



OAKURA

MARCH 2020

*NPOB's Surf Club took possession of a new IRB thanks to sponsorship from TSB Bank - a great turnout of clubbies came along to celebrate.
More photos on page 2 - photos by The Virtue*

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From the Editor



As the coronavirus spreads and paranoia gains momentum around the world, I'm so glad we live way down under. Not for a minute do I think we are sufficiently isolated so as to be safe from exposure of any sort because after all we do live in a global society. Rather I appreciate our small population base and especially here in a village where we all largely live in uncrowded paradise with mostly

the means to support ourselves.

I have plans for overseas travel within the next few weeks and for the first time ever, there is a cloud hanging over whether those carefully and excitedly made plans will happen.

It also seems surreal that this virus could and probably will affect our everyday life whether or not the actual virus hits our shores. Markets of every kind all over the world are reacting very nervously. Try ordering a product online from one of those cheap Chinese websites and you will find you probably won't get a delivery. Any goods coming into the country from China will probably be impacted regardless of how far and wide the virus has spread. Our producers will also be feeling the burn with markets drying up.

The world wide attention this virus is getting astounds me as I've heard health professionals saying the annual flu which hits, claims more lives. Does this mean we are not being told the whole truth about the virus, is this a world wide test to see how a pandemic will be managed or is it all a media beat up? Any which way we will all feel it's effects.

I went along to the opening of the brand new Green School on Koru Rd recently - what a marvel it is! The site is as picturesque as anywhere you could find world wide, the passion of Michael and Rachel Perrett, the founders, unbelievable, the building design and site layout totally unique - what a jewel in Oakura, Taranaki and New Zealand's educational portfolio.

We can all be proud of New Zealanders who have the vision, passion and funds to benefit our community today and into the future.

Kim



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

Kim Ferens

email: kim@thetom.co.nz

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

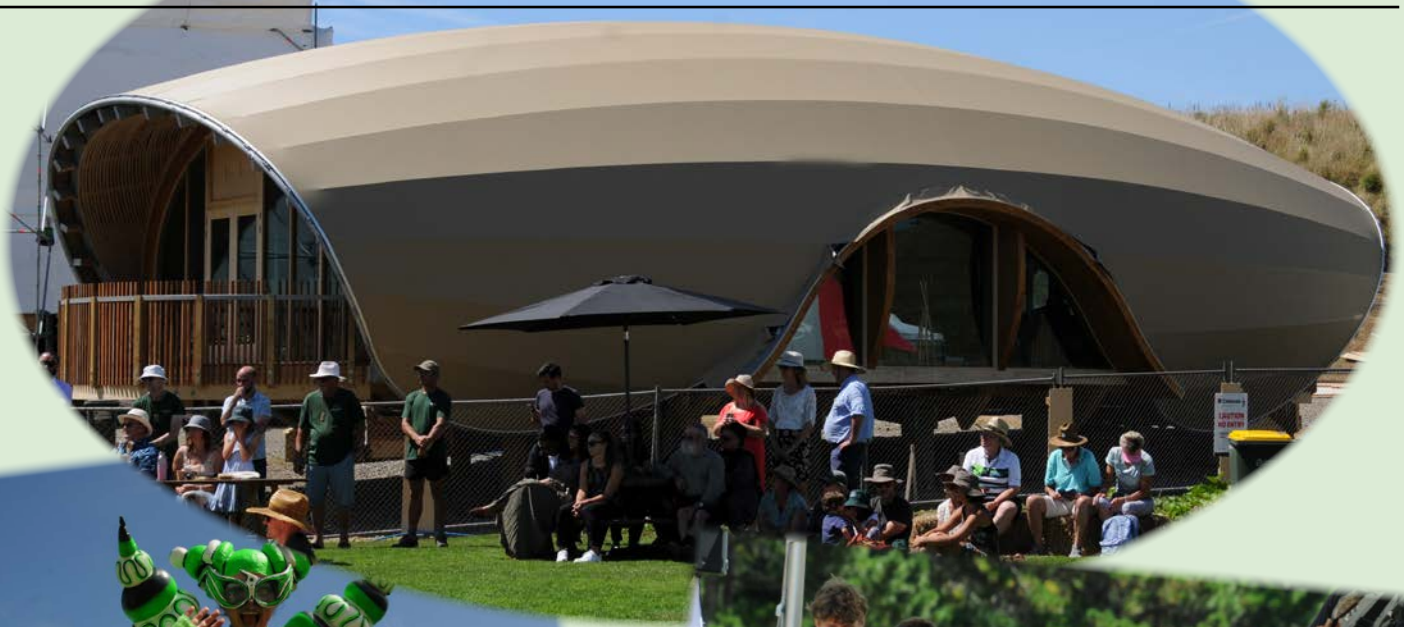


Your local Oakura Real Estate & Property Management team

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(from left to right)

