tom

the Oakura Messenger

Oakura produces a World Class Surfer Tell us about what surfing in Portugal is like. There are quite a four grounds there

Oakura's surfing sensation Paige Hareb produced a stunning 4th placing recently in the Quiksilver International Surfing Association Junior Surfing Championships held in Costa De Caparica, Portugal.



Paige in great form at the Junior Champs in Portugal.

Paige's 4th placing in the final and Matt Hewitt's 3rd placing meant the New Zealand team finished in 4th place overall, the best placing for the team in four years. So well done to Paige!

What does it mean to you to come 4th in the world?

Of course I wanted to come 1st but I'll still take 4th! It means that all my training and preparation have finally paid off, so that's always a good feeling – to get results from the hard work. I still have another year in this competition, so it's nice to know I can get there.

What were the competition and competitors like?

The comp' is so well run and very professional. There were 30 countries

competing so it was very competitive and sociable at the same time, which was good. At the opening ceremony we did the Haka, which everyone loved. However, it was the first time I had experienced drug testing, which I had to undergo straight after my final.

How difficult was the competition?

Well, right from the start I was really positive about getting to the final and I woke up every morning at 5.30am to get a surf in and suss out the conditions before the event would start. I just took each heat as it came, then all of sudden I was in the final. So, it wasn't too difficult, thanks to my fitness and the help of my parents. There are quite a few groynes there so there are good little beach breaks everywhere. The surf was small for just about the whole contest but the team still got in some good clean sessions. The water is cold so we were wearing fulllength wetsuits, but the weather was hot so we were cooking in them on the beach.

What were the highlights of the tour for you?

The Haka always is, but especially with New Zealand getting 4th overall and beating teams like France, USA and South Africa, which are big-named countries in the surfing world with way more money than us.

Tell us about any other interesting tidbits from Portugal.

The people were really friendly and there is no drinking age so the last night was a bit of fun for everyone. There was a little train than took people along the beach everyday to the contest site.

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JUNE 2007

FROM THE TOM ZONE

Mother Nature certainly made her presence felt on Wednesday 23 May. The sheer power behind the huge amounts of water on our landscape and property was incredible. It is a reminder of a force greater than ourselves – we have control only to a certain point. For the people affected by the flooding, the work is just beginning, while the rest of us carry on as though it never happened, with logs and mud on the beach the only visible signs.

Here at *TOM* we take a lot of time coordinating and editing each issue to reflect the events that go on in our community and to keep everyone informed. It is a good way of educating and providing knowledge to large group of people, so that the correct information is received. I recently spoke to Fay Looney, Kaitake Community Board chairperson, about the CBD upgrade. The interesting part of this conversation was that apparently a lot of people put blame on the wrong organisation usually without having any background knowledge. Read Fay's column this month to gain an insight into some of these issues.

We take *TOM* very seriously and take great pride in producing a quality newspaper. Occasionally we have a slip up, but be assured these are not intentional.

Thanks for helping us keep you informed and entertained. *Tracey Lusk*

tom

TOM is a free, monthly publication, delivered on the second Wednesday of the month to all homes and post-boxes from the city limits to Dover Road.

THE TEAM

Tracey Lusk,	Co-ordinator	06	752	7875
Kim Ferens,	Co-ordinator/Features	06	751	1519
Advertising:	Melissa Newton	06	752	1056
Music Reviews:	Graham Donlon			
Proof reading:	Louise Norton			
Graphics:	Ron Stratford			

The Oakura Messenger Ltd, 25 Jans Terrace, Oakura. email kim@thetom.co.nz Phone 0800 THE TOM

www.thetom.co.nz

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



Left and right: the Bevins' backyard became a quagmire.

Backyard carnage after flash flood Story & PHOTOS JUNEAU

Peter Bevins had a yard full of mud after the Oakura River flowed over its banks in a flash flood on Wednesday, 23 May. An upturned barbeque and dirty washing were testimony to the wreckage after the river raged through the Bevins's backyard in Oakura.

Along with damage to their house, the Bevins lost two cars in the flood. Peter Bevin's BMW washed a kilometre down the Oakura River from the riverside home. It was later towed along the beach, but high tide and a swollen stream temporarily stopped the rescue progress.



Marion Bevins tries to save her son's family photo albums after his house was hit by the flash flood.

The Bevins' home boasting a new moat.







The unfortunate Beamer - just out of reach.

Right, top: the rescue mission begins, and below, right: safely ashore (well probably a bit worse for the wear).



The Oakura Fire Brigade Mops Up

23 May 2007 saw the worst floods in Oakura for quite some time. This kept the brigade busy for most of the day, with three callouts. Undoubtedly the worst affected area was Hall Terrace when the Oakura river overflowed its banks.

Thankfully there was no harm to people or animals reported.

The brigade was able to provide assistance, in the form of pumping out water from the effected area's and clearing the bulk of the mud & silt from driveways.

Many thanks for the tremendous local support.

Cheers, Seamus.

Flood debris at the beach.







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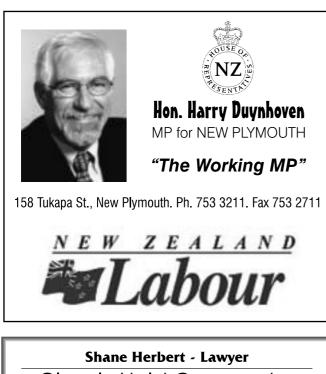
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NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

from MAYOR PET



Hi folks!

The cooler months have certainly arrived with the nights and mornings taking a definite turn towards "chilly".

However, this is still a great time to get out and enjoy the fabulous lifestyle in Oakura. Stretching the legs through Matekai Park or on Oakura Beach is a chance to see the changing season in the foliage and get a bracing dose of fresh air!

The lifestyle of Oakura is one that we want to maintain for future generations to enjoy – the best of urban living in a community that is nestled between the sea and the mountain range, and where the pace of life allows residents to get the most out of the surrounding natural environment.

With the Oakura Structure Plan in place, we have established a path that will enable the town to grow while retaining its special nature.

The Council's commitment to that managed growth is evident in the town's freshened-up streetscape, and also in a project that has been long in the planning and will begin on-site in the near future – the construction of reticulated sewerage.

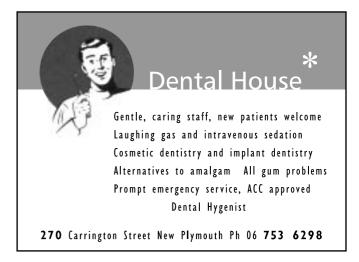
This project will see an 11km dual pipeline connecting the town to the city's sewerage system. Residents will have the confidence of knowing that their sewage is being appropriately treated at a state-of-the-art sewage treatment plant, benefiting the town's environment and capable of handling future population growth.

This is a very large project, and the majority of tenders for the major components of this contract close this month. We intend work to begin on the ground around August and it should be completed by the middle of next year.

Above everything else, the Council's intention is to plan any developments so that our great-great-grandkids are able to experience the sea-and-alpine lifestyle that we enjoy today in Oakura. This is a great legacy to leave for our future generations, and it is one this Council is committed to.

Meanwhile if you have any ideas on how our district can be improved for today's residents as well as for the generations to come, don't hesitate to give me a call on 06 759 6060. I'd love to hear from you!

Peter Tennent Mayor, New Plymouth District



KAITAKE COMMUNITY BOARD

Next Meeting 19 June at 4 pm at the Surf Club.

The meeting this month was cancelled due to no items being tabled that needed consideration from the Board.

No doubt many may have read my objection to being unable to sit in on the discussion that took place on the following subject (like all of the public, I was able to listen to the submissions)!

Council meeting (21 May) – Planning report to Council regarding a proposed change to the NPDC District Plan.

The purpose of the plan is to update the location of some of the symbols currently on the planning maps in the NPDC that show where identified waahi tapu and archaeological sites are situated. This update is occurring as a result of the New Zealand Archaeological Association upgrade project.

Two submissions pertained to our community and for this reason I objected strongly to not being allowed to stay for discussion part of the meeting from which the public were excluded.

