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APRIL
2015



To Our Valued Customers,

I hope you had a very enjoyable Easter weekend with family and friends, and had an opportunity to reflect on the significance of the celebration.

I, like most Kiwis, became immersed in the cricket World Cup and the enthralling games our Black Caps provided. Although the final was a let-down, the semi against South Africa made up for it – the excitement and tension was awesome.

I see the government is cutting in half the number of district court bailiffs in NZ. That's bad enough but the statement that the reduction won't affect the service provided defies rational thought. It makes as much sense as Sandra Venables, Whakatane police Chief back in 2013 taking our Senior Sargent away and stating we should receive better policing as a result.

A great big Tui's "Yeah Right!" to both of them. It is interesting that on one hand they are taking away the very people who assist in tracking those who have broken moral and civil law and yet are increasing by 90 the number of enforcement officers who will be calling on businesses, farmers and orchardists to make sure they are complying with the ever increasing number of compliance regulations. The disturbing part of this is the size of the fines now able to be charged for failure to comply. It's like the government sees it is much easier to extract money out of those it has easy access to than to assist those who have been blatantly ripped off by the unscrupulous.

Another example of this was when they changed road user charges from loads actually carried to what the maximum weight the vehicle could carry. When I rang NZTA to voice my concern I was eventually told it was because people were ripping the system off by not paying for the correct weight carried. When I asked if the majority of people were paying correctly he agreed, so I asked why make the majority pay more because a minority isn't. He replied, "I guess that's one way of looking at it and you are entitled to your opinion." I see this as another classic case of the government taking the line of least resistance to increase its tax take.

I have heard it said that we have accepted certain changes in NZ that in other countries could only have been enforced by a dictatorship. While being a National supporter, I don't agree with all they do.

Humility is a virtue. Timidity is a disease.

What a roller coaster ride our dairy industry is experiencing at present. It shows how vulnerable we all are to this rapidly changing world. All it takes is some nutter with a grudge, fruit fly, foot & mouth, PSA or a slump in world prices and the change can be quick and drastic. Living in the south Pacific isolates us from many problems but not all – but I still reckon it's the best place in the world to live. It would seem Aussies think so to, as the tide has now turned with more coming here than kiwis going over there.

The hardest years in life are those between 10 and 70.

Husqvarna Chainsaw Promotion

I guess I should get on to the subject of what's happening at Lowes Hire & Engineering. If you check out the front page of this week's Opotiki News you will see some great specials and add-ons to the range of chainsaws that started April 1st.

For those who are still wrestling with their old push mower or ride-on mower, we have a limited number of them available at some sharp pre April prices. It means you will beat the price increase which came in on April 1st.



LPG Refilling and BOC Gas



We have been Opotiki's BOC agent for over 20 years supplying oxygen, acetylene, helium, Argoshield etc to engineers, farmers, hotels, doctor surgeries and clubs. LPG has been another addition with Swap'n'Go 9kg cylinders 12 months ago. Then in the last few months we have been able to refill from our bulk LPG tanks. You could say we are the complete gas bag! While on the subject of gas we recently increased our range of foil and speciality balloons. Filled with helium, these last for ages, and can even be refilled for use again.

Remember:

- We have a great range of Mobility Scoters available as well as battery powered Golf Trundlers.
- Marquees 9m by up to 21m long including silk linings – and all the accessories to go with it.
- Enviro Tab diesel fuel cleaning system
- Stump Grinding
- Water filters and UV Sterilisers
- Water Pumps & pressure tanks
- Safety Boots-Slip on – Lace up – High leg.
- Safety Glasses – Lots of styles and priced from just \$8.50
- Safety Helmets, Visors and Earmuff combos from \$89.00
- Now available good quality Knee Pads for those who pray a lot!!! From \$22.50
- Trailer Hub and Stub sets predrilled or blank also spring sets 1 and 1.5 tonne.

Looking forward to the 100 year commemoration of ANZAC day that Shona Browne and the team have been working on. Top marks to Caitlin Papuni-McLellan on winning the final of the RSA Cyril Bassett VC speech competition and will be presenting it at Gallipoli. Your parents must be very proud of you as we all are. What a great ambassador we will have to represent us on the other side of the world.

Thought For The Month:

Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends – John 15:13
We will remember them.

Have a great month. All the best from your friendly team at

Lowes Hire and Engineering – “so much more than just a hire centre...”