Robyn McDonald – Property Manager	06 752 1359
Jakki Brodie – Customer Care / Compliance	06 757 3083
Anjie Cook – Sales Consultant	027 555 4736
Rachel Hooper – Sales Consultant	027 235 5284
Tracy Malone – PA to Rachel Hooper	06 752 1340
Michelle Gilbert – Administration	06 752 1340
John McDonald – Systems Manager	06 757 3083

PHOTO SHOT! *The Green School Opening*



Crackerjacks: pre-school story time Thursday 5 March 10am.

Join us for a range of stories, rhymes, crafts and songs. Fun for the tamariki and a great way to meet other parents and caregivers. People often ask me “how old does my child have to be to attend crackerjacks?”

You know what’s best for your child but even babies enjoy an animated story time, a soothing voice, silly rhymes and songs. And it’s a relaxed atmosphere. Toddlers often ask hilarious questions, laugh at the funny scenario or furl their eyebrows with worry for a character.

We have a wonderful collection of picture books with new titles arriving weekly.

We have also added to our VOX collection of talking picture books. With a push of a button your child can listen to the story while following along with the print book. Listen and follow along to ‘Inky the Octopus’ or the ‘The Good Egg’ as well as non-fiction titles ‘Digger’ and ‘Baby Ducks’.

Or listen to Te Reo Singalong picture books with discs included.

New bookmarks

We had over 300 fantastic entries to the bookmark competition and the winners were announced at a special function held at Puke Ariki in February.

Each received a canvas print of their design, a gift voucher, a certificate and a bundle of their own bookmarks to give to friends and family. They’re out now so come in and pick yourself a new bookmark.

Pictured: Jacinta Pattison with her winning design in the 13-17 age category

As you may have noticed, the Library has been a construction zone this summer but it’s finally over.

Thank you to everyone for your patience despite the noise and dust during the re-roofing. Happy reading,

Vincenza and Charlie



RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATION: CONSTRUCTION OF CYCLE/PEDESTRIAN TRAIL WITHIN SIGNIFICANT NATURAL AREAS, SURREY HILL ROAD, OAKURA

New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), as the Consent Authority, has received a resource consent application (ref. LUC19/47644) from Beca Ltd on behalf of New Plymouth District Council (Projects Team).

The application seeks approval to construct and maintain the Pukeiti to Oakura cycleway/pedestrian trail – ‘Te Ara A Ruhiihiweratini: The Pathway of Ruhiihiweratini’ – through two significant natural areas (SNAs) off Surrey Hill Road, on land legally described as Lot 2 DP 5130 and Lot 1 DP 16359.

The proposal will involve removal and disturbance of indigenous vegetation within the SNAs.

The proposal is a Restricted Discretionary Activity under Rule ECO-R4 of the Proposed New Plymouth District Plan.

This application has been notified under section 95A(3)(a) of the Resource Management Act 1991.

The application can be viewed on the Council’s website at newplymouthnz.com/HaveYourSay or during normal office hours at the Civic Centre, Liardet Street, New Plymouth.

Any person wishing to make a submission on this application may do so by sending a written submission to NPDC by 5pm on Thursday 19 March. Submission forms are online at newplymouthnz.com/HaveYourSay or at NPDC offices and Oakura library.

Contact NPDC

P: 06-759 6060 E: enquiries@npdc.govt.nz

More information:

newplymouthnz.com

NewPlymouthDistrictCouncil @NPDCouncil

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U N I V E R S I T Y

Interested in Te Reo Māori Lessons?



With a growing interest and eagerness within the local community to learn Te Reo Māori I am interested in finding out how much real interest is out there within the community to learn and if so what could we offer. I am interested in hearing from all of you, from the absolute beginner, advanced beginner and intermediate speakers to see if we can cater to different levels. Lessons would be held 1 night per week for 1-2 hours locally in Oakura starting in Term 2.

It is a great way to start your journey and also to link with other

people in the community sharing the same interest and creating the networks and opportunities to kōrero Māori. Or perhaps you simply want to learn the very basics and how to pronounce the words we use in everyday life correctly.

If you are interested, please email me on thowison@hotmail.com or call 021 661 912. Also please state which level you think you would be 1 - 4

- 1 - absolute beginner,
- 2 - beginner
- 3 - advanced beginner
- 4 - Intermediate)

Alternatively go to our facebook page @tereooakura where you can follow the group and add your name.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Toni Peacock



Oakura Medical

At Oakura Medical we are committed to improving the health of our patients and the coastal population through the provision of high quality, personalised and comprehensive healthcare.

