governor General. In particular, Sir Paul was concerned about the impact of Rogernomics on the poorer citizens of New Zealand and he admitted his relationship with Lange

and the Government was somewhat strained.

In the mid 1960s Sir Paul was the minister at St Paul's Church in Okato and retained his links thereafter with this, his first NZ parish.

# On this month in history Bill Clinton wins US Presidency

On this month in history On November 3, 1992 William Jefferson Clinton won the US Presidency to fulfil his childhood dream.

Four years later he won a second term despite scandal relating to affairs with women.

Currently his wife Hilary

is seeking the same high office (as the nominee of the Democrat Party) and is leading in the polls over millionaire Donald Trump

the nominee of the Republican Party.

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# Report shows importance of oil and gas to the marine economy

Petroleum Exploration and Production Association (PEPANZ) Chief Executive Cameron Madgwick has welcomed the release of a Statistics New Zealand report showing the importance of the oil and gas sector to New Zealand's marine economy.

The report, New Zealand's marine economy: 2007-13, released by Statistics New Zealand, shows offshore minerals (mainly oil and gas extraction and exploration), was the largest contributor

to the marine economy, at 48 percent (\$1.95 billion) in 2013.

Mr Madgwick says the report shows offshore oil and gas exploration and production is incredibly important to the New Zealand economy and contributes more to both the marine economy and New Zealand's GDP than shipping, fisheries and aquaculture combined.

"There is strong potential for growth in the contribution that oil and gas

exploration and production makes to our marine economy over the coming years," says Mr Madgwick.

"Currently oil and gas production is concentrated in Taranaki, but there is genuine international excitement about New Zealand's petroleum potential with exploration currently occurring off the east coasts of both the North and South Islands.

"Taranaki is just one of 17 sedimentary basins that surround New Zealand

and geologists agree that all of these basins have the potential to have similar deposits of oil and gas to that found in Taranaki.

"New Zealand, however, is underexplored by international standards, and we will not know exactly what resources exist, in what quantity, and where until exploration data is collected and analysed. This has been the focus of the industry over recent years."

Mr Madgwick says the oil and gas industry is absolutely

committed to protecting New Zealand's precious marine environment.

"The impact on New Zealand's marine environment from oil and gas exploration and production is small. The industry is governed by extensive and stringent regulation and heavy oversight that ensures we operate safely and the impact on the immediate surroundings is kept to an absolute minimum.

"Emissions from oil and gas production in New

Zealand are relatively small. New Zealand's emissions profile is unique in the world, with nearly half of our greenhouse gases generated from agricultural activities.

"Expansion of oil and gas production will be an important contributor to growing New Zealand's economy, improving living standards, and helping generate new economic activity in some of our regions," says Mr Madgwick.

## TRC chairman re-elected

David MacLeod has been re-elected as Taranaki Regional Council Chairman for his fourth term.

Mr MacLeod was re-elected unopposed at the

Council's first meeting since last month's local body elections.

"I'm grateful for and honoured by the support of my fellow councillors, and I

look forward to a productive three years' work together as a team," he says.

"The community and the Council have been making good progress towards our goal of a thriving and prosperous Taranaki. But we're in challenging times with commodity price fluctuations," says Mr MacLeod.

"We need to stay strongly focused on working efficiently and effectively as a Council while continuing to deliver comprehensive work programmes that enable us to make further progress with environmental

improvements, transport planning and services, hazard mitigation and preparedness and the development of iconic amenities including Pukeiti and Yarrow Stadium."

Mr MacLeod says the central Government is a key partner in many of the Council's activities, but the Council's close contact with the community ensures the most effective and efficient delivery of programmes.

Priorities over the coming three years include continuing to work with farmers to largely complete fencing and planting of ring plain rivers and streams by the end of the decade, and continue to refine consent requirements to further increase freshwater quality.

The Council also wants to continue working with landowners to protect and enhance special habitats under the Council's Key Native Ecosystem programme, and to promote sustainable land management programmes in the eastern hill country.

The Council also wants to further develop Pukeiti and the Yarrow Stadium, as well



David MacLeod

as continuing to develop regional bus services and Total Mobility..

There are also new arrangements for iwi representation on key council committees.

Mr MacLeod was first elected to the Council in

2000 and became Chairman in 2007. He represents the South Taranaki Constituency.

David Lean was elected unopposed as Deputy Chairman, his fourth term in the role.

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STDC group manager of engineering services in front of the Hawera waste water treatment plant.

## Consultation begins on Trade Waste Proposal

Public consultation on the South Taranaki District Council's proposed Trade Waste Bylaw has begun and will run for two months.

Group Manager of Engineering Services, Brent Manning, says a Trade Waste Bylaw will provide certainty of cost, conditions for connecting and the acceptability of discharge for businesses and households into the future.

"In particular, the proposed Bylaw will improve the management and protection of our public wastewater

system and more fairly distribute the cost of treating trade waste," he says.

"The proposed Bylaw will also put us in a better position to protect our community and the environment from the adverse effects of harmful substances being discharged into the wastewater system."

Key features in the proposed Trade Waste Bylaw include: licensing all premises which discharge trade waste to the Council system to one of four categories; Permitted, Controlled, Conditional and Prohibited. There will be

an introduction of annual \$130 fee for premises in the Controlled and Conditional categories, and introduction of unit charges for premises in the Conditional category. A trade waste officer will be employed to undertake monitoring and enforcement. There will be stricter conditions/penalties for premises which don't comply

Mr Manning says the Council currently has individual trade waste agreements with five of the six major wet industries in

South Taranaki, however it's expected that these would in time fall under the new Bylaw once it was adopted.

The Council anticipates that the Bylaw would come into effect by July 2017, with a transitional period for industries with existing trade waste agreements.

## Te Karaka Foundation makes its first ever grant distribution

*continued from page 12*

In 2015 the Winifred Knight Trust was transferred to Te Karaka Foundation as its first Named Endowment Fund. For 25 years, Winifred Knight's trust has met educational, community, cultural and recreational needs in the area, including the annual Ohangai School Centennial Teaching Scholarship awarded to a first-year teacher training student from Hawera High School.

Winifred Knight was born in India in 1896. She went

to Eltham District High School before enrolling at Victoria University College, and graduated with an MA degree with first class honours in history. She trained as a teacher and completed her country service at Whenuakura, catching the train from Hawera to Patea and walking the rest of the way. She taught at Iona Girls' College in Havelock North before joining the teaching staff at Stratford Technical High School in 1922 and rising to the position of headmistress seven years later. She retired after 25 years at the school.

Among her well-known pupils were artist, Mountford Toswill (Toss) Woollaston, Archbishop Brian Davis of Wellington and former Mayor of Stratford, Leo Carrington.

Throughout her life Winifred Knight supported a wide range of community organisations including Girl Guides, the Hawera Women's Club, the Hawera Horticultural Society, amateur drama festivals, the WEA, the Red Cross, and business and professional women's groups. She received a Queen's Service Medal in 1979.

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# MIE goes into recess

Meat Industry Excellence (MIE) chairman Dave McGaveston says "Patch protection, farmer apathy and the rural media campaign against MIE" have prompted MIE's decision to go into recess.

"It has been disheartening that the Co-op directors, Beef+Lamb NZ, Federated Farmers, Government and the organisations farmers trust to show leadership and direction have fought to stifle all MIE's efforts to create a bright future for NZ meat farmers.," he said.

"The Pathways to Long Term Sustainability Report' exposed serious inefficiencies and identified exciting opportunities from procurement and processing,

as well as along the entire value chain to market.

"Farmers invested in this report and should have expected to have their investment enhanced by embracing the opportunities identified. Sadly the anti-reform campaign prevailed, not just within farmers very own elected organisation, Beef+Lamb NZ, but across the underbelly of vested interest groups that dominate the sector. This was the very essence of why MIE attempted to get the processing directors sitting on the Beef+Lamb board NZ thrown off. Having the 'fox in the hen house' is a recipe for disaster and yet unbelievably, this situation prevails.

"Furthermore a large

percentage of our very own MIE endorsed directors reneged on all their core values and pre-election promises and with no apparent conscience, did a total backflip betraying the very people who put them there.

"MIE has always stated it as it is, and with honesty. Largely and rather sadly our predictions have rung true. The eminent procurement war is proof again of this and farmers will again pay for this over the long-term.

