

Gone Fishin'

The Oakura Surfcasting and Kayak Fishing Club is boasting a bumper summer season.

Recent reports indicate this summer has been a pearler of a fishing season with record numbers of fish being caught which in my mind restores a bit of faith in Joe Average getting out and dipping his rod in the drink (why bother before I say). Well now it is certainly tempting especially with Oakura Surfcasting Club results listed below – a nigh on 6 kg and a 10 kg snapper off the rocks (work that out at \$40 per kg retail!)

What a whopper of a month! Heaps of fish have been weighed in over the last six weeks or so. Surfcasters have been getting a good number of Snapper – about six or so over 5kg – while the kayakers have been getting a blast of Albies and Skippies, and a good number of Snapper and Gurnard.

The Taranaki Kayak Fishing Classic proved to be a great success, with awesome weather on the first day and a little less

sunshine on the second. For the 90 or so anglers who competed, there was an excellent number of fish weighed, with a good weight range. Again the Kingis and the Tuna proved elusive on both days.

Congratulations to all the competitors and winners, and especially to the organisers (all of whom were from our Club).

On the same weekend Grant M. got a 5.7kg Snapper off the rocks and Shane D. got a 9.8kg-er off the rocks down near the Cape.

The recent Surfcasting Fish Together saw only Chris Whitaker head to the Tapuae, nailing an excellent Trev' of 2.3kg for his efforts.

Easter weekend saw surfcasters out in numbers and quite few Snapper caught – the heaviest (7.4kg) by Shane D. A lot



Grant Morgan's 5.7kg snapper.

of kayakers went out too, a few going really wide. Tony Hurring had a bit of a challenge with a large Mako Shark (rather him than me). I'm also told kayak fisher Martin Rook was in the right spot



A nice kayak full of fishes.

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Left to right: Craig McEwen, Jim Dowling and Justin McEwen with their fabulous catches of the day.

a peek inside

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It has been an interesting month for *TOM* with Tracey away in Europe and lots of feedback from our March issue. Thank you to everyone who rings or emails *TOM* with feedback good and bad – it is very welcome. But I will say that I don't like anonymous letters. If I am prepared to put my name in the public arena, then any replies to articles also need to be signed. These will not be printed without permission unless they say "To the Editor". *TOM* can only get better and better from your feedback.

An interesting concept came to my attention recently, similar to Slow Food. It is the idea of only eating food produced in close proximity to your house – say within the Taranaki region. A push towards growing your own family's needs, a bit like the old days, I suppose. But then I realised I wouldn't be able to eat chocolate, drink coffee or eat bread. It was revealing to me to realise I didn't know where a big chunk of my food comes from. Where is the wheat grown for my bread? Which country grows my sugar? Is my milk local? (Not that I can afford it now!) Realistically this country is where it is today (affluent) because of primary exports, so I don't think I would abstain from certain foods because they aren't local, but I do want to know where they come from. How much do you know about your food chain – can you trace all your produce?

Look out for the results for Oakura Tennis Clubs Soffe Cup team – we are proud of you.

Kim

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TOM

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Vegetables:

- Sow seeds of beetroot, broccoli, broad beans, cabbage, carrots, onions, spinach, radish, swedes and turnips.
- Enjoy the rich supply from the garden this season. Rosemary has had a bumper crop of tomatoes, passionfruit and cucumbers, and the feijoa tree is laden.

Flowers:

- Continue planting spring bulbs.
- Dead head roses as autumn flowers finish and give existing roses a side dressing of fertiliser.
- Lift and divide crowded perennials.
- Plant pots with autumn and winter flowering annuals such as pansies, primulas, polyanthus, stock, antirrhinums and bulbs.

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Hi folks!

How many of you have got your hands on a copy of the draft Budget 08/09?

Public consultation is under way now on this document, which is Year Three of the Community Plan 2006-2016, and contains our proposed work programme for the 2008/09 financial year and how we intend to pay for it.

The good news is that two-thirds of the money to meet the proposed expenditure will not come from rates. We're fortunate to have investments and other funding to cover the majority of costs.

Another bit of good news is we've managed to more than halve the forecast rate increase. Inflation has had a significant effect on the proposed 2008/09 budget, but by working hard to find savings and efficiencies, the team have reduced the proposed general rate increase (averaged across all ratepayers) for the coming year to 4.9 per cent.

My thanks has to go to the staff and management here at Council, who worked tirelessly to identify savings and efficiencies.

Some of those savings and efficiencies come from two proposed changes that we particularly want some public feedback on:

Reducing footpath expenditure (on pre-seals only), saving \$130,000.

Varying Puke Ariki's opening hours, saving up to \$115,000. (The operating hours of the Oakura Library would be unchanged.)

We are also proposing no increase to the uniform annual general charge, but some increases to the targeted rates for water, sewerage and rubbish collection, which will in large part help fund a programme of renewals and improvements across the district.

Among the major projects that are taking place in 2008/09 is the construction of the reticulated sewerage system for Oakura and the sewer pipeline that will connect the village to the New Plymouth sewerage system and the New Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Copies of the draft Budget 08/09 are available at the Civic Centre, Puke Ariki and district libraries, and online at www.newplymouthnz.com

At the same time, we will be consulting on the proposed fees and charges for 2008/09 (and we'd like to hear ideas for increases to other fees and charges that would further reduce rates), the proposed New Plymouth District Council Bylaw 2008 and the proposed amendment to the policy on development contributions.

Your involvement in this consultation is important, so please take the time to look at these documents and see if there is anything you want to comment on.

In the meantime, if you would like to get in touch with the Council to discuss a project or an idea that you have developed, please give me a call on 759 6060. I'd love to see what the Council can do to help you!

Peter Tennent

Mayor

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HON. **HARRY DUYNHOVEN**
MP for New Plymouth

Funding for our future

As I said last month, most of us no longer live in villages with all our families and friends about us, taking an interest in how we're doing, lending a hand or a shoulder when needed.

Society, in the form of community organisations, schools and some government agencies, has necessarily moved into the gap – these have become the surrogate village.

Our Labour-led Government recently announced that we will be investing \$446 million over the next four years to roll out a new model for working with community organisations to ensure the best outcomes for New Zealand's families. And when I use the word "family" I am referring to all of us – everybody is a member of a family, we are all someone's son or daughter, parent or grandparent, whether or not we are active, participating members of a family. Indeed, in this context, perhaps especially if we are not an active, participating member of a family for some reason.

The old market-based system forced community groups to compete against each other for the available funding. It encouraged fragmentation, duplication and far too much funding had to be spent on overheads rather than on actual services to the community.