To promote topical health issues and inform the community about how we can help we have arranged a monthly article highlighting different health issues affecting our community.

If you have any recommendations about conditions you would like discussed or ways in which we can improve our service please contact Oakura Medical on the contact details below.

1149 South Road, Oakura
06 752 7199
oakuramedical.co.nz

Introducing Jennifer Hughes

On behalf of the staff at Oakura Medical, we are excited to announce Dr Jennifer Hughes who will be joining the team in March.

An Oakura local since 2010, Dr Jennifer has worked initially at Taranaki base Hospital and then went on to completing her General Practice fellowship in Waikato, working at Raglan Medical Centre before returning to Oakura.

Dr Jennifer enjoys time at the beach, yoga and spending time with family and friends.

Dr Jennifer enjoys the wide variety of general practice, however, has a special interests in womens and childrens health.

Given the high demand for General Practitioners in the Taranaki Region with most General Practices not accepting new patients, we believe the addition of Dr Jennifer will allow us to provide a better service to our



existing patients with shorter wait times and more acute appointments as well as welcome new patients from our local community to our practice.

If you or your family would like to register with Oakura Medical, please contact the reception on 06 752 7199 or visit us at 1149 Main South Road, Oakura.



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Kaitake Community Board

The very warm weather we have been experiencing this summer does have a downside. The prolonged dry spell means farmers are suffering, those on tank supply are too. There are water restrictions in place across the district, more severely restricted ones in Okato and Inglewood. Water flows in New Plymouth District's largest source of drinking water (the Waiwhakahiho River) are low. Taranaki Regional Council data shows rainfall at all its monitored sites was less than half the normal January total with an average of 27% of normal.

Taranaki does have five principal aquifer systems, named after the geological formations where they occur: Matemateāonga Formation, Whenuakura Formation, Marine Terrace, Tāngāhoe Formation and Taranaki Volcanics. However, water users favour rivers and streams over aquifers because of accessibility, cost and efficiency. Taranaki has 286 river and stream catchments flowing into the sea but only 10 lakes larger than 8ha. People often say what falls on the mountain ends up in the sea as soon as 3 hours later. Whether that is just an interesting myth or not it does highlight Taranaki's lack of water storage reservoirs. Increasing industry needs, intensive dairying, strengthened health regulations and more water reliant household appliances mean sustaining this precious resource requires combined, and ongoing, conservation by all of us at all times.

And a postscript to that. I'm just about to send this through to Kim at the TOM after a night of constant, and much appreciated, wetting rain. I do hope it has been enough to fill tanks and freshen up pastures and gardens. Luckily there isn't much wind around to dry off the moisture before it soaks in. The rain has been a real blessing, but doesn't really alter the message above.

The beach access stairs to Oākura Beach from Messenger Terrace are scheduled to be replaced. The scope of works is to remove the old dilapidated wooden steps located in between 37 and 39 Messenger Terrace (opposite Pitcairn Street) and replace with new wooden steps. Work will begin in March and take about a month, subject to the weather.

At our last meeting, we received a deputation from a group of Oākura lads who wish to construct a mountain bike area for them to carry out their activities. They presented an excellent, well-researched case requesting a permanent space for their mountain biking activities. After discussion, as a first step the KCB undertook to seek further advice and guidance from the council about utilising a piece of council land for their purpose. The KCB has been charged with reviewing its community plan. The plan (Kaitake Community Plan : A Thirty Year Vision) sets out the visions and aspirations of our three distinct yet connected communities: Oākura, Okato and Omata. The plan was developed over a three and a half year period by those communities. It provided NPDC with an authentic insight about the matters that are important to residents in our area and where investment and action are needed. It provides a blueprint to lead and shape future development and growth. To that end a review before the development of the council's 2021/31 Long Term Plan is timely. The KCB has decided to continue with the three stakeholder focus groups that were so pivotable in getting the story right for their community in the original plan. We are

currently working our way through how to do that and meet the deadlines imposed by the council.

The Department of Conservation is currently working with local stakeholder schools to develop a strategic plan for students to work in partnership with DoC to learn more about the local area's natural and historical heritage. Our community has a unique biodiversity that is at risk from pests, weeds and other threats. This project is a critical step for the next generation to learn about bird and plant conservation and the pests and threats that endanger them.