My question is, as an elected representative of our Community, where is the sense in dismissing our input into a local issue of which it's possible we may have knowledge beyond that of any consultant looking at the area? I now know the Council were acting correctly as the meeting was deemed a hearing, which legally can only be heard in the presence of Councillors (real ones). The papers sent to me did not indicate that the meeting was anything other than a normal meeting – that point has been conceded. Which leaves the question, what are Community Board Councillors?

Answer: Clayton Councillors.

May 25th will see me listening to submissions for the 2007/8 budget. I am surprised how little is in this year's submissions – nothing at all from this community. The same cannot be said of Urenui, which has risen up and collected submissions from everyone who ever camps or owns a bach at the beach. They want more rock walls to protect the holiday homes and they want you and I to pay for it.

Hurford Road – Consent for self-store units

Some residents on Hurford Road have objected to a consent for the above units based on the traffic hazard they envisage them causing to an already dangerous corner. Residents feel no consultation took place with neighbours prior to granting the consent.

These days one of the sad facts of the consent process is that neighbours are not consulted, times have changed and the rural community is facing many new challenges to their lifestyle. Some of the changes are due to developments that now spring up everywhere. Let's be honest, many farmers reaching retirement have

no option other than this if they wish to retire on their land. Covenants on height and the number of buildings on small holdings is a wise move if you care for the environment and your view.

The responsibility for this lies with the property owner selling the land. The Council are in this case completely within the legal rights, views do not count.

My personal worry about these developments is the infrastructure around them – more people, more vehicles on roads that are unable to carry the traffic load and storm water. The Coastal Strategy is not worth the paper it's printed on if some of these restraints are not put in place by responsible developers. Ironically, as I write disaster has struck houses in Hall Terrace. It's now 24 hours since I raced down to Hall Terrace and watched in horror as Mother Nature's unpredictable strength devastated the lives of the residents.

The volunteer firemen worked in dangerous conditions to save what they could. It was frightening and I had arrived as the waters had receded somewhat – one of the volunteers told me it was more terrifying when they arrived.

The residents were doing what you do in these situations, getting on with saving what they could. My heart went out to the Pillette family as they have lost so much, as has Peter Bevins – his car's trip down the river and out to sea seems unbelievable, but there it was, surfing onto the beach. And another car was saved to some degree by brave neighbours.

The Pillette's dogs were having a ball in the water, which added the only bright touch to the scene.

The professionalism and dedication of the volunteer fireman is a blessing to this community. Only a few days prior to this I had met them on the main road, attending a nasty accident. How on earth do you say thanks for this kind of dedication to a community?

People are wonderful in these situations Butlers Reef staff, Snickerdoodles and Wunderbar answered my request for food supplies for the workers and residents at Hall Terrace. I know the other businesses would have been no different had I needed them. As it was I was able to deliver Pizzas and wedges from the Butlers, and savouries and muffins from the others. Thank you everyone.

Politics are far from my mind now as I can only wonder how we can be of practical help to these folk. I am sure there will be much to talk about at the next Community Board meeting on 19 June at 4pm at the Surf Club. Hopefully we will see you there.

Fay L



Living & Working in the Oakura Area



Oakura produces a world class surfer

What do your mum and dad think of your achievement?

They are very proud of me and support me all the way, which I am thankful for.

What are the highlights of your surfing achievements this year?

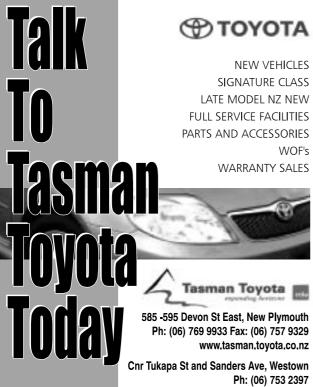
The Women's Nationals at which I won the Open, Under-18s and the Expression session. I'm also currently doing the Pro Junior series in Australia, but the big result was definitely the Worlds.

Where to with surfing next?

I'm travelling around Europe at the moment but will be back in New Zealand for a few weeks soon. Then in July I am heading off to Bali for a photo shoot and contest with my main sponsor, Billabong. I also have three more Pro Junior contests this year in Australia. Hopefully, I will also be going to Hawaii at the end of the year as well as a few other trips. I plan to do the WQS (World Qualifying Series) next year, then eventually make the WCT (World Championship Tour).







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Update from the Big Red Truck

"You might be a firefighter if the microwave goes off and you run out of the house thinking it was your pager." (Author unknown)

Greetings again from all at the Big Red Truck!

Looking back over the last five months we've found that over 50% of callouts have been for motor vehicle accidents, each potentially life-threatening. Most have been up on State Highway 45. A reasonably common theme seems to be that drivers were momentarily distracted, such as trying to pick up dropped objects, texting/using the mobile phone, or even just eating. A moment's inattention can have serious consequences. If you do come across an accident scene, please pass by slowly to minimise the chances of debris or glass on the road being lifted.

In a recent serious callout to a house fire in a rural area, the occupants of the house were woken by the smoke detector outside their bedroom door and had to exit via a window. The incident illustrated some important points:

- 1. Smoke detectors DO save lives. Install one in all living spaces (sleeping areas, hallway and lounge) and test them monthly.
- 2. Closing internal doors does slow the spread of a fire and reduces subsequent smoke and heat damage.
- 3. When you discover a fire, get out and stay out. Never go back in. Call 111 as soon as possible from a safe location, e.g. closest neighbour.
- 4. Have an evacuation plan for you home. Get everyone, including the kids, involved. Have an agreed meeting place for everyone, either the letterbox or similar.

You may have seen the article in the *Taranaki Daily News* just recently about the dangers of putting toasters that are still plugged in away inside "appliance garages". There have been three serious house fires in New Plymouth in nine months caused by the lid/ door of the toaster appliance garage catching the on-switch for the toaster as it is closed. Check this cannot happen in your home, or better still switch off and unplug the toaster after use.

The Taranaki Toughest Firefighter Around the Mountain (TTFFA) Competition was held on 22 April. We moved the event forward by a couple of weeks, and away from Mothers Day, fortuitously placing it on a gloriously sunny day. The local turnout was good, with some very vocal encouragement to sustain the competitors whenever they started to flag.

A new TTFFA champion was crowned this year – Shane Taylor from Manaia, who edged out Mark Braddock of Oakura by 7 seconds. However, Mark retained the Oakura Brigade bragging rites, successfully holding off a sterling challenge from longterm stalwart Greg Newton. Nicola Evans of Stratford retained the Women's title, preceding Oakura's Angela Weir by 7 seconds. Oakura Brigade retained the Team trophy for the second year.

It was a tremendous day, enjoyed by all who took part and attended. Thanks to all our sponsors for their generosity, and to Plunket who kept everyone fed and watered throughout the event. Stay safe. *FF Breeze.*







Vospers manager and funeral director Bruce Hanrahan relaxes with wife Bronwyn, daughters Rachael and Sarah, and family dog Jess.

Bruce has worked for Vospers for over 22 years and was one of the first recipients of the National Diploma of Funeral Services, recognized by the NZQA as the national standard in the funeral profession. Bruce and his team of dedicated professionals will take care of all the practical aspects of your funeral and provide a warm and caring service.





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ΊΑΚΙΙΚΑ





Winsome Sarten -TOM artist of the month



It is hard to know where to begin with an artist such as Winsome Sarten. Creativity is a gift and Winsome has it in abundance. So I suppose we should begin at the beginning. As a child going to school at Pukeruhe School, Winsome's first taste of needlecraft began with lessons from a visiting Swiss girl who taught the girls how to do stitching. It captured Winsome's imagination.

When Winsome 'grew up' and became a married mother of five children living under the mountain at

Opunake, she turned to floral art to express her creativity but she was also an avid gardener and sewer. "Being creative while you have young children is so good for your soul," says Winsome "and it is a shame more woman don't find an art form to lose themselves in to escape from the often drudgery of being a mother." Winsome worked from home making floral arrangements and thanks Joyce Young for helping in getting her started. In 1986 Winsome bought the Moturoa florist shop Sentiments. Winsome loved floral art because it was creating arrangements into art works in a short period of time, unlike creating a stitched picture.

