

TDV

OAKURA

APR 2016

BOOKMARK ART

Bella Moodie with her winning entry
in the Puke Ariki & District Libraries
bookmark competition.

More on page 3



Leo Baas

Lifestyle & Rural Specialist



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TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

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

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Do you have a story of local interest that you'd like to share with the readers of TOM?

Phone 0800 THE TOM or click "contribute" at www.thetom.co.nz

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EDITORIAL

I am reminded once again this month what a fabulous place we live in - mainly because the people are fabulous.



I had the privilege of meeting C Grace Lewis who has published a book about being actively conscious in our day to day life, for the benefit of the community. A great reminder about positivity.

I then met with the boys from Naki Cloud who are wanting to provide Oakura residents with the very best internet service possible - they are not in it for the money alone. I love to come across businesses, clubs, groups and individuals with a altruistic endeavour.

There's the Kayak Fishing Classic who donate their funds to a community cause. And last month Oakura Hair Salon's Rachel Kruger was on TV with her good deed of helping farmers as was Ayla Dunlop-Barrett with her free swimming lessons. As you read through the TOM you will come across many mentions of people doing something worthwhile.

The Mayor is calling for citizens to nominate people quietly working away in the community for a Citizens' Award. The acknowledgement is a fine sentiment.

Our community is clearly full of people working quietly away in the background (and foreground) for the good of others and I hope we never lose that quality.

Kim

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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi everyone.

Kiwis are well known for being down-to-earth sorts. When something needs doing, we get stuck in and get it done without any fanfare.

In some ways this is an admirable quality: people do good works for the benefit of others, not for themselves, and communities get to enjoy a range of events, facilities and services without having to wait for a regional or national body to decide to get involved.

But there are times when we should put aside our reticence and say a public 'well done' to those who have served their community for a long time, or who have been part of an act of heroism or bravery.

With this in mind, I encourage you to nominate someone for the Citizens' Awards 2016.

These quiet workers are often those who don't seek the limelight but whose significant contribution have benefited a great many people.

Think of those who have been the driving force behind community projects, or who have been a key part of a group for a long time – those people who, without them, an event or a development or an organisation would stumble and, perhaps, grind to a halt.

Be sure to give them the congratulations they deserve by putting their name forward for a Citizens' Award.

Up to 12 awards will be given this year. Nomination forms are online at newplymouthnz.com/awards, and also at Oakura Library and the Civic Centre in New Plymouth.

Nominations close on Friday 22 April. Let's take this chance to celebrate our local heroes!

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Puke Ariki
MUSEUM LIBRARIES TOURIST INFORMATION



Oakura Library

This summer Puke Ariki and District Libraries held a bookmark competition for the third year in a row. Three entries were selected and made into bookmarks for Puke Ariki and District Libraries. It's been so popular that children are still asking about the competition. Bella Moodie won in her age division with her entry "The Tree of Knowledge" and James Garner's entry "I love the sun" was highly commended. Congratulations! Check out our display of all the entrants' art work. Based on the entries it would have been such a challenge for the judges to pick just three.



James Garner proudly accepting his gift at bookmark prize giving.



Bella Moodie proudly showing us her bookmark.

Join us on Wednesday 13th April at 3:15 for a family friendly book launch. Local author C. Grace Lewis will be here to introduce "Conscious Living Shortcuts For You and Your Family". Her book "contains tools that support awareness and transformation for adults, teens and children".

Crackerjacks, pre-school story time will be held on Thursday 21st April at 10am. No booking needed. Last month our theme was friendship. And the children decorated some beautiful masks. Great way to meet other parents/caregivers, too.

Our school holiday programme will be on Wednesday 20th April at 10am-11am. Join us to create a mountain landscape inspired by Puke Ariki's exhibition Ko Taranaki te Mouna. Bookings essential.

"Anyone who says they have only one life to live must not know how to read a book."

Author Unknown

Happy reading,
Charlie and Vincenza

Working to Improve the Lives of all New Zealanders

We all know to run good businesses and community organisations we need to set goals and targets. This is true even in our own lives, whether it be setting personal goals or vocational aspirations, having clear targets of what you want to achieve means you can measure your success or how far you are from reaching your goals.

This is no different to Government, and it is imperative we know what we are wanting to achieve so we can regularly measure how well we are doing and what we need to continue to do to improve the lives of New Zealanders.

Nearly four years ago the Government set 10 challenging targets for the public service to get better results from taxpayer's money. These are referred to as the Better Public Services targets.

These targets are keeping ministers and agencies accountable and are helping to reduce long-term welfare dependency, support vulnerable children, boost skills and employment, reduce crime and improve interaction with Government.

We are the first administration to set public targets to be measured against, and our progress is reported every six months. The latest update confirms we are heading in the right direction.

An example of these targets in the Education sector is where we have seen more young people getting the qualifications they need to go into employment or on to further study. In 2008, just 68 per cent of 18 year-olds had NCEA Level 2 or equivalent. Provisional 2015 results show 84.4 per cent of 18 year-olds achieved NCEA Level 2 or equivalent last year – on track to pass the Governments Better Public Services target of 85 per cent by 2017.

National has been focusing on improving performance in the schooling system to ensure every child has the opportunity to succeed. We want every young New Zealander to have the skills and qualifications they need to successfully participate in the modern economy.

However, despite crime in New Zealand falling to its lowest rate since 1978, our rates of family violence are appallingly high.

Last year alone, 100,000 incidences were reported to Police – around one every five minutes.

The National-led Government is taking action across the board to better protect families and victims of family violence.

Ministers from across 16 portfolios have come together to form the Ministerial Group on Family and Sexual Violence, which will oversee a whole-of government strategy for addressing family and sexual violence.

Within the justice part of this work, we're overhauling our family violence laws. Almost 500 individuals and

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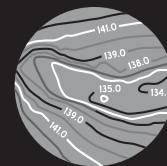
organisations made submissions on our discussion document. We're exploring options and will look to make announcements around our changes soon.

But it's not just about the law. We have improved judges' access to information in family violence cases by improving information sharing regulations.

A new disclosure scheme has also been created to make it easier for police to release a person's violent criminal past to a concerned partner or friend. This gives people the ability to do something to help protect their loved ones.