A follow-up meeting to the initial Restore Communities hui was held at the Oakura Bowling Club on Tuesday 18th February. The main goal was to look at the past, current and future initiatives happening within the community, which were brainstormed in the initial hui, and discuss ways of forming a working group to plan and manage community projects. Wild for Taranaki is keen to assist the Oakura community with the provision of resources, advice on funding applications, and by connecting them to membership groups and experts who can support their mahi. As a starting point, the group has planned a working bee to assist Oakura School to tidy up its Enviro-Centre. This will be supported by Wild for Taranaki and one of its members, EnviroSchools Taranaki. Thanks to Lynne Hepworth for working with us to plan this initiative. Details are below:

When: Sunday 29th March from 9.30-11.30am.

Where: The Enviro-Centre is based at the back of the school field.

Please bring garden gloves, if you have them, and any equipment to help with weeding and mulching.

Submissions have now opened on the resource consent application for the construction of a cycle/pedestrian trail within significant natural areas between Pukeiti and Surrey Hill Road. Details and the submission form are available at: newplymouthnz.com/HaveYourSay. Submissions close on Thursday 19 March at 5pm.

Well, that's it for this issue. Ka kite anō au i a kotou.

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be held at the NPOB Surf Club at 5pm on Monday 23 March.

Doug Hislop (752 7324 and douglashislop@gmail.com) on behalf of Paul Coxhead, Paul Veric, Graham Chard, and Amanda Clinton-Gohdes who is the Councillor representative on the KCB.



Kia ora koutou

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Restore Taranaki is a region-wide initiative which brings together a collaboration of over 40 local organisations. We are dedicated and united with a shared vision that by 2050, Taranaki will be restored. It is a community driven restoration project facilitated by Wild for Taranaki. United in their goal, individuals, groups and organisations in our community come together to carry out conservation work, and collaborate together as members. Our 4 Goals: Together, we are working to protect and enhance the region's unique native plants and animals, and their ecosystems. We are united in our passion to see Taranaki Restored through the four goals we are working towards...

1 Engaging the Taranaki Community to Take Action – Everybody has a role to play. The whole community needs to help us Restore Taranaki. We are undertaking the biggest conservation project New Zealand has ever seen. Collectively, Taranaki can show the rest of the world this can be done.

2 Restoring the Sound and Movement of our Taranaki Wildlife – We will provide predator free habitats to support increased populations of native birds, lizards, bats, and insects. This will ensure future generations get to experience our amazing native wildlife.

3 Restoring the Cloak of Taranaki – Restoring and connecting native habitats will ensure a safe home for our native species. It will also mean that we can have healthy, clean air and water, and minimal erosion.

4 Restoring the Fresh Water of Taranaki – Our large freshwater network supports life in our region. It sustains the environment, people, and our economy. Removing invasive introduced species and reducing contaminants, will restore clean waterways for our community and aquatic life.

Why these goals?

We are excited about the initiative as it is the first of this scale in New Zealand. Never before has a whole region undertaken such a large scale restoration project.

We have selected these specific goals as we see them as a way to make the most significant impact and change. We want Taranaki to be rejuvenated and enjoyed by many generations to come.

Our Members

We are incredibly lucky to have such dedicated members. There are some members who have already been hard at work for over two decades, achieving great things for our region.

Without them, the task ahead of us today would be a much harder one. We want to recognise their foresight and passion for our waterways, wildlife, plants and the environment that surrounds us. Their ability to take action has truly made a difference.

Esther Ward-Campbell
Wild For Taranaki

March is a month where Taranaki really shines

The weather is traditionally more settled, we're into the rhythm of the year - and we get a day off for Taranaki Anniversary Day!

March is also a big month to celebrate our diversity. The Multi-ethnic Extravaganza and WOMAD are real highlights on the calendar and I'm particularly looking forward to them this year. As National's new spokesperson for Arts, Culture and Heritage, I believe events like these are vital in promoting vibrancy and attraction to our region. WOMAD in particular is a great tourist drawcard, and an amazing example of how art and culture can contribute to life's enjoyment as well as our local economy. It's wonderful how this festival encompasses people from all ages and all walks of life, bringing them together to experience so many diverse cultures.

Taranaki Anniversary Day is also an opportunity to not only have a day off for many, but also reflect on our combined heritage. Under the system of governance at the time, we were originally called the New Plymouth province, but were renamed to Taranaki in 1859. It's interesting to reflect on that 161 years later, as historic issues are still be worked through in our region today. Think of Parihaka, Waitara and the Mounga. Also, the earthquake strengthening and development work at Taranaki Cathedral is a good example of building on the past in conjunction to help strengthen our future.

My portfolio roles of Energy & Resources, Regional Economic Development and Arts, Culture & Heritage are a great fit for an MP from this part of the country. A great deal of what we do here and how we do it is hugely beneficial for the whole of New Zealand and will continue to be.

