



TDM

OAKURA

MAY '17

Peter Van Lithe - 20lbs not good enough!

more on page 14

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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

Kim Ferens
06 7511519
0800 843 866
027 4126117

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

Dates to remember for June 2017 issue. Copy & Ads -22nd May. Distribution from 6th June.

Oakura Community What's On

5 Elements Fitness: Bootcamps and Kickboxing fitness classes: Weekdays 5-6 pm, Tuesday/Thursday 6-7pm 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. Ring Mike Vickers 752 7881.

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 7.40am 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 Robin King ph 751 0300.

Oakura Pool Club: Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm at Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Chip 027 621 4999 or 752 1004.

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

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.

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.

Pippi's PT and Circuit Training: every week day morning 9.15 -10.15am and Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5.30 - 6.30pm. Teenage crossfit/boxfit sessions on Tues and Thurs 4.15 - 5.15pm. More details call Pip 022 104 1851.

Probus Club: Meets once month at Kaitake Golf Club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Barry Goble 752 7254 or Betty West 752 7816.

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

St John's Church Omata: Morning worship 10.00am second Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School: Oakura Hall. Monday afternoons, Pre-school dance classes 3:30 – 4pm. Beginners' Ballet dance class 4 - 4.45pm. Contact Val on 752 7743. Also classes for pre-schoolers to adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth. Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz

Volkswagen Club: Regular events range from car rallies, the YMCA climbing wall, camping, BBQ get togethers and sharing good family times and knowledge. Contact President: kirk@taranakivw.co.nz and Secretary: bryan@taranakivw.co.nz

Phone **0800 THE TOM** for additions or changes to your listing.



From the Editor

It's been an interesting process being part of the Omata focus group. The group is considering the future implications for the community of Omata as part of the NPDC's District planning process via the KCB.

I've lived in Omata for 25 years now, on a property that has been in my husband's family since the 1950's. I know at this stage of my life and through the years of bringing up children, I would not wish to live anywhere else. Omata has been an idyllic place to raise a family - something I would wish for other families too.

Recently there have been big changes around me with one of the last remaining dairy farms on the coast being sold. This land will not be farmed in the same way again. I see this change as a good one but change does bring uncertainty and hopefully developing a blueprint for our community helps take the uncertainty away from any change that occurs locally.

Most of us when we sit down to talk about what is going on in our community do so with a very personal bias so it has been interesting trying to think about what might contribute positively to the community as a whole.

Please come along to a public meeting at Omata Community Hall on Wednesday 22 May at 7.30pm to give your input.

Everyone is welcome.

Kim

Dr Susan Oldfield
Integrative Practitioner

MBBS Dip O&G DFFP MRCGP FRNZCGP MACNEM

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Sand dune planting

The Taranaki Conservationist group have 2200 spinifex and pingao plants to plant on the Oakura sand dunes at Oakura Beach on 6 May from 1pm-4pm and also at Tapuae Beach on 4 June at 10am. Come along and help plant these species to protect the beach for the future.

These plants play an important role in stabilising sand movement to protect the land behind, and providing habitat for biodiversity, and we would LOVE for you to come down and help us!

Plants kindly supplied by the New Plymouth District Council.

The Taranaki Conservationist group is an informal, social group for people in the Taranaki region who have an interest in conservation and ecology. Their aim is to:

- help conservation-minded folk to meet others with similar interests and learn about the biodiversity of the fabulous Taranaki region.
- provide a venue for people to find and plan group conservation volunteering and wilderness trips
- get together professional and grass-roots conservationists to share knowledge and ideas
- and of course to have a great time in good company.

Joining the groups email list is the best way to keep posted on what we're up to - email Taranakiconservationists@gmail.com



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OAKURA 3

Facing the longer-term issues for New Zealand

The month of April was very busy and saw a lot of significant government initiatives announced and launched.

The Resource Legislation Amendment Bill has passed its third reading earlier this month, signalling the largest shake up of the Resource Management Act since its inception in 1991.

The 40 changes in National's resource management reforms will help streamline the processes contained within the current Act, making it easier to build more homes and create more jobs. The changes will also reduce costs and bureaucracy while improving the management of our environment. Councils and developers will be able to get houses consented and built faster. And a greater housing supply means more affordable housing.

There has been a lot of misleading publicity about iwi participation agreements. It is important to clear up any confusion because iwi participation agreements are not new. The RMA has always required Councils to engage with iwi but provided little direction as to how. The new arrangements will help Councils clarify which iwi need to be consulted, and on what issues. As with the other amendments this will deliver a more efficient process for all stakeholders.

