

# BAY BUZZ

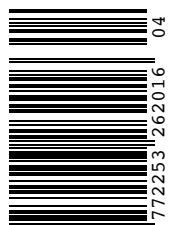
ISSUE NO.42 • JULY/AUGUST 2018 • \$10.00 INCLUDING GST

## *Moody Blues*

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*Wedding  
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**BayBuzz**  
*July/August 2018*

## **This Month**

Mental health needs in HB. Huge forestry initiative ahead in region. Green economy beckons. Pat Parsons, Māori historian. Energy savings abound in built environment. Seniors master digital world. Our urban centres are a-buzz. Unhealthy homes. CHB real estate booming. Dunningham on public art. Alex Tylee's healthy recipes. Furniture craftsman Peter Maclean. Living green. Discovering Wairoa. Plus stuff you must know!

Cover photo: Florence Charvin  
Above: Florence Charvin

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WEDDINGS IN HAWKE'S BAY

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**Featured Contributor**



**ROBYN HENSON**

I moved to Hawke's Bay five years ago after spending time working in Taranaki and Auckland. I immediately fell for the climate and lifestyle and decided to make this my home.

I have a passion for people and sales, with many years of multi-media experience, selling and helping design ads in print, digital and radio ... and building business relationships.

I'm a member of the Live Poets Society in Hastings and occasionally pen a poem or two. I've also done courses in Reiki Healing, Swedish massage and hypnotherapy (advertisers ... watch out!). Solo'd to Thailand last year, visiting lots of temples and an inspiring elephant rescue sanctuary.

I try to have a positive outlook on life and love the saying: "What you carry in your heart is what you see in the world."

**BayBuzz Regulars**



**SARAH CATES**  
Sarah is an accomplished freelance writer, who is prepared to tackle anything. She is passionate about getting 'to the bones' of an issue and will always base her writing on facts over 'hear say'. Sarah's future aims include writing for international publications and travel blogs.



**PAUL PAYNTER**  
Paul Paynter is our resident iconoclast and cider maker. Sometimes he grows stuff at Yummyfruit.



**LIZZIE RUSSELL**  
Lizzie has been working in the arts and communications in Hawke's Bay since returning in 2010. Along with her work for BayBuzz, she also runs Tennyson Gallery in Napier.



**MARY KIPPENBERGER**  
With a degree in anthropology, Mary is a keen observer of the human species, and interprets our foibles, trials and tribulations as a superb storyteller and children's writer. Her farm in Otane is a regular home for drama and music workshops, festivals and performances.



**MICHAL MCKAY**  
Michal McKay has spent most of her working life involved in the world of style. And living in "other" parts of the world. A year ago Havelock North became her home. The arts, interior design, cooking, travel and a new cuddly canine keep the spark in her eye. So does writing about the same.



**BRIDGET FREEMAN-ROCK**  
Bridget, Hawke's Bay grown, lived abroad in Australia and Germany before returning with her family in 2009. She has a fairly eclectic, free-range writing vocation, freelancing as a writer, copy-editor, translator and occasional performance poet.

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FROM THE EDITOR  
TOM BELFORD

# Listening requires speaking

Councils have recently decided their long-term plans, charting their courses with precision for the next three years, and directionally for the next ten.

At the Regional Council, 569 submissions were received, 404 individuals attended public meetings, and another 132 people responded by texting or commenting on HBRC's Facebook page.

The 'hot' issue was Council's recommended graduated cuts back to its original funding of Hawke's Bay Tourism. HBRC finally opted for a lesser cut of \$300k per year over the next three years, with the expectation that HB Tourism will develop alternative funding sources prior to the next LTP.

Napier City Council received 810 submissions, with the most contentious issue being swimming facilities. Of those with a preference, responders were exactly divided between improving the existing Onekawa pool versus building a new aquatic facility at Prebensen Drive. NCC has decided to proceed with the latter option.

By a 2:1 margin, respondents endorsed a Council-recommended plan encompassing 12 projects costing \$21.4 million intended to improve stormwater management around the Ahuriri Estuary, along with other improvements involving Pandora Road, Meeanee Quay, West Quay and Bridge Street.

The Hastings District Council received 124 submissions on its draft LTP, alongside over 1,000 responses via online surveying and tear-offs from its consultation document. Upgrading water infrastructure was the main item on HDC's agenda, and two-thirds of respondents supported investing \$47.5 million over four years on a range of major improvements including securing a new bore source, putting

treatment on all public water supply bores, and increasing water storage.

Water infrastructure dominated in Central Hawke's Bay too, with the ultimate price tag still unknown. With 282 submissions (following extensive prior consultation via 'Project Thrive' generating over 3,500 responses), the need for improvements was not much disputed. However a vocal revolt from rural residents saw the Council limit its water-related rate increases to those ratepayers directly connected to municipal systems.

All in all, I believe councils conducted a respectable 'taking of the pulse', and one that elicited strong and wide-ranging opinions. In the above account, I report nearly 6,500 citizen responses to the most urgent questions our councils set out. To me, that's impressive.

However, that response didn't prevent criticism that councils still haven't figured out how to listen to the people.

I've never been shy about criticizing councils' frequent lack of responsiveness, shameless avoidance of accountability, and clever pre-ordination of council preferences and projects. But I *do* try to focus my criticisms on specific issues and decisions, where there's a clear train of facts, omissions and events to dissect and challenge. And I'll go to bat for constituents who believe they've seen due process abused.

Still, I find the generalized complaint that councils 'don't listen' somewhat perplexing.

In many cases, the complaint is actually ... 'They didn't accept my view.' Unfortunately, most policy decisions must be made despite a lack of consensus - objectives, interests, underlying values *do* compete.

In the most troubling cases, the reality is that too many complainants

have in fact themselves neglected or chosen not to engage in the decision-making process.

Sure, councils can and should find more ways to improve their engagement processes.

I verbally presented HBRC's submission to the Hastings Council, and took advantage of the opportunity to chide HDC for, after six years of 'considering' the matter, not yet implementing video-streaming of their meetings. That after the constituent presenting just before me set up her own smartphone on the table in a minute, and live video-streamed her presentation ... which was about elected officials not listening! All one can say to HDC about that is: DUH!

So yes, councils can improve their listening, but there's a responsibility on the resident, ratepayer, voter's side as well. And that is to use the opportunities that are presented to get informed and to participate.

In my view, HB councils were quite ambitious and creative this year in their efforts to inform and engage around their LTPs. If one felt 'left out', the fault doesn't lie entirely - or even chiefly - with councils.

When I subsequently see that thousands of people complain via social media that they aren't listened to, I wonder, how many of them never bothered to tune in and speak. Democracy requires effort on all sides. ●

**Tom Belford**  
tom@baybuzz.co.nz

Tom is a HB Regional Councillor. His past includes the Carter White House, building Ted Turner's first philanthropic organisation, doing heaps of marketing consulting for major non-profits and corporates.



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find out more at

[www.unison.co.nz/outages](http://www.unison.co.nz/outages)





Photo: Florence Charvin

## Hena Dugh

Shout out to Hena Dugh (17) who recently won the national final of the Race Unity Speech Awards. In her winning speech, Hena challenged her audience, “Imagine what would happen ... if we stopped the nods of approval at racial slurs,

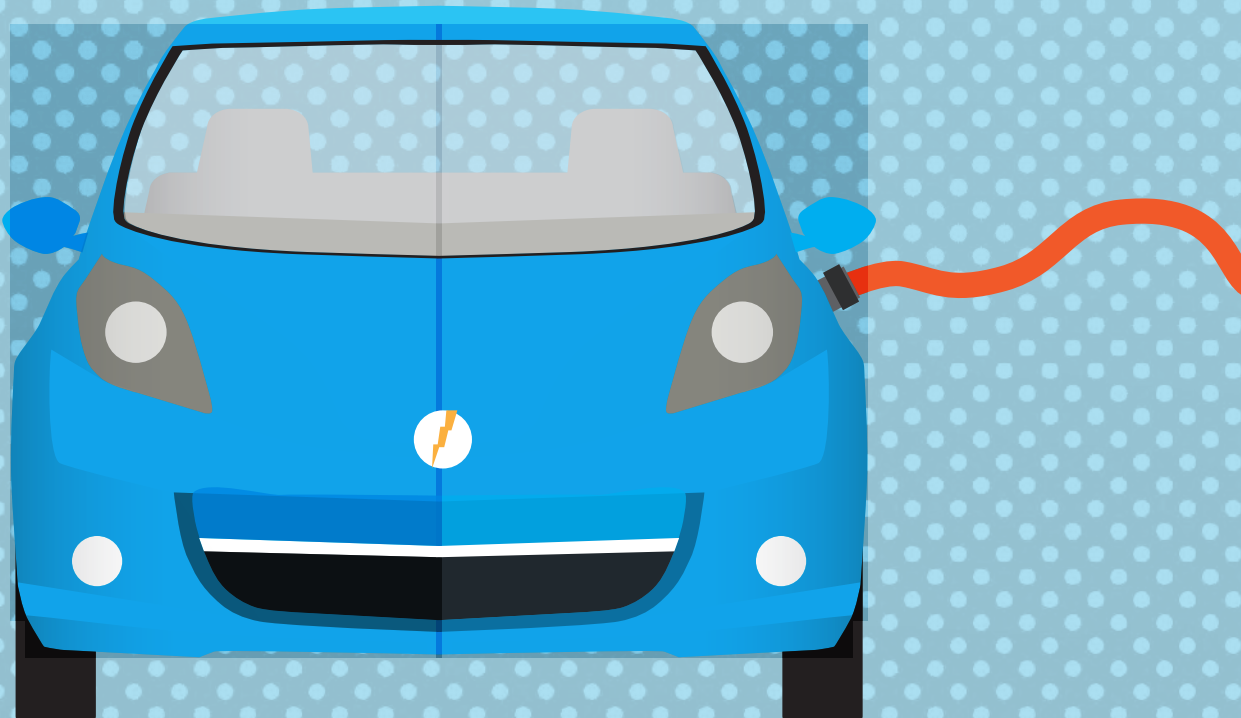
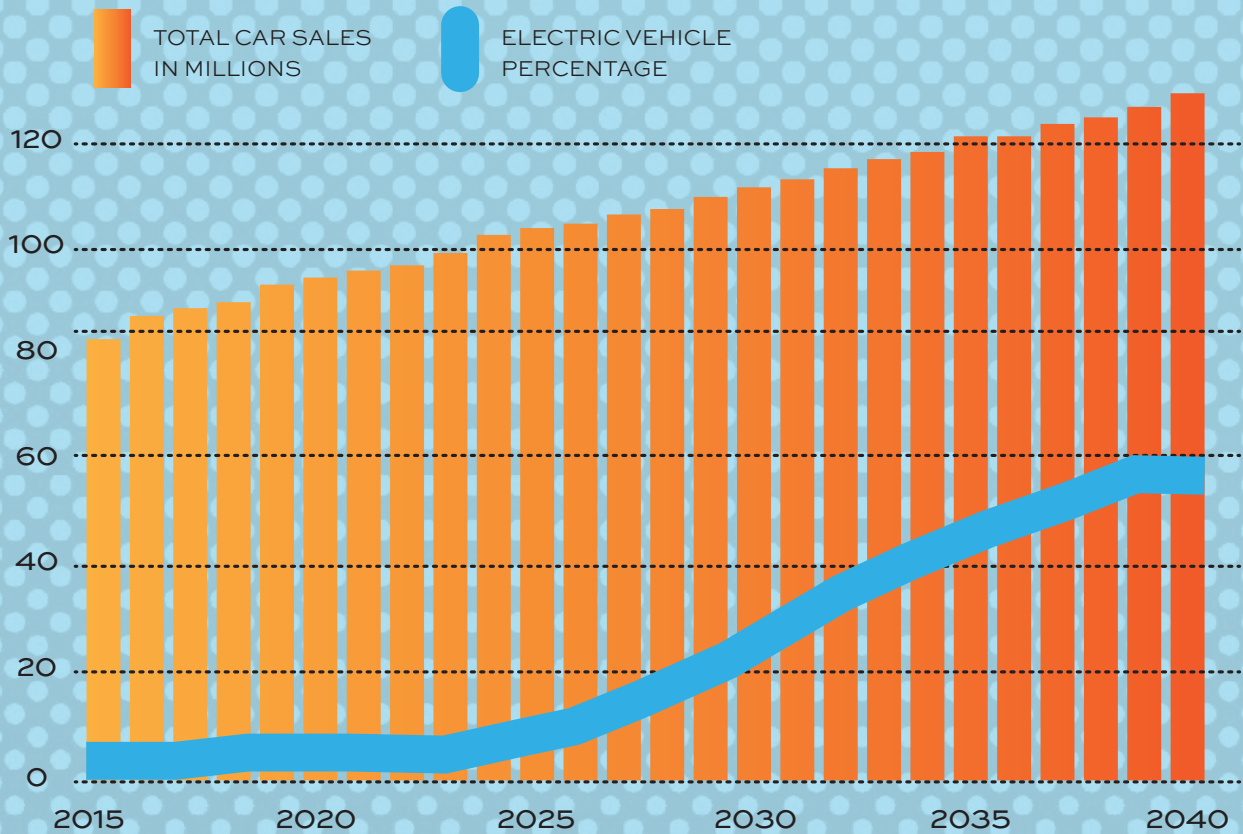
the laughing at racist jokes and the subconscious racial stereotyping. There wouldn't be any conflicts, for feeding racism creates divisions, divisions breed resentment and resentment starts conflicts.”

Hena is deputy head girl at Hastings Girls' High School. She recently took part in the Big Sing, where her choir, Femmina Cappella,

won the overall New Zealand Choral Federation East Coast Trophy. This month she'll head to the UK to take part in the 2018 London International Youth Science Forum, an annual event for 16-21 years old from 75 countries. High-flying Hena will be among 500 students taking part, selected from thousands who applied. ●

# No Killing the Electric Car

Electric vehicles are forecast to make up half of annual global car sales by 2040





# BayBuzz Event Guide

## July

### 29–12

#### Mid-year Art & Craft Market at CAN

Check out the treasure trove of art and craft at Creative Arts Napier. Open daily from 10am to 4pm (2pm closing on Sundays). [thecan.co.nz](http://thecan.co.nz)

### 12

#### Taylor Hawks vs Canterbury Rams at Pettigrew Green Arena

Back the Hawks as they take on the Rams. Fun for the whole family. Entry is only \$2 per person thanks to sponsorship from Taylor Corp. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### 13

#### Black Friday Fiesta – Napier

Lower Emerson Street and Clive Square will come to life after dark for an evening of fun, food and shopping. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



### 13–15

#### Winter Deco Weekend

Enjoy a winter weekend of Deco fun with highlights such as Friday night's Bootlegger's Ball, Saturday's Fashion Flaunt in Market Street and the Hawke's Bay Jazz Club starring Roger Fox and Erma Ferry at the Napier Sailing Club on Sunday. [artdeconapier.com](http://artdeconapier.com)

### 14

#### Nadia Reid High & Lonely Tour at Haumoana Community Hall

This will be Nadia's last tour for the year before she heads for the studio to work on her third album, so she's promising to road test some of her new songs, as well as sharing some favourites. [undertheradar.co.nz](http://undertheradar.co.nz)

### 14

#### Zeal HB Versus Talent Quest at Lindisfarne College

The 20 best acts from a day of competition by Hawke's Bay's young musicians, comedians, dancers, poets and creatives will perform at the evening concert, with cash and prizes up for grabs for winners. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

### 15

#### Jazz at The Old Dairy Factory, Norsewood

Anton Wuts and friends gather for a special performance at this unique Norsewood venue. [facebook.com/dairyfactory](http://facebook.com/dairyfactory)



Jimi Jackson

## 19

### **Drag Queen Bingo with Timberlina at the Cabana**

Head to the Cabana for a night of glitter, stilettos and hilarity at the hands of the naughty and witty Timberlina. Tickets include three games, performances and a cocktail on arrival. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 19

### **Simon Trpčeski Plays Grieg at Napier Municipal Theatre**

This concert sees the return of two great artists, Spanish conductor Jaime Martín and Macedonian pianist Simon Trpčeski. Enjoy masters at work on Shostakovich - Festive Overture, Op. 96, Grieg - Piano Concerto in A minor, Op. 16 and Shostakovich - Symphony No. 10 in E minor, Op. 93. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 19

### **Stockies Raceday at Hawke's Bay Racing**

This is the final raceday of the season and entry to the grounds and Members' Stand is free. Hospitality packages are available if you're looking to make a winter's day of it. [hbbracing.co.nz](http://hbbracing.co.nz)



Winter Deco Weekend

## 20

### **Story Party Napier – True Dating Stories at the Cabana**

Story Party features professional storytellers sharing hilarious true dating stories about the time they got played, made, or just tangled up in the awkward dating scene. Plus, anonymous audience participation is encouraged through 'confession slips' you can fill in on arrival. [eventbrite.com](http://eventbrite.com)

## 20–11

### **Chess the Musical at Tabard Theatre**

Tap your toe to One Night in Bangkok as you follow the classic story of the love triangle between two players in a world chess championship, and a woman who manages one and falls in love with the other. [iticket.co.nz](http://iticket.co.nz)

## 22

### **Taylor Hawks vs Manawatu Jets at Pettigrew Green Arena**

Enjoy \$2 tickets and show your support for the Hawks as they take on the neighbours from the Manawatu. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 26

### **'Mama Mia - Here We Go Again' Movie Fundraiser at Focal Point Cinema, Hastings.**

Gather a crew and head along to this fundraiser for The Hawke's Bay Knowledge Bank. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 27

### **The Cocktail Party**

The Hastings Karamu Rotary Club has highlighted the Bay's social calendar for some 26 years and in 2018 the event is in support of the Hawke's Bay Community Fitness Centre Trust. [thecocktailparty.nz](http://thecocktailparty.nz)

## 27

### **Jimi Jackson 'Mama We Made It' tour at Napier Municipal Theatre**

Jimi Jackson is one of the most followed video makers in New Zealand, with over 175,000 subscribers. In his new show he combines an exploration of his childhood, musical interludes, Jimi's classic Kiwi humour, a good dose of audience interaction, and a set by DJ Sir-Vere. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 28

### **Hine Kihāwai at Pukemokimoki Marae, Napier**

Taki Rua present a free te reo Māori theatre performance for the whole whānau. The show is entirely in te reo Māori, but uses gestures and movement so that even non-speakers can follow along. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 28

### **Taylor Hawks vs Taranaki Mountain Airs at Pettigrew Green Arena**

Head to PGA for another night of basketball action. Fun for the whole family as you cheer on the Hawks against their Taranaki visitors. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

# 29

## **Loaded Tough Guy and Gal Challenge at Clifton Station**

Take on the challenge of a course that includes swamp crossings, a spiders web net climb, crawl under barb wire, beautiful native bush trails, tunnels, hurdles, a climbing frame, plus mud, spot prizes, merit prizes, goodie bags and a fun atmosphere in a picturesque location. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

# August

# 2

## **Tami Neilson - Sassafrass! NZ Tour at MTG Century Theatre**

The award-winning Canadian-born, New Zealand-based singer-songwriter returns to the Bay as she tours her new album *Sassafrass!* Taking its name from 'sassafrass' – slang for a sassy person who isn't afraid to speak her mind – the album places a heavier emphasis on soul music while not abandoning Tami's country and rockabilly roots. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

# 2

## **Lloyd Spiegel at Common Room**

Australian bluesman Lloyd Spiegel brings his high energy solo show to Hawke's Bay for the first time, with a new show, new tales and 2 new albums. Spiegel's incredible command of the guitar and powerful stage presence is a must for blues and guitar fans alike. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

# 3

## **The Feelers 25th Anniversary Tour**

Take a trip down memory lane with the Feelers as they celebrate a quarter-century as one of New Zealand's best-loved bands. They'll be supported on tour by Dead Favours and Curly Jewels. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



# 3+5

## **Napier Civic Choir Guiseppe Verdi's Requiem at Waiapu Cathedral of St John the Evangelist, Napier**

Verdi's Requiem was last staged by the Napier Civic Choir and Hawke's Bay Orchestra in 2013, and now it returns with all the beauty, scale and drama it's renowned for. [napierchoir.org.nz](http://napierchoir.org.nz)

# 4

## **Napier Civic Choir Choral Orchestral Mahler's Symphony No.2 In C at Waiapu Cathedral of St John the Evangelist, Napier**

Conductor José Aparicio brings Mahler's monumental second symphony to Hawke's Bay for the first time. This epic work takes on the most profound of subjects – resurrection – and ultimately concludes in a message of hope with a Choral Finale modelled after Beethoven's Ninth. [napierchoir.org.nz](http://napierchoir.org.nz)

# 5+19

## **Cyclocross Hawke's Bay**

Cyclocross is a fun combination of road and mountain bike racing and presents as a spectator friendly, short, fast race that all ages and skill levels can enjoy. Cyclocross Hawke's Bay holds a series of events through the winter suitable for all ages and abilities. [cxhawkesbay.com](http://cxhawkesbay.com)

# 10

## **No Holds Bard at The Old Dairy Factory, Norsewood**

See Michael Hurst's tour de force performance exploring four of Shakespeare's greatest characters – Hamlet, MacBeth, Othello and King Lear. [facebook.com/dairyfactory](http://facebook.com/dairyfactory)

# 10

## **Bootleg Beach Boys at Napier Municipal Theatre**

Get swept from winter in Hawke's Bay to sunny California with a hit-heavy line-up of 1960s classics including California Girls, Good Vibrations, Surfing Safari, Fun Fun Fun and so many more. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

# 14

## **Aroha Quartet: Light & Dark at Havelock North Function Centre**

Let innovative Wellington-based Aroha Quartet take you on an emotional journey through Beethoven's sparkling and energetic String Trio No 3, followed by the more sardonic String Quartet No 11 by Shostakovich. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



Kings & Associates New Zealand Tour

## 15

### Beethoven & Brahms at Napier Municipal Theatre

Maestro Edo de Waart joins forces with one of the finest violinists of his generation, Grammy Award winner Augustin Hadelich, to present de Waart's third Masterworks concert for 2018. The programme is Beethoven – Violin Concerto in D major, Op. 61 and Brahms - Symphony No. 2 in D major, Op. 73. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 16

### Operatunity: The Golden Era of Musicals at Bay City Outreach Centre, Hastings

The cast and crew of musical theatre specialists present The Golden Era of Musicals, from Show Boat and the Student Prince through to My Fair Lady and The Sound of Music, when melody was king. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 16

### CMNZ Presents: Ensemble Zefiro at MTG Century Theatre

Maestri dei legni, Alfredo Bernadini and Alberto Grazi make up this award-winning period-instrument ensemble. Hear Zefiro offer two decadent programmes; the first a banquet of Handel, Fasch, Telemann, Haydn and Mozart, the second dedicated exclusively to Mozart's abundant, delicious divertimenti. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)



## 17

### Kings & Associates New Zealand Tour at the Cabana

Here's your chance to see one of Australia's most uniquely new and exciting neo blues bands as they take their second album *Tales Of A Rich Girl* on a New Zealand tour. [cabana.net.nz](http://cabana.net.nz)

## 17

### The Rude Boyz at The Common Room

The Rude Boyz head back to the Common Room for a full show of Bob Marley classics. [facebook.com/TheRudeBoyzNZ/](https://facebook.com/TheRudeBoyzNZ/)

# September

## 2

### Hawke's Bay Magpies vs Counties Manukau at McLean Park

Support the Mighty Magpies as they take on Counties on the flash new turf of McLean Park. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

## 8

### Hawke's Bay Magpies vs Bay of Plenty at McLean Park

Back the boys in black and white in the hard-fought battle of the Bays. [eventfinda.co.nz](http://eventfinda.co.nz)

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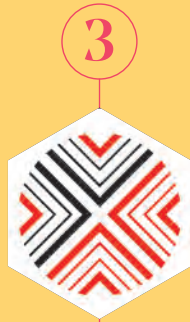
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# Did You Know?



3

1.

Next issue of *BayBuzz* – Sep/Oct 2018 – marks ten years of published debate and coverage of Hawke’s Bay issues. After starting as a blog a year or so earlier, *BayBuzz* ‘went print’ in 2008 as a 16-page tabloid. *BayBuzz* has had a couple of different looks over the years but the commitment to covering the issues has remained. Now we need you help with our 10th Anniversary Edition – a lot can happen in ten years. What do you see as the big changes or developments over that period ... and who made them happen? Email your thoughts to [editors@baybuzz.co.nz](mailto:editors@baybuzz.co.nz).



2

2.

While reading Peter Wells’ new book *Dear Oliver*, we learned that Napier in 1871 had a population of 2,179 and produced three daily newspapers: *The Hawke’s Bay Herald*, the *Hawke’s Bay Times* and the *Daily Telegraph*.

3.

EAST at HCAG opens in August. The biennial regional survey show is being curated by Bruce E. Phillips. Selected artists are: Vanessa Arthur, Annette Bull, John Brown, Joyce Campbell, Terri Ripeka Crawford, Jenny Gillam, Ayesha Green, Kauri Hawkins, Michael Hawksworth, Rangituhia Hollis, Peter Madden, George Nuku, Ben Pearce, Martin Poppelwell, Clare Plug, Sonya Lacey, Lara Lindsay Parker, Jacob Scott, Ann Shelton, Natalie Robertson, Tim Thatcher, David Trubridge and Kamaka Pottery (Bruce and Estelle Martin).



1

4.

Sam and Mary Orton’s world-famous-in-Hawke’s Bay catering business has recently been rebranded from Orton Tailored Cuisine to Orton’s. The family business has also welcomed youngest son James back to the Bay and into the role of business manager.

5.

Hawke’s Bay has 200 GPs, 125 pharmacists and around 5,000 health professionals.

6.

According to ASB’s latest Regional Economic Scoreboard, covering the summer quarter, Hawke’s Bay dropped 7 places from the previous quarter, to #13 out of 16 regions. Says ASB: “Both house and car sales fell over the quarter in annual terms. And when combined with weak household sentiment, this leads us to trim a star off the Bay.” The same Scoreboard also reported that HB led the nation in annual house price growth through March of 17%.

7.

The winner of this year’s Air New Zealand Hawke’s Bay Marathon, Wellington runner Nick Horspool, posted a time of 2h 32m 51s.



7



18



17

8.

Roger and Diane Alexander won the first of what will become a growing number of special Environmental Prizes awarded by the Regional Council to individuals and groups making an outstanding contribution to the region’s environment. Their work over 20 years has transformed a 12-hectare area of dried-out swamp into Lake Puketapu and surrounding parkland, which is now prized by both the family and the local community.

## 9.

*BayBuzz* readers are 'connected' – 55% have Facebook pages, 43% use LinkedIn, 50% own tablets and 70% own laptops. And 50% check online sources for news 'very often'.

## 10.

Napier author for youngsters, Adele Broadbent, has a new book just released. *Between* is a tale of football, ghosts and friendship for ages 10 and up.

## 12



## 16.

Te Mata Park now features new informative signboards, covering the history of the peak and the park.

## 17.

GMO-free Hawke's Bay wins. Pure Hawke's Bay and the Hastings Council won 'big time' when Federated Farmers recently abandoned its court efforts to block local rules curtailing GMO use in agriculture. Fed Farmers had been reprimanded by the Environment Court for persisting in presenting losing arguments already rejected by the High Court. To underscore its point, costs were awarded to parties protecting local authority in the matter.