"Removing the competitive destructive model in market will provide long-term benefits to us all. Unfortunately, this scenario may well be at the expense of the remaining NZ owned companies as these foreign

owned and or controlled entities begin to flex their muscles over the next 2-3 seasons.

Make no mistake, passing control of our processing/exporting sector to foreign interests will in the long term be an unmitigated disaster for NZ red meat farmers. As always, we will hope for the best, whilst silently planning for the worst.

"Finally, as the sun sets on MIE, we wish to thank the many who supported our campaign and can assure you all, if farmer attitudes should change, we have the knowledge, strategy and desire to lift our industry out of the current downward spiral.," Mr McGaveston says.

# Positive steps made despite challenging 2015/16 dairy season

Figures released at the DairyNZ Annual

General Meeting (AGM) in Ashburton shows the 2015/16 dairy season was the most challenging year yet for dairy farmers.

The 2015/16 milk price of \$3.90/kg milksolids was the lowest in more than a decade and impacted farmers who last season were, on average, operating at a break-even cost of \$5.25/kg milksolids.

DairyNZ board chair Michael Spaans says despite an obvious shortfall in farm income, last season farmers made positive steps in reducing their costs of production.

"Our data shows farmers

have become more efficient and fine-tuned their farm management – so much so, that in August we revised the average farm's break-even cost down to \$5.05/kg milksolids for 2016/17," says Michael, speaking to an audience in Ashburton.

"This is a rare positive from a period of low milk prices and something farmers should be immensely proud of. Farmers' abilities to sharpen the pencil and remain focused is key to maintaining our industry's international competitiveness."

The 2015/16 challenges were compounded by the low

milk price in 2014/15. With no significant retrospective payments from the previous season, many farmers in 2015/16 increased debt to cover costs.

The previous 2014/15 season had been somewhat buffered by the \$8.40/kg milksolids price of 2013/14.

Nationally, dairy farmers produced 1.862 billion kilograms of milksolids, worth \$8 billion in 2015/16.

The industry's milk production benefited the New Zealand economy by \$12.2 billion from dairy exports in 2015/16 and provided around 35,000 full-time jobs on-farm and a further 14,500 jobs in milk processing and wholesaling.

DairyNZ CEO Tim Mackle says 2015/16 was another busy year for DairyNZ, which makes a range of industry investments through the \$67 million levy, plus additional government and commercial funding.

"Investing farmers' money into a wide range of programmes is designed to deliver direct benefits for farmers and the industry as a whole," says Tim.

"While each year we focus on supporting farmers through immediate issues, such as managing the low milk price, we also maintain our long-term work in such areas as research, environmental management and our workforce."

This coming year, \$16m will be invested into each of the three key areas – research; farm profit; biosecurity and product integrity. Environmental work will also receive \$12m funding.

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From left, 2014 New Zealand Share farmer of the Year Charlie McCaig, 2016 Auckland/Hauraki Share farmer of the Year Matthew Herbert, Jerome Grey, 2016 Auckland/Hauraki Share farmer of the Year Brad Markham.

# Knuckling down can yield rewards

In recent years Coastal Taranaki has had a good record in the New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards. In 2014, Charlie and Jody McCaig took the New Zealand Share Farmer of the Year title, while in 2015 Rob and Mel Van den Brand finished third.

On October 21 local hopefuls were making inquiries at a launch meeting held at Farm Source in Opunake. This was one of several events being held at Farm Source stores around the country to attract entries for the Share farmer, dairy manager and dairy trainee of the Year awards. In Taranaki, events have been held in Waitara, Waverley, Hawera and Opunake.

Among those organising the Opunake event were Brad Markham and Matthew Herbert. Earlier this year, they were Auckland/Hauraki regional Sharefarmers of the Year. Since then they have traded in their 250 cow contract milking position in North Waikato milking cows all year round and calving in autumn and spring, for a position on the Duthie Road near Kaponga contract milking 360 cows.

"We've been lucky with the

weather. We've had a mild winter and it hasn't been too cold," Brad said. "We don't miss it being foggy, like it is in Waikato. Since we've been here, we've only had fog once. Generally the closeness of the communities means it can be a bit more social. We've joined Young Farmers and been helping organise the Dairy Industry awards. You couldn't do as much of that in the Waikato."

Brad grew up on a farm, but said his father had always told him to learn a trade first so he would always have something else to fall back on. Before farming he was a journalist for 10 years in both New Zealand and Australia, including time as a TV political reporter for ABC in Tasmania.

"That was high pressure with lots of live reporting, quite different to running a dairy farm," he said.

"I find being a farmer quite rewarding. Every day you face challenges, have to think on your feet and make lots of decisions."

Brad says he wants to get the message out that farming is a viable career option.

"There are lots of opportunities for those who

want to knuckle down to get places. If they like working outdoors, working with animals, and one day want to be their own boss. This year's Taranaki Trainee of the Year, Sam Hughson is 19, managing staff and running 800 cows."

He sees farming people often don't like to talk about their achievements, but being in the Awards helps contestants refine their interviewing and CV skills in ways that can be useful when they apply for future farming positions.

Brad says people shouldn't be discouraged from entering because the season's been wet and production has been down.

"Just remember that everybody else is in the same boat, and the judges who are farm owners have also had a wet winter, and have had to battle with mud, pugging and making sure their pasture utilisation is up there."

Among those considering entering this year were herd manager Jerome Grey from the Eltham Road who had previously finished second in the Taranaki Trainee of the Year. Also having a look were contract milkers

Jayden Norgate and Erin Huckstep who had recently started contract milking 480 cows at Te Kiri. Erin has been in the awards twice before, finishing third in the Taranaki Trainee awards, and last time finishing in the top six for Taranaki dairy manager of the year.

"It's a great way of meeting people and getting information about how it all works," she said.

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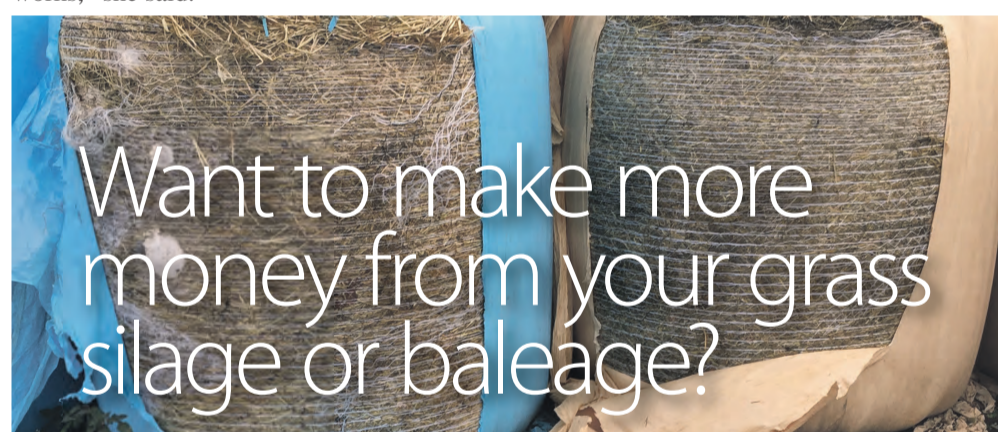
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# Opunake's new New Zealand champion

The first time Opunake's Zakiah (Zak) Corrigan competed in the All Terrain Vehicles(ATV) National Motocross Championships he finished second in New Zealand ifor the Junior Clubman class. That was last year at Barrett Road in New Plymouth riding a Honda TRX300. This year, still with the same bike, but with the national championships being held at Amberley near Christchurch, he finished first in New Zealand in the same class. The event was run as a split start with the Senior Clubman class, and

Zak(14) was able to pass some of the less experienced senior riders along the way. Last year, when the championships were held in New Plymouth, there were around 60 riders of all classes taking part. This time round, there were 96 riders, with Zakiah being part of a contingent of more than 20 from Taranaki. "There are more people starting to get into it," Zak said. "When you're watching it, it's more interesting compared to the two-wheeler motocross nationals."

Zak has been riding ATVs since he was four, and he is a member of the Taranaki Motorcycle Club and the Taranaki Quadriders Club, of which his father, Craig is president. Zak had never been to Amberley before "The corners were challenging and much tighter than I'm normally used to," Zak said. "I had to concentrate, and I spent more time standing up than sitting on the seat." Craig agrees that the track was challenging. "It was quite an aggressive

track and there were some very big jumps. There was some very intense racing, and the most crashes I've seen for ATVs." Craig says the track was more like an American-style track than the kind of track with which New Zealand riders would be more familiar, having more inside lines and split corners. Next year Zak will be 15 and has options open to him, including whether or not to move up to the 450 Clubman class. The Junior Clubman class covers bikes from 125-300CC.

