



T&M

OAKURA

MAR '18

*Oakura Volunteer Firefighters - Fergus, Sheldon and David
put their bodies on the line for charity more on page 3*

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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**

Co-ordinator/Features/Advertising/Lay up

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027 4126117

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

Dates to remember for April 2018 issue. Copy & Ads - 21st March. Distribution from 5th 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

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From the Editor



Ex cyclone Gita was an interesting experience! There I was thinking it's a little bit windy but surely it's ok to go out to dinner (which it was), when the power went off. And then it stayed off for four days! I could rant on for pages about the whys and wherefores of this state of affairs and who is to blame etc but really I couldn't get over how incapacitated we all felt not having power. Who would

have thought that in this first world country of New Zealand we would consider electricity to be a luxury? I still don't think it should be considered a luxury but when Powerco hold all the balls - yes they are the one's who have trimmed their workforce to what appears to be a bare minimum so that in an emergency their clients are forced to beg for re-connection, then it feels like a luxury.

There is so much you can't do without power - actually there is pretty much nothing you can do - garden, walk, read a book and that's about it. You fantasize about what you could be doing - those hot showers, those Olympic athletes competing, those hot meals and coffees...

Kim

I recommend everyone should get a generator because in a really bad event we will all be screwed!

Stair Challenge for Volly's

David Rielly (48), Fergus Robertson (47) and Sheldon Pritchard (34) (pictured on page 1) are preparing to take on the Firefighter Sky Tower Stair Challenge on 19 May.

The team are raising money for Leukemia & Blood Cancer NZ and their efforts start now - you can donate via the website <https://firefightersclimb.org.nz/> and click on donate then click on Oakura under teams or alternatively come along and support the team on April 21 outside the Four Square from 9-12 as the team gets into action on a stairclimber. All donations will help them reach their goal of raising \$3000.

Perhaps donating money is the easy part! The event is gruelling as Sheldon already knows having done it two times already. The challenge is 52 floors or 1103 stairs. Sheldon and Fergus are doing the challenge in full kit (donned) which weighs 25kgs and also in full breathing apparatus (started). David is doing the challenge in full kit only which the three guys model on the cover of TOM.

Sheldon says it is one of the hardest things he has ever done but they are all happy to put their bodies on the line for charity! So please support their effort especially as their training ramps up with the stair climber challenge on April 21 - rather than me and I bet they won't be smiling like they are on the TOM cover when they finish!

Kim Ferens

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Challenged by Anxiety?

Are you challenged with anxiety somewhere in your life? Does your child struggle with anxiety? Or your teenager? Do you struggle with anxiety? Or your partner? It might not be you, but either way its hard to be around, for those suffering and for those that live with them.

I have been seeing many children, teenagers and parents challenged by anxiety in my clinic. Panic attacks, heart palpitations, trying to control life with rituals and patterns, avoiding difficult situations and addictions of various forms. Anxiety seems to be one of the most common reasons that people come to see me these days.

There is no one cause and there is no one solution. There are however many ways that we can help. On 14th March I will give a free presentation to offer up some understanding of anxiety from a Cranial Sacral Therapy perspective. In Cranial Sacral therapy we have a deep understanding of (among other things) the nervous system and the limbic system.

The limbic system often known as the fight and flight system in the body can end up on red alert constantly, creating a response in the body which feels like panic. This system is alerted due to perceived threats to our wellbeing. In days gone by this would be something like a tiger hiding in the bushes about to pounce but these days there are no tigers of course (and never were in NZ!!) but there are perceived tigers or paper tigers as they have become known (ref. Peter Levine Waking the Tiger). Even though these paper tigers do not threaten our lives our limbic system still responds the same, putting our bodies into panic There are many techniques available to us to help with this and to help our children and partners.

During my free presentation – “Challenged by Anxiety?” on Wednesday 14th March at 7.30pm. I will offer up a number of ways to help you, your partner and your child shift out of the

grip of anxiety. This informative talk will help you to understand what happens physiologically and how we can help shift our awareness and calm the system down.


Nurturing the Teenage Brain

For parents struggling to understand their teenagers I will also be offering a presentation which I have called Nurturing the Teenage Brain! This talk will help you to understand what is going on (or not going on!) in your teenager's brain and how you can help them to cope a little better with life. Again from a Cranial Sacral Therapy prospective, I will outline what happens to the teenage brain as they go through puberty and more importantly how we as parents can help them stay grounded and make it out the other side. This presentation Nurturing the Teenage Brain is on Wednesday 21st March at 7.30pm

Both presentations will be held at Shine Yoga studio. These presentations are free but spaces are limited so please send me an email to book your space

kate@shineyoga.co.nz

Or call Kate Evans on 027 203 7215 for more information



Two FREE Presentations

14th March @ 7.30pm
Challenged by Anxiety?