In 1993 Winsome left Sentiments but her creative juices were still flowing. Winsome joined the Embroidery Guild in 1996 and her stitching needles have been flying ever since. It was on a trip to Rotorua to an embroidery workshop held by Jane Beaney that Winsome really 'fell into' fibre work. Winsome calls herself a 'free stitcher' – that is to say an embroiderer but not of the traditional counted stitch variety. In 2002 Winsome joined the Creative Fibre group and hasn't looked back since. Her stitched artworks regularly feature in exhibitions – lately in particular the National Creative Fibre Exhibition and at a charity auction in Eltham which also featured works by Michael Smithers.

Winsome won her first award as a beginner with one of her first pieces called "The Storm". This piece used a technique

that Winsome developed herself using silk. She loves using silk and most of her pieces are based around the use of silk slivers and silk paints. Each stitched picture takes upwards of 60 hours of work. One of Winsome's latest works featured at the Creative Fibre Exhibition is called "Te Maunga O Taranaki" and features the use of a new technique using embroidery canvas as a mount and then stitching was carried out onto the canvas mount as well as the silk sliver background. It featured the mountain, the Sir Peter Buck Memorial and the flora and fauna of Taranaki. It is a technique Winsome is keen to use again.

Winsome and Don's house is richly decorated with her wonderful creations which are constantly catching your eye – whether it be the beach scene of Oakura with its life like rocks, the bright blue delphiniums, the woolly sheep, the draught horses, the story book characters or just a little hand felted man with no legs.

Speaking of felt, Winsome has begun a new adventure with needle felting. As if she wasn't busy enough, Winsome wanted to have a go at something different and is now enjoying the challenge of making felt artworks.

If you ever have the opportunity to see Winsome's work, it is well worth a look and if you think you might like to get creative the Creative Fibre group meet once a month. Contact Janet Hainsworth ph 7532668 for more details.

By Kim Ferens

Examples of Winsome Sarten's beautiful work below, Oakura Beach, right Woolly Sheep.





New Releases this month in Oakura Four Square



Music and Lyrics



A well reviewed romantic comedy stars Hugh Grant and Drew Barrymore as the lead characters that meet over music. They struggle over falling in love and over the creative process of writing. This charming movie is an enjoyable night in.

A Scanner Darkly

Keanu Reeves stars in the animated portraval of undercover cop Bob Arctor's in his mental unravelling as he struggles to understand what is real and what is The truth however not. leaves Arctor even more numbed.

Aman Iman: Water Is Life

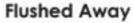
Tinariwen

(Independiente/Shock)

Desert blues is very much in vogue at present. This interest in the African precursor to the blues has, no doubt, been sparked by the final, glorious recording by the legendary Ali Farka Touré (the previously reviewed *Savane*) and the emergence of the bands Etran Finatawa, Bassékou Kouyaté & Ngoni Ba and, perhaps most impressively, the band of Touareg rebels known as Tinariwen. While the "rebel with guitar" stance is something of a rock cliché, Tinariwen are the real deal, a bunch of freedom fighters who once trained at one of Gaddafi's Libyan camps, then took on the Malian armed forces in a bitter fight for Touareg rights. Some members even have the bullet wounds to prove it!

Usually led by the craggy-faced lead vocalist and lead guitarist Ibrahim Ag Alhabib, Tinariwen is more of a collective than a group. Some are core members, while others seemingly float in and out at will. For *Aman Iman*, the third Tinariwen album, the band's free spirit and acclaimed desert poet Mohammed Ag Itlale, otherwise known as "Japonais", has returned to the fold, inspiring his erstwhile colleagues to even greater heights. Guitar licks lap and curl around one another. At times up to six guitarists weave their bluesy magic, chopping out six string incantations over a rhythm bed of supple electric basslines and simple percussion/handclaps. Voices chant in classic call-andresponse style, with uluating desert cries punctuating the subtly mutating guitar patterns. The hypnotic opening track "Cler Achel" and the equally powerful "Toumast" and "Assouf" are a few of the highlights of this marvellous album.

Producer, mixer (formerly with Jah Wobble's Invaders Of The Heart)





A fun animation set in the sewers under London as a street wise rat and a pampered mouse try to escape from the clutches of the villainous Toad. Funny for both adults and kids in this comic adventure.

The Good Shepherd

In this fictional account of how the CIA was born, recruit Edward Wilson finds it increasingly hard to balance his strong sense of patriotism with his own personal life and ideals, with stars Matt Damon, Angelina Jolie and De Niro directing.



and occasional seventh guitarist Justin Adams compares the cumulative power of Tinariwen to The Velvet Underground, Sonic Youth and Howlin' Wolf, "but African, always African." I wonder just how long it will be before some white rock band simplifies this music and makes a fortune with a diluted version of the Tinariwen sound? Robert Plant is a Tinariwen fan, but I bet Jerry Garcia, John Cippolina and Syd Barrett would have been too.

Live At Matinée – December 2005

On The Corner (On The Corner)

After the working week is done, "chill out" time on Friday evenings generally means a few drinks, a chat with mates and listening to local jazz band On The Corner at Matinée. The jazz classics tumble one after another, all played impeccably by four (sometimes more!) class musicians, all music educators and local legends.

Live At Matinée – December 2005 is an audio verité recording that serves as a homage to the late drum poet Bill "Mr. Good Taste" Hartigan, who passed away a year after this recording. On the Corner also features Paul Adams (keyboards and bass pedals), the ever-tasteful guitar playing of Ross Halliday and Robin Wellaway out front on saxophone. Most of the Matinée crowd favourites are heard here, the gorgeous Antonio Carlos Jobim composition "Wave," the Joe Zawinul-penned Cannonball Adderley hit "Mercy Mercy Mercy," Charlie Parker's "Yardbird Suite," Sonny Rollins jaunty calypso "St. Thomas" and Horace Silver's "Song For My Father" to name but a few.

Check them out, Friday evenings at Matinée, On The Corner! A habit worth acquiring.

The Heartland Tour

COMING TO OAKURA 26 JULY

The Heartland Tour causes an outbreak of laughter all over the Taranaki region.

The Taranaki International Festival of the Arts is delighted to announce one of Australia's most popular and prolific music comedy acts to headline the 2007 regional Heartland Tour. Acclaimed Australian comedy trio Tripod will unleash their hilarious brand of musical hilarity on the wider Taranaki public. Joined by NZ funny lady *Pink Agnew* this tour takes the festival spirit around the mountain to some of the finest halls in Taranaki.

Frequently starring on Australia's popular TV Show, Rove Live, Tripod have been writing and performing funny songs for over a decade, winning an Aria Award for Best comedy release in 2005 and in 2006 releasing Australia's very first DVD Pod August Night. In 2006 Tripod also toured relentlessly throughout Australia and debuted their live show at the NZ Comedy Festival to sellout audiences.

"These guys are good. These guys are great. These guys are jaw dropping wide open, droolslowly-drip-out-brilliant" Herald Sun, Melbourne.

MC Pinky Agnew is well known to NZ audiences for her solo shows Pinky Pops In, The Truth About Love and The Candidates and as a weekly columnist on Wellington's Newstalk ZB. Pinky also played Jenny Shipley on the iconic NZ television programme McPhail & Gadsby. The Heartland Tour takes in the coast - Urenui, Oakura and Kakaramea - and reaches inland

to some of the smaller rural communities along Taranaki's forgotten highways – Tarata, Makahu, Rawhitiroa and Auroa.

The Heartland Tour plays -

Thurs 26 July at 7.30pm Oakura Public Hall, Oakura (Book at Oakura Pharmacy - 06 752 7557).

Fri 27 July at 8.00pm Makahu Hall (Book at Makahu School – 06 762 3836).

Sat 28 July at 7.30pm Rawhitiroa Hall (Book at Rawhitiroa School – 06 764 8939). Sun 29 July at 7.30pm

Auroa Memorial Hall (Book at Auroa School – 06 274 5629).

Mon 30 July at 7.30pm Kakaramea Hall, Kakaramea (Book at Kakaramea School - 06 273 8695 or Marie Dwyer – 06 273 8564).

Tues 31 July at 8.00pm Theatre Royal, TSB Showplace, New Plymouth (Book at TSB Showplace – 06 759 0021).

Wed 1 Aug at 7.30pm Tarata Hall (Book at Inglewood Book Centre - 06 756 7032). Thurs 2 Aug at 7.30pm Urenui Hall (Book at Urenui 4 Square – 06 752 3895).