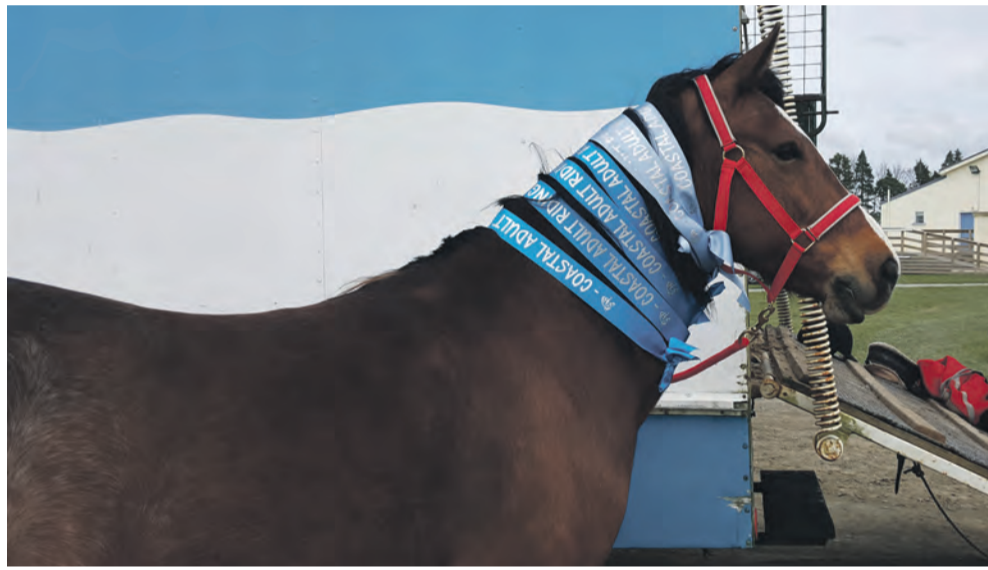


Zak Corrigan with trophies.

## Riding Club Gymkhana results

The Coastal Adult Riding Club Gymkhana was held at the Stratford A&P Show grounds on Labour Day October 24. The club ran four rings and the day was well supported by riders from all over Taranaki. Judges were Kylie James, Victoria Grey, Sarah Williams (Midhurst) Kirstie Pryce (Hawera) and Tania Smith (New Plymouth).

**Results.** Open Ring In Hand Classes. Best Presented- 1 L. Coleman (Whimsical) 2 M Smith (Arum Park Colo) 3 D Mosely (Bugs). Best Gelding- N McDonald (Holiday Sun) 2 H. McDonald (Decadius) 3 D Mosely (Bugs). Best Felmale- I.Anderson (Panache) 2 L. Coleman (Whimsical) 3 K Gooch (Affair). Best Head- D Mosely (Bugs) 2 L. Coleman (Whimsical) 3 M Smith (Arum Park Colo). Best movement-1 I.Anderson (Panache) 2 N McDonald (Holiday Sun) 3 K Gooch (Affair). Best Handler - 1 M Smith (Arum Park Colo) 2 K Gooch (Affair) 3 D Mosely (Bugs). Paced and Mannered -1 L. Coleman (Whimsical) 2 I.Anderson (Panache) 3 M Smith (Arum Park Colo).



"Toadily Kewl" was shown by his owner Nadia Huitson of Tariki.

High points - I.Anderson (Panache) Ridden classes Open. Best Presented - I.Anderson (Panache) 2 N McDonald (Holiday Sun) 3 Esme Whineray (Victorian Lace). Best Rider - I.Anderson (Panache) 2 E Whineray (Victorian Lace) 3 M Smith (A P Colo). Best Trot - I.Anderson (Panache) 2 H. McDonald (Decadius) 3 Wendy Glentworth (Cameo) Most suitable to Riding Club Activities 1 Esme Whineray (Victorian Lace) 2

W Glentworth 3 I.Anderson Paced and Mannered - I.Anderson (Panache) 2 E Whineray (Victorian Lace) 3 M Smith (A P Colo) Best Combinations- 1 I.Anderson and E Whineray 2 W Glentworth and M Smith 3 H and N MacDonald High points - I.Anderson (Panache) Green horses - In Hand Classes. Best Presented -1 E Reeves (Don del Amour) 2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 R Buchanan (Texas Gold). Best Gelding - 1 M Pink

(Monty) 2 R Buchanan (Texas Gold) 3 K Robertson (Galliano). Best Felmale 1 Michaela (Miriam). Best Head - 1 E Reeves (Don del Amour) 2 K Wingate (Jake) 3 K Robertson (Galliano). Best movement - 1 K Robertson (Galliano) 2 M Pink (Monty) 3 Michaela (Miriam) Best Handler - 1 R Buchanan (Texas Gold). Paced and Mannered - 1 M Pink (Monty) 2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 K Wingate (Jake). High points - M Pink (Monty) Ridden classes - Green Horses. Best Presented - 1 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 2 D Bunyan (Bee) 3 M Pink (Monty). Best Rider - 1 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 2 M Pink (Monty) 3 D Bunyan (Bee). Best Trot - 1 M Pink (Monty) 2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 D Bunyan (Bee). Most suitable to Riding Club Activities 1 D Bunyan (Bee)

2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 M Pink (Monty). Paced and Mannered - 1 M Pink (Monty) 2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 D Bunyan (Bee). Best Combination - 1 D Bunyan (Bee) 2 K Jenkins (Volkswagon) 3 M Pink (Monty). Ridden High points - M Pink (Monty) Pleasure horses - In Hand Classes. Best Presented -1 Y Bevins (Pae) 2 K Kain (Latte) 3 K Lambourne (Millenium Lady). Best Gelding -1 H Kooistra (So Intriguing) 2 N Huitson (Silverstone) 3 Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl). Best Felmale - 1 E Perrin (Ruby) 2 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 3 K Lambourne (Millenium Lady) Best Head - 1 K Kain (Latte) 2 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 3 Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl). Best movement - 1 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 2 E Perrin (Ruby) 3 N Huitson (Silverstone). Best Handler - 1 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 2 K Kain (Latte) 3 N Huitson (Silverstone). Paced and Mannered - 1 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 2 K Kain (Latte) 3 Y Bevins (Pae). High points - B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) Ridden classes - Pleasure. Best Presented - 1 K Kain (Latte) 2 K Lambourne (Millenium Lady) 3 S Coull (Gijima). Best Rider -1 S Coull (Gijima) 1 2 K Kain (Latte) 3 B Wakeling (Sugar Rush). Best Trot - 1 S Coull (Gijima) 2 E Perrin (Monty) 3 Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl). Most suitable to Riding Club Activities 1 E Perrin (Monty) 2 S Coull (Miss Indy) K Kain (Latte). Paced and Mannered - 1

B Wakeling (Sugar Rush) 2 S Coull (Miss Indy) 3 N Huitson (Silverstone). Best Combination - 1 E Perrin (Monty) 2 S Coull (Miss Indy) 3 Nadia Huitson (Toadily Kewl). Ridden High points S Coull (Miss Indy) Beginner Ring - In Hand. Best Presented - 1 S Wallace (Shrek) 2 S McIntyre (Bella) 3 K Blank (Jethro). Best Gelding - 1 S Wallace (Shrek) 2 K Blank (Jethro). Best Felmale - 1 H Purser (Celeste) 2 S McIntyre (Bella) 3 L Huitson (Missy). Best Head - 1 H Purser (Celeste) 2 S Wallace (Shrek) 3 K Blank (Jethro). Best movement - 1 S Wallace (Shrek) 2 H Purser (Celeste) 3 K Blank (Jethro). Best Handler - 1 K Blank (Jethro) 2 S Wallace (Shrek) 3 S McIntyre (Bella). Paced and Mannered - S Wallace (Shrek) 2 H Purser (Celeste) 3 S McIntyre (Bella). High points - S Wallace (Shrek). Ridden classes - Beginner ring. Best Presented - 1 N Howarth (Rosie) 2 S Wallace (Shrek) 3 K Blank (Jethro). Best Rider - 1 K Blank (Jethro) 2 N Howarth (Rosie) 3 L Huitson (Missy). Best Trot - 1 N Howarth (Rosie) 2 L Huitson (Missy) 3 K Blank (Jethro). Most suitable to Riding Club Activities - 1 K Blank (Jethro) 2 N Howarth (Rosie) 3 S Wallace (Shrek). Paced and Mannered 1 L Huitson (Missy) 2=S Wallace (Shrek) 2=K Blank (Jethro) 3 H Purser (Celeste). Best Combination - 1 S Wallace (Shrek) 2 N Howarth (Rosie) 3 H Purser (Celeste). Ridden High points - N Howarth (Rosie)

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The Search Ratahi Memorial Open winner Gary Sawyer - Photo Michael Espiner.