We are looking at introducing a new standalone strangulation offence that would have a maximum penalty of seven years' imprisonment.

National has been working hard to make Kiwis safer in their homes and communities. We're making good progress and will continue our relentless focus on preventing and reducing family violence.



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Kaitake Community Board

Well the warm weather continues, WOMAD has been and gone and as I write this Easter is looming over the horizon. Looking at the long-range forecast it appears as if the incoming wet weather will be over by Good Friday, so I do hope campers can stay warm and dry.

We have closed off the consultation period for the 'Oakura - A Growing Community' project the Community Board has undertaken in conjunction with a local Focus Group. The discussion document was out in the community for 16 weeks and we have been hugely impressed with the number of people who have submitted their ideas and perspectives on how they best see our community developing. We have received feedback from well over 100 folk. On behalf of the Board and Focus Group thank you for all your feedback and excellent ideas.

It has been a challenging community-engagement exercise but, nevertheless, a very important step in our resolve to provide local input to council officers as they go about the important business of reviewing the District Plan. While the Board and Focus Group have no decision-making ability in that process we are hopeful our work will be taken seriously. We have all been impressed with the way we have been able to work in partnership with council officers to get to this point. Our next step will be to appraise all the information we have received and develop a document for council officers. This will be presented as a formal response from the Kaitake Community Board. It is important as well to pay tribute to members of the Focus Group who have made so many important contributions to the project. These folk all have very busy lives and have made a community commitment that is quite outstanding. Recently I attended a Ministry for the Environment workshop about the government's proposals to improve the management of fresh water in New Zealand. The aim is to support local communities to identify and test solutions that meet their own challenges, but within a national framework. Everyone understands that fresh

water is our greatest natural and economic asset and in the past 30 years water pollution has reduced from point of source discharges from factories, local body sewerage schemes and dairy sheds. However current management is not working in dealing with the more difficult problem of diffuse pollution. This includes nutrients, pathogens and sediments from intensive farming and from urban stormwater run-off. The proposals are works in progress to put in place proper measures to improve water quality and prevent any further deterioration of our lakes, rivers and aquifers. A large group from throughout Taranaki gathered for the meeting and three of our district's four community boards attended. Personally I was alarmed to find only one Taranaki Regional Councillor there and no NPDC councillors present. Improving the management of our fresh water is a long-term task and with the further devolution of decision-making to territorial authorities through regional and district plans in land use and resource consenting it is imperative decision-makers have an in-depth understanding of this critical issue.

Our thanks to Sarah Ashworth for her ongoing efforts to get some action on safer speed limits in and around Oakura. She has worked long and hard on the issue. Thanks also to Patti Wolfsbauer for organising a petition on the subject, it has been very well supported. The council's roading team and I met recently with Dan Tate, the senior safety engineer from NZTA, to detail the community's concerns. The outcome was that he pledged his organisation would have a serious look at the issue, focusing on the eastern approach and exit from the village, the Oakura Pa entrance and the Corbett Park-Victoria Road-passing lane area. Doing nothing is no longer an option.

Finally don't forget to regularly check the KCB Face Book page. To date this year we have reached over 14,000 Face Bookers with our biggest uptakes being the Oakura School's jubilee celebrations when a total of 3,200 people were reached.

Well that's it for this issue. Ka kite ano.

Doug Hislop (7527324, douglashislop@gmail.com) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead and Richard Jordan who is the Council representative on the KCB.

Ladies!

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From Pieces of Paper to Print - a Conscious Choice

A local woman has taken what was once an unconscious response of scribbling notes to a practical conclusion - a published book with the conscious thought of helping the community.

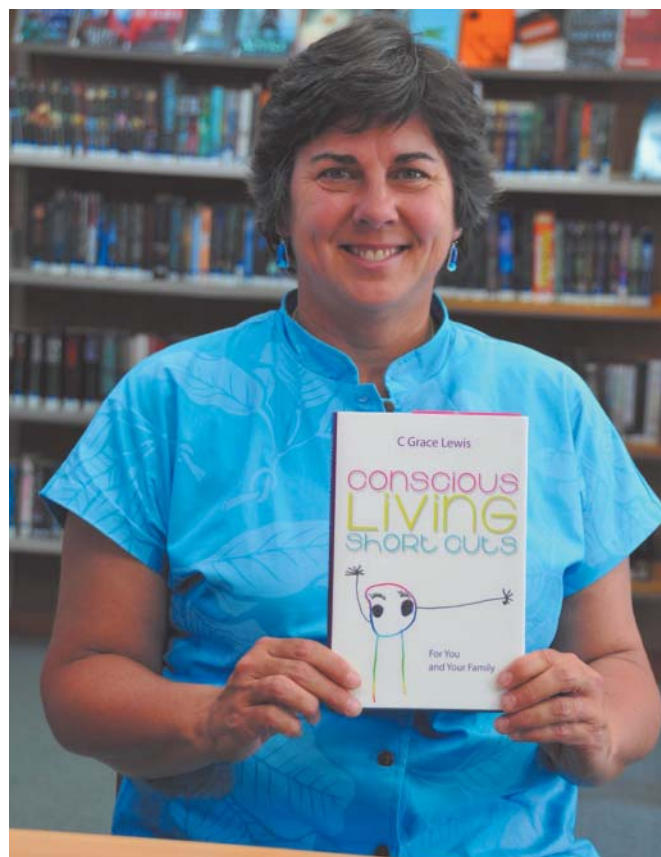
Conscious Living Short Cuts is the start of the life works of C Grace Lewis and the book is being launched here in Oakura at the library on 13 April at 3.15pm.

The book is a great read and a great resource for everyone in the community. I wish I had it at my fingertips when my children were little but it has some great tips for everyday life with or without kids.

Conscious Living Short Cuts could seem at first glance just a collection of what we all know instinctively - and it is - but how often do we act by reflex rather than instinct? We forget to trust our instincts and C Grace has encapsulated these instincts plus many more valuable tips for a conscious minded, community minded and positive existence. I very much appreciate having these things brought to my conscious mind. For example C Grace suggests rather than grumping at the housework chore give thanks for the convenience of being able to use such wonderful inventions as the toilet, shower and vacuum cleaner!