Bookings also at -

06 759 0021, www.ticketek.co.nz DURATION: 120mins, including interval.

Admission -

General Admission \$25.00 Friend \$22.50 For more info visit the website www.artsfest.co.nz

taranaki international the arts

26 july - 12 august 2007

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tripod

Three outstanding comedy artists/ musicians recognised as one of Australia's most popular comedy acts. This talented the come together in the Oakura public hall with the outrageously funny MC Pinky Agnew.

Programme available now!

Pick up your festival programme from local retail outlets, cafes, TSB Showplace and i-sites. Full programme also available online at

www.artsfest.co.nz

VEHICLE ROOMAGE Thurs 26 July at 7.30pm Oakura Public Hall, Oakura Book at Oakura Pharmacy - 06 752 7557

AS SEEN O

ROVE LIV

DEDIN

tom 11

Letter to the Editor

Dear TOM

We LOVE our new footpath with the wavy, wiggly blue stripe! It makes it easier for our hubbies to walk home safely from Butlers Reef on a Friday night. (Just follow the BLUE brick road.)

It's a lovely artistic representation of the sea – and Oakura is a seaside town.

The pedestrian island is there for safety reasons – so people can be protected at halfway stop – seeing as most motorists DON'T slow down to 50kmph until damn near the garage! (Hmmmmm . . . not nice!)

Sincerely

S Thompson



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Memories of the forgotten art of droving

An article in last month's *TOM* asking for people who knew anything about droving caught Robbie Penwarden's eye. He shares his memories of droving from when he was a boy, plus other interesting snippets about his life in and around Omata and Oakura.

Robbie remembers the regular event of droving from growing up on his father's farm at the bottom of the Omata hill in the 1940s and



Robbie surrounded by some of his sporting awards.

1950s. He recalls four men in particular – Krujer Clark, Cyril McKay, Manning King and a Mr Lethbridge – drovers employed by stock agent Mr Stan Berry, probably of Newton Kings.

Stan Berry would call in on farmers a day or two before the drovers were expected to pass through to see if the farmers had any stock to go to the freezing works. The works in those days were out at Waitara. The cattle drove would usually begin in Opunake and the journey would take a week or two.

Robbie remembers the drovers going by about once a fortnight, so it is easy to see the life of a drover would be one of constant moving – backwards and forwards! You also have to imagine New Plymouth city as it was 60 or 70 years ago. The drovers had to take the circuitous route we now call the bypass – no mobs of cattle down Devon Street, thanks!

One occasion Robbie remembers well is when a mob of bulls were driven by from Stoney River, Okato on their way to the freezing works. One of the bulls got stuck in the deep drain beside the road outside Robbie's father's farm. One of the drovers set his dogs on the bull but he wouldn't budge. They tried pulling and pushing and then in desperation they used the ultimate drover's trick – they gathered dried bracken fern, set it alight and placed it under rear end of said bull and hey presto, he got out of the ditch!

Mobs of bulls were frightening to the local children living on the main road and they would run inside and hide. It was usual for the stock agent to inform everyone on the main road when a mob of bulls was going to be going by and farmers would lock up their cows and children.

Along the way there needed to be holding pens to rest the cattle and sheep and one such holding pen was at the bottom of the Tapuae hill and another was the stockyards at Okato.

The Penwarden farm also had a water trough to water the cattle and this could easily by drunk dry by 200 head of cattle. Robbie remembers a stampede happening once when a mob of cattle came to the top of Omata hill and saw the trough and pond below.

A feature of the drovers was their dogs. The drovers would have well trained heading dogs to help with their work. Although there were far fewer cars in those days, cars were a hazard and the dogs were trained to deal with this. When a car came along the lead dog was sent ahead to move the mob to the left, making a path through for the car. One drover from Bell Block also used a horse drawn buggy. He would have two heading dogs out working and under the buggy seat were a couple of kennels where two other dogs would be resting. Thank you, Robbie, for the glimpse into the almost forgotten art form of droving.

Robbie grew up on his father Roy's farm of 70 acres. Roy's father Daniel original owned a much bigger farm on Omata Hill. He divided the farm in two for his two sons, Leo and Roy. Roy milked 50 cows and Robbie worked for his father when he left school but he had no real interest in farming the home farm as it was steep and difficult for one man to manage. So Robbie began working at Omata Sawmill instead and he worked there for 18 years treating timber with Borac. Following the closure of the sawmill, Robbie moved to Oakura where he started a lawn mowing business, which he still does today.

Along the way Robbie has had and still has a keen interest in sport. While he was at Omata School he was selected two years running for the Taranaki Primary School Rugby Representative team. The first year he was a reserve and the second he played winger. He remembers you had to be 9 stone or under and he was 2 pound over so after the weigh-in he went home and starved himself for two days and he got in the team!

A highlight of his school days was athletics. Robbie remembers winning the 100 yard sprint at Okato. He belonged to the New Plymouth Athletics Club at Pukekura Park and ran against well known Taranaki icon Ross Brown. Robbie would bike in to the Park and to the Star Gym, Westown for practices.

Robbie went to New Plymouth Boys High School for two years. After leaving school he played rugby for the Taranaki Seniors team in 1953. He played as full back against Auckland and winger against Wanganui.

Over the years Robbie has had numerous successes at Indoor Bowls and is still an active member of the Oakura Club. He was in the winning Taranaki Fours team in 1970, the winning Taranaki Pairs team in 1969/70, the Taranaki Open Singles winner in 1980/81 and the Taranaki Triples winner in 1985/86.

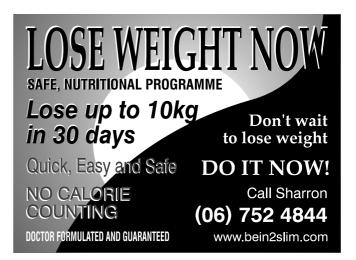
By Kim Ferens

Calling all drovers

Ruth Low, freelance oral historian, is researching the history of droving. Prior to the advent of large stock trucks, increased traffic and changing Council bylaws, drovers were often seen moving stock between farms, to freezing works and sale yards. Before the history of what was a key element in New Zealand's agricultural history is lost, Ruth is keen to hear from:

- anyone who worked as a drover
- farmers who employed drovers
- stock agents who may have worked with drovers, or
- those who had a family member who was a drover.
- She can be contacted by email at: <u>markruth.low@ihug.co.nz</u> or on 03 684 9009.

Alternatively, contact Kim Ferens at <u>kim@thetom.co.nz</u> or phone 0800thetom.



MON. HARRY DUYNHOVEN

MP for New Plymouth

"Tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today ..."

First, a heartfelt expression of sympathy for those of you whose homes and businesses were affected by the sudden downpour last month.

However, as we and many others around New Zealand have discovered, these sudden, extreme, adverse weather events seem to be happening more frequently.

If that is so, it becomes incumbent on all of us to take whatever measures we can to reduce the risk both to ourselves and to our planet. We must examine how we live and adapt our lifestyles to better withstand the changes coming.

Budget 2007 is about preparing for tomorrow... about our future as individuals and our future as a successful, responsible, sustainable nation.

It deals with improving our hitherto abysmal savings. By introducing tax credits to KiwiSaver, we strengthen our economy and help Kiwis save for a first home and the retirement they deserve.

It deals with the vital issue of encouraging investment in business and innovation with a cut to business taxes, increased support for developing overseas markets and tax credits for research.

The Budget provides saving and investment initiatives that will help our economy to become more dynamic, responsive and resilient to the challenges that lie ahead.

Budget '07 ensures that the gains of the growth of recent years are widely distributed for the benefit of all families, young and old, and the measures to strengthen our economy will help us to protect recent social gains into the future.

It continues Labour's investment in families – more teachers in schools, improved home care for older Kiwis, and big investments in public transport and roading.

Budget 2007 is a bold and strategic budget. It tackles our *short-term* challenges, like inflation and our high dollar – imbalances built up by our economic success over the past seven years, plus it continues the work to tackle our long-term challenges, like population ageing and climate change.

So, what about personal tax cuts? Labour is *absolutely not* opposed to tax cuts or to helping modest income families on principle!

In the nineties, National cut personal income taxes indiscriminately and all measures of our household savings rate at that time deteriorated.