# Zeffer

Cider Co.



## 10



## 11

## 15

## 11.

'Epetoma o te reo Māori Kūki 'Āirani: Cook Islands Language Week is from Sunday 29 July – Saturday 4 August 2018.

## 12.

Wondering where to get your Kent Baddeley food fix now that his Pakowhai restaurant 1024 is no longer? Head for Bellatino's in Havelock (which has just moved around the corner into Treachers Lane) or hunt out Bento Bros on Facebook and give a Bento Box by Kent and Taka a whirl.

## 13.

The Keirunga Railway track in Havelock North is 846 metres long and includes tunnels and viaducts. Visitors of all ages can ride the train on Sundays from 11am to 4pm for \$2.

## 14.

Megan Peacock Coyle is back to head up the Hawke's Bay Opera House and arts precinct. A familiar name to the local arts scene, Megan served as Opera House technical and operations co-ordinator and later the arts and programming manager, before heading away to run the Oamaru Opera House and most recently Baycourt Community & Arts Centre in Tauranga.

## 15.

Fernhill-based cidery Zeffer Cider Co took out both Champion titles at the recent 2018 New World Beer & Cider Awards, with two of its brews beating out almost 600 beer and cider entries from New Zealand and overseas. The Crisp Apple Cider won Gold and the Champion title in the Apple and Pear Cider Class, while the Two Point Five won Gold and the Champion title in the Fruit and Flavoured Cider Class.

## 18.

July 30 is International Day of Friendship.



## 13

## 19.

Environmental and Conservation Organisations of New Zealand (ECO) are to hold their annual conference here in Hawke's Bay from 7-9 September. The theme of the conference has the working title: Communities Protecting Nature: in Practice, Policy and Law. You'll find more info on the conference at [eco.org.nz](http://eco.org.nz)

# 400 Months of Global Warming



April this year marked the 400th consecutive month of global above-average temperatures, according to the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Climate scientists use the 20th-century average as a benchmark for global temperature measurements, because it's fixed in time, allowing for consistency when reviewing climate data. It's also a long period, enough to include several cycles of

climate variability.

Not since December 1984 has the world's monthly average temperature sat below the century average.

The cause for the hot streak? Unquestionably, it's climate change, caused by the burning of fossil fuels.

"We live in and share a world that is unequivocally, appreciably and consequentially warmer than just a few decades ago, and our world continues

to warm," said NOAA climate scientist Deke Arndt. "Speeding by a '400' sign only underscores that."

Another milestone was reached in April. Carbon dioxide – the gas scientists say is most responsible for global warming – reached its highest level in recorded history at 410 parts per million. According to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography, this amount is the highest level in at least the past 800,000 years. ●

## Tackling Homelessness in Hawke's Bay

As part of Budget 2018, Housing & Urban Development Minister Phil Twyford and Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced \$63.4 million in funding for Housing First over the next four years, and a decent chunk of that has been earmarked for Hawke's Bay.

The government's Housing First programme, which has seen success in Auckland and Hamilton is being expanded into Hawke's Bay to try and tackle the issue of homelessness in our two cities.

"Housing First is a proven way

to house and support people who have been homeless a long time, or are homeless and face multiple and complex needs," the minister said.

"Napier and Hastings were selected to receive funding for Housing First places due to high need. Amongst regions where Housing First is not yet operating, the area currently has the first and second highest number of people in insecure housing, and receiving Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants, respectively."

"A process is currently being worked through to determine the exact amount of funding and number of places the area will receive. Government will take a staged approach to expanding the programme into Napier and Hastings, which we expect to roll out next year."

The Housing First programme aims to end homelessness for people, not just manage it. The goal is that homelessness should be brief, rare and non-recurring. ●

# Half a Degree Makes a Huge Difference

In the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, the United Nations is pursuing efforts to limit global warming to 1.5°C, whereas earlier aspirations focused on a 2°C limit.

A paper published recently in *Science* describes the difference that 0.5 degrees is likely to make for plants and animals as we hurtle towards the warmer future.

"All the previous scientific literature looked at 2 degrees as the lower limit because that was what was being discussed at the time," said Rachel Warren of the University of East Anglia in Norwich, England, an environmental biologist who led the new work.

"After the Paris agreement, the landscape changed. We wanted to know what the benefits would be to limit warming globally by an extra 0.5 degree."

The researchers found that 18% of insects, 16% of plants and 8% of vertebrates will lose more than half their geographical range if the average global temperature is two degrees hotter than it was before the industrial revolution.

If the warming can be limited to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels, however, that risk drops significantly. In this scenario, 'only' 6% of insects, 8% of plants and 4% of vertebrates would be expected to see more than half their geographical range disappear.

The authors also looked at a worse-case scenario – what would happen if the planet warmed by 3 degrees by 2100, which is what is projected if members of the Paris Accord met their current pledges to reduce emissions by 2030, but then did nothing else.

In that case, 49% of insects, 44% of plants and 26% of vertebrates would see more than half of their geographical range disappear.

"So far, we have warmed the world 1 degree," Warren said. "If we warm it another 0.5 degree by 2100, then some birds and mammals can catch up, but if it gets to 2 degrees, far fewer can catch up, and at 3 degrees they won't be able to keep pace with it."

Don't care about critters? What about your veggies?

A new report sponsored by the US National Academy of Sciences, which reviewed 174 studies examining the impact of environmental exposures on yield and nutritional content of vegetables and legumes, projects that a 4°C increase in temperature, which scientists expect by 2100 if global warming continues on its current trajectory, would reduce average yields by 31.5%. Southern Europe, large parts of Africa and South Asia may be particularly affected. ●

# enlighten

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Pat Parsons. Photo: Tim Whittaker. [tim.co.nz](http://tim.co.nz)

# Kaitiaki of Māori History

The 75-year-old former school teacher, whose European forebears arrived in the country in the 1860s, has spent a good part of his life as de facto custodian (kaitiaki) of the heritage of the region's tangata whenua (people of the land).

Parsons is regarded as the 'go to' man for Māori cultural research and has little tolerance for claims that don't originate from a credible source. "Show me the evidence," he says, if you suggest something that challenges his immense knowledge.

He'll sift through piles of reports, refer to the numerous whakapapa books he's copied or been entrusted with by Māori elders, or point you to a specific minute book at the Māori Land Court in Hastings.

The high esteem Parsons is held in by Māori is evidenced in the 20 or more reports he's researched for Waitangi Tribunal claims, the books he's written or contributed to, biographies at Te Ara website and ongoing consultation with Hawke's Bay iwi and councils.

He stands in the gap for those who for various reasons were not trained up or willing to adopt the role of kaitiaki of ancestral memories and tribal knowledge.

He's been put to the test on many occasions, including in defence of

'landscapes of significance', providing evidence for four Environment Court hearings when councils and developers have tried to push the boundaries.

Parsons believes there's been a general awakening to Māori cultural values after some hard challenges, including the theft of Pania of the Reef in October 2005 after she'd had 50 uninterrupted years on the Napier waterfront.

That had a deep impact on a lot of people, including the model Mei Irihapiti Robin (Whaitiri), who turned 80 in February.

She became "low in spirit to the point her family thought she wasn't going to make it", only recovering after the sculpture was discovered "in some hoon's shed at Maraenui". Pania was then set in concrete and unveiled. "The turnout of European and Māori was huge."

Parson's suggests Pania had to go through that process to arrive at a more rightful place in our regional psyche.

The Ātea a Rangi Star Compass at Waitangi Reserve, which he consulted for, is another focal point for Māori history, with spin-offs already evident through the Regional Council tidying up the area, ecological restoration and new waterway that acts as a nursery for inanga (whitebait).

*When not immersed in the traditional history and whakapapa (genealogy) of Hawke's Bay's diverse Māori community, Pat Parsons enjoys hiking far and wide to pinpoint locations where specific events unfolded or delving deeper into ancient mythology.*

KEITH NEWMAN

It's become a tourist attraction, a teaching tool for how Māori navigated by the stars. From the Star Compass, he says, you can identify several of the region's outstanding landscapes on the rim around the Heretaunga Plains – "they're like sentinels, when you see them you know where you are".

## **Back to the future**

Parson's journey builds on relationships established by his own maternal grandparents and older family members.

His grandfather Leo Lopdell lived in Bay View, leased Māori land, had strong connections with that community and took his grandson with him from an early age to visit friends.

One such friend was Bob Mokopuna Toki Cottrell, the kaumātua of Wharerangi marae, who later became an important mentor for Parsons.

"I recall when Bob's horse Golden Cabana won the Hawke's Bay Cup, my grandfather was so delighted we had to drive over to Wharerangi to congratulate him. You would have thought he'd won it himself."

Being raised among older relatives helped develop a passion for genealogy. "In my young head I had to make some sort of link between them all and

**Word got around that the two respected kaumātua were tutoring him and he was gradually accepted by other influential Māori. This destiny fell to him naturally it seemed. “I was the boy who was keen enough to keep going back.”**

how they came to be part of this world which I inhabited.”

After attending teacher’s college, Parsons spent five years in Paris and London working for the Berlitz Language Schools teaching English as a foreign language, and then on to Italy to teach the staff of an influential industrialist.

He approached Hereworth School on his return to Hawke’s Bay and was hired by headmaster David Curtis from the first term of 1974.

Important influencers during his five-year tenure included fellow teachers Lawrence (L.S.) Rickard, who published *Tamihana - The Kingmaker* in 1963 and the history of the Heretaunga School (pre-Hereworth), and Sid Grant, who wrote the book *Waimarama* in 1977.

Both had been at Hereworth during

the time of headmaster J.D.H. Buchanan (1936-1952), who started the Hawke’s Bay Historical Society and wrote the seminal book *Māori History and Place Names of Hawke’s Bay*, published post-humously in 1973 after D. R. Simmons compiled his extensive notes.

“They told me Wednesdays were Buchanan’s Māori history day - after assembly he was not to be disturbed as he would be studying or going out on field trips,” says Parsons.

His interest in local history was further piqued when student Graeme Wilson gave a talk about his great great grandmother Airini Donnelly - “the most prominent chieftainess” from the late 1800s, who was adopted by chief Renata Kawepo.

Intrigued, he asked to meet Wilson’s mother Jacqui and a scholarly relationship resulted, with Parsons being gifted much of the family’s historical records.

After his grandfather passed on, Parsons continued the friendship with kaumātua Bob Cottrell who, on being asked the origins of Wharerangi Native

Reserve bordering the Parsons’ land, delved into his own grandfather’s trunk for the paperwork and whakapapa books.

“I was impressed at the detail...and began developing a great respect for this method of historical preservation.”

Today Parsons has numerous whakapapa books, mostly leading back to Kahungunu but also from those who lived in Hawke’s Bay prior to 1550.

Cottrell became Parsons’ personal tutor in Māori history, introducing him to another respected historian, James (Jimmy) Waitaringa Mapu, who remained close until he died at age 91.

There was talk of Parson’s heading to university for a degree in Māori history, but both men said, “you won’t learn there what you will learn from us”.

Word got around that the two respected kaumātua were tutoring him and he was gradually accepted by other influential Māori. This destiny fell to him naturally it seemed. “I was the boy who was keen enough to keep going back.”

Jimmy Mapu advised that if there is any doubt about genealogy in the whakapapa books he was collecting, the first allegiance must be with the tangata whenua where the books came from and if there’s no ready reference, “go back to the people where the story happened”.

Cottrell pointed him to the Māori Land Court Minute Books; records of the court hearings where old tribal historians argued the titles to Māori blocks and tabled their genealogies. “They listened and challenged each other wānanga style (experts sharing),

### **We applaud Patrick Parsons**

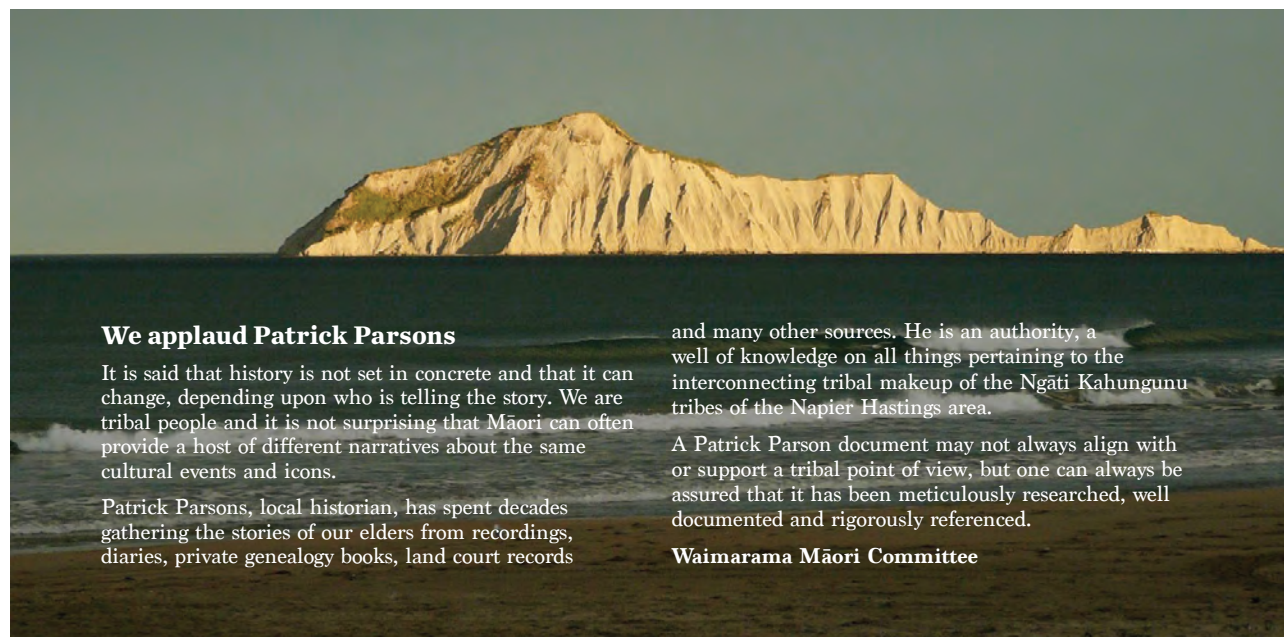
It is said that history is not set in concrete and that it can change, depending upon who is telling the story. We are tribal people and it is not surprising that Māori can often provide a host of different narratives about the same cultural events and icons.

Patrick Parsons, local historian, has spent decades gathering the stories of our elders from recordings, diaries, private genealogy books, land court records

and many other sources. He is an authority, a well of knowledge on all things pertaining to the interconnecting tribal makeup of the Ngāti Kahungunu tribes of the Napier Hastings area.

A Patrick Parson document may not always align with or support a tribal point of view, but one can always be assured that it has been meticulously researched, well documented and rigorously referenced.

**Waimarama Māori Committee**



**Parsons places much store in the 1996 report by Gavin Lister of the Isthmus Group, Outstanding Landscapes: Landscape Assessment of Hastings District, referring to it as “an enlightened document”.**

bringing forward what the old people had told them.”

Initially the records were kept in Palmerston North with Parsons heading there during school holidays and being drawn deeper and deeper into a world few Pākehā understood or had access to.

When he began teaching at Hastings Boys’ High in 1980, the Māori Affairs Department relocated the local Minute Books to Hastings. Parsons and fellow teacher and friend Brian Morris, today head of Huia publishing, were regulars, transfixed by these ancient records.

Among the determined local recorders of those minutes was Hawke’s Bay personality, surveyor and Native Land Court interpreter, J.T. Blake. Today Parsons is de facto custodian for half of Blake’s record books and personal archives.

He’s been engaged in protracted discussions about how these and other unique historical treasures held by

himself and others might be better archived for future generations.

Today Parsons is still the most frequent user of the Minute Books, although he’s increasingly pointing others to those resources, including EIT students researching their own history.

He’s also maintained his relationship with Brian Morris, a licensed Māori interpreter, collaborating on projects including translating old waiata, including Te Tahatu’s Oriori (song of chiefly ancestry), telling how he became a custodian of the Heretaunga Plains seven generations after Ngāti Kahungunu occupation.

**Time to jump waka**

After years of being steeped in Māori history, in 1990 Parsons learned, without any prior warning, that he’d been nominated by the Wai 55 Ahuriri Inner Harbour claimants to research their Waitangi Tribunal case.

While surprised, he was convinced no one else had the background to do this well. It was “time to jump waka”, so he handed in his notice at Hastings Boys’ High.

For the next decade or so he was employed to research various local land claims and write reports for local councils on Māori spiritual values in relation to the land.

In 1996 he was approached to write centennial history of Te Pohue School. He was reluctant; not having written a book before, but with a history committee and support systems found the process “worked like a well-oiled machine”.

His one proviso was that it needed to

**This was Parsons’ first taste of how experts paid for by developers can present real challenges to the environment. His research helped overturn the application and Robertson backed off and reworked his plans.**

start with the Māori not the European history. The result was *In the Shadow of Te Waka - The History of the Te Pohue District*. “That book gave me standing I never reckoned for myself, I was now a published author.”

A short time later he was asked by the Rotary Club of Waipukurau to produce *Waipukurau: the History of a Country Town*, published in 1999.

Another timely encounter came when he dropped in to see Matt Ford at Matapiro Station and he was informed of a meeting with local families including the Beamishes, Lowry’s and Russells, to produce a history of the area bounded by the Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri rivers, Fernhill and the Kaweka Ranges.

Parsons got himself invited to the next meeting. “I needed to be involved otherwise I knew what was not going to be in that book.”

As expected there was a reluctance to have any Māori history, so he

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offered to write the first two chapters. Although the first reaction was dismissive, Parsons persisted, urging a second read.

“Ralph Beamish, to his credit, came back and agreed...this man Renata Kawepo was a remarkable benefactor... we had no idea...this must go in.”

Parsons was engaged to write a couple more chapters due to his passion for early colonial history, as he enjoyed rubbing shoulders with the descendants of early settlers.

The result was *West to the Annie - Renata Kawepo's Hawke's Bay Legacy*, featuring 18 chapters by 13 writers, published in 2002.

Parsons places much store in the 1996 report by Gavin Lister of the Isthmus Group, *Outstanding Landscapes: Landscape Assessment of Hastings District*, referring to it as “an enlightened document”.

The report, prepared in response to the Resource Management Act and now embedded in the Hastings District Plan, singled out Te Mata Peak and Cape Kidnappers as the most important landscapes in the region.

Parsons references it when he's called on to provide evidence to counter arbitrary decisions that seek to overturn that protected status, as happened in the 2003 Cape Kidnappers hearings.

US billionaire Julian Robertson wanted to build accommodation within 100 metres of the gannet colony nesting areas with a tunnel to an underground cliff face lookout called the Sunset Room.

Despite 20 objections the Hastings District Council approved it, so it became a matter for the Environment Court, with Parsons working alongside DOC landscape historian Elizabeth Pischief to provide evidence.

He claims Robertson's Auckland archaeologist overlooked important details. After being denied access to the land he trespassed and was surprised at how much evidence he found of early Māori occupation.

This was Parsons' first taste of how experts paid for by developers can present real challenges to the environment. His research helped overturn the application and Robertson backed off and reworked his plans.

In 2006, he provided evidence opposing the Titiokura-Te Waka Wind Farm project in the Maungahururu Range above Te Pohue, on another ‘outstanding landscape’.

Hastings District Council and

***The furore over Te Mata Peak, he suggests, is another challenge that has helped raise awareness of Māori and regional cultural values. “We should be zealously protecting and showing a reverence for these landscapes as a taonga (treasure) for the wider community.”***

Hawke's Bay Regional Council initially granted consent for 15 turbines before the Environment Court declined second and revised stages for up to 34 turbines.

Parsons says the first stage was lost due to inexperience, arguing the case on landscaping issues with only three weeks to prepare. “It would have looked like Woodville.”

The working group then consulted with local Māori who talked about the cultural values.

It was another major learning curve. “They knew we were running out of money to pay our expert witnesses when applying for the third consent. We thought we'd lost until the judge came through at the very end.”

Parsons says he's had to develop “another dimension” of himself to deal with decisions made when a mayor or group of councillors decide to change the district plan based on what's good for business rather than what's good for the region overall.

Most recently he believes the fourth revision of his letter to *HB Today* (13 Jan) over the pros and cons of the zigzag walking track above Craggy Range has helped inform the debate.

He believes there's “a wind change” under new mayor Sandra Hazlehurst and was subsequently invited to host a bus tour of councillors around the important landscapes to provide an independent view.

The furore over Te Mata Peak, he suggests, is another challenge that has helped raise awareness of Māori and regional cultural values. “We should be zealously protecting and showing a reverence for these landscapes as a taonga [treasure] for the wider community.”

Parsons refers again to the Isthmus

report, saying it should be required reading for every new councillor to ensure that knowledge is not forgotten.

He and tramping mate, Hastings physiotherapist Grant Dixon, often head off on field trips exploring locations where tribal history occurred. In the planning is a trek into the foothills of the Ruahine's near Tikokino to find where prominent Hawke's Bay ancestor Whatu-i-Apiti died.

And with his focus turning increasingly to the arcane, there's the possibility of a book on East Coast Māori mythology - “that's where I breathe now”, including his deep knowledge on the whare wānanga (learning schools) of Waimarama.

He'd also like to present his research that makes a clear distinction between the mythical Māui and the more recent ancestor ‘Māui the navigator’, having traced his ancestry through whakapapa.

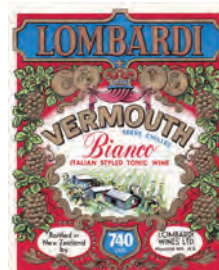
Parsons asserts the Māui of mythology was an actual person with a much longer genealogy, but the navigator Māui was “the Captain Cook of his time”; and either he or those who followed in his footsteps stamped his name on much of New Zealand, including Hawke's Bay landmarks like Te Matau a Māui (Māui's hook).

Parsons continues to feel the weight of the knowledge he carries, and is concerned about who will come after him to pick up the wero (challenge) of being caretaker of our often neglected formative history. He's hopeful a couple of new students will stay the course and pick up the mantle.

Parsons' legacy is substantial, but there's still so much more he would like to complete, including having a public archive established so he and others can pass treasured historical documents into the right hands. ●

# Wine: Stories from Hawke's Bay

Mark Sweet. Photographs Tim Whittaker



This book is a treasure ... I love the photographs, both old and new ... all my expectations were exceeded.

**Tim Turvey, Clearview Estate Winery**

A must for those wishing to know more about the Hawke's Bay wine industry – its history, wine pioneers and current producers and their outstanding wines.

**Graeme Avery, Sileni Estates**

A splendid new book ... an extraordinary trove of images.

**John Saker, Cuisine**

An engaging read that I heartily recommend for the depth and character it adds to the Hawke's Bay wine experience.

**Alwyn Corban, Ngatarawa Wines**

I heartily recommend this book to anyone interested in a well-researched piece of important wine history, a glimpse into many of the characters who have helped build a thriving wine industry, a winemaker's view of what makes the region and its wines special, or a beautifully illustrated adornment for a coffee table.

**Bob Campbell, Master of Wine**

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# RE- CLOAKING THE LAND



Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

**The Hawke's Bay Regional Council has ambitious plans to plant up our region in trees. It recently approved \$30 million for restoration work and signalled its intention to invest substantially in forestry over the next decade.**

In the context of the Government's proposed 1 Billion Trees programme, and with Ngāti Kahungunu simultaneously developing plans to 'recloak the land' through their Kahutia Accord project, we're set to see some big landscape changes.

But what does the Council mean by 'afforestation'? And how will this roll out?

**Vulnerable landscapes**

Hawke's Bay has 276,000 hectares of erosion-prone land, and this is what primarily is driving the Council to reforest it. Ten percent of Hawke's Bay is in an extreme state (most of the topsoil already lost): steep hill country, cleared for pastoral farming in our colonial past (and with government subsidies in the 1970-80s).

Trees, with their web of roots, hold and build soil - there's a 90% difference in erosion between bare paddocks and forest. Additionally, when heavy rainfall occurs, a third is captured in forest canopies, evaporating before it even gets to the ground. With most of our region deforested, we are losing three million tonnes of soil a year, and in the process silting up our waterways.

HBRC resource manager Iain Maxwell says sediment is our most



Photo: Tim Whittaker, tim.co.nz

**“Over a longer period of time, you end up with landscapes that won’t support any kind of agriculture. While people find that hard to imagine in our fertile region, around the world there are enough examples of this actually occurring, relatively quickly.”**

JAMES PALMER, HBRC CHIEF EXECUTIVE

challenging water contaminant: “It’s pervasive. It’s very difficult, technically and financially to control. Once it starts moving it’s almost impossible to stop. And it has sustained, ongoing impacts on our freshwater and marine environments.”

“There’s no doubt in my mind,” he says, “that the well-publicised declines in some of our local inshore marine species like gurnard, snapper, are strongly linked to a decline in habitat quality as a result of high amounts of sediment ending up in those environments.”

Not only are we exposed to on-land vulnerability through a legacy of “unwise decisions”, it seems we’re in danger of destroying our coastal fisheries through our current land practices.

#### **Tree it or lose it**

Soil erosion happens at a pace that’s usually imperceptible; it’s occurring in slow motion around us all the time, not just during big weather events where the losses are obvious. James Palmer, HBRC’s chief executive, paints

a sobering picture of where our erosion crises will lead us if we don’t take drastic action. The early places of civilisation in the Middle East, North Africa and Central America, in China where the earliest forms of agriculture were established, he says, are close to bed-rock now, and micro-climate change has led to desertification. “If you lose 1% of your soil annually, well, in 100 years you’ve lost all your soil.”

The United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organisation estimates the world loses around 1% of its topsoil per annum, a finite resource - but it takes on average 1000 years to produce 3-4cm of topsoil. NZ’s East Cape, and further south around Tūtira and the Esk, have some of the highest rates of soil loss on Earth.

“Over a longer period of time,” explains Palmer, “you end up with landscapes that won’t support any kind of agriculture. While people find that hard to imagine in our fertile region, around the world there are enough examples of this actually occurring, relatively quickly. It’s a realistic prospect in our highly erodible country.”

#### **Pinus radiata**

Of New Zealand’s commercial forests, 99.9% are *Pinus radiata*. It’s no surprise then that when the regional council proposes to invest in forestry that blankets of pine are what first come to mind.

Pines were planted extensively for soil-erosion protection under the NZ Forestry Service in the 1940s-70s, a state service that’s recently been

**“I think the farming community now realises broad monocultures of grass and relying on turning grass into protein may not be their safest bet, and they’re happy to look at alternatives.”**

IAIN MAXWELL, HBRC GROUP MANAGER, INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT

resurrected as Te Uru Rākau. But with the emergence of an industry based on their productive commodity value, it’s become apparent, we replaced one set of legacy issues with another.

Rural communities can feel isolated and hemmed in by pine monocultures, explains Nathan Heath, HBRC’s acting manager for land management, which are often owned by outside companies, who make little tangible contribution to the community between plant-up and clearfell harvest.

What’s left are damaged roads and the nightmare potential of a Tolaga Bay scenario (in which 1 million tonnes of ‘slash’ slew through farmland during a deluge, causing millions of dollars worth of damage) during the so-called ‘window of vulnerability’ - the 6-7 years it takes for new pine seedlings to graft root systems to hold land, stripped of its vegetation, together.