We are focussing now on early intervention, on outcomes and supporting community groups to work together to provide essential services, which are those that would need to be provided by the Government if a community organisation were not providing them.

This new funding model will provide full funding for contracted essential social services delivered by community organisations, which will also receive regular and ongoing funding increases to reflect changes in costs and demands.

Those groups that provide services that are not "essential" but never-the-less contribute to the greater good of their communities, like drop-in centres, will move to grant funding. Many have already done so and we will continue to assist this approach.

This means community groups will have more certainty – they

will be better able to plan and to budget, to attract and retain qualified staff, to improve their service's effectiveness and to achieve better outcomes for New Zealand families.

The vitally important role volunteers play in our communities will not change and donations will continue to be an important fundraising source to support the delivery of other services.

New Zealand has a large number of community groups that deliver essential child, young person and family services on behalf of Government. These groups know and understand their communities and the families who live in them. They play a key role by reaching families early, preventing problems from getting worse. They are where vulnerable people go first for help.

They are the sorts of services that provide:

- 1 parenting programmes like Barnadoes and FamilyWorks
- 2 women's refuges and family violence and crisis programmes
- 3 budgeting advice services
- 4 mentoring programmes for young people
- 5 victim support.

These organisations will remain locally-based but will have to spend less time worrying about paying their bills and more time focussing on results for our families.

Thank you for taking the time to read my column.

Harry Duynhoven



Hon. Harry Duynhoven
MP for NEW PLYMOUTH

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The glorious weather has lasted through Easter and seems to be continuing unabated except for a bit of drizzle that has done little more than dampen down the dust.

Everyone has been out and about enjoying themselves in our superb environment. The only downside has been the restrictions placed on swimmers in the Oakura River and Timaru Stream. Both show high levels of E.coli and user restrictions will stay in place until there have been three clear tests. E.coli indicates faecal contamination, meaning organisms can be present than can cause gastrointestinal illness and respiratory health effects. New Plymouth District Council (NPDC), Department of Conservation, Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) and the Taranaki District Health Board are monitoring sites on a 2-to-3-day basis. They suspect the low water flows are hindering the usual flushing, resulting in the higher levels.

The TRC has declared a drought and I am sure we all feel for the farming community who are struggling to deal with this prolonged dry spell, lasting since early December. The drought brings into focus how we all depend on, and often take for granted, our water supply. While the mountain attracts considerable rainfall, it runs off and into the ocean quickly.

Taranaki has 286 river and stream catchments that flow to the sea but only 10 lakes larger than 8 hectares. With this lack of storage reservoirs and with the escalating water use required by local industry, it is obvious long-term solutions are required. At a personal level I believe we can all do our bit to conserve water whenever possible – not just in times of drought – to ensure the sustainability of this precious resource.

Council officers from the Environmental Strategy and Policy Team have completed an update of the Coastal Strategy Implementation Plan and the Oakura and Urenui Structure Implementation Plans. The three implementation plans are critical to the implementation of the New Plymouth District Strategy and outline action progress and timeframes for all existing, ongoing and urgent projects.

In regards to the Oakura Structure Plan there is -

- 1: one existing action underway – the availability of pathways within Oakura and along the coast to accommodate different user groups, and;
- 2: seven ongoing actions underway – addressing many aspects of residential development within the coastal community, sewer and stormwater capacity issues, the current beach camp review, identification of Wahi Tapu sites, coastal erosion issues, and water quality and supply issues.

Your Community Board is aware of and is keeping up to date with all of these actions and in several instances there will be opportunities for residents and other interested folk to make submissions on Council recommendations that require District Plan changes.

The Coastal Strategy and Oakura Structure Plan are available online or from the NPDC front desk. The updated implementation plan will also be available shortly after it has been to the Monitoring Committee and full Council meetings.

The next Kaitake Community Board meeting is on at the NPOB Surf Club on Tuesday 22 April at 4pm.

Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer (752 7050), Mike Pillette (752 7059), Al Rawlinson (752 7178) and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson (756 8080) who is the Council representative on the KCB.

Penguins have new homes



New penguin homes built by Oakura School students.



Seaweek Spokesperson, Paige Hareb at the penguin subdivision launch.



Oakura School children gather for the official speeches and placing of the new luxury penguin condos.

Mayor Pete expresses interest in one of the condos for his next Oakura Beach holiday.



'Home sweet home' and each home is prime Oakura real estate.

Well, they (the TOMtits) ridiculously tried to chop me out yet again and although they were successful last month, public pressure has soon brought them to their senses.

Marion and I are currently at Arrowtown in Central Otago, just as autumn is starting to colour the leaves of trees and very beautiful it is. So different from the North Island.

One thing, though is very definitely the same in both islands - LITTER! Every tourist spot, every roadside rest area and every DoC camp that we have visited is festooned with jettisoned garbage from travellers, picnickers and booze-bottle bearing hoons, often within spitting distance of rubbish bins. Glass seems to be the worst offender, followed closely by drink cans, disposable nappies, plastic drink bottles and takeaway containers plus a plethora of other indescribably 'icky' items that seem able to move of their own accord and should have been removed well before they became a life force in their own right.

I met a gentleman named Karl last year at Hokianga. He could only be described as a vagrant, having lived in his little Toyota for 5 years, or more and wore clothes and shoes commandeered from other people's cast-offs (bit like me, really). As I walked down to the boat ramp, there he was, a tall, quite handsome man of about sixty, complete with straggly beard, dark longish hair peeping from underneath a woolly hat, creating a glinting row of broken and whole bottles along the length of the concrete ramp, from top to bottom.

"You're doing a good job," I commented. That was opening enough for Karl to vent his feelings about good old clean, green New Zealand. He has made it his mission, as he travels around, to hoist tons of litter from the bushes and stack it tidily for all to see and hopefully, for someone in authority to remove.

As we talked, he poked his long, stout stick into some nearby bushes on the beach side and pulled out two broken bottles and a disposable nappy. Then, briefly disappearing into his car, he quickly returned, armed with photo albums full of impressive pictures of his muck mountains, claiming (and I hope I'm right here Karl, it certainly had a lot of noughts) to have plucked some 60,000 glass bottles from the environment over five years. Each photo was marked with exactly where the scrap had been found and Karl generally tries to keep his search within 100 paces from wherever he starts.