21st March @ 7.30pm
Nurturing your Teenagers Brain

Spaces are limited, please email:
kate@shineyoga.co.nz



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Kaitake Community Board

I guess the proverbial dust has settled somewhat on the lack of water crisis brought about by the effects of Cyclone Gita (no pun intended). Perhaps it is time to revisit what can be expected of territorial authorities and in return what is expected of residents during any civil emergency.

First, we were all given plenty of warning that the cyclone was coming, and secondly the local authorities and service providers did put mitigation plans in place for what they identified as the likely risks to the community. In spite of that, as happened in this case, there is never any definitive way to know how such an event will unfold.

When the storm hit and intensified, those with responsibility began to act as appropriately as possible within a completely chaotic environment where incoming information was often incomplete, or at odds with other incoming reports. For example it was reported that 26,000 Powerco customers in a short space of time were without power, with lines, transformers and poles all affected across Taranaki. However by 4pm the following day power had already been restored to 17,000 properties. As a subsequent Daily News report stated, 'In that respect the communication about the crisis and the actions of the council (sic and others) in attempting to mitigate the worst aspects of it were commendable.'

On a national scale the Ministry of Civil Defence's main task is to develop, maintain and evaluate the effectiveness of the civil defence emergency management strategic framework and ensure coordination at local, regional, and national levels. It is clearly stated that after an emergency, local civil defence emergency management staff and other relief workers will be on the scene, but they cannot reach everyone immediately. You could get help in hours, or it may take days - you have to look after yourself.

It also has been well publicised for the last decade that if an emergency occurs you should be able to stay at home and in this situation you may have to rely on emergency survival items for at least three days. However I have wondered how many households across the district actually do have a stored collection of basic items that they are likely to need in the event of a disaster. Lists of items you need are readily available on the internet, but in this instance let's just concentrate on water and power.

Civil Defence expects households to have enough water (and food) for all inhabitants (including pets) for at least three days. That is at least three litres of water per person per day for drinking. In addition, you will also need water for washing and cooking. Children, nursing mothers, and ill people will also need more. If you don't have a gas fired barbecue, rather than cooking think heating because it is much easier to heat a meal rather than cook a meal from scratch. With the long lead-in to the cyclone's arrival there was also ample opportunity to ensure everyone's mobile and laptop were fully charged,

there was fuel in their vehicle's tank, and torches and battery operated radios were all working.

As the scenario unfolded regular updates were available from the NPDC and Taranaki Civil Defence. And yes, from the Oakura Community Emergency Plan Face Book page too, developed by the KCB in 2013 to provide information to the Oakura community and to formulate a plan that in the event of an emergency such as a natural disaster will outline key community emergency contacts.

Most people must have at least known what was expected with the cyclone and therefore had the opportunity to be able to react accordingly. There is no way of knowing how many did or didn't, but many climate change experts tell us these events are likely to become more frequent. Food for thought perhaps.

At long last, after many protracted discussions, hurdles to get over, and hoops to jump through a contract has finally been let to build the addition to the skatepark in Shearer Reserve. The addition will be a bowl, and a pump track joining it to the existing facility. It is expected the contractor, Premium Construction and Skatepark Ltd, will begin work in mid March and be on-site for up to twelve weeks (weather depending). Obviously this part of the reserve will be a construction site and consequently will be fully fenced. There will still be available access to the playground and skatepark during construction.

This project has been a total community endeavour, with many folk contributing in one way or another. Thanks one and all, however we should give a big shout-out to the Oakura Boardriders Club, especially John Shewry, who led the way with the project.

Well, that's it. The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be at Hempton Hall, Okato at 7pm on 13 March. Please note this meeting is Tuesday due to Monday 12 March being Taranaki Anniversary.

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



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[DESIGN THINKING]

Do you love to share your thoughts on what you have been reading? The Ōākura book group is looking for some more enthusiastic readers. The group meets at the Ōākura Library from 7.30pm to 9pm on the last Thursday of every month. Books are provided from Puke Ariki's Reading List, as selected by Puke Ariki librarians. Joining the book group is a great way to meet other book lovers and exchange recommended reads. Email us at OakuraLibrary@npdc.govt.nz or give us a call on 06-759 6060 for more information.