With Wairoa’s ‘wall of wood’ heading for the port (11,000 ha of pine forest due for harvest) and questions around how to manage this appropriately, understandably there’s some anxiety.

Heath says the Wairoa community is clear it doesn’t want to see a *pinus radiata* agenda. And while the Council is adamant it’s not pushing for pines and is working hard to investigate alternatives, the perception that they will ‘capitulate’ to the quick-fix lure of pines is the first barrier to overcome.

James Palmer says “there will always be a place for pine”, but the Council is looking with more nuance for the *right tree in the right place for the right purpose*, and will be taking a targeted landscape approach.

With National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) in effect since 1 May, there will be more careful planning of

**Council is ... investigating a range of commercial forestry options: slow-rotation hardwoods (redwoods, Douglas fir), eucalypts, mānuka, native species for harvest, such as tōtara, as well as radiata.**



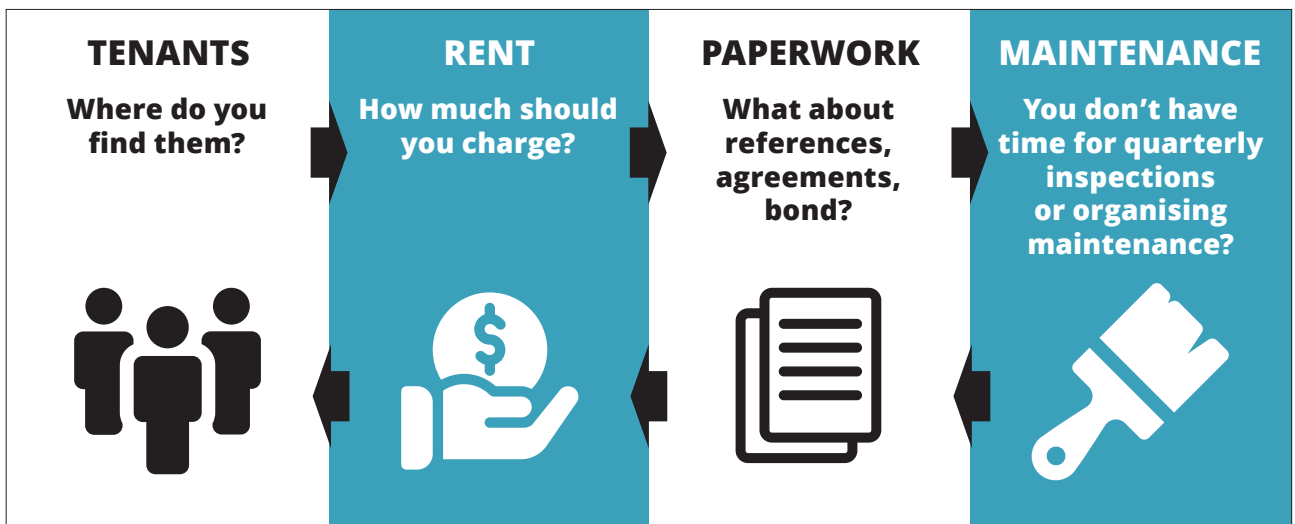
establishment forests going forward and a consideration to the future impacts of harvesting - resource consents are required by law, as well as environmental impact assessments. Under the NES-PF, there will be areas of Hawke's Bay, where short-rotation forests, like pine, are no longer permitted.

Palmer notes that some of the large forestry companies have already moved out of areas where the landscape is too steep or eroded, providing instead for native reversion.

He assures me, "We won't be repeating the mistakes of the past in our desire to get more trees into the landscape."

**Moving beyond siloes**

AUT policy researcher David Hall believes New Zealanders have a tendency towards "trinary" compartmentalised thinking when it comes to viewing land-use: native conservation forests vs. exotic commercial forest vs. pastoral agriculture, with each effectively 'siloe'd' in the landscape. It's a lens that no



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Chris Ryan. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

## “[Government] should be doing far more land trials and finding out what has already been done and collating it.”

CHRIS RYAN, VETERAN TREE PLANTER

longer serves as we seek solutions to the consequences of past practice.

He’s battling for a transition to more sustainable, climate-aligned forestry, which requires adaptive decision-making, supported by rigorous monitoring and evaluation, alongside an interweave of diverse land-use activities and practices.

The Council calls it ‘integrated catchment management’, and it’s a big part of their afforestation strategy.

### Integrated catchment management

Council has committed \$30 million as part of its LTP towards grant-funded restoration work - within reason, “anything that will result in a reduction of erosion from our critical areas,” says Iain Maxwell: revegetation, but also fencing, riparian planting, constructing wetlands for trapping sediment.

While HBRC has extensive understanding of soil erosion and water catchment issues through its existing science knowledge and modelling work - where these are likely to occur, and potential solutions - it will need to “pinpoint” this through direct landowner engagement. “Nothing will replace an experienced eye walking the land with the landowner,

understanding their aspirations, helping them understand where the problems exist, why they’re a problem and what they can do about it,” says Maxwell.

To this end, HBRC has created and resourced 16 new positions. As of 1 July, there will be catchment managers based in Wairoa, Napier and Waipawa, with teams of advisory staff and a significant package of resource, to engage daily with landowners and communities in the field.

The aim is to bring diversified systems, and thus resilience, into both farms and vulnerable landscapes, mitigating climate-change risk - the increased weather events and storm intensity projected for the region.

HBRC staff will help farmers plan for the future by working alongside to develop comprehensive, farm-tailored environment plans and then “bring resource to make that happen” - either a grant fund, says Maxwell, or “we will work to broker relationships with commercial providers”.

Mānuka trials at Tūtira have shown fantastic prospects around high-return yields of high UMF, says Maxwell, while there’s much more potential for silvopasture (deciduous trees integrated into pastureland) - a hugely important tool that’s been long

researched over decades.

As he sees it, one farm could have blocks of pine trees, regenerating natives and other yield-of-return species, grazed hillfaces with spaced poplar poles, as well as traditional purely grassed paddocks.

There’s openness for innovative arrangements, for example, individual farmers might choose to work collectively within a subcatchment to bring about something commercially viable, whether that’s mānuka, tōtara or “something we haven’t thought about yet”.

“The point I’d like to make, is we’re not just turning up to tell people what to do. We’re working with people to help them understand our concerns, creating an environment where opportunities exist for them to make some choices to do things differently and helping facilitate that to occur. We’re not driving this with a big stick. However, inevitably the environment’s only going to see more regulation coming its way. In effect, we’re trying to get in ahead to help landowners try and deal with issues in areas that will probably be targeted by future government regulation.”

Maxwell is hopeful: “I think the farming community now realises broad monocultures of grass and relying on turning grass into protein may not be their safest bet, and they’re happy to look at alternatives.”

He acknowledges the Council has had a long history of soil conservation, and this kind of work, “it’s just now we’re accelerating the scale and pace, and...getting shit done.”

### Achieving ecological and economic returns

Council is also looking to invest up to \$100 million in new forestry, both as part of its investment portfolio and to draw on the “levers” available for subsidising afforestation.

It’s investigating a range of commercial forestry options: slow-rotation hardwoods (redwoods, Douglas fir), eucalypts, mānuka, native species for harvest, such as tōtara, as well as radiata. Palmer says there will be a set of trade-offs and considerations as the Council seeks to balance its environmental (carbon sequestration, soil protection) and economic (a fair rate of return) objectives.

Council is currently working to gain a picture of regional land-use, where species could or should go, and understanding the economics of different types of forestry across different soils

**One of the challenges we face is a lack of mature markets in NZ for alternative timbers: we don't have a particularly diverse wood processing sector, nor a high domestic demand.**

and different micro-climates within different production systems over time. "This is a big land-use planning exercise for the region," James Palmer says. "And it will need to be done with willing landowners."

While central Government has funding mechanisms in place, such as the Hill Country Erosion Fund (which received a "top-up" in June), in the commercial forestry space it's still a work in progress. HBRC is currently in discussion with the Government about other funding availability - they'd like to see, for instance their dollar of investment matched, if not doubled. HBRC are also in close discussion with Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated - which has earmarked 100,000 ha of land and \$100 million for planting natives, a percentage of mixed harvestable trees and 500-year plantations - as well as

other treaty settlement entities on their investment interests.

HBRC chair Rex Graham is particularly keen to pursue the potential for a three-way partnership between Council, Crown and iwi, which would substantially leverage resource, reach and multi-purpose outcomes.

Palmer says HBRC is working on its investment case so it can bring a clear picture to the community on what it proposes to do and how, and is hoping to have that consultation process underway before the end of the year. That would "enable us to be well dressed for afforestation activity next year."

Several moving pieces need to line up: 1) land on which to plant, with a good understanding of viable forestry activities; 2) building up and coordinating nursery capacity for plant stock; 3) adequate skilled labour to plant and maintain (There's a potential synergy touted between horticultural labour and forestry, with seasonal complementarity and the possibility to develop more consistent, year-round work opportunity); 4) infrastructure, such as roading access.

One of the challenges we face is a lack of mature markets in NZ for alternative timbers: we don't have a particularly diverse wood processing sector, nor a high domestic demand. Palmer predicts that this will grow over time as wood becomes "more fashionable again as a building product" as well as the development of "composite materials created from wood products, alternatives to petrochemical plastics and the like."

There are no processing facilities for eucalypts at present, although trials at

HBRC's Waihapua Farm (south Tūtira) show they grow as quickly as pines and could be an alternative to tannellised posts in the viticulture industry. But without markets it's hard to calculate ahead the economic return.

Palmer accepts that, "We're going to have to plant some species with an optimistic view to their future potential."

Which returns us to the question of how we make that economic in the short-term - and the importance of carbon credits.

**Hawke's Bay's carbon-zero future**

One of HBRC's stated objectives is for Hawke's Bay to be NZ's first carbon-neutral province by 2040, a goal that's seen as achievable if all our highly erodible land is afforested - with carbon sequestration offsetting emissions.

A critical determinate for success, however, will be the price of carbon. If it becomes a more lucrative proposition (prices are rising as market confidence grows), there's more scope for recompensing the ecosystem services trees provide and thus opportunity to focus on more restoration work and biodiversity and innovative trials of alternate species.

New Zealand has significant obligations to meet under the Paris Climate Accord, but has a large carbon deficit looming, both as a result of current harvests (we're cutting down trees faster than we're planting) and our lack of progress in reducing emissions in other sectors, including transport and agriculture.

Palmer says with this in mind, along with the Government promising to review the Emissions Trading Scheme



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Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

Hawke's Bay has 276,000 ha of soil erosion-prone land.

and its proposed Zero Carbon Bill - which aims to transition the country to a low-emission, climate resilient economy by 2050 - there's "every reason to believe there will be high prices for carbon in the medium term."

### Opportunity for new direction

Nathan Heath, who's transferring to Wairoa to take up the new catchment management role, says to do the right thing is going to take time, careful consideration and working with affected communities.

"We need to stop thinking about short-term fixes for our problems, and start thinking about the long-game ... what can we do that our communities will benefit from in 100 years. If we can just take our time a bit more and resist the urge to meet political deadlines, there's a golden opportunity to start mapping out a new direction."

Viable alternatives to current land-use practice will include exploring ways to integrate a much wider spectrum of mixed uses for trees in the landscape (both urban and rural) and rethinking forests and how we manage

them. Mixed age continuous canopy forests, mixed species forests, selective logging from new native forests, corridors of biodiversity within plantation designs, shelter belts and innovative nurse crops... these are just some of the ideas tabled.

Hawke's Bay is rich in tree and forestry expertise, with the likes of tree-planter extraordinaire Chris Ryan, Chris Perley and former regional councillor Ewan McGregor, among others, who, one hopes, will engage in the consultations to come. McGregor advises: "We don't want to rush into this. The wrong tree in the wrong place (or the right place for that matter) can be very costly to remove. We need a roundtable forum with the key players to toss ideas around. A tree is a very subjective thing and no two people will entirely agree as to what should make up a forest. But it would be an opportunity for the cross-pollination of ideas and to understand others' points of view."

Speaking of government expertise that was "ditched" decades ago, Chris Ryan goes further. He believes government "should be doing far more land

**"We need to stop thinking about short-term fixes for our problems, and start thinking about the long-game ... what can we do that our communities will benefit from in 100 years."**

NATHAN HEATH, HBRC  
CATCHMENT MANAGER WAIROA

trials and finding out what has already been done and collating it. We need a lot more investigation and discussion with people who've actually seen what happened and can give value to what the best thing to do ... Council should be trying to demonstrate this on council land here. They have the opportunity to be leaders in demonstration work, anywhere in Hawke's Bay."

Everyone I speak to agrees afforestation is a massive, complex, inter-generational project. It will take us decades to restore our landscapes to a place of high function and resilience, says James Palmer. "We're looking at 50-100 years."

What's palpable, though, is the sense of excitement at the prospects and potential of taking decisive action - with the convergence of funding, community backing and political will, "the stars have aligned" for change.

At the end of the year, there'll be an opportunity for all parties to influence the path forward through the public consultation process when HBRC officially tables its forestry investment proposition. ●

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- Beauty rewards, including free facials and eyebrow and lash services

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# Seniors Go Digital

Most *BayBuzz* readers probably take for granted quality broadband access to the Internet. Indeed, as we report below, fully 98% of our readers enjoy such access. But internet access is not universally a reality, and even less a reality is true digital literacy. Hence an array of 'helpers', from *Need a Nerd* to *SeniorNet*.

TOM BELFORD

### On 1 July 2010, Finland,

that most super-chic of nations, giving the world such innovations as the wind turbine, ice skates, saunas, bubble chairs and Fiskars scissors (the ones with the bright orange handles) became the first nation to declare individuals' access to the Internet a human right.

And more to the technology point of this piece, Finland has also given the world the free Linux operating system, the first web browser (Erwise), the first text chat protocol (Internet Relay Chat, IRC) and, of course, Nokia mobile phones. And judging from that record of internet innovation, probably some of the world's best hackers!

On that July date, by law every Finn had to be provided broadband internet access at a minimum speed of 1Mb per second ... with the standard set at 100Mbps in 2015. Five other countries - not exactly a digital tsunami - have adopted similar requirements. A somewhat surprising list - Costa Rica, France, Spain, Greece and Estonia.

Its legal aspiration aside, Finland does rank 6th in the world in terms of internet speed, with an average of 20.5 Mbps and a robust 91% of citizens enjoying speeds of 4 Mbps or higher.

By comparison, the download test I just conducted on my rural home computer (using a wireless service) delivered 15.21 Mbps. Depending on whom you believe, the average NZ speed is about 16.6 Mbps, placing us 30th in the world (the global average is 7.2 Mbps).

But I digress, the focus of this piece is not speed, but rather digital literacy ... specifically workable access by a segment of our population that lags in online savvy, senior citizens.

Our recent *BayBuzz* Reader Survey got me on to this topic. We asked a few questions about online access and usage, and were impressed with how 'wired' (actually, for many 'wireless') our readers are, especially since a key chunk of our readership is age 60-plus (64%).

Offsetting their age, which in the general population is associated with lower use of online tools and services, many of our 'senior' readers are quite well-educated (58% hold a bachelor's or post-graduate degree), which is generally associated with higher online/mobile usage.



### Here's what our reader profile looks like in terms of digital devices and services ...

| DEVICE/SERVICE             | AGE 60 OR OVER | AGE 45-59 |
|----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Have home broadband access | 98%            | 100%      |
| Have Facebook page         | 55%            | 73%       |
| Use Twitter                | 2%             | 11%       |
| Have LinkedIn page         | 16%            | 49%       |
| Own a smartphone           | 70%            | 89%       |
| Own a tablet               | 35%            | 62%       |
| Own a laptop               | 70%            | 84%       |
| Use mobile apps            | 40%            | 56%       |

So, in the *BayBuzz* readership, seniors are indeed less 'equipped' than other readers, and significantly less likely to use social media.



### And here's how these seniors use their digital access (percent doing activity 'Often' or 'Very Often').

| ACTIVITY                                            | AGE 60 OR OVER | AGE 45-59 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| Pay bills                                           | 82%            | 97%       |
| Follow the news                                     | 61%            | 62%       |
| Research possible purchases                         | 59%            | 78%       |
| Use Stuff.co.nz                                     | 55%            | 51%       |
| Make bookings e.g., travel                          | 51%            | 62%       |
| Receive e-newsletters, blogs                        | 50%            | 62%       |
| Get overseas news                                   | 39%            | 37%       |
| Purchase merchandise                                | 31%            | 43%       |
| Skype                                               | 25%            | 16%       |
| Read/post reviews e.g., restaurants, accommodations | 22%            | 22%       |
| Express views on issues                             | 22%            | 24%       |
| Post on social media e.g., Facebook, Instagram      | 21%            | 25%       |
| Watch TV programmes online e.g., Netflix            | 21%            | 35%       |
| Watch videos - e.g., YouTube                        | 11%            | 27%       |



Gillian Allison conducts learning session at SeniorNet HB. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

When it comes to keeping abreast of the news digitally, our seniors are very bit as connected as our younger readership. Our seniors tend to go online less for transactions - bill paying, purchases and bookings, and they are much less into online video ... except Skype, which I presume is all about keeping track of the rellies.

To test our *BayBuzz* profile against the real world of digital usage and prowess in our senior citizen community, I visited with Terry Mortensen, chairman of Havelock North's SeniorNet.

SeniorNet has been in Havelock North for 22 years, and leases space at the Mary Doyle Lifecare Centre. The community organisation has about 300 members who pay a \$20 per year membership, giving them access to a full range of digital training programmes at the centre, as well as individual in-home tutorials.

A volunteer staff of about eight tutors and thirty helpers provide the training, which could range from mastering iPads to producing online photobooks to using mobile apps or social media to researching genealogies. One-on-one tutoring costs \$10/hour, while group sessions delivered at the centre are \$5/hour and typically might involve two 2-hour sessions over two

weeks ... broader topics might require five weeks of sessions. About 50-60 members are involved in training in an average month.

Terry observes that those participating in SeniorNet are largely driven by the desire to connect with distant family members ... "most important on our members' wish list," he says. And although they are active web browsers, they are not as comfortable with online banking ("our members have a lot of mistrust") or purchasing. He notes that the government agencies are also a major force in pressing citizens - like it or not - to access information and services online.

Terry volunteers 25-30 hours per week at SeniorNet. Asked why he made such a substantial commitment, he commented on the "pleasure I get from those 'A-ha' moments" when someone masters a device or app - like taking photos with a cellphone or Skyping - that will help or enrich their daily lives.

Terry also notes high interest these days in mastering mobile devices - smartphones and tablets - as these increasingly penetrate the senior market and facilitate family connection. See the adjoining chart for some mobile apps recommended for seniors by various sources.



### Helpful Apps for Seniors

#### 1. Lumosity

Keep your mind sharp with some of the best mind games around; designed by neuroscientists to enhance memory and attention.

#### 2. Facebook

Do we need to describe the most popular way on the planet to connect with family and friends?

#### 3. Flipboard

Connect your social media accounts and the news and content sites that most interest you, and this app delivers your own customized digital magazine.

#### 4. 1password

Sick of forgetting or having to reset your password every time you log in to your bank, Facebook, Trade Me or PayPal? With this app, you only need to remember one password, which in turn gives you secure access to all your other passwords.

**5. HealthNavigator.org.nz /app-library**

Not itself an app, but a huge library of health-related apps developed with the Ministry of Health. If you can't find it here, it doesn't exist.

**6. Tripit Travel Organiser**

Seniors do a heap of traveling. Keep all of your travel plans in one spot on your device and online.

**7. Rankers Official Camping NZ**

Travelling low budget? This app gives you the best info on over 1500 camp-sites around NZ.

**8. Pinterest**

Seniors are collectors. Lets you create simple, easy-to-share, visual catalogues of things on the web that you like.

**9. Silver Surf**

Blows up the navigation and keypad buttons on your devices.

**10. Skype**

Why just talk to your rellies when you can see them 'live and in person' ... for free?!

**11. MetService**

Pick your location and get a torrent of weather info.

**12. Radio New Zealand**

Seniors soak up the news. And no app delivers it more authoritatively.

**Bonus. Cat Piano Jr**

We couldn't resist! Turns your iPad into a virtual piano which plays meow sounds to coax kitty from under the couch.

SeniorNet is not the only way for area seniors to get help navigating the digital world.

The Positively Aging Trust also operates a computer literacy programme called Digital Seniors, teaching basic skills in a six-week curriculum in most-used functions like email, Word documents, and Skype. The programme delivers one-on-one tutoring at Heretaunga Seniors Hastings (\$8/week), Age Concern Waipukurau (\$3/week), Taradale RSA, Porangahau and Age Concern Wairoa (no charge at the last three locations).

Perhaps such organisations are dinosaurs on the verge of extinction - Terry commented that the group had about 45% churn from year to year. Today's most senior population will be replaced by Boomers, whose oldest members even were exposed to

personal computers and the Internet during their working lives. And following the Boomers are generations that were born digital!

On the other hand, most likely there will always be cries for digital help, as when (as happened to me a few days ago) all of a sudden one's email crashes or a new device or app or software upgrade proves too challenging. As Terry notes: "The technology is always changing." Digital 'senior moments' are unlikely to disappear!

Both SeniorNet and Digital Seniors welcome enquiries from interested seniors.

**SeniorNet:**

membership@seniornethb.org.nz

**Digital Seniors:**

admin@positiveageinghb.nz



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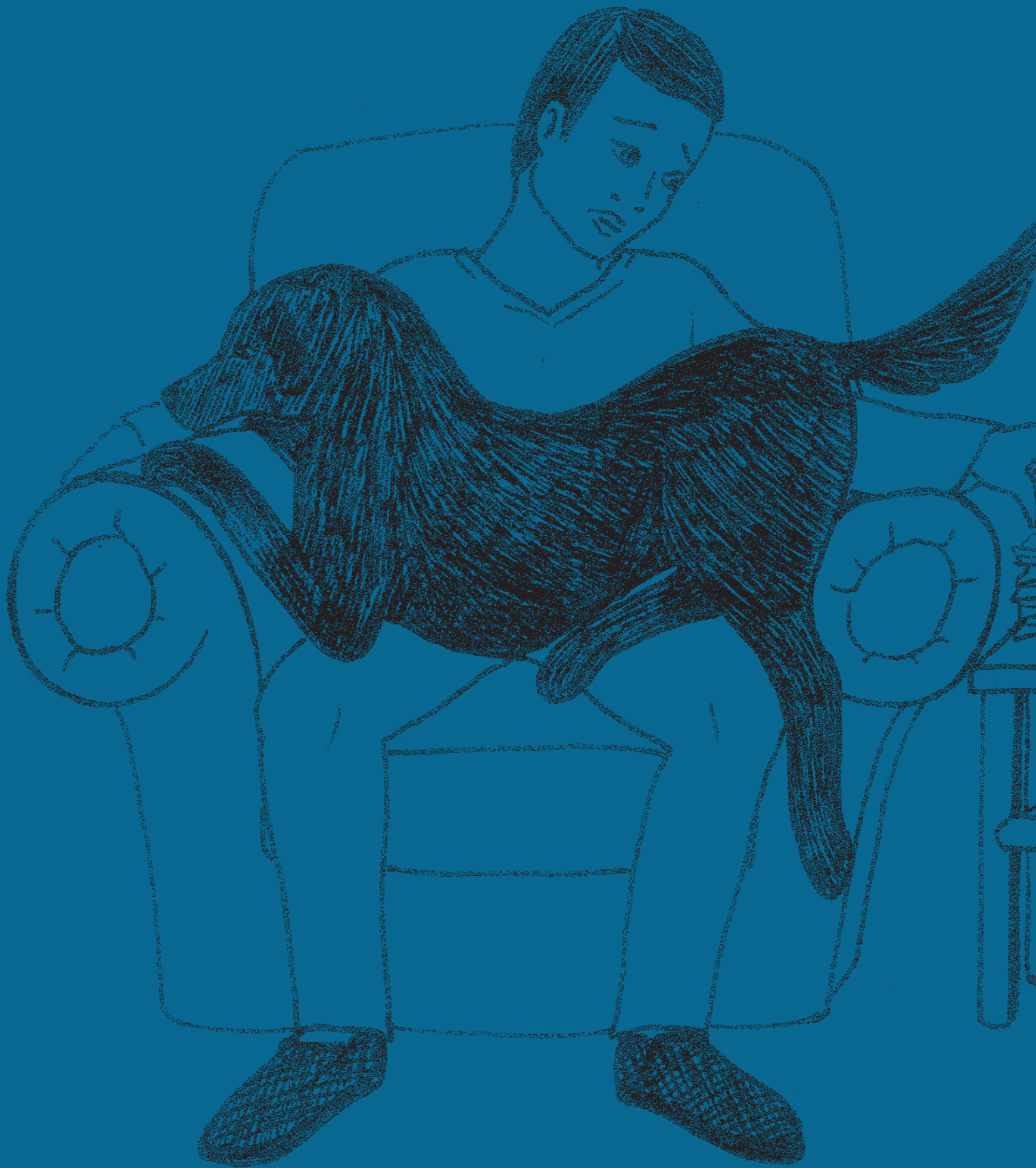
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# MOODY BLUES

JESS SOUTAR BARRON  
PHOTOS: FLORENCE CHARVIN  
ILLUSTRATIONS: ROSA NOBEL

**Who wants to talk about mental health? I'm thinking about 'ordinary' people. Not those with psychotic illness, full-on addictions, or self-harming behaviour ... although these may evolve from untreated 'normal' stress and depression.**

I ask Facebook. It seems people on Facebook are okay sharing the inner workings of their brains, their good days, their bad days.

I post: "I'm looking for people who have experience with antidepressants and/or counselling, specifically, people who function well in 'normal everyday life'. PM me." Two minutes later, I'm overwhelmed by responses. Before I even speak to them, I've learnt the three most important things about mental health: People want to talk about it. Lots of people are dealing with it. The range of experiences is vast; the triggers, diverse. (See sidebar for a selection of people's thoughts.)

My Facebook findings are a microcosm of the mental health conversation beginning to happen in New Zealand. *The People's Mental Health Report*, a crowdsourced, crowdfunded report from Action Station, and *Mental*, a collective portal for mental health stories, are opening up an online discourse that's attracting attention.

The Government's Mental Health and Addiction Inquiry is looking more formally at gaps in mental health services and has carried out extensive consultation with users, practitioners and lobby groups. It'll report back in October.

Speaking on the inquiry, and the Government's recent commitment to putting \$43 million into mental health by 2020, Mental Health Foundation boss Shaun Robinson says it's a good start, but notes how far NZ still has to go. "We'd like to see increased emphasis on prevention, communities that are better equipped to help each other, and easier access to a wider range of effective choices in mental health support."

Choices, communities talking about the issues, and early intervention - even better ... prevention - are the clear calls-to-action for those at the coal face.

## Cracks, gaps and limits

Unfortunately - and believe me, *BayBuzz* has tried - no health organisation in Hawke's Bay can provide a reliable estimate of the number of people in our region who are presently receiving mental health assistance, let alone a number of those who might need and benefit from it.

Of all patients presenting with mental health issues, only 2% are seen by services at the DHB. Exact figures are difficult to pin down for numerous reasons ... from a lack of clarity around defining mental illness to range of providers to commercial sensitivities (some services will not release figures for business reasons).

GPs say they see between three and five patients daily presenting with mental health issues, with some seeing as many as eight. One in six New Zealanders experiences a mental health issue at some stage in their lives; one in seven before they turn 24.