Further, all final decision-making remains with councils, as it has always been with no extension of legal obligations to consult on any specific plan or consent. Whether or not a council and iwi choose to enter into an iwi participation agreement is up to them. It is worth noting that a significant number of councils already have these arrangements in place and they are proving to work well for their communities. The reforms are a core part of our plan to make New Zealand a stronger, more prosperous country. The passing of the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill is a catalyst for this.

The Government has also just announced a \$2 billion pay equity settlement delivered over five years for some of the health sector's lowest paid workers. This historic settlement recognises the work carried out by the 55,000 workers in our aged and disability residential care, and home and community support services across the country. It will help to ensure we have a higher paid, more skilled and engaged workforce caring for around 110,000 of New Zealand's most vulnerable.

From July 1 this dedicated and predominantly female workforce who are mostly on or around minimum wage will receive a pay rise between around 15 and 50 per cent depending on their

qualifications and or experience. The pay increase will also help to reduce the high turnover of our care and support workers across aged and disability residential care, and home and community support services.

The new Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki, was also launched this month by Prime Minister Bill English and Minister for Children Anne Tolley. It will work with families and whānau to ensure children and young people have access to the care and support they need. It will do this by putting children and young people's safety and wellbeing first, and ensuring they have a say in the decisions that affect them. It represents a major transformation programme to build a more child-centred care and protection system which focuses on harm and trauma prevention and early intervention. It recognises that crisis management is not the answer. It represents real change – and courage on the part of those who recognise change is needed.

This year is already building speed towards the election in September and I am proud to be the MP for the New Plymouth electorate which reaches from Waitara to Opunake. Please do get in touch with me should you have anything you wish to discuss or any events you may want me to attend.

Jonathan Young
MP for New Plymouth

Puke Ariki Oakura Library

Happy Mother's Day. What a special celebration of love.

Dr. Libby Weaver has written many books about how we mothers can look after ourselves. Well worth a read is her latest title, Dr. Libby's Women's Wellness Wisdom: What Every Woman Needs to Know. It is available for loan as are her other titles.

Don't forget Crackerjacks, pre-school story time will be here Thursday 18th May at 10am. You are never too young to enjoy books and being read to! A casual atmosphere, no booking required.

We have some exciting new additions to our online databases found on our website www.pukeariki.com. Go to e-resources and away you go. Many sites require your barcode and pin number some do not.

New Zealand Healthy Food Guide magazine is new. It's a great resource for healthy food recipes and expert advice. Mango languages is also new. It's a fun site and a great way to learn some conversational skills in a variety of languages.

NZ Geographic magazine, practice driver licenses, road code, ancestry searches and newspapers are just some of the databases that have been available for your convenience. On AnyQuestions, chat with a librarian who will provide assistance and suggest resources for your student's school related enquiries. Have a look you will be amazed.

There is no way to be a perfect mother but a million ways to be a good one. (pinterest)

Charlie and Vincenza

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Kaitake Community Board

Well, daylight saving has gone, Easter has disappeared into the distance and the first seasonal snow has appeared on the mountain. Personally I feel a little cheated about another winter arriving after such an unfortunate summer. One of my real pleasures in life is gardening but this past season was a disaster for me and I suspect many others. Therefore the supermarket became the best garden for us over the summer. Anyway, that's enough of my personal grizzling and so I'll move on to a more important topic.

Since April 2014 one of the main projects the Kaitake Community Board has undertaken has been the community engagement activities in Oakura, Okato and currently Omata. These activities are integral ingredients in the development of a 30 year plan for the Kaitake Community Board area - that is the area from the western edge of New Plymouth right along the coast to Okato, up the Stony River to the mountain, along Carrington Road, and back down Barrett Road to Spotswood. When complete our plan will inform the Council's planning and investment decisions in that large area.

We have endeavoured at all times to use logical, consistent, systematic methods of investigation and information processing so as to present an authentic picture of each community's issues and aspirations. It has been an interesting journey. The work we have completed in Oakura and Okato began as a journey of inquiry but in both instances became an insightful study of those communities. The current work we are doing in Omata is proving just as thought-provoking. Through our community engagement processes we have discovered that each community has its own clearly defined set of issues and aspirations but there is a high degree of commonality on one specific theme. That is the universal desire for each to retain its sense of community.

Universally there has been a repeating theme of the need to sustain a sense of belonging. Many folk do feel being a part of the community and having a say within it makes for closer and more positive connections and relationships. This comes across as very much a 'person environment fit'. Each community has a long history, universal places residents enjoy, events they put together and share, other important tasks that they invest personal time in and so on. This connectedness makes for an increased emphasis on healthy community collaboration in a wide range of ways.

Another point worth making is the interest the more youthful residents of the district have taken in the work we are carrying out. In Okato Matt Hooper from Coastal Taranaki School was an integral member of the stakeholders focus group. He provided useful insights into the younger generation's world view of the community. A group of senior Omata School students (see photo below) have produced and provided a comprehensive report on how they believe their community could be improved. This engagement is particularly relevant as a 30 year plan is obviously more about their age group than about most of us.

