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OAKURA

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TOM

OAKURA

TOM Oakura is a free monthly publication, delivered at the beginning of each month to all homes from New Plymouth city limits to Okato.

Do you have a story of local interest that you'd like to share with the readers of TOM? Phone **0800 THE TOM** or visit **thetom.co.nz**

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Points of view expressed in contributed articles are not necessarily the views of The TOM

Dates to remember for May 2018 issue. Copy & Ads - 18 April. Distribution from 30th April.

Oakura Community

What's On

5 Elements Fitness: 5 Elements Fitness: Bootcamps and Kickboxing fitness classes: Weekdays 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. For more details contact Barney 027 7527 076, barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Fitness Training/Touch: Thursday nights on back field at Oakura School 5.30 pm to 6.45ish. For all age groups - gold coin donation. Contact Lara Churchill - 0275922320

Functional Crosstraining by Nakifit: Saturdays 7.40am. Ph 021 297 5465 or nakifit@gmail.com

Indoor Bowls: Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Contact Marvin Clough ph 7527531.

JKA Karate: Tuesdays at Oakura Hall 5.30-6.30pm. Thursdays at Oakura Hall 6.00-7.00pm. Contact Jim Hoskin 752 7337.

Kaitake Athletics club: Meets at Corbett park at 5pm on a Tuesday evenings during term time To register - athletics nz website and search for Kaitake. Contact -Tash 0277755440.

Move It or Lose It - fitness classes: Oakura Hall, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9.30am, Contact Gloria 752 7442.

Oakura Bowling and Social Club: Bowling tournaments begin September through to April with both mid-week and weekend games. For information contact Steve Muller on 06 757 4399.

Oakura Meditation Group: - Mondays 8.10pm 37a Donnelly St, ph 0272037215, email kate@shineyoga.co.nz

Oakura Playcentre: 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Kate Garner on 021-254 4769.

Oakura Pony Club: Contact Marlies Butland Delfos ph 0274595962.

Oakura Pool Club: Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm at Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Sheree 027 3444 723.

Oakura Yoga: - Shine Yoga Studio, 37a Donnelly St, www.shineyoga.co.nz for days and times, ph 0272037215.

Okato and District Historical Society: Houses a large collection of local family histories and photos in the Okato Community Trust Hall, Cumming Street, Okato. Open to public every Wednesday 10 am to mid day or by appointment. Phone Anne Bolton 7524499 or Meg Cardiff 7524566.

Okato Squash: Club nights on Mondays from 7pm, everyone welcome, phone Darryl Gibson, Ph 06 752 4804.

Omata Playgroup: Meets every Thursday, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. Ring 751 2308 for next session date. All parents and pre-schoolers welcome.

Omata Yoga: Wednesday evenings 5.15 - 6.45pm and 6.45 - 8.15pm. Omata Community Hall \$15 per class casual rate, \$80 for 6 class sessions. Contact Annalisa Facer 027 444 8345

Oakura Tennis Club: Thursday 9.15-10.15am Cardio Tennis with Blitz Tennis at Linda Street courts, members and non-members welcome. Contact Club Secretary Jackie Mitchell 027 673 2900.

Probus Club: Meets once month at Kaitake Golf Club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Mike Vickers ph 7527881 or Gwen Jury ph 7527783.

St James Church, Oakura: Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School: Oakura Hall. Pre-schol movement classes Mondays 3.00pm, basic children's ballet classes 3.30pm- 4.15pm. Also classes adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth with pre school ballet Weds 3pm. Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz

Volkswagen Club: Keep up to date on facebook. Club El Presidente: Bryan Goodhue. bryan@climate.nz 027667 1016. Find us on facebook: @TVWOC

From the Editor



As we slide into autumnal darkness I mourn the loss of daylight in the morning when I get up and in the evening for going for a walk. Summer has been awesome this year but why does it never seem long enough? I've enjoyed a couple of beautiful summer weddings in the village this year as well as hosting first time visitors to New Plymouth for both the weddings and WOMAD, all under

favourable skies. I feel so proud when first time visitors rave about what us locals have always enjoyed - great cafes, coffee, beaches, people and other public amenities - I'm sure Barack Obama would agree if he came to Oakura!

I had a very special experience recently when I participated in a back country kiwi chick lift. I never seen a kiwi up close let alone held one and to be able to cuddle a two day old kiwi was exhilarating. They are so soft and vulnerable. This little fellow pictured right weighed in at 400 grams and is now safely in the predator free Rotokare Scenic Reserve - all thanks to the Taranaki Kiwi Trust.