During our conversation, he offered me a cup of tea, which I felt too polite to refuse. Out came the billy, which sitting over a few bits of lighted paper and driftwood on the ramp, soon was boiling furiously. Karl apologised that he didn't drink tea too often, preferring coffee, but had some old tea bags somewhere, a few years old, but fine nonetheless. Whipping out his best crockery, Karl then dipped the 'guest's cup' in the briney and swiggled around the inside with his finger until it was squeaky clean. Recollections of his having recently manhandled a discarded, stinky nappy from the bushes were banished, with some difficulty, from my mind. Fortunately he didn't have any home-made baking or biscuits to offer. Now don't get me wrong, Karl was clean, non-smelly and very intelligent, in an obsessive kind of a way. In fact he opened my eyes to the refuse pit that surrounds us everywhere we go. Like most tourists, I point my camera at the view, but as my new friend pointed out - look right in front of you, in the bushes, or down the gully. And it's true! Rubbish! Everywhere!

A passing English tourist, after taking photos of the two hobos on the ramp, vainly tried to point out that he shouldn't worry,

it's a lot worse in the UK. But almost before she could get the words out, Karl bellowed, "You can't compare a rotten apple to one which is *going* rotten." I'm sure Confucius himself would have been pleased with that one.

Anyway, to cut this long, rambling, rubbishy story a bit shorter, perhaps we might, each of us in our own little way, like Karl, help to slow the rot. All the signs, advertising and rubbish bins do not seem to be able to change the mindsets of those short-sighted people who discard all their waste willy-nilly, but perhaps, wherever we go we could pick up some of the litter in our proximity and dispose of it more wisely. I'm not suggesting everyone carry a super-large-tuff-sack everywhere (Sometimes, I have to physically wrestle the vacuum cleaner from Marion when she gets that "I'm gonna clean up this scenic reserve" look in her eye), but a plastic shopping bag might do. Maybe our local school children wouldn't have to have their annual beach clean-ups, who knows?

Karl intimated that he may travel to Taranaki in the near future, so if you see some pyramids of undesirable alien dross along our foreshore you'll know he's probably been there.

On a lighter note, above the garbage level, we are so lucky to live in this country and are reminded continually of this almost at every turn of the highway. Anyone contemplating a South Island holiday, don't miss visiting Glendhu Bay on Lake Wanaka - absolute magic! Fishing, swimming, walks, ski fields, views to die for . . .

Meanwhile, it's time to get this baby to press and to start lobbying for my next inspiring episode to be accepted for the May edition (never an easy mission, believe me).

Happy as a pig in it,

Ron.



Off trout fishing in a Canadian canoe on Lake Wanaka, with Mt Aspiring in the background. Oooh!

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Gone Fishin'

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

a couple of days before for a front-seat view of Marlin tail-dancing cross the surface and being hooked up on a boat nearby (bummer, the angler dropped it near the boat).

Tight lines

Debbie E

Weighmaster's report for February

February's Fish of the Month

Surfcasters: Grant Morgan – 2kg Snapper

Kayakers: Peter Florence – 9.24kg Kingi

Surfcasters Snapper – 18

Kayakers: Tuna – 11, Kahawai – 3, Red Cod – 1, King Fish – 4, Gurnard – 1, Johnny – 1, Snapper – 2, Gurnard – 1, Shark – 1, Hiwi Hiwi – 1.



Shane Dunlop's whopping 9.8kg snapper.



A Mako shark being landed aboard a kayak.

Chief scrutineer, Debbi E doing a bit of er . . . scrutinising.



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Argentine ants rear their antennae again

Argentine ants have made their way up Russell Drive from Jans Terrace. They are voracious eaters so apparently if you got them, you know it! You can treat them with special poison free from the 'Ant Man' at NPDC. See the Taranaki Regional Council Argentine ants webpage at:

www.trc.govt.nz/environment/animals/ant+campaign.htm

Below is an excerpt from a May 2006 TOM article about these little critters.

The ants breed prolifically but do not swarm (fly off to establish new nests). Their most common method of infestation is by plants being moved or by nests established in vehicles and freight.

Argentine ants (*linepithema humile*) are very aggressive and can bite people but are not poisonous. They are a major household and garden pest that will completely eliminate other ant colonies, eat other insect species and earthworms. They are particularly fond of sweet foods such as nectar producing plants. They nurture and protect aphids and scale insects then use them as a source of honey dew. In winter they band together into super-colonies, making them aggressive and competitive. There is the risk they will reduce fruit set and damage orchard produce.

An infestation can be up to six nests per square metre and each nest can have 30 queen ants. Their sheer numbers mean they will eat just about anything. They will drive away or kill other insects and baby birds and are a real threat to native species. They will also invade houses and make their way into microwaves, fridges and screw-top jars.

You can identify an Argentine ant by their colour and their trails. The wingless worker ant (the most commonly seen) is light to dark honey-brown (common ants are black) and is 2-3 mm long. The Argentine ant trail is often five or more ants wide and can travel up buildings or trees. When squashed the Argentine doesn't smell of strong formic acid.

The best approach is a community-wide one to stop them becoming permanently established.



Kaitake Golf Club



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7599119

update from the big red truck

"Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns." ~ George Eliot.

Greetings again from all at the Big Red Truck.

March has almost gone and the dry weather continues. Despite this, calls have been thankfully few for the Brigade. At the time of writing, the total fire ban throughout the New Plymouth urban and rural areas remains in place. **The fire prohibition means all open-air fires – including coal barbecues, hangi and braziers – are banned, with only gas-fired barbecues allowed outdoors.**

As you may already know, this long dry spell has been officially declared a drought in South Taranaki, and North Taranaki may follow. We urge people to please heed the fire ban, remain vigilant and call in all fires to 111 until the ban is lifted.

Daylight savings moved to 6 April this year, so it is a timely reminder to check the batteries in your smoke detectors and look to ensuring you have one in all living areas, including bedrooms. Some checks:

1. **Dust** in the smoke alarm can stop it working and cause nuisance alarms. Gently dust the alarm with a vacuum cleaner brush every six months.
2. **Test** smoke alarms each month by pushing the test button to ensure it beeps. You may need to use a broom handle. Change the battery when required.
3. **Replace** any smoke alarms that are not working or are over 10 years old.

In addition: Do a "fire check" every night before you turn out the light.

1. Are kitchen appliances turned off and safe?
2. Have you turned the TV off using the power switch on the set and not the remote control 'standby'?
3. Have you closed kitchen and living room doors to slow a fire from spreading to bedrooms?
4. Are all candles out before you go to bed?
5. Is the house secure with keys in deadlocks?
6. Are the passageways clear for a clear escape?
7. Has the ashtray been emptied into a metal bin outside?

And as a reminder that cooler times are only a few months away:

1. Are heaters turned off and furniture and clothes one metre from heaters or the fire place?
2. Have you turned off all electric blankets before getting into bed?



All the best and stay safe.

FF Breeze



Hi, I'm Vincenza (pronounced Venchensa) Clark and I've just joined the team at Oakura Library. As a village resident I value our library and enjoy the interaction with school children and community members. Our community spirit is evident in the 10 wonderful volunteers who assist with Oakura School class visits during the week.

