



# TDM

OAKURA

JULY 2015

**FIRE**

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**IVECO**

FGY586

## HOT NEW APPLIANCE

Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade proud  
of their latest acquisition.

*More on page 7*

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

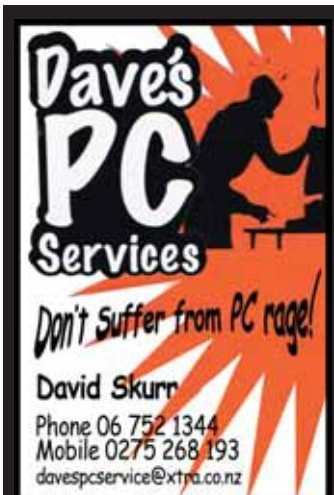
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## EDITORIAL

When you hear that mournful old fire siren wailing from along Dixon Street, followed shortly by the distinctive hoots and blares from the fire appliance as it heads off with



its crew to sort out another emergency of some kind, you can't help having a little heart skip, hoping that nobody is in danger, or injured, or worse.

It's comforting to know that the dedicated volunteers who give up their valuable time, ready to drop everything and race off when the call comes, are there to help protect our lives and property.

It's also great to see that the Fire and Rescue Service have an intelligent rotating system for keeping their appliances and equipment up to date and Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade have recently acquired a new (to them) fire truck with more modern equipment on board (see page 7) which will see them in good stead for the next few years. The photo of their new truck on the cover may just give us wee reminder for a while about how much we rely on their service in times of trial and trauma.

Another person who volunteers an incredible amount of his spare time to the community is Doug Hislop of Oakura, who helps run the Kaitake Community Board. He recently attended the biennial New Zealand Community Boards Conference and although some may find this a bit dry going, it's people like Doug and his colleagues on the KCB that we have to thank for their untiring representation to local government on our behalf – highlighting issues and outcomes that this community should be concerned about. His report is on page 4 and makes for some interesting reading.

Winter has her fangs bared, but I still see the odd hardy soul getting out for a surf along the coast. Some saying that it's still reasonably warm in the water. Yeah! Right! I'll take their word for it! With a bit of luck Kim will be back for next month and I can have a well deserved rest. I'm tired of all this power now.

Ron



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## Mayor Andrew Judd

Today (30 June), the Council meets to formally adopt the Long-Term Plan 2015-2025.

We already know what's in the plan after the Council made its decisions earlier this month – among them, to build a public toilet in Oakura's CBD.

This addition, among others, came as a result of submissions from the public on the draft plan. The Council saw the merit of having a public toilet in the town's commercial area so I'm pleased that it's been added to our work programme.

Thank you to everyone who made the effort to be involved in the consultation on this document.

If you went to one of our Shaping Our Future Together community conversations during the last year, or asked me a question online, or submitted your suggestions through the My Rates website or sent in a formal submission to the draft plan, you have played a part in shaping the next 10 years of our community.

The Council heard the very clear message that we had to walk a line between making savings where possible, but not at the cost of the district's progress. We had to make sure that the specialness of our district wasn't undermined by our decisions.

Finding that line has taken an extraordinary amount of work and required some hard decisions on our part, but I believe we have ended up with a 10-year plan that is affordable and will also continue to drive our district forward economically, socially and culturally.

We have a lot to be proud of here – not the least the willingness of residents to be part of the decision-making for our district.

After all, what we decide today will help shape a better future.

*Mayor Andrew Judd*

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## Birthday Party

Happy 25th birthday to Ōākura Library. We had a lovely celebration to commemorate the event. Our party was a great mix of old and new: early visionaries, past and current staff, volunteers, school staff, and library lovers galore.

Next time you are in, check out our display board. For many of you it will be a walk down memory lane. For others it will be interesting to see how we've developed over the years.

Crackerjacks, pre-school story time, will be held Thursday 16th July at 10am. No booking needed. Bring your babies, too!

E-books for everyone will be held Monday 27th of July from 4-6pm. No booking needed. Bring your devices in and our digital librarians will be on hand to show you how to borrow free e-books.

*Charlie and Vincenza*

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# Kaitake Community Board

Way back in 2003 I gave up going to conferences. Prior to then I had spent the past twenty years or so attending local, regional, national and international conferences, had been on the organising committees of several and was all 'conferenced out'. Recently however I had the opportunity to attend the the biennial New Zealand Community Boards Conference. Therefore after a 12 year hiatus I was pleasantly surprised to find myself at such a refreshing and uplifting event; a forum where every participant shared the common motivation of community service and making a difference at the grassroots level of New Zealand society. Invariably community board members live in and engage with their neighbourhoods, they understand local issues and can be a key component in local government decision-making.