It's very easy to see why these icons of New Zealand are being wiped out. Little Robbie is pushed out of the burrow at a few days old and has to fend for himself. Kiwi have no breast bone which makes them extremely vulnerable to predation - and there is plenty to predate on them. It is a good feeling to know he is safe within Rotokare. Makes you think it would be great to have a predator fence right round our mountain - a mammoth task!

I recently attended the AGM of the Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust, held at Butler's Hotel where a large gathering of locals had turned out to hear about kiwi and conservation on the Kaitake's. This group is doing sterling work in the fight against pests and are regularly trapping and are keen to increase efforts with the long term aim of returning kiwi to the Kaitakes - keep up the good work!

On page four you will read about Will Jones's Godzone adventure - what an absolute triumph for a young man to achieve - congratulations Will on your third place or perhaps more importantly, completion - a truly unforgettable experience!

Kim



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Godzone Adventurer Recovers after Epic Race

Omata local, Will Jones (21 years) and his team of Jessie Winder, Alex Manktelow and Quinn Hornblow completed the Godzone adventure race in March. The team was called 'UC Engineering' and received great sponsorship from UC Engineering.

This year the Godzone adventure race was held in Fiordland with more than 360 participants from all over the world. The race is approximately 550km long with trekking, biking, kayaking and abseiling disciplines and can take up to 10 days to complete. Will Jones shares his Godzone adventure with us.

Why I wanted to participate in GZ

Godzone had been on the radar for a couple of years. I looked at it as the ultimate physical and mental challenge. So when it was announced that the 2018 GZ would be hosted in Fiordland and be an ultimate edition (max time extended to 10 days rather than 7) it was very tempting. The timing was also good as I would be finishing uni and have the summer free before starting full time work.

A large part of the appeal to race was to go into areas where few others have been before. To do this in Fiordland (regarded as NZ's most pristine wilderness area) made it an event I couldn't miss!

Another motivation to participate was the team aspect. For most of my athletic career I have been involved in events where I'm racing as an individual (cross country running). This has its own perks but I was keen to share a race and buildup with others. Racing as a team meant I could share the experience, scenery, highs and lows with a group of great mates.

What training was involved

We tried to average an hour a day while we were studying and get away on weekend missions when time allowed. We also competed in a 12 hour and three day race (Wilderness Traverse Fiordland) in our buildup. From mid Jan through to race day (1st of March) I didn't have any work or uni so spent time training in Fiordland and Canterbury.

The codes we trained for were trekking, packrafting (a small inflatable raft that fits in a backpack), kayaking, and mountain biking. Christchurch was an awesome base for this with the Avon river and Port Hills close by for weekday training, then the Southern Alps only an hour away for bigger missions. We tried to do all big trips as a team to get used to moving together and learning each others strengths and weaknesses. We also joined up with other teams for occasional trainings.

The course and our race

The course started and finished in Te Anau.
Leg1 – 110 km trek/packraft and 130 m abseil
Leg2 – 55 km mtb and caving
Leg3 – 150 km trek/packraft
Leg4 – 160 km mountain bike
Leg5 – 14 km kayak
Leg6 – 24 km trek
Leg7 – 35 km kayak

Overall I think we raced fairly well. We kept a fairly even tempo and made sure we didn't go out too hard at the start. We slept

about 3 hours each night on average.

Footcare was a big part of the race. In the week leading up to the race we all waterproofed our feet by rubbing in large amounts of Gurney Goo. During the race we would tape hotspots and gurney goo feet in the morning then dry our feet with baby powder whenever possible (always at night before sleeping). Leg 3 was very wet underfoot and was where we gained quite a few places as other teams hadn't looked after their feet well enough so developed trench foot. As a result many teams were put on a shorter course or had team members withdraw.

The most stressful point of the race was making the transition from leg 4 to leg 5. We had to be transitioned from the bike into kayaks by 3am on the morning of the 8th day. We thought we were pretty on track to make this but it turned out that there was a very difficult 'hike a bike' section up a steep technical bush track. This was very energy sapping and painful for our already tender feet. There were several other teams with us at this point all racing for the cutoff. We worked well as a team here to pass bikes over and under trees. Other teams didn't do this quite so well (we heard some bikes go crashing down the hill when they must have been dropped). After carrying our bikes up we then had an 800m vertical decent down to the Manapouri power station. We ended up getting to the transition at 2.50am and racing through it to be in the kayaks at 2:59am before collapsing in the kayaks with relief! This meant we would now be able to complete the full course without worrying about any more cutoffs.

We ended up finishing on the morning of the 10th day – it felt like a whole lifetime had passed! Our final position was 24th out of about 75 teams that had started and we managed to get 3rd place in the youth (Colts) division.