Our meeting room has been a welcome addition to the library and is well used by the community. The room seats up to six comfortably and is free to use. It is available for use during Ōākura Library business hours. Bookings are essential, please email or call us to book your time.

You may be interested to know that on Wednesday 28 March at 5.30pm in the museum foyer, Puke Ariki is hosting the launch of *The Battle of Waireka*, a book written by Graeme Kenyon. This book is an important anthology of first-hand accounts and primary source material from the Battle of Waireka. What began as an attempt to understand the role of his ancestors in the battle, lead Graeme Kenyon on an amazing journey of discovery. Next time you visit be sure to pick up the latest copy of *What's On* to find out about all that's on offer at Puke Ariki.

Holiday closures:

Closed Monday 12 March for Taranaki Anniversary.

Easter: Closed Good Friday, 30 March, Easter Sunday 1 April and Easter Monday 2 April.

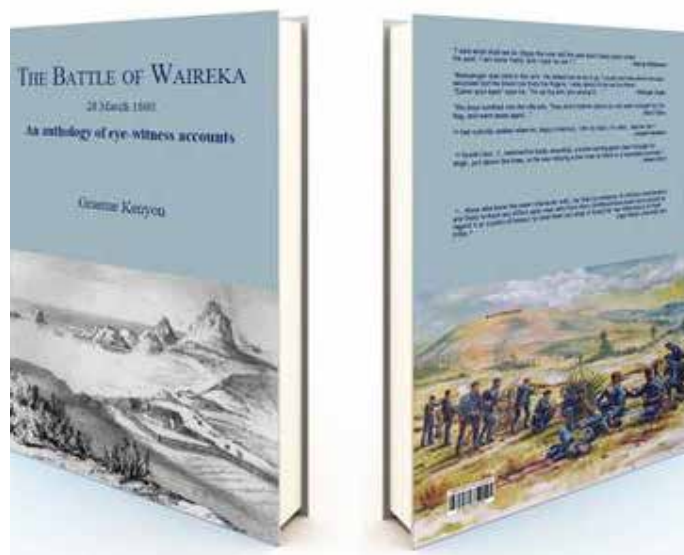
We will be open from 9am to 1pm on Saturday 31 March.

Happy reading,

Charlie and Vincenza



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Battle of Waireka - book launch

On 28 March 1860 on the southern outskirts of New Plymouth the Battle of Waireka occurred. Three paramount chiefs along with a number of other Taranaki and Ngāti Ruanui warriors were killed. The somewhat confused actions of the British military have been debated ever since.

Graeme Kenyon has researched and written *The Battle of Waireka* because his great great grandfather John Kenyon was a Taranaki Militiaman and was involved in the battle. Another great great grandfather William Wilson was in the Rifle Volunteers and was also there – and took part in a rescue, which had been unknown to Graeme's family and almost lost to history – that story makes one of the chapters in the book.

Graeme says “the reason I did the initial research was because I was getting conflicting versions of what happened, from different historians, so I decided to dig up all the source material from all the different sources I could find – that took a number of years – and after having done all that, I thought it would be worth printing the whole lot so that people can see all the raw material and draw their own conclusions. Because it is essentially a collection of source material, I think it will always have some value for anyone who wants to do their own research – including the journal of Capt. Cracroft which explains pretty much what actually happened late in the afternoon, the part which many historians had been confused about. Very few references exist in regard to this journal – so I have re-printed some quite lengthy chunks of it.

All the source material I have found has been reproduced in full and verbatim. Although I have read probably all the history books which relate to Taranaki, quite a lot of this I had never seen before. I think I can say I have unearthed – or “rediscovered” – new information. I have also found that historians have not generally been very accurate about what happened – particularly more recent historians – and I devoted a chapter to looking at how historians have interpreted the material. On the other hand, I found that most of the official reports and statements made at the time are fairly consistent. Anyway, it is all there in one place now, so people can make their own judgement about that.

The journal of Cracroft, together with an appreciation of the nature of the entrenchment at Kaipopo allow an understanding of the events which occurred and at the same time resolve what seems like conflicting evidence in some of the source material.

In other words, I simply tried to find out what actually happened that afternoon in 1860.” Graeme also hopes that it will open up discussion, to further the understanding from the Māori perspective. Much of his research was done in Te Pua Wānanga o Taranaki, the Taranaki Research Centre in Puke Ariki library.

The Battle of Waireka by Graeme Kenyon
Book Launch

Wednesday 28 March, 5.30pm Puke Ariki Museum Foyer.

