

TrustPower windfarm gets consent

TrustPower has been granted consent to build a \$400 million wind farm near Dunedin, despite overwhelming opposition to the project in the public submission process.

A joint hearing committee of Clutha District Council and Otago Regional Council has granted TrustPower consent to build the 100-turbine Mahinerangi Wind Farm, 50km west of Dunedin.

It will have a power-generating capacity of 200MW, enough to supply about 100,000 homes.

TrustPower chief executive Ian Tempest said it could be five years before the wind farm was completed, and two years before the first turbine was up.

It was likely to be built in two stages, he said.

Nearly 200 of about 260 submitters opposed the farm being built.

But Clutha District Council spokesman Murray Brass said most adverse effects were "less than minor".

Visual and noise effects were considered more significant but the committee decided the benefits of producing renewable energy from the site outweighed those effects, Mr Brass said.

Conditions imposed on the project include that TrustPower produce a site development plan and environmental construction management plan before construction starts.

The turbines are to be no higher than 145m and painted a natural off-white or light grey colour.

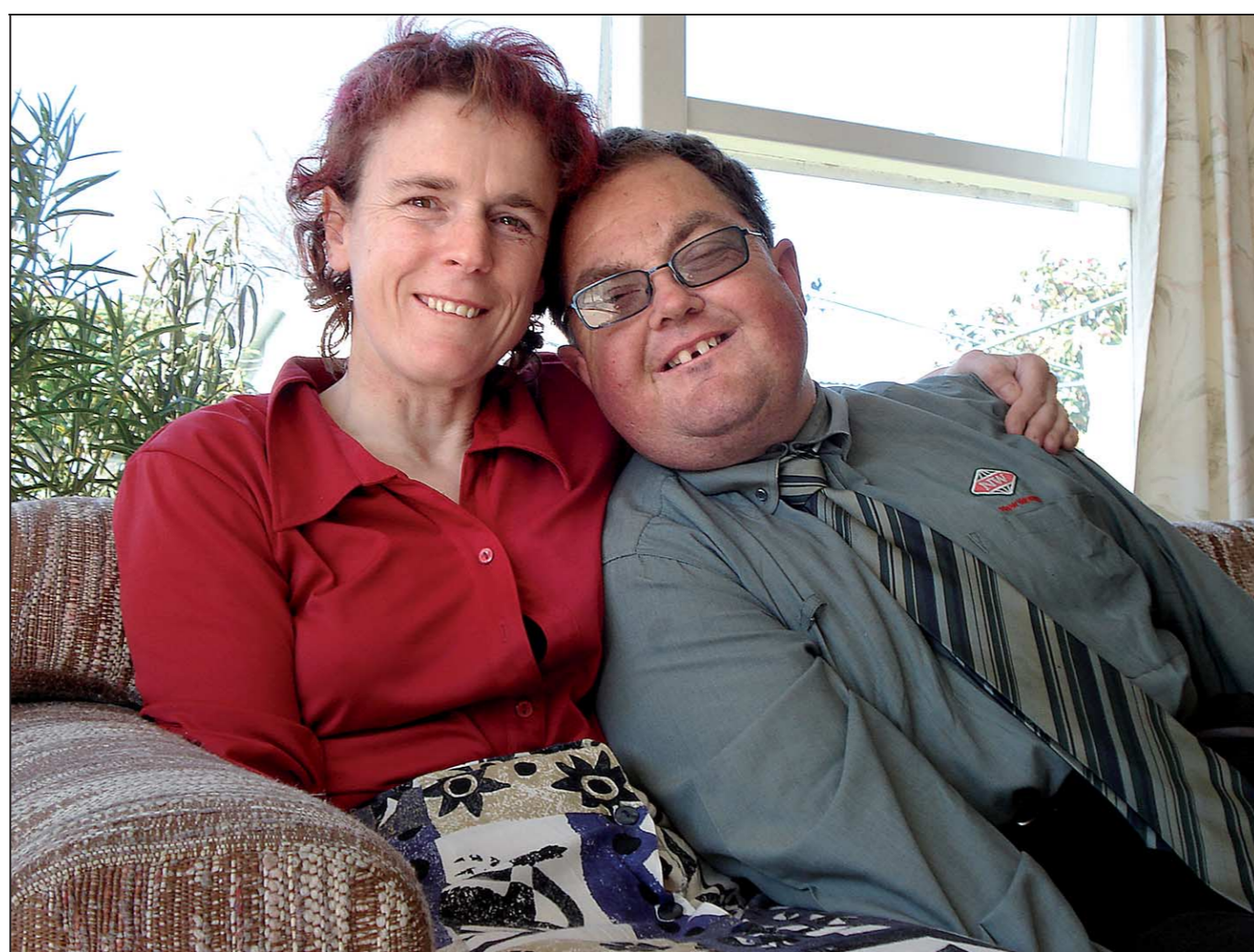
The wind farm would be built on farm land, totalling about 1720 hectares.