Like central government, local government draws its legitimacy from Parliament and operates on the basis of an electoral mandate provided by citizens. Local government in New Zealand consists of 78 local, regional and unitary councils. There are 11 regional councils; 61 territorial authorities – 11 are city councils and 50 are district councils; and 6 unitary councils – which are territorial authorities with regional council responsibilities. The 78 councils have about 1600 elected members. The key elected members roles are mayors, regional council chairs, councillors, local board and community board members. Many councils have second tier or sub-municipal bodies which are also elected. These are the community boards or local boards. There are currently 116 community boards and 21 local boards across the country, with the local boards only operating in Auckland. While the average population per council is approximately 65,000 residents, the range between the largest and smallest council extends from 1.5 million residents in Auckland to 610 in the Chatham Islands.

There is no template for community boards. While they have the same mandate they are all markedly different in the way they operate. There are obvious geographical differences for the 116 boards from Te Hiku in the Far North District to Stewart Island in the Southland District but there are other differences too. Some have budgets, others don't. Some work in areas where there is mutual respect between themselves and councillors, others aren't so lucky. Some have easy access to council officers, others don't. Some sit on council committees, some don't. Some are an integral part of council meetings and workshops, others aren't. In spite of impediments to the way they can operate my conference observations were that members are intensely proud of their position at the very bottom of the local government decision-making food chain and few I spoke to indicated having 'higher' aspirations. They are inclined to remain locally focused. Councils exist to ensure our communities have a good quality of life – both now and in the future. That means that each local authority is not only obliged to identify what its communities need, it also has to demonstrate how it will fulfill those needs. Community boards play a large part in assisting councils in that role. So, what attracted my attention the most? I guess it was the overriding theme 'Influencing Change', touched on in some way or other by the keynote speakers and workshop presenters. Community boards need to be change agents rather than change inhibitors. It's about place-making at the local level.

"Community board members need to listen, enquire, ask 'why' five times, 'be real' with the community and always ponder is this for its betterment?" says Far North Deputy Mayor Tania McInnes.

"Community boards must ensure the community voice is heard," says Jacqui Dean - Parliamentary Private Secretary for Tourism and for Local Government. "And don't ever let community boards disappear under a representation review," she adds.

Davis Hammonds, Chief Executive of Thames-Coromandel District Council states, "Councils should work out what services/processes are the essential prerogative of council (all those tasks which can't be performed at a local level) and what services/processes are best driven by communities themselves."

"How well local government performs impacts on how well communities and citizens prosper and succeed," Local Government NZ President Lawrence Yule says. "Councils getting closer to communities through neighbourhood governance provides a meaningful say about what goes on in each."

"Local government isn't viewed as positively by the public as it should and could be," states Local Government NZ CEO Malcolm Alexander. "We, as a sector, intend to lift our performance through our new Performance Uplift Programme, which has been developed to address this."

Alex Hannant from Akina Foundation whose purpose is to grow social enterprise across New Zealand believes, "Having a values driven mindset is the best approach to building an engaged network that can access specialist skills yet manage costs."

A social enterprise is an organisation that applies commercial strategies to maximise improvements in human and environmental well-being - this may include maximising social impact rather than profits for external shareholders. After listening to Alex I believe social enterprise represents a powerful opportunity for councils to build a a district and regional economy that regenerates the environment and creates social foundations for people to thrive.

One of my recurring reflections during the ongoing restructuring of our Council has been will the new streamlined management realignment over-run local democracy, or can we have both? My view is that strengthening local democracy increases the value of any district council. Overarching decision-making remains at the council table but the rational and coherent information to assist high quality decision-making comes through a variety of community processes. As a colloquial example to emphasise that point; to make an important decision regarding Oakura Beach would you rely on recommendations from someone who's annual beach experience consists of a couple of fish and chip dinners at Ngamoutu Beach over summer, or would you engage with local Oakura locals who use the beach environment every day? Arriving at solutions from a distance only emphasises a 'one hat fits all' approach, where decisions, budgets and policy development are too centralised and remote from communities and their aspirations; in fact stymying the pace of local development.

With the current work being carried out here on the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Strategy I made a point of attending the workshop entitled 'Creating Child and

Youth Friendly Cities'. The presenter was Deborah Morris-Travers, National Advocacy manager UNICEF NZ. However her workshop centered around how community boards and councils could engage with youth rather than the more technical environmental issues embedded in the OSSR strategy. She spent some time talking about 'Map Your World'. It is a multi-platform project that puts the power of new technologies into the hands of young change agents, enabling them to map, track, and improve the health of their own communities – and then share their stories of change with each other and with the world. For example, using cell phones, youth can create customised surveys about public health issues or community issues of concern to them, and upload data at the moment of collection into a database that is linked to a digital online community map. The technology and the 'knowhow' is available in New Zealand from UNICEF NZ. Here, under the present climate of poor Council engagement with youth it could prove a useful tool.