C Grace had always been a scribbler of notes - if some technique, attitude or game worked in her daily life then she would scribble it down until one day she realised she had piles and piles of notes. Thus a book was born. For C Grace the goal was to do something that supported the community and would be fun for everyone to do in a simple way. C Grace describes it as highlighting all the good things in life (while still being conscious that not every experience is good). C Grace acknowledges there are many good things already in the community and great resources to be found but she describes her book as a handbook that pulls all the good things together.

Conscious Living Short Cuts pools many resources including C Grace's family with husband Donald and daughter Hogan editing the book and son Kaye who helping set up the conscious living website, friends who helped with artwork and design, the family of course being



C Grace with her very first inspirational book.

guinea pigs for all the notes, probably everyone who C Grace has encountered (friends, colleagues, shop assistants, road users to name a few).

The family have lived in Oakura for 11 years and while America is their birth place, they now call New Zealand home - its a perfect fit for their conscious living lifestyle and to write inspirational books for the community.

C Grace has a Bachelor of Science, Doctorate of Law, has worked as a farm worker, prison minister, massage therapist, teacher for gang kids and organic food co-op manager to name a few.

The book can be purchased through the website www.bookdepository.com or can be checked out at Oakura Library as they a few copies on hand.

C Grace would love to see you at her book launch so do drop in on 13 April 3.15pm Oakura Library - children welcome.

by Kim Ferens



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Black Magic Grooming

My name is Allie Black, and I am the former owner of The Groom Room in New Plymouth which I sold when I was pregnant with my second child. There was no way to keep the busy salon running and disappear for maternity leave!



Allie with one her "clients".

I have now set up a new dog grooming business called Black Magic Grooming at 917 South Road, on the stretch of South Road between Oakura and Okurukuru Winery.

My husband and I made the decision that it would be much more practical to groom from home and so Black Magic Grooming has been set up. We have converted a garage to a customised dog grooming studio where dogs can be groomed in a quiet rural setting. Dogs that come will not need to wait in a crate, they will be groomed by appointment on a one on one basis. Having run a busy salon it is actually a great joy to be able to take my time and groom dogs at a slower pace, really focussing on the dogs needs and giving a top quality finish every time.

I am happy to offer a pick up/drop off service within the Omata/Oakura area so anyone working or elderly clients who struggle to get their dogs to the groomers can let me take care of the whole process.

Full grooms include nail trimming ear plucking (if required) bath, blow dry and clipping and scissoring to the desired finish. Prices for full grooms start from \$50

Telephone 021 176 0438 to book your precious pooch in for a pamper.

Allie Black

Alice is Coming!! Alice is Coming!!

Mark your calendar now – May 6, 7 and 8 for the Val Deakin Dance Theatre's magical and exciting production of *ALICE IN WONDERLAND* – a treat for all the family – and not to be missed!

Full of all the familiar and loved characters from the Lewis Carroll story – Alice is filled with fun and colour. Alice – who comes in three different sizes! - in her blue pinafore dress, a White Rabbit always being late and looking at his watch, a crazy Caterpillar, a cheeky Cheshire Cat, a grumpy Cook, a disgruntled Duchess, a terrifying Queen of Hearts (Off with their Heads!) and many more make up this ballet filled with over 30 characters bringing the lovely story to life.

Magical choreography by Val Deakin captures the excitement of both the story and the music by a collage of French composers – their charm, wit and comedy.

A large and varied cast will present the story in a way that will appeal to audiences of all ages – some enjoying the colourful and fantastic costumes, some the range of lyrical to folk dancing, some the wonderful music.

Performances will be at the Val Deakin Dance Centre, 306 St Aubyn Street, New Plymouth (opposite Mitre 10). Family priced tickets are available from the door, or by phoning 752 7743 (after 9:30 am).

The Dance Centre venue is wonderful for allowing all facial expressions to be seen and for the audience to feel part of the action – but tickets will be limited, so be quick!

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SPORTS



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Adam Collins shed the dreaded “bridesmaid’s tag” with a close and hard fought win over Jim Priest in the President’s Trophy final. Priest took control of the game early; however Collins, who has played in every Club Championship final this season, was not going to be denied his first title for the year and finished strongly to take the game 21-16.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPION RESULTS

Allan Bridgeman produced some career best bowls to reach the semi-finals of the Taranaki Centre Champion of Champion Singles competition. Bridgeman led Darren Goodin (gold star multiple centre championship winner) for the majority of the match and fell agonising short of victory as Goodin won the match in a 21-20 thriller. Well done Allan the club is proud of your achievements and congratulations on a great year of bowling.

The Oakura Championship Fours combination of (Allan Bridgeman, Bruce Jackson, Kevin Gray and Roy Phillips) and Junior Singles representative (Steve Muller) were both eliminated from their respective competitions in first round games.

INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

A win ratio of 75% has Oakura off to a great start in the Thursday Wanderers competition. Selectors, Brian Wickham and Roy Phillips, are both keen to duplicate their great Avery Cup success and keep the winning culture alive at the club.

The New Plymouth Combined Clubs tournament was played over three days in late March with over 30 teams contesting this mixed fours competition. The Oakura players had a successful tournament with the Jim Priest and Allan Bridgeman team finishing fourth while the Colin Roberts and Steve Muller team finished sixth.

Three local tournaments that will be worth watching in April are: (1) the Oakura 3 bowls optional triples on Saturday 9th April, (2) the popular Okato men’s fours played over the weekend of April 23rd and 24th and (3) the Glen Valley Joinery sponsored triples event played on club closing day April 30th.

CLUB NEWS

All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality and social side of the club on Friday evenings from 4.30pm till 7pm. There is a weekly membership draw and as always Laurie Johnsen will entertain the crowd with his Friday funny (joke of the day). The club is situated behind the Oakura Community Hall.

A special mention goes to Ted Barrett who after 17 years has decided to relinquish his green- keeping responsibilities for the next season. The club would like to thank Ted not only for his 17 years of commitment to the club but also his contribution in making the Oakura green one of the best in Taranaki.