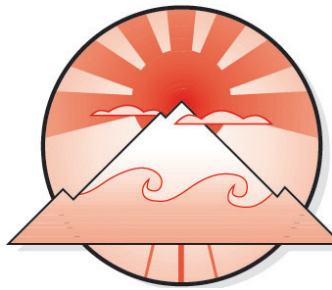
March is a time when our region is at its very best. I hope you are able to get out and about and make the most of the things that make this such a very special place.

Jonathan Young
New Plymouth MP, National Party Spokesperson for:
Energy and Resources,
National Party Spokesperson for: Regional Economic Development (NI)

JONATHAN YOUNG
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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Oakura School

Recently, every child at Oakura School attended a beach education session, during which they went to the Old Boys' Surf Living Saving clubrooms and learnt about beach safety.

The Oakura School kids made sandcastles, learnt about rips and sun safety. During the visit we had a club tour which meant we got to see all of the tech they use for surf life saving and where they store all of their equipment. We finished off with a swim in the ocean.

In Term 1 all the Oakura School kids learn swimming. The younger children learn in the school pool but the Years 7 and 8 learn their swimming skills at the Todd Energy Aquatic Center in New Plymouth. This means that the Years 7 and 8 have to swim laps of the pool instead of playing in the school pool.

It's 2020, which means new possibilities, including new teachers, of which, Oakura School has three, Miss Goble, Whaea Rachel and Mr Anderson. In this issue, we interviewed the new teachers and we got some honest answers about who they are. We also have some information about what the Oakura School students are learning this term.

In 2020 three new teachers have joined the continuously growing group of the students and teachers of Oakura School. We interviewed them and asked them these five questions (note not all questions have been answered) :

How has your experience at Oakura school been so far?

Is there anything you like about Oakura school?

If you could change anything about Oakura school what would it be?

Is there any statement you'd like to add?

What's your preference on toast?

Mr Anderson (teacher of Rm 5) enjoys the scenery and being close to the beach. This year has been busy for Mr Anderson, but he thinks that everyone has been friendly and welcoming. He wouldn't change anything about Oakura School.



Whaea Rachel (teacher of room 11) likes how at Oakura School the children are friendly and are into sports. She finds Oakura School enjoyable and if she was in charge she would move the school even closer to the beach. Her preference on toast is avocado, basil and vinegar.



Miss Goble (teacher of room 10) enjoys the company of room 10 and she has felt very welcomed into our school. She is impressed by the school culture, as well as all the opportunities on offer for the children.



What have other classes been doing though? We went round the classes and asked the teachers and children what they were doing from the start of this year and this is what we found out. The kids for Years 1 and 2 said that they were learning about the alphabet, the Treaty of Waitangi and beach ed.

In the Years 3 and 4 syndicate they said that they learnt about getting to know everyone, they have been doing river races, water safety and reading the BFG, creating artwork inspired from Heather Brown, place value, survivor skills, writing, calligraphy, school pepeha, Treaty of Waitangi and even more art.

Years 5 and 6 have been doing te reo maori as well as learning about kindness, reading, writing and place value.

What about Years 7 and 8? Well, they learnt about Te Tiriti o Waitangi, place value, art, swimming, handwriting, spelling, math, maps, portraits, goals, about me, science, mediation/ leadership, turangawaewae and recount. Phew!

In conclusion we reported on how we have obtained three new teachers and that they already feel a part of Oakura School. We reported on what is being learnt across the school and looked in more depth at some of the recent activities we have been doing. Oakura School has started 2020 off with lots of exciting things happening and we are sure it will stay that way. We would like to thank all the teachers for letting us take photos of their classes and the new teachers for letting us interview them.

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Coming Events

March

- 5 Playgroup starts -weekly 9-11am in the hall
- 6 Teacher Only Day
- 9 Taranaki Anniversary Day
- 16 Y7/8 Athletics at Okato -postponement day 18th
Rooms 4 and 5 rock pool visit 9:30am
- 17 Y5/6 Athletics at Okato -postponement day 19th
Rooms 1 and 7 rock pool visit 10:30am
- 18 Rooms 2 and 3 rock pool visit 11:30am
- 19 Room 6 rock pool visit 1:30pm 1:30pm
- 20 Kapa Haka begins weekly 11:15am
- 25 Weetbix Tryathlon
- 31 Year 6-8 Inter-school swimming sports at Bell Block

April

- 1 3D Conferences -school finishes early
- 2 3D Conferences -school finishes early
- 8 ANZAC Commemoration 1:30pm all welcome
- 9 Term ends 3pm
- 27 Term 2 begins

Lead Ambassadors

We are pleased to announce Aliana Scholey, Amelie Henderson, Lola Crawshaw and Mitchell Fraser as our 2020 Lead Ambassadors



Ngā mihi nui
Karen Brisco Principal

This page is kindly sponsored by the Norton Moller Family, trading as Oakura Farms Ltd.