There are 15 working days available to appeal the decision.

■ Fairfax Invercargill



Murray Brass



FILM STARS: Temuka couple Lorraine and Roger Button will be featuring in a film about local people living with disabilities as part of the national travelling exhibition *Our Stories*.

Exhibition tells stories of disability

An exhibition aiming to change New Zealanders attitudes towards disability has special significance for Temuka couple Roger and Lorraine Button.

Our Stories, run in partnership between CCS Disability Action and IHC, opens at the Landing Services Building in Timaru this Friday, the first stop on its nationwide tour.

Based on photographs by Hanne Johnsen and Glenn Busch's book *The Man With No Arms* the multimedia exhibition uses photographs, words and film to tell the stories of people with disabilities.

Temuka couple Roger and Lorraine Button know exactly what it is like to live with a disability and how important it is to be included in the community.

The couple, who have been happily married for seven years, both have part-time jobs, enjoy playing bowls and go on regular outings with the Jolly Potter joyriders club.

In 1985 Mr Button travelled with his father, local historian John Button, to Singapore where he worked with people with special needs.

He said this exhibition was an excellent chance to raise awareness of people living with disabilities in the community.

Along with a number of other people from South Canterbury, Mr and Mrs Button will be featuring in the *Our stories in our town* film presentation, to be made by school children as part of the exhibition workshops.

The workshops will explore themes of relationships, inclusion and disability awareness and pupils will get to meet local people with disabilities and find out what it's like living with a disability.

As well as the workshops for school children there will be two evening viewing and discussion sessions for local employers and service group members and sports, recreation and leisure providers.

The opening launch will be held this Friday with the exhibition open to the public from Saturday, October 6 to Friday October 19.

□ By Bethany Maret
bethany.maret@timaruherald.co.nz

Warmer spring and summer are likely

Most of New Zealand can expect warmer temperatures than usual from October to December, according to the latest climate predictions.

The situation could continue through to the end of summer, the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) says.

The reason is that weak La Nina conditions have developed in the equatorial Pacific.

This was likely to bring above average temperatures over the country for the last three months of the year, with only a 10 to 20 per cent chance of cool, or below average, weather.

NIWA's National Climate Centre said La Nina conditions typically meant weaker than normal westerly winds, with more winds from the east and north-east.

These usually brought above average temperatures, with above normal rainfall in the north-east of the country and below normal

rainfall in parts of the South Island.

Drier than normal conditions were likely in many South Island areas with only a 10 to 20 per cent chance of above normal rainfall, soil moisture and river flows.

That picture was reversed in the north and east of the North Island, where the late spring rainfall and soil moisture outlook was normal or above normal.

The centre said there was about a 50 per cent chance of La Nina conditions persisting through to the end of summer.

This slightly reduced the risk of an ex-tropical cyclone affecting New Zealand during the coming tropical cyclone season from November to May.

The chance of an ex-tropical cyclone passing within 500km of the country was put at 80 per cent, with Northland and Gisborne the areas most at risk.

■ NZPA Auckland

Clarkson mulls exit

National's Tauranga MP Bob "the builder" Clarkson is considering standing down at the next election.

Mr Clarkson yesterday said that at 68 years of age he sometimes felt too old for Parliament and there were several younger people in his seat who would be keen to stand for election if he stepped aside.

The straight-talking MP also said he frequently felt out of place in Parliament, which was much better suited to "bookworm types".

He expected to make a decision by Christmas time.

One factor would be whether New Zealand First leader and

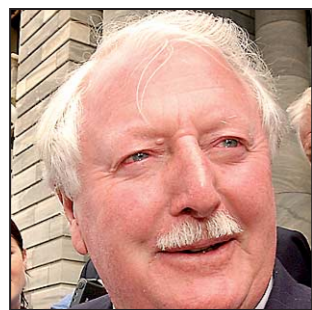
former Tauranga MP Winston Peters decided to stand in the seat again.

"That would definitely make me more keen to stay on because we would trounce him," Mr Clarkson said.

The pair had a tense and acrimonious battle for the seat in 2005, with Mr Peters playing a role in the airing of sexual harassment allegations by a former employee of Mr Clarkson.

After Mr Clarkson won the seat, Mr Peters challenged his campaign spending, but Mr Clarkson was found to have stayed within his spending limit.

■ NZPA Wellington



Bob Clarkson

Timaru singer scoops prize pool at festival

A young Timaru opera star has scooped the pool at an annual music festival.

Twelve-year-old soprano singer Charlotte Matthews took out five first placings and one second placing at the Ashburton Society of Performing Arts annual music festival last weekend.