# Excellent conditions for Kneelo classic

This year's Kneelo Classic was held in excellent conditions with day one being run in 3-4 feet clean conditions at Fitzroy Beach New Plymouth.

The women's final, included two on trial for inclusion in the NZ team to attend the World Titles in Somo Spain, 2017. Casey Stevens took a break from her busy surf life saving duties, to win the women's division from up and coming junior, 16 year old Julia Phillips of Opunake. Both were later confirmed in the NZ team for Spain.

In the Search Ratahi Memorial Open, the start top seeds, Kelvin Weir, Gary Sawyer, Lachy Stevens and Chris Halswall pushed the pace over their fellow competitors. Sawyer has returned from his home base in Brisbane Australia, after years of being away from the contest scene. The former NZ representative wasted no time in pushing the limits and showed the skills that have previously taken him to national honours. The other surfers showed competitive skills but the finals came down to present National NZ Champ Kelvin Weir Opunake, Gary Sawyer, Lachy Stevens Oakura, and former Gisborne kneelo Chris Halswall, now farming in Okato.

All surfers scored high on the clean punchy waves on offer. Weir used his strength and powerful cut backs that gave him high sevens but could not find a decent second wave. It went to the wire and was close. In the last two minutes Sawyer ripped into a clean left, that coupled with his first wave gave him the judge's nod in a great final. Stevens and Halswall both surfed well but couldn't find the waves when it mattered, to give them the best scoring potential.

The second day saw the wind shift to the east and as the tide came in, the Australia vs NZ Tasman Cup teams challenge (last held 15 years ago) was held at Opunake's Arawhata Road. The popular point turned it on, and as the wind dropped away and the tide built, so did the swell. The two teams consisting of four surfers each revelled in the 5-6' size conditions. Australia put up a great fight but with the withdrawal of top surfer Baden Smith due to work commitments, it was going to be tough against the in form NZ team consisting of the finalists from the classic. Sawyer, Weir, Halswall and Stevens, took on the sizey peaks, and though the Aussie team consisting of Brown, Sanford, C McDonald and B

McDonald surfed well, the NZ team gained the points and the Tasman Cup will remain in NZ for another year.

Kneeboard Surfing NZ would like to thank all involved and especially the New Plymouth Surf Riders Club for assisting them with facilities, Opunake Boardriders, sponsors and the Stanley Brothers Farms for allowing them access.

Results. Open Women's. 1<sup>st</sup> Casey Stevens (Oakura), 2<sup>nd</sup> Julia Phillips Opunake

The Search Ratahi Memorial Open. 1<sup>st</sup> Gary Sawyer (Auckland), 2<sup>nd</sup> Kelvin Weir (Opunake). 3<sup>rd</sup> Lachy Stevens (Oakura). 4<sup>th</sup> Chris Halswall (Okato).

Tasman Cup. Australia v New Zealand. Won by New Zealand 60-52.



Second Place winner of the Search Ratahi Memorial Open Kelvin Weir (Opunake). Photo Michael Espiner.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB A.G.M.

to be held at the Clubhouse Namu Rd, at 7.30pm on the 14th November 2016

All members welcome



Call us today to advertise 06 761 7016 Next issue out November 18

RAFFLE RESULTS

OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB Raffle result. 1st prize - 117 June Bell, 2nd prize - 41 Rosalie Adams. Drawn under police supervision.

ST. BARNABAS ANGLICAN CHURCH Fundraiser for Fiji. Winner 267 Dot Fisher. Market-Day winner C12 Leo Clegg.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LENA N SHARROCK MEMORIAL TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP for Young Women

This scholarship has been established to assist past and present pupils of Opunake High School from Year 12 up to the age of 25 years with overseas travel.

Further information and application forms are available from The Principal Opunake High School P O Box 4, Opunake. Applications close on Friday 11th November, 2016

PUBLIC NOTICES



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ARAHU NETBALL CLUB A.G.M

Sunday 27 November, 7pm at Sandfords Events Centre. Everyone Welcome. Any queries to Macey Ph: 761 8927

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Saturday 26th November 9am - Noon

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Hughsons & Associates Boardroom at the Opunake Business Centre, 23 Napier St, Opunake (opposite the CoastalCare Medical Centre)

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Inside... Sun, surf and fun. Includes photos of people at the beach and a small article snippet.

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CHURCH NOTICES

Opunake & Okato Co-operating Parish CHURCH SERVICES

St Paul's Opunake Co-op & Rahoitu Opunake Cooperating Parish St Pauls, Havelock St, 9.30am every Sunday and the Rahoitu - Wesley - 11am first Sunday of the month. Oakura - St James - 10am, 2nd & 4th Sundays. Okato - St Pauls - 10am, 1st & 3rd Sundays.

Opunake Catholic Church

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

Other areas

Maniaia - Sacred Heart - 1st & 3rd Saturdays at 5pm (2nd, 4th and 5th Sat at Hawera's St Josephs). Kaponga - St Patricks, Sunday 8.45am

ALL WELCOME

THE WAVE

Pentecostal Church 64 Domett Street, Opunake Sunday Services 10.30am Women's Group 10.30am Tuesday Men's Group 7 pm Wednesday Youth Group 7pm Friday Come along or contact Pastor Murray 027 688 7378

ST. BARNABAS

Anglican Church 141 Tasman St, Opunake Sunday Services 10.00am Communion 1st, 3rd & 4th Sunday Prayer & Praise 2nd Sunday Every 5th Sunday all 4 churches gather for a Combined Service

Auroa School

Applications for Out of Zone Pupils 2017

Auroa School is a decile 8 full Primary School (includes year 7/8 students) located in South Taranaki. Enrolment at the school is governed by an enrolment scheme, details of which are available from the school office.

The Board has determined that there are likely to be 8 vacancies available next year. These vacancies are mostly in Year 1 and New Entrance with limited vacancies in Year's 2 to 8.

Applications can be made by applying in writing to the school at the following address: Auroa School, 734 Auroa Road RD 28 Maniaia 4678, Email: office@auroa.school.nz or by visiting the school.

The deadline for applications is 18th November 2016. If the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, students will be selected by ballot. Ballots, if required, will be held by the 25th November 2016.

Levonne Grayling Board of Trustees





# OPUNAKE & COASTAL NEWS

## Publication Dates for 2016

JANUARY							FEBRUARY							MARCH							APRIL						
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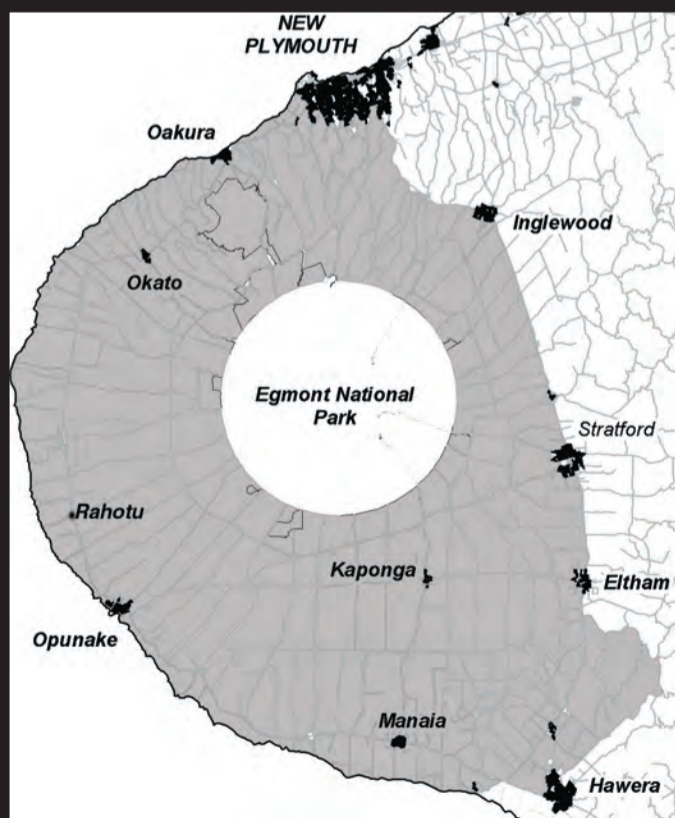
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**DISPLAY ADVERTS** - 5pm Friday prior to publication email: ads@opunakecoastalnews.co.nz  
**CLASSIFIEDS** - 3pm Monday prior to publication.  
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# What's On Listings