When I'm not at the library you'll probably find me strolling along the beach with my husband Brian, a keen surfer and artist. My hobbies include tennis, cooking and reading (of course) but my passion is being a mum to my two daughters, Leah and Jessica.

So if you haven't been in to the library lately, come in and check out our two new computers or browse the quick picks. Need a great new read? Just ask us for some fresh ideas. Happy reading!

Your local librarians,

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CanTeen Trek for Life

CanTeen was formed to make sure young adults in New Zealand living with cancer should never feel alone. It is an organisation that supports young people with cancer and helps them to conquer it.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to help support this wonderful organisation and trek all around New Zealand raising money and public awareness? On Tuesday 4 March Jenna and Kieran visited us at Oakura School, doing just that. They are travelling with a horse and sulky (a type of horse-drawn carriage) from Cape Reinga down to Bluff and are now on their way back to where they began. They have been travelling for ten months so far and still have another two to go.

They have visited many schools to talk and discuss why they are doing this and how they are helping the CanTeen organisation. The horse they are using at the moment is called "Doof" ("food" backwards). Doof is their tenth horse as others have either decided to quit the journey or settle down with new owners.

We asked Jenna and Kieran a few questions about their relationship with CanTeen:

Us: Have you ever known anyone with cancer?

J&K: No, we are two of the few lucky people who have never seen or experienced cancer.

Us: Do you know any CanTeen members personally?

J&K: Only one, who joined us in trekking through Dunedin.

Us: Why did you decide to do this trek?

J&K: We thought it would raise money and awareness of this horrible illness and how you can help.

Us: Do you have a particular path that you are travelling?

J&K: We only have a very vague route and mostly go on what people have told us are the best and most interesting places to go by.

Us: Approximately how much money have you raised?

J&K: We have raised about \$22,000 so far.

The pupils of Oakura School contributed to this effort with a coin trail.

So we wish you well, Jenna and Kieran, wherever you are on your journey and we all hope that you finish this trek happy and well.

Good luck

By Oakura School student journalists

Now's the time to hit pampas

The pampas is starting to flower so let the spraying begin!

That's the message from the Taranaki Regional Council, which is urging land owners and occupiers to destroy the declared pest plant as it flowers and before seeds become viable.

Glyphosate or glyphosate powder is the recommended treatment.

Common pampas and purple pampas are among the targets in the Council's Pest Plant Management Strategy because of the way they threaten biodiversity by suppressing native plants along forest and streambank margins, in scrub and secondary forests, and wetlands and coastal areas.

GET IT RIGHT: Native toetoe flower head (left) compared to the more upright exotic pampas grass flower head (right).

Note that pampas flowers can also droop when they get older, so also check the leaf and leaf base. The base of the native toetoe leaf is waxy, and the leaf itself is ridged.



Pampas also hinders agricultural production, particularly by strangling forestry seedlings in planted forests. The plant can also be a nuisance on roadside verges.

Under the Strategy, all common or purple pampas must be destroyed unless the plants are being used as hedges or shelterbelts and are prevented from flowering or seeding – but even these must be destroyed by 2012.

The Taranaki Regional Council Compliance Manager, Bruce Pope, says pampas hedgerows and shelterbelts should be progressively destroyed to meet the 2012 deadline.

He says alternatives for shelter can include trees, flaxes, native toetoe and karo. These not only provide shelter but enhance landscape values and biodiversity values.



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TOM Tennis

Semi-final stutter . . .

On Saturday 15 March Oakura's Soffe Cup team headed into town to face top-of-the-table Huatoki in their semi-final clash. With the return of John Hardie-Boys, the team was at full strength for the much anticipated match. After battling hard through at least four tie-breakers, Oakura looked to be the favourites for the day, taking all of the men's singles and two of the women's.

Needing nine wins to secure their place in the final, with six already secured from the singles, Oakura were confident that a celebration at Butlers would be enjoyed later that day. However, things began to look shaky after the doubles, where Oakura only managed to take one out of four matches. With only the mixed doubles remaining, Huatoki had closed the gap, with the matches standing at 7-5 to Oakura. Oakura had to take at least two of the following games. Unfortunately Huatoki proved too strong in their combinations for Oakura to secure those last two points, with only the combination of Josh Walden and Becky Bruckner taking a win after facing yet another tie-breaker.

With all games played the tally now stood at eight all. The winner was to be decided after a count-back of sets. After counting and re-counting and counting again, there was no mistaking – the day went to Huatoki with a difference of one set. After congratulating the home side on their victory, the bulk of the team made its way to Butlers, though no celebrating took place.

By Leah Fletcher

Kaitake Golf Club

Midweek Ladies 36-hole Stroke Play

Silver: Robyn Robins (155 gross), Adrienne Mitchell (144 net)

Bronze: Joan Gerrard (183 gross), Margaret Hodges (138 net)

Veterans' Trophy: Janet Horn (68 net)

Aotearoa Cup: Robyn Robins (65 net)

Runner-up: Maureen Nielsen (66 net)

Coronation Medal: Robyn Robins (65 net)

Runner-up: Shona Burgess (71 net)

Saturday Men's Summer Cup

Winner: John Haylock, *Runner-up:* Bob Silk

Flights: Mike Jans, *Runner-up:* Frank Regan

Raewyn Hawker, Secretary and Manager

Volleyballer's dream comes true!

Jessie Muggeridge is off overseas to represent her country at her chosen sport!

Jessie, the daughter of Lizzy Brouwers and Steve Muggeridge, attended Oakura Primary School and Spotswood College and is now in her first year at Waikato University, studying for a B.A.



Jessie Muggeridge.

PHOTO BY LIZZIE BROUWERS

Jessie has been playing volleyball since Third Form. Together with her Spotswood College partner, Jane Allemann, she participated in the New Zealand Pro Tour over the summer months and as a result of her fine performance, she was selected to attend two tournaments in Australia. At the Queensland Beach Volleyball Tournament held at Coolangatta on the Gold Coast, she and another Spotswood College partner, Jessica Dixon, won third place in the A-grade competition. The other event was the Australian Junior National Championships, held in Surfer's Paradise. Jessie is grateful to the TSB Community Trust, which provided some funding towards those events. She says she also owes a huge vote of thanks to her Spotswood Beach Volleyball coach, Mr Joe, for all his enthusiasm, encouragement and support over the past year.

She and her beach partner, Krista Whitewood from Hamilton, have now been selected to represent New Zealand in the World Under-19 Beach Volleyball Championships, to be held in the Netherlands in August. Prior to that, there will be a training camp in Hamburg, Germany to further develop their skills and familiarise themselves with each others' play.