For those officially classed as 'mild to moderate' the options available are limited, short term and narrow, even with a GP's expertise and recommendation. One of the issues is that some of those who have greater or more complex needs than 'mild to moderate' are serviced by the same pot of resources. Actual 'mild to moderate' patients then fall further down the priority list. Some persist, becoming proactive advocates for their own wellness; some self-medicate with drugs and alcohol; others give up.

The resource pot is itself limited. Up until last month each general practice in Hawke's Bay was given a certain number of packages of care. One such practice is Taradale Medical Centre, where partner Dr Cormac FitzGerald specialises in mental health. Up until June, each quarter his practice has had ten packages of care to hand out to patients. With 10 full-time GPs seeing 15,000 patients the packages don't go far.

The recently-introduced PHO bulk funding model has increased the care packages from 10 to roughly 15. One package can include four sessions with a counsellor or psychologist. It was once possible to extend this to eight, but it is now capped at four in most cases. FitzGerald explains: "If you're giving Patient A another four, then you're not giving Patient B any."

FitzGerald says care packages run out in the first few weeks of each quarter. People who missed out in the previous round then access them as soon as the next round is released. The flow-on effect is that those left over must wait. With the DHB only able to take a small percentage of those in need, some waiting for GP funding rounds are in far greater need than 'mild to moderate'.

Once the allocation of four sessions has ended, or before they make it to the top of the list to access those subsidised sessions, patients needing counselling are paying between \$120 and \$185 an hour for it. Most in the profession agree, for the majority of issues a series of 12 sessions is preferable, although some small issues can be resolved by seeing someone only once or twice.

"It's daunting for anyone wanting counselling. They will have to spend \$500 to \$1,000 to get the help they need, which is probably why a lot of people decide to take the 'blue pill'," says FitzGerald. "A lot of people just go for the meds."



**“There’s a lot of self-treatment these days with alcohol. A lot of people I see have had an anxiety problem for years and they’ve self-medicated with alcohol or drugs.”**

DR TIM BEVIN, MENTAL HEALTH MEDICAL ADVISOR TO HEALTH HAWKE'S BAY

Bulk funding has opened up the option to use nurses to deliver some mental health help.

"We're upskilling a nurse to be able to offer more time because it's cheaper," explains FitzGerald, who has himself found ways to give more to clients without additional funding. "I've started doing a problem-solving approach for some people where I see them once a week to talk about their stuff. Again, that's cheaper than seeing a counsellor."

Another tool GPs are using is e-therapies. Practitioners say online programmes like 'Beat the Blues' and 'Mood Gym' can help in many cases, and they are easily accessible and cheap.

Accessing resources is a jungle gym of hoops and obstacles and FitzGerald believes patients must remain proactive and motivated to get the help they need. For those on a sickness benefit, or so extreme they are suicidal, help is more accessible. For those maintaining a 'manageable' life, it can be a costly exercise.

"Unfortunately, they do fall between the cracks," agrees FitzGerald. "It's going to take a multi-pronged approach to treating these people because there's definitely never going to be the resources for the number of people. You make do with what you've got, and you keep on going."

Dr Tim Bevin is Mental Health Medical Advisor to Health Hawke's Bay (HB's PHO) and a GP at Central

**BayBuzz asked people about their experiences with mental health. Here's a selection of their thoughts.**



#### TRIGGERS

- Moral dilemmas, conflict, low self-esteem.
- Stress. Over-tired. Drinking too many energy drinks.
- Medication reactions.
- Sudden shocks, crowds.
- Heavy workloads.
- Eating the wrong foods.
- Power imbalance. Control and trust. Guilt. Shame.

#### TOOLS

- Activity, social contact.
- Exercise does help.
- Ability to say "no".
- A short course of anti-depressants.
- Walking.
- Letting go of work outside work hours, only giving 90%.
- Thought control, being around supportive and empathetic people.
- Deep breathing and writing down your thoughts.
- Turning to face the monster down.
- Taking small bites day by day and celebrating.
- Meditation app.
- I see a counsellor regularly, even when I'm not in a crisis.

#### GAPS

- An understanding of holistic approach.
- Lack of compassion.
- Availability of high level counselling.
- Not enough staff, not enough resources and little to no follow up of cases.
- If you are in the mental health unit, the support is great; the moment you leave you are pretty much on your own.
- Free counselling for those who need or want it.
- No follow up from GP.
- Difficult to know where to go for specific needs.
- Re-engagement to family, to job opportunities, to fulfilling emotional and social life.
- Significantly more funding.

**Depression Helpline** – 0800 111 757 or free text 4202 (to talk to a trained counsellor about how you are feeling or to ask any questions)  
**Anxiety phone line** – 0800 269 4389 (0800 ANXIETY)  
**Skylight** – 0800 299 100 for support through trauma, loss and grief; 9am–5pm weekdays.

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Ben Deller, EIT student  
Master of Applied Management



Medical in Napier. He puts much of the blame for poor mental health statistics at the feet of New Zealand's booze culture.

"There's a lot of self-treatment these days with alcohol," explains Bevin. "A lot of people I see have had an anxiety problem for years and they've self-medicated with alcohol or drugs."

He believes prevention is the most important part of the puzzle. "If we had really good health education for our kids about looking after our mental health, particularly with regards to alcohol and drugs, it would go a long way towards forestalling all of this," says Bevin.

Bevin believes many of the simplest, cheapest fixes are also the most effective: exercise, connecting with people. But once the blues hits, the hardest thing to do is get motivated ... the effects of depression keep people inactive and withdrawn. Medication like Prozac, and packages of counselling, give patients some respite, but more time is required to make changes that will last longer than the meds or the limited sessions.

#### Help wanted

As well as self-referrals and help sourced through GPs, some people can access counselling support through their employer - generically referred to as 'employee assistance services' (EAP). One such provider is EAP Services, used by over 70 local companies in Hawke's Bay, including manufacturers, wineries, the health and education sectors and government agencies. EAP Services equates this to approximately 7,500 people in the region, 70% of them women. EAP Services, like other providers, is paid for by employers under their Health and Safety at Work responsibilities.

Grant Wattie is EAP's regional manager for Hawke's Bay and Gisborne and a counsellor. "You are responsible if your employees are not functioning and

**"It's very hard to know what the volume is in Hawke's Bay because it's quite a fragmented system ... we're not even aware of all the different organisations and what they do."**

MARIE YOUNG, GAINS@GENEVA REGIONAL  
CLINICAL MANAGER

they're not safe at work. If they've got mental health issues and they're not being addressed, then that will go straight back to the employer." He explains this change in legislation means EAP is growing fast. "We are seeing a huge increase in our business; it's just grown exponentially."

Employers are using companies like EAP Services because they see a direct link between mental wellness and productivity, says Wattie. This does mean people are getting help early. "By having a brief intervention, paid for by the employer, people can get on top of these issues before it becomes a major thing."

In most cases EAP Services will provide a person with up to six sessions. They believe in a short time they can tool-up clients to improve their mental wellbeing; this can include self-care plans and ways to develop improved self-esteem and coping mechanisms.

"The biggest trigger is anxiety, people are stressed, they're not coping with life and they're overwhelmed by their emotional state. Potential redundancy, uncertainty in the work place, communication, perceptions of different personalities in the workplace which leads to conflict. Then you take that home, [add in] the stuff that goes on in life, and you say, 'I can't cope any more'," explains Wattie, who believes

**“It’s daunting for anyone wanting counselling. They will have to spend \$500 to \$1,000 to get the help they need, which is probably why a lot of people decide to take the ‘blue pill.’”**

DR CORMAC FITZGERALD,  
TARADALE MEDICAL CENTRE

EAP-type services have a massive impact on the well-being of New Zealand.

Another avenue to access help can be through ACC. What is termed ‘Sensitive Claims’ - those linked to sexual abuse, often historical - can include time with a psychologist or counsellor. Much of this work is picked up by Gains@Geneva (such ACC claims make up 40% of their work load) whose HB regional clinical manager is Marie Young, a practising clinical psychologist. Young says Gains is often fully subscribed and turns people away, a difficult thing to do considering the amount of bravery it takes for a person to ask for help in the first place.

“It’s very hard to know what the volume is in Hawke’s Bay because it’s quite a fragmented system,” Young explains. “We’re not even aware of all the different organisations and what they do. That’s part of the difficulty. No one knows what each other’s doing or what resources are out there ... it’s not a cohesive system.”

Young says there has been a shift away from services run by government agencies to private providers. There are gaps where people don’t fit the criteria

for accessing resources.

“The area of difficulty is where you don’t meet any of the boxes: you don’t have a physical injury or you don’t have sexual abuse, there’s a real lack of funded therapy,” says Young. “We frequently get phone calls from people who have tried to commit suicide a couple of days earlier and have been told, ‘I’m sorry, but can you go private?’”


Young’s view is antidepressants do have some benefits, but they are not suitable for all mental health issues. She has no criticism of GPs in prescribing them and feels they’d use other options if they had them.

“The problem is they typically don’t. If they know they’re not bad enough for Mental Health [Services, through the DHB], they’ve run out of packages of care, and the person can’t afford to go private, what are they going to do?” Young explains. “Their only option is to provide a script.”

As a clinical psychologist, Young believes the reality is that many issues can’t be solved with medication.


“If it’s grief, no amount of medication is going to sort that out. If you’ve living in a violent relationship, there’s no medication that’s going to cure that for you,” says Young. “The GPs do what they can, but without access to a wider and more extensive range of care ... they are going to inevitably rely on medication. Not because it’s a preference, but because it’s a reality.”

Psychological difficulties are multi-factorial, rooted in a range of different triggers, and as individual as the people experiencing them. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. Some people want to talk, others prefer art therapy or exercise programmes. The key is making connections with other people.




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**“Self-care, self-love, these are things that are kept on the back burner,” she says. “When [clients] talk about self-care they think it’s selfish, but actually it’s self-preserving and it’s so important.”**

RADHIKA SONI, COUNSELLOR, WOMEN’S CENTRE

“What we need is a broad range of options,” says Young, who feels we are getting more savvy at looking for lateral solutions, although everywhere money is tight. “There’s a skills shortage. We don’t have enough highly trained people to do it. And there’s no funding because it’s a bottomless pit.”

#### Ray of light

Within the spectrum of service providers that includes GP clinics, clinical psychologists and psychotherapists, there is a range of counsellors all working within different modalities. Verona Nicholson is a US-trained psychotherapist who works here as a counsellor, as well as training and supervising other counsellors. She feels limiting counselling sessions limits their usefulness.

“It takes time to create a safe bond. You spend some time doing that, then getting clarity, before you can work on what’s happening for that person.” The alternative is beginning a process that needs to be followed through to get results. “Do you start to open something up and then say: ‘We better pack all that up again?’ We need a little time to practise, to learn some tools and try using them. Some people don’t even know what they need yet.”

Building a relationship and trust with a practitioner is key to successful engagement. That comes with time. Before work even begins, clients are battling with a stigma around seeking help. And working on many levels is the best way to activate changed habits and improved wellbeing. Alongside exercise this can include diet, art and crafts, making connections, working with spirituality, learning a new skill.

“Some people don’t even have themselves on the list of who they need to look after,” explains Nicholson.

Connections, conversations, creativity are all necessary parts of a holistic mental wellbeing picture. From GPs to counsellors, all agree on this. And providing a wrap-around service with room for these as well as practical problem-solving skills - like

budgeting advice, or physical wellness - is crucial. But there are limited places actually walking that talk.

One of the very few is Heretaunga Women’s Centre. It’s the tiny light of hope and a signal of what can be achieved with the right mix of volunteer time, forward-thinking governance, clear management, and partnerships with providers and funders. While there are practitioners holding clinics for paying clients from the Centre, there are also subsidised and koha sessions available, either one-on-one or in group work.

Radhika Soni is a counsellor who works out of the Women’s Centre seeing paying clients and contributing volunteer hours. “When we gift somebody something it’s free of any expectation. You gift from the heart and don’t expect anything in return,” explains Soni. She has identified that with women, the main seekers of mental health help, an inbuilt tendency not to prioritise themselves adds to the combination of mental wellness factors.

“Self-care, self-love, these are things that are kept on the back burner,” she says. “When [clients] talk about self-care they think it’s selfish, but actually it’s self-preserving and it’s so important.”

Counselling is only part of what’s on offer, with art, yoga, budget and legal help, peer support group sessions, or just meet-ups with conversation and cup of tea. That wrap-around care with the individual’s story as the focus is what many practitioners are talking about when they identify the gaps in the current conventional system.

“We know we are a very helpful service and we wish we had more of them because we sometimes have a very high case load,” Soni says. “We don’t want people to wait, but sometimes that happens.”

As a society, we would like to think we are open to this conversation about mental health. But there is still stigma attached. People see counsellors, but are likely to pass that off as an unspecified ‘meeting’. They’re more likely to see their GP about a raft of other things, then slip in talk of mental health near the end of the appointment ... even hide their call for help from their spouse or family.

We’re all talk when it comes to talking about our minds. It’s still much more acceptable to discuss an ingrown toenail or a varicose vein than a case of the blues.

Radhika Soni believes change can happen within each individual and so effect wider cultural and societal change. “Ask someone how they are, then wait to hear them talk. Listen to them without feeling pressure that we should *do* something. Often, we can’t,” she says. “But we can listen.” ●

# LIVE HERE GIVE HERE



HAWKE'S BAY  
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Kane Tout of the Hayseed Trust. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz



Lucy Dobbs

## **LIVE HERE - Lucy Dobbs**

Lucy Dobbs is a strategic marketing professional who has given her time and expertise to the Hawke's Bay Foundation over the past three years. She runs her own consultancy working with a range of successful local businesses.

### **Why did you choose HBF as your pro-bono charitable partner of choice?**

I think it is such a fantastic way of directing my charitable giving. Community Foundations are smart – they are here forever and all money donated gets saved, with only the interest being used to support those hardworking charitable organisations. Over time, the money will get bigger and bigger and keep on giving.

### **Why is it important to you to support organisations primarily within the HB region?**

I live here so it makes sense to offer my resource to a charity where my direct community benefits.

### **What does it mean to you to be philanthropic?**

It is really simple – it reminds me I live in a community and not on my own. The way society today is structured it is easy to forget this. Giving in whatever shape or form is so important – it connects us beyond ourselves. I don't want to turn my back on issues – there are some people out there who struggle every day for the things I am so lucky to have. It is important to connect, I believe we all have a responsibility to do this.

### **GIVE HERE: Hayseed Trust**

School isn't an easy option for everyone, but having an education and gaining qualifications is crucial for getting into the work force. For the past 36 years, Hayseed Trust has worked with youth aged 13-15 years who have been excluded from mainstream education due to their behaviour and has done so.

It is an alternative education centre that provides opportunities and positive social interactions to ensure that young people bridge the gap between their current situation and success.

In the past year Hayseed has worked with more than 80 at-risk youth and their families, providing not only a meaningful learning environment, but also the essentials needed each day, such as a good breakfast and lunch, for which they are not funded to provide.

"We give students structure by providing reliable routines, helping them set goals and manage their time," says Napier Operations Manager, Kane Tout. "We also provide pastoral care and teach life skills, all with the aim of increasing self-esteem and inter-personal skills.

In 2017, Hayseed Trust was one of 47 local organisations that Hawke's Bay Foundation supported, with funds used to meet the costs of providing a Lead Tutor to ensure the ratio of tutors to students remained at 1:10, which is vital for the challenging behaviours the students have.

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BMO  
2017



**ECONOMIC UPDATE**

**TOM BELFORD**

# Leading Change

Even as a die-hard coterie of global warming deniers, greenie-bashing farmers, and oil & gas advocates hang on to the past, events in the real world are outpacing them and rendering them irrelevant.

In every sector of economic endeavor, from high finance to on-farm practices, the smartest movers are embracing the realities - and opportunities - afforded by the accelerating transition to a new economy based on renewable energy and environmentally sustainable land use, business practices and consumer preferences.

Card-carrying 'environmentalists' have led the way, but now critical leadership is coming as well from hard-nosed capitalist investors and financiers, major corporations, and formerly vilified institutions like the World Bank (which in December announced it would no longer finance oil and gas development).

I'm hopeful that we here in Hawke's Bay - joining leading players in New Zealand - will play our part, reaping

the benefits of a moral imperative. There's nothing wrong with doing good and doing well.

I'm re-publishing here two examples of NZ leadership thinking, both first published by Pure Advantage ([pureadvantage.org](http://pureadvantage.org)) ... a beacon of provocative ideas.

The first is a group essay - a manifesto, really - written by Sirs Stephan Tindall and Mark Solomon and other trustees of Pure Advantage. They issue a clarion call for a NZ green economy ... *Our Chance to Lead*.

Then follows *Change Afoot Down on the Farm* by Rachel Stewart. She gets down to ground level, looking at the exciting farming transformation underway at Crown-owned Landcorp - now branded Pāmu, Naturally New Zealand - which owns or manages about 125 farms on nearly 400,000 hectares throughout NZ.

What does the Pāmu brand promise? Among other things - "We never feed imported ingredients like palm kernel expeller (PKE) synthetic or artificial feed, GMO or antibiotics. Natural

means there is no need for artificial flavours or additives to our products..."

There's the future path of NZ farming. Helping to bring that future to Hawke's Bay farming will be the mission of the Future Farming Trust just initiated by the HB Regional Council.

In a nutshell, this project is about innovation, lifting the bar, and improving long-term competitiveness - all in a Hawke's Bay context. The Future Farming Trust, led by HB practitioners, will collect evidence of how leading farmers and growers in our region are achieving positive, balanced and integrated outcomes for their land and businesses. And translate this evidence into proven, accessible and achievable HB-relevant options that can help other HB farmers/growers to better their environmental performance while improving on-farm economic returns and resilience.

I have championed this initiative and will write more about it as the project gets underway.

Meantime, I hope this 'big picture' inspires you.

# Our Chance to Lead

**PURE ADVANTAGE TRUSTEES:** ROB MORRISON (CHAIR), SIR STEPHEN TINDALL, SIR MARK SOLOMON, KATHERINE CORICH, PHILLIP MILLS AND GEOFF ROSS

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern made waves in the lead up to the 2017 election when she labelled climate change her generation's 'nuclear free moment'.

She's right, of course. There's never been a stronger moral imperative to tackle one of the greatest challenges humanity has ever faced. But taking action on climate change also presents enormous opportunities for New Zealand to build a thriving green economy and stay ahead of the curve as the world transitions.

The Government's recent announcement to ban new offshore oil and gas exploration is just one step - but a bold one, and in the right direction. A lot of the negative commentary on the ban has largely ignored the game-changing opportunities an economic strategy based on the renewable energy industries of the future will offer us.

These opportunities are material. The Business and Sustainable Development Commission (BSDC) estimates the opportunities in the emerging clean energy sector to be worth US

\$605 billion to the private sector globally, by 2030. BSDC further estimates new opportunities in forest ecosystems globally represent up to \$365 billion per year through 2030, electric vehicles represent \$320 billion in the same time period, and energy efficiency in the building and construction sector is estimated to be worth up to \$770 billion by 2030.

The report also estimates that first movers seizing these opportunities will have a five to fifteen year advantage.

Looking longer-term, PWC's



**The Government's recent announcement to ban new offshore oil and gas exploration is just one step – but a bold one, and in the right direction.**

estimates for the World Business Council for Sustainable Development suggest annual sustainability-related investment opportunities in food and agriculture and forestry totaling \$1.2 trillion per year and \$200 billion per year, respectively, by 2050. According to the World Bank, if every country is to meet their Paris Climate Agreement commitments there is a \$23 trillion dollar global investment opportunity.

By taking a strategic approach, New Zealand can lead in developing the industries that will contribute to the global economy of the future as well as drive our own prosperity, and at the same time show *kaitiakitanga* (guardianship) for our environment and encourage innovation and resilience in our people.

Some of our greatest economic opportunities lie in areas where we have core strengths and relative advantages, for instance in renewable energy, high value regenerative agriculture, biotechnology and forestry, biofuels and bio-products, in improvements in the built environment and infrastructure, transport, across the board efficiencies and electricity grid technology. The Productivity Commission's draft report examining how New Zealand can transition towards a low emissions future while growing incomes and wellbeing found that the "emergence of new technologies and firms in the low-carbon sector will provide opportunities for employment, exports and productivity gains".

There are also risks in remaining reliant on a high-carbon infrastructure. Fossil fuels are increasingly being seen as a financial liability. Conservative models indicate US \$2.5 trillion will be wiped from global financial assets, between stranded assets and climate impacts. Major investors are making moves to reduce their exposure to climate risk as well as reduce the overall impacts of climate change. The

Norwegian sovereign wealth fund, the world's largest, has already begun divesting from high-carbon projects, and is making plans to remove all oil and gas projects from its portfolio. Last December, the World Bank announced that they'll be ending financial support for oil and gas exploration.

In the New Zealand context, Westpac bank recently released a study in partnership with Vivid Economics and Ernst Young demonstrating we will be NZ \$30 billion better off if we respond to climate change sooner rather than later. Chief Executive, David McLean, said: "This research demonstrates the importance of taking immediate steps to cut our greenhouse gas emissions. The alternative is waiting and taking action later, but that is likely to require more drastic changes in behaviour and over the long-term hit people harder in the pocket." Westpac itself is reducing exposure to fossil fuels and investing in renewables, echoing a clear trend in the global finance sector.

The low carbon transition represents enormous opportunities and helps us manage enormous risks – but it must be done in a way that protects our people and communities. Ensuring that this transition is socially just and leaves no one behind will require careful planning, long term thinking, and sufficient runways for communities and sectors to transform. This position is supported by the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions (NZCTU). Executive Sam Huggard said: "The science is clear that there is no long-term future for oil and gas, that's inescapable, and the quicker we can have a plan in place for transition, the outcome for the workers will be much, much better."

The low-carbon shift comes with significant opportunities for employment, including boosting regional jobs. Around the world, countries investing in renewable energies show that job

growth in the sector far outstrips that of future oil, gas and mining sector opportunities. The International Renewable Energy Agency has found that solar PV creates twice the number of jobs per unit of electricity as coal or gas.

In the US solar jobs are growing as much as 12 times faster than the rest of the economy. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, the two fastest growing occupations in America are solar photovoltaic installers and wind turbine service technicians. One in every 50 American jobs created in 2016 was in the solar industry, according to the Solar Foundation. Furthermore, solar installation and maintenance jobs are by their very nature local jobs, which can provide a necessary boost to regional employment.

Importantly, the benefits of the low-carbon transition go beyond employment and GDP. For instance, the Productivity Commission report identified the enormous opportunity that technological innovation holds in creating "dynamic and creative improvements in national wellbeing". These include cleaner air, reduced rates of respiratory illness, cleaner water, less harm to biodiversity and of course avoiding catastrophic climate change.

The shift to a clean-energy future will touch every aspect of our economy – every product and service must know its carbon footprint and find ways to achieve neutrality. This means there are myriads of economic opportunities for all sectors. The Government's recent decision to end offshore oil and gas exploration has created a much-needed signal to investors and businesses alike that the future is going to be low-carbon.

There is no question: the time is now. It is up to us to decide the best way forward. As Lord Ernest Rutherford said, "We don't have much money, so we have to think".

# Change Afoot Down on the Farm

RACHEL STEWART

Farming in New Zealand has never been put under the transformation pump quite like it is right now. Change is afoot, and is being led by some of the more unusual suspects.

As one of this country's most ardent critics of farming's impact on the environment - particularly water - it may surprise many to know that I am heartened by the quiet revolution taking place behind the scenes.

Let's talk to Landcorp. While the company is owned by the Crown, it operates on the same playing field as all other public and private farming entities. It owns or manages 140 farms throughout the country, and is expected to return a profit to its shareholders.

The rhetoric from CEO Steve Carden has been the finest out of the rural sector since forever. Anyone can spout marvellous platitudes about environmental sustainability, but it's his actions that have really made me - and others - sit up and take notice.

Establishing an Environmental Reference Group (ERG) in 2015 - designed to advise senior management on environmental activities with absolute independence - was a smart move.

Appointing freshwater ecologist Dr Mike Joy to it was an even smarter move. If nothing else, it's a good look. As was appointing veterinarian, ecologist, and farm advisor Dr Alison Dewes. Along with Joy, she has been a

**Appointing freshwater ecologist Dr Mike Joy to it was an even smarter move. If nothing else, it's a good look.**

firm critic of New Zealand's traditional farming model. To then appoint her as Landcorp's head of environment, a newly-created position within the state-owned enterprise, was nothing short of genius.

The emphasis on the environment had been signalled for some time. In August 2016 Steve Carden announced that their farms would stop using palm kernel expeller (PKE) as a supplementary feed by the following year. The ERG had been discussing it with the organisation for some time.

The move demonstrated Landcorp recognises that consumers are placing more importance on where their food comes from and how it is produced.

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**Because if New Zealand is to have any real chance of solving the environmental crisis that is modern-day agriculture, we're going to need farmers and their apologists – DairyNZ, Fonterra, Federated Farmers – to start thinking and, more importantly, acting like Landcorp.**

Even more than that, it sent a really loud message to both dairy farmers and Fonterra – a purveyor of PKE – that solutions to protect the environment are also commercially sensible.

The other big environmental win for Landcorp came partly from the ERG's focus on their massive dairy farm conversions near Wairakei, above Lake Taupō. Conversions from forestry to dairy began in the early 2000s. There was a large public outcry about the impacts of the conversions on Lake Taupō.

Wairakei Estate comprises 13 dairy farms with 17,000 cows over 6400 hectares. Originally, it planned to run 43,000 cows on 39 farms by 2021 but the plans have been scaled back.

"We're acutely aware that we do not want to create any legacy issues for sensitive water catchments in the communities we operate in, anywhere around the country," Steve Carden said.

So scale it back they did, and they're now planting about 1000 ha a year of forests on the property instead. In terms of riparian planting, significant setbacks, up to 242 metres in one

instance, have created buffer zones between the pastoral land and major waterways. The average setback is 75 metres, which well exceeds the required distance.

This is what I call quietly getting stuff done. And because Landcorp's an SOE, leading by example environmentally is both smart and strategic. While I'll never agree with them on every issue – they use irrigation, for example (and that's a whole 'nother column) – I applaud their foresight and vision.

Because if New Zealand is to have any real chance of solving the environmental crisis that is modern-day agriculture, we're going to need farmers and their apologists – DairyNZ, Fonterra, Federated Farmers – to start thinking and, more importantly, acting like Landcorp. Is that possible within a relatively short time frame? Because time's running out.

Farming's social licence to operate has been close to expiring for a while now. But further to that, the ongoing and insidious degradation of our soil, our water, and our biodiversity continues to creep along in a manner that is

not terribly noticeable on a day-to-day basis, but which is steadily destroying our native flora and fauna.

Cutting back on cow numbers, decreasing fertiliser use, slashing back chemical applications, and planting more trees are all on the table. But when will farming's leaders openly accept that their industry has to change?

Agriculture is the industry most dependent on a healthy environment and most at risk from the effects of climate change. It generates the majority of our export earnings and has an international reputation not only for quality products, but also for being clean and green – despite the fact that that's now been proven to be a myth.

It's also an industry starting to suffer animal welfare issues with increasing intensity. *Mycoplasma bovis* is just the latest.