- JONATHAN YOUNG**  
 Need to chat with your Local MP Jonathan Young?  
 For more information phone: 06 7591363 or email newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz
- OPUNAKE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION**  
 Meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month.
- OPUNAKE COUNTRY MUSIC CLUB**  
 First Sunday of each month at the Opunake Town Hall, 1-4pm. All welcome
- SCHNITZEL NIGHT**  
 Every Wednesday at the Stony River Hotel, Okato
- COASTALCARE – LISA KEEN AUDIOLOGY**  
 Wednesdays 9am - 5pm, for an appointment call 027 591 4222 - 0800 555 676
- CLUB HOTEL HOLDEM POKER LESSONS**  
 Friday Nights at the Club Hotel
- SURF INN**  
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- COASTAL YOUNG FARMERS**  
 Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month at 7pm at the Okato Bowling Club.
- TARANAKI COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME, MANAIA**  
 Running every Thursday night from 7.30pm, 11 Surf Highway, South Road, Manaia.
- EGMONT EUCHRE CLUB**  
 Meets every Thursday 1pm at the Opunake Bowling Club
- CAPE EGMONT HISTORIC LIGHT & MUSEUM**  
 Open 11am – 3pm weekends, Bayly Road, Warea.
- TODD ENERGY AQUATIC CENTRE**  
 Family fun times 10.30am to 4.30pm.
- COASTAL SINGERS**  
 7pm every Wednesday night at the Catholic Church. Contact 761 8654.
- ELTHAM BUSINESS ASSOCIATION FRIDAY MARKETS**  
 8am to 1pm, Carpark of Touch Point, High Street, Eltham.
- PERCY THOMSON GALLERY - COLOUR EXPLOSION**  
 Taranaki Patchworkers & Quilters including Aotearoa Quilters Flight Challenge  
 14 October to 6 November.
- THE VILLAGE GALLERY**  
 'THREE POTTERS' pottery & mixed media works by Margaret Foley, Donna Hitchcock & Robyn Smaller. Opening function from 1 p.m. Labour Day. Exhibition runs 24th October - 18th November.
- TET CUE THEATRE PRESENTS**  
 FORGET ME KNOT - Wednesday 26th October - Saturday 5th November.
- POWERCO TARANAKI GARDEN SPECTACULAR**  
 28 October – 6 November.
- VISIT YOUR TARANAKI REGIONAL GARDENS**  
 Tupare, 487 Mangorei Rd – Pukeiti, 2290 Carrington Rd – Hollard Gardens, 1686 Upper Manaia Rd, Kaponga.
- OPUNAKE BOWLING CLUB TWILIGHT BOWLS**  
 Fridays, November 4, 11, 18, 6pm – 7.30pm. Phone Kevin 021 0847 0340 or Rodney 027 294 1769
- HAWERA REPERTORY SOCIETY PRESENTS**  
 Bombshells - 4-19 November 2016.
- WHEELERAMA**  
 Saturday 5th November, 10am - 2.30pm, Eltham.
- HOME SEWN OKATO'S HANDCRAFTED MARKET**  
 Hempton Hall, Okato, November Saturday 5th, 10am - 2pm.
- THE RITZ BIG BAND**  
 Everybody's Theatre, Opunake, Sunday 6 November, 2pm.
- THE CLUB HOTEL OPUNAKE VARIETY STALL EVENING**  
 11 November 2016, Jewellery, Avon, Tupperware, Nutrimitics, Younique, Scentsy, Forget Me Not Photography.  
 Please phone Vanessa on 027 459 9382 if you would like to book a table at this event.
- ARMISTICE DAY**  
 Manaia and District RSA invite the public to attend a ceremony. Assemble at the Manaia Golf House, 10.45am, November 11 then to Lone Pine Grove for Ceremony.
- OPUNAKE GOLF CLUB AGM**  
 to be held at the Clubhouse, Namu Rd, at 7.30pm on the 14th November
- EGMONT SHOWGROUNDS**  
 Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust Egmont Show Parade, Friday 18th November. Refer advert for full details.
- CRAIG FOSS MP**  
 Minister for Small Business, Guest Speaker, Wednesday November 23 at Everybody's Theatre, Opunake, 5.00pm - 6.00pm.  
 Organised by the Opunake Business Association as part of their Business Networking
- ST. BARNABAS CHURCH FAIR AND GARAGE SALE**  
 Saturday 26th November, 9am - Noon. Refer advert.

## WANT TO DO BUSINESS IN OUR AREA? TALK TO US



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

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# A winning night at the Taranaki Art Awards

Fine Arts graduate Jasmine Middlebrook from New Plymouth picked up two major awards at the National Taranaki Art Awards winning the Rural Taranaki Award and also coming runner up in the prestigious Painting category judged on Friday night October 29 at Sandfords Event Centre in Opunake.

The Art Awards held annually were judged by Maree Mills, Arts and Culture-Principal Policy Analyst at Auckland Council who also judged the Taranaki Art Awards last year, and Bill Milbank, the owner of the WHMilbank Gallery in Whanganui.

Before announcing the winners and runners up in each of the 7 categories, Maree who emphasised the importance of having a fresh pair of eyes to judge the awards and said this would be her second and last year judging the awards commented "We looked for execution and also for the idea behind it."

Bill who previous judged the awards 8 years ago remarked that since then "The number of entries and quality of work has significantly stepped up." He also added that the presentation of the work was hugely improved.

"The quality of the whole experience has been extremely rewarding."

The judges described Jasmine's winning work *On the Line* in the Rural Taranaki Award depicting a typical Taranaki sunset landscape with two children in the foreground and a nod to the effect of global warming as "absolutely brilliant." So pertinent to this world but also to this place and the risk that our future face. "It is a painting that needs to be looked at

time and time again to decide what we need to do."

The Mountain featured in a number of the Rural Taranaki entries but "one or two managed to give it some specialness" said the judges. Highly Commended was Earl Lester. His wonderful atmospheric explosive painterly depiction of the Mountain half visible left one wondering "Is it still. What's happening here", said the judges.

Hazel Hopkins Land line – 223 in this category also got a special mention.

The winner in the coveted Painting category was Whaea Papa by Rachael Garland. Commenting on the large number of high quality entries in this section the judges remarked that the winning mixed media exhibit was quite a haunting work, the wallpaper and linoleum evoking memories. "It was almost like a whakapapa," said Maree. Highly Commended in the Painting Section was *Backyard Forger* by Jasmine Middlebrook

which the judges described as displaying technical expertise and narrative intrigue. "A small yet very powerful painting. It showed what a painting can be, that can tell a story."

In other results Category 7, the Photography Award, was won by John Schumaker's *Untitled* work who Maree described as making us feel rather than think and "shifts from realism to impressionism". Highly Commended was Jason Dodds 'NeoNatal Baby' who Maree described as capturing a seminal moment in time.

The Fibre category was won by Ian Hitch with his work *I can dye a rainbow*. "It is exquisitely crafted and yet indicates the chaos of the ultimate alchemist.



Jasmine Middlebrook with her painting which won the Rural Section of the Taranaki Art Awards. Jasmine who graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Otago University in 2010, described her work as magic realism.

Of her smaller work which came runner up in the Painting category, she said it was more typical of her work and contained underpainting giving the impression of being unfinished. It was about focussing on one thing you're doing and all the other stuff happening in your life including your dreams and aspirations, said Jasmine.

Both judges adored the work," said Maree. Highly Commended was Maggie Johnston's 'Cute? You decide' which they described as an engaging and disturbing work which offers a lot to think about.

The Works on Paper Category was won by Jane Toi with her work entitled 'Build Low and Slow'. This work addresses the way in which paper can receive different media; ink, gouache and water colour. It was extremely well executed with courageous colour and elegance, said Bill.