Labour's record is that we have delivered significant tax relief for modest and lower income families. Labour's mechanisms, Working for Families and KiwiSaver, deliver more to those that most require tax relief than could ever be possible by an indiscriminate and therefore inefficient borrow-and-tax-cut approach.

Enhancing KiwiSaver means all those who save will gain much more, up to \$20 a week, whereas indexation gave most about \$6 a week.

Right now, adding to domestic demand through indiscriminate personal tax cuts would push up interest rates and the dollar, causing more pain for exporters.

Finally, the Budget signalled a full review of the long-term tax position for next year. Thanks for reading this.

Harry



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Jones & Sandford

MITRE 10 Gardening

Gardening with Rosemary Herb

JUNE CHECKLIST

Flower garden:

- * Cut back, lift and divide perennials such as asters, achilleas, dahlias and phlox. Still time to plant lilies.
- # Plant new roses.
- # Prune deciduous trees in dry weather.
- * Mulch all plants with compost.

Kitchen garden:

- # Plant strawberry plants.
- # Plant new trees: citrus, apples, pears, plums, peaches and nectarines.
- Spray deciduous fruit trees with Champion Copper and Conqueror Oil to protect from pests and diseases.
- # Plant asparagus crowns into well drained soil.
- Plant seedlings of cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, winter lettuce, spinach and silverbeet.

Jones & Sandford MITRE 10 Gardening

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Civil Litigation

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tom sports

Kaitake Tennis

Number one A2 team wins Wilson trophy

The top A2 side continued its winning form in the second round, with a win over Matapu to clinch the Wilson Trophy. This means the team will play in the Soffe Cup next season – the first time in the history of Oakura Tennis Club that a team has managed to compete here. Congratulations to all those who played and got such a great result.



Front row: Tessa McDougall, Leah Fletcher, Becky Bruckner, Derryn Northcott, Standing: Jill Barron, Liz Ritchie, Josh Walden, Teihorangi Walden, Miaana Walden, Aaron Hine, John Hardie-Boys. Absent: John Fletcher, Chris Davies, Jack Smithers.

Second A2 team to remain in A2

Our second A2 team, which won promotion halfway through the season, has played well in this next level section. They will remain in this section at the start of next season.

Both A2 teams have had a mix of younger and more experienced players. Our goal at the start of the season was to get a team into the Soffe Cup and keep other teams in sections to give our juniors the experience to work up to these harder sections.

The junior and senior ladders were introduced this year to help work out seedings for teams and to give the opportunity of match play to our members. There were very few challenges this year, but we are hoping members will begin to challenge next season. It's a great way to improve your tennis and should be a lot of fun too.

Juniors

We have had two Junior A teams, one Junior B team, a Youth team and a B Grade team all competing. Following the Christmas break the teams were divided into sections, and the final results are as follows:

Junior A, section A: Oakura Black – 2nd, Oakura White – 4th

Junior B, section B: Oakura Red – 1st

Youth, section B: 4th

B Grade: 3rd

Well done to all the teams!

Presidents

Our President's team has yet again been very competitive in this second round. They were lying 3rd before having to default a match due to Womad commitments, so it is a case of what might have been...



The turn out on a typical junior club night.

Our thanks to Chris Davies who has organised the team for the last few years, but will step down from this role next season.

Midweek Ladies

We have two teams in Section 1 of the competition. Congratulations to Louise Brankin, Derrin Northcott, Leah Fletcher, Sue Oldfield and Fiona Turner for coming runnersup in the section for both rounds.

Our second team was 5th.

In Section 2 our team was 6th and will again compete in this section next season.

The Section 5 team also came 5th, and also stays in this section for coming season.

Looking forward to the 2007-2008 season!





(OM SPORTS

Greetings all

Its all been a bit quiet now that the hype of the Kayak comp' is over, although the lads have been out getting a good number of snapper and gurnard over the last few weeks, catching quite a lot on the last Club Day of the season.

The "landies" (surfcasters) have been catching good snapper

as well. Shane Dunlop recently weighed in two 10-pounders and two 5-pounders a couple of weeks back from down south. Turns out he was fishing the evening tide, right on the same spot that two 20-pounders were caught that morning by one of the veteran surfcasters from New Plymouth.

Our season finished on 31 May and we are now into a new season. With all the points and trophies tallied up, we will have a few surprises for some members at our prize giving and AGM on 24 June.

This year we have opted for a Sunday gathering to be held at the Surf Club down on the beach front. A light lunch will be provided and everyone is welcome to come. If you want to know



more, give Garry Harrison a call on 752 7055 or call me on 752 7425

Tight lines Debbie E

Weighmaster's report to the end of April

Kayaking: Too many to count individual species – 181 in total!

Surfcasting: Snapper – 23, kahawai – 4, gurnard – 4, conga



Shane Dunlop with a 5.210kg and a 5.4kg fish.

A few of the fish from the Kayak comp': Aaron Farley left got the 2nd heaviest snapper (7.57kg), while team-mate Bryce Ray holds up a couple of goodies from Bell Block.

eel – 2, spotty shark – 2. *Fish of the Month* Kayakers: Andrew Wright – 12.880kg snapper Surfcasters: Shane Dunlop – 7.410kg snapper Cheers *Grant M*, Head Weighmaster



Kaitake Netball 2007

The girls in blue and black are back. After a two-year hiatus due to having babies and child rearing duties we have got together again to play in the Opunake Satellite Competition on Wednesday nights.

We've mustered up a great team of girls, combining youth (those aged 30 to 35 years) and experience (those 40 years and above).

The season at Opunake is proving lots of fun. Each Wednesday we travel down the coast and enjoy a nice dry indoor game. We are sure the talent scouts at the games are watching us with more than a keen interest...

Here are our recent results:

Round 1: a bye

Round 2: Kaitake – 26, Surf Highway 2 – 24

Some of us had more than our fair share of trips to the loo due to nerves prior to the first whistle, however, we soon got back into the swing of things and had a great first win 26-24 over the locals.

The girls played like veteran silver ferns and remained calm despite some heavy contact through the centre court and in the shooting circle. Our defensive end had to work hard as Surf Highway got their eye in early in the 3rd quarter. Despite some substitution dramas and injury time, we managed to get through by the skin of our teeth.

Round 3: Kaitake – 30, Arahi RD 1 North – 20

The girls seemed to settle nicely into the game with some well executed passes to our shooters and defence rotated well within the circle. The only hiccup was a nasty knee injury to Shuvvy.

Round 4: Kaitake – 17, Kaponga Offloaders – 29

This is our first loss of the season. However, we knew it would be a tough match. The Kaponga girls' defence in the midcourt made us work hard to get the ball down the court. I know this is hard to believe but we need to talk more to each other. Perhaps a chardy or two in the warm-up might loosen up those tongues.

Wunder Player of the Day

Round 2: Shuvvy – A great defensive effort with intercepts and rebounding to rival Vili Davu herself.

Round 3: Melissa L – Some really confident shooting and movement in the circle... This can only mean that Ruth may well be ringing soon.

Round 4: Anna – Good strong marking of her GA with some great airborne intercepts. With skills like hers, you would think her last name was Scarlett. Many thanks to Wunderbar for providing us with a coffee and muffin voucher for this award. Remember girls, support your sponsor.

Kaitake Golf Club

Kaitake Weekend Woman's Golf

The Kaitake Weekend Women's Golf season is in full swing. Our golf clubs are certainly getting a full work out!

This year for the first time we have a new start time on Saturday mornings at 11.30am over the winter months. We have a few members who are mothers and very young grandmothers whose family members participate in winter school sports. It is taking a little bit of time to adjust to this later start time – our normal time is 9.30am and we will revert to this again in August. We also have our Nine Hole Weekend Woman's Golf, which starts at 10am.

We are enjoying fine weather most Saturdays, which is brilliant for this time of the year. Here are the winners of our competitions:

Summer Cup - Jan Davies

Jocelyn Garcia Canadian Foursome - Moyra Grey and Mary Pettigrew Top Dog - June Neale and Carol Mossop

Aotearoa Cup

(Silver Division) - Moyra Grey. (Bronze Division) - Mary Pettigrew.

Coronation Medal - Moyra Grey.