Proudly introducing our school Prefects 2020



Back row left to right: Michael Gibbon, Sam Skinner, Luke Robertson, Vaughn Te Huki, Toby Penno and Jemma Tanner. Front row left to right: Heavenlee Edwards, Kobi Hislop, Sophie Hill, Emily Law, Yulan Imbalsy, Ido Doron, Kohana Clothier and Katie Bell.

Principal Notes

A warm welcome to our new students, families and staff 2020! The first week back was purposefully designed to reconnect students and staff as we familiarised ourselves with the routines and expectations of schooling life.

Staff News

A warm welcome to new staff members Jackey Molloy, Kieran Oakes, Jana Robertson, Rebecca McKerchar, Sarah-Lee Pheloung, Liam Ward, Airana Ngarewa, David Giles and Karen Taylor and Jahmarl Weir.

Community At The Heart Of Who We Are

On Sunday February 3rd 2020 Spotswood College turned 60 years old. All four living Principals came together on this day to reminisce and discuss the Spotswood College Alumni's 60th Jubilee Celebrations Easter weekend 2020. Registrations can be done online at www.spotswoodcollegealumni.co.nz.

From left to right: Mark Bowden, Barry Finch, Nicola Ngarewa and Graeme McFadyen.

Global Citizenship

Trip of a Lifetime - Spanish language students and staff have been travelling around Spain for just under three weeks as part of

an amazing opportunity to nurture and strengthen their language and cultural skill set. Students were treated to iconic sites, National sports games and paella in every way imaginable.

Cultural and Sporting Success

Congratulations to Josh Houghton who came away from the North Island trials championship, with 1st placing in the junior section.

The STARS Spotswood Academic and Recreational Programme 2020 has kicked off with students taking part in an intense training regime

Pump Track Opening

Students, staff and community members were invited to the official All Wheels Pump Track opening. This track was initiated, designed, funding sought and promoted by students as part of an inquiry project.

A huge thank you to the sponsors Bike On NZ Charitable Trust, Te Waka Manaaki, NZTA, ACC, the students who designed the track and NPDC's awesome Let's Go Team, Sue Gunn and Nathaniel Benefield!



*Nicola Ngarewa
Principal*



Yo Dudes and Dudettes!

Welcome to the last month of Summer. Waves haven't had much size but the quality has been exquisite.

All sorts of board designs have been out there shredding it up on the local hot spots. Been great seeing all club members young and old out there enjoying the warm water and friendly waves. It has been awesome to see younger kids finding out for themselves how fun surfing is while also making the older crew step up

their paddle fitness around the number of grommets out there ripping the waves to shreds. Here's a few photographs of the young local girls out fun bank on the beach.

The bar and BBQ will still be cranking every Friday through the rest of Summer. Come on down and get some cold drinks and the best gourmet meal on the coast. We have the best big deck you can sit on.

Surfing superstars OCCY and Ryan Callinan have been doing a NZ tour, organising a grom competition in Piha. Good luck to the members heading up! Tinnies and twinnies will have run by the time this hits the press.

Full update on the shenanigans next issue so hold on tight for that.

Till then stay loose in the juice and don't forget to hangloose.

Contact, President: Luke Florence 027 493 0819

Pictured below Skylar McFetridge, top right Maia Schafer, and bottom right Ariana Schafer





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KAYAK FISHING CLUB

The Taranaki Kayak Fishing Classic is set for Taranaki Anniversary weekend 8th and 9th March - come along and join in.

This year the \$5000 jackpot must go - the angler or anglers closest to the 8 species will go in a last man standing draw for the cash prize.

The early bird prize is a three day charter trip to Great Barrier Island plus we have another charter trip to Little Barrier as a spot prize. We also have a separate competition for junior anglers sponsored by Tasman Toyota so bring your kids along!

We will have a bouncy castle and lots for the kids to do thanks to Mitre 10 Mega. The main draw prize is a Viking kayak powered by a battery powered Bixby electric motor.

This will be the biggest and best comp in New Zealand! The public are welcome to come and join in the fun and a good time to come along is weigh in times - 4pm both days at Butlers Reef. Entry details can be found at kayakfishingclassic.org.nz



In my last article, I showed two powerful advertising strategies for 2020.

The first method was cold traffic:

Running banner ads to your exact demographic on desktop, laptop or Mobile device which are unfamiliar with your business.