It's a pivotal time down on the Kiwi farm, and if farmers don't get with the programme soon, I fear for the sector. We'll know when they start embracing change because they'll start thinking, talking, and acting like Landcorp.

On this, I am holding my breath. ●



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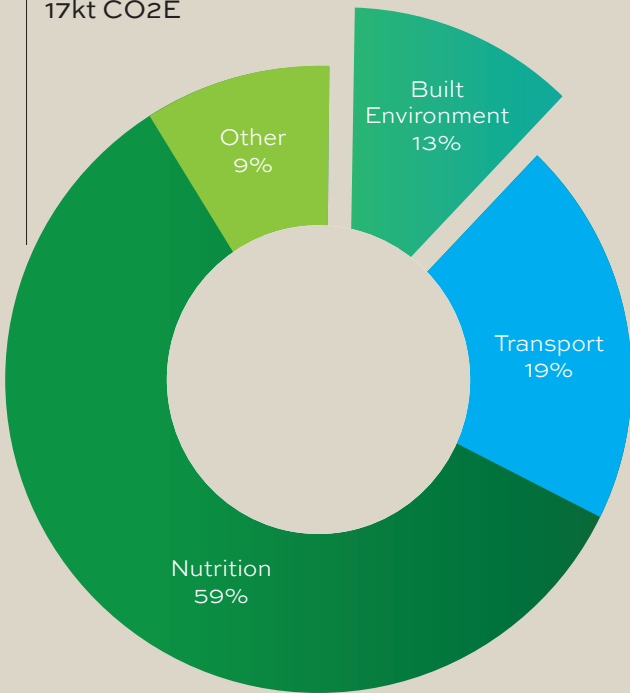
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**The 'built environment' is actually responsible for 20% of climate change emissions by New Zealanders, according to a report by sustainability consultancy Thinkstep.**

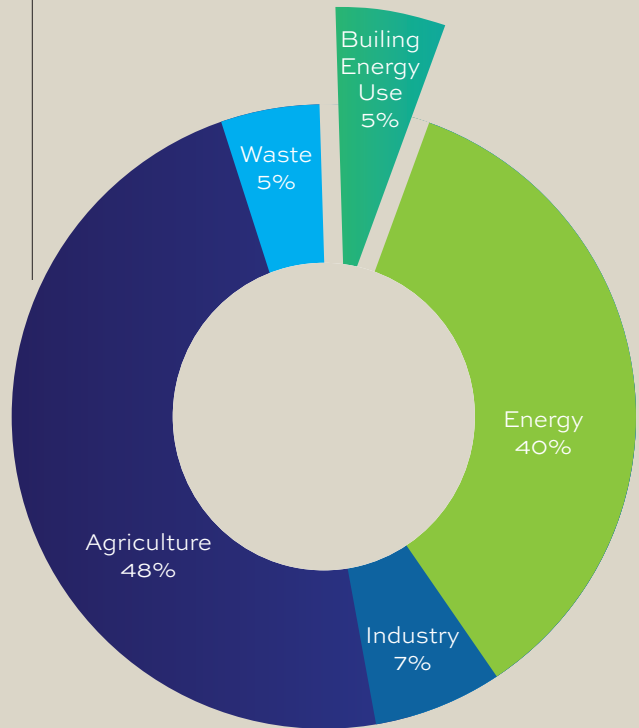
**Life cycle perspective**  
(excluding international trade)

**New Zealand's total footprint**  
80,000kt CO<sub>2</sub>E  
**Per person**  
17kt CO<sub>2</sub>E



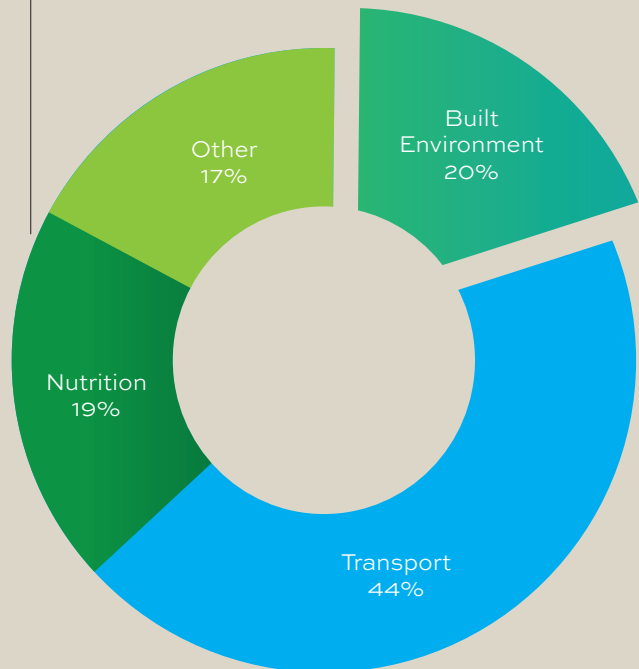
**Production-orientated view**

**New Zealand's total footprint**  
80,000kt CO<sub>2</sub>E  
**Per person**  
17kt CO<sub>2</sub>E



**Consumption-oriented view**  
(including international trade)

**New Zealand's total footprint**  
60,000kt CO<sub>2</sub>E  
**Per person**  
13kt CO<sub>2</sub>E



# At Home with Global Warming

TOM BELFORD

Elsewhere in this edition you'll find disturbing updates on the global warming challenge - 400 consecutive months of above-average temperatures, a threat to 30% of the world's veggie production, accelerated species extinction. Add in faster melting ice sheets and slower moving cyclones (dumping more and heavier rain) and the future scenario looks pretty grim.

But now for some positive news ... something you can do about it.

Starting at home ... literally.

Buildings - lighting, heating and cooling them - use 5% of NZ's energy pie. This is below the global average, due to our use of wood for much of our residential heating and the fact that we don't actually heat and cool our buildings as much as other developed countries, especially in the residential sector. [See Sarah Cates' article, p58, for the downside of that!]

Yet the 'built environment' is actually responsible for 20% of climate change emissions by New Zealanders, according to a report by sustainability consultancy Thinkstep. Their report takes into account the entire life cycle of a building, from production of the building materials through operational energy used and end-of-life demolition.

The 20% contribution from the built environment to New Zealand's total gross carbon footprint from a total consumption perspective (after adjusting for international trade) is made up of 8.6% from energy use, 8.7% from building products, 2.1% from imported emissions (primarily services such as insurance) and 0.5% from building and garden waste. The key point here is that material efficiency is as important as energy use efficiency in New Zealand.

## Residential energy savings

For the average consumer interested

in minimizing their environmental footprint, therefore, selection of building materials and building design can be hugely important, if one is in home-building or renovation mode. But for most of us, our choices revolve around energy efficiency tweaks we can make to our existing abodes.

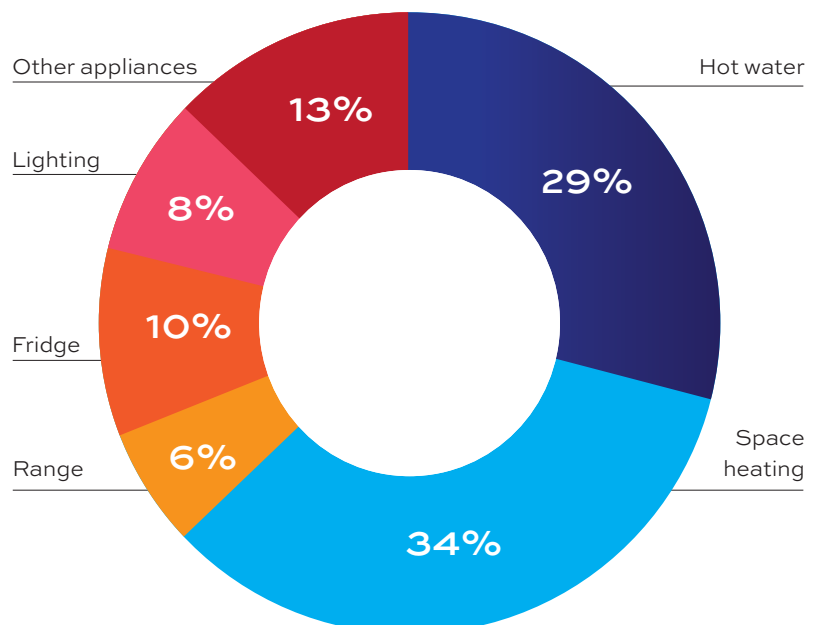
There's no question the home energy conservation opportunities are there. Residential use accounts for 32% of NZ electricity consumption (commercial use is another 24%).

Peak electricity demand in the average NZ house is 2.2kW. The technical potential exists to reduce this demand by 0.8kW/house ... more than one-third. Such savings would reduce electricity-related emissions by about 34% - about 1,700 ktCO<sub>2</sub>e/year.

***There's no question the home energy conservation opportunities are there. Residential use accounts for 32% of NZ electricity consumption (commercial use is another 24%).***

If one is in the home-building or serious renovation mode, better choices abound in building design and construction.

Here's how we use our home electricity: typical energy consumption for an existing New Zealand house



**Heating  
Consumption  
(x1000kWH)**

|                  | Code insulation |               |             | Better insulation |               |             | Best insulation |               |             |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| <b>High mass</b> | 12.7            | 11.7          | 11.8        | 6.1               | 5.2           | 4.9         | 4.1             | 3.2           | 2.7         |
| <b>Medium</b>    | 11.1            | 10.6          | 10.7        | 6.3               | 5.6           | 5.5         | 3.8             | 3.1           | 3.2         |
| <b>Low mass</b>  | 10.6            | 10.6          | 11.1        | 6.4               | 6.1           | 6.2         | 3.8             | 3.5           | 3.8         |
| <b>Glazing</b>   | <b>low</b>      | <b>medium</b> | <b>high</b> | <b>low</b>        | <b>medium</b> | <b>high</b> | <b>low</b>      | <b>medium</b> | <b>high</b> |

A Design Builders home built in Havelock North in 2009 won NZ's top award for eco-design - the most efficient home per square metre in NZ at the time. According to Scott Taylor, general manager at Design Builders and president of HB Master Builders, a full-on commitment to energy efficiency in a new build would add about \$30,000 to \$35,000 in cost. That money goes to features like solar gear, higher-grade insulation (way above minimum code), double glazing, LED lighting, and polished cement floors with in-floor heating, high efficiency wood burners and heat pumps.

“Slapping some solar panels on the roof is not an eco-home,” says Scott, “But combined with good design, efficiency levels can go through the roof.” He says there’s a lot more awareness of what’s in end-products like paint and imported products that carry a transportation footprint.

The energy-consumption savings from these features is relatively straightforward to calculate. For example, an LED is about 85% more efficient than an incandescent light. The best performing windows allow less than half the heat loss of standard double glazing, and less than a quarter the heat loss of standard single glazing. The table above shows the relative efficiencies gained from better insulation and glazing in a typical modeled home in windy, rainy Wellington, illustrating the dominant effect of better insulation.

Insulation is most critical. Says Energywise: “Because insulation is

***“Slapping some solar panels on the roof is not an eco-home, but combined with good design, efficiency levels can go through the roof.”***

SCOTT TAYLOR, DESIGN BUILDERS  
GENERAL MANAGER AND PRESIDENT,  
HAWKE'S BAY MASTER BUILDERS

the most important factor influencing energy efficiency and comfort you should always try to use higher levels of insulation than Building Code minimum requirements. It will always be more difficult and expensive to increase the insulation at some later date, so it pays to insulate really well first time around.” Scott reinforces that: “I strongly stress to clients that they upgrade insulation to the highest levels they can afford.”

Estimating the ‘pay-back’ time for a \$35,000 energy efficiency investment is more complicated and depends upon energy pricing assumptions and energy cost savings as less electricity is purchased from the grid. Scott estimates 8-10 years or less at present rates.

He notes that an age-60 plus home-builder/buyer is still more likely to spend the extra money on a “bucket list trip”. On the other hand, younger buyers increasing “expect as standard” that a first new house will include the highest points of insulation and solar hot water. They also see these features

as key components of enhanced re-sale value. He says that greater attention to health issues are also causing more interest in warm homes, indirectly fueling energy efficiency improvements.

But before those ‘add-ons’, he says, passive design features set the stage - proper north- and east-facing orientation, proper roof pitch (to optimize solar collection efficiency) and overhangs (to shield sun), windows placed for good cross flow, efficient placement of hot water tanks. “And good design shouldn’t cost more money,” he emphasizes.

If you’re not in new-build mode, your energy savings will need to come more incrementally.

The most obvious options for most homeowners include shifting to more energy-efficient appliances, improving insulation, upgrading windows, a more efficient heating source, and solar power. For example, solar water heating can reduce energy costs for hot water by 50-75%.

Says Scott, “I try to get solar into

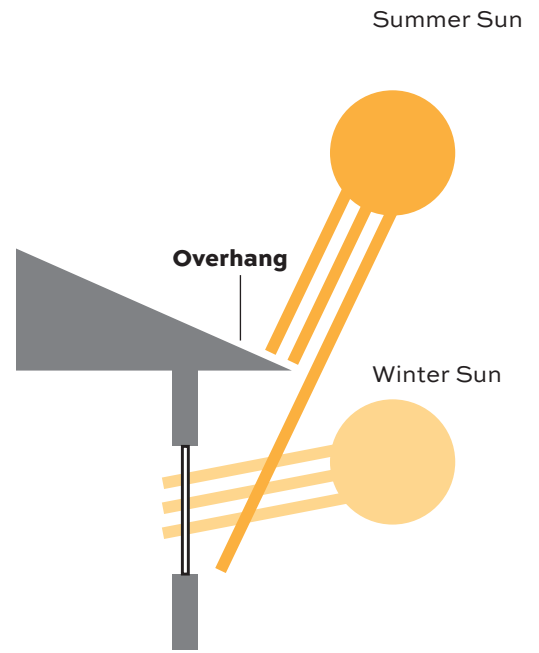
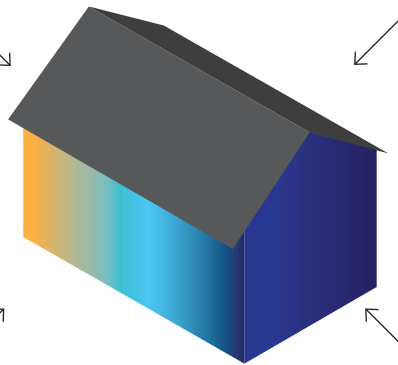
**Window Orientation Guide**

**North facing**  
More and moderately large

**West facing**  
Less and smaller

**East facing**  
Less and smaller

**South facing**  
As few as possible and as small as possible



every house I can,” but he acknowledges that it’s still a tough sale. The technology is fast-moving and clients are not sure who to trust. And then there’s the inevitable trade-off between a fantastic counter-top that will make the kitchen a showcase on day 1 versus a panel for the roof

that will take years to pay off! But, he insists, “It’s going to take off!”

Solar City is charging into the residential solar market, attacking resistance to costly upfront investment, with its solarZero energy service. SolarCity installs and owns the equipment - solar panels and battery - at its cost and

charges the customer for a 20-year service contract. Click Hawke’s Bay on SolarCity’s website and the pop-up claims you’ll save \$21,280 over 20 years.

Careful consumers should evaluate such packages mindful of their assumptions about future electricity prices, inflation and interest rates. And



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Recent Havelock North new-build illustrates energy efficient siting, window use, solar PVC.

*On the other hand, younger buyers increasing “expect as standard” that a first new house will include the highest points of insulation and solar hot water. They also see these features as key components of enhanced re-sale value.*

also consider the costs to change or exit the arrangement if their circumstances change or they wish to sell their property during its term.

If you're a renter, there's still plenty you can do to conserve energy. Here's an excellent source of ideas, including the latest insulation requirements:

[www.energywise.govt.nz/at-home/buying-and-renting/tenants/](http://www.energywise.govt.nz/at-home/buying-and-renting/tenants/)

**The commercial case**

Residential users spend \$3.2 billion/year on electricity. Commercial and industrial users spend a bit more - \$2.1 billion and \$1.6 billion, respectively.

And \$8.4 billion on energy overall - or 50% of NZ's total energy use accounting for more than 40% of NZ's energy-related CO2 emission (excluding transportation in each case), according to the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA).

The EECA estimates that many

businesses can shave up to 20% off their overall energy costs, claiming they are presently wasting \$1.6 billion per year.

Since, like any other business cost, energy expenses directly erode the bottom line, businesses have a clearer 'line of sight' to the benefits of day-to-day energy efficiency improvements. But there are 'softer' indirect benefits as well in terms of better, healthier and safer working conditions, along with improved staff morale and brand goodwill - all contributing to measurable productivity benefits as well.

And here are the savings opportunities in a typical office setting - pretty basic stuff like turning off electronic equipment, using efficient lighting, having proper insulation.

For most businesses - and probably for average consumers as well - curbing carbon emissions and global warming isn't their first priority each morning.

But if present emission trends continue, it won't be but a decade or two before each home and workplace will become a 'ground zero' in what will have become an urgent daily battle to curb catastrophic climate change.

**Since, like any other business cost, energy expenses directly erode the bottom line, businesses have a clearer 'line of sight' to the benefits of day-to-day energy efficiency improvements.**

**Sources:**

[www.energywise.govt.nz](http://www.energywise.govt.nz)

(see especially, Designing Comfortable Homes: Guidelines on the Use of Glass, Mass and Insulation for Energy Efficiency)

[www.eeca.govt.nz](http://www.eeca.govt.nz)

(see especially, Concept Consulting Group: *What is the case for electricity efficiency initiatives?*)

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IDEAS AND OPINION  
SARAH CATES

# Unhealthy Homes ... Unacceptable!

“In my opinion New Zealanders live in some of the worst housing in the Western World!” asserts Dave Stapleton from NZ House Surveys, an incidental observer of unhealthy homes in Hawke’s Bay.

Dave’s work brings him to the front line of ‘real life’ living. Inspecting residential properties and carrying out house inspections for people who are purchasing their own homes, Dave sees it all, and is increasingly concerned about the health effects cold, damp and overcrowded homes are having on our local people.

“Hardly a week goes by we don’t inspect a home that is damp, cold, and mouldy. It’s no wonder some of these occupants always seem to have the flu, and their kids are frequent visitors to the doctors, or the emergency department. Sometimes it’s so bad, we have felt ill ourselves afterwards.”

Considerable evidence links the housing crisis with growing physical and mental unwellness within our communities. Unicef NZ reports that some 90,000 Kiwi kids are living in inadequate housing. It is estimated that 40,000 of these kids are admitted to hospital each year, due to income poverty and inadequate housing. New Zealand has the highest rates of asthma and respiratory illness in the OECD countries.

Over the years, lack of regulation and inadequate housing standards have resulted in many people having to cope with preventable illness such as rheumatic fever, skin infections and respiratory conditions. People living in damp and mouldy dwellings are more likely to suffer from psychological distress, nausea, constipation, blocked nasal passages, breathlessness, back-ache, aching joints, and feeling faint. Such conditions multiply the inequalities many of these people already experience, compounding the impact of poverty, and ultimately leading to

**“Sometimes when I drive by a house that we have been referred to in the past and I see that the windows are open, and the condensation has been wiped off the glass, I let out a small cheer!”**

GAYLEEN WAHO

undesirable long-term health impacts.

Hawke’s Bay social workers Gayleen Waho and Alice Peacock are employed by the Hawke’s Bay District Health Board (HBDHB) to deliver the Healthy Whare, Healthy Whānau Programme. This is a free programme that helps low income families with children - through education and assistance - create warmer, drier, and healthier homes.

Alice, passionate designer of the programme, says: “We still get shocked at what we see! It is not getting any better. When we are referred to a home to see the living conditions of an unwell child, we can often find over twenty people living in a three bedroomed house.”

The HBDHB have been running the Healthy Whare, Healthy Whānau Programme for three and half years. The team are still getting around 700 referrals a year. Alice says: “We all feel pretty tired by the end of the winter! What we see on TV and read in our newspapers is tip of the iceberg stuff. Families are moving into houses with no heating, faulty plumbing, cracked windows, and no insulation. Frequently homes have no curtains or carpet!”

Gayleen and Alice are part of a seven-strong team dedicated to improving the lives of families struggling to stay well in unhealthy living conditions.

Gayleen is fervent: “These cold damp conditions are killing our kids! I am so fed up with seeing people that are happy to let families live this way, where are the morals and ethics in humanity?”

Families are referred to the programme if they are on a low income, living in a cold home, and meet specific criteria. Such criteria include a hospital diagnosis of respiratory illness, rheumatic fever, meningitis, acute nephritic syndrome, meningococcal disease or septicaemia. Or if you are a pregnant woman, a new born baby is in the family, or if there is a risk factor of abuse and neglect.

Alice adds: “We are not a ‘hand out’ service, but we do a lot of advocacy work in assisting families obtain the help they need to improve their living conditions. We have such a cultural mix in Hawke’s Bay, sometimes it can be as minimal as writing a letter, as English is not the first language, or accompanying someone to the doctor. Education is often a key area for many families. Islanders really don’t know how to live in New Zealand. We are a cold damp country, they need help in understanding how to live in our climate. Sometimes the damp has become so bad in the homes the carpet squishes under our feet.”

With home ownership at a sixty-year low, an inadequate supply of state housing and the private rental market under extreme pressure, low-income families are desperate to stay in their homes. Consequently, families will tolerate an unhealthy home for fear of eviction.

Alice continues: “We have to respect the wishes of our clients, so we spend a lot of our time educating families on how to improve their living conditions with simple, inexpensive tips. Modest measures such as stopping cold air with draught stoppers, opening the windows, allowing space between sleeping children, cleaning the mould off the walls, and so on, can improve



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Alice Peacock, Gayleen Waho and Marama Te Kowhai. Three of a seven strong team that run The Child Healthy Homes Programme through Hawke's Bay District Health Board. Photo: Sarah Cates.

the health of the children considerably. I can be quite firm with my clients! We will do everything we can to keep families in their homes. Displacement can cause so much stress."

Gayleen loves her work. Despite what she sees on a day-to-day basis she experiences many special moments. Both Alice and Gayleen consider small behavioural changes in families a success. Gayleen adds: "Sometimes when I drive by a house that we have been referred to in the past and I see that the windows are open, and the condensation has been wiped off the glass, I let out a small cheer!"

Alice and Gayleen recognise they could not achieve the great work they do without the support of non-profit

charitable organisations within Hawke's Bay. "The help we get from The Salvation Army, the Curtain Bank and Christian Love Link, is invaluable. If the readers want to help Hawke's Bay's most vulnerable people, I encourage them to give to these worthy organisations. We also desperately need new warm clothes for babies and children. Items such as merinos, PJs, and thermals are greatly appreciated."

Healthy homes are the foundation of our nation's health and wellbeing. But New Zealand is a long way from acceptable housing standards. As our health statistics confirm, currently we are failing our most vulnerable people.

What can you do? Support charities like those mentioned above. Advocate

for stronger mandatory standards. Be responsible landlords ... and shame those who are not.

*Note: The HB Regional Council's Heatsmart programme provides financial assistance for home insulation and safe heating. For information, visit the HBRC website, search Heatsmart. ●*



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# Foreign buyer ban; will it affect your property price?

When the Overseas Investment Amendment Bill passes into law shortly, it's expected to have a significant impact on areas such as Queenstown, which with its proliferation of multi-million dollar properties, is very appealing to foreigners.

So what about Hawke's Bay? We have an increasing number of houses valued above the \$1 million mark.

We are also increasingly attractive to out of region buyers. Our climate is as good as anywhere in New Zealand, we are in a great central location, the Bay offers a wonderful lifestyle, and the region is thriving.

So will the ban on foreign buyers slow down the top end market?

Probably not, according to leading Sales Associate at New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty in Havelock North, Darryl Buckley. And he should know. With their impressive international networks, high value brand and uber-professional approach, it's no surprise that New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty handle a very significant share of upscale real estate sales in Hawke's Bay.

According to Buckley, whilst New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty work with many foreign buyers, many are expats with the right visa, or New Zealander's returning home, after a period of wealth banking in the USA, Europe or Asia.

"After 10 years of stress in London or New York, they come back to New Zealand for a more balanced lifestyle, and the Bay is the perfect place to achieve that", says Darryl. "So we do get a high volume of that type of enquiry through our international networks."

As well as being the leading local agent in his own right, Darryl also manages the highly successful Sotheby's International Realty Havelock North team, which means he has a hand in most \$1 million

plus sales. And with more than 15 years experience of the local market, he's seen a lot of changes.

Real Estate compliance has evolved into a complicated and challenging animal, says Darryl, "so it's vital that the sale is managed properly to ensure a smooth and successful process. That end of the market often has its own range of complexities and ensuring one understands these in great detail is extremely important when providing information to prospective purchasers".

"Our typical Vendor is busy, and wants clear communication and a clean sale process. They are aware that there is not an unlimited buyer pool, and they don't want sales falling over for the wrong reason, so we have upskilled significantly to ensure that New Zealand Sotheby's International Realty always provides a safe pair of hands when handling their property".

So there's no need to be worried about the impact of a foreign buyer ban in Hawke's Bay?

"I don't think so", says Darryl. "We will continue to get demand from out of region buyers looking to relocate for a better life balance, approximately 40 percent of our buyers are coming from other New Zealand locations and approximately 10 percent from overseas, who see Hawke's Bay as a first choice destination. We know the interest is high from tracking user locations on our website".

"So it's more about supply than demand for us, which makes it even more important that we are Vendor focussed throughout the process. It's Vendors who pay our fees, and we need to continue delivering a first class service, which is something all of our team are in agreement on. Unlike some regions, we don't have hundreds of properties at that end of the market, so every Vendor is very important to us."



# The Ruataniwha Roars

Māori mythology tells a story of a boy who fell into a lake and two taniwha fought over his body. The lashing of their tails broke through the eastern bank forming the Tukituki and Waipawa rivers, draining the lake and leaving in its place the Ruataniwha Plains.

Central Hawke's Bay from coastal Blackhead to the mountains Ruahine - that means 'wise woman' referring to the granddaughter of the kaitiaki of the Aotea waka, was an area first settled by people who proudly identify as Ngāti Kahungunu and with Rangitane ancestry. The district is known as Tamatea to iwi.

They were joined in the 1840s by farmers from Wairarapa. The pastoralists brought sheep to Hawke's Bay and Purerere in 1849. The town of Waipukurau was founded in the 1860s, ahead of Hastings (1873).

Now, after more than five years of painful suspense over the proposed water storage scheme, the Ruataniwha is clearly awakened. The CHB economy is roaring.

The 2013 census recorded the Central Hawke's Bay population at 12,717 - 50th of 67 districts. One in five people are Māori. Waipukurau accommodates 3,700 people, almost 30% of the district's population. Statistics NZ predicts a CHB 2018 population of 13,850 (up 9%).

If you bought a house in CHB around January 2014, the four-year average price uplift to early 2018, from \$200,000 to \$307,000, would represent a value gain of 54%. The market is happily rocking to a very strong beat, with some residential property values almost doubling in five years.

CHB residential real estate sales averaged \$62.2 million per year for the three years 2014-16. In 2017, transactions jumped to \$107 million; an increase of 72%, while transaction numbers increased 50%. All property sales, including commercial-industrial and rural land 2014-16, reflected annually \$227 million. This compares to total

sales in 2017 of \$323 million - an increase of 42%. Real estate transaction numbers in 2017 increased by 48%.