I also attended Bonita Bingham's workshop 'Building Strong Relationships with Community Boards and Maori'. Bonita is a South Taranaki District Councillor and Chair of the LGNZ's Maori Committee - Te Maruata. She set the scene and presented her workshop in an unpretentious and non-threatening manner, but nevertheless helped those present gain a better insight into the nature of local Iwi/Maori organisations and provided sensible suggestions on how a community board can develop constructive relationships with Maori in their local areas. Many of her tips will be useful for our community board and I have already followed up on several. I understand Bonita has been appointed to coordinate the new Maori and Pasifika trades course to be run by Taranaki Futures where she will act as the 'go between' for trainees, their whanau, Witt, employers and industry. As a long serving board member of Education Taranaki (now known as Taranaki Futures) I know the real difficulties of 'connecting all the dots' with young Maori and Pasifika, their families and the various education providers and industry. I'm sure Bonita will bring a refreshing perspective to this work that will provide successful outcomes for all those involved.

Due to the Ultra Fast Broadband roll-out in the district (currently happening here in Oakura) I was particularly interested to hear what the Chorus Industry and Communications Manager Gerard Linstrom had to say. UFB will certainly give communities much faster broadband connections and download speeds than they get today, and will transform the way organisations and people use

technology and communicate. Most of the New Plymouth and Bell Block area has been completed, with remaining pockets to be finished (along with Oakura) by June next year. I understand the prognosis looks promising for a Waitara roll-out but not so rosy at this point for Inglewood. Consequently Linstrom's talk about the Otorohanga Chorus/community partnership was particularly interesting and maybe something for the Inglewood community to evaluate. This partnership enabled the town's industrial area to be 'ring-fenced', providing coverage for all its inhabitants. Consequently other industries and commercial activities situated outside the area have been encouraged to relocate to it. Indications are the solution is working well.

I certainly appreciated the opportunity to attend the conference and I thank Council for assisting me with funding to get there. As already stated it was a particularly invigorating experience. I have gained new insights into community leadership, have a better understanding of where Local Government NZ is heading, met some new and valued colleagues and have a ton of ideas buzzing around inside my head. In the mean time, while our councillors cogitate on representation, the Kaitake Community Board will continue working hard to stay relevant to its community.

Well that's it for this month. The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be at Okato on Monday 17 August.

Ka kite ano

*Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead and Councillor Richard Jordan who is the Council representative on the KCB.*

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# Breaking the cycle of dependency

## MP JONATHAN YOUNG

The National-led Government is committed to helping our most vulnerable improve their lives and those of their families.

We are working hard at taking a fresh approach to long-standing social problems including inter-generational welfare dependency and poor education.

To help us make the right decisions and investment of taxpayer money, we are using data to get a better understanding of the people who use government services and need our support.

For example, we now know the characteristics of some of the most vulnerable 1 per cent of five-year-olds. They are kids who have a parent who has been on a benefit for most of that child's life, has a criminal sentence, and there has been a welfare notification about the child.

Around 600 Kiwi kids a year are in this category, and over 20 years they create a pipeline of 12,000 high-risk children who are likely to become heavily dependent on government services as adults.

We know that three quarters of these kids will not get a high school qualification, four in 10 will have been on a benefit for more than two years before they are 21, and a quarter will have been in prison by the time they are 35.

On average these kids will cost taxpayers \$320,000 by the time they turn 35, and many will cost more than \$1 million each.

Now we know these things, we have a moral obligation to act.

We are reconfiguring public services to intervene earlier to help people lead more-fulfilling lives.

Under this social investment approach, we're willing to pay a bit more upfront to get long-term results for the most vulnerable New Zealanders.

We are finding that as we tackle the long-term social challenges that trap families in a cycle of dependency we also save taxpayers money, as these vulnerable families become less dependent on government.

Last year, we reduced the expected cost of supporting current beneficiaries over their lifetime by \$7.5 billion. There are 42,000 fewer children living in benefit-dependent households than three years ago. And there's been a 38 per cent drop in youth crime since 2011.

The flagship initiative of Budget 2015 is a \$790 million child hardship package, which provides more support for 160,000 beneficiary and working families with incomes below \$36,350 a year. This package includes greater work obligations for sole parents on a benefit. It also includes more childcare support for low-income families to help parents into work, education, or training.

Our approach is working. Our job is to stick at it.

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# The Big Red Truck

Hi All, its been a while since we have submitted an article. A timely reminder to everyone to have working smoke alarms installed in their homes, within the last two weeks in New Plymouth, occupants have been alerted to fires in their homes and have been able to escape without serious harm.

As it gets colder, remember the 'heater metre' rule, no combustibles within a metre of any sort of heaters/fire boxes/open fires, and install spark guards and barriers to stop little ones touching any hot surfaces.

## THE BIG RED TRUCK HAS CHANGED...

In late May the Oakura Brigade farwelled the 1985 Mitsubishi fire appliance (30 years old ) after years of service to our community. This appliance has been replaced with a 2010 Iveco, transferred from Tokoroa. The new appliance is a 5 speed automatic with ABS and all the modern safety features carrying 1800 litres of water and class A foam, compared to the 1350 litres of the old truck and has a slightly smaller pump output.