Would I do it again?

Yes! I found it great having such a big goal to aim for. There are also so many ways we could improve as a team – fitness and streamlining all the transitions/processes that go on during the race. It was also really cool getting to know other teams along the way and sharing war stories.

Unexpected experiences along the way

Something that was kind of expected was sleep monsters. Sleep monsters is when you are so sleep deprived that you start hallucinating and seeing things. This didn't happen to me but it did to my teammates. On the 3rd night while we were trekking through bush Alex (our navigator) kept thinking he could see the large meandering Waikato river flowing through the bush. Or Jessie kept thinking that there were cars coming towards us on one of the mountain bike legs.

Roadside food stops were unexpected. Being in Fiordland we knew it would be pretty unlikely that there would be cafes or bakeries to stop at (this is quite common during other GZs). Instead there were multiple roadside stalls on the 160km mtb offering up free fresh fruit, slice, burgers sausages, and even beer! We made a couple of stops at these to stock up on calories. It was awesome to have food that wasn't a bar or dehydrated.

How I'm feeling now (2 weeks later)

Pretty much fully recovered.
Very tired for first 10 days after, lots of napping and 12 hour sleeps. Hard starting full time work this week!
Have been riding and running the last few days and feel fit.

Team Jones (aka mum Catherine and dad Roger) share a perspective.

Roger and I were lucky enough to be in Fiordland for the whole of Godzone 2018. It was an amazing experience for us - and we were just on the sideline!! We certainly came away in awe of all competitors – the physical and mental toughness they had to have to compete and complete. I didn't realize that the big deal with Godzone is primarily completion and that the Race Directors set a course only intending a limited number of teams to be able to complete it in the timeframe - rumor was that this year they planned for only 10 of the 96 teams finishing the full course.

We had quite a special insight into what some called toughest ever Godzone leg - Stage 3 which was a 160km trek/packraft. We hiked in to Port Craig Hut (20km from the end of stage 3) for what we thought was a day trip and ended up staying 4 days! Competitors who had done a number of Godzones said that getting to the end of stage 3 was the equivalent of a 'normal' Godzone -never mind that in this 2018 version there were another 3 stages after that!

Teams were arriving at the Port Craig Hut absolutely exhausted and a lot of them had run out of food or were on very tight rations - this stage was taking a lot longer than the times predicted by the course directors. Competitors feet were in a bad way and one man even had to get helicoptered out of there as he simply couldn't have gone any further - I later heard from him that he had two nights in hospital.

Eventually the Godzone organisers helicoptered a food drop into the hut and the competitors were so grateful for!! We felt like we were helping out in a warzone! In the days that followed, when we were at the finish line so many of the competitors came up to us and thanked us for the food and said how good it was to see us at that hut.

William below left with his team and prize!



We hope you all had a safe and happy Easter.

The end of Term 1 is approaching quickly, which means it's time to book your spaces in Puke Ariki's school holiday programmes.

Puke Ariki's exhibition, Permian Monsters, has inspired us to have a go at making our own prehistoric fossils. Oākura Library's school holiday activity will be held here on Wednesday 18th April from 10am-11am. Spaces are limited so please book ahead either at the library or by calling 06 759 6060. Suitable for ages 5 – 10. Children please bring an adult.

Puke Ariki's full School Holiday Programme can be found in the latest edition of our What's On booklet or by visiting the Puke Ariki website.

"I've read everything written by my favourite authors, what shall I read next?" Sound familiar? We have a solution! Our website has an established resource designed to help anyone who enjoys reading fiction, expand the number of writers they read. It's packed full of interesting features for parents and teachers and also suggests useful websites that deal with children's literature, lists graphic novels, early readers and more.

You'll find the tool in our search catalogue under Who Else Writes Like? for adults and Who Next? for children. Please note we will be closed Wednesday 25th April 2018 for ANZAC day.

Happy reading!
Charlie and Vincenza



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Kaitake Community Board

The Council has received a Private Plan Change application for a zone change in Wairau Road, Oakura. The application is to change the current zoning of the 58ha site from rural to residential to allow for housing to be developed. The site is between State Highway 45 and Upper Wairau Road, Oakura. The majority of the application is for residential lots, with some lifestyle lots on the western edge. Once an application such as this is submitted it becomes public information. The KCB has continually asked for a copy of the application but at time of writing has yet to receive it.

The KCB knows that the application, presumed to put another 400 houses into our community, is of huge interest to a very wide range of people here. However until the board sights the application and digests its contents it is hard to make any definitive comments about the proposed development. It is important we consider the application against the Oakura Structure Plan 2006, the Oakura Community Engagement Project Report - 2014/16, the Kaitake Community Plan: A Thirty Year Vision - 2017, and the NPDC District Plan, rather than reach conclusions through advertising blurb or local conjecture.