Relay for life - buy a candle

Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back!

Taranaki Cancer Society's Relay for Life is back again for 2018 and we need you! Gather your friends, family, work colleagues, and register your team now!

Relay For Life is an inspiring community event that gives everyone a chance to celebrate cancer survivors and carers; remember loved ones lost to cancer; and fight back by raising awareness and funds to support the work of Cancer Society in Taranaki.

The day involves teams of people who walk or run around a track. In a relay style, each team needs to have at least one participant on the track throughout the event. A lunch is provided as part of registration and there's plenty of entertainment to be enjoyed throughout the day. Entertainment this year includes performances by a variety of local bands including NVST, Blue

Monkey Racket and The Jacks as well as a Kidszone with games, competitions and more!

Relay For Life is for people of all ages and fitness levels - anyone can take part! Worldwide, more than five million people take part in a Relay For Life event every year with more than 490 teams already registered across New Zealand.

More information about the event can be found on the Cancer Society website: www.relayforlife.org.nz

Date: Saturday 24 March

Time: 10.30am - 10.30pm

Where: Pukekura Function Centre, New Plymouth

Registration: \$200 per team of 10, includes t-shirts, entertainment, ceremonies, lunch and a site.

The Cancer Society doesn't receive any direct government funding, so relies on the support and generosity of the public. The money raised through our Relay For Life stays in the Taranaki region and helps people in our community through support services, health promotion programmes and cancer research.

If you want to get involved in a smaller way, you can purchase and decorate a candle bag for the event. Candle bags are personally-inscribed and placed around the track emitting a warm glow throughout the relay.

Contact Meg Rodel on 06 757 3006 if you would like to purchase a candle bag (which includes an LED candle) for \$5.



HOUSE OF TRAVEL

Last year our staff visited 13 countries.

Philippines, China, Vietnam, Bali, Thailand, France, England, Fiji, Samoa, Malaysia, Bali, Rarotonga and Australia
with many new and exciting destinations planned for 2018.
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Get Emergency Ready

The last few weeks have been anything but favourable for those suffering the effects of drought.

The resilience of local people is really being tested and events like ex-Cyclone Gita are certainly not helping. While this side of New Plymouth electorate managed to maintain water supplies, the loss of power was obviously an issue for local homes and businesses. There have been heartbreaking stories of cows left stranded in the middle of milking and farmers having to dump milk.

While coastal communities are under real pressure, it's important to keep a couple of key messages in mind: From the Civil Defence preparedness point of view, we should be regularly reviewing our household emergency preparations, with a "Get Through" kit packed and ready to go. We should also talk among our family about what to do when disaster strikes, to the extent of having escape plans- and don't forget to check on your neighbours.

From a drought perspective we need to keep reminding our farmers that we are aware of the stress they're under. The effects of the drought will be long lasting but farmers and local business can be assured help is available – I urge you to keep in touch with the Rural Support Trust (0800 787 254) who are connected with all the agencies and relief being offered. If you or someone you know is feeling desperate, I encourage you to reach out.

On a brighter note, it was great to see the AmeriCarna vehicles make their annual convoy around the coast. They appreciate the support of locals out flag-waving, and the colour the cars brought was a welcome relief to a pretty grim time.

Jonathan Young

**JONATHAN
YOUNG**
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH






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Coming Events

March

- 12 Taranaki Anniversary
- 13-16 AWE Y6 swimming programme
- 20 Year 5/6 Athletics at Okato
- 21 Year 7/8 Athletics at Okato
- 22 pp date for Y5/6 Athletics
- 23 pp date for Y7/8 Athletics
- 27-28 3D Conferences school finishes 12pm both days
- 28 Weetbix Tryathlon
- Y7/8 ePro8 Challenge 5pm
- 29 Y5/6 ePro8 Challenge 9:30am
- 30 Good Friday

April

- 2-3 Easter -no school
- 6 Y6-8 inter-school swimming at Bell Block Pool
- 10 Omata Games 1pm
- 13 ANZAC Commemoration 1pm. Term 1 ends 2pm

BoT Update

The Board has reviewed the annual plan which runs alongside the charter, showing us what a busy and very successful year 2017 was in all facets of our school. We should all be very proud of our children's achievements through the course of the year.

The orchard project has been a testament to what a community can achieve. The creation of a school orchard has been an educational journey for our children, staff and community to the highest level, making learning real and relevant to the world we live in. I thank all those who have been involved for your kind donations of time, money and products. You have really showed what can be done with a little 'can do' attitude.