In the Council's own long term strategy - the New Plymouth District Blueprint, with its often stated overarching vision of 'Shaping Our Future Together' one of the key directions is entitled 'Communities'. In it the Council states that the 'New Plymouth District is made up of many communities and neighbourhood centres. Strengthening and connecting local communities ensures that they become successful, safe and liveable environments for residents.' This is a worthy statement and, bearing in mind the work the KCB has been doing over the past three years, it will be interesting to view the progress Council makes in turning the statement into fruitful community gains.

While we have been carrying out this community engagement work it is still very much 'business as usual' for the KCB. There continue to be lots of meetings to attend as well as paying attention to resident's concerns, and addressing other neighbourhood issues. I often say it's like water coming over a waterfall, it never stops!

Well, that's it for this issue.

Omata residents should check their mailboxes for the Omata Community Survey - coming your way around April 28. The survey will also be available on line at the NPDC website (the link will be in the survey). There will also be a public workshop in the Omata Hall on Wednesday 17 May at 7.30pm where residents can learn more about the Omata Community Report and ask questions of NPDC staff.

We also remind you that ordinary meetings of the council, committees, some subcommittees and community boards are held on a five-weekly meeting cycle. Extraordinary meetings are held as necessary - all these are advertised in the newspaper and on the Council website. Meeting agenda papers are online and available for inspection at council offices, service centres and libraries before each meeting. The next KCB meeting will be held at the NPOB Surf Club at 4.30pm on Monday May 22.

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.



*Photo left: Back - left to right Mya Glennie, Madinina Nordin, Ruby Glennie, Koby Reeve, Pat Murphy
Front - behind sign Olive Denton-Woolley, with red tee shirt Connor Martin*

Easter treasure

The big Easter hunt organised by Ringcraft Moana Jewellers was enjoyed by many locals again this year. Local businesses had donated a basket of goodies valued at more than \$500.

Belinda from Ringcraft Moana was tasked with releasing clues on April the 12th so participants could find a hidden silver egg and claim the prize. As per past events, the weather decided to be a Grinch and rain but that didn't stop many locals and others from foraging around in the village trying to find the silver egg. Clues included "turn your back on the sea", "Grandad bought his first surfboard here" among others.

When local Seth Marshall found the hidden prize in the Easter hunt, located beside the holiday beach camp office in the bamboos, he and his girlfriend Maija Maccalman were very excited along with other locals on hand.



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Daniel McDonald - General Manager	06 757 3083
Rachel Hooper - Sales Consultant	027 235 5284
John McDonald - Systems Manager	06 757 3083
Blair Burnett - Rural Sales Consultant	021 190 7728

A toast on the coast

As the days get shorter with dark nights setting in, chase the winter blues away with an evening of live music, delicious food, and a thrilling live auction. On Saturday 27th May, "A Toast on the Coast" features a three course sit down dinner with wine followed by live bands, dancing, and silent and live auctions. This is a black tie affair.

The evening organisers are aiming to raise \$20,000 for the new Outdoor Learning Environment which will surround the new classroom being built later this year at Oakura School and link this to the existing play areas. This outdoor learning environment will help students learn through a hands on experiential curriculum that makes the life sciences relevant and come alive.

"We will develop the area into a flexible learning environment. This will cater for a range of learning experiences for our students - and also maximise the opportunities for indoor outdoor flow during learning time," says Lynne Hepworth, principal of Oakura School.

The committee has already sold seven tables of ten to corporations and local businesses and there are a total of 20 tables available. Tickets are \$100 per person and can be purchased individually or as a whole table of ten.

"Why not get a group of friends together and make an evening of it? Unity will provide live music and there will be dancing after dinner, it'll be a memorable and marvellous evening all for a great cause," says Emily Faragasso, who's also on the Toast on the Coast committee.

Auction items will include weekend bach retreats, Ozone Barista training sessions, Macaron baking class for eight with Cook Learn Love, a fire engine ride to school, and a netball signed by the Silver Ferns to name a few!

The Toast on the Coast, 27 May Saturday 6:30pm-12.30am, Oakura Hall. Contact Tash Lewis on 027 775 5440 or email atoastonthecoast17@gmail.com for tickets.

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History bite: Mary Rawson

In a quiet field near Okato lies a memorial to a pioneer who died more than 150 years ago. It is the headstone of Mary Rawson who died giving birth to still born twins at the age of 44. The headstone is on the farm of Richard Goodwin, Petone Rd and Richard has ensured this piece of local history will not be forgotten by fencing off the headstone so stock don't damage it.