Jessie and her extended family are really excited about this awesome opportunity. They are busy organising fundraising activities and have planned a cabaret evening for Saturday 10 May, to be held at the Oakura Hall. It promises to be a fun evening, with two local bands, MMC and Gumboot Tango, providing the entertainment. There will be several spot prizes and supper will be included (although you will need to bring your own liquid refreshments). Tickets are \$20 each and will be available through Lizzy and Steve (phone 06 753 9199) and through other key supporters – the Oakura Pharmacy and the Tack Shack at Moturoa. There will also be door sales.

Jessie needs about \$6,000 to cover her travel and accommodation expenses alone. A TSB Saver Plus 'Volleyball' account has been set up in her name and she would be really grateful to anyone who would like to contribute to helping her dream come true.

We wish Jessie all the best for this event and win or lose, we look forward to hearing about her adventure when she returns.

Story by Lizzy Brouwers and Kerry Lilley

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JKA Coastal Karate

JKA Coastal Karate Club Taranaki, affiliated to JKANZ, holds successful training and grading in Oakura.

Thirty JKA Coastal Karate students undertook two sessions of training and grading in Oakura Hall recently, with 100 per cent of students successfully grading, including four new *Shodan* (Black Belts). Approximately 50 to 60 JKA Coastal Karate students train each week in one of the three dojos on the Coast – Opunake, Omata or Oakura.

Students have been training and preparing themselves – some travelling to Pakuranga Dojo the weekend before grading to receive extra instruction.

Takahashi Shihan (8th *Dan*, Japan) conducted the training and grading sessions over two afternoons and evenings.

JKA Coastal Karate Taranaki is a traditional style of martial art, imparting core values to students. The Club has been in operation for a good ten years and has continued to grow to now include classes in Omata School and Opunake Hall on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Oakura Hall on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

If you are new to the district or are just keen and want to meet people while getting fit, you are welcome to phone *Sensei* Jim Hoskin on 06 752 7337 for further information.

All ages welcome!

Takahashi Shihan (Japan) instructs Manu Akiola (Omata) during men's grading to second kyu at Oakura Hall on 4 March.



Takahashi Shihan (Japan) prepares students Rhys Vickers, Niall Cole, Aaron Cole and Ingrid van Amsterdam (all of Oakura) for their Japan Karate Association (JKANZ) Black Belt grading in Oakura Hall in March, while fellow Club Black Belt Shodans and Sensei prepare to go through their stances with the students.

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Oakura Pony Club News

By Diane Alder

Oakura Pony Club members have had a successful month. First the Opunake Pony Club One Day Event (ODE) on 23 February saw Jordan Gilltrap (on Silver Buff) win the ten years and under section, Caroline Beekman (on Eager to Ride) won the open 17-21 years section and Zoe Laing-Aiken (on Yours Truly) came 2nd in the DC open 16 years and under. Anna Hinton (on Sexy B) won the 11, 12 & 13 year-old section, followed by Jess Knudsen (on Little Red Ted) in 2nd place. In the novice horse/pony rider under 21 years, Tara Harvey (on Sir Ed) came 2nd and Lyndall Nokes (on My Lil Minx) came 3rd. Hayley Beekman won the pre-training section riding Victory Time.

In the first week of March the annual national Horse of the Year event was held in Hastings. Oakura Pony Club rider Mathew Dickey put in an outstanding performance on his two ponies, winning the title "Pony of the Year" on Co Calico and coming 3rd on Wilful. Riding Wilful, Mathew also won the Pony Show Hunter of the Year award. The Taranaki team, which included Mathew on Wilful, also won the national teams Saba Sam Shield for show-jumping ponies.



Bronte Alder on "Husky" jumping a fallen tree cross-country jump at the Okato Pony Club during a recent clinic with Olympic rider Matthew Grayling.

The Horse of the Year competition hosts some 2,300 horses and 1,800 riders from all around New Zealand, so it really is a remarkable feat! Well done Mathew!

Oakura's Amber Parkes has been selected for the North Island Games team. (My apologies – in the February news I mentioned C. West as being in the team, which was an error). Amber also did very well in Pukekohe recently riding Pintado Chevalle, where she won the National Pinto Supreme Champion title for the second year in a row, for the third time since she has owned Chevalle.

Area trials were held in Carlyle on 16 March and Oakura's riders again did extremely well. Sophie Anderson and Caroline Beekman came 2nd and 3rd respectively in the A1, and Andrea Brewster and Anna Hinton were 3rd and 4th in the DC. Trophies were awarded to Sophie Anderson (A1 – the R&M Lane Challenge Cup) for the combined training area trials day, Zoe Laing-Aiken (DC – the Misty Morn Trophy) for the least jumping faults for the season, Anna Hinton (DC – Harvey Trophy) for DC reserve and also the 13 & under ODE points (NRM Sash) and Jordan Giltrap for the 10 & under ODE points (G. William Sash). The Nicholson Shield was awarded to Oakura Pony Club.

Up-coming events

15 April – Taranaki Dressage Schools Champs in Hawera

12-13 April – Timberlands

24-26 April – Horse Trials Champs in Nelson

We are now nearing the end of the pony club season for 2007-08, but the fun isn't over yet! We will be holding our end-of-season gymkhana at the Bolstad's farm in Weld Road on 19 April, and we're planning to hold a few theory and club nights over winter.

If you're interested in joining the Oakura Pony Club, please ring our chairperson Linda Knudsen on 752 7560 or secretary Diane Alder 752 1008.



Mathew Dickey with Wilful after winning Pony Showhunter of the Year (Wilful went on to win 3rd place in Pony of the Year).

PHOTO BY BARBARA THOMSON



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Oakura Boardriders Update

Another month has flown past. The weather has been great with some good waves on offer – this is our best time of year so get out and enjoy.

The Boardriders Club has held another Learn to Surf day, which again proved popular. A big thanks to all Club members who gave their time to assist, and remember, if any adults want some one-on-one coaching, give Gary Bruckner a call on 752 7474.

The big event for Taranaki was of course the Billabong pro-junior, which saw some of the top Aussie juniors come over to contest. Held at Stent Road, the surf was very small the first day and this put paid to most of the Kiwi contingent unfortunately. Local surfer Tyler Anderson drew two of Australia's (and maybe the world's) top under-20 surfers. In tiny conditions he initially held his own, but it proved too much in the end. The event provided valuable experience for all our juniors in the tactics and quality of surfing required to succeed at this level.

Paige Hareb went all the way to the semi-finals and missed out on making the finals by less than 0.5 of a point. It was her great rival Sally Fitzgibbons who went on to win the event over another ex-local girl, Airini Mason.