Hamish Logan

Welcome to Omata Sean Kelly

I am a first year teacher starting at Omata School, working with a year four and five class. I am passionate about learning and I want to spark that same passion within my students.

It is exciting for me to be back in Taranaki after spending four years in Hamilton and Cambridge studying a Bachelor of Teaching and a Bachelor of Health, Sport, and Human Performance at Waikato University.

I grew up in Oakura attending Oakura Primary, so Taranaki is my home. What brought me back is the beautiful landscape, including our fantastic beaches and our stunning mountain. My interests include surfing and tramping, and Taranaki is the perfect place to do both.

It is a great opportunity for me to be part of Omata School. Omata and the community has been very welcoming and supportive. I am looking forward to furthering my own learning and gaining more experience within this fantastic school.

Home and School News

2017 was my first year as chairperson. It was a busy year and I enjoyed being more involved with the school in this new capacity. I'd like to thank everyone who has contributed and supported us throughout last year; Ann for coordinating the lunches, all helpers, the volunteer bakers, our committee, the students and their families.

The total funds we donated to the school last year was \$7,616. This went towards updating the playground equipment, sports equipment, gazebos, contributions to the new orchard, classroom games and equipment. Our fundraising efforts go directly back to the school for those extra resources. We are already working on a wish list for this year and hope we can at least be able to donate towards some of these. We hope that other parents will join our Home and School team.

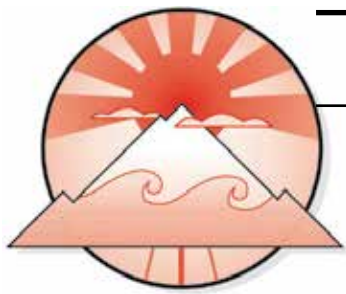
Sophie Flemming

Karen Brisco

Bottom left photo - School Lead Ambassadors. From left Olive Denton-Woolley, Oliver McFarlane, Mya Glennie and Jorja Eldershaw.

Bottom right photo - New teacher Sean Kelly





Oakura School



New Staff at Oakura School

Oakura School is proud to welcome three wonderful new teachers to their 2018 staff. Mr Allan Whatt (pictured right and middle) and Miss Mikayla Barrett (pictured right and top) are new to our school, and Mr Richard Rudman (pictured right and bottom) is returning from parental leave and time teaching at a school in New Plymouth.

Mr Allan Whatt, teaching Year 5 and 6s in our new Tawa Room, has moved to Oakura from Auckland. What stands out to him about Oakura School is the positive attitudes of both the teachers and students. He said that he was attracted to New Plymouth because he had heard nice things about Taranaki. When asked about his first few weeks at Oakura he said that it has been busy, but fun.

Miss Mikayla Barrett attended Oakura School when she was a child. She feels that the school has grown since she was last here, however it still has the same culture of inclusiveness within a very caring environment. She wanted to teach at Oakura because it was the school she grew up in. She loves the community and felt it was good to come back. Miss Barrett said that her first few weeks at Oakura have been great! She has enjoyed getting to know students and hearing their stories in the mornings. Miss Barrett is teaching Year 3 & 4 students in the Kauri Room.

Mr Richard Rudman used to teach at Oakura School. When asked about how the school has changed since he was last here in 2013, he said that the environment has changed a lot and the school is bigger and busier. He said that what drew him back to Oakura was the great kids and the awesome staff. His first few weeks back have been busy and fun. Mr Rudman is also teaching in the Year 5 & 6 team.

We also welcome Miss Di Xiao who will be teaching Mandarin every Wednesday. Miss Xiao is a Mandarin Learning Assistant who works with the Confucius Institute. Our students are looking forward to learning more about Chinese culture and Mandarin language.

We extend a very warm welcome to the new staff. We hope that you enjoy being a part of our school whānau.

Alana Juffermans (age 12) and Rowan Emans (age 12)



SPOTSWOOD COLLEGE



Greetings to the Oakura and Omata community,

This Academic year has started with a bang! Thanks to all of you for sending your best students to school which has made the start of the year a great one.

I offer a warm welcome to all new members of the school community. We have over 150 year 9's that have started

the year and new enrolments happening all the time as new families join our community. Our roll has grown even though the Ministry had projected it to decline. I thank the Deans at Spotswood for working so hard to ensure a smooth transition to new students at our school.

NCEA Success

As we turn our attention to this year, we must reflect on some successes at the end of 2017. Firstly, we are proud of our NCEA results which keep us at or above decile 5 schools nationally. Our Maori achievement is also well above national averages for decile 5 schools. We are also proud of the more than 90 students who achieved NCEA Endorsement at NCEA last year. They will be awarded with academic badge in the upcoming assemblies.