As the elected representatives, our purpose under legislation is to represent and advocate on behalf of the community we serve and live in. To that end we continue to uphold that public transparency is the fundamental key to good local government. Consequently we are hopeful by the time you are reading this the application will have been made available and the community has had an opportunity to see the actual substance of it.

Our understanding at this point is that the application will now be assessed by Council staff to ensure it includes sufficient information. Following this it will be reported to Council in the next meeting round so that it can be publicly notified for formal submissions. That meeting round commences with the KCB meeting on April 16. Hearings will follow, after which the Council will make a decision. The Council's decision can be appealed to the Environment Court by either the applicant or a submitter.

If you wish to make comments to any of the KCB, please do so. We need to listen to as many residents as possible to ensure any advocacy we undertake on this issue is robust and valid.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at the NPOB Surfclub at 4.30pm on Monday 16 April.

Ka kite ano. Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead, Graham Chard and Roy Weaver who is the Councillor representative on the KCB.

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Be a Volunteer!

Volunteers are sought to fill important roles at one of Taranaki's most renowned attractions.

Pukeiti tour: Volunteers can get involved in a range of activities at Pukeiti, including tours and events.

Pukeiti is looking for volunteers to be involved in a range of activities including events, biodiversity work, tour guiding and gardening.

"Pukeiti has seen some exciting developments over the past few years and they haven't finished yet," says Greg Rine, Regional Gardens Manager for the Taranaki Regional Council.

"Visitor reaction has been overwhelmingly positive and a lot more people are coming to check it out for themselves."

Greg says there are a host of options for volunteers wanting to be involved. "You don't necessarily need any particular experience – we are looking for people passionate about New Zealand history and culture, gardening, our native biodiversity, or even those just keen on meeting new people."

Training and support will be provided, and volunteers can expect a great team culture. If you think you might be interested, email regional.gardens@trc.govt.nz.

Kaitake Ranges Conservation Trust Need Volunteers

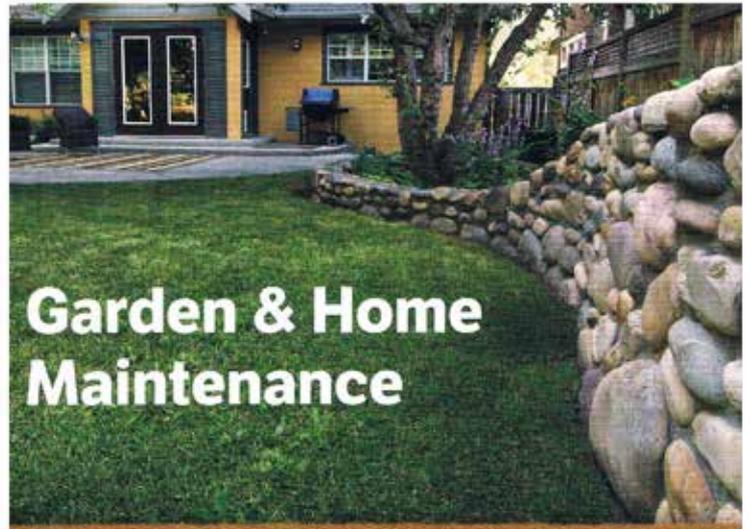
We had a superb turnout at the recent AGM at Butlers, with 14 new members or helpers keen to join the challenge of ridding the Ranges of predators of kiwi and other native birds.

The Kiwi Trust's Sian Poiter presented fascinating information and statistics about kiwi on Mount Taranaki and the work the Trust is doing. We are so pleased to join forces and work with the Kiwi Trust in our trapping project.

Our next task is to fund 80 more traps that will mean three more 'lines' can be added to the trapping map.

We'd love to welcome any new members, or meet other bush buddies who would like to check traps while they enjoy the beauty of our Kaitakes.

If you'd like more information, or to have a chat about how you can help, please contact our Secretary Daryl Gibson by email at aliandbaz@xtra.co.nz



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Reshuffle an exciting time for MP

Last month's National Party reshuffle has presented opportunities for all 56 of our MPs and we're all focused on refining policies that improve the lives of all New Zealanders.

Simon Bridges has chosen Taranaki's MPs for some exciting responsibilities in his allocation of portfolios: Harete Hipango from Whanganui electorate is spokesperson for Maori Tourism, and Taranaki-King Country's Barbara Kuriger is Senior Whip, liaising and coordinating all our MPs. Simon has added Regional Development (North Island) to my Energy and Resources role. These involve matters of crucial importance to Taranaki and as your MP I'm excited about the chance to bring our views to National Party policy, as well as hold the Government to account for any bad decisions made.