Mary Rawson's story is a fascinating one. Mary and her husband Dr Thomas Rawson, General Practitioner arrived in New Plymouth via Auckland from Leicestershire. With them were nine children aged from 21 years of age to 3 years of age. Dr Rawson was appointed a surgeon major to the New Plymouth militia and volunteers. The family had set up home on the Petone Rd at what we would now consider the corner of Surf Highway 45 and Petone Rd. It is most likely the road to New Plymouth ran along the coast. The family home is thought to have been set on the highest point on the now Goodwin farm.

Mary died in 1859 and was buried presumably with her still born twins at the bottom of the hill - the exact location has not been determined but it is somewhere in the vicinity of the headstone. It is probable that eldest daughter Louisa took over the household being a young lady of 17 years old.

This was a very unsettled period of Taranaki's history with the first Taranaki land war being fought in 1860. All women and children were ordered to leave the province and all men were called to arms to defend New Plymouth. Mary and Dr Rawson's eldest three sons - Charles, Henry and Fred answered the call to arms. All three and Dr Rawson were awarded the New Zealand medal.

The family home was ransacked and Louisa and her two youngest siblings Herbert and Ernest began the two day journey into New Plymouth to catch the SS Airedale to Nelson. Herbert's daughter Elsie has records giving instructions to Herbert's two elder brothers to shoot Louisa and the two younger brothers should they fall into the hands of hostile natives on their journey into New Plymouth - luckily they only encountered friendly Maori's - an extraordinary story of possible fratricide averted!

It seems another local identity took them under his wing - Dr William Dowden Sealy, a medical practitioner who had left Omata for Nelson and was part of the Taranaki Aid Committee helping relocate women and children to Nelson. Louisa and her two brothers Herbert and Ernest returned to Taranaki 14 months later and Alfred, Arthur and Thomas were sent to Nelson to boarding school.

Dr Thomas Rawson remarried again in 1866 to Sarah King the daughter of Reverend John Whitely and they had three sons. The family lived at Marsland Hill, New Plymouth and no records show the Rawson's returning to the Petone Rd farm.

Many of the Rawson descendants have made significant contributions to Taranaki. One of note is David Holt Rawson, (born 1915) an author of many books including *The Restless Mountain* and *Search* - a story of the history of search and rescue in Taranaki to name but a few.

So a humble little headstone tucked away in a quiet field has

many tales to tell and we can be glad that people like Richard Goodwin care enough about our history to preserve this relic. It gives us insight into an era when us modern women can be glad we weren't born into it - endless babies, hardships and deprivation.

Information sourced from the Nelson Historical Society Journal, volume 7, issue 3, 2011 and from genealogy.iainskipworth.com

By Kim Ferens



Dance Delights

Dance Delights is coming to a venue near you soon! The Val Deakin Dance Theatre Trust's usual summer programme of Garden Delights was postponed due to so much wet weather, and has turned into an equally delightful programme of dance, and live music in various indoor venues.

A wide ranging programme of classical ballet (romantic, classical and Spanish-styled), contemporary dance, character and tap dance will delight audiences of all ages - with a wide variety of wonderful costumes and music. Some of the Dance Theatre's most experienced and skilled dancers will be in the programme including Jane Roseman, Inge Vink, Rosanne Taylor, Donna Kelly and Mervyn Chivers. In addition two fun items will be presented by younger children and the programme showcases director Val Deakin's wide ranging choreographic skill. Live music segments will be presented by either Guitarra - guitar duo Dominique Blatti and Ross Townsend playing a mixture of works from around the world or Aaron Bosch on piano accordion.

**Performances will be given at the end of May:
Sunday, May 21, 2 pm Oakura Hall, Main Road, Oakura**

Tickets are still only \$10 for a wonderful and varied dance and music programme.

Advance bookings can be made by phoning 06 7527743 after 9:30 am and there are door sales.

The Dance Theatre is grateful to the Creative Communities Scheme New Plymouth district for their support for the programme.



Oakura School

an outdoor adventure experience at TOPEC (Taranaki Outdoor Pursuits and Education Centre).

Mr Laird is retiring!

We would love to farewell Mr Laird. Mr Laird has been with us for 24 years and is a huge part of Oakura School. I'm certain that we will all miss him, but wish him the best for his retirement.

'I will miss his fun sports games' says Mason Down in Room 6, and Eva in Room 6 says 'I will miss his personality and all of his jokes.' 'I will miss his sense of humour,' says Connor and Finn says, 'Mr Laird taught me that not all teachers are scary,' both from Room 11.

When interviewed, Mr Laird said that this is what he is going to miss about Oakura School:

"Well, obviously the children because without them there's no school, and then the staff. I guess that I'll miss all the people."

What is your favourite memory about Oakura School?