A subtle difference is that the pump panel is located at the rear of the appliance, not mid mounted. Gone too is the wooden-trussed extension ladder - to a modern aluminium AS Ladder. One massive change for the brigade members is that the breathing apparatus sets are no longer stored in the Cab, but in a side locker.

The Iveco is part of the NZFS' modern fleet and is on a cascading system, where the appliances are rotated through busy stations to less busy stations to see out the working life of 25 years, which means we will hold for at least 8 - 10 years.

The Oakura brigade members are proud to have the new appliance, as we continue to support our community. Keep fire safe over the Winter.



Out with the old ...



... in with the new.

## KIN & CO

FINE FOODS

## Deli-cious

Once again the food premises between the medical centre and the fish and chip shop in Oakura have changed hands. This time though, something special has appeared which I am sure that Oakura residents and visitors will take welcome advantage of.

Abbey Looker, with 'beyond the call of duty' support from husband Cam Mace, dad Grant and many friends, is opening a food store with a difference. Called Kin & Co, the plan is to provide retail deli style food, with prosciutto, chorizo, salami, pasture-fed Taranaki aged beef, free-range chicken, to-die-for organic cheeses, fresh green produce, organic flours, dried goods, quality oils, bread and all that you would expect from a first class deli; all of that, along with fresh, mixed salads, espresso coffee, etc, to take away.

Abbey and Cam have been working extra hard to get the store opened by the end of June, so hopefully, by the time you read this, all will be under way. It has also been especially difficult for the couple, as although currently living in Oakura, at the same time they have been in the process of selling their house in New Plymouth. Abbey advises against anybody opening a business and selling a home at the same time - far too stressful.

However, the advantages of youthful energy are prevailing and things seem to be on track for the grand opening.

Who could think of a more perfect addition to the Oakura Village shops?

Can't wait!

*Ron Stratford*



Cam and Abbey take time out for a damp photo call outside the new shop.

# SPORTS



## Kaitake Golf Club News

Another Hole-in-One! Most golfers think it's a miracle to have a hole-in-one once in a life time but to get 5! That is amazing. Frank Regan has done it again this time on the 9th hole. Congratulations.

**Mixed Open Stableford** – 34 golfers joined in a mixed social day on Sunday in May. This was an ideal opportunity for members to spend their Sundays on the course. This was a lot of fun and promised to be repeated more often.

**Womens Give-Golf-a-Go Day.** Five women came out and joined some of the members for 9 holes of golf on a Sunday last month and had a lot of fun. More are planned with some coaching beforehand. These will continue if the interest is there. Please phone Pauline Gray 753 4450 or Jacqui in the office for more information

### CLUB RESULTS

#### Mid Week 18 Hole Women

The mid-week certainly had their share of wet weather hence a few cancellations through May. We did get Nell Dickie 2nd round finished at long last and the winner was Robyn Robins with 66 Stableford points and Trudy McEldowney, with 60 Stableford points, was runner-up. The McCutcheon Cup was also played between Midweek & Weekend - Women Winner: R. Robins, runner-up: J. Gerrard.

Mid week ladies are now in their winter programme with 9.30am start time (this allows frost on greens to dry) and cancellations easier to decide on dark winter mornings

#### Weekend Women

36 hole stroke play.

Silver Division: Sheryl Richardson.

Bronze Stroke Play: Raewyn Hawker.

Bronze Nett: Diane Jones.

Ladies Trophy winner was Sheryl Richardson, with Diane Jones runner-up.

#### Mid week 9 Hole News

When your flights are cancelled and there's no sign of the fog clearing, the terminal can get pretty crowded. Bit like our golf the past 4 weeks - with a backlog of rounds to get through, our Tuesdays are becoming a little congested.

Completing the Top Dog competition and taking the win was Angela Hitchman and Jenny Clarke over Christine Alexander and Annette Cattle.

Flights are still waiting to find the successful pairing. Winning the Stableford competition whilst Top Dog was in progress were Heather O'Sullivan and Claire Chamberlain. Rookie player Susan Cottam found herself with her first Thursday prize.

Like round 1, Super 9 # 2 again had 3 tied for the win,

so on count back Yvonne Coxhead gets to take home the spoon.

Pennants have been played twice since our last publication. With the White team scoring the full 2 points over the Blue team at Te Ngutu, and also fairing well at Fitzroy, they have edged in to first place. A bye for the next round will see them stay on 9 but whether White can remain at the top will depend on the performance of the other teams. Well done to all players.

### Mens

No results yet as the Men play their rounds of Top Dog.

### Junior Golf

The number of juniors registered as Chippers now total 11. The weather hasn't been too kind lately but they are still getting out to play every second Sunday. They are enjoying using the new clubs donated by Taranaki Golf.

Any 5-12 year olds wanting to join or just come along to give golf a go are very welcome. Remember you don't need clubs, just come along. Contact the office for further information phone 752 7665.

### COMING UP

Wednesday 29th July Kaitake Monthly Open.