For a number of years, I have hosted visiting MPs to showcase how well we do things here and travelled to other regions to see their best initiatives. I look forward to continuing that mutually beneficial interaction and will draw attention to our many success stories including the Tapuae Roa: Make Way for Taranaki initiative, and our general collaborative approach to region-wide issues.

April is a busy month with Parliament in session, Easter, and School Holidays. One major event I always prioritise is Anzac Day, a chance to reflect on our lives and those who paid the ultimate price in the service of our country. This year I will again be attending the RSA Dawn service at the New Plymouth cenotaph and then the Civic parade later in the morning. I'll also be attending the midday commemoration at the Cape Egmont boat club, as I have the last three years.

I am always keen to hear from you if there's anything you'd like to discuss, or an event you would like me to attend. Please get in touch with my team at the New Plymouth office, or email me at newplymouthmp@parliament.govt.nz

Jonathan Young

JONATHAN YOUNG
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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SPOTSWOOD COLLEGE Greetings to the Oakura and Omata community,



Learning Support Faculty Work Skills Programme

This year, we have begun a new aspect of our Transition Programme and set up a social enterprise to provide up to 35 students the opportunity to take part in work skills programme. At this stage, we are still on the hunt for a suitable name for our work skills business and are almost ready to start venturing out of school to complete jobs for the wider community.

So far, the work groups have been completing a range of jobs at school and learning what transferable skills employers would be looking for. The students pick team leaders, work cooperatively, follow work assignments and complete a work journal every Friday.

Completed jobs have included window, desk and PC cleaning, gardening, silver polishing, office work, laundry, sports uniform organisation, pool maintenance, property and garden clearance, furniture removals, fixing furniture, building flat pack furniture and kitchen cleaning etc.

We are aiming to complete paid and unpaid work in the community and welcome any offers of work. Please contact jos@spotswoodcollege.school.nz if you have any suggestions for work opportunities.

Spotlight on Sport

1. Codes Currently Underway:

This term we will have senior boys' and girls' teams competing in indoor volleyball. Good luck to these teams for the regionals and with your preparations for the national schools championships in late-March.

2. Pre Season Training For Winter Codes:

Students intending to participate in winter codes such as football, hockey, netball and rugby should listen to the daily notices to hear when your pre-season training begins.

3. National Kayak Champion:

Congratulations to Ryan Clough (Y12) on his outstanding successes winning 6 medals at the National kayaking sprint championships held at Lake Karapiro from 23-25 February. Ryan won gold in the under 16 Mens' K1 500m; Silver medals in the K2 200m, K2 500m, K4 200m, K4 500m; and bronze in the K1 200m.

PTA News

The PTA was delighted to support the school in its purchase of speakers for the Music Department. The idea was that these speakers could also be used during school events and they were utilised during our recent carnival day. Thank you to Wes James for determining what was needed and for placing the order.

On 14th March we held our AGM and this saw a change in office bearers. I would like to welcome Andre Nobbs as our new

Chair and Moira Brockhill as our new secretary and also to thank Janine Schofield for being our Secretary for the past 4 years, an amazing commitment.

The role of treasurer remains unfilled, if you are interested in holding this position or in being part of this dynamic group and helping the school, please come along to our next meeting which will be held in the school board room on Wednesday 2nd May at 7pm.

Spotswood College Calendar

APRIL

- 2 Easter Monday - School Closed
TSSSA Orienteering
- 3 Easter Tuesday - School Closed
TSSSA Equestrian-Dressage
- 4 WhyOra
- 5 TSSSA Adventure Race
- 6 TSSSA Swimming
- 7 TSSSA Girls Quick Rip Rugby
PTA Meeting
- 12 Komiti Maori
- 13 End of Term 1
- 14 Start of Term 2

As always should you have any queries regarding our school please contact us or visit our website.

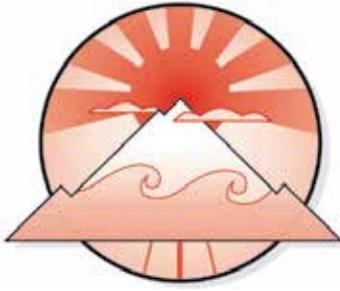
Mark Bowden
Principal

Carnival Day on 9 March was a day of fun, participation and competition as evidenced by the photos right and below.