"The cross country, the kids getting placings, and the ones who didn't were showing all the effort they put into it and the respect they showed afterwards."

We wish him all the best in his future career!

TOPEC

We are at the end of Term 1, and wow was it busy. To end the term the Year 7 and 8's got the opportunity to participate in

We were split into two separate groups, one going on Monday and the other on Tuesday. The Year 7 and 8's were taught how to use carabiners and how to put on and tighten safety gear. The rope course was entangled in trees, making it a fun adventure area for the intermediate children to play in. The ropes were wound in between the tall trees making it challenging but really exciting at the same time.

While one of the groups were in the trees, the second group put their wetsuits on and learnt river safety skills. First we learnt the six dangers of a river - current, rope, rocks and so on. Then we learnt how to safely float down the river and make our way to an eddy (a still section of river next to a bank). To test our skills, we drifted down a small rapid, and swam to the eddy. We then split into two groups and went down the rapid in a bug, (a small inflatable boat with no front) whilst the other group lay on top of the bugs and went head first into the rapid and tried to surf it.

We would like to thank our instructors, Grover, Josh and Seton for assisting us in these activities and making our day super fun.

Ella Coates (age 12), Amy Parr (age 12)



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May

- 1 Term 3 begins
- 1-4 Life Education truck
- 9-10 Te Reo lessons begin
- 10 Year 1/2 Movement Madness 1pm
- 11 Year 3/4 Movement Madness 1pm
- 12 Year 5/6 Inter-school vs St Pius (away)
- 15 Year 8 National Young Leaders Day (Palmerston North)
- 16 French lessons begin
- 22 Central Football training begins (Junior classes, 6 weeks)

June

- 2 Marae Visit
- 15 The Amazing Race (Year 6 at Oakura)

Student Writing

Water and Wheels

Anticipation shot down by sorrow. An orange vest wore my disappointment.

A broken toe sat in front of me, that was it, the culprit for this crime. Wet feet propelled by the force of encouragement, dripping with anxiety, it was far from over. Glints of blue chiseled out a course. Exhausted bodies dragged themselves to the end, clawing at their last flickers of energy. Ice soothed aching throats. Cheers soon migrated to my ears.

Completion.

Running, biking, swimming.

My mothers past word pulled me back to reality. "No!" That word destroyed my passion. Frustration built up inside me.

"Next time", I thought, "Next time, I'll be ready"

By Charlotte Butler age 10

(showing her frustration at missing the Omata Triathlon, due to a broken toe!)

Omata ANZAC Ceremony

With ANZAC Day falling during the school holidays, Omata School held its own ANZAC Day Ceremony on the last day of term one. It was wonderful to see so many of the Omata community present on this special occasion. A big thank you to our guest speakers, Pat Murphy, and Commander Graham Emmerson, RNZN. Also special mention to Bryce Gordon who performed the Last Post and Reveille. Our senior ambassadors did a wonderful job of reciting poems and reading out the names of those from Omata who paid the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

Year 6-8 Inter School Swimming Sports

Congratulations to all our students who competed in the recent inter-school swimming sports at Bell Block. Your results were outstanding and you should all feel very proud. Also a big thank-you to Julie Neilson who accompanied this team, and who has played such an important role in the swimming lessons of all our students at Omata.

Stuart Bennett, Acting Principal



Top - Acting Principal, Stuart Bennett speaking during the ANZAC service

Bottom left - Bryce Gordon playing the Last Post.

Bottom right - Year 8 student, Eden Hill, reciting the poem, "In Flanders Fields"



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Greetings to our Coastal, Oakura and Omata Communities

May

- 6 School Ball
- 11 School Cross Country
- 23 TSSSA Cross Country
- 25 NCEA Information Evening for Students and Parents
- 26 Rockquest Finals

June

- 5 Queens Birthday
- 11 PTA Gala
- 12 IDP Day
- 21 Senior Report Evening
- 28 Junior Report Evening

July

- 6 End of term 2
- 7 Teacher Performance Review Day and First Aid Training

It is staggering that Term I is over. A busy and exciting term contributes to the sense of 'time flying'.

Activities during Term I have included:

Year 13 Leadership Camp

Peer Support Programme run by Year 13 students for Year 9 students.

Meet the Teachers Evening.

TSSSA Events including Beach Volleyball, Bowls, Rogaine, Basketball, Triathlon, Athletics, Equestrian, Surfing, Swimming and Quick Rip Rugby.

We held our first ever Carnival Day.

Our Boys and Girls Volleyball Teams competed in the NZSSSC Nationals.

Student World Vision Leaders attended their conference in Auckland.

Senior PE students took leadership roles at the Weetbix Triathlon.

Our Student Support Faculty attended the Special Olympic Secondary Schools Athletic Champs.