Highly Commended was Timoti Pekamu and his pencil piece *Crystal* which the judges described as a stunning drawing. "It is something which is in many ways a lost art – taking a piece of paper and putting

one's visual impression on it." It was a drawing done with such precision and absolute love.

The Committee Choice Award went to the painting *Volunteer Model* by John McDonald which made them laugh said the spokesperson. MC at the Taranaki Art Awards opening night was Brody Chapman who did a great job.

There were 309 entrees in the 2016 National Taranaki Art Awards.

**Complete list of winners**  
**TSB Community Trust Painting Award – Rachel Garland – Whaea/Papa**

TSB Community Trust Highly Commended – Jasmine Middlebrook – *Backyard Forger*  
 Fred & Eunice Rodie

**Charitable Trust Rural Taranaki Award – Jasmine Middlebrook – On the Line**  
 OSP Stockfeeds Highly Commended – Earl Lester – *Resting*

**Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust 3D Award – Catherine Macdonald – Place/Setting**  
 Viv Scott McDonald Real Estate & Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration Highly Commended – Joshua Sands – *Utopia*

**TSB Community Trust Works on Paper Award - Jane Toy – Build Low and Slow**  
 Soul Kitchen Highly Commended – Timoti Pekamu – *Crystal*

**Opunake Business & TSB Community Trust Fibre**

**Art Award – Ian Hitch – I Can Dye a Rainbow**  
 Pihama Lavender Highly Commended – Maggy Johnston – *Cute? You Decide*.

**Tui Ora & TSB Community Trust Toi Taranaki Award – Maria Brockhill-Ngahere**  
 Corkill Systems Ltd and Pastimes Highly Commended – Amanda Hewlett – *Shard 11: Sites in the landscape*

**Fred & Eunice Rodie Charitable Trust Photography Award - John Schumacher - Untitled**  
 Coastal Veterinary Services and Farmlands Highly Commended – Jason Dodds – *Neonatal Baby*

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Continued from page 24

# A winning night at the Taranaki Art Awards

Steven Boothe with his entry in the photography section, an etching depicting a friend's daughter. From California in the States he enthusiastically described etching as a very old process and one which he loves.



John Schumacher with his winning photograph.

He explained he had just emerged from the Percy Thomson Gallery at Stratford at sunset when he was struck by the softness of the light. The central image depicts an out of focus lattice which had picked up the colour in the sky of the setting sun.



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## "I only discovered my voice at 18"

Memories can stir emotions and trigger events in our youth. This was one of those occasions when singer Maree Wheeler reminisced about her childhood, and spoke so excitedly about her Dad, Fergus Hinton, who unfortunately died in 2011.

"I used to listen to Dad yodel in the cowshed. You know he was really good. He was a self-taught musician, and played completely by ear," she said. "He sang in the church choir and played guitar, and harmonica." Perceptibly, Fergus may have been the catalyst for her musical talents.

Eltham-based singer Maree treated us to some powerful vocals on Tuesday October 25 at the Opunake Music Workshop with her own rendition of Kris Kristofferson's gospel hit 'Why Me Lord'. Amazingly, she was unaware of her musical talents until her late teens.

"I grew up in Wharehuia, Stratford on a small farm on Cross Rd, and didn't know I could sing until I was 18," said Maree. Getting married and having kids put a temporary hold on her singing career, but didn't stop her joining the Karaoke scene for 15 years. You wouldn't believe it - Maree is a mother of



Singer - Maree Wheeler

four, with ages ranging from 28, down to 10 years: Shane, Cody, Jade and Shamika, from the eldest to youngest. Following in her mum's footsteps, 10 year-old daughter Shamika performed three songs for us, after only eight weeks of singing. So impressed were the organisers of the Martin Country Music festival, they've asked her to be a guest artist at the festival in January 2017. Maree is looking forward to singing

her first duet on stage with her daughter.

"After my Dad died I quit smoking," said Maree. Apparently, this positive step has also presented some noticeable benefits and improvements in her vocal abilities. "My voice is even better since quitting the cigarettes," said Maree, who got back into country music only six months ago when she joined some country music clubs, and began attending regularly.

"Pam and Allan Southey from Eltham have been very supportive of my music," she reveals. Allan, an experienced guitarist has very kindly been providing guitar accompaniments for her songs. Maree is steadily gaining popularity around the music clubs. "People keep asking me for a CD," said Maree. She's now seriously looking into doing some recordings.

Anyone who would like the opportunity to perform in a relaxed atmosphere with talented vocalists such as Maree Wheeler, along with other regular singers, musicians and dancers, please join us at the Opunake Music Workshop, 7:30PM on Tuesday November 8 at the Catholic Church lounge, 33 Whitcombe Rd, Opunake.

Anne Montgomery

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# Forget Me Knot - superb comedy

No insult intended to other worthy shows, but this was probably the most enjoyable show I've seen this year. 'Forget Me Knot', written by David Tristram, has a season extending from 25 October to November 5. The comedy was ably directed by John K Butler. The cast was well chosen, word perfect and engaged in intriguingly delicious dialogue which had my amused attention from the outset as I endeavoured to follow the comic twist and turns of the hilarious plot.

I don't want to say too much as there is still time to see this superb production, but here's a brief description of the story line.

A man named Robert Zeinfeld (played brilliantly by Simon Buick) is found



From left, Julia Zeinfeld (Katherine Wolfe), Inspector Monroe (Lindsay Franklin), Robert Zeinfeld (Simon Buick) and Samantha (Karlina Nickson).

wandering the streets of Leicester, England in an apparent state of amnesia at 4am. He's been bashed on the head by a saucepan of all things. He is far from the upmarket Wentworth Estate where he lives in a flash home.

Robert is taken to the police station to be interviewed by a somewhat grumpy Inspector Monroe (played with excellent finesse by Lindsay Franklin) who tries to deal with him - comic frustration mounting. Robert's wife Julia (played by Katherine Wolfe with stylish aplomb) is called in, taking her time to arrive, but the plot only becomes even murkier as she talks. The question has to be asked *is Robert really suffering from amnesia or are other*

*more sinister possibilities afoot?* Eventually another woman Samantha (played exuberantly well by Karlina Nickson), a doctor, enters proceedings and her role in the lives of the other characters is surprising to say the least.

All involved with this play - actors, actresses and behind the scenes - must be understandably delighted with this comedy - I know I was. Last day is Saturday November 5, so make sure you see it. Cue productions are always first rate, but this one is right at the top. Tickets can be acquired at the Inglewood Information Centre (Fun Ho), 25 Rata Street, Inglewood.

Rolland McKellar

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 Hempton Hall, Okato  
 November Saturday 5th  
 10.00 - 2.00 no eftpos

**Taranaki National Art Awards**  
 www.taranakiartawards.co.nz  
 Exhibition: 10am-4pm 29 October - 5 November 2016  
 Over 200 artworks and floral displays - \$2 entry  
 Sandfords Event Centre, SH45, Opunake, Taranaki

## New dentist enjoying practicing on the coast

Nearly three months into being Opunake's new dentist, Jessie Wilson is enjoying her time here.

On August 1 she started coming out to CoastalCare every Thursday. For two and a half days of the week she works as a dentist for the Taranaki District Health Board. For the other two and a half days, including the day she spends in Opunake, she works for the Taylor Dental Practice in New Plymouth.

"I really enjoy the people here. They are good practical people who want to get their teeth healthy," she said. "Alison (dental assistant Alison Nicholls) lives locally, so is able to relate on that level as well."

Before she started at CoastalCare, 38 per cent of people who responded to a CoastalCare survey said they wanted to see a dentist in Opunake. Now Jessica is the first dentist to practice in



Dentist Jessica Wilson.

Opunake since the late Brian Munro.

What began as a rush of people in the first five or six weeks is now a "steady stream of people" coming in for checkups, extractions, fillings, cleans and other dental work. They come

from as far afield as Warea, Pungarehu, Rahotu and Kaponga.

"I'm stoked about the areas people travel from to get here," Jess said. "We get a good mix of age and people. I'm excited to see people who have heard about us

from someone else, and then decided to come in themselves."

She provides a range of dental services including dentures and root canals.

She is able to see teenagers and is able to do WINZ quotes.

"Often people might be put off by the price of dentistry, but we are able to see people and work out a price for what we can do for them," she said.

Appointments can be made through Taylor Dental Practice or at the CoastalCare office.