Andrea Jarrold, President Kaitake Golf Club

## GETTING WET



## Oakura Boardriders

The weather seems to have been atrocious and cold for weeks on end with the incessant westerly's continuing unabated, oh for a tropical interlude!

Things have been quiet on the surfing front as happens with winter's onset, but the clubrooms finally got the kitchen installed, thanks to Glen Johns Kitchen Design. The clubrooms are looking sharp and with a few finishing touches will be ready for many more years' service.

The skate park has got the go ahead, so a designer is about to be engaged and we can move towards getting the much needed new park underway. I know a lot of the kids are really looking forward to developments, so stay tuned for updates as they start happening.

The Club's mid-winter dinner is planned for Lahar in Okato this year, so by next issue this will have been held and hopefully enjoyed by all who attend. This is always a good night and one of the Club's traditions.

Our young surfers continue to do Oakura proud with Ariana Shewry placing 2nd in the Women's division of the Taranaki Champs and Tom Butland continues to punch above his age group on the NZ Grom circuit where he is competing with guys a lot older and getting through heats; both these surfers have big futures.

Internationally Paige Hareb had a recent 8th placing at the ISA World Surfing games in Nicaragua as part of the





**Some nice carving from Tom Butland.**

NZ team, including one 10 point ride, the highest of the contest. Paige has just finished competing in Los Cabos at the bottom of the Baja Peninsula in another WQS contest; the weather and waves looked great which is a contrast to home at the moment. She had a quarter final finish which is a good result she is still sitting well placed in the qualifying series and with a couple more good results will be well placed to be back on the dream tour next year.

I know all of New Zealand's surfers are following Ricardo Christie's fortunes on the WSL World Tour with great interest and he has had some encouraging results in what is a very cut throat arena. The Fiji pro is on at present and with Sky sport showing the contest live, it's great entertainment. Ricardo has been finding his feet with some big wins over more fancied opponents and with a bit more luck would have seen him doing even better.

Let's hope for some more settled weather and some snow for the remainder of winter.

*Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders.*

*President: John Shewry, 027 252 9190.*

*Secretary: Paul Lobb 06 75 27556.*

*Gary Bruckner, Surf Coaching, 021-119-6218.*

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# The Stony River Hotel Transformation



**The historic Stony River Hotel.**

Several people have commented to me lately that they have been really impressed with the offerings now available at the Stony River Hotel in Okato, and I recently had the great pleasure to meet proprietors Renate and Heimo Staudinger.

As most of us know, the hotel closed down a few years ago, but it has recently been brought beautifully back to life by this energetic and dedicated couple and offers a true respite from the vigours of daily life for visitors and locals alike.

The pub, built in 1875 by farmer Robert Gray, has had a fairly chequered past, reflecting the social needs of the community through the decades, more recently featuring some excellent live bands and topless waitresses – even jelly wrestling nights – in attempts to improve custom. However, times moved on and with drinking and driving discouraged, the historic country hotel finally closed its doors in 2012 due to falling numbers of patrons.

Two years ago though, Renate and Heimo took over the hotel and have injected new life into the old girl. The transformation is perfect, still maintaining that old-world charm that is special to so many elderly New Zealand country hotels; minus thankfully, the overwhelming smell of booze and tobacco. More importantly though, the business emphasis is not so much on being a watering hole for locals, but more a provider of fine food and beverages, in cosy, friendly surroundings, along with top quality and comfortable accommodation – all at very reasonable prices.

Guests from all over the world stay at the hotel, as well as from around New Zealand and Taranaki, but the locals are certainly not left out and are encouraged to pop in for a meal, or just a coffee, perhaps a wine. There are specials for families and children, Sunday breakfasts and lunches. Takeaways – no problem either! For a great night out, relax and enjoy live music and a meal in the intimate surroundings of the restaurant on Saturdays from 6.00pm.

Passionate about food, Heimo, formerly Chef de Cuisine at the Stratford Mountain House, utilises his wealth of professional experience producing a small, but high class menu for the restaurant, while Renate expertly oversees the front of house and management duties and with the help of their friendly and capable locally based staff, the Stony River Hotel, aka Stony River Country Diner, has been transformed into something Okato and indeed Taranaki, can be truly proud of.

In fact, TripAdvisor, one of the Web's most prestigious travel and dining guides has received such acclaim in reviews from patrons of the hotel and diner that they have awarded the business their 2015 Certificate of Excellence – rating a full five points. Now, that says it all!

Another nice touch is a collection of local art and crafts for sale: woolen goods, amazing felted scarves, pottery and more, as well as preserves made on the premises and locally produced honey.

Restaurant hours are Wednesday – Saturday 11:00am – late. Sunday 08:00am – late. Book to avoid disappointment, but you won't be disappointed with the result. There is also a facebook page where you can check out special offers.

*Ron Stratford*

## Stony River Country Diner

### EVENTS CALENDAR

**Cosy and Warm, Fully Licensed Restaurant and Mountain View Lounge**



#### Every Wednesday from 4pm

Come with us on a culinary journey through Asia with sticky, gooey, Pork Ribs, homemade Dumplings and Chilli Lime Dipping Sauce.