Big thanks to all the members who gave their time to help run the event and it was great to see Doug Hislop on the BBQ – a precedent has been set, Doug!

In the April school holidays we have the NZ Scholastics Surfing contest, which is being run this year by the Opunake Boardriders Club. Being on home ground and easier on the parents, we are all hoping for some local success this year.

The region also played host to the Easter Masters, with international musician Jack Johnson entered and also performing at the Bowl of Brooklands.

There will also be the finals of the Volcom VQS series at Raglan for those surfers who have qualified. The chance to win a trip to California to contest the world finals adds plenty to strive for in this contest.

Paige Hareb has shot across the ditch again to contest some more comp's. The most recent was the Central Coast Pro, where she found the going tough in small conditions and fell in the second round. The boys found the competition found it even tougher, with Bobby Hansen the only Kiwi competitor



Above, Tyler Anderson and below, Connor Anderson at the TSS competition.



getting through to the third round. The next event for them is the Newcastle Pro, but of course the big league have the Bells Beach Easter Classic, so there's plenty of surfing to come – check it out online if you are interested.

As we go to press the Taranaki Scholastics Surfing Contest has been run with a lot of Oakura surfers to the fore. See the results below.

Uner-14 girls: Eloise Stevens – 1st

Under-18 boys: Tyler Anderson – 2nd, Kaye McKee – 3rd

Under-16 boys: Connor Anderson – 2nd

Under-14 boys: Seth Marshall – 1st

The Boardriders Club Champs were held on the weekend of 5-6 April, so we'll have all the news and results in the next TOM.

Oakura Boardriders

President: Paul Christophers – 752 7156

Secretary: Paul Lobb – 752 7556

Treasurer: Brent Anderson – 752 7171



Gary Bruckner giving advice.



Paige Hareb with her 'Learn to Surf' class.

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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Recapturing the Banjo

Otis Taylor
(Telarc/Elite)

music review

by Don Juan

While most of us associate the banjo with bluegrass music, nowadays it is commonly accepted that it evolved from African instruments such as the ngoni, guimbri and the xalam. The banjo had an integral role in early Negro jazz and string bands, but it gradually fell out of favour with the increasing popularity of the guitar. With his 2008 release, the prolific Otis Taylor has reclaimed the banjo as a legitimate blues instrument – *Recapturing the Banjo* indeed!

Taylor contributes vocals, banjo, guitars, mandolin, piano and percussion to this album and he is capably supported by his long-time associates Ron Miles (cornet) and his daughter Cassie on bass and vocals. Some 'heavy friends', fellow acoustic bluesmen Guy Davis, Corey Harris, Alvin 'Youngblood' Hart, Keb' Mo' and Don Vappie also bring their skills to the mix – singing, playing banjo and collectively adding guitars, mandolin, lap steel and harmonica. The material is a mixture of traditional pieces ("Little Liza Jane", "Les Oignons"), classics ("Hey Joe", "Walk Right In") and original pieces, mostly penned by Taylor.

Often specialising in a personalised form of 'protest blues', Otis Taylor's work can sometimes tend towards the gloomy ("Simple Mind", for example), but there is joy here too and, not surprisingly given the all-star cast, some mighty fine banjo picking! Highlights include album opener "Ran So Hard The Sun Went Down", "The Way It Goes" and "Walk Right In" (the latter rescues Gus Cannon's Afro-American string-band classic from the insipid Sixties pop version of the song).

Segu Blue

Bassekou Kouyaté & Ngoni Ba
(Out/Here Records)

For listeners wanting to investigate the African roots of the banjo, there is no finer introduction than this acclaimed album by Malian ngoni virtuoso Bassekou Kouyaté and his group. Kouyaté also features on previously reviewed recordings by Ali Farka Touré ("Savane") and Toumani Diabaté's Symmetric Orchestra ("Boulevard De L'Independance").

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Furniture maker – latest artist in residence in Oakura

From the mist-shrouded valleys of Uruti to the sunshine boulevard of Oakura comes cabinet maker supremo Steve Bowkett.

We welcome Steve and his craft to our neighbourhood with gusto and I was thrilled to view his work on display at Tom Smithers's new furniture showroom at Tapuae.

Each piece of furniture is handcrafted with eye catching detail. Steve tells me his furniture is influenced by both Asian and European flavours. A particular muse is Antonio Gaudi, with his simple and uncluttered style, but with craftsmanship in the detailing, veneers and clean lines. The European influence is evident in the minimalism of Steve's work, but he has a quirkiness not unlike Gaudi. Many of his pieces involve sculpting the wood, hand-carving it to perfection. I like to think of Steve's work as his own masterpieces, maybe even one day selling for the tremendous prices that early New Zealand cabinetry with unique features fetch at auction.

Steve, a lover of timber both native and exotic, clearly gets excited about combining types of wood together to create his pieces. This is evidenced by his swamp rimu, poplar and kauri stool, his glorious "twin towers" confection of matai, ash, cherry and puriri, and by his bathroom pedestal of oak, rimu and cedar.

Steve began his apprenticeship at Briggs Furniture Shop and has been based in the Uruti Valley in recent years. Family connections have brought him to Oakura where he says the air is drier and his wood happier.

Tom and Suzanne have opened up their new workshop space to Steve to create his furniture masterpieces. The Smithers have many plans for their little piece of paradise and now that furniture retailing is up and running on the premises, we can expect there to be further developments. Such as, I ask? Tom professes to wanting to have a go at furniture-making too, though different to Steve's. He's more interested in furniture that has a greater element of machine involvement than hand-sculpting, but still of a high quality of course.

Along with this is a long-term plan to set up a café-cum-culinary training facility. There is space set aside in the new building for a café where Suzanne has a vision of training the area's young people in the art of cooking and making good coffee. While Waiwakaiho might have its 'Hub' of a shopping centre, we in Oakura will have our own 'hub' at Tom's, but perhaps with a little more character.

Call in and have a look around Tom and Suzanne's showroom at the Tapuae Hill and enjoy the fine furniture for its craftsmanship and uniqueness. Maybe you could twist Steve's arm into creating something out of that special piece of timber you've got stored in the backshed that is awaiting inspiration.

By Kim Ferens



Tom and Steve in the workshop.

Steve's quaint little stool.



Steve with his bathroom pedestal masterpiece.



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First **SYNERGI**

Oakura School's ex students shine at college

TOM 'takes one moment' to profile two extraordinary ex Oakura School students – Mathew Dickey and Tess Novak who have risen to the top of the pile at New Plymouth secondary schools.



Mat and Tess at the Young Leaders Conference in Wellington.