The Underarm Bowler



KAYAK FISHING CLUB

THE CLASSIC IS NEARLY HERE!

The Kayak Classic is nearly here and promises to be the best yet with a massive prize pool and lots of entertainment for the public. For the first time a fun landbased event - surfcasting with the snapper challenge. Enter online at kayakfishingclassic.org.nz or pick up an entry form from Heydon Priest or Oakura Holiday Park.



Garry and club president Rob, with the \$3000.00 jackpot cheque for the first angler to catch all 8 species at the Kayak Classic.



Leyton Cave with a good haul.

We are holding a fundraiser for the Taranaki Rescue Helicopter with music and entertainment for the whole family. Egmont Seafoods will be on hand to fillet the catch, and Sushi Ninja will be making delicious sushi.

We have entries from as far away as Australia and all parts of New Zealand. The venue is Butlers Reef, the dates 16/17 April.

Game fishing has been the star for the last couple of months with record numbers of marlin being landed, bottom fishing has been patchy but is starting to come on now as the water starts to cool. Snapper are starting feed hard at the 20 metre mark with good hauls landed over Taranaki Anniversary weekend.

Garry

Oakura Pony Club

Summer and the competitive season for horse riders, is almost over. Our club members, past and present, have had a great season and no doubt look forward to a change in routine and less frantic activity in the weekends ahead. Most of the big events are finished and some of these horses will now get a holiday in their paddocks, a few weeks off to rest and recuperate before training begins for the next season.

But for others it's the start of the hunt season, a social and exhilarating way to keep the general fitness up during the winter months and we have several enthusiastic and generous landowners in the region who open their properties for the enjoyment of riders and their horses.

I am ever appreciative of the motorists and cyclists who patiently slow down and pass with great care when we are out on Surrey Hill and Wairau Rds, on our way to the beach or Pony Club. We try to show our appreciation with a wave and a smile, especially when our particularly spooky grey pony unexpectedly leaps in the air and out in front of oncoming traffic because she's just seen the wheelie bin on the side of the road, or a bird flew out of a tree, or she thinks the pink rubbish bags are about to eat her, every Friday.

And I'm also appreciative of the depth of knowledge, experience and expertise there is in our village. Equestrians are a generous and enthusiastic group, happy to share and encourage at every level and unfazed by the hard work that is always involved in anything to do with their sport. Being surrounded by these coaches and athletes, some of them exceptionally talented, is tremendously inspiring for those who are more recent converts to the sport. And to see them at their toughest show, Horse of the Year, in 31degC, early March Hawkes Bay heat was a privilege.

Our pony club was well represented by two very successful riders who both rode against a large field of tough competitors. Isabella Hibell placed 3rd with her pony PJ in the 1.05m show jumping and 2nd in the 1.10m. Rylie Matchett placed 4th in the Showhunter Pony Equitation 90cm and 3rd in the Showhunter Handy Hunter on the lovely Kobi.

Oakura can bask in the reflected glory of several locals who had an extremely successful few days in Hastings also, some of whom are past pony club members.

Mathew Dickey placed 1st in the Show jumping Premier Stakes Grand Prix 1.45m and 2nd in the 1.35m. For those not really familiar with the sport, 1st at HoY means nationally first, as in the best in the country. His winning the Tom Gadsby Memorial Trophy was hugely exciting for his family and supporters who have watched Mathew, ex Oakura School Head Boy and Oakura Pony Club rider who not so long ago won the Young Rider National Champion at HoY, as he builds a career while continuing to train his horses, before and after work each day. He is a fantastic ambassador for the sport of horse riding but also for the village he comes from.

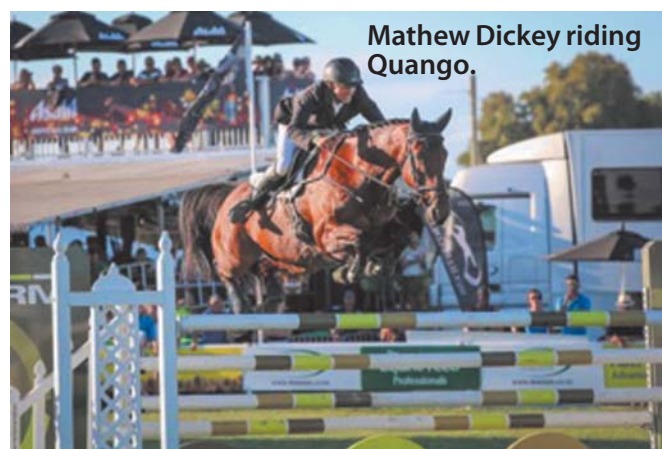
Molly Lumb, who still has the odd jaunt around the pony club arena, although as a volunteer coach these days, rode KH Arvan in his last ever event, an emotional retirement after Molly placed Reserve Champion in the Dressage Young Rider.

Abbie Deken rode her two huge geldings to place either 3rd or 4th in all 4 classes and the ever inspiring Vanessa Way took out Champion three times on each of her three enormous and spirited Hanovarians. Again, the best in the country, three times on three different horses.

It's this wealth of success and talent that our pony club can draw on in the seasons to come, helping our young athletes become the successes of the future.



Isabella Hibell with Pioneer Jade and Jiggy.



Mathew Dickey riding Quango.



Vanessa Way riding NRM KH Arion.



Abbie Deken and KH Ambrose.

PHOTOS BY CHELEKEN PHOTOGRAPHY.

GETTING WET

Oakura Boardriders



It's been a busy month with some work progressing on the club rooms as time allows and also with the club being involved with a few contests. The Skatepark planning is still ongoing and hopefully funding can be found and a start can be made.

Early in the month the 'Tinnies and Twinnies' contest was run at Stent Road. This is in its 2nd year and the brain child of local now Auckland based Simon Deken who is hoping to make this an annual event. The format involves a 70's theme with dressing appropriately and a selection of early 70's and 80's twin fins being used by the surfers. This is a fun contest with the emphasis on the fun aspect but as with any contest there has to be a winner and this year's honours was taken out by New Plymouth's Blanton Smith.