Fantastic Canton Duck, hot Ramen (soup) with Udon Noodles, Chicken and Pak Choy – just delicious and reasonably priced!



#### Every Thursday from 4pm

Relax in our warm and cosy Mountain View Lounge.

Share a bowl of homemade Wedges with Sour Cream and Tomato Chutney, plus your choice of two domestic Beers, for just \$15.00.



Or crunchy and spicy Beef Nachos, topped with Mozzarella Cheese plus your choice of two domestic Beers for just \$18.00.



#### Every Friday night tread your kids for FREE from 4pm!

Mum and Dad dine and for every paying adult, 1 child under 12 years dines FREE – 3 choices: Fish Bites with Chips and Salad; Chicken Nuggets with Chips; Kids Burger with Chips.

#### Every Saturday night from 4pm, with live music from 6pm

Come and sing along with our live musicians and enjoy beautiful Steaks and fresh Seafood, or just one of our amazing Burgers, or a bowl of homemade Wedges, or Nachos.



#### Every Sunday from 8am

Start a lazy Sunday morning with Stony River's famous BREAKFAST BUFFET for just \$15.00 – kids under 12 pay only \$9.50, kids under 5 are FREE.

Delicious home cooked Comfort Lunch Menu: 11.30 – 3pm.

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## LEARNING AT PUKE ARIKI

### *Puanga*

Recently, the junior students of Oakura School journeyed into the centre of New Plymouth and went to Puke Ariki. They went to learn about Puanga and how it is celebrated in Taranaki.

What is Puanga? Puanga is a Māori celebration that is always celebrated around the start of June as that is when the stars of Matariki and Puanga signal the end of one year in Aotearoa and the start of the next.

I also interviewed some children who went and this is what they said:

"I saw a shark!" said Leon.

"I saw some old guns and a Māori waka!" said Deangelo.

"I saw lots of beetles and bugs. I really enjoyed it!" said Angus.

Overall, the junior students' excursion was fun, enjoyable and educational. Puke Ariki is a great place to go and learn something new and straight over the street is the massive library. Maybe YOUR next trip will be to Puke Ariki; if so, you'll be in for a treat!

*Michael Gibbon (Age 12)*

### *Land Wars at Puke Ariki*

On the 15 of June the year fives and sixes got the amazing opportunity to go into New Plymouth and to visit our local museum; Puke Ariki. The students got the opportunity to learn about the war that took so many young men's lives, the first world war.

"It was exciting because we got to experience what the war was really like through role play," said one of the pupils after going to the museum.

All in all it was an amazing opportunity for the students to learn and they had a lot of fun whilst doing it.

*Melanie Bishop (Age 12)*

## YEAR 8 LEADERSHIP GROUPS

Year 8 students at Oakura School are appointed specific leadership roles based on their strengths and interests. At the end of Year 7 students apply for different positions with a Curriculum Vitae and letter of application. We are given plenty of opportunities to develop our leadership skills through developing projects and activities around the school. This is what we are up to at the moment.

## OAKURA IDOL

Do you have a talent? Well the students at Oakura School do!

The head pupils have organised an OAKURA IDOL to showcase all the amazing talents that we don't normally get to see. The head pupils will be judging and parents are welcome to come and watch from the quarter finals onward. So come on down with your singing voices and your dancing feet to Oakura Idol.

*Melanie Bishop (Age: 12)*

## ART LEADERS

There are a lot of art leaders this year, so we have split into smaller groups. Adam and Ruan are organising a mural for one of our walls of our famous landmarks - the mountain, the ocean and the sun; Daniel and Simon are organising a collaborative painting that all students in the school will work on; and Yulan and Emma are organising an Art Extravaganza - a two day event of simply art. It will feature art workshops with local artists and an art auction. The art leaders that are organising it are currently asking local artists to take part.

*Adam Bridges (Age 12)*



## Okato Playgroup

Starting from term 2, 2015  
we will be open every Wednesday,  
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# New Plymouth Boys' High School

We are delighted to report on 'some' of the many recent sporting and cultural successes of NPBHS.

## CULTURAL REPORT

*Strike Percussion* - Workshops were a great success with Tim Whitta commenting on how our boys had the attitude of giving things a go. Thirty eight boys (Years 9-13) have been offered the opportunity to play with *Batterie 100* in the Taranaki International Arts Festival

*Revolution* performed in assembly on Friday, May 23. This was the best show of its type we have had in the last 5 years - boys were completely absorbed as well as entertained.

*Mama Mia Musical* - We had three boys in this NP operatic society musical. Cast members, Whatu Ngatai Tangirua, Hamish Phillips and orchestra member, Fletcher Miles (keyboard).

Hamish Phillips (Year 12) selected for National Young Performers competition in October (dance).

Fletcher Miles 2nd in Junior Solo Music and Danny Jones 2nd in Senior Solo Music at Cultural Super 8's.