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Oakura School

Swimming Sports

On Wednesday the 14th of March, Oakura School had their annual swimming sports at the Okato Pool. This eagerly awaited school event is a

chance for every student, from Year Four to Year 8, to compete in a safe but competitive environment. There is always a crowd of supportive family poolside and this year was no exception.

To add excitement to the day, the children are grouped into their school houses and place getters are awarded points, which they contribute to their house point score. At the end of the event, the overall house winners are announced. This year, in first place we had Koru with 312 points, in second, with 280 points, we have Wairau and in third and fourth we have Matekai and Patuha with 278 (Matekai) and 274 points (Pātuha).

On the day, a range of races were held; including house relays, championship races (for fast swimmers), races for different ages, races for boys, races for girls and, of course, freestyle, breaststroke and backstroke races.

The day began with width races, before holding one length and then two length (championship) races. The children who won their championship races will go on to represent Oakura School at the interschool races in New Plymouth later in the term.

A huge congratulations to all those who pushed themselves to compete in the championship races. Also, good work to all those non-confident swimmers who still gave it a go. Lastly, a very big thank you to all the staff who helped make our 2018 Oakura School swimming sports such a swimmingly good time.

By Freddie Weeks and Catherine Rielly-Leadbetter



Oakura Students Escape the Classroom

At the start of March, the Years Five and Six classes escaped their classrooms and went to Vertical Horizon for their biennial school camp.

They all had a lot of fun doing all the different activities that Vertical Horizon offered. The activities help the pupils to develop their maia (confidence) and manawaroa (perseverance). It gave pupils the opportunity to bond with new people and gain new friends.

As well as all the cool activities the children did at Vertical Horizons, there was fabulous food. After dinner, the students would write about their day in their camp diary, so when they got back to school they were able to write about their awesome experiences at camp. Here is what some pupils wrote.

Hannah (Y6)

I really liked the instructors, they were really nice. My favourite activity was the flying kiwi. It was scary but really fun. It was a very relaxed environment and everyone got to be independent and that made it even more fun for me. I would like to thank all the teachers for helping because it wouldn't have been a great camp if it weren't for them.

Cooper (Y5)

I enjoyed the flying kiwi, the grass karts and archery because I got a bullseye. It was a nice environment to stay in. I liked the burgers and American hot dogs. I wish I could go back and do it all again.

Shayla (Y5)

My favourite thing was the mud run because it was goopy, gross and fun. I loved that I was surrounded by good people. I loved the nachos and American hot dogs. I wish we had more time enjoying the beautiful lake and camp. Thank you teachers and parents for helping us enjoy camp Vertical Horizon.

Oakura School Principal, Lynne Hepworth, was very thankful to all the teachers, parents and the Vertical Horizon hosts for

making the camp run so smoothly and for making the camp possible. She could tell from all the smiles on their return that all the students loved it and had a great time.

By Ellie Dinnis (age 12) and Katie Clough (age 11)

Swimming sports photo left and Vertical Horizons next page.



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Club News

The Mens Club

Championships have started and we have had an awesome turnout of all our regular members. We have a couple of Tournaments coming up soon next month so be sure to look out and come and be part

of these events. We have Mitre 10 Tradies Day on the 20th April 2018 which should be a big event so get to know your local tradesmen and be part of that team and come and win great prizes as we will be having a huge auction of amazing prizes.

Club Championships

Adam Collins, Wayne Robinson, Andy Shearer and Mike Vickers won the highly coveted Fours Championship final over a Jim Priest skipped quartet of Kevin Fleming, Bob Anderson and Roy Phillips. The Priest outfit started the game a firm bookies favourite, however the Collin's team thrilled the small crowd with great entertaining bowls to close out the game 21 - 9.

Jim Priest made amends for his defeat in the fours with a hard-fought win over Tony McAlevey to secure victory in the Championship Singles final. Priest took control of the game early shutting out McAlevey over the first 6 ends and then held strong for a convincing 21 - 8 win.

Steve Muller won the Junior Singles final with a 21 - 10 victory over Kurt Smith. It was Muller's third club junior title in 5 years. Congratulations to all Club Champions and the club wishes them success as they represent Oakura in the Champion of Champions series played over April. For further information and dates visit Bowls Taranaki website <http://www.taranakibowls.co.nz/>

Interclub Tournaments

Oakura has won the Gilmour Cup mid-week competition with a 59% win/ratio. A rained-out last round saw the Oakura team maintain their lead to secure a narrow but well-deserved victory. Congratulations and well done to all who played throughout the year.

The Wanderers competition has started with Oakura off to a flier, winning 7 from their first 9 games. With 3 more rounds to go the boys are in a great position to add another trophy to the cabinet.