Taranaki Anniversary weekend is our Club Champs weekend and this year saw the senior divisions run in great surf at the 'back of stent'. The open division saw some fierce competition throughout the day with some tight heats. In the end Manu Schafer sneaked the win from Tyler Anderson in a close fought tussle in some of the biggest waves of the day with Ben Plummer-Butt and Eli Smith rounding out the final and a great day of surfing.

The next day saw the juniors have a fun day at Oakura beach with another big day of sun and surfing. All in all a great way to end summer after all the coaching and lessons run by the club team over the previous months.

CLUB CHAMPS RESULTS 2016

Boys U10

1. Kalani Watts
2. Boston Curd
3. Caden Watts
4. Kohen Hareb-Hine

Boys U14

1. Jack Mitchell
2. Simon Bond
3. Salvador Brebner
4. Henri Lehrke

Masters >35

1. Luke Florence
2. Chris Beecroft
3. Paul McFetridge
4. Rene

Girls U12

1. Carlyn Dashorst
2. Hinei Schafer
3. Ariana Schafer
4. Ruby Newton

Women's open

1. Ariana Shewry
2. Jackie Keenan
3. Caitie Lennox

Boys U12

1. Owen Ellington
2. Kalani Watts
3. Connor Andrews
4. Nate Florence

Boys U16

1. Zac Beaton
2. Simon Bond
3. Louis Newton
4. George Newton

Legends >55

1. Brent Anderson
2. Mike Hareb
3. Paul Lobb

Girls U16

1. Emma Dashorst
2. Taylor Mitchell
3. Hinei Schafer

Mens Open

1. Manu Schafer
2. Tyler Anderson
3. Ben Plummer-Butt
4. Eli Smith

The same weekend as the Club Champs saw the running of a Rip Curl Gromsearch in New Plymouth. Local Tom Butland won his division against the cream of the NZ Groms and reinforcing his claim as one to watch in the next batch of NZ Juniors.

*Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders,
President; Luke Florence, 027 493 0819
Secretary; Paul Lobb, 027 244 4297*



U16 girls.



Women's Open.



U12 boys



Men's Open.

Our 2015-16 surf season has all but finished with only the IRB Nationals left at the beginning of April at Papamoa. The last day of patrolling the beach was on Taranaki Anniversary Day. Thanks to all the life guards who put in many hours keeping the beach safe. See you all next year!

Our ocean aged kids (under 11 to under 14) headed to Mt Maunganui at the beginning of March to compete with 900 other competitors from throughout the country, four hot days jammed packed with racing. We had a team of 22 travelling over, all of whom performed really well with quite a few only just missing out on making finals. The kids have put in a lot of hard training over the summer so it was great to see them being rewarded with results they should be proud of.

Special mention to the following who made finals:

Lauren Tewhata	8th u11 Girls Sprints
Hunter Robinson	5th u11 Boys Flags
	4th u11 Run Swim Run
	5th u11 Diamond
	8th u11 Surf Race
	9th u11 Board Race
Daniel Johnston	10th u11 Run Swim Run
	10th u11 Surf Race
Fenton MacArthur	15th u11 Run Swim Run
	11th u11 Diamond
	15th u11 Surf Race
Jack Feaver	7th u12 Boys Flags
Jordan Grylls	5th u14 Girls Flags
Olly Spicer	19th u14 Run Swim Run
	7th u14 Diamond



Olly Spicer - cadet of the year.

Darcy O'Sullivan and Will Robinson - nip nip of the year,



Hunter Robinson - rookie of the year and most promising club person.



Hayley TeWhata - nipper of the year.



Jenna Barrett and Aimee Daniels - named in NZ Youth Squad

Oceans squad.



Our senior surf team headed to Ohope for their Surf Nationals. Around 1300 competitors took part in events both in and out of the water over the weekend, three days of solid racing in testing conditions. Well done to our team of athletes who have put in a lot of hard work over the season, particularly to Jenna and Aimee who placed as follows :

Gold - u19 Tube Rescue: Jenna Barrett & Aimee Daniels.

Silver - u19 Run Swim Run: Jenna Barrett.

Silver - u16 Surf Race: Aimee Daniels.

Special mention to Jenna Barrett and Aimee Daniels who at the end of the weekend were named in the New Zealand Youth Squad. Congratulations and good luck!

The junior surf season finished off with prize giving, it was a fun afternoon/evening on another beautiful Taranaki day.

2015-16 awards went to the following :

Nip Nip of the Year	Darcy O'Sullivan & Will Robinson
Runner up	Danielle Tewhata
Coaches award	Olly Tito
Nipper of the year	Hayley Tewhata
Runner up	Maggie Robinson
Coaches award	Ben Helms, Kingston MacArthur and Eva Martin
Rookie of the year	Hunter Robinson
Runner up	Lauren Tewhata
Coaches award	Fenton MacArthur and Isla Robinson
Cadet of the Year	Olly Spicer
Runner up	Jack Cleland
Coaches award	Rhys Donovan
Most Promising Club Person	Hunter Robinson
Overall Club Person	Olly Spicer

See everyone back next season, stay fit and swim safe.

Speedster's are our Local Heroes

Locally owned and operated IT company Naki Cloud has its heart firmly set in Oakura/Omata. Two of its shareholder/directors live in the community - Ryan Eagar and Michael Perrett - their children go to local schools and attend local clubs and participate in local sports and activities. Both families are keen to make a difference in their community and one way they choose to do this is by offering the best internet solutions to Oakura residents.



Damien Kiss (left) and Ryan Eagar.

Naki Cloud have done this by building their own high tech Data Centre in New Plymouth and staffing it with trained technicians. What most of us want (and most of us don't really understand the complex world of IT, fibre, broadband, VoIP, IPS etc) is to talk (and by talk I mean ring up and have the phone answered by a human being in our own country, preferably local) to someone (not in Mumbai or Manila) within seconds and not be placed in a priority queue for hours. Naki Cloud do this and who would have thought it would be a point of difference here in Taranaki!

So to understand what has been happening in our streets and neighbourhoods.

Ultrafast Fibre Ltd have built the broadband network (laying underground fibre optic cables) in Oakura (and New Plymouth) - a government initiative. UFF then sell access to that network to broadband providers such as Naki

Cloud. Naki Cloud offer an internet and home phone service to customers called Speedster.