*Having Technical Difficulties* - Jordan Wood, Jarred Williams and Exequiel Bahamonde-Carcamo, won Best School Team in the Taranaki heat of the 48 Hour Film Festival (overall winners were *Camera Child* - NPBHS Old Boys Dwight Rawson and Kodie Murray, with Dwight also taking out Best Director).

Year 13 student Jacob Bond had his composition *Grand Festive Suite* played by the Taranaki Secondary Schools Youth Orchestra at the Taranaki Youth Orchestra Day.

Senior boys from Drama UP, James Murphy, Scott Whitter, Anton Baas and prefect James O'Donovan presented a rehearsed reading of NPBHS old boys' *1915 Letters from Gallipoli* in the Anzac Assembly, accompanied by Jacob Bond on the cello and with a soldiers' chorus of prefects and an evocative lighting design by Yr 9s Jacob Eliason and Neo Brookes.

Scott Whitter has won a leading role in the upcoming Carrie's Drama Group production of *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*.

## SPORT REPORT

There have been a lot of interschool exchanges recently -

### *Wanganui Collegiate School Fixture*

1st XV won 67-0.

1st Hockey won 6-1.

1st XI Football won 7-0.

### *Fielding High School*

1st XV won 33-28.

### *Auckland Grammar*

1st V Basketball won.

1st XI Hockey lost 4-1.

1st XI Football lost 2-nil.

Golf Team won.

Cross Country lost

U15 Rugby lost.



### *St Patrick's Silverstream*

1st XI Football won 4-1.

1st XV Rugby won 33-20.

### *Francis Douglas Memorial College*

1st XI Hockey won 8-nil.

2nd XV won 38-5.

1st XI Football won 3-nil.

U15 Rugby won 46-26.

1st V Basketball won 100-52.

1st XV won 44-10.

### Action from NPBHS v FDMC.



### *Hamilton Boys' High School*

Golf lost 1-7.

Squash lost 1-5.

U15 Rugby 0-33.

U15 Football lost 0-1.

2nd XV lost 3-31.

1st XV Rugby lost 17-53.

1st XI Football lost 0-1.

1st XI Hockey lost 2-1.

1st V Basketball 77-70, 69-54.

**Hillary Challenge** - Extreme endurance teams adventure race - NPBHS has maintained its top two podium finishes since this event has been in place (2005). NPBHS gained second place to Thames High School in a very close finish.

## BASKETBALL

Congratulations to Oscar Robertson, one of 8 boys selected in a New Zealand Basketball Development team.

## SWIMMING

Swimming New Zealand National Age Groups held in Wellington 5 - 10th May.

Chris Johnston competed in the 14 year old age group and achieved the following results:

1st 200m Individual Medley;

1st 200m Breaststroke;

1st 100m Freestyle;

2nd 200m Freestyle;

2nd 50m Breaststroke;

2nd 400m Individual Medley;

3rd 50m Freestyle.

## SNOOKER

One of our year 10 students Mario Hildred has been selected to represent NZ in the U21 World Snooker Champs in Romania. An outstanding achievement for his age.



## SURFING:

"Gisborne Boys' High school Invitational".

### Team Results:

1st NPBHS 3700.

2nd Campion College 3000.

3rd GBHS 2700.

4th GGHS 2300.

5th Lytton 2100.

### Under 18

Issac Kettle, Ben McCulloch, Jonty Low, Kobe Johnson.

### Under 16

Reef Mathews, Tom Dixon Smith, Reuben Mottart, Joel Clegg.

### Under 14

Saffi Vetti, Sam Dingle, Lucca Lind, Brie Ryan.

## KAYAKING

Thomas Cole has been selected to compete for the 2015 New Zealand Junior Kayak Team and will compete at the World Championships scheduled in Portugal.

## SCHOOL BALL

The NPBHS ball was held on the 7th June. A great time was had by all and our assembly hall with the theme of Las Vegas looked fantastic.

*Paul Veric, Headmaster*

## REPORT EVENINGS

We have been greatly encouraged by the numbers of students and their families attending both our Junior and Senior Report Evenings. The opportunity to discuss next-step learning strategies is crucial for students to achieve their IDP (Individual Development Plan) goals.

Senior students have recently received their Pourtama (Stairway to NCEA success) which shows how many credits they have completed to date. This data is crucial for motivation and to assist with planning those next steps – remembering that failure to plan can indeed be planning to fail.

## MAKING DECISIONS FOR 2016

Our planning is well underway for 2016 as we are sure it is for Year 8 students deciding which Secondary School to attend next year.

We have enjoyed having students from our contributing schools in our school recently.

At Spotswood College we understand how important successfully transitioning from Primary/Intermediate School to Secondary School is for young people. Year 8 students need good information to make best fit decisions for 2016. To assist with this important transition we will be visiting contributing schools over the next few weeks and we will be holding our **Open Evening on Wednesday August 5th at 7.00pm in Our School Hall**. If you would like to discuss your child's move to Secondary School and to discuss what Spotswood College has to offer please contact our school office (7512 416) to make an appointment.