We are equally proud of our fantastic Vocational Pathways department who look after the 130+ students involved in Gateway work placements and Trades Academy programs run through WITT. Last year the following students achieved these success:

Wiki Rewa: New Zealand Certificate in Youth Work - Level 3.
Emily-Rose Longstaff: National Certificate in Early Childhood Education Level 3.

Azaria Court, Gaby Cole and Jaxon Madden all received the National Certificate in Recreation and Sport - Aquatics (Swim Education) Level 3 and SNZ Swim Teacher Award.

A National Certificate gained while still at school is a great achievement and comes on the back of a dedicated, hardworking and reflective approach by the students mentioned. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours and thank them for their outstanding representation of the Spotswood College Vocational Pathways Department.

We also had two students gain excellent marks in University papers they sat last year through the University of Canterbury. Josh Thompson received an A- for his MATH 199 paper - Advancing in Mathematical Sciences

Jonno Clarges received a B+ for his HIST127 paper - American History

Awesome work and we are pleased to have been able to support these students in the challenges they set themselves. The school will report more on the success of our students at NCEA when the results have been finalised by NZQA.

Incredible Scholarship Results

We had incredible performances by our students in the NCEA Scholarship examinations. The following students achieved Scholarship in the following areas:

Anaru Hoskin: Scholarship - Design
Jono Clarges: Scholarship - Painting
Mostyn Lee : Scholarship - Sculpture (OUTSTANDING),
Scholarship - Photography
Reihana Conaglen: Scholarship - Design (OUTSTANDING)
Ruby Crawshaw: Scholarship - Design
Blake Tanner: Scholarship - Design (OUTSTANDING),
Scholarship - Painting (OUTSTANDING)
Fabian Johnson: Scholarship - Sculpture

Mostyn Lee (a former Omata School student) achieved the top student in New Zealand in sculpture. We congratulate him and his family for supporting him. This is awesome work from all involved and in particular the Arts teachers Mr Leighton Upson and Mrs Aly Scott for their commitment to running Scholarship programs and supporting the students. All our students have benefited from learning at this level across every Faculty area, even though they may not have succeeded.

Great ERO report in 2017: Term 4 2017 ERO Review

We had our triennial Education Review Office review of our school in Term 4 of last year. The report was inherently positive and affirming of the progress we are making as a school. The review has provided us with feedback for us to celebrate our journey to date as well as providing us with next-step strategies for our ongoing improvement.

The written ERO report can be accessed from the ERO website - www.ero.govt.nz there are some key statements from the report:

1. "Diversity, inclusion and care principles underpin the schools vision and philosophy. The E T Ū motto values of matawanga, whai wahi and kotahitanga guide the school culture and overarching expectations for teaching and learning".
2. "The school has made very good progress to achieve high levels of equity and excellence in outcomes for diverse groups of learners"
3. "Trustees and senior leaders relentlessly promote the enactment of the schools vision for equity and excellence. They purposefully select, develop and review strategies to drive improvement!."

At the end of the report ERO identify key strengths of the school as well as next steps - visit their website

We look forward to a successful partnership with you during 2018 and beyond Martyn Knapton, Acting Principal

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NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU

Introducing this year's Student Leaders at NPBHS



HEAD BOY - Isaac Jourdain

My strengths at school include Biology, Geography and English. My passions outside of school are football, sprinting and anything outdoors such as tramping or rafting. In the future I endeavour to follow a career in medicine. I am extremely excited to see what this year brings as the Head Boy.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership, Academic (2018)

Past schools: Welbourn and Highlands Intermediate



DEPUTY HEAD BOY - Oak Jones

I am a keen academic and pianist. I also enjoy the sports of adventure racing, volleyball and cross country. After I finish high school I plan to go to university, possibly in the USA, and serve a 2 year service mission for the LDS church.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership, Academic (2018), Cross Country, Adventure Racing (2017)

Past schools: Devon Intermediate and overseas



HEAD OF DONNELLY - Gavin Bishop

I am keen on outdoor adventure, ultimate frisbee, football, cross country and new experiences. I was born in the United States and lived in Chile before moving to Taranaki. I have yet to decide what I will study at University.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership, Academic (2018)