What does it mean to be Head Girl of Sacred Heart?

I am a representative of the student body, and as Head Girl my role is to serve their needs. This involves chairing student council, involvement in assemblies, speech making, weekly meetings with the principal, organising events and fundraising for charities.

What does it mean to be Head Boy at Spotswood College?

It is a huge honour for me to be given this prestigious role. I enjoy being head boy immensely, and I am keen to make the most of it. This role gives me a range of opportunities, including going to leadership camps/conferences, and meeting with important people such as the mayor of New Plymouth – Peter Tennent. It is also a huge responsibility, as in a way the school is judged by the way I act and appear, so I am doing my best to keep up appearances and make positive choices!

Did being a Head Girl of Oakura school help you in your new role as Head Girl?

Oakura School is strong in speech making and debating which helped me to become a more confident speaker. Being a head pupil also gave me opportunity to help run assemblies which was extremely exciting!

Did being head boy of Oakura School help me in my new role as head boy?

I believe that being head boy of Oakura has given me a very good grounding for my role this year. Being head boy at Oakura required the same leadership, time management and speaking skills which are vital for my role at Spotswood this year.

My years at Oakura School taught me the personal qualities to allow me to excel at High School

What subjects are you studying Tess?

English, Calculus, Media Studies, Classics, Drama and Religious Studies.

What Subjects are you studying Mathew?

I am studying English, Calculus, Chemistry, Physics, and Graphics.

What are your interests at school Tess?

Soccer, drama and dance.

What are your interests at school Mathew?

Sport is a major part of my life. For half the year I am travelling

around New Zealand in the horse truck, competing in equestrian events. Horses are almost a lifestyle rather than a sport for me. I am also a member of our schools Senior A basketball team, the Spotswood ski team, and enjoy a relaxing round of golf! I have also recently signed up for our school production - Footloose, which will be an experience for me!

What do you want to do next year?

Tess: I'm planning on going to Victoria University, looking to study a double degree with a BA in media/theatre and a BCom in management. I am also keen to socialise and visit my parent's old stomping grounds! I have been involved in a number of Operatic and Hospice shows over the last five years and look forward to checking out Wellington's musical theatre scene.

Mathew: Next year I am planning to go to University to study towards a degree in engineering. I am also hoping to continue riding horses, which will be dependant on which University I decide to attend.

Recent achievements, anything coming up . . .

Tess: Gained NCEA Level 2 with excellence, member of this years Youth Subcommittee for the NPDC Council, Captain of the 1st 11 soccer team (have been for two years now), currently involved in organising Sacred Heart's Stage Challenge production which is an enormous amount of fun and a great opportunity for the 120 girls involved. I'm heading down to a Young Leaders Conference in Wellington tomorrow and have a soccer tournament next weekend.

Early next term I am looking forward to being a part of the 7th form team heading to the O'Shea Shield Competition in Napier; a yearly Catholic Schools competition which involves all secondary schools from the Central and Lower North Island. The competition involves speechmaking, debating, drama and religious knowledge with a whole lot of school pride!



Tess showing her skills at a soccer tournament.

Mathew: My family is a huge support for me. They are the reason why I am riding horses and competing at a high level. It takes a huge commitment from my parents to transport my horses and I around New Zealand, not to mention all of the training, advice and encouragement they give me.

My main aspiration is to live life to the fullest, and make the most of every opportunity that comes my way.

My Equestrian Achievements this Season:

This was my last season competing on ponies (17 and under age group) and I was privileged enough to have two very talented ponies to compete on – Wilful and Co Calico. I also



Mathew and Wilful doing the business!

competed on my young 6 year old horse Kiwi Guard. My major results this season are:

Horse of the Year Show - March 2008

1. 1st pony of the year - Co Calico (National Title)
2. 3rd Pony of the Year – Wilful (National Title Class)
3. 1st Pony Showhunter of the Year Category C) – Wilful (National Title)
4. 1st Saba Sam Shield Teams Competition – Wilful. This is a team's event and the Taranaki team consisting of four riders and one reserve that I was in won this prestigious event, beating fourteen other provincial teams. (National Title)
5. 1st South Island Showhunter Pony High Points Series – Wilful (SI Title)
6. 1st North Island Showhunter Pony – Wilful (NI Title)
7. 1st South Island Pony Grand Prix – Wilful (SI Title)
8. 2nd National Pony Grand Prix – Co Calico (National Title Class)
9. 1st South Island Junior Rider Competition (18 and Under) – Kiwi Guard (SI Title)
10. 6th Junior Rider National Series (Under 18) – Kiwi Guard
11. 1st FMG Pony Grand Prix National Series – Wilful (National Series/Title)
12. 2nd FMG Pony Grand Prix National Series – Co Calico (National Series/Title)

This series is run over the whole season (September – March) and you accumulate points on each pony in the FMG Pony Grand Prix Events at competitions all over New Zealand throughout the year. I also won the national series on Wilful last year (2006/2007). The pony and rider who have accumulated the most points at the end of the year wins this prestigious series. My main goals at the start of this season were to win this series and win Pony of the Year. I am so stoked to have won both of these, and almost overwhelmed to have come first and second in the Pony Grand Prix Series on my two ponies. Overall I could not have wished for a better season.

Tess and Mathew

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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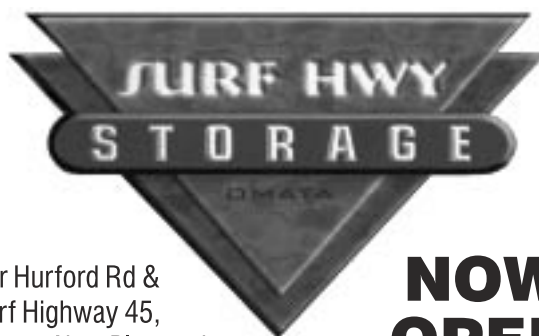
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Oakura School's new Head Pupils



Each year four Year 8 pupils are selected to be the Head Pupils of Oakura School. They provide the school with leadership in a number of ways – running assemblies, welcoming guests to the school and representing the school out in the community. The Head Pupils are elected by both students and staff. We are happy to introduce this year's Head Pupils – Keegan Bruckner, Mason Farrant, Renee Landers and Jessica Clark.

Keegan is twelve years old. He enjoys playing the guitar, rugby, tennis and surfing. He also plays in the under-45kg rugby rep team. He believes being Head Pupil will help him develop good leadership skills for later in life.

Mason is twelve years of age. He plays basketball, and he is in the under-13 Taranaki cricket team and under-13 rep rugby league team. He hopes that this role will prepare him for when he goes to New Plymouth Boys High and will give him that extra bit of confidence.