Nancy McCormick - Kris White and Janet Jupp.

Monnie Hannan Trophy-June Neale and Janice Farrant. 36 Hole Stroke Play

(*Silver Division*) - Raewyn Hawker. (*Nett*) - Moyra Grey. (*Bronze*) - Kris White. (*Nett*) - Mary Pettigrew.

2nd Round Ladies Trophy *(semi-final)* - Kris White (won on 18th) V Janice Farrant.

Moyra Grey (won on 19th) V Mary Pettigrew.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Kaitake Golf Club please give Raewyn Hawker a call on 752 7665. *Kris White,* Secretary, Phone 752 7601

Kaitake Netball - Play of the Week

Round 2: Kaitake Wing Defence feeding our shooter the ball into the circle. Oops – ah well the umpire didn't see it either...

Round 4: After a couple of years off, our esteemed Captain stepped up to the mark and played ³/₄ of the game against Kaponga at Centre. She displayed true commitment, typical of any Kaitake player.

Player injury list as of Round 4

We've had a few injuries so far this season, but most have come right after a few days or a week or two. Here are the most recent or enduring:

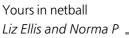
Shuvvy – Looks like a knee injury in Round 3 may take her out of the game for about three weeks.

Jo – Back, but forced back early due to increasing injury toll and shortage of player numbers.

Kelly – Back, pre-existing condition, taking longer than expected to come right. Melissa – Left achilles strain.

However, as elite athletes, we can't promise you this list won't grow as the season progresses! Arnica, ankle supports, physio and lots of post game care are crucial in our recovery. We leave nothing to chance in getting ourselves back, fit and ready to play.

Keep up the good work girls and give those coastal players a run for their money.



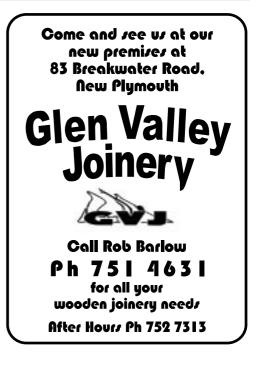


Kaitake Golf Course is an 18 hole, picturesque course, situated 2kms south of Oakura on Surf Highway 45 and 15min from New Plymouth.

For more information Phone (06) 752 7665



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Oakura Boardriders Update

The big news this month has been the success of the New Zealand junior team at the World Junior championships held in Portugal in early May. The team finished in fourth position which is the highest ever achieved by a New Zealand team.



The team started out by winning the annual challenge

against the South Africans –Oakura's Paige Hareb won the Women's, Mt Manganui's Matt Hewitt won the Under-16s, and Tim O'Connor came 2nd in the Under-18s.

The main event followed with outstanding results from Paige Hareb, finishing in 4th place in the girls' Under-18s overall and Matt Hewitt 3rd in the boys' Under-16. Other members of the team to do well were Tim O'Connor, who came 7th in his division and Buck Woods, who came 11th in his.

Unfortunately, the contest was plagued by tiny surf, which was a huge disadvantage for the larger framed surfers but good for our East Coast competitors, who were right at home helping New Zealand to its 4th placing overall.

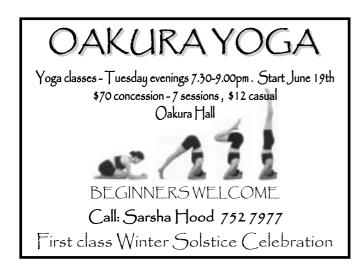
Final team placings:

- 1. Australia
- 2. Brazil
- 3. Hawaii
- 4. New Zealand
- 5. USA
- 6. France
- 7. South Africa
- 8. Tahiti
- 9. Japan
- 10. Portugal



Matt Hewitt from Mt Mauganui took 3rd place in the under 16's.

Paige Hareb went on to compete in a World Qualifying Series contest at Anglet in France the weekend after the World Junior champs and made the semi-finals, another great result.



The weekend of 19 May saw the Taranaki longboard competition held at Fitzroy in nice sunny 3ft conditions, with some great longboard surfing on display. Oakura's Tyler Anderson won the Junior Under-18 division and Chris Davies won the Over-50 division. A good fun time was had by all. See the results below...

Junior: 1st – Tyler Anderson, 2nd – F Lama, 3rd – Thornton Davies

40-49 years: 1st – Mark O'Connor, 2nd – Simon Martin, 3rd – S Raich, 4th – B Weston

50+: 1st – Chris Davies, 2nd – S Teague, 3rd – W Yearbury, 4th – Steve Sadgrove

Women: 1st - A Saisa, 2nd - daisy Day, 3rd - P Weston

Open: 1st – T Kibblewhite, 2nd – Jamie Andrews, 3rd – K Beyer

Upcoming events

- The Blacksand Taranaki Champs to be held on the best weekend over four weeks from 26 May to 23 June.
- The Junior contests in Australia at the end of June early July – the Occy Grom Comp at Duranbah on the Gold Coast and the Rusty Gromfest at Lennox Head – in which a few Kiwi juniors will be competing.
- Taranaki Ripcurl Gromsearch contest is on July 14/15th at Fitzroy.

Brent Anderson



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Since we started retailing snow-boarding gear, our ongoing goal has been to bring in the gear to help take your performance to a new level and we are lucky enough to get the best gear possible, so that you can enjoy your time on the hill.

BOOTS - Recognising that comfort and safety are the most important keys to how much fun you have while riding, we have got instore the top gear in boots, with *Burton, Ride, DC* and *Northwave*.

Keeping durability and style in mind, the creation of this year's boots is on fit and feel from the inside out, ie: outlast and powerlacing.

BINDINGS - Recognising also the importance to deliver maximum board control, response, plus lightness, again we supply *Ride, Burton, Flow* and *Drake* bindings.

BOARDS - Whatever your riding ability and style, there's a board model out there for you.

Our boards range from 101 - 164. *Groom/Piste, Powder, Rails, Jibbing, Burton* and *Ride.*

There will be a board here that will inspire you to push your own personal limits.

SNOW APPAREL - Burton, Volcom, Sessions, Groovestar, or DC - all either Gortex, Entrant, or Thermax.

HELMETS - (Important!) Smith, Red, Proc Tech.

GLOVES - Burton, Dakine (Gortex).

GOGGLES - Optic Smith, Electric, Annon, Dragon - all UV protection.

So get inspired, gear up and ride. Don't get left behind!







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Kaitake Kindergarten

A very exciting project is taking place at the Kindergarten and it all began with a story.

Lynley Dodd's magical counting book *The Nickle Nackle Tree* is gradually being brought to life by the children, with just a little help from teachers Robyn and Eleanor.

The children are recreating the wondrous birds that live on the branches of the Nickle Nackle Tree. Their birds began life as a balloon, which was then covered in papier-mâché, left to dry and then painted and decorated. The results are stunning. The use of colour and different materials are individual to each child – no two birds are the same. The birds can be seen roosting in the Kindergarten's very own Nickle Nackle Tree brought in from the garden.

Improvements to the Kindergarten and the facilities it offers continue. April saw the play bark beneath the adventure play area replaced, ensuring a soft and safe landing. Big thanks to Brian Goodhue, Paul Coxhead, Nick Fleming and Dwayne Keegan for all their efforts – the job could not have done without them. New balls have also been purchased, much to the delight of the children.



Alice & Grace Fleming, Kaitake Kindy with the Nickle nackle maskes.





Each month *TOM* will profile the comings, goings and bits in between of life in Oakura and Omata. If you would like to celebrate the life of a newborn, cherish the memory of the passing of a loved one, share an engagement or marriage, then we would like to feature these people on our *Celebrate Life!* photo page. Think of it as a permanent historical record that you are preserving for future generations.

Email photos and relevant details of births, deaths engagements, marriages or any other celebration from last year or this year to <u>kim@thetom.co.nz</u> or phone 0800thetom for more details.

If you would also like to feature your *Celebrate Life! TOM* person on our website for \$10, contact <u>kim@thetom.co.nz</u>



Stone Rei Hood (4 months) Brother for Dannielle and Sahara, son of Matt and Sarsha. Born 28 January 2007. At home at 4pm. 9lb3oz.

THANKS!