I explained that after someone clicks your ad, they get redirected to your website. After they leave your website and surf the internet on their mobile devices or desktop computer, we serve them up a series of different personalised adverts on other websites. This method is re-targeting.

Now for the finale.

Email Pixel

When was the last time you re-engaged with customers who purchased from you in the past? You may be missing out on opportunities. Try sending an email to previous customers with a link that sends them to a re-engagement offer. Once they land on your webpage, re-target them with personalised banner ads.

This method will re-ignite your dead list and make extra sales. P.S. All the leading players already have these strategies in place because it just works!

See you in my next article: What Your Customers Really Think About Your Advertising.

Feel free to drop me an email: Burt@aardvarkworks.com



Dr Susan Oldfield

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The sun is the main driver of climate change.

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Let's Go to Mini Groovers!

Mini Groovers has started back up again following the Christmas break and welcomes any parents with toddlers/pre-schoolers to come along. It is held every Tuesday during term time 10-11am at the Church Hall. They ask for a gold coin donation on entry and any extra support to make coffee or wash cups is a bonus.

The community led group is organised by volunteer, Feona Scott, with the support of the parents who attend.

Fe says, “The children love this music class and the parents get a chance to catch up and have a coffee. We sing songs and dance along to actions that we repeat each week, so the children become very familiar with them. We also include some songs in Te Reo Maori. This class has been part of the community for many years and the fact that it still runs is testament to the parents that support us.”

Thank you to Oakura Four Square donating fruit each week for the children as part of their morning tea.



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Club Championships

Steve Muller won the senior singles championship with a hard-fought victory over Jim Priest in a high-quality final. The match was evenly balanced at 9 - 9 after 12 ends but Muller gained the upper hand mid-game and stormed home for a well-earned and convincing 21 - 11 win.

The junior singles championship is down to the semi-finals with Rod Smith playing Paul Coxhead and Kurt Smith taking on first year bowler Craig Murray. Good bowling to all.

Interclub Tournaments

Oakura has won both the Northern Div Shield and Avery Cup albeit it in unusual and fortunate circumstances. Inclement weather saw the last day of play cancelled in the Avery Cup giving Oakura, the competition leaders, back to back titles. In the Shield competition, Oakura were awarded victory as their opponents unfortunately had to forfeit their last round games. Oakura will now contest the Radius Health Care Shield Final against Opunake and Tower on 21st march. Congratulations to the players in all competitions and to selectors Roy Phillips, Paul Coxhead and Steve Muller for orchestrating excellent victories. A perfect 10 pts from 10 pts in the last round paved a golden path for Oakura to finish equal 2nd in the highly competitive Central Turf Sponsored Barry Agnew 1st Div pennants competition. A fantastic result for the club reinforcing that Oakura can more than hold their own against Taranaki's biggest clubs and best bowlers.

A successful weekend was in order for the two Oakura teams contesting the highly competitive 2day Inglewood classic fours (Spurdle) tournament. The Adam Collins led team of Tony McAlevey, Wayne Robinson and Kurt Smith, and the Jim Priest skipped quartet of Alan Bridgeman, Bruce Jackson and Kevin Fleming finished 2nd and 4th. It was a tremendous effort by all the players and a great result for the club.

Club News

The Taranaki Open Fours tournament was a tremendous success with Oakura receiving high praise from the contestants for both our great service and hospitality and the high quality and good performance of our green. Congratulations go to the greenkeeper Wayne Robinson and all the match-day helpers and organisers for a fantastic job well done.

Thanks to the Central New Zealand Zephyr Club members who utilised the club facilities for their yearly get together. Paul Coxhead prepared and cooked a very successful hangi and I believe there was plenty of reminiscing of the good old times over a few ales and wines.

It is with great sadness we mention the passing of past Oakura Bowling Club member, Brian Wickham. Brian worked selflessly over many years across a myriad of positions within the club. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

The Underarm Bowler

Oakura Tennis

Cardio Tennis 9.15 Thursdays,
Linda Street Courts



Competition tennis - we are always looking for players to be involved, any ability or availability. Please contact Jackie Mitchell-club secretary, if you are interested.

A little bit on B Grade

B Grade tennis has started again for Round 2. Oakura had 2 B Grade teams entered in Round 1 but this has been reduced to 1 team for Round 2.

B Grade is a "serious social grade" for older teenagers and adults who are keen to play some good tennis but may not be ready for the time demands of A Grade. It is played on a Saturday afternoon from 3pm - 5:30pm, with one game of singles and one game of doubles.

It is a mixed grade so any gender can play and often works well for families that want to play together. Teams of 4.