Netball teams travelled to the Bay of Plenty to play in pre-season matches.

Te Reo Maori students attended a Noho Marae at Muru Raupatu Marae.

A group of Classics students and their teachers along with parents have travelled to Greece.

Komiti Maori have been working hard to support Maori Learning as Maori.

PTA have begun organising the 2017 Gala (to be held 11 June).

Music students attended the Orchestra in a Day Event.

The Ball Committee have almost completed their planning for our School Ball to be held Saturday 6 May.

Building of the new Student Support Centre has started.

PTA and Gala News

Our Gala on Sunday 11th June looks to celebrate our college, our children and to bring our whole community together. Pencil this date on your calendar and put it in your phones. Come determined to have some fun, to leave well fed and hopefully to make a few purchases, all of which will directly benefit our students.

We will be looking for your help in many ways - baking; donations for our raffles, the second hand book stall, the white elephant stall, our second hand clothes stall and of course your time to make this event a success.

More information to follow soon, sign up sheets, drop off dates and so on.

Like our Facebook page and be in to win a prize.

If you have any queries or suggestions I'd love to hear from you. I can be contacted on 027 552 7327.

Gillian Gibbon, on behalf of Spotswood PTA

PTA Meeting dates for 2017:

7th June

26th July

23rd August

20th September

25th October

and 29th November - End of year celebration.

All welcome - please join us if you can, our meetings are held in the School Boardroom from 7pm onwards.

Looking forward to an exciting and productive Term II.

Mark Bowden

Principal

Below photos of carnival day.





The Oakura Boardriders club held its annual disabled surfing day in March with some great conditions for the disabled wanting to have a try. It is heartening to watch some with serious disabilities really enjoying themselves and the big smiles. A great turnout of members made this memorable for all involved - thanks to those that made this happen.

The Club champs have been running in dribs and dabs since our traditional Taranaki anniversary weekend date due to weather and surf conditions at opportune times. The open has been run though and once again Manu Schafer has sealed the win on a count back from Jeremy 'Snuffy' Curd in great waves at Rocky Rights. Manu has been dominant the last few years - we need a few of our members to step up or come back to Taranaki and put some pressure on him, good effort Manu!

With the summer peak season slowing down Vertigo who have opened under the clubrooms have started to get the finishing touches done, the coffee has been popular and its great to see it is becoming a morning meeting place for different groups adding some atmosphere to the beach....

Paige Hareb is back on the qualifying circuit after a good start in Australia she is in Barbados as the TOM goes to press, wishing her luck in the quest to requalify....

Ariana Shewry has once again been to Hawaii for some coaching and great surfing experience. Both Ariana and Tom Butland have had some great success this year on the NZ circuit which shows put the time in you get the results.

Snow is on the way, surf has been good get out and enjoy!

Brent Anderson, OakuraBoardriders.
President: Luke Florence; 06 7527889
Secretary: Paul Lobb ; 06 75 27556



Photo below left of Dorrien Andrews at Rocky Rights and above the enjoyment of disabled surfing day.

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Local Ice Black plays for silver

Local man Nick Henderson recently represented the New Zealand Ice Blacks at the International Ice Hockey Federation World Championships - Division 2/B held in Auckland. The Ice Blacks won 4 of their 5 games, losing only to China. Results are as follows:

NZL v Turkey 4-1
 NZL v Israel 5-2
 NZL v Mexico 4-2
 NZL v Nth Korea 8-1
 NZL v China 2-5

The final rankings are as follows:

1st China, 2nd New Zealand, 3rd Israel, 4th North Korea (DPR Korea), 5th Mexico, 6th Turkey.

Nick played alongside his good mates Nick Craig and Rick Parry (goalie), all three Taranaki boys.

Rick finished the tournament ranked number one and was awarded the Best Goalkeepers Trophy. Over the tournament he had 134 shots on and only 9 goals scored against him.

Hendo (Nick Henderson) is ranked number two for assists following the tournament. Nick Craig is ranked number 15 for assists. Hendo is a forward and Nick Craig is defence.

The players sweaty shirts were auctioned straight from their backs following the tournament as a fundraiser for the team. Hendo's step mum thinks the sweat probably added value! She goes on to say that all the games were great games to watch - especially against China and the game against Mexico. So exciting I barely got any knitting done during those games! I did manage to knit a couple of little handspun jerseys while I watched. It kept my fingers warm in the icy rink and staved off the boredom between playing periods!

Below top left to right: Nick Craig, Barbara Olsen-Henderson, Hendo, Alan Henderson and Julia Craig.

Bottom photo: Nick and Hendo with their silver medals.

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Club Championships

Jim Priest made amends for his defeat in the Championship Singles final with a hard-fought win over Steve Muller to secure victory in the President's Trophy competition. Muller took control of the game early but Priest was not going to be denied his first title for the year and finished strongly to take the game 21-15.