Twelve-year-old Renee enjoys basketball, dancing and drawing. Her favourite subject at school is art. She wanted to get this position to try something new and to give something back to the school.

Jessica is also twelve years of age and will attend Spotswood College next year. Jessica said she wanted this position so she could be a role model and a leader to the younger students of the school. In her spare time she enjoys dancing, piano, drawing and shopping.

We look forward to the role these head pupils will take on at Oakura School for 2008.

Marae visit 2008

On 28 February Oakura School made their way down to the marae to be welcomed on with a powhiri. When we arrived at the marae we found a group of people talking quietly and getting ready for a long day full of activities, eating and speeches. As we shuffled into a rough circle, we heard the haunting sound of the karanga. Everyone started to move through the wooden archway and we approached a line of people so we could hongi and start the speeches.

Although it was hot and we were hungry, the welcome is a very important part of Maori culture, so we endured the heat of the sun and listened. When it had finished we were very glad to get into the shade and have a bite to eat. The potluck lunch looked beautiful and we dug in with relish!



Ray Priest kicks off the Marae visit.

After lunch the group activities started. They included the taiaha, poi, rakau sticks, haka and waiata. We changed around activities, so that everyone got a turn at each. Once we had completed the workshops, we unfortunately had to start the long walk back to school!

Oakura School visits the marae every year to celebrate New Zealand's culture and to learn about and respect our community's marae. The marae visit has been an annual school event for over fifteen years and is still an integral part of our school curriculum.

We would like to thank all those people who made this day possible, with special thanks to Dave and Kath Hare and their helpers who organised the activities, Ray Priest who coordinated the event, and Mike Ure and the local community members who supported this event.

Max Hardie Boys & JG Coughtrey

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On Wednesday the older children from both groups combine for an extended four-hour session. This session provides new challenges for the children – new friends, a longer session time and managing the lunchtime routine.



The children helping Eleanor make the Potato cakes are: Adam, Nikola and Taylor.

Cooking is a regular and very popular activity as well as games and projects that promote the development of basic mathematics and literacy. The children bring a packed lunch and drink to this session. For many, this is one of the most exciting parts of the morning. After washing their hands and finding those special friends they want to sit next to, the children begin to enjoy their lunch – often sharing food and experiencing new tastes. This activity helps the children slip easily in to the lunchtime routine of school and prepares them for the challenge of independent eating. We hope that by including these activities in our Wednesday Group the children are supported in their transition to the big new world of "school".

The TOM thanks Gill Gibbons for her kindy contributions and wishes her all the best in her move up to "school life!"

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What's on:

April

- 10th Playgroup 9-11am
- 14 -15th Young Leaders Conference
for Year 8's in Wellington
- 18th Term Ends

May

- 5th Term 2 Begins
- 8th Year 1 and 2 Ball Skills

Lead Pupils and Our School Ambassadors

Congratulations to our 4 lead ambassadors this year, Laura Anderson, Candyce Shotter, William Jones and Louis Ferens. They are settling in to their leadership role and stepping up to take on new challenges. It has been wonderful to hear them coming up with new initiatives, such as being support buddies for the new entrants on their first day of school. Our Lead Ambassadors head the student council as well as a team of year 7 & 8 ambassadors who do a fantastic job of organising activities for lunchtimes and supporting others in the playground. They all underwent training earlier this term in mediation skills. We really value the work done by these senior students; the responsibility they demonstrate and encouragement that they give to the younger children.

We put great importance on having an active, collaborative and supportive environment for our children and these lead ambassadors are both learning and demonstrating these values. Well done and we are looking forward to the Young Leaders Conference at the end of the term and their report back to the TOM next month.

Karen Brisco



Left to right: School Ambassadors, Kristina Hunt, Bailey Hooson, supervising skateboarders, Bailey Benton, Cameron Stewart and Nick Parthemore.



Ambassadors getting the weekly assembly ready - Regan Jeffery, Bodean Steer and Logan Clark.



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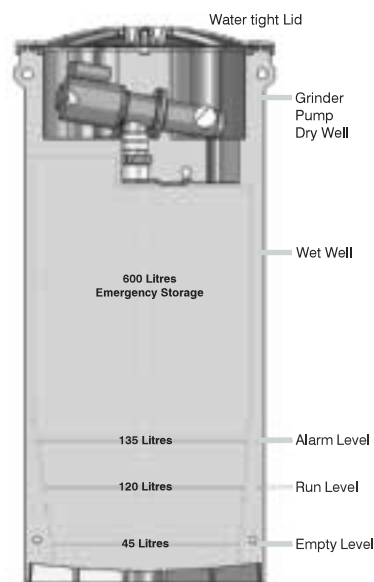
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clubs & groups calendar

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Farmers Market Taranaki

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Plunket Coffee Mornings:

Wednesday, 9.15am to 11.00am (please arrive before 10.00am) in the Oakura Board-riders Club.

Mini Groovers:

Tuesday mornings 10.00am at Oakura Hall.
Gold coin donation.

Playcentre

Playcentre, Donnelly Street
Monday and Wednesday, 9.00am to noon.

Omata Playgroup:

Every 2nd Thursday. Next meeting 10 April, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. All parents and preschoolers welcome.

St John's Omata:

Morning worship 10.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

St James Church Oakura:

Morning worship 10.00am 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Kung Fu:

Monday & Thursdays 6.00-7.30pm for 12 years and over.
454 Plymouth Rd, phone Joanna Smith-Holley 752 1016.

JKA Karate

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

Yoga:

Tuesday evenings 7.30 - 9.00pm, Sat mornings 9.00 - 10.30am.
Beginners welcome. Phone Sarsha 752 7977.

Oakura Art Group

Tuesdays 9.45am to 12 noon, February to late November
St James Church Hall.
Contact Pat Smith on 752 7515.

Senior Citizens:

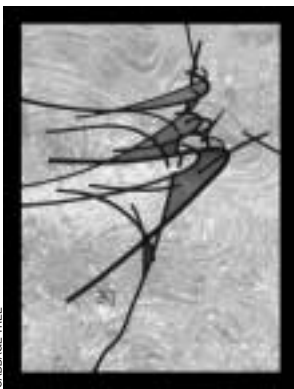
Meet Tuesdays in St James Church lounge for cards and bowls. All welcome, phone 753 5705 for enquiries.

Indoor Bowls:

Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Ring Mike Vickers 752 7881.

Country and Western Club

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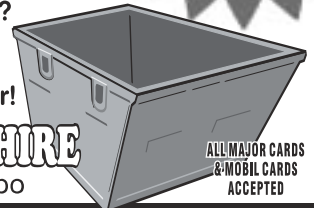
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