If this sounds like something you might be interested in, then get in touch with us and we can help you put a team together for next season, or you might be able to fill in during the last of this season.

Oakura Indoor Bowling Club

Come and see if this for you.

Monday March 16th 7.30pm at Oakura Hall

This is a family sport - 7.30 to 9.30 on Monday evenings
- March to September. Contact Marvin 7527531 or Zena 7527450 or just turn up



Coastal Gib Stopping

Glenn Bartley
smartleynz@gmail.com

0275 245 745



Busy days as always at the surf club.

Our volunteer lifeguard patrol finishes up Taranaki Anniversary Weekend. We can't thank our lifeguards enough, for giving 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. If you are swimming when the flags aren't up, please check conditions first, don't swim alone and parents please always keep an eye on the kids.

End of January a few of our seniors went to the Mount for Eastern Region Senior Champs. They represented NPOB well with all making finals, Jack Feaver 3rd in u16 flags and Jordan 2nd in u19 sprints.

Mid February saw our IRB team at Paekakariki Beach for North Island IRB Champs, first season racing with a predominantly young crew and a few 'old' heads. Finals made with a handful of top 5 placings, putting the team finishing up at 11th overall. Exciting times ahead with IRBs in the club with a young, talented bunch.

We also had a small team of Oceans kids head to Ohope to compete in the Eastern Region Junior Champs. All competing really well with a lot of final placings, a great event to attend before heading away to the Mount. Top result came from Bea Knapton ***pictured top right*** who came 3rd in the u13 girls flags.

By the time The TOM arrives in your letterbox our Oceans 20 team would have travelled to Mount, competed and travelled home. This year we have 34 athletes competing, we have never before taken this many kids over to Oceans, a great sign for the club moving forward. All future lifeguards.

Mid March sees a couple of our seniors head to Gisborne for Nationals and the IRB team heading to Ruakaka in April for IRB Nationals.

Good luck to everyone competing over New Zealand.



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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

Dancing in the Dark: 1st & 3rd Tuesdays till November. Contact Glenys Farrant 0277530120

Inferno 45: 4 X Bootcamp fitness Monday & Wednesday 6am, Tuesday & Friday 9:30am. Boxfit class Friday 6am. All 1 hour sessions. Oakura Hall. Contact Graeme on 021 536 990.

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 Ranges Conservation Trust: Contact Pete Morgan - morgpt@extra.co.nz or phone 027 3725 182

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 Sunday School - St James church: Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am. Contact stjamesoakura@gmail.com

Oakura Tennis Club: Cardio Tennis and coaching recommencing in term 4. Contact Club Secretary Jackie Mitchell 027 673 2900.

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 Meg Cardiff 7524566.

Okato Lions Club: continues to have activities in Oakura, as well as Okato. Meet on the first Wednesday each month, except January, at the Hempton Hall, Okato at 7.00pm, and we do appreciate enquiries from people seeking membership or assistance for funding, projects etc. Contact John Hislop Ph 06 7579696

Okato Squash: Club nights on Mondays from 6.30pm, everyone welcome. Contact okatosquash1@gmail.com for further information.

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.

Pickleball Oakura: Come along and give Pickleball a go. Oakura Hall Thursday mornings 9.15am and Wednesday evenings 7.30pm. Contact Elayne Kessler at ekesslernz@hotmail.com or ph 0279377173

Probus Club: Meets once month at Oakura Bowling club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan ph 7511633.

St James Church, Oakura: Morning worship 10am, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

St Paul Carthew Street Okato: Morning worship 10am 1st and 3rd of each month. Sunday school available. Hall hire contact Lesley 7524545. Tuesday Plunket. Pew for you Thursday church open to community no service, quiet candle reflection. 6pm-7pm Winter hours.

St Patrick's Church: Cummings St, Okato, Saturday Vigil 6.00pm - 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays and on the alternate weekends at St Martins, Pungarehu 8.30am Mass on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. For further information contact Catholic Parish of New Plymouth 7573682

Tai Chi Classes - every Monday 9-10 am at the Oakura Town Hall. Gentle, slow movements with breathing and Qigong exercises also. Contact Judi 027 2682601 or taranakitaiichuan@gmail.com or just come along.

Val Deakin Dance School: Oakura Hall preschool classes - Friday 2.45pm, over 5's at 3.15pm. Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz

Coastal Connections morning talks Coffee and Chat dates

The weekly Thursday morning coffee and chat at the Oakura Surf Club. It is always interesting to meet new people and share stories with members from the community.

Please feel free to contact me for further details.

Tracey Lusk.
p 752 7875
027 636 8060