Champion of Champion Results

The Oakura Championship Fours combination of Allan Bridgeman, Bruce Jackson, Kurt Smith and Ray Haslip were eliminated in the first round losing 19-16 to a talented West End team. Great effort boys as the West End quartet consisted of 4 Taranaki representatives.

Interclub Tournaments

A win ratio of 67% has Oakura placed second after 6 rounds in the Thursday Wanderers competition. Selectors, Brian Wickham



Club Results

Men's Division

April has seen the early rounds of the Presidents Cup completed and we are now down to semi-final stage in both the Cup and Plate draws. The weather has been unkind testing the mettle of all golfers.

Both Kaitake pennant teams qualified for the playoffs with Kaitake One having a massive upset result overpowering past champion team Manukorihi One in the final round to qualify. Outstanding golf by Joseph McKinley playing at No1 lead the way for an emphatic victory.

Sadly, however that was where it ended as both teams succumbed in the first round of play offs with Kaitake One going down to Eltham and Kaitake Two losing narrowly to Manu Two.

The end of April will see the Presidents Cup narrow down to the final and May will feature Kaitake hosting two Taranaki wide events. On 7th May Kaitake will host the prestigious Taranaki Two Ball Best Ball competition which will be open to women's pairings for the first time ever. Later in May Raceway Cycles are sponsoring the Mixed Canadian foursomes which should attract a large field. Please contact Denise to enter either or both events. Quote of the month is by our new Masters champion Sergio Garcia

"Golf can best be defined as an endless series of tragedies obscured by the occasional miracle."

Women's Division

The One Club format continues to work well for the 18 hole women. The most recent women's national competition to be played was the Nancy McCormack trophy. This year it was won by Kim Woodward and Lois Agnew with Noreen Potts and Marlene Scott the runners up.

and Roy Phillips, were keen to duplicate their great Avery and Gilmour cups success, however a rained-out 6th round has ruined any opportunity for the Oakura teams to gain ground on the competition leaders, Waitara.

Club News

All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality and social aspect of the club 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.

The Professional Bowling Association will again have a chapter in New Plymouth with all bowling to be played at the Paritutu Bowling Club indoor stadium. The qualifiers for the various competitions will be played over 2nd, 3rd & 4th of June, 28th & 29th of July and the 13th & 14th of August. It is a great opportunity to see some of New Plymouth's best bowlers in action playing a format that is entertaining and full of action. It is with sadness we mention the passing of Oakura Bowling Club member, Derek Williams. Our thoughts are with his family and friends.

The Underarm Bowler

Pennant Update - Weekend Women's pennant team are continuing to play well and are currently tied at the top of the table with Manukoriki with only three matches to go. The Midweek Women are sitting in the middle of the field but with only one game to go are outsiders to finish first.

9 Hole News

The Cooper Challenge has occupied much of our time lately and we finally have a winner. Taking the victory on Easter Monday was Coraleen Le Breton with Jo W-West runner up.

Many of the 9 Hole groups are hosting their annual Open Days whilst the sun is still shining and first on the list is Fitzroy- 5 Kaitake players put their hand up to play and congratulations to Jo W-West for coming home with 1st Place in the 1st Division and Jean Keegan 3rd.

Thursday hagglers see Yvonne Coxhead, Jenny Clarke and Thelma White all picking up a hidden hole prize

Pennant Update - both teams slow out of the blocks after 3 rounds White Team and Blue Team on 3 points

New Members Welcome

New golfers are encouraged to give 'golf a go' before the winter sets in.

Aged between 19 and 35 years? This is a good opportunity to join. 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? Kaitake Golf Club has a Chippers group that meet every second Sunday between 10.00am – 12 noon for coaching and a few holes of golf. Membership fee is \$40 for the year that also 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 shoes and a hat.

Phone the office for more information on all categories of membership or contact the Club Captains

Follow us on Facebook for more information or phone Denise in the office, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Phone 7525667

taranaki **KAYAK FISHING CLUB**

This years kayak classic was one of the best ever - great weather on both days and lots of fish landed.

Some very big snapper were caught with lots of anglers catching their personal best's - a meagre 20lb snapper was not enough to get in the prizes.

Local anglers did very well with the La-Franchie family doing well with young Josh weighing in a prize winning 9.965 snapper. Mike La-Franchie took out 1st place in the blue cod section and Josh won the prize draw for a new Viking Kayak. The main Viking prize draw was won by Alan Blair from Greymouth.

Results:

King fish, Blair Haase.

Tuna, Blair Haase.

Snapper, Tane Leatherby.

Kawahai, Mathew Beattie.