Past school: Oakura



HEAD OF HATHERLY - Adam Smith

I come from a family of 5 and I live in Te Kuiti. I play rugby competitively for the school and I would like to carry on doing so after my time at Boy's High. Next year I am hoping to go to University to study towards a degree in Business, or gain an apprenticeship in New Plymouth.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership (2018)

Past school: St Joseph Te Kuiti



HEAD OF BARAK - Daniel McWatters

I am into mixed martial arts, boxing, music and the outdoors. Next year I plan to go to university in either Wellington or Palmerston North to study Business Management, and continue with Muay Thai Kickboxing.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership (2018)

Past school: Devon Intermediate



HEAD OF SYME - Tom Nicholls

I have a passion for sport. After playing a variety of sports in my younger years, I decided to focus on playing hockey, to which I currently play to a high level. Another one of my roles for 2018 is the portfolio of sport. This means it is my job to get as many people participating and competing in sport as possible.

Tiger Jacket - Leadership (2018), Hockey (2017)

Past schools: Kaimata and Inglewood

IMPROVING THE FUTURE SINCE 1882





Club Championships

"Bowls is a game of inches" is a well-used saying around the greens of Taranaki and nothing was truer as Steve Muller and Kurt Smith won the Club Pairs Championship in a close fought victory over the duo of Tony McAlevey and Ray Haslip. The teams were inseparable after the allotted time and an extra end was required where McAlevey's last bowl finished agonising short of Smith's shot bowl allowing Muller and Smith to win by the narrowest of margins.

All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club to watch the final two club competitions. The Collin's Trophy and the President's Trophy are scheduled to be played over March and April. Please contact the Club on 06 7527639 for playing dates and details.

Interclub Tournaments

Gita denied Oakura any chance of winning the Avery Cup when the final round was cancelled due to inclement weather. Oakura finished a gallant 2nd with a win ratio of 67%.

The mid-week Gilmour Cup is firmly in the eyes of Oakura as they take a slender lead into the final round of the competition. Victory in two of the three final games will ensure the boys take home the trophy. Well done to all the contributing players with special mention to team selectors, Brian Wickham and Roy Phillips.

Club News

Special thanks go to Mike Vickers, Rod Smith and Bruce Jackson for their great work in maintaining the surrounds of the club throughout the year. The surrounds are always presented in pristine condition and enhance the enjoyment of playing bowls at Oakura.

Renovations are in full swing at the club and a big thanks to Bob Anderson and Kevin Fleming for their project management skills and all the club members who have assisted the contractors in preparing the clubrooms for the painting and the new carpet.

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taranaki KAYAK FISHING CLUB

There are lots of entries rolling in for the Kayak Classic and we are well ahead of last year. We have a great prize pool with some new sponsors and some great entertainment organised. The public are welcome to come and see the catch being filleted as a fundraiser for Coastguard - it should be a fun day at Butlers Reef on 25th March from 3pm.

The fishing is getting better with some nice snapper and tuna being caught by the kayakers. Even the surfcasters are catching snapper off Oakura beach. The photo below is the Cave brothers with a good haul of snapper caught in February.

Garry



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Oakura Tennis Club

The courts have been scorching this round with the sea calling to cool off between games! Softer competition has semis playing on 10th March and finals on 17th March. Oakura has

battled a few injuries so we hope to hold onto our current 3rd position (58.5 points) only 2 points ahead of Huatoki and 4.5 points behind Rotokare with Pukekura in the lead by 11 points. Hopefully we have a full fit team for the semis!

A2 Wilson trophy have also battled injuries with Chris Davies coming home from a skiing trip fighting fit only to break her wrist at tennis! A2 are currently sitting in 7th equal position and unlikely to make playoffs but lots of potential for next season with lots of up and coming juniors in the team. A3 Sumpter Trophy team is a mix of junior boys graduating from Friday night youth tennis and lots of keen competitive mums making a come back on the tennis scene. They are currently sitting in 5th place and have a bye so have a slim chance of making playoffs.

One of our youth teams has moved on to Saturday B grade and we have entered a few more junior teams this term which is great to see. A new orange ball team with 4 new interclub players Eric Spencer, Emma Jackson, Corey and Luke Barrett and Adam Sousa. We have another new green ball team as well with Brody Matheson, Calum Lewis, Duncan Poole, Matt Weeks and Milla Lash. Our second green team: Cooper and Miller Ferguson and Gabe Brebner and Kai Shearer have moved up from orange. We have a new youth team of Otis Dixon, Jack Van Prehn, Elijah and Noah Lash and Bastion Hans-rungsten. The previous youth team has moved up to B grade, its so good to see the kids moving up the grades.