Club News

Renovations have been completed (thanks to the TSB community trust) and all members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the new look clubrooms on Friday evenings from 4.30pm till 7pm. There is a full bar available, a weekly membership draw and as always someone entertaining the crowd with a Friday funny or humorous story. The club is situated directly behind the Oakura Community Hall.

Oakura Farm and Rural Services is sponsoring a 3 bowls triples tournament on Sunday 15th April. Entry is open to all bowlers and non-bowlers, start time is 1pm and dress is mufti/casual. Teams or individual entries will be accepted and bowling gear will be available if required. For further details or entry confirmation please phone Steve Muller on 0211695863.

The Underarm Bowler

New Members Welcome

New golfers are encouraged to give "golf a go" there is still plenty more days of golf to go before end of year so come take advantage of this weather and get out into the fresh air and enjoy a leisurely walk and great exercise round the golf course.

Aged between 19-25 years of age? This is a good opportunity to join at a very special rate. Already many have taken advantage of the new \$10 rate per years of age membership fee to become a full playing member. For example if you are 22 the membership fee will be \$220 per year.

Children 5 - 12 years of age. Kaitake Golf Club has a Chippers group that meet every second Sunday around 9.00am for coaching and a few holes of golf. Membership fee is \$40 for the year that includes access to play on the course with an adult. The club have sets of clubs the children can borrow. Come as you are - casual dress, trainers and a hat. Contact Andrea on 0273587001 or andrea.jarrold@xtra.co.nz or Denise in the office 06 7527 665 for more information.

Womens Results 18 Hole Results

The golfing season starts with a number of National competitions played on each home course. Denise Howe had a blinder of a day winning the Aotearoa Cup, the Coronation Medal and the Gross Trophy. Well Done, Denise. The Veterans Trophy was won by Maureen Nielsen. Congratulations to both of you.

The Womens 18 Hole Pennants teams have got off to a slow start and while not winning have competed well.

9 Hole Update

Stableford 1 Ball Winners Lorraine Parthemore with 24 points and Yvonne Hildred with 21.

Medalford 1 Ball winners Jean Keegan 6 and Coraleen Le Breton 18 on count back.

Vase 1 Ball winners Jenny Clarke with nett 29 and Coraleen Le Breton nett 36.

LGU 1 Jean Keegan and LGU 2 Jo W-West.

Putting 1 Margaret Briscoe 12 putts.

Fun Day Comps - Good Hole/ Bad Hole Kay Stachurski 36 and Jenny Clarke 34 - St Pats Irish Stableford winners Jo W-West with 42 points and Chrissy Warden with 40 - Nett Tuesday winners Lorraine Parthemore Back 9 with 35 nett and front 9 Claire Chamberlain with 29 nett.

Pennant Update

White team still to score so still have 1 rain-off point whilst Blue Team are on the board with 3 points. Teams at the top on 5 points are Urenui, Manukorihi and Westown 2

Quick Six

This has been a most successful initiative that has given eleven potential golfers the opportunity to give golf a try. Dominic Barson, a Golf Professional from New Plymouth, provided the players with some basic coaching.

By the end of March there have been six days where the Quick Six group get out on the course to practice their skills. They are all doing well, having fun and meeting new friends. Just what golf is all about. The Club has offered a special Developmental Membership to encourage these players to continue playing from April until the end of the year when they will decide whether or not to join as a fulltime member.



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[DESIGN THINKING]

Thank you to the Kaitake Women who have supported the Quick Six. They have enjoyed sharing their experience with the participants and will be happy to run similar courses in the future.

For further information contact Denise in the office 7527665 or Andrea on 0273587001 or andrea.jarrold@xtra.co.nz

Kaitake "Poets" Society has now finished for the season and was a very successful fun filled Friday evenings. Will keep you informed of our next get together for this event. Thankyou to all the non golfers and members that came and was part of our club.



Dr Susan Oldfield
Integrative Practitioner
MBBS Dip O&G DFFP MRCGP FRNZCGP MACNEM

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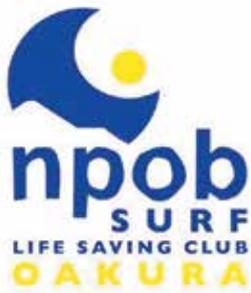
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Well, what a summer and a great season we have had. It's amazing how fast the days fly by when the sun shines like it has. It doesn't seem like that long ago when we were rustling up the little ones to start junior surf.

Beginning of March saw our Oceans' 18 team of 19 athletes

head to Orewa to compete amongst 829 athletes from 45 clubs across NZ. NPOB battling away in conditions that were far from ideal finishing 19th overall.