A phone call to Naki Cloud would be the first phone call you make to access the new fast internet service and Naki Cloud arrange for the UFF crew to come and discuss the installation process with you which involves scoping your property for the best access to your house with the least disturbance. You are then placed in a queue for installation which is currently taking about 8 weeks. The cost to get ultrafast broadband to every home in Oakura village is zero - it is fully subsidised by the government. This government initiative is not always going to be available for free so residents should consider getting fibre installed while the free offer is available. It will add value to each property and of course provide fast internet.

Speedster through the Naki Cloud Data Centre ensures:

customers have continual high speed internet (no diminishing upload and download speeds as more people jump online)
top end modem supplied;
local technicians who are not call centre operators;
no loss of phone connection during changeover;
unlimited data;
unlimited back up service and help;
web hosting;
business packages;
future proofed network.

Damien Kiss is the Speedster sales manager and along with Ryan is passionate about providing high speed internet to customers in the community - being able to provide a high end product to happy customers is immensely satisfying to the pair. As Ryan points out, he has to live amongst the community and if you don't supply a good product then everyone will tell you in no uncertain terms!

The term Speedster most iconically refers to comic book characters (e.g. Flash) who have super human powers which they perform at super fast speeds. Ryan and Damien may not have super human powers and are not cartoon characters but they have ensured a super fast super reliable internet service for Taranaki people.

Contact Damien to discuss your ultrafast broadband requirements and find out how he can help you achieve lightning fast access to the www. As a bonus Naki Cloud are donating \$50 to the Boardriders Club for the skatepark for each household who sign up for Speedster.

www.nakicloud.co.nz, phone 06 2811686.

By Kim Ferens

FIBRE IS NOW LIVE! BE QUICK

Live life to the full – don't settle for slow internet.

Homegrown by Naki Cloud, Ultrafast Fibre is exclusively now available to the good people of Oakura. Owned and operated by locals, for locals. Get off the old, outdated networks, and take advantage of the government subsidised Fibre Optic service for decades to come!

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NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU



Swimming Sports

The school's annual Swimming Sports took place in late February. Congratulations to everybody that took part. The Champion House in Swimming Sports for 2016 is Barak House.

Work Day



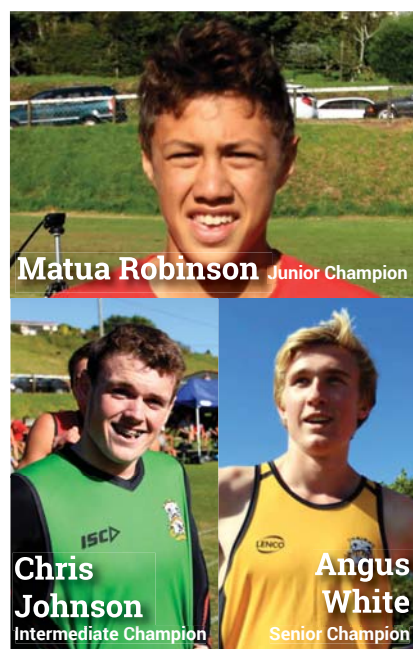
Thank you to all the businesses and parents who supported on Work Day. We have raised over \$30,000. This year the money is being used to support the School Council for sports and cultural travel and to create a recreation space on the old Carrington House site.

Professional Development

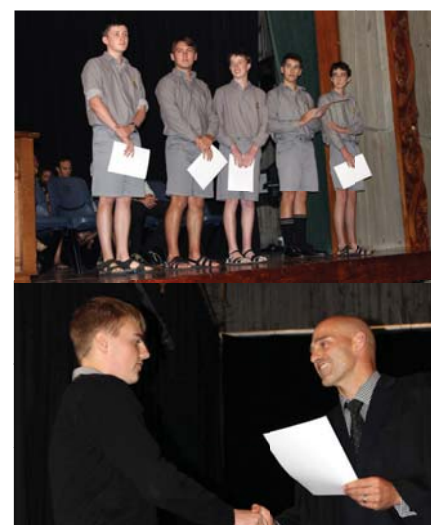
During the student Work Day, teaching staff had a professional development day, learning how to further use Google Classroom in their teaching. Google Classroom allows teachers to set assignments and provide resources for specific class groups. This allows further interaction between students and staff via open forums within class groups at home and at school.

Athletic Sports

Due to the TET Stadium being closed for renovations, this year the Athletic Sports were held on the grass surface on Webster Field. The winning house on the day was Syme House.



Excellence Assembly



We celebrated the achievement of our top performers in NCEA with a special Excellence Assembly with their parents on Monday 21 March.

Cricket Success

The 1st XI Cricket team with their convincing win over Wanganui Collegiate, are now in the Central Districts semi-finals for the national competition.

The Yr 9/10 Colts team are the Central Districts champions and are now in the Top Six in New Zealand.

Sports Cultural Period (SCP)

On the first Wednesday next term (4th May), period 5 will become a Sports and Cultural Period (SCP) for those boys involved in competitive sporting and cultural activities. Those boys not involved in SCP will be able to select a range of tutorial options.

Upcoming Events:

Full School Cross Country - Wednesday, 13 April

Full School Reports posted - 15 April

Term 2 starts - 2 May

Anzac Assembly - 2 May

Sports and Cultural Practices (SCP) starts - 4 May

IMPROVING THE FUTURE SINCE 1882



oakura school news

OAKURA JUNIOR TRIATHLON

On Wednesday the 16th of March Oakura School students from years 0-2 participated in a junior triathlon. The event was intense as children raced to the line, with big cheeky grins from ear to ear.

The turnout was spectacular with loads of parents and relatives coming to cheer their children on. It was amazing to see how many students gave it their all, with every child participating in at least one event. They were impossible to stop as their determination drove them to the finish line.

Firstly the students ran around the bottom field, then they hopped onto their bikes to race around the rugby field. Next they ran to the swimming pool and did a width (Year 1s) or a length (Year 2s), to finish there was a short run to the finish line where loads of other students cheered on the children.

Here are what some of the students said about the triathlon: "I enjoyed the running and the biking and felt happy as I crossed the finish line," said Occy from Room P.