Gurnard, Alan Blair,

Trevally, Nick Pysleman.

John Dory, Brad Harris,

Blue Cod, Mike La-Franchie.

And Peter Van Lithe from Canoe and Kayak, featured on the cover with his 20lb snapper still not big enough to make the prizes..

The surfcasting section of the classic was won by James Crighton after no snapper were landed by surfcasting and the names were drawn from a hat.

Although the snapper fishing has been hard surfcasting we have been doing well catching Kawahai from the beach.

*Top photo of Fergus from Coastal Antennas with a nice cod.
second top is Leyton Cave with his 20lb snapper not enough to make the prizes.*

Josh La-Franchie with his big snapper.

Blair Whiting from Hastings with his John Dory catch from the Port.

Bottom left is Blair Haase with the winning tuna.



Oakura Tennis Club

Oakura Tennis Junior Club Champs finals were held on Sunday, 2nd April with 15 players in the boys draw plus another eight in the Hot Shots draw – a great turnout for our club. Preliminary games had been played during the two weeks leading up to the finals so all the players were ready to see who would take out the cup this year.

The Hot Shots finals started at 9am with a big battle between the Barrett boys, with Luke taking out the win over his brother Corey. D'Angelo Squatriti played Milla Lash and despite a valiant comeback D'Angelo won in a 7-6 battle! Miller Ferguson was too strong on the day for Calum Lewis but both boys are watching their big brothers play and have a great template to follow.

The overall Hot Shots final was between Otis Dixon and Cooper Ferguson. Both boys played like they were at Wimbledon, attacking the game and using deep base line shots to win points. Otis came out on top on this occasion but both boys confirmed their spot in the next grade up next season and will be vying for the main cup in years to come.

The boys draw finals were also underway early as rain was threatening. Lachie White and Noah Lash had seen the forecast and played their game the day before with Lachie White showing his strength with a win. Ryan Waite also had a convincing win over Bastian Runghansen however Bastian is another new player who is tagging his place in the interclub team next season. Robbie White and Jack Husband are renown for long battles when they play each other and finals day was no different. Long rallies and consistent hitting saw this game stretch into the morning. Jack played an attacking game with some great serve and volley points but it wasn't enough to beat Robbie's agility around the court and relentless return of every ball sent his way.

By the time the big match was ready to start, most of the other games were finished and it was hard to get a space on the deck of the club rooms to watch – a match between Sammy Lewis and Jack Mitchell was not to be missed.

The quality of tennis that we were treated to during this game was on another level. Both Jack and Sammy were hitting the ball with blistering speed and precision placement – no one wanted the game to end. However after a 3rd set tiebreak, Sammy took out the honors and the Overall Boys Club Champion Cup. The Girls Club Champs attracted less interest with just Taylor Mitchell and Beth Tvrdich signing up. This game is yet to play

but will be another great game to watch.

Thanks to Naki Racquets and The Frontrunner for sponsoring the prizes, and to Craig Waite who did a great job on the BBQ providing much needed sustenance to the players.

The Club Champ games were a great way to finish off a successful season and the quality of our junior players bodes well for the future of the club.

Boys overall Champion:	Sammy Lewis
Boys runnerup:	Jack Mitchell
Boys Special Plate:	Robbie White
Boys runnerup Special Plate:	Jack Husband
Boys Plate:	Lachie White
Boys runnerup Plate:	Noah Lash
Boys Consolation Plate:	Ryan Waite
Boys Runnerup Consolation Plate:	Bastian Runghansen
Hot Shots	
Overall HotShots Champion	Otis Dixon
Runnerup Hotshots	Cooper Ferguson
Hotshots Plate:	Miller Ferguson
Hotshots Runnerup Plate	Calum Lewis
Hotshots Special Plate	D'Angelo Squatriti
Hotshots Runnerup Special Plate	Milla Lash
Hotshots Consolation Plate	Luke Barrett
Hotshots Runnerup Consolation plate	Corey Barrett
Most Improved Player (Blitz Tennis Award)	Noah Lash

Taranaki also had a great win at hexangular tournament recently in Wellington. Taranaki beat Kapi Mana and Manawatu in pool play to face Wellington in the final and win the cup. Congratulations to Miaana Walden, Jaime Simpson and Graeme Mitchell who were part of the Taranaki team. Cardio tennis continues on Thursday mornings 9.15am in term 2.

Anne Bridges- junior convenor

Below left: Finalists for junior and hotshot club champs

Below right: A3 team that made it to the final and lost to Rotokare 10-6 in a close final. Back row Taylor Mitchell, Anna Oldfield, Sarah Ashworth

Middle row Daniel Lewis, Roseanne Donovan, Scott Johnson

Front row Fletcher Ferguson, Jack Mitchell, Sammy Lewis



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