A great effort from the whole team, with a lot semi-final and final appearances and a few very close 4ths.

A special mention and congratulations to Tiani Kensington who won Gold in the u12 Girls Beach Flags and Ellie Dinnison taking Bronze in the u13 Girls Beach Sprints. Impressive performances by both and very nerve-wracking for the spectators.

Overall a great bunch of kids who are awesome, super fit, well-behaved, polite young athletes. We are already looking forward Oceans 19' next year back at the Mount.

Mid March our Senior team headed to Midway, Gisborne to compete at TSB Nationals. A massive event with 1500 athletes from 44 clubs from throughout NZ. We had a team of nine competing and for most of them this was their first time competing at this senior level.

Again like Oceans they had a mixed weather bag to deal with, heavy rain and sideways wind thrown in on day 2. Consequently we are now looking for a tent sponsor as the wind blew our tent to bits!

The team didn't quite manage any podium finishes although Yannika Harrop and Jordan Grylls were so close with both having a handful of top ten placings. Considering the high level of talent our team did really well with semi-finals and final placings.

Our last National event of the year is the BP IRB Nationals 7-8 April. Good luck to our team heading over who have a good chance of heading home with some medals.

Although our season is now over, hopefully the swimming will continue for a while longer yet. Please be safe when in the water, make smart decision and kids, and always swim with an adult.

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and club newsletter for what is happening over the winter months.



photos from Gisbourne Nationals



Oakura Tennis Club

The beautiful summer days are coming to an end and so is the tennis season. The end of term brings an end to the juniors competition, midweek ladies and B grade for this season so next month we can give an update with their results.

A grade finished mid March. A3 and A2 had a variety of players over the season some who really enjoyed getting back on the court after a long absence! Hopefully we see them back next year. A1 Soffe team had a good battle with Pukekura in the semi finals. After the singles we were trailing 6-2 with Jaimee Simpson and Taylor Mitchell keeping us in the hunt. Graeme Mitchell returned to the courts from injury to team up with Len Adamson for the doubles. After some close games we came away with both the men's doubles and mother and daughter duo of Taylor and Jackie winning the bottom doubles to go into the combines trailing 7-5. Becky Bruckner came in for combines as Sue had dr duties. Becky teamed up with Jaimee to win their combines but the rest went Pukekura's way. After beating us 10-6 Pukekura went on to win the final 14-2.

We had high hopes with our flying start to the season of making it to the final but injuries especially to our top men and women made the going a big tough but it gave some of our younger players a chance to play up and they certainly held their own. We had a barbecue and cool off in Craig and Melissa's pool to celebrate the Saturday competition season finishing which was a great night thanks Craig and Melissa.

Junior Club champs are underway with finals and a barbecue on the 8th April. All members welcome to check out the up and coming talent and celebrate the end of the tennis season. Our tennis coach is heading back to the UK in May so we will hopefully have a new coach sorted by the next newsletter! Congratulations to Daniel Lewis who has been selected for the Taranaki number 1's team event.

Cardio on Thursday's at 9.15am and group coaching on Wednesday's at 9.15am will continue for those that want to work on their game ready for next season!

Keep hitting
Jackie Keenan - Secretary 7527013



Unfortunately we have come to that time of year when after work surfs are a distant memory but we are still graced with the warm water we have all become accustomed to during summer. We recently hosted the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation ParaFed Taranaki surf day. The waves were pumping the water was warm and the sun was out. We couldn't have asked for a better day! The athletes loved their time on the board and this experience is unbelievably valuable for everyone involved!

It is with great joy to say that the Oakura community skate park has started construction. Anyone that has been following the progress of this project knows how long it has taken to get to this point. We greatly appreciate all the support we have had from the community in getting this project off the ground. We look forward to your continued support and hope to see you all down there enjoying the Skate Park and amenities once it is completed.

On a competition front Paige Hareb has kicked off her world championship campaign at the Snapper Rocks comp on the Gold Coast where she placed 13th. This placing was not a reflection of how well she was surfing but more down to a stacked heat draw. She moves onto Bells beach next for the second leg of the tour. Ariana Shewry has recently been competing in Tahiti where she reached the finals in both the junior and open woman's qualifying series divisions. Great to see our club members on the world stage doing well!

If you have questions about anything to do with the club please see below contacts

Luke Florence. President. Any questions. 0274930819

John Shewry. Skatepark & fundraising. 0272529190

Colin Webber. Bookings. webzy70@yahoo.com

Anne Bridges. Membership. 0272431766. anne.bridges@xtra.co.nz

photo on left - proposed new skatepark and below is Ariana Shewry in Tahiti.



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