People are feeling good and the Ruataniwha Plains and the broader district is doing well. Farming is good, and horticulture is booming. Hawke's Bay employment rates are high. Increasingly people are choosing to live in Otane, Waipawa, Waipukurau and surrounding districts. Some residents are commuting to work in Hastings and elsewhere.

**Now, after more than five years of painful suspense over the proposed water storage scheme, the Ruataniwha is clearly awakened. The CHB economy is roaring.**

Property analyst and valuer at Turley & Co, Nikki Whelpton, who lives in Central Hawke's Bay, said her commute to Hastings is "easier than my prior commute from Bronte into central Sydney." Nikki also says that CHB commuting traffic is increasing.

Central Hawke's Bay townships residential section transactions 2014-16, averaged 34 per year. In 2017 these totalled 77, up 126%, with an average price of \$174,000, a total value increase of 114% to \$13.4 million. Section numbers for sale have been low. Hundreds of CHB's potential house sites are not being offered for sale. They possibly have land features or locations that are less favourable or are long-term held by the owners.

Chris Skerman and Bill Livingston are developing 26 large residential sections at Otane. Early interest from buyers is said to be surprisingly strong. Chris said: "Central Hawke's Bay District Council has been very proactive" and is taking the opportunity to improve Otane

services. He considers that Otane is attractive because of its affordability and also "people wanting space, and to be part of a community".

Population movement from cities is reasonably new. Chris says that with internet fibre installation underway "you can be as connected as anywhere in the world." He observes: "Otane is well serviced with a school, dairy, café, sports clubs and has a pub." A regional NZ resurgence is underway and Central Hawke's Bay is a beneficiary.

The new Highlands of Waipawa - rural-residential sections on the fringes of Waipawa township - have sold strongly. The properties near Racecourse Road are 5,400m<sup>2</sup> to 3.4 hectares with 25 of 28 now sold or under contract. The 11 sales recorded transacted at \$135,000 to \$175,000. Developer Brian Setter is also developing 14 lots at nearby Tapairu Road for sites 6,000m<sup>2</sup> to 4.6 hectares and 10 are recorded sold at prices \$125,000 to \$350,000. Alistair Setter says: "The market is strong and there is a good feeling of confidence in Central Hawke's Bay. The CHB District Council are great to work with and are proactively investing in our community."

Other rural lifestyle developments are increasingly common, including at Porangahau Road near Waipukurau and at Patangata.

It is all go for pastoral CHB with an average of 56 farm sales per-year 2014-16. In 2017 there were 85 farm sales, up 52%, with sales values of \$171.8 million, up from \$123.9 million (an uplift of 39%). Last year 15,806 hectares of farmland changed hands in Central Hawke's Bay, with an average sale price of \$2 million that is similar to 2014-16. The highest value single farm sale in 2017 was \$8.025 million for 578 hectares.

Rural property sales agent Max Lyver confirms property market confidence is strong with particularly good demand for proven performance farms. He mentioned adjoining farms of 600 hectares amalgamated and sold for \$7.1 million. Max says: "Buyers are usually



Waipukurau. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

discerning, undertaking extensive due diligence.” He predicts good quality properties that will come into the market in the spring “won’t be enough to satisfy demand”.

Construction activity is going through the roof. Central Hawke’s Bay residential building consents in 2017 totalled \$20.5 million, a 44% increase on the prior three-year average. All consents, including commercial-industrial and rural building, reflected an uplift of 29% to \$22.9 million. CHB is experiencing a residential building boom.

As for Hastings and Napier, in 2017 the total consents were \$242 million and \$135 million respectively, reflecting uplifts of 28% and 40% compared to 2014-16. Hawke’s Bay is a hive of construction activity.

CHB property sales and consent data are trending very strongly in 2018. The district’s highly committed new mayor,

Alex Walker, remarked on the role of council as a facilitator of social and economic development. Alex says the approach of the elected members in the district is to be a partner to development. “The passion, initiative and commitment to Central Hawke’s Bay reside strongly within our community. We know that if we can provide the right connections, infrastructure and regulatory frameworks, our people will stimulate their own success.”

Council’s fresh and effusively positive chief executive, Monique Davidson, comments: “The growth in Central Hawke’s Bay is very positive, with signals that this is to continue. As an organisation, we are not only gearing up to respond to this growth but are ensuring that we are leading a proactive approach that puts the customer at the centre of our service delivery.”

Treaty settlements for the Tamatea

district are significant. The Central Hawke’s Bay settlements augur well for the district’s people and economy.

The CHB property economy is magnificently strong in 2018, notwithstanding the demise of the irrigation scheme that might have been another taniwha altogether. Central Hawke’s Bay has an infectious skip in its step ... well-earned for what is a very positive salt-of-the-earth community. The district’s people are significant contributors to the past and future prosperity of Hawke’s Bay. ●

Pat Turley is a Hawke’s Bay-based 20-year veteran property consultant and valuer. The property stats cited are a small portion of data assembled. Turley & Co comprehensive CHB property economy data are available. However, the contents of this article are not for property decisions reliance. [www.turley.co.nz](http://www.turley.co.nz)



**Welcome to Central Hawke’s Bay!** Here at CHB District Council we are growing our building and planning team to meet the needs of our community. When it comes to building your new home, renovating your existing home or constructing a commercial building in CHB, we are here to make the consent process as straight-forward as possible.

So if you have any questions about your property, are thinking about a new home, or just need some friendly advice, please give us a call on **(06) 857 8060** or email **[info@chbdc.govt.nz](mailto:info@chbdc.govt.nz)**.

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Jenny Keown. Photo: Michael Schultz

# One Lady Fighting Plastic

JENNY KEOWN

I don't think there was an 'A-ha' moment when I decided I'd had enough of being part of the world's plastic-waste mess and began to look seriously at cutting it from our lives. It was more of a matter of 'when', not 'if' for us.

As a busy working mum of three under-eight, I'd had thoughts about what we could do. Then life got in the way and that was that. It wasn't like we weren't doing some stuff ... we had a compost, my husband got his coffee in a KeepCup, we used reusable grocery bags.

Then a few months ago, I saw that photo. The one of a turtle being strangled by plastic packaging from a six-pack of beer. Heartbreaking. I thought, 'The person who drank that beer probably didn't think the packaging would maim a turtle'. Then I realised that we – the world – literally can't go on with our current system. We've got to do more, much more. We've got to take ownership for waste and not think it's someone else's problem.

Righto, but just how do you go about changing the throwaway habits of a lifetime?



Life Factory glass drink bottle available at Cornucopia



Glass KeepCup available at Hawthorne Coffee Roasters, or ask your local cafe

I did what any nearly 40 year old pretending to be a 30 year old would do, I started up an Instagram account @one\_lady\_fighting\_plastic. I figured I could get inspiration from others on a similar journey and keep myself accountable. I went to my pantry and fridge and hauled out all the staples, put them on the table and took a bird's eye photo. Every one of those 35 items, from pasta to baking powder, was covered in plastic (except the couscous). 'Damn you, plastic', I thought, 'I'm not going to let life get in the way this time, I'm going to make changes'.

Cue to today and our family of five are on our way to seriously minimising our waste. And you know what? It's not as painful as I thought it might be. In fact, I feel lighter for it. I've met some cool people in the community and indeed, am pretty darn proud of how Hawke's Bay serves people who want to shop with a lighter footprint.

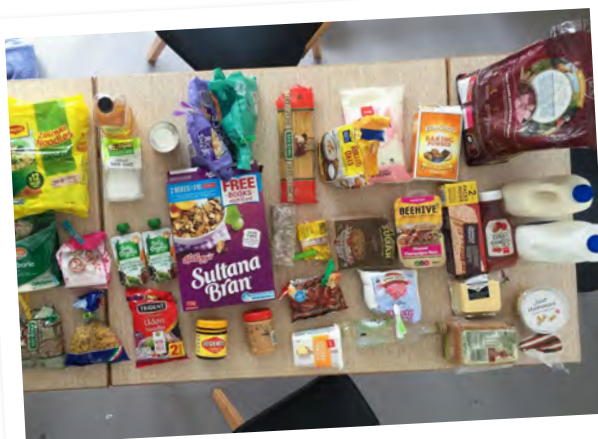
So, how do you start? It's easy to feel overwhelmed by the sheer scale of plastic packaging, but here are some simple steps to begin with, that are super-satisfying as they involve kicking the evil poster children for single-use plastic to the kerb!

Get a good supply of reusable grocery bags, made of cotton, linen or jute so you can avoid plastic shopping bags. Don't make the rooky mistake of buying a whole load of the \$1 'reusable' Countdown bags. They are made of synthetic, i.e. plastic, and break easily.

Invest in a decent reusable water bottle. If you are anything like me, it will become like a trusted friend, and travel with you wherever you go. Not only are plastic water bottles a horrific scourge on the environment, a study revealed that microplastic contamination is almost universal in plastic water bottles.

Get a KeepCup to replace your takeaway coffee cup. There are many beautiful designs, sizes and types to choose from.

Once you have reusable bags, a KeepCup and drink bottle, you are on your way. The main trick is to remember to take them with you when you leave the house. I keep my reusables in the same bag, and hang them from a hook by the door. ●



Jenny Keown is a Hawke's Bay-based freelance writer and mother of three trying to live a more sustainable life. If you want more green living ideas, follow her on Instagram @one\_lady\_fighting\_plastic.



# Tolerating Israel Folau

Even heard of Godwin's Law? Mike Godwin, a lawyer in the US, showed remarkable foresight when he declared all the way back in 1990 that:

"As an online discussion grows longer, the probability of a comparison involving Hitler approaches 1."

Crudely put, things are going to degenerate into name calling and abuse. There is something about the anonymity of the internet that allows us to cast aside the good manners our mothers taught us.

Go to almost any comments section of Facebook, YouTube or blog sites as diverse as Whale Oil and *BayBuzz* and see what you find. There is guaranteed to be racism and vitriolic abuse posted under cowardly pseudonyms. These comments are deeply distressing. Their only purpose seems to be to use base language to cause denigration and hurt. Free from the public accountability that exists in face-to-face society, so many people show themselves to be incredibly intolerant.

The only mitigation in the online situation is if the website administrator moderates or deletes posts that breach their policies. Most are slow to do so.

The natural tendency for mankind to congregate into 'tribes' of similar people, with similar beliefs and backgrounds, is well documented and plays out on the internet. When we come across people in real life who are from another tribe, we're usually perfectly polite to them as we don't really want to go to war with their tribe.

But on the internet we are probably addressing someone we'll never meet and can usually remain anonymous to. We're not risking war with this 'other tribe' and so our incivility is unrestrained. If I'm right and people are revealing their true natures online, then we're only a superficially a civilised and tolerant society.

Curiously, the media seem to be

guilty of double standards on tolerance. They seem very tolerant and encouraging of a progressive, liberal society, but brutally intolerant of a conservative perspective. It seems we're only tolerant until we come across someone whose opinions we find intolerable.

The best example recently is Australian rugby player Israel Folau, who has been publicly castigated for his 'intolerant' comments on homosexuality. I will reveal my casual sportism and say that, with one or two exceptions, rugby players aren't especially intelligent and I would not seek their advice on anything but rugby. But the press, loving an inflammatory comment or two, made sure Folau got plenty of game time.

I wasn't particularly surprised by Folau's comments. He is of Tongan ancestry and like all the Pacific Islands, Tonga has a traditional society where most are church-going, conservative Christians. Folau was espousing the tenets of his religion. There are probably several hundred thousand conservative Christians in New Zealand who share Folau's views.

Indeed, I'd go so far as to say he's probably articulating a majority world view. Outside the population-limited 'first world', traditional societies predominate, as do traditional religions, almost all of which aren't fond of homosexuality.

While we might feel well-pleased to live in our sophisticated, well-educated, progressive country, we must be respectful in imposing our ideas on other cultures. To wade in and tell them how they can become more civilised and enlightened smacks of the colonial superiority of the British Empire.

Folau has an extreme minority view, but it's his sincere religious perspective and not without biblical foundation. Many parts of the bible are allegorical

in nature, recounting stories that are meant to be illustrative, rather than an actual historical account. Almost every culture has used such stories to illustrate moral principles, the foibles of human nature or whatever.

That fact that Jesus spoke extensively in parables probably came as no great surprise to people of that time, as such teaching methods are integral to the Jewish tradition.

Regarding homosexuality, however, it's difficult to reach that conclusion. Passages in the Old Testament, attributed to Moses and passages in the New Testament, attributed to the apostle Paul, condemn homosexuality with great clarity.

This presents a real quandary for Christians. Either the bible is divinely inspired in its entirety or some bits were written by confused men who got it wrong. If it's the latter, which bits are divine and which are not?

So Folau's conservative branch of Christianity kicks for touch and believes the lot, whether they like it or not. That's fair enough, as just about every other religion has a few odd components and mostly they abhor homosexuality too.

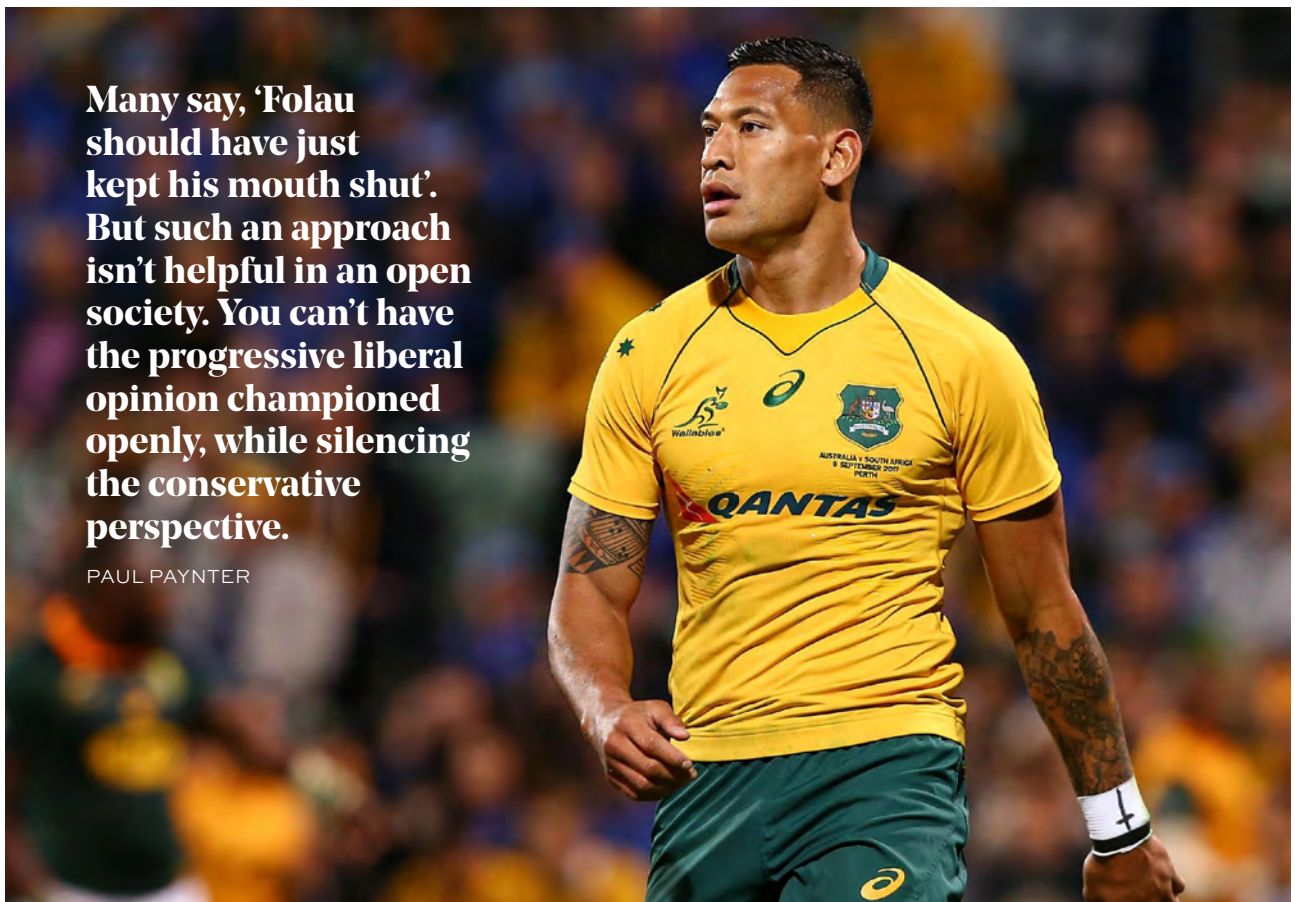
So what are we to do about this conservative religious position? Might I suggest we tolerate it? Mr Folau is by all accounts a kind and pleasant man, who seems to tolerate and harbour no personal grudge against the homosexual community. It seems that agreeing to disagree and being tolerant of each other is the only readily achievable outcome.

Folau and his ilk also adhere to the 'let he who is without sin cast the first stone' idea. They are commanded to love rather than condemn, but many consider it's also their duty to urge the 'sinner' to repent.

Many say, 'Folau should have just kept his mouth shut'. But such an approach isn't helpful in an open

**Many say, 'Folau should have just kept his mouth shut'. But such an approach isn't helpful in an open society. You can't have the progressive liberal opinion championed openly, while silencing the conservative perspective.**

PAUL PAYNTER



society. You can't have the progressive liberal opinion championed openly, while silencing the conservative perspective. To do so risks a significant minority who feel ostracised and often produces an unhelpful conservative backlash.

Some suggest this happened with the election of Donald Trump and certainly we can see signs of it in Europe, where alt-right parties are now the second or third most powerful in many EU countries. The rise of the Golden Dawn in Greece has received some press of late, but similar parties are prospering in Germany, Austria, France, Hungary, etc. They all have nationalist agendas, oppose immigration and support

traditional cultural values.

These parties are regularly achieving 20%+ of the popular vote. Many of their supporters are very ordinary people who feel that 'progress' is happening too fast in terms of immigration and social change. Party hard-liners however, are sometimes openly xenophobic and have a penchant for fascist solutions.

Justice Muir, New Zealand's first openly gay High Court judge was recently quoted as saying that freedom of speech could be considered "the most important cornerstone of a liberal democracy".

It's a wonderful thing to live in a society where you are free to hold and articulate obscure religious beliefs

if you want to. A place where you're allowed to be wrong and even to say things that upset people. As long as you do no physical harm to people or their property, or encourage others to do so, the law is on your side.

You can't win an argument by bullying people into your perspective. You can only make progress on a platform of mutual respect - tolerance even. The best way to change peoples' perspectives is to talk to them. Of course you first have to find someone to talk to ... someone who will tolerate you. ●

Paul Paynter is our resident iconoclast and cider maker. Sometimes he grows stuff at Yummyfruit.

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# Keeping Time

Steve and Bev Nathan moved from Auckland to Hawke's Bay in 2006 and immediately bought a vineyard. Steve thought it was the thing you do when you move to Hawke's Bay. So they bought a small chardonnay block and created Salvare Estate.

Even though they won several awards, Steve became disillusioned: "Having a winery isn't all that romantic when you're on the other side of the bar." Despite his optimistic nature and refusal to admit how hard an industry it is, it took him eight years to recognise that this was not where his passion lay, and no amount of working hard, seven days a week, was going to change that.

Bev figured it out a little sooner.

Before they left Auckland, they sold their payroll company Comacc to MYOB. Comacc had 60 staff, with offices in Auckland and Sydney. The sale included a 'restraint of trade' clause, which meant Steve could not do anything to do with payroll software for three years. Hence the winery.

But he knew he wanted to get back into software. At the winery he was often thinking: "How do you manage staff at a vineyard?" Time and attendance has always been a hard problem for primary industries. There is usually no time clock and there are no timesheets, and there is often no supervision, so how do you really know when your staff start and finish work?

Recent advances in biometrics have promised great strides in employee time tracking. Clocking in with a fingerprint, handprint, or facial recognition sounds like a pretty nifty solution to the age-old problem of employees clocking in for their late colleagues. Facial scanning has certainly made airport security a lot faster and less painful.

But Steve says biometrics can be a nightmare for staff. Scanners cost around \$3,000 and sometimes they

**As in so many other industries, the advent of the smartphone changed everything. Why do you need a central time clock, biometric scanner or timesheets when everybody is carrying a personal computer with an inbuilt location device?**

just don't work, and anything frustrating that adds to the misery of an employee having a bad day is a recipe for smashed-up equipment, and sometimes smashed-up people. Imagine if you're trying to clock in by scanning your fingerprint with 20 people waiting in the queue behind you, and the machine keeps telling you to try again. All the people behind you will clock in late if you can't scan your fingerprint. Not good for group morale!

As in so many other industries, the advent of the smartphone changed everything. Why do you need a central time clock, biometric scanner or timesheets when everybody is carrying a personal computer with an inbuilt location device? For Steve, the time and attendance expert, it was the way forward. He realised the answer was a decentralised timekeeping system for employees that would use their smartphone or a tablet as the input device, and with no limit on the number of devices that could be used. The employer wouldn't need to invest in any physical systems. All the hardware was already in place, in everybody's pocket. Thus, TimeHub was born.

The traditional sales pitch for time and attendance systems is fear - that your employees are ripping you off, committing the dreaded sin of 'time theft'. Steve was sick of this negative approach. The incontrovertible evidence of GPS-based location meant that there was no need to be suspicious of your staff. Whether they were at

work on time is no longer a matter of faith; it's just a fact. You can trust the system - so everybody can just get on with it. If the employee is at work on time, they get paid.

It's only been nine months since Steve and Bev launched the company. With an app built right here in Hawke's Bay by EIT students. Students? I'm intrigued. We've had our fair share of interns at Mogul, but surely building a whole new app is a bit of a risk with something as business-critical as employee timekeeping?

Not at all, Steve says. The work of the students has been supervised by Taradale software house, Weave IT, Steve wanted the work to be done locally by enthusiastic young people, which has its pros and cons. The students tend to have very little life experience, especially when it comes to complex business rules like you find with payroll. So it's been an education.

One of the most appealing features of Timehub is that it integrates with just about any payroll system. All it does is record time incredibly accurately, applies business rules (like overtime and holidays) and provides the data in a format that is easy for any decent payroll system to use.

The early signs for Timehub are good. It's a monthly software-as-a-service (SaaS) subscription model and Steve is out bending the ear of anyone who might be remotely interested in it. He describes himself as the consummate salesman, 'the hunter' who lives



Bev and Steve Nathan. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

for the ‘dog and pony show’. Wairakei Resort and Chateau Tongariro are just one of the larger companies who have signed up, along with others too numerous to mention.

Like any startup that’s getting traction, there are a million competing demands on Steve’s time. Social media, blogging, and LinkedIn all appeal as marketing avenues, but Steve is from the old school and believes there is no substitute for talking to prospects, either face-to-face or on the phone, calling a database of qualified prospects, and he will drive for hours to see prospects.

When payroll goes wrong, it’s nearly

always an urgent problem. If you can’t pay your employees on time, you are in serious trouble. It’s one of the few things that can cripple a business overnight. So in addition to phone support, Steve uses a real-time chat software on the TimeHub website called Drift, which describes itself as a ‘conversational marketing platform’. Conversations in Drift with prospects have quickly turned into sales calls and new customers.









TimeHub’s growing number of customers in the big cities means that’s it’s likely that the company will open an Auckland office, probably within six months, although Steve and Bev

don’t see themselves moving from Hawke’s Bay.



“It’s a dynamic business environment here. There really is a lot going on in Hastings yet it’s still easy to find office space. It’s a vibrant city with cool new places opening like Funbuns, Brave, and the Common Room and the cost of living is a lot cheaper. There is no way we’re moving back to Auckland! ●

Matt Miller co-owns web company Mogul Limited, based in Havelock North, but serving clients around the world, including *BayBuzz*. His beat for *BayBuzz* is digital trends and best practice.

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# Book to the Future

In 2017, after the Christchurch and Kaikōura earthquakes re-wrote the books on structural earthquake strength, Napier City Council had their main offices and neighbouring Napier Public Library re-assessed, despite them having received high safety ratings only a few years earlier.

The results were not good.

The council headquarters rated at 10% of New Building Standard (NBS), and the library rating was 15% NBS, meaning both buildings were now classed as 'earthquake-prone'.

The council decided to evacuate both buildings in order to meet its legal obligations and to provide a safe environment for its customers and staff.

## Mobile books

With the building unsafe and its immediate future uncertain, the council decided to temporarily move the library into the original wing of Napier's MTG - Museum, Theatre and Gallery.

I must say that this temporary library fits very well in the greater complex.

The connection with arts, learning and taonga runs throughout the venue. Hushed tones and a sense of reverence were present and observed both before and after the relocation.

While it can only hold 43% of the original library stock (the remainder has been distributed between Taradale Library and storage at Napier's Memorial Square), it still feels like it 'fits' - there are certainly more 'works of art' on display now than in the space's previous life.

The library's move has also had some financial flow-on effects for Napier ratepayers.

It saw the entry fee for MTG, which had been a bone of contention, with many claiming the entry price was excessive, abolished - giving free access to both museum and library

**While lots more people read via electronic devices these days, the good old analogue book is still very popular and preferred by many ... just like this printed magazine!**

(those with mobility issues must transit the museum to get to the library).

It also meant more of the museum's already limited storage capacity and display space was lost in order to host the library, with considerable ongoing costs for off-site storage.

## Planning inside the square

The bigger issue appears to be whether the council can re-home its offices and the library back into the same building.

So, plans were floated to build a brand new 'future focused' Napier Public Library.

One such concept, featured in *Hawke's Bay Today*, placed the library in, around, or incorporating Napier's Clive and Memorial Squares, but there is strong opposition to such a move.

The 'Mothers' Rest' building, sometimes called the 'Women's Rest', is a World War One memorial built in the 1920s to house bathroom/changing facilities and community meeting rooms in Memorial Square adjacent to the Cenotaph.

Having been closed for a number of years due to its own earthquake strength issues, there were public fears it could face demolition if a new library was located in or around the same square. Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga even wrote to NCC in 2017 to

indicate their opposition to any future plans to demolish or drastically alter the Women's Rest.

Late last year the Women's Rest was reassessed for earthquake strength and is no longer considered earthquake prone. As mentioned above, the library in its current smaller form is using the building for book storage.

But if NCC can't fit both their administration centre and library back into the same building and a new library is unavoidably necessary, perhaps a solution could be found nearby.

Napier's two Countdown supermarkets across the road from each other have long been a source of confusion and mirth. Their dual existence is purely commercial. If owners Progressive Enterprises closed one, their competitors Foodstuffs, who own the neighbouring Pak n Save supermarket, would swoop in and likely put a New World on the site, reversing the current 2-1 majority.

But what if Progressive could be convinced to sell the Station Street Countdown site to Napier City Council? The extensive site borders Clive Square on one side and tree-lined Munroe Street, opposite St Patrick's Church, on the other - very calming and reflective. There is ample, much needed public car parking on site that the council could meter or lease for income and Progressive wouldn't have to worry about the encroachment of competition.

Sounds like a win-win!

## Book to the future

Throughout all this, libraries are evolving in how they operate and serve the public.

Technology has seen huge changes in how we spend our time. Finding specific information used to take hours, pouring through reference



books and encyclopaedias. It can now be acquired almost instantly with just a click or two on Wikipedia or Google.

Libraries of the future will likely be smaller than their contemporaries - not needing as many books ... if any, say some!