*Mark Bowden, Principal*

SPOTSWOOD COLLEGE



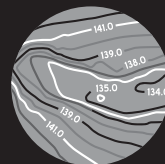
# Spotswood College

I have regularly written in the TOM Magazine about our endeavours to continually improve outcomes for our students. We have also identified the significant changes that are happening within secondary education across the country.

Central to these ideas and endeavours is the need for all schools to link more closely with their communities and to co-construct learning with students and their families.

At Spotswood College we have a vision of being a school inextricably linked to our community; working with the community, parents, employers, IWI, community groups and agencies so that our school is a hub and a focus for the wider community.

As we begin the process of planning to build our new gymnasium the Board of Trustees want the gym to be a community resource as much as a facility for our students. The vision is to build the gym on the road-side of our school on our northern boundary where the teachers car park currently is situated. We envisage that the gym would be available for community groups outside school hours and where a raft of community groups could meet in fit-for-purpose facilities – watch this space!



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## COMING UP

### July

- 20 Term 3 begins.
- 22 Y7/8 Technology Challenge.
- 24 School Photos 9am.
- 27 Weekly Spanish and French lessons start up again.
- 28 ICAS English.



### August

- 7 LEAD 2015 -Year 7.
- 11 ICAS Maths.
- 15 Book Sale 9am - 1pm.
- 19-20 3D Conferences 1pm-7pm.  
School finishes at 12pm both days.
- 26 Java Dance performance 1pm.
- 27 Y4-8 Cross Country 1:30pm.
- 28 Y1-3 Cross Country 1:30pm.
- 31 Cross Country postponement day.



### September

- 1 Y4-6 Coastal cross Country 1pm.  
at Omata
- 2 Nathan Mikaere-Wallis Parent Evening 7pm.
- 3 Y7-8 Full Primary Interschool Cross Country  
1pm at Omata.
- 11 Ceili family evening dinner and dance 5:30pm.
- 16 Oakura Marae visit.

## 'O' FACTOR

Move over X Factor; the 'O' Factor is here!

Omata student talent was on show in a dazzling, fabulous show of song, dance and music on the 29th June. Well done students who got through elimination rounds and made it to the show. Thanks so much to our equally talented team of judges who flew in from exotic places to be here for the finals.



'O' FACTOR ACTION







## PARENT SUPPORT

We are so grateful for all the wonderful support we receive from our families who give financially to the school and give their time with; parent helping, transporting students, carrying out repairs, lunch baking and making, playgroup, fundraising, sports teams, and organising events. Our partnership with our parents really does impact positively on children's learning and progress and is the foundation of our vision and values that go to shaping positive futures for our students. Thanks for helping us to be the 'Best Little School in the West'.

*Karen Brisco, Principal*

SEPTEMBER  
2

Nathan Mikaere Wallis  
X Factor Education



## BRAIN RESEARCH AND LEARNING

The Adolescence Brain - What parents need to know

### OMATA SCHOOL HALL

Wednesday 2 September, 7.00pm to 9pm

Come along and hear Nathan, a neuroscience presenter and lead trainer for the Brainwave Trust. Nathan is a former lecturer at Canterbury University.

This workshop explores and explains the latest understandings of the adolescent brain and the changes that are taking place. An understanding of these changes allows us to be innovative in our approach to young people. It is an interactive programme that encourages discussion.

Topics covered include:

Risk taking Technology and much more	Decision Making Alcohol & Drugs and much more	Peer Pressure Sleep Patterns and much more
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Tickets \$30

Available from Omata / Oakura School offices

Enquiries to (06) 751 2308 or email  
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## OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

**Hurford - Omata - Oakura Rural Women.** Meet 2nd Wednesday each month at 1.00pm. New members welcome. Contact Jean Kurth 751 2274.

**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.

**Mini Groovers.** Music and movement for preschoolers! Tuesdays 10am during school terms, now at St James' Hall (opp. Oakura Hall). Gold coin donation. Contact Maryanne on 06-2811197.

**Move It or Lose It - fitness classes.** Oakura Hall, Wednesdays & Fridays, 9.30am, Contact Gloria 752 7442.

**Oakura Playcentre.** 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Maryanne on 06-2811197.

**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.

### 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 - Sofe Cup and A grade Competition.  
Contact Club Secretary, Jackie Mitchell on 06 752 7013.

**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.

**Vigor Fitness.** Tuesday and Thursdays 10am - Outdoor Pure Grit Training. Phone Anneka Carlson 021 404 642.

**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](mailto:kirk@taranakivw.co.nz) and Secretary: [bryan@taranakivw.co.nz](mailto:bryan@taranakivw.co.nz)

**Yoga Classes.** Oakura Church Hall, Wed at 9.15am, Fri at 6am (fully booked!), Fri at 9.15am. Everyone welcome. Contact Kate Evans 027 203 7215.

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