Blitz tennis are busy with over 60 juniors signed up for coaching with Matt Stringer and he has a Wednesday 9.15am slot for adults coaching as well as the regular cardio tennis on thursdays at 9.15am.

Congratulations to the Oakura players who played in the recent rep fixtures. Sue Oldfield was in the A team that reclaimed the Christie cup back off Manawatu in a close battle 13-11. Ana Spurdle, Becky Bruckener, Taylor Mitchell and Jackie Keenan were in the B side that beat Manawatu 23-1.

Keep hitting

Jackie Keenan Secretary 0276732900



By the time The TOM arrives in your letterbox our Oceans' 18 team would have travelled to Orewa, competed and travelled home. Oceans' is the under 11 to under 14 New Zealand Surf Life Saving Championships and has a proud history of being not only the largest Junior Surf Life Saving Event in New Zealand,

but the most competitive, exciting and fun! We have a mixed bag in our team this year, some old wise ones on their last Oceans trip before joining the senior team next season, some experienced and some first-timers. To compete at Oceans' requires a great amount of dedication and motivation, our juniors have been training 4-7 times a week for the last three months. They are a great bunch of kids who have given the 2017-18 season a good crack.

Thank you to everyone who supported our very first Fitness Expo. It was great to see big turnouts for each class and lots of people trying something new. In total we sold over 100 places across the seven classes - a great result! The weekend would not have been possible without Peggy from beyoga, Cat from Yoganaki, Joanna from Shiatsu Massage, Joe The Body Transformer, Barney from 5 Elements Fitness and Lizzy from Be U Mind Body Spirit. If you would like to continue with any classes please email us on npobsurfclub@xtra.co.nz for instructor contact details. A big thank you also to club members Maria Townsend and Heather Horo who gave up their time to organise. It was a big job!

The last weekend for patrol will be Taranaki Anniversary Weekend. Our lifeguards are all volunteers who give up their weekends to patrol the beach and keep us all safe. It is great to see so many people swimming between the flags, making their job a little easier. It has been a fantastic summer with the water being super warm, hopefully it continues!

Jaynie McSweeney
Administration
NPOB Surf Club
0273743762





Club News:

Everyone is enjoying great golf at the moment with awesome runs from the very dry fairways and handicaps being cut weekly. There is a lot of great golf happening at the moment with Pennants well under way and Kaitake doing well in the mens and womens sections. Well done to all those playing.

Kaitake Womens Golf Club

February has been a busy time for Kaitake Women. Opening days saw the 18 hole women playing the Monnie Hannan Summer Cup during the week and won by Joan Gerrard. Dianne Meagher and Karen Avison won the Jocelyn Garcia vase on Saturday. Normal competition continues with plenty of activity for both 18 and 9 hole players.

The 9 hole women played their annual Stableford competition to open their season. Since then they have had Pancake Day based on the number of putts they make. Jo Wilson-West won the day with 10 putts and Jenny Cook was runner-up with 13.

The Midweek Pennant team have played two rounds of their competition resulting in a loss against Waitara played at Patea and a win against Patea played at Urenui. The Weekend women have played the first round resulting in a loss against Urenui played at New Plymouth. The first round of the 9 Hole Pennants was rained off and with no alternate days each team was awarded one point.

Quick Six has been introduced at Kaitake for prospective players to give golf a try. The first week five women put their skills to the test and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity of meeting others in the same position and playing six holes. Last week the group swelled to eight including two men. Everyone had lots of fun and will only get better.

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

Kaitake Golf Club Chippers

2018 has started off well for the Kaitake Golf Club Chippers with many of the regular players back and new families joining in. The weather has been warm and iceblocks are in order to complete the day.

Kaitake Chippers can look forward to golf every second Sunday from 9.00 – 11.00am. Dates in March include Sunday 4th and Sunday 18th .

New players very welcome. Chippers ages range from 5 – 12 years. Just bring the kids along with flat soled footwear, a hat and perhaps a drink. Clubs, balls and coaching are provided. It costs \$40 to join as a member for the year allowing the children access to the course at any time as long as they are under supervision. For further information contact Denise in the office 7527665 or Andrea on 0273587001 or andrea.jarrold@xtra.co.nz

Kaitake “Poets” Society is still going strong so please come along from 3.30pm – 5.30pm. We are still getting great turnouts and is very popular on a Friday night especially on these hot twilight nights. Great company and good fun golfing all round. Lets make the most of this glorious weather and hope we have many more twilight nights to come. Call Denise in office for more information.

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