When Ayana (Room Penguin) crossed the line she said she wanted to do it all again because it was so much fun. The running was her favourite.

It was a great day with loads of smiles and everyone already looking forward to seeing the triathlon next year.

Thanks to all the teachers for organising this annual event and making it so much fun.

Katelyn Haire (Age 12) and Theo Keenan (Age 12)



Ayana Johnson in the final run.



Benjamin Dixon - a happy triathlete.



The swim section.

New Oakura office opening this month!

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Oakura School 150th Jubilee Celebrations

Over the weekend March 4th-6th Oakura School, along with the past district schools of Koru and Kirihaui celebrated their role in the delivery of education in the Oakura District over the past 150 years.

Around 400 registrants gathered for the weekend of celebrations, travelling from across the country and overseas.

Events included a 'Meet and Mingle' at Butlers Reef on Friday night with the more formal celebrations being held at the school on Saturday morning.

Mayor Andrew Judd acknowledged the significance of the school in today's growing Oakura community. He noted that many small rural schools had closed over the last few decades but here we have one that is thriving. Growing from 16 original students in 1866, to today's role of around 350 students.

Jubilee Committee Chairperson, Claire White spoke about the school 'physically' acknowledging the 15 decades with the installation of 15 art sculpture poles and the planting of 15 Nikau palms in the schools recently developed Enviro Centre.



Some of the 15 art poles placed in the enviro centre - each representing a decade of the school - all school students in term four, 2015 participated in this project.



Above and left, details from the art poles.



Saturday night saw a casual 'Knees Up' celebration take place at Butlers Reef where 150 registrants were able to continue to 'Celebrate, Reminisce and Connect' with old friends, fellow pupils, staff and whanau.

The school's most senior student in attendance was Colin Cochran. Colin started at Oakura School in 1926 as a 5 year old and was delighted at the age of 96 to share cake cutting honours with the school's youngest pupil Phoebe Bennett, age 5 years. Phoebe represents the second generation in her family to attend the school.

All feedback from the weekend has been overwhelmingly positive and the future definitely looks bright for Oakura School. The school is looking forward to the challenges that the next 150 years will bring.



Dance highway 45 perform 'white dance' before the art sculpture opening.



Colin Cochran and his sister Atholie Guildford enjoy morning tea. Colin was the school's oldest registrant at 96 years of age.



Oakura School Kapahaka Group welcome registrants to the Jubilee.



omata school news

COMING UP

April

- 13-14 3D Conferences
school finishes 12pm both days
- 15 ANZAC Commemoration 11am - all welcome
Term 1 ends

May

- 2 Term 2 begins
Life Education this week
Puke Ariki Mobile Library 1:30pm
- 11 Y1/2 Movement Madness 1pm
- 12 Y3/4 Movement Madness 1pm
- 16 Puke Ariki Mobile Library 1:30pm

STUDENT COUNCIL

Our student Council had their first meeting for the year in March. The council is made up of elected representatives from the classrooms and our Lead Ambassadors. Members of the council this year are: Tim Hobson, Awa Lewis, Isabella Roebuck, Rockco Lister, Claudia Read, Kyarne Broughton-Pratt, Louis Hickson, Natalie Withers, Jack Campbell and Roxy Allen.

The council considers positive actions and learning that are happening around the school, areas of Health and Safety and things to be actioned or considered.

Summary of the points made at the March Meeting:

- The whole school had lots of fun participating in the triathlon with seniors helping juniors and on the senior camp out with the year 7 and 8 students hunting for the Gold-striped Gecko.
- Students are learning their limits to safely climb the trees and are playing responsible games.
- There is good cooperation in the sandpit and the skatepark is being well used.
 - Students enjoyed the pool and swimming displays; showing the skills they learned to their parents.
- Fonterra 'Milk for Schools' is being enjoyed by a number of students.
- Students excited about the winter sports starting soon
- We wish the inter-school swimmers all the best.
- Skate park cones are helpful in preventing students running through skate park when in use.
- Room 6 deck has some nails protruding.
- Cargo net is deteriorating.
- Newsletter could have a new name for example 'Omata Times'.

Minutes from the student council meeting are tabled and discussed at Board meetings and in class meetings. Often suggestions are acted upon or feedback given. This is a great way that students can have real agency and ownership of their learning and the school.



OMATA TRIATHLON

Students enjoyed participating in the school triathlon on the 26th February. Starting in the pool for the swim, children transitioned to the bike (or scooter), then on to the run with the ultimate slide in to finish! The afternoon was brilliant with many families coming along to watch.

Karen Brisco, Principal

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Spotswood College

JUNIOR CERTIFICATE OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

The JCEA is a new academic award that replaced the Certificate of Learning in 2016. It is an exciting opportunity to develop students' knowledge of the NCEA system in the junior school (Year 9 and 10) and help raise the aspirations of students in the junior school.

In a nutshell students get credits when they successfully complete assessments in their Year 9 or Year 10 classes. These credits accumulate and when students have gained 80 or more in their year level they have gained the JCEA qualification. Across subjects students will be offered between 16-20 credits, so we expect students to be offered around 140 credits across all their subjects. Credits can be achieved at an achieved, merit and excellence level. So for example in Social Studies, a student who completes an assessment that could be worth 4 credits can gain these credits at an excellence level.

Similar to the NCEA system, students who complete the JCEA and gain 50 or more credits at excellence level will gain their JCEA endorsed with excellence. Students who gain 50 or more credits at merit level can gain their JCEA endorsed with merit.

Also similar to the senior school, students who achieve endorsed with excellence or merit will receive badges that they can wear with pride!

In individual full year subjects students can be offered up to 20 credits, if a student achieves 14 or more credits at excellence then they will gain subject endorsement at excellence in that subject. If a student achieves 14 or more credits at merit then they will gain subject endorsement at merit in that subject.

Another feature of the JCEA will be the ability for parents to monitor the progress of their child over the course of the year. One way of doing this is students will be issued with a POUTAMA (pathway to success) through the year.