"I don't mind seeing walk-ins, or people who on a Thursday might be in pain and need to see a dentist."

She is currently at CoastalCare from 8.30am-4.30pm on Thursdays, but says she is open to the idea of these hours being extended.

"I wouldn't mind coming more days if it was felt the demand was there."

They say that PREVENTION is better than the CURE...  
 When was YOUR last dental check-up?  
 Dr Jessie Wilson is now in Opunake every Thursday!



New modern surgery is located at Coastal Care on Napier Street.

Phone the NP branch to make an appointment.  
 (06) 759 1047

/ Taylor Dental Practice Ltd / Coastal Care Facility, Opunake / (06) 759 1047 /

[www.taylor dental.co.nz](http://www.taylor dental.co.nz)

## Children centre stage in new Pukeiti feature

In a setting worthy of a fairytale or a Roald Dahl fantasy, Pukeiti's newest attraction has been designed to allow children and the young at heart to create their own magical world.

"The Misty Knoll has all the elements - mystery, secrecy, surprise, fun. All that's required is imagination and a sense of adventure," says Greg Rine, the Regional Gardens Manager for the Taranaki Regional Council.

"As grown-ups, we're pretty excited about it too," he says.

"We can't wait to see what Pukeiti's young visitors do with the space."

Entering the Misty Knoll, visitors find themselves on a downhill spiral pathway surrounded by hundreds of azalea plants. At the bottom of the spiral is the entrance to a curved tunnel, whose other end is not immediately visible.

What lies at the other end of



The Misty Knoll is Pukeiti's newest attraction.

the tunnel? Some might see it as a stage, or a platform, or an amphitheatre, or a different world ...

"The Misty Knoll is pretty special now and will become even more special as its plantings develop," says Mr Rine. "We're delighted that it's ready in time for this

year's Powerco Taranaki Garden Spectacular and the busy spring and summer visitor season."

The Misty Knoll is based on a concept developed by renowned landscape designer Xanthe White and is part of a major redevelopment project at Pukeiti.

# Drivers are giving something back

Coastal Community Transport (CCT) organisation was formed earlier this year, to carrying on where others left off, taking people with 'no means of transport' from Coastal Taranaki to medical appointments, whether it be in New Plymouth, Hawera or Stratford. These include hospital appointments or visits to medical specialists, Medlab or Fulford Radiology Clinic.

In 2013, the New Zealand Red Cross took over the community transport service from Emergency Transport and the Friendship Club, which took people to non emergency medical and well being appointments. This allowed more resources to be available from Red Cross, and access to an 0800 contact number.

Last year there had been concerns about the ongoing viability of the service and some restructuring was needed, CCT secretary Aretha Lemon said. After



From left. Coastal Community Transport secretary Aretha Lemon and chairperson Mike Williams.

meetings involving the Red Cross, Taranaki District Health Board and Friendship Club, Coastal Community Transport was formed as a

non profit society to help with funding and seeking support from sponsors and the general public. Anyone wanting to use this service and who

meets the criteria of having 'no means of transport' needs to ring 0800 733276, giving a minimum 48 hours' notice before their appointment. One of the volunteer drivers will then be contacted to make the trip. The services is not for medical emergencies, in these instances people need to phone 111.

From January to September this year, CCT drivers made 112 trips clocking up 11,759km and taking passengers ranging in age from 18 to 87.

As well as being CCT chairperson, Mike Williams is also one of their volunteer drivers.

"Things have come a long way since I first started, and we've got good systems in place," he said. "All of us are doing this because we want to do it. When I retired from my job, I wanted to put something back into the town. I enjoy talking to people and driving around."

Aretha says donations from

people using the service are always welcome, and they are always interested in hearing from anyone considering becoming a driver.

She says their drivers like to think something like this would be available if they ever needed it. One volunteer even came aboard after having been a client himself, and feeling he wanted to give

something back.

Volunteers are police vetted and have first aid certificates receive mileage reimbursements, but are not paid for their time. The volunteers carry ID and have medical kits in their vehicles.

Anyone who is interested in volunteering can phone 0800 733276 for an information pack.

## Magnificent Seven

Boutique Night - Sunday 6 November @ 7pm

Remember the 1960 classic movie starring Yul Brynner, Steve McQueen, James Coburn, and the Man from Uncle's Robert Vaughn, itself based on 1954's The Seven Samurai?

The 21<sup>st</sup> century version sees seven gun men in the old west gradually come together to help a poor village against savage thieves.

The updated version directed by Antoine Fuqua stars

Denzel Washington, Chris Pratt, Ethan Hawke, Vincent D'Onofrio, Lee Byung-hun, Manuel Garcia-Rulfo, Martin Sensmeier, Haley Bennett, Luke Grimes, Matt Bomer and Peter Sarsgaard.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, and include tasty treats, a beer or wine sitting on the comfy sofas and movie. For students tickets are \$15

for students, and include tasty treats, soft drink on the comfy sofas and movie. Come along at 6:30 to get your refreshments and seats. Limited tickets available from Sinclair Electrical and Refrigeration. PG-13 | 2h

**EVERYBODY'S THEATRE**  
WASHINGTON PRATT HAWKE

**THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN**

**BOUTIQUE THEATRE**

**SUNDAY 6 November 2016**

**Rated M**

under 18 yrs \$15

**\$25**

Regular movie attendance available  
- Bar facilities - No Eftpos or BYO

**BOOKINGS & PRE-PAY ESSENTIAL**

Tickets available from Sinclair Electrical & Refrigeration or email [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com)

## Opunake Small Town Big Ambitions

Who is Organising this Event? The Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre & CoastalCare Opunake

When? Wednesday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016 10am - 2pm

Where? CoastalCare Health & Community Centre - 26 Napier Street Opunake

Services already available at CoastalCare Health & Community Centre

- Budget Advice
- Community Corrections Services
- Counselling
- Dairy Training Ltd
- Lisa Keen Audiology
- Medical Centre
- Midwife - Surf Side Midwifery
- Needle Exchange program
- Pharmacy
- District Foodbank
- Royal NZ Plunket Society (Inc)
- St John
- Tai Chi classes
- Taranaki District Health Board
- Taranaki Podiatry
- Taylor Dental Practice
- Tui Ora Ltd

**Step out and Talk** All it takes, to make the world of difference to your life and your health. Simply getting out for the day and head to the Opunake's CoastalCare Health Centre. Sharing in the activities or just a conversation can help. We'd like to bring to the Community of Opunake the best possible support, Health Groups can offer and let you know you are not alone, remember that we are an increasing aging society, people will experience a gradual change in health, leading to increased health problems at some point in their lives, and it's nothing to be ashamed of. This day is all about promoting the services and activities that are freely available to you and showing you can have easy access to whatever services that are available to you, which could make all the difference to your life, to your Friends and Whanau's health.

For more Information Contact Marama to Register Your Space for Attendance

**TDICT**  
Taranaki Disabilities Information Centre  
28 Young Street - 4310  
[info@tarankidic.org.nz](mailto:info@tarankidic.org.nz)  
New Plymouth  
Monday - Friday  
9am - 5pm (Wk Days)  
06 7590019

The Taranaki Disabilities Centre In New Plymouth Along With The Tireless Health Groups Are Joining Forces Again For 2016. Together With The Ambitious Staff From The Opunake CoastalCare Health Community Centre Are Inviting Everyone, All Groups, All Families, All-Schools, All Volunteers, And Whanau To Come Along And Find Out For Themselves How We Can Improve And Better Manage Ones Health Thru Life.