Charlotte won the folk song, solo novice, light popular, and solo sacred in the 12 to 14 age group, then took out the solo open operatic aria singing *O Mio Babbino Caro* by Pucini.

As the competition was a first, Charlotte said she was most surprised when the judges announced her winnings.

"It was a big shock because they were all older than me."

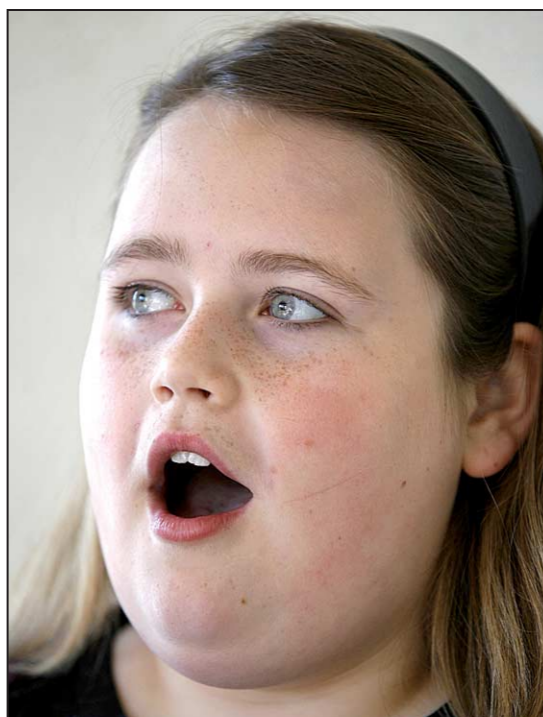
Charlotte is a member of the St Mary's church choir, Craighead Diocesan School choir and junior choir.

It seems the musical talent must run in the family as her mother Helen is also an accomplished singer.

Charlotte has been singing since as long as she can remember and loves music because it enables her to express her emotions.

As well as playing the guitar and piano she has achieved her light blue and dark blue awards in the Royal School of Church Music voice for life programme and is currently working towards her Grade Four Royal School of Music exam after gaining a distinction in Grade Three last year.

She would like to make a career out of her singing and hopes to attend the National Academy of Singing and Dramatic Art (NASDA) when she finishes secondary school.



SINGING STAR: Charlotte Matthews took out five first placings at the Ashburton Society of performing arts annual music festival last weekend.

Killer could still be in city

A documentary maker believes the killer of a Japanese tourist whose decomposed body was found in a downtown Auckland building nine years ago could still be living in the city.

The naked and decaying body of 29-year-old Kayo Matsuzawa was found in a cupboard near the stairwell of a building in Queen St on September 22, 1998.

At the time of her death, she had been on a working holiday in Christchurch and had travelled to Auckland for a sightseeing trip.

The unsolved case is to feature in the first programme in a series called *The Investigator* on TV One.

Programme maker Bryan Bruce said "a vital piece of evidence" would be presented on the show.

"I have good reason to think that Kayo's killer is still living in Auckland and I still believe it is possible, with a bit of help from the public, that the police can bring him to justice," he said.

Senior Sergeant Simon Scott said, "It's a cold case... what we need is new information."

■ NZPA Auckland

1000 civil unions

The 1000th civil union has been registered since legislation was passed in April 2005 that allowed the new form of relationship recognition.

Of those civil unions, just one in five are between a man and a woman. Lesbians made up more of the remaining civil unions than gay men.

Over the same period there had been 45,000 marriages.

■ NZPA Wellington

80-year-old man saved by his faithful friend

An 80-year-old Waikato man whose vehicle rolled down a steep bank into thick bush "in the middle of nowhere" owes his life to his dog, Sam, police said at the weekend.

Keith Marsh had to survive a night in the open after crashing his four-wheel-drive on Thursday when returning from Marokopa to Te Kuiti after whitebaiting.

The accident happened around 3.30pm at Te Anga Rd, about 1km east of the "Natural Tunnel" and about 20km west of Waitomo village.

Te Kuiti Senior Constable Alan Wells said the spot where the vehicle ended up made it obscured from passing traffic.

He said Mr Marsh was believed to have remained in the vehicle overnight and made several attempts to climb up the bank on Friday morning.

But he was unable to climb up because of minor injuries, and he was disoriented and suffering from dehydration, shock and diabetes.

Mr Wells said Mr Marsh was located about 8.30am on Friday after two school teachers saw his dog sitting on the side of the road "in the middle of nowhere".

"As it was, Sam was simply sticking by his master," he said.

It was then that the crash scene was discovered and emergency services alerted.

Mr Marsh was taken to Te Kuiti Hospital and transferred to Waikato Hospital in Hamilton.