That said, tablets and e-readers were predicted to be the end of books as we know them, but they haven't been. While lots more people read via electronic devices these days, the good old analogue book is still very popular

and preferred by many ... just like this printed magazine!

And while you will see far more technology, computers and screens in modern libraries, there has been a push-back towards the traditional library format in many cases.

At Auckland University, students are fighting plans to condense specialised architecture and planning, fine arts and music and dance libraries into the university's central library - fearing the effect that losing easy access to vast

numbers of specialised texts will have on their depth and range of learning.

The evolution of libraries is a bit of an open book, and the next chapter on the Napier Public Library is yet to be written ... in more ways than one! ●

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Andrew Frame is a 40-year-old husband, father, and life-long Napier resident. He writes the [www.napierinframe.co.nz](http://www.napierinframe.co.nz) website and promotes all things HB on social media.



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# Neighbourhood Watch

A series bringing you the buzz around HB's 'hoods'



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Chocolatier Mirams; saw-tooth warehouses in Ahuriri; Love Havelock North merchandise; the friendly team at Little Frimley Kitchen. Photos: Florence Charvin, except Love the Village, bottom right, by Lee Warren.



Chris Miram, Chocolatier Mirams. Photo: Florence Charvin

## **CBD RENAISSANCE** BENNY FERNANDEZ

“Along with that, there are murmurs of Napier’s first rooftop bar opening this summer, but where?!”

Napier is cool, and, it’s getting cooler. Ask anyone. Really.

People from the big smoke can’t get enough of what we have to offer. Between the wine, weather, wine, wide range of culinary offerings and wine, we’ve become somewhat of the cool kid of the provincial outliers.

A foodies (wino’s?) haven, if you will. Combine that with a little more competition in the airfares department (courtesy of Jetstar) and all of a sudden, we’re a front runner for those who are city-locked and looking for feasible weekend escape.

As a result, the transformation of the Napier CBD especially, to my mind, has been clearly evident, even in the short time we’ve had the privilege to operate in the city.

‘For lease’ signs have become scarce, and rental values in the city have had a very real boost for a variety

of reasons, across all facets. With office space, and in some cases retail space, becoming extremely sought after and thin on the ground.

Along with this renewed vigour in our city, we’ve also experienced a surge of fresh, young faces now gracing the inner-city landscape. Young professionals putting Napier on the Map. Everything from insurance, web solutions, interior outfitters, photography specialists, fashion, real estate, stock brokers..... the list goes on.

People are moving to, or moving back to, Napier in droves. And not just average people. Actually the best kind of people. People who have experienced life overseas and bring with them higher expectations when it comes to the service sector.

We want quality, and we’re willing to pay for it.

We’ve also seen some very worthy

food and beverage newcomers to the CBD in the past few months.

Mexicali Fresh has added to the Latin landscape, with fresh-as meals to order, and ‘Margherita Mondays’ (yes, it’s a thing!).

Also, Napier finally has a superb new wine bar we can all be proud of, thanks to Nadia at Matisse. Matisse brings us what is possibly the most killer wine-by-the-glass selection this side of Gay Paree. Nadia delivers super-tasty, sometimes obscure wines from far-away places, in a modern setting, with an amazing menu to back it up. Check out the ‘Natural Wines’ section for a real experience in skin-fermented goodness.

We also welcome Fraser and the team at Hunger Monger. Far from just fish & chips, these guys deliver kai moana in increasingly creative ways. And always fresh! Absolutely crackling setting on the legendary Marine



'Love the Village' environmentally-friendly merchandise. Photo: Lee Warren

Parade. Do try the baby octopus dish, it's linger fucking good.

And then there's Chris Miram's new digs. The chocolatier has just opened his own shop at the top of Emerson Street. This is seriously something to experience. If you've a penchant for all things sweet, Chris has combined über-technical culinary techniques and flavour combos that will blow your mind. Check it out!

And, if you can keep a secret, here's some juicy hospo goss ...

There is a certain celebrity chef currently looking for a suitable location right here in Hawke's Bay ... who could that be, you ask?

Along with that, there are murmurs of Napier's first rooftop bar opening this summer, but where?! Dunno about you, but to me this is extremely excellent news.

... and all the while there are numerous up-market national franchises looking for space in Napier, which shows strong confidence in the local market.

How lucky are we?!

Did I miss something? Let me know!

Benny Fernandez is the friendly face and force behind one of central Napier's favourite coffee stops – Georgia on Tennyson.

## NUDES & NAKEDNESS

JANE MACKERSEY

Nothing like a nude woman arriving in the Village to stir things up.

May saw *The Garden 2002* by Paul Dibble installed in front of the historic i-SITE. Before she arrived, headlines of "Outrage" made the front page. Obviously a slow news week, as the outrage was from two anonymous individuals.

Anyway, she is there and is fabulous in my opinion. Many women were involved in the opening ceremony: Dame Patsy Reddy, our governor general unveiled the plaque, Mayor Sandra Hazelhurst spoke, as did the chair of the MTG, Johanna Mouat. The Ngāti Kahungunu performing group had four women (and incidentally our HN Business Association board has six women and one bloke).

A big thank you to the trustees of the Mills Family Trust for having the vision to fund the purchase.

The HNBA vision for the Village is to have more public art on display. The successful collaboration for *The Garden* is one way this can happen. Hence the Business Association has started a

sculpture fund. The intention is to add more public art around the Village and surrounds. Public art has to meet certain criteria of public safety, however, plus of course durability and robustness. If you, as an individual, family, business or trust wish to donate, please contact us (see address at end).

If the opportunity to purchase something comes up, we will hopefully have the funds available or we may commission a piece. At Wildflower Sculpture in November we may see something there that excites us and meets the criteria for public art. The HNBA is working with council reps and others to identify possible locations.

Eventually we would like to link the public art throughout Hawke's Bay with a phone app that tells the story behind each piece and its artist. Locals and visitors alike can take a self-guided tour.

The historic i-SITE building has now been earthquake-strengthened so should continue to be around for a long time.

In May we hosted TARGA Hawke's

May saw “The Garden 2002” by Paul Dibble installed in front of the historic i-SITE. Before she arrived, headlines of “Outrage” made the front page. Obviously a slow news week, as the outrage was from two anonymous individuals.



Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

Bay. This car rally gives drivers the chance to drive on closed roads around Hawke’s Bay and CHB. The Village welcomes them by decorating the centre roundabout with chequered bunting, the TARGA flag flying and converting some of the pods into racing cars. Shops display chequered flags in their window displays and TARGA love it! The local petrol heads club assist by displaying classic or luxury cars in the Village for us to inspect and have car envy over.

The Tour cars are allowed a top speed of 160 kms per hour and the competitive cars 200 kms per hour. This is a unique chance for high performance cars to be driven the way they have been designed to. Next year we are encouraging TARGA to add a speed trial category whereby those with say a classic car can experience the roads but with a competition challenge to maintain an average speed overall of perhaps 75 kmph.

Havelock North, unfortunately, has been in the news, negatively associated, simply by virtue of close proximity, with the Craggy Range track controversy. Hopefully the discussions between parties have included future safeguards and cover NO dwellings or building of any description to be erected on the eastern side of the Peak range.

A warning to sensitive souls, mass nakedness in the village!

Napier Road, leading into the Village, has had 30 of the 35 trees that grew in the centre median strip removed. They were 40 years old and the Council decided to remove them in preparation for the laying of the water main. Golden elms are the council’s replacement choice, planted in root retainers. I do hope they remembered to add irrigation if the roots are restricted. Rotary HN assisted with the replanting.

In addition, a further 10 trees in the Village CBD are destined for removal over the next two years (mainly Melia trees) as they are posing a health and safety risk with damage and upheaval to the surrounding footpaths.

The Village is committed to significantly reduce plastic and some initiatives are already happening, such as the ‘No Straw’ movement in cafes and bars. And now we are super excited to launch a new range of ‘Love the Village’ merchandise. The range is environmentally friendly with some cool designs that celebrate our region: the sunshine, green hills and orchards that produce our abundant fruit, the landscape of Te Mata Peak, rivers, sky and trees, plus a nod to our vibrant coffee and croissant culture, and of course our love affair with good produce, wine and cuisine.

The initial range includes market jute bags, cotton tote bags, cotton tea towels, reusable glass coffee cups, handy notebooks packs and caps. We would love to see everyone getting their coffee in the reusable cups instead of takeaway cups, and using the market bags and tote bags for their shopping. Perfect affordable, practical gifts for all!

We’ll have a stall at local events in the future, but they are available to buy online now on our HNBA website [www.havelocknorthnz.com](http://www.havelocknorthnz.com) or pop into Papillion shop up Joll Road to view.

*Sculpture fund donations email: [info@havelocknorthnz.com](mailto:info@havelocknorthnz.com)  
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Little Frimley Kitchen. Photos: Florence Charvin



## HASTINGS

JESS SOUTAR BARRON

Plus, they make their own pies. Scoffing a mince and cheese is so much chic-er when it's called Beef Bourguignon and may or may not contain wine.

Suburbia's constant quest for a village vibe sees us set out from our front doors in search of coffee ... within walking distance. More relaxed than those centred in the city. The walk, with or without the obligatory Hawke's Bay rescue dog, justifies the fact that we are suburbanites clinging to the edges of a more sophisticated setting.

It's certainly a sign of the changing Hastings population that a decent café within walking distance from home has become as important as an 8+ decile school, street parking and 600 squares in which to grow your own.

For those north of the city - Frimley, Mahora and environs - the new place to go is Little Frimley Kitchen. White, light and well-tiled, the atmosphere is inner-city living. "We could be in Melbourne!" my well-travelled

companion tells me. And when I bump into a fellow Auckland escapee, she agrees it's just enough of 'Home' to keep her sane in the provinces.

Plus, they make their own pies. Scoffing a mince and cheese is so much chic-er when it's called Beef Bourguignon and may or may not contain wine. And if you like your cream-filled donuts extra big with 100s-and-1000s and rainbow popcorn on top - and who doesn't?! -LFK is your place. Added bonus: it's so far from the city no-one'll know you had one and called it breakfast.

Up that way too and handily halfway to the Dog Park is the Pakowhai branch of Red Bridge. Red Bridge being halfway to Waimaz in the opposite direction makes this a confusing proposition, but bear with me. The original Red Bridge

coffee offering is at the junction where Havelock North becomes Tukituki-adjacent. It is such a hit with the locals and those-passing-through that the clever-clogs made another and plonked it on Pakowhai Road.

Basically a rusty container, it houses a knock-out coffee machine, a hot-shot barista and daily goodies from Ya Bon. Nestled in the remnants of an apple orchard, there's shade, rustic tables and chairs and just enough nature to make you feel you've had some fresh air.

If you're over the other side of the city near Raureka and St Leonards, there's life-after-town options for you too. Local is on Southhampton Street, very handy if you have any need to visit the 'stockyards' (whatever they are). Fuse is on the main street but so far from the city it's almost in its

These places aren't just bourgeois opportunities to sip lattes and eat pastries. They're also essential to a community's wellbeing, to our sense of place, to building connections, checking in on each other.

own enclave. The food is terrific, easy to transport home and big enough to keep you going 'til teatime. There is room to eat-in but their real schtick is food and joe to-go. The post office, chemist, dairy and bank make it a justifiable walk and it's a welcome respite from all the crap served that side of the city.

Akina is synonymous now with the little-roastery-that-could: Aurum. The food here is average, but the coffee is excellent, especially their White Gold blend. They are the most dog friendly place in the burg and with an extra-wide, paved footpath out the front my Americana-alfresco-con-cane is always a delight.

Meandering distance from Parkvale is MYLK. It's a pocket café tucked into a bigger suburban complex that also includes their heat'n'eat outlet. It's a no-go with kids or dogs but quite frankly that's often exactly what I'm after! And with the takeaway meals on one side and a terrific butchery on the other, coffee and cake for me and mac'n'cheese for the famished locusts at home saves my sanity.

There are holes in our necessary net of sanctuaries. If you live in Mayfair you'll need to traipse in towards town or



Melissa Campbell, owner-operator of Red Bridge Coffee. Photo: Florence Charvin

out to the Bay Espresso on the highway. Camberley and whatever that suburb-to-the-south-of-the-city is called are empty as far as I am aware. If you know a new place that brings the bean to the 'burbs I'd love to hear about it.

These places aren't just bourgeois opportunities to sip lattes and eat

pastries. They're also essential to a community's wellbeing, to our sense of place, to building connections, checking in on each other. Take a mooch with a pooch, have a natter with a neighbour, these shared spaces at the edges of our city are just as viable a destination as the centre itself.



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ACUPUNCTURE



Ahuriri wharf. Photo: Florence Charvin

## AHURIRI

GRAEME DICKEY

Even with winter now upon us, our seaside suburb continues to attract many locals and visitors. The number of cyclists and walkers enjoying the water's edge path that links the town with Ahuriri seems to be significantly up on previous years.

Ahuriri is blessed with the ambience of an old fishing village, with the coming and going of yachts, trawlers and pleasure boats as well as a working fish loading wharf.

And still vibrant when evening attention moves to the many bars, restaurants and the lovely Globe movie theatre.

Businesses are continuing to locate to Ahuriri, adding to its vibrancy and growth. Also residential building continues with three large projects at various stages. The old Ahuriri bowling club grounds is destined for redevelopment, the Tremains apartments in Waghorne Street are nearing completion and Mackersey Construction's apartments on Bridge Street are well underway.

Take note that the Napier City Council now collects more rates from Ahuriri than from the CBD area of the city!

### NCC's 10 year Ahuriri Master Plan

The Plan was released last year for consultation with stakeholders, with many submissions made.

The Ahuriri Business Association submitted against a sea swimming pool at Perfume Point, as the cost of building a pool in the ocean would be prohibitive and rising sea levels would add uncertainty, giving this project a very poor chance of success. We felt the cost and energy required would be better spent on the coastal erosion and inundation protection project.

We also recommended reconsideration of the shops proposed for Bridge Street at the end of the Iron Pot. This area needs urgent upgrading and redevelopment, but we believed the crashing and rattling of the ever increasing number of trucks crossing the railway lines at this point would seriously impact retail operations.

We have yet to see any revisions or updates to the original document as a result of these consultations.

### Inner harbour

As part of the 10 year plan the Napier

City Council recognized the raw storm water emptying into the estuary and the inner harbour is causing an unacceptable level of pollution that must be addressed. Indeed after heavy rain the water resembles brown soup.

It is laudable the Council intends to address this issue, which will benefit the estuary flora and fauna, the recreational opportunities for Pandora Pond, and amateur and commercial users of the inner harbour. It will also benefit the inshore fish breeding grounds outside the harbour entrance.

### The Iron Pot

This iconic part of Napier's history is dilapidated and condemned in places. The Iron Pot has huge potential to generate funds from mooring fees for commercial and recreational boats, as well as an option for a super yacht terminal. First though, a significant upgrade of the facility is required in terms of dredging and redevelopment and beautification of the perimeter. The council intends to upgrade. We look forward to seeing their proposal and time frames.

### Ahuriri beach

The Ahuriri Business Association advocates that Council upgrade the introduced crushed sand for natural sand at the Ahuriri beach. Supporting this request is Volleyball Hawke's Bay, plus all four of the surf life saving clubs. These groups would use this area of beach above the high tide mark, except the current sand is so sharp it causes grazes to bare feet and legs.

The beach is also very popular with the public and swimmers, but the current sand quality and dust mean the potential of the beach is far from realised.

### Trucks, trucks, trucks!

The success of Hawke's Bay businesses and the Napier Port has increased the number of trucks using the Port corridor through Ahuriri well above the predictions made in the NZTA/Beca Report (based on 2015 information).

Napier Port is holding meetings with NZTA, NCC and the Regional Council to ensure planning is underway to mitigate the issues increasing truck numbers will inevitably cause. The expression 'failing to plan is planning to fail' is all too true in this instance. The main issues of concern are:

1. The weigh station needs to move. Why? Safety and congestion - trucks queue back along Hyderabad Road and also often undertake dangerous U-turns from the weigh station causing safety concerns.

2. The log measuring location needs to move. Why? Safety and congestion - the current location requires logging trucks to do a right turn off Hyderabad Road, then after measuring do another right turn back onto Hyderabad Road to continue to the port.

3. Truck parking needs to be provided. Why? If too many trucks arrive at the port at the same time, queuing occurs on Breakwater Road outside the port entrance causing traffic and safety issues. Although the port does schedule arrival windows, if trucks arrive ahead of their scheduled time they need somewhere to wait. Currently this is ad hoc on the side of the road somewhere in Ahuriri.

4. The two faceted corners south of the peanut roundabout and one to the north should be replaced with more rounded ones. Why? Safety! These corners cause serious sight restrictions for traffic and pedestrians wishing to cross this increasingly busy road. And traffic through this area should be slowed. The Lever Street/Hyderabad crossing is now

As part of the 10 year plan the Napier City Council recognized the raw storm water emptying into the estuary and the inner harbour is causing an unacceptable level of pollution that must be addressed. Indeed after heavy rain the water resembles brown soup.

very dangerous, especially at peak traffic times.

Twenty years ago Ahuriri was a very different place. The foresight of those who recognised the potential of the area and were prepared to invest has put Ahuriri on its current course of improvement and development. To continue this trajectory will require foresight, planning and investment - with leadership required from our city planners in consultation with those with a passion and vision for Ahuriri. ●

Thanks again for having your say.

We read and listened to your 569 submissions.

## What happens now...

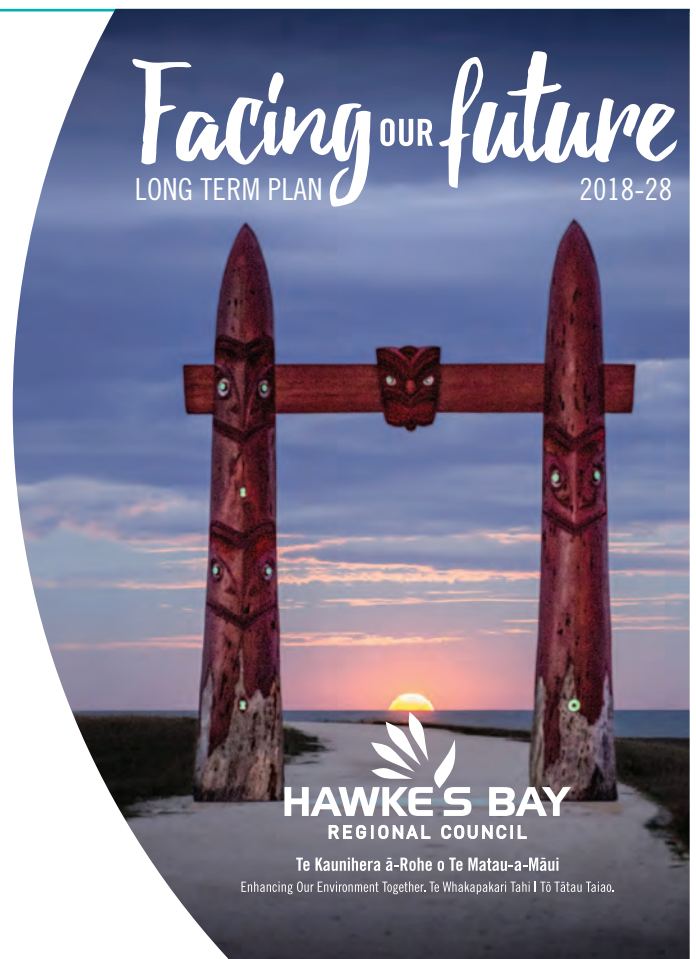
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See the feedback we received and the final decisions made by Council

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Exploring Hawke's Bay:

# Wairoa to Moreere





NUHAKA FISI SIOP NUHAKA FISI SIOP

TAKEAWAYS



# Exploring Hawke's Bay: Wairoa to Morere

BRIDGET FREEMAN-ROCK. PHOTOS: FLORENCE CHARVIN

Hawke's Bay's northernmost town and service centre is tucked within the crook of the 'long, bubbling, swirling, uneven waters' of the Wairoa River on fertile lands beside the sea. One hundred years ago, it was an arduous three-day journey from Napier.

The town has a superb 8km river walkway from the historic lighthouse at the bridge to Whakamahia Beach. Information plaques mark Wairoa's rich stories and create a palpable trace of the past. There are five pā sites to peruse, while the CBD riverfront showcases some interesting old buildings, from the Italianate façade of the museum (originally a bank, 1915) to the art deco Gaiety Theatre.

Across from the former post office, an intriguing white plinth, erected by the Government in 1867, commemorates Pitiera Kopu, "staunch friend of the Pakeha", in both English and Māori. This was a period of local tensions, between the war of 1865-6 and the arrival (1868) of Te Kooti and his allies.

Europeans first came to Wairoa in the 1820s - flax traders, then whalers and Christian missionaries. Many married into Māori communities. But up until the 1860s, the settlement (founded around 800 years ago) was manifestly Māori in its population, land ownership and sovereign rights.

Kopu was one of the chiefs that signed the sale of land to the Crown to form the Wairoa township in 1864. At the same time the Pai Mārire (Māori resistance movement) took hold, and Wairoa (then known as Clyde) became a colonial garrison. In retribution for the war that broke out, further tracts of land were 'ceded' to the Crown - Kopu died a week after signing the peace agreement.

After the recent rains, Te Wairoa is running brown and on a grey morning, with the tide out, has dropped to

reveal the little wooden piers that jut out. Across the river on the north side, you can see the remnants of the former Flaxmill Wharf, a reminder that the township was originally dependent on shipping to transport freight. You can also catch a whiff of the freezing works, operating there since 1917.

Where the river opens out towards the sea, large twisted tree trunks lie upended like beached whales or shipwrecks. Beyond the Whakamahia Lagoons you can see the narrow passage where ships indeed did wreck and where, despite every effort, the untamable sandbar (and the opening of the railway in the 1930s) put an end to Wairoa's port.

Oral tradition tells of the arrival of the Tākitimu Waka at Whakamahia Beach, where Ruawharo is said to have spread sand from the ancestral home of Hawaiki. Today the black-sand beach, a picture of rugged coastal beauty, is popular for picnics, fishing and space-launch viewing, too dangerous though to swim.

Heading east, the coast from Wairoa to Nuhaka is extraordinarily textured. On one side of the road, paddocks filled with maize stubble, the last of the squash, stretch out on a horizontal plain to meet the smooth mirror flat of Lake Whakakī (the largest freshwater lagoon on the East Coast) and beyond the dunes the open sea. To the west, the green earth, thrust steeply upward, forms crushed-velvet peaks and crisp falling folds. Near Whakakī look out for seven mounded hills with their 'wrinkles of skin' - Iwitea and Tuhara can be clearly seen beached in the wetlands, two of seven whales, as legend has it, transfixed by sunlight into hills.

At the juncture to Mahia Peninsula sits tiny Nuhaka with its legendary fish shop, historic general store and the

meeting house at Kahungunu Marae, built and carved under master tutelage by World War II veterans in the late 1940s. Places like these, and Morere 5 km up the road, once thrived on their remoteness and difficult terrain, with their own industries (a dairy factory at Nuhaka), bustling shops, a lively holiday trade. Nowadays they appear unassuming, but they're rich with story, Māori culture and rural resilience.

Morere Hot Springs is the reward in all this tiki-touring: ancient sea water bubbling up from the ground through a fractured faultline. Known by the locals - Ngāti Rakaipaaka - as the 'waters of the gods' and used for therapeutic purposes for centuries, these mineral-rich thermal springs were 'discovered' in the 1880s and made into a thermal reserve in 1895. A hotel followed two years later. All that remains now of the settlement that grew up around it are the tearooms and camping ground across the road and the little one-room school house.

Thankfully, the springs are what protected the 364 hectares of lush lowland rainforest they sit within (one of the last remaining and the largest tract on the East Coast); the surrounding land was cleared for agriculture.

If you walk one of the longer tracks, as well as exploring virgin 'jungle' with its dramatic nikau palms, pukatea and kohekohe, you can ascend through an utterly different forest of black beech and maire on the steep back ridges to look out to the coast.

Emerging from under the dripping rainforest canopy, soft-skinned and a little giddy after soaking in 35 C healing water, it's something of a shock to take in the raw nakedness of the pastoral landscape, much of it too steep to farm, most of it once cloaked in vegetation that now feels exotic. ●

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Wairoa rivermouth; Spooner's Point, site of Kai-mangō Pā; view across Wairoa River from Marine Parade; the former school house at Morere; nikau rainforest at Morere Hot Springs.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Marte Szirmay's 1968 *Smirnoff Sculpture*, Newmarket, Auckland; Bing Dawes' *Eels* outside Havelock North ANZ; Alan Strathorn's *Fishermen* by the Napier Aquarium. Photos, bottom left and right: Tim Whittaker. [tim.co.nz](http://tim.co.nz)

# Art In Public Places

ROY DUNNINGHAM

Many years ago I emerged from art school with a high ideal that art could make towns better places to live in.

It didn't happen, of course, and for most of the last century our towns remained resolutely committed to 'no nonsense' utilitarianism. Public art was largely confined to statues of founding fathers, politicians and the mandatory, larger than life Queen Victoria reassuring us that 'we British' were securely (and dutifully) part of the greater empire.

There were also the stiff, expressionless World War I soldier memorials imported from Italy (there's one in Clive). If you want to see a decent war memorial, go to the Devonport War Memorial, which is a life-size bronze soldier by Gallipoli veteran Frank Lynch. Lynch's soldier is a man of action, with bootlaces undone and a lived-in uniform, who looks back in sorrow at his fallen mates.

Say what you like about the folk from north of the Bombay Hills, but in the 1960s they led the way by commissioning artworks that recognised wider community values than just historical stereotypes. Molly Macalister's *Maori Warrior* acknowledged that settlement in Auckland existed long before 1840 and it still retains a dignified presence even amidst the overwhelming architecture of lower Queen St. *The Karangahape Road Fountain* by Greer Twiss was a step towards the democratisation of art by representing people simply waiting for a bus.

Even more ground-breaking was Marte Szirmay's 1968 *Smirnoff Sculpture*, set in the hub of Newmarket. Possibly New Zealand's first major abstract public sculpture, people would have hated it in any other

part of the country, but Aucklanders readily identified with the way that it expressed something of the dynamism and energy of their city. That commission was an act of courage, given that Szirmay was only a year or so out of art school.

But courage is often the key factor in achieving great public art. Compare that with the fate of the wonderful, wooden play sculpture set in Hastings' East Heretaunga mall in the 1980s. It was fun to look at and children loved it, but the council of that time deemed it commercially unhelpful and they got rid of it.

Amazingly, it worked!  
Christchurch looked  
and felt vibrant and  
optimistic, rather than  
like a town on its knees.  
My dream of public art  
had at last been realised.

It took the devastation of the Christchurch earthquake to really advance the cause of art in public areas. Innovative thinking was needed to lift public morale and in desperation the authorities turned to the art community.

Pop-up galleries, murals and installations appeared everywhere. Even the protective hurricane wire around the ruined cathedral became a colourful installation. Amazingly, it worked! Christchurch looked and felt vibrant and optimistic, rather than like a town on its knees. My dream of public art

had at last been realised.

Much of the art in Christchurch is temporary, which raises the question - should public art be permanent or transitory? Well, it can be either.