Linking You & Community Support TDICT

**EVERYBODY'S THEATRE**

**Opunake - MOVIES - BOUTIQUE THEATRE - HIRE**  
For information email: [everybodystheatre@gmail.com](mailto:everybodystheatre@gmail.com) or check facebook- Everybody's Theatre

**NOVEMBER**

Lollies, Popcorn, Ice-creams, Chocolate bars, Coffee & Tea For Sale	Adults \$10, Students 4-16yrs \$8, Under 4 free Senior Citizens \$8. No Eft-Pos
<b>NERVE</b> Adventure, Crime, Thriller   PG-13   1hr 36 mins. A high school senior finds herself immersed in an online game of truth or dare, where her every move starts to become manipulated by an anonymous community of "watchers."	<b>DEEPWATER HORIZON</b> Action, Drama, Thriller   M   Offensive Language   1hr 47 mins. This disaster film based on the 2010 Deepwater Horizon explosion. Saturday 5 November 7pm Wednesday 9 November 1pm
<b>MAGNIFICANT SEVEN</b> Action, Western, Blockbuster   M, contains violence   2hrs 13 mins With the town of Rose Creek under the deadly control of industrialist Bartholomew Bogue (Sarsgaard), the desperate townspeople employ hunters, gamblers and hired guns.	<b>CHRONESTHESIA - NZ Award Film</b> It's an indie romance with time travel   1hr 36mins   M   NZ. NZer Writer, Director & actor Hayden J Weals. When emotionally isolated barista Dan Duncombe starts receiving strange messages on the inside of his bedroom window, he is forced to become involved with the lives of the people around him ... and by changing their lives, he changes his own. Saturday 12 November 1pm Wednesday 16 November 7pm
<b>KEEPING UP WITH THE JONESES</b> Comedy   M Violence, sexual references and offensive language. Takes spying on your neighbours to another level.	<b>HELL OR HIGH WATER</b> Crime, Drama, Western   R-16   1hr 42mins. <i>Justice isn't a crime.</i> A story about the collision of the Old and New West, two brothers - Toby (Pine), a straight-living, divorced father trying to make a better life for his son; and Tanner (Foster), a short-tempered ex-con with a loose trigger finger. Saturday 19 November 7pm Friday 25 November 7pm Sunday 27 November 7pm

WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
2 The Carer 7pm Mrs Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children 1pm	4 Nerve 7pm	5 Pete's Dragon 1pm Deepwater Horizon 7pm	6 **Boutique Night** Magnificent Seven 7pm
9 Deepwater Horizon 1pm Nerve 7pm	11 Magnificent Seven 7pm	12 Chronesthesia 1pm Nerve 7pm	13 Deepwater Horizon 7pm
16 Magnificent Seven 1pm Chronesthesia 7pm	18 Deepwater Horizon 7pm	19 Keeping up with the Joneses 1pm Hell or High Water 7pm	20 Keeping up with the Joneses 7pm

# What's On at the Egmont A & P Show

## Entertainment

Big News – the iconic Patea Maori Club will do one performance only at the show, it is scheduled for 2.30pm Saturday on the Shearing Stage. Arrive early for Taranaki's greatest international act.

The Patea Maori Club are famous in New Zealand for its hit Poi E, which held the number one spot on the NZ music charts for four weeks back in the 80's. More recently the iconic song has had a resurgence as the soundtrack of the highly successful NZ movie, 'Boy' and is a popular choice on mobile phone ringtones.

Over the years, the Patea Maori Club has performed for royalty and celebrities in New Zealand and abroad. In 2005 the group was selected by the New Zealand Government to perform in Seoul, South Korea, and to represent New Zealand at the World Expo in Aichi, Japan. The club has represented NZ Maori Tourism twice at the International Tourism Expo in Guangzhou, China.

Nationally, the group continues to receive recognition for their contribution to New Zealand music, receiving a Music Industry Award at the 2009 New Zealand Maori Music



Nukes Ukulele Band.

Awards.

This year the club was again brought into the limelight with the release of the Doco / Movie "Poi E The Story of Our Song".

The Nukes Ukulele Band perform live on the Shearing Shed Stage, and are holding free uke workshops both days for anyone with a ukulele. Registration forms are on the website or contact the show office. The Nukes are far more than a ukulele band. They are high entertainment, part vaudeville, part rat-pack, part musical car crash. This talented trio deliver an

engaging mix of humour and originality that audiences love. The innocent little uke is the instrument of choice and audiences will be staggered by what they are able to achieve with it. Great song writing, musicianship and three-part harmony combine to create a truly memorable experience.

Kids Karts Racing is coming to the show on Sunday lunchtime, at the greyhound track so grab a seat for the action. This will be followed by our new Family D.I.Y Competition. Family teams will be set the challenge



Patea Maori Club will be performing one show.

to construct an unknown object. There should be much hilarity. Keep tuned to the Hits or Hokonui to win a chance for your family to compete. Further information will be on the website in a couple of weeks.

Vinyl Burns will perform both days. Vinyl is an Internationally renowned circus celebrity brought to you live and direct from 1972 Las Vegas. Brimming with inept sophistication, extreme stunts and surprisingly polished skills, Vinyl rides in hot pursuit of his destiny, to deliver a powerfully charismatic, comic experience for any audience. Vinyl creates atmospheric loops of guitar and voice before suiting up with a ludicrous array of safety equipment, and climbing to the top of his six foot unicycle. Once perched there, he delivers a mix of guitar shredding rock, and achingly sweet melody.

Te Puna Rangataho O Waingongoro will perform both days on the Cafe stage, and will run free

Poi making, Waiata and Weaving workshops under the Grandstand for all to participate in. They will be putting down two Hangis each day of the show just inside the Burnside Avenue gate. These will be on sale from approximately 11am-2pm daily.

Steam Engines rides are happening again - both days in the Pony Club paddock over the bridge.

### Show Entry Fees

There will be a charge to enter the show again this year. For those who are not members prices will be as follows - Adult \$10.00, Child under 14 years \$3.00, Family two adults, three children \$25, Under 5 years free, Maire St Carpark \$2.00 per car.

### The Hits Kidzone

Kidzone will be just as exciting as ever this year. They are planning the signboard competition, a Children's Maze, Pony Rides, Colouring in competition, Pedal Tractors, Rugby Bucket Throw, The Big Dig, Photobooth, Facepainting,

Gumboot Throwing with lots of prizes.

### Fred & Eunice Rodie Trust Small Animal Tent

This is poised to be the main attraction of the show this year. The team have upsized the marquee to allow for more people and animals, and you will notice the new look immediately. Children will be able to see chicks hatch, feed lambs watch a cow milking demonstration, play with puppies and even get to see an ostrich chick.

### Show Sections

All show sections entries are open, The Dog Trial has had a change of venue and a cash injection, and will happen on the sand arena next to the TSB Centre on Saturday. Get along to see how clever a sheep dog really is. The Cattle section has a full contingent of sponsors again, and will share the TSB Centre with the Alpaca section also on Saturday.

Leisure Pleasure and Treasure has all the old favourites, the One Off Beer Brewing will be hosted under the grandstand, all competition beers can be tasted there on Sunday. Taranaki Tucker Bag Awards will be judged at 10am Sunday in the Big Brother Big Sisters room under the grandstand. The Equestrian sections has an introductory ring again this year which will be for competitors with horses not registered with ESNZ. This has been relocated to Myers Paddock and will cater to novice and beginner riders. The Showing Schedule has been revised in line with the new RAS rules and all of these showing classes will be held in the Pony Club paddock - there will be day parking adjacent to the show ring.



## Lushington JACKETS

89 Devon St West, New Plymouth  
Ph: 027 348 1460

**100% Taranaki Made**  
**Elegant, Contemporary and Chic**  
**Jackets that ensure your individuality**

### LUSHINGTON SUMMER - FASHION SHOW -

**Saturday 12th November**

Doors open at 7pm  
The Old Bank Building on 87 Devon St West  
Tickets \$25 available on Eventfinder and instore



## Gala evening at the Club

The Club Hotel is hosting a gala evening on Friday November 11.

Come along and browse the tables for great gifts for Christmas

There will be stalls focused on both practicality and beauty. We have Nutrimetics, Park Lane Jewellery NZ, Tupperware and Avon. We welcome other exhibitors to come and have a stall on

the night

I will also have contacts for Video-DVD and USB Transfers essential to preserve those movie memories and Jan Shoemark Glass and Mosaic Artist.

If you would like to promote your business but cannot make it on the night, send your business cards for our card table to V Smith C/O The Club Hotel Tasman

Street Opunake

\$2 entry per person, Spot prizes

You can purchase food and refreshments on the night at the Club Hotel Main bar

If there is anyone who would like to have a stall at this event please feel free to email me. Also open to suggestions of other businesses and talents. Email: [opunake45.vs@gmail.com](mailto:opunake45.vs@gmail.com) or txt 06274 599382

100 TASMAN ST, OPUNAKE PH: 761 8213

## The Club Hotel, Opunake

# Variety Stall Evening

## 11 November 2016

Jewellery, Avon, Tupperware, Nutrimetics, Younique, Scentsy, Forget Me Not Photography

Please phone Vanessa on 027 459 9382 if you would like to book a table at this event.