Mr Wells said police and Mr Marsh's family wanted the two teachers to contact them so they could thank the pair for their part in the rescue.

■ NZPA Auckland

Two Lotto winners, Timaru wins Wheel

There were two winners of Lotto number 1060 drawn on Saturday. The two, from Wainuiomata and Wellington, each receive \$500,000. The winning numbers were: 4, 7, 17, 20, 32, 35, bonus 37. Other division winners were:

Division two: \$23,833 (11 winners); division three: \$694 (393); division four: \$66 (978); division five: \$34 (16,383); division six: \$24 (22,209).

This draw's Winning Wheel Serial Number: 752-04744963-20xx from Timaru.

The Winning Wheel Winner from Auckland spun to win a Jaguar XK.

The powerball winning number was 2. Division one of powerball was not won. Other division winners were:

Division two: \$34,930 (1); division three: \$1093 (33); division four: \$143 (63); division five: \$69 (1058); division six: \$49 (1462).

Strike winning numbers were: 7, 4, 32, 35. Strike winners were:

Strike four: \$249,070 (one winner from Wellington); strike three: \$822 (71); strike two: \$78 (4143); strike one: bonus ticket (103,880).

Vote
DIANE FOLEY



for
District Health Board
"Prevention is the Cure"

Authorised by D.Foley "Trebell Farm" Waimate

NewsBRIEFS

Taxis alarm police

Almost one in 10 taxis stopped during a weekend drink-drive blitz in Auckland had to be taken off the road because of serious defects, a statistic police yesterday described as alarming. Senior Sergeant Pete Kaveney said some taxi operators were showing a complete disregard for the safety of the people they were carrying.

Woken by attacker

Police are hunting a knife-wielding teenager after a woman awoke to find him lying on top of her at a Northland house early yesterday. Police said that the 40-year-old woman was asleep on a couch in the lounge of an address in Kamo, Whangarei, when she was awakened by the youth on top of her holding a large knife. He dragged her from the lounge into a bedroom, where he attacked her with the knife leaving her with a number of wounds though none was life-threatening.

DOC land threatened

Department of Conservation staff yesterday afternoon brought a fire under control that had been blazing for about 24 hours in a South Otago reserve. DOC community relations officer John Gordon said the blaze was caused by an escape from a controlled burn off in a neighbouring property. Mr Gordon said the owner of the land where the fire originated did not have a permit for the burn off, which was within a kilometre of the conservation reserve, and was being spoken to by DOC staff.

Quakes near Matata

There were two earthquakes within a minute of each other near Matata early yesterday morning that were felt across Bay of Plenty. GNS Science first reported an earthquake measuring 4.7 on the Richter scale at 1.12am, centred 10km north east of the township at a depth of 2km. Later it said there had been a second earthquake measuring 4.5 at the same location one minute later.

Two Ecan seats for SC

The South Canterbury Environment Canterbury constituency will have two representatives. There are two South Canterbury seats at the regional council table, not the one seat as suggested in Saturday's candidate profiles.

Car owner sought

Police are looking for a Hastings man after his burnt out car was discovered in Katikati, 35km northwest of Tauranga, on Saturday night. Cameron Dormer, 25, was last seen about 3pm in Hastings on Saturday, Hastings police said yesterday. His white 1996 Honda Accord was found burnt out about 10pm on Saturday.

Autistic boy killed

Police have named the 11-year-old autistic boy killed as he ran along the middle of a Hawke's Bay road on Friday night. Pyjama-clad Andrew Seong Nam Chan died instantly after being struck by a car on State Highway 50 between Hastings and Napier, about 6.45pm. Police said that Andrew had managed to flee his home despite his family doing all they could to ensure he stayed safely inside.

Axeman confronts police

Two police officers were forced to take evasive action when they were confronted by a man swinging an axe in Napier early yesterday. One officer managed to get out of the way, so the man turned his attention to the other officer, who got behind a parked car. The man's associates then managed to get the axe off him before he ran into a nearby property. When he approached the two officers again shortly afterwards, he was pepper sprayed and handcuffed. The man is due to appear in court today facing two charges of assault with a weapon.

— NZPA, Fairfax

Alliance Meats
PHONE 684-2140
FAX 684-8139
TRADING HRS:
Tuesday - Friday: 7am-5pm
Suppliers to CRT,
EFTPOS available
TRADE NOT SUPPLIED

THIS WEEKS SPECIALS

Fresh LAMB Shoulder Chops ONLY \$5.99 KG

Fresh Whole Bone In LAMB Shoulders ONLY \$11.99 EA

Santa Rosa BONELESS CHICKEN Mini Roasts ONLY \$6.99 EA

Come and check out our other great instore SPECIALS

SMITHFIELD RETAIL SHOP - ALLIANCE MEATS & WHOLESALE