The Hastings District Council's decision to have artists decorate the fencing around the opera house to celebrate its history was a brilliant way to make the best out of a difficult situation. By contrast, the delightful bronze *Flapper* in Napier's Emerson Street is a very permanent reminder of that city's art deco rebirth.

Art works can speak of the character of a locality. The quiet elegance of the late William Jamieson's two *Clive Gateways* subtly evoke the river crossing that was integral to the origin of Clive.

Paul Dibble's *The Garden* in Havelock North joyously celebrates the fecundity which is the essence of the local economy. The apple maybe implying the knowledge and intellect that has developed that economy.

Not so good, perhaps, are attempts to create phoney history, like the Viking standing outside Dannevirke. I can't imagine anything less appropriate to the memory of the honest, hardworking souls who founded that town.

The Dibble provoked debate about the siting of sculptures. Some felt that sculpture should only be in open spaces like the Alan Gibbs sculpture park. I disagree. Art isn't something that should be divorced from everyday life. Even Michelangelo's *David* was originally set overlooking the bustling markets of the commercial centre of Florence outside the Palazzo Vecchio.

The quiet charm of the old village that we loved for so long has well and truly gone, but there is a new vibrancy in the heart of Havelock North that is



# HASTINGS PUBLIC ART WALKING TOURS

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Director Toni MacKinnon

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William Jamieson's *Clive Gateway*. Photo: Tim Whittaker. tim.co.nz

quite exciting. I can't really afford a Bing Dawe sculpture or a Paul Dibble myself, but I get a lift every time I walk around the art in the village centre. It is a voyage of discovery each time and the Paul Dibble looks just right where it is.

Should public art be light-hearted or serious? Jacob Scott's *Kaitiaki* is a serious work that complements the dignity and purpose of the Hastings Courthouse, but children especially also love the sheep in the Hastings West Heretaunga Street mall and they have clambered over the Cornwall Park lions since I was little.

The Dibble sculpture also stirred a debate about the process of selecting public art. I recall discussing this question with William Jamieson. We agreed that it is arrogant to ignore public opinion, but he pointed out that sometimes it takes time for people to tune into the best work.

When Antony Gormley's *Angel*

*of the North* was first installed near Gateshead, England in 1998, people hated it. Since then it has become a local icon attracting thousands of visitors each year. Its stern, uncompromising aspect seems to have struck a chord with the hardy people of Northumberland.

Sometimes it is necessary to simply take the best advice that you can, get the best person you can to do the job and then trust them. Anything less is a recipe for mediocrity.

So, do we need public art? Well, I can't answer for others, but when I see a town with good public art I think this is a town that acknowledges the intelligence and sensibilities of its people and shows belief in its own vitality and identity. ●

Roy Dunningham is an art educator, curator, collector and critic based in Havelock North.

# Cultural 'View Shafts' Awarded

CHARLES ROPITINI, STRATEGIC MĀORI  
ADVISOR, NAPIER CITY COUNCIL

Hawke's Bay galleries are celebrating after winning recognition at the 2018 NZ Museum Awards. As a region we're punching well above our weight to be acknowledged in the eyes of the GLAM sector (galleries, libraries, archives, museums).



Hastings Art Gallery won the Exhibition Excellence for Art award with the stunning show *#keeponkimiora* in collaboration with the Kimi Ora School community and visiting artist Edith Amituanai; while MTG came away with the Exhibition Excellence for Taonga Māori award with *He Manu Tioriori: 100 Years of Kahungunu Music*, alongside special mentions for *Tūturu*, by Iwi Toi Kahungunu and *Te Taenga Mai o Salome* by visiting artist Yuki Kihara.

Oh yes, Hawke's Bay was the talk of the night!

Prompting a recurring question at the awards night: What are we doing so well in Hawke's Bay to become nationally recognised disproportionately to other regions? A good question for honest reflection.

Really, what are we doing well? The answer is simple ... we are being effective storytellers. We are telling our own local stories while opening windows to communities that are removed from mainstream consciousness, hidden behind a veil of intergenerational prejudices that have closed eyes to the creativity and history of our local Polynesian cultures.

Quietly and respectfully, exhibition interpretation is transcending cultural barriers and generating creative exchanges between artists and

audiences across multiple genres simultaneously, a feat rarely achieved by galleries, let alone a region. I'm often asked by our local GLAM people how they can bring Polynesia closer to their institutions. But our winning examples suggest it's the sector that needs to get closer to the people, not vice-versa.

For once it feels like Hastings and Napier are artistically and culturally on the same page and we haven't seemed to have realised it.

*#keeponkimiora* gives a current-day view of Flaxmere's communities, where the children are both artist and subject of the camera lens with encouragement from the kind and nurturing Amituanai.

I reckon most Hawke's Bay people proactively avoid Flaxmere, yet here is an intimate glimpse, without the typical 'deficit position' that artists prefer to take. It is more challenging to interpret the positive, and this is what Amituanai has achieved - overwhelming positivity and pride. The exhibition is its own storyboard where text is not required, and the narrative can be seen when looking into the eyes of the children photographed. Words would be inappropriate for their story.

*He Manu Tioriori* is modern Māori social history and takes a deep dive

into the endemic talent of Ngāti Kahungunu as natural performers and composers. Story telling is strong in text, however is easy reading alongside the many recordings of past artists, bands and kapa haka groups. Is this really Māori music? Did our people really perform this way?

The answer is Yes! We were strong instrumentalists, chorists, soloists, pioneers of cultural development and perpetual upsetters of traditional forms. One cannot dissect this genealogy of talent without reaching the conclusion that the marae was and remains the centre of the Māori world where the seeds of our talent and creativity have been sown.

Both of these shows deserve their respective awards and demonstrate Hawke's Bay can be a leader in cross-cultural interpretation, education and appreciation. If we continue to create little view shafts into our cultural worlds through quality exhibitions such as these, we continue to foster an appreciation for each other.

There are many more stories to tell and we've hidden them for too long. While these awards attest to our capacity to tell genuine, interesting and positive narratives, I look forward to the point where we can truly tell a multi-cultural story in one space. ●



A top-down photograph of a white ceramic bowl with a red double-line border. The bowl is filled with a thick, light-brown soup. A silver spoon is placed in the soup, lifting a portion that includes a mushroom cap and some seaweed. The background is a plain, light-colored surface.

# Food as Medicine

ALEXANDRA TYLEE

PHOTOS: FLORENCE CHARVIN

Miso, Shiitake and Seaweed Soup (see over for recipe)

Three simple recipes to make you feel better this winter.

As a cook and restaurant owner I am naturally very interested in the healing ability of different foods. One of the things that constantly draws me to the kitchen and keeps me there is the fresh produce. And while when I first started cooking I was more interested in food's ability to nurture and sustain, over time the ability of food to heal has become a huge interest and priority.

The idea of food being able to prevent illness and heal is of course nothing new. Hippocrates (460-370BC) was the first person to introduce the idea that illness was caused by something other than a disgruntled god punishing people for something they had or had not done. He suggested that in fact what you ate played a big part in the health of your body and mind. This must have been very empowering for people at the time, suddenly there was

**Drinking a lemon, honey, and ginger drink (with maybe a little thyme) when you get the slightest sniffle is a wonderful idea. But better still, have one every day as a preventative.**

the possibility that they could have some control over at least their health.

The more I learn about the healing properties of food, the more empowered I feel also. And I am reminded that all those recipes ringing in our ears that our great grand people used, are real, true, and very powerful.

So while we can all get very excited about each new superfood as they come back to popular culture - having been buried under piles of pills for centuries - it is important not to underestimate the power of the common remedies that roll off people's tongues

every time you present with the tiniest of symptoms. For instance, drinking a lemon, honey, and ginger drink (with maybe a little thyme) when you get the slightest sniffle is a wonderful idea. But better still, have one every day as a preventative.

While we might dream of being able to spend all day in the kitchen brewing and fermenting, activating and dehydrating, it is just not going to happen this week. So I am giving you some recipes that are very quick and very, very good for you, and can be prepared ahead.



Turmeric Tonic

### **Turmeric Tonic**

*Makes 4-5 cups*

Turmeric is not something my family would have used a lot but it has been a huge part of the Indian diet for centuries and is used extensively in Ayurvedic medicine and diets. You can play around with the measurements below adding more honey or less ginger etc, but the stronger the better.

#### **For the paste:**

4 tablespoons fresh ginger grated finely  
2 tablespoons powdered turmeric or 4 tablespoons fresh finely grated turmeric  
Skin of 1 large lemon, finely grated  
4 tablespoons of runny honey  
Pinch of ground black pepper

#### **To serve:**

1 cup boiling water per person

In a bowl, mix all of the ingredients together making a paste. Next fill a mug with freshly boiled water, wait for a minute, then add 1 tablespoon of the paste and stir to dissolve. I like the texture of the grated turmeric and ginger in the tonic, but if you prefer a smooth drink you can blend it in a food processor. The paste is also very good spread on toast, and will keep in the fridge for a month, covered.

### **Miso, Shiitake and Seaweed Soup**

*Serves 2*

#### **Ingredients:**

4 cups of water, filtered, unchlorinated  
4 medium-sized shiitake mushrooms, finely sliced  
20 grams dried wakame seaweed  
1/2 cup miso paste  
3 teaspoons soy sauce

In a large pot bring the water to the boil, add the mushrooms and simmer gently for 5 minutes until the mushrooms are soft. While the mushrooms are cooking, rehydrate the dried seaweed by soaking in warm water for a few minutes. Next drain the seaweed, slice into half centimetre strips, and add it to the soup.

Mix the miso and soy sauce together in a bowl, then add the mix to the soup. Simmer for another two minutes, check seasoning and serve.

If you want to vary the recipe next time, you could gently sauté some leeks or shallots and ginger in the pot at the very beginning before adding the water. Also it does rather lend itself to a sprinkling of spring onions, tiny bits of tofu, and maybe some toasted sunflower seeds for crunch.

## Garlic Soup

Serves 3-4

### For the soup:

2 litres of free-range or organic chicken stock  
400g potatoes, peeled and chopped  
into smallish pieces  
200g whole peeled garlic cloves  
Flakey salt to taste  
Good grind of black pepper

### To serve:

Loaf of good European-style bread  
Drizzle of extra virgin olive oil  
2 cloves whole peeled garlic  
Parmesan cheese to grate

### To make the soup:

Bring the stock to a simmer in a saucepan, then add the potato and garlic and cook for 15-20 minutes until completely soft. Now put this mix into a blender and whizz until smooth, do this in batches if you need to. Season with salt and pepper, how much really depends on how salty your chicken stock is.

### To serve:

Set oven to 180°C. Cut the bread into chunky slices, allowing a couple of slices per person. Brush the slices with oil on both sides and put in the oven until golden brown and toasted. When the bread slices are done take them out and rub both sides with some raw garlic. Now put a slice of toast into the bottom of each bowl, pouring hot soup over to serve.

If you like cheese, now would be a good time to grate some Parmesan or even Gr uyere on top of your soup.



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# Into the Wood

MICHAL MCKAY. PHOTOS: FLORENCE CHARVIN

**In today's world of mass manufacturing, artisans are acquiring a newfound recognition for fashioning the unique. Particularly so in carpentry where the trend for natural materials is offering craftsmen a chance to create contemporary homeware. Wood is definitely in focus for interiors as woodworker Peter Maclean has discovered.**

He probably came to this realisation earlier than most. Coming from a long line of farming folk in Te Aute/Pukahu, Peter remembers his grandfather as being an “inveterate fixer - well it was after the war so necessity was the instigator”. He passed the gene on to his grandson, “though I had two and a half years at Uni studying anthropology and sociology, which I do feel stood me in very good stead ... and I did enough maths to allow me to balance the books. But it turned out that I wasn't an academic. I have much more of a kinetic bent.”

“We also had four kids on our farm and we learned to be self-sufficient pretty quickly. If something needed painting, you painted. If there was a leak you fixed the plumbing. And though I really loved Uni - enjoyed getting an education and learning, particularly in liberal arts for which I will be forever grateful - a degree is just a bit of paper and when a couple of my friends dropped out I went with them and started working with young unemployed kids for a year or two. After which I started working with wood.”

“Badly,” he laughs, “and quite badly for some time. After five years I made one or two things I was pleased with. Probably it was terrible, but nevertheless it pleased me.”

He confesses that because he “knew nothing, I just worked with the wood



**“Much of what I do is commissioned, and being interested in what people want is vital... something happens when you respond to a brief. It takes the maker and the customer to another place. When that happens, it's very satisfying.”**

PETER MACLEAN

at hand. And in the 'eighties that was mostly NZ native timber like rimu, kauri, matai and stuff I would find in demolition yards - which you can't do now. I had no money so demo timber was an effort to get, but it was cheap. I'd be there where warehouses were being knocked down at 5 a.m. when the protestors were still in bed. Now a lot of those natives have been cut down; I still have a fair bit gathered, but as the industry moved to woods like American Oak I found it to be a timber I liked and I now use a lot. It's tough and quite different to NZ timber.”

His workshop in Clive divulges much about the craftsman. Dappled light filters through multiple windows onto an array of workbenches and tools; old furniture waiting to be restored; the patina of newly polished chairs - dining, sitting, indoor, outdoor; chests of multiple shapes and sizes; small side tables, dining tables of varying dimensions; and a multiplicity of boxes. The odd child's tricycle hangs from the ceiling revealing an inquisitive imagination that's ever experimenting with the innovative and the unexpected.

A woody scent pervades along with the inevitable shavings dusting the floor. Some of his machinery is 50 years old. “Nothing sophisticated ... one or two power tools that are high tech.” It is here Peter fashions his bespoke furniture, each piece unique



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Tools of the trade in Peter's workshop; the perfect dining chair; Peter's finished works of art in his showroom.

and carefully created according to a client's or his own vision. His hallmarks are simplicity and a sleek shiny oil polished finish evoking that of the Mission and Shaker styles.

He says he didn't attempt a chair until the late eighties. In the beginning it was wood turning. "I found some old kauri table legs and started from there. Took the finished result to the A&P show ['Pete hits the big time', he comments wryly]. Sold it and then got two more orders. It was a bit Colonial in approach, but I was very aware of the Shaker and Japanese style of simplicity - an Arts and Crafts look which focused solely on wood. No steel. No plywood. And generated my own designs."

He enjoys the craftsman-client connection. And puts communication down as an essential part of his skill set. "Much of what I do is commissioned, and being interested in what people want is vital. I do a lot of bespoke work and, if you're an artist, being able to discuss ideas to ensure you produce the vision - theirs and yours - plays a vital part in the end result ... Something happens when you respond to a brief. It takes the maker and the customer to another place. When that happens, it's

very satisfying."

And he's observed that things do happen in phases. "Last year I said to my associate Dominique [who works with him three days a week ... 'remarkably gifted', comments Peter], I don't think we've made an armed sitting chair for a year. Lots of dining chairs, little boxes and big boxes. Then within minutes of having uttered those words a client comes in and wants a set of chairs. Well originally they wanted a table, very simple; then the chairs developed. I usually suggest sitting in a shape to try it for comfort. This one got the right reaction - it was VERY comfortable. And it was sympathetic to the table."

He says he does surgery occasionally and is happy to fix an old chair. But originals are his expertise. "Reasonably early I developed a liking for making chests, which are really just big boxes. They're not necessarily designed for anything exact, but they fulfill a lot of uses. You can sit on them, stow a multitude of things - sheets, towels, blankets, precious papers. I love the notion of a box or chest containing something but it's not specific. What's it for? Not really for anything in particular, but a lot in general, specially with a couple

of drawers at the bottom."

Peter's pleasure comes from ensuring the wood is the hero. And oil finish is just about all he uses ... "layers and layers of it". Steel wool, dry sand and a lot of elbow grease are the extras in the equation. He's not a great believer in a spray finish ... "You pay a lot and I'm not entirely convinced it's the best." His own belief is that the wood should be given a chance to shine. "I'm not influenced at all by fashion. And over the years I've had about 120 different woods in the workshop. It depends on how it performs, what it looks like, and I've found a lot of not very well-known woods, which aren't necessarily very commercial but are great if made into little boxes." Which are indeed works of art.

He believes that good design "is not necessarily expensive. You can get a lot of house for a little bit of money. You just need a selective eye for the visually appealing."

Naturally he is conscious of how his furniture will sit in situ. Not surprisingly his personal taste in architecture is Modernist ... "I think my work fits in them well". He names John Scott as his ultimate architect. A sure mark of his pure artisan's appreciation for the work of a purist. ●



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## Hawke's Bay

# Weddings

ROSHEEN FITZGERALD

### Wedding industry aficionados agree ... the flood of ideas from Instagram, Pinterest and other social media have changed the way we wed.

Suzanne Beaumont, the style queen behind Miss Frou Frou, has first-hand experience of the pressure exerted by having a world's worth of inspiration at one's fingertips. "I say to my brides: Choose three things that really matter, that you're allowed to have as many meltdowns as you like about. The rest, you've just got to let go."

Sometimes a bride pushes too far in her quest for originality. Suzanne refused a blonde, freckled client's request for a Stars-In-Their-Eyes style transformation into Angelina Jolie...black wig and all. She wanted to surprise her fiancé with his fantasy celebrity crush. "She was cross with me. But he's not marrying Angelina Jolie! Do what you like whenever, but not on your wedding day!"

Suzanne created a pair of nine-foot flamingos out of polystyrene and paper flowers for her own daughter's wedding, and transported them to the Tuki Tuki Valley, with some effort.

Wedding planner Rebecca Tacon worked with a bride who individually folded 120 origami dinosaur place



Suzanne Beaumont

cards, in all sizes and colours; and another who stitched together table runners with pages from the couple's favourite books.

Celebrant Jo Smith married a pair of brides escorted up the aisle by rainbow-kilted groomsmen swirling rainbow ribbons. Both brides wore white. After being pronounced wife and wife, the aisle became a slip-n-slide, down which they slid while guests pelted them with dye-filled water balloons. "They were soaked to the skin and covered in colour – it even got on their marriage register. There were kids and a German Shepherd and a bouncy castle – tremendous fun."

Pets are increasingly included in bridal parties. An involuntary grimace



Jo Smith, celebrant

of remembered trauma flickers across the faces of wedding planners when the prospect of working with animals or small children is raised. Rebecca recalls a near miss when the ring-bearer collie dug out of a paddock to frolic with arriving guests. Luckily she had dissuaded the groom from attaching the ring to his collar. The dog was recovered and managed to meander up the aisle, together with a three-year-old. Suzanne had a bride ride down the aisle with her father, both on horseback.

Catering is another opportunity for creativity: food trucks, whiskey bars, barbecues, lolly tables, and all-night grazing platters make Instagramable alternatives to the traditional three courses. Picnics can be hit or

OPPOSITE: Rosie and Nate posing with nine-foot flamingo. Photo: Heather Liddell.

As the wedding industry booms, couples are looking to the shoulder seasons, even mid-winter, to marry.



Rosheen and Cormac's winter wedding. Photo: Peter Gordon

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miss. A downpour had guests at one of Rebecca's weddings hauling rugs and buckets of booze under cover at speed. Suzanne points out a bride's vision of casual elegance might not suit every guest: "How's grandma going to get down on the ground, and back up again?"

As the average age to walk down the aisle creeps up, and the marriage rate drops, couples increasingly wed not because society tells them they must, but because they want to make a public commitment.

For second marriages, many choose surprise weddings...Suzanne did, getting hitched in her fifties in front of twelve unsuspecting friends. "It was less about who was looking and more about having fun with the people we loved." Jo believes second timers don't want to pressure guests into fuss or gifting. Older couples focus on the act of matrimony rather than the surrounding style.

Families are often invited under the auspices of a significant birthday, only to have a wedding sprung on them. One such couple celebrated the bride's seventieth birthday with her thirteen siblings, and each of their respective children and grandchildren. There was a ladies art deco luncheon, and golf for the gents. They convened for birthday cake, only to be led onto the lawn at Cape Kidnappers where the bride emerged in white wedding dress to tie the knot after twenty-five years of partnership.

As we move towards a more secular society, marriage has followed suit. Less than a quarter



Styled by Laura Jeffares and Sarah Zonneveld. Photo: Florence Charvin



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Rebecca and Jono's autumn wedding, Eskvale. Photo: Florence Charvin

of weddings are performed by a minister of faith, and more than half choose an independent celebrant. But Jo finds an enduring appetite for spirituality and connection with the land and the elements. One pair were heralded with a karakia sung by a whānau group, in a culturally blended ceremony. They were given away, not by their fathers, but by their children, to whom they made vows, before their vows to each other. Others are wedded within a sacred circle, the directional points marked with taonga representing the elements.

Weddings are big business in the Bay. Rebecca belongs to an association of wedding vendors, under Hawke's Bay Tourism, who have made a concerted effort to attract those seeking a destination wedding. All the professionals *BayBuzz* spoke to estimate up to 80% of their clients come from outside the region, with a gaggle of guests, injecting millions into our local economy.

The average Kiwi wedding costs

## **The average Kiwi wedding costs around \$35,000, but some couples coming to Hawke's Bay spend in excess of \$100,000 over multiple days.**

around \$35,000, but some couples coming to Hawke's Bay spend in excess of \$100,000 over multiple days. Accommodation, food, drink, shopping and activities for guests on top of this adds up to an enormous sum. They are drawn by the enormous diversity of locations ... beach, river, vineyard; luxury or rustic; world-class food and wine; fantastic lighting for photographs; top of the range, easily accessible services. With a destination wedding, couples are showcasing the region to their guests, inviting them for an experience with their union at its centre.

As the wedding industry booms, couples are looking to the shoulder seasons, even mid-winter, to marry. Thinking outside the traditional

Labour Day to Easter season is a boon for those adverse to long engagements. Venues and suppliers get booked up in summer – sometimes several years in advance. In contrast, winter nuptials have their pick, often at a better price. With *hygge* (Danish for 'cosy charm') on trend, many are choosing to distinguish themselves with this aesthetic: to rug up with fires, candlelight and mulled wine for their celebrations, in the flattering winter light and freedom from the scorching Hawke's Bay summer sun.

Even without adding social media to 'inspire', Hawke's Bay, host to about 600 weddings per year, offers couples a surfeit of wedding choices to suit every taste, style and season. ●





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BRIDE & GROOM: KATY & GABI

PHOTOS: MEREDITH LORD

VENUE: THE OLD CHURCH

I met Gabi in Napier, he was working in a winery and I had just returned from London. I travelled the world, but it was home where I found love.

We got engaged fourteen months later in Hawaii on Gabi's 30th birthday.

It had always been a fanciful dream of mine to get married at The Old Church. It encapsulates romance; the character, the history, and the manicured gardens. It was the only venue for our wedding day!

Like all brides I wanted my day to be seamless and Orton's reputation for professional service preceded them. When I discovered they managed weddings at The Old Church I was delighted, it was like wine and cheese – the perfect combination. Memories are enhanced by great food and Orton's exceeded expectations. Offering prime cuts of beef, venison and lamb, complemented by the finest local produce and luscious desserts, the hardest part was choosing what we wanted!



As some of my bridesmaids had travelled from overseas to be part of our special day we wanted to stay together the night before the wedding. The rest of the bridal party joined us for dinner creating treasured memories. The Old Church Villa was the perfect venue to accommodate everything on our wish list. Elegant, luxurious, and decadent. Staying on-site was so convenient and relaxed, we all got to the church on time!

We danced to "That's Amore", a touch of Italian culture that gracefully intertwined itself through the day.

Perfect, memorable and so much fun!



Photo: Meredith Lord Photography

3%

of New Zealand weddings take place in Hawke's Bay

618

the number of marriages and civil unions in Hawke's Bay in 2017.  
Down 10% in the last decade

4.4%

of marriages and civil unions are of same-sex couples

53%

of weddings are performed by independent celebrants

24%

of weddings are performed by organisational (religious) celebrants

23%

of weddings performed in a registry office

28.5%

of weddings are second marriages

31.4

years - the median age for marriage in 2017.  
Up from 26.6 years in 1988

48.1

years - the median age for second marriage after divorce in 2017.  
Up from 37.7 years in 1988



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## Passing the Reins

It's 5.30am and the house is quiet. I'd like to say there wasn't a sound, not even a mouse, but I can't.

Just as I put pen to paper I heard the ominous snap of the mouse trap, followed by the horrifying squeaking of a mouse only partially caught. I tried to imagine myself crawling under the TV, grabbing the trap, walking outside and putting the poor little thing out of its misery.

But the picture wouldn't muster, so I whispered, with urgency and increasing force, to the deeply sleeping, flu-encrusted Peter. Exclamations of 'Poor Peter' and 'You call yourself country' are fully justified, as he zombied his way to the living room and did what needed to be done. Sorry little mouse.

I was wandering aimlessly around Kmart last week, when suddenly a little boy burst through the clothes rack. He beamed at me and I beamed back. "Do you know who I am?"

"Of course!" I lied.

"I was your turtle in Cambridge."

"Of course you were," I gushed, "and you were the best turtle I've ever had!"

He agreed with my observation, grabbed my hand and pulled me across the shop floor to his surprised mother.

"Look what I found!" he exclaimed, "Can we take her home?"

I didn't travel to Cambridge to live with this family and my new best turtle boy buddy, but I did tuck the memory away with all the other happy memories that 25 years of storytelling has given me.

As I head relentlessly closer to 70 than 60, Peter and I have started to think about slowing down; perhaps not travelling fourteen hours through the night, arriving at a motel at 4am and then off to the first school for a 9am start.

When daughter Kate married Danny, I noted his musical theatre background



Danny, Mary, Peter and Kate. Photo: Matt Hemi

and performance mastery and rubbed my hands together with secret glee. I was already well aware of Kate's voice and musical prowess. Our successors. A year went by but neither Kate nor Danny seemed to be taking the subtly placed bait. I needed to up my game.

We'd take them on a Duffy tour (Duffy Books in Homes, the Alan Duff Charitable Foundation).

In 1994 I went to the very first assembly at Camberly School in Flaxmere. Alan opened the assembly, Henare O'Keefe breathed laughter into every corner of the hall, and I told a story. I was hooked and Duffy assemblies have been the voluntary side of our lives ever since. For 24 years Peter and I have been given an open door into extraordinary low-decile schools the length and breadth of the country.

We have met the sweetest, most generous-hearted kids and we have met such exceptional, compassionate, visionary teachers.

We suggested to Danny and Kate that they come with us to the local segment of the tour and first off the rank was Maraenui School.

They didn't stand a chance. 170 children clapping and laughing. 170 children hugging and high-fiving their

way back to class. And if that wasn't enough, the spontaneous haka sealed the deal with goosebumps and threatening tears.

I know Danny and Kate are talented. I know they can perform and engage, but far more important to me is that I know they can make a difference. I watched these two exclaiming at a child's success. I watched their gentle encouragement of a child more anxious. I watched them notice, respond and laugh.

I remember some years ago John Jukes telling me of a street kid that he would play chess with every week. He said that it wouldn't have made a difference. I'm willing to lay money on a young man somewhere recounting the story of a Dunedin student taking time ... a powerful and potentially life-changing gift.

So 'Rhubarb' has become four. The reins will pass slowly and eventually 'Rhubarb' will become two again, Kate and Danny. As a 'stuff' collector of some considerable note, I am relieved that the tumbling piles of costumes will be safe for some years to come, and my daughter Sarah's suggestion that I "pack up before I die" will not have to include the roomful of glittering capes and dragon's tails. ●

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