

TDM

OAKURA

MAR 2016

TRAINING HARD

NPOB Junior Surf Club members going through their paces at Oakura Beach.

More on page 10



Leo Baas

Lifestyle & Rural Specialist



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TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

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

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EDITORIAL

The recent signing of the TPP Agreement in Auckland and the protests and marches associated with it gave me much food for thought. It made me realise I knew next to nothing about the facts of the matter. There has been plenty of rhetoric on the issue, both in mainstream media and social media with most of it coming from anti TTPA factions. I never find this balanced so I have ignored it so I still know very little on the issues. It was interesting watching news coverage of the protest with reporters asking protesters what they were protesting about and not many of them knew exactly what they were protesting about - so no different from me really. In effect they were a rent a crowd protest group and it does nothing to convince me they have a good point to make.

The process interests me. We elect politicians to run our country, we give them the mandate to act on our behalf - its called democracy - we pay them to do this job and we get on with doing our jobs. Except some are saying this TPP Agreement is not democratic because we don't have a say about it but didn't we elect people to do it on our behalf?? So are the protesters saying that they don't trust our country's leaders to act in the best interests of our country? Possibly they are and possibly they could be right but having seen the ignorance of those protesting I wouldn't trust them round a table negotiating on my behalf. History shows us that politicians can and do get things wrong and that we the general public are needed to keep them honest but to enter into an international trade deal that is not in the best interests of New Zealanders isn't conceivable in my mind - in all negotiations there are trade offs so we have to accept there will be things not compatible to everyone. Trade is about all we have to offer the market place. We can't be self sufficient so negotiating favourable trade deals is in our best interests. Perhaps the protesters are saying it is time to change the way we run our country - perhaps democracy isn't working anymore. I know I'm happy with how our country is run, happy