We would like to thank everyone in the community who have supported us through the birth of Sunny. We didn't have to cook one meal for 11 days so thank you to all the people who dropped in with meals and baking and special thanks to Isla Griffen-Wilson and Sarsha Hood for organising a roster. Thank you to all the people who helped pick up children from preschool, kindy and school and who helped look after our children.

What an amazing community to live in.

Chris and Kate Evans



Sunny John Evans (3¹/₂ weeks) Born 6 May 2007. At home at 7.30pm . 9lb. Son for Chris and Kate. Brother for Jay and Izzy.



Weather watching

Omata School has been awarded a "Where There's Water" Community Environmental Grant by BOC Ltd in conjunction with the New Zealand Water and Wastes Association to purchase weather and rainfall monitoring equipment.

All classrooms will have electronic monitoring equipment, from simple temperature and humidity readers for the junior rooms through to



The new weather gear.

complex weather stations for the senior rooms, which display an array of weather data such as wind direction and velocity, rainfall, air pressure, temperature and humidity, dew point and wind chill. These readings are transmitted from the wind, rain and thermo-hydro sensors, which can be easily connected to our computers.

We have also been able to purchase a monitoring unit for the new library, which will record the bush temperature for students to compare with the temperature out in the playground.

We are very grateful to BOC for this grant, which came about from our commitment to our "Water Matters" rich topic, where the students have been studying the environmental issues around water conservation and the water cycle. By having these units around our school the students' interest in water and weather patterns will be sustained well after the topic has ended and will provide information for many future studies.

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2007 National Young Leaders Day

On Sunday 6 May nine students from Omata School travelled to Wellington to take part in the 2007 National Young Leaders Day to be held at the TSB Arena the next day. On the way down to Wellington everyone was very excited and enjoyed the trip, talked continuously in between listening to MP3 players. On arrival we booked into the Wellington Youth Hostel and went off to explore Te Papa and the Wellington water front. After a meal at the Reading Theatre food court we went to a movie. Walking back to the Youth Hostel after the movie was interesting as we encountered the Blanket Man, a well known Wellington identity and several members of the Hurricanes Rugby Team.

While some us talked well into the night, most of us had a good nights sleep and after a guick breakfast of bagels and a visit to the local New World supermarket to purchase our lunch, we walked to the TSB Arena.

Our first impression of the venue was that it was massive and jammed packed with students from all over the bottom half of the North Island and even some from the top part of the South Island all proudly wearing their school uniforms.

The presentation was high tech with big sound and multiple screens, hosted by two very up beat presenters.

The speaker who stood out for many of us was Tim Prendergast who won a Gold medal for the 800 metres running race at the Athens Para-Olympics. Tim has only 5% vision and shared with us some of his failures along with his successes by showing video clips taken at the Olympics. It was very evident that running a fast race in the company of other runners with limited vision is a very robust event.

At the end of the conference a much quieter group of students travelled back to Omata. Everyone felt that they really gained from the conference experience and some felt that if there was a version of the conference for secondary school students that they would really like to go again next year.

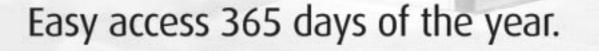
Pat Murphy



Left to Right: Jess Brewster, Julie Richardson, Amber Clement, Shayla Boyce, Nikau Hoeta, Taylor Brisco. Daniel O'Keeffe, Cody Niederberger, William Livingston.



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Useful information: A Term Investment Statement and a Disclosure Statement are available from 158 Bank 136. TSB Bank rated highest in "Excellent" and "Very Satisfied" ratings in the University of Aucidand Bank Customer Survey 1999-2005 and reported the highest customer satisfaction ratings in the Roy Morgan Customer Satisfaction Survey 2006.



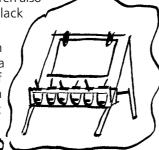
PAINT

As a parent of 3 children I have been through the varying stages of early development with paint. I have seen some amazing artwork from my two girls now aged 6 and 5 and I am now currently back at the beginning stages with my son at Playcentre. The stage where I struggle as my one year old tries to eat the brushes and tip up the cup of paint to drink! Arghh!! This stage would test the patience of a saint I'm sure! But I patiently persevere with him as he loves exploring the medium.

At Playcentre we set the paint easel with a minimum of 3 primary colours and 5 secondary colours. White, yellow, orange, red, purple, blue, green, black. We believe in having all these colours available so what they paint is not limited

by the selection of paint. Children also have a choice of white or black paper.

With paint there is so much learning happening! What a journey! Beside the sense of delight and achievement which painting offers, consider what other values and skills it provides for:



Pre-writing (strokes - ••• vertical, diagonal, horizontal)

Pre-reading (eg - matching brushes to correct pot colour)

Eye-hand co-ordination, muscle control (progression of brush grip, plus use of fine and gross motor skills; see toddlers progress from lifting and dropping the paint brush - with the added taste treat of sucking on the brush!- through to bringing the paintbrush to the surface intended for painting) Yes, Mack and I are getting there!

Originality, creativity

Raised awareness of and sensitivity to colour tones and texture

Rhythm (splat, splat, splosh)

Emotional release

Independence (child's choice of colours, equipment, putting paper on the easel, taking paper down, identifying with their own mark/name)

Non-verbal and/or verbal communication

Full range of play stages, irrespective of age, race or gender

A chance to concentrate and to have fun.

Happy Painting!!

Playcentre is a great way to meet people in your community, make friends and learn about children. Our session times are: Mon & Wed 9am - 12pm. For more information, phone Melissa Newton on 7521056





DINNER MENU

TAPAS/APPETISER

an can Ago	\$ 5.00
se con Ago Jungollad Bread drieded w Garlic Butter	\$ 6.90
'an con Tomate, Aijo y Sul de Mar Durgeñed Bread drieded = Garle, Septenned Tomate & See Sult	\$7.50
'an con Sulaas Avonaticas Ourgefled Bread drieded = Topenade & Basil Pesto	\$ 6.50
Acatumas Refleras Marinated & stuffed Olives & Sun Dried Tomato	\$ 7.55
Pinentos Picante Relleros de Queso de Cabra Sancet Bell Popper staffed y Gouts Cherae	\$ 7.50
Duté Relievas con Jambos Alvanado Bakod Dates wapped in Streaky Bacon	\$ 7.50
Mejflores alle Vinagretta Green Lip Mussels mortvated in Extra Virgen Olive Ol	\$ 8.50
Gambas Al Ajilo Proven assetted + Olive Oli & Garke	
STARTERS	\$ 9.50
Toudstand Prench Orion Scorp PartY seed Lumb Romp = Over Baked Groups Owers & Drieded =	\$15.50
Speed Honey Dargers Park Fried Shelled King Proves Susseed & Garke, Tomato & Herba, atop Garden Greens	\$14.50

14400

MANES	
Spaghons Bolognains	
Freak Posts + Prime Bacef, Tomato Secondo Parmanan	
Spagenti Ala Pomore	\$16.50
Fresh Posts Sunneed & Olivers Pets, Tomato & Presh Herbu	
From & Mussel Rivetto & Inch Herbs & Shaved Formany	\$16.30
Tender NZ1 - + P	\$16.50
Tender NZ Lands Romp Risotto w Garle Manhapone & Shaved Parmesson Spaghets Mariners	\$16.50
Fresh Parts C.	20
Fresh Fasta Southed + Garlie Frowing & Manasch in a Rich Tomato Sania	\$16.50
I served "Dow The Pasta' & Venison, Bacon & Trensto in a Red Wine Survey	419.50
Oticker Carry + Coconst Crean, Freak Contender, Rice & Salad	
Bool & Guiveau Sten & Crowing Marboul Poststeins & Solad	\$19.30
Water School C	\$19.50
Waner Schnitzel w Creany Mashroon Sauce, German Style Pan-Priod Potetoes, Garden Salad	
Ed. d. D.	\$ 22.50
Pish of the Day stop Southed Granuet Privations & Presh Gardon Spirach - While Grain Mostard Gran Source	
	\$29.50
Frine NZ Beef Ege Filet from the Wairanapa w Mushroom & Parmenan Reotto, Saunded Spinach, Slow Rosated Tomato & Sauce Hollandaiae	
Joshe Barl and and a first a	\$29.50
Instan Bay Lands anapped in Flaky Passay in Streaky Bacon & Mushroom top Creany Vegetables	
	+ 29.50



Our Year 7 and 8 children had a fabulous time travelling by bus to Palmerston North to perform at the 2007 Supre Stage Challenge Event. Our theme was Life is a Highway, an analogy for how life is like a journey that holds all sorts of surprises, help and hazards to be overcome.