MEET THE YEAR 9 TEACHER EVENING

Thank you very much to the many parents and caregivers of our Year 9 students who attended the BBQ last month. It was wonderful for both parents and teachers to put faces to names. I was very impressed at how the Year 9 students coped with formally introducing parents to teachers – well done to you all.

Special thanks to our Head Prefects for cooking and serving the BBQ – a fine job; thanks also for the support of our Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

NEW ASTROTURF FOR COLLEGE

A project started by our HOD Sport Mr Gayton in early 2014 has now opened.

The \$135,000.00 project has seen four tennis, three netball and one basketball court covered in synthetic turf by the Auckland based company "Tigerturf". The complex also includes a two lane athletic track, one hockey field and a Futsal(Football) field.

The majority of the funding was received from grants by the New Zealand Community Trust (NZCT) and the TSB Community Trust.

This complex is a huge benefit for the College and the local community. Our PE staff will now have an all-weather outdoor facility available for classes and out sports teams will also use the arena for training and game purposes.

Our thanks go to Mr Gayton for the time and effort he put into the fund-raising and to overseeing the construction of the astroturf.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trustee elections will take place this year in May. Trusteeship is an exciting and rewarding job working to continually improve our school and assist our young people to achieve and be successful. Trustees need to be effective communicators who can work well in a team to achieve collaboratively defined goals.

Over the next few weeks further information will be published about the Trustee Elections. If you are interested please contact our school or visit [//www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee](http://www.trustee-election.co.nz/becoming-a-trustee).

As always if you have any queries or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me through our school office.

Mark Bowden, Principal

Drone shot of new astroturf courts.





COASTAL TARANAKI SCHOOL

The new year at Coastal Taranaki School has started with firstly welcoming a new Principal - Dr Janelle Mackenzie, who has come to us from Collingwood Area School. Dr Mackenzie is passionate about education and recognises learning as a life long journey. She is a highly experienced and motivated Principal who is enjoying her new role.

We have two new year 7 and 8 teachers - Craig Taylor who is an experienced year 7 and 8 teacher and Brooke Wylie who was involved with Taranaki Hockey last year and previously taught at Bell Block Primary school.

Ulla Page will continue working with our new entrants. Jayne Stevenson is working in year 1-3 and Sheree Kilpatrick is teaching our year 1 class.

All of our new staff have brought a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to our school.

SCHOOL EVENTS

We have been having a busy term. Both year 7 and 8 classes went together to Puniho Pa for a camp. They experienced team building activities and thoroughly enjoyed their time getting to know one another and their new teachers.

We have had a school swimming sports, junior and senior athletics and a year 7 and 8 Coastal athletics with Omata and Oakura schools.

Mrs Dowding's class have had a wonderful field trip to the Stratford Glockenspiel as part of their study about clocks and time.

The Life Education bus has been and the year 5 and 6 classes are preparing to go to Vertical Horizons for their camp.

The students have settled into new classes well. We are looking forward to watching them learn, achieve and experience success.

FIND YOUR VOCATIONAL PATHWAY... FIND YOUR CALLING

In an age where many students face an education system that binds them to following one road that may not lead to where they want to go, Coastal Taranaki School is empowering students to help create their own path. The school timetable has allowed the development of programmes intentionally created to prepare our students for a successful journey towards a career.

Under the guidance of Careers Advisor Kathleen Saso our students have been encouraged to look ahead to determine what they need to learn now to be best prepared for the challenges of an ever-changing workplace.

First Aid courses, health and safety qualifications and CV writing have been the beginning of this programme. Students have been placed in workplace situations designed to allow them to: explore their options, experience an authentic working environment and gain confidence.

There are high expectations on our students in these positions and they offer a realistic glimpse of the job market. We are really proud of all of them for having the courage to try something new this year, whether that is going out to

work at a new place, commit to a course at WITT, get on a city bus for the first time, meet new people or complete their CV.

Our students are undertaking a variety of new responsibilities and experiences. We have a group of students placed at the Warehouse, on local dairy farms, working at Heydon Priest, at Puke Ariki, at the City Fitness gym, at BTW and some are attending courses at WITT. There are many more placements offered to suit their skills and needs.



Grace Chapman doing farm work.

Trenten Fougere is working at Coastal Meat Processing this year. He is enjoying his placement. He turns up to work prepared, enthusiastic and early! The supervisor at The Warehouse is highly impressed with our students from Coastal Taranaki School because they are: tidy, responsible and proud in uniform, show up on time - ready to work and are respectful and friendly to everyone. This is an amazing opportunity for our students and their families to lead individual learning and create their own pathway.

Sharleen Valentine



Above , below - Happy kids at Coastal.





More happy Coastal kids.

T O M C L A S S I F I E D S

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. \$65.00 per cubic metre of pine wood. Delivery can be arranged. Phone 027 3794 621.

CROP SWAP OAKURA IS BACK! Come bring your surplus garden veg and fruit, home baking, seedlings, etc and take home something different. 1 May, Sunday, 4.00pm, Oakura Church Hall. Gold coin donation for hall hire.

Elaine S. Rollins c (64) 27 776 6209 h (64) 6 752 1081



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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

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.

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 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.

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

Oakura Tennis Club
Monday 9am-2pm - Ladies Midweek Competition.
Tuesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching.
Wednesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching / Hot Shots Tennis.
6pm-7.30pm - Ladies practice night.
Thursday 5.30pm-7.30pm - A Grade players practice.
Friday 4pm-8pm - Junior Interclub competition.
Saturday 9am-4pm - Soffe Cup and A grade Competition.
Contact Club Secretary, Jackie Mitchell on 06 752 7013.

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, Omata. Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School. Oakura Hall. Saturday mornings. Pre-school dance classes 9:30 - 10 am. Beginners' Ballet dance class 10.00 - 10:45 am. 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.

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

Yoga Classes. Oakura Church Hall, Wed at 9.15am, Fri at 6am, (call Kate to book your class), Fri at 9.15am. Everyone welcome. Contact Kate Evans 027 203 7215.

Zumba Fitness. Each Wednesday during school terms - 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Oakura Hall - everyone welcome, \$5 entry. Ph Ange on 021 222 9683 for enquiries.




Oakura Pony Club. Contact Robin King ph 751 0300.

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

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.

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