This theme proved to be very relevant as we did face many obstacles to get Oakura Primary on stage – the biggest being that the New Plymouth Stage Challenge event was cancelled as the high schools that were entered pulled

out for various reasons. Luckily Stage Challenge, Oakura School and the Lion Foundation came to our rescue and we literally took to the highway with our roadworkers, bikies, old people and roadkill, and made our way to the Regent Theatre on 22 May.

The 60 children had an exciting time throughout the day and had the opportunity to watch some highly motivated performances from seven high schools from the Manawatu and Wanganui regions. A highlight was getting a standing ovation from the high schools when it was our turn to rehearse, and also the wonderful feedback that the children received from individual high school students.

The evening performance saw us perform to a capacity crowd of 1,400 and our school did themselves proud with a polished performance! Our head pupils Dom, Lucy, Hannah and

Life was a highway for these Oakura School students when they took their award-winning stage show to Palmerton North.



Rhys also managed to entertain the crowd with their answers to the compere's questions, with Rhys even showing the compere a few tricks with the microphone! We must have also impressed the photographer from the *Manawatu Standard* because the next day our photo was the one chosen to accompany the story in the newspaper.

J'Rock does not give placings for performances but does give awards of excellence and Oakura received excellence awards in the following categories: performance skills, choreography, soundtrack, concept, and drama.

Big thanks to the parents and teachers who worked so hard with us and supplied transport. Plus a huge thank you must go to our dance/drama teacher Raeleen Luckin, who directed and supported the children. As a result the children experienced the thrill of being part of professional quality theatre and found the dancers within them!

Cheers

Caz Novak

UNDERSTANDING AUTISM

"Focus on what I can do rather than what I can't do"

Number seven in Ellen Notbohm's book of *Ten things every child with autism wishes you knew* is about focusing and building on what people on the spectrum **can** do, rather than what they can't. Ellen is Mum to a son with ASD (autistic spectrum disorder), and writes as if from the person with ASD's perspective.

Ellen states that "like any other human, I can't learn in an environment where I'm constantly made to feel that I'm not good enough or that I need fixing." She goes on to say that trying anything new when you're almost sure to be met with criticism, however constructive, becomes something to be avoided. If you look for someone's strengths, you will find them. After all, there is more than one right way to do most things. This, of course is true of all kids – and all people for that matter. It is important to focus on the positive.

Individuals with autism have many positives and because autism is a "spectrum", no two individuals on the spectrum have the exact same abilities. Broadly speaking, these strengths often lie in the visual field in that these individuals are very often visual thinkers and are able to retain facts or pictures long after they have seen them. Many have an eye for detail also. Usually individuals with ASD are honest, don't hold grudges or cheat at games, and don't pass judgments on others.

Next month we get to the "social scene" – an area of great challenge to many individuals with autism.

Karen



Host Families Needed

EF Foundation for Foreign Study is looking for volunteer families for our highschool students from 26 different countries. Explore NZ together, and learn about a new culture!



tom 26

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CLUBS AND GROUPS CALENDER

Mini Groovers: Tuesday mornings 10.00am at Oakura Hall.

Gold coin donation.

St John's Omata: Morning worship 10am 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

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

Kung Fu:

Thursdays 6-7.30pm for 12 years and over. 454 Plymouth Rd, phone Joanna Smith-Holley 752 1016.

Kick Boxing & Self Defence:

Mondays 6-7.30pm, for 12 yrs and over. 454 Plymouth Rd, phone Joanna Smith-Holley 752 1016.

JKA Karate

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

<u>Yoga:</u>

Oakura Yoga - Tuesdays 7-9pm, beginning 19 June, Oakura Hall. Phone Sarsha 752 7977.

Tove Jensen-Munroe. Ph 752 1350, or email tovissma@mac.com for weekly morning class schedules & bookings.

Oakura Meditation Group

Zen Bhuddist based - all welcome. Ph Tove Jensen-Monroe 752 1350. Email tovissm@mac.com for details. Monthly, evenings.

Oakura Art Group

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

Senior Citizens:

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

Twilight Bowls: Fridays 6.00pm at the Oakura Bowling and Social Club. All Welcome.

Indoor Bowls: Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Rex Ward 752 7849.

Country and Western Club Every 1st and 3rd Friday from 8pm Contact Betty West, 89 Wairau Rd, Ph 752 7816

Playcentre Playcentre, Donnelly Street

Monday and Wednesday, 9am to noon.







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find an agent: Anne Wilson

Properties For Sale by Anne

15 Dixon Street, Oakura

Modern, immaculate, totally remodelled home with fantastic views. Near beach and river, with swimming pool and self-contained flat. Call Anne for pricing.

1 Mace Tce, Oakura

Character, 8 years new, 3/4 bedrooms, large living, sea views, large flat section Call Anne for pricing.

7 Mallinder PI, Oakura

814m² freehold section with two removable cabins serviced with electricity and septic tank. Auction 21 June (unless sold prior).

2 Tui Grove, Oakura

Nearing completion. Executive 3 bedrooms, study, 2 lounges.

17 Sandel Rise, Merrilands

New Listing. Executive 3 bedroom, study, ensuite, open/ closed kitchen & lounge. Sep dining, fabulous sea and mountain views. Offers over \$585,000.

3 French Street, NP

New Listing. Cosy 2-3 bedroom bungalow, studio off garage. Fabulous location. \$325,000 neg.

36a Waiwaka Tce, Strandon

New Listing. 3 bedroom, ensuite, double garage, flat section. Offers upwards of \$360,000.

40 Egmont Road, Glen Avon

New Listing. Rural views. Brick, 3 bdrms, 3+ garage, large flat section, new kitchen. Offers over \$299,000.

75 Cutfield Road, Central

New Listing. Sea views, central and elevated. 3 bedrooms, sunny new kitchen & bathroom. Offers.

Properties Sold by Anne

NEA

Fact Sity Bealty Links

38 Wairau Road, 3 Butlers Lane, 3 Tui Grove, 65 Cutfield Rd NP, 69 Fulford St NP, 47a Whiteley St New Plymouth, UNDER CONTRACT 65 Belt Rd, 224A Tukapa St.

PERMIT and PROPERTY







20 Oranga St, NP

For 1st hm buyers in the 200's. 3 bdrms, study, dbl gge.

16 Fox Street, Okato

Vendor says SELL NOW. Near new, immaculate and sunny, 3 bedroom home. 3 bay utility shed to house tools and toys, all within the friendly village of Okato on Surf Highway 45. Offers. Adjacent flat 928m² section also for sale \$90,000.

48b Nevada Drive, Merrilands

Huge Price reduction O/O \$649,000. Large spacious 3bdrm+, study Lockwood. Large living areas and self-contained studio. Fabulous section with lake, on 11000m². Lifestyle within the city.

20 Record Street, Fitzroy

Close to beach and golf course. 3 bedrooms, sunny, modernised and immaculate home. Offers.

6 Lydford Place, NP

Very tidy 4 bedroom home with tandem garaging plus! In a quiet, well manicured cul de sac and close to all levels of schooling, this house will be a very popular choice indeed. Offers.

224a Tukapa Street, Westown

Down driveway, large, immaculate, 4 bedroom family home with 2 living areas and swimming pool. Secluded section surrounded by mature trees. House and 1130m² \$420,000 - with 2285m² \$510,000.

460 Devon St West, NP

Spacious, executive 3 bedroom home with sea views and SC 1 bedroom flat on lower level. Triple car garaging just finishes off this as-new immaculate package. Vendor wants offer NOW!

12 Govett Ave, NP

Large entertaining area, 3 bedrooms, 2+ bathrooms, study, pool and self-contained flat, all set amongst mature trees. Offers over \$455,000

Sections For Sale

Oakura. Selection of 5 sections. Priced From \$185,000. Call Anne for more details.

> Harveys' 2007 Listing Special \$7995 + GST

*Conditions apply. Residential properties only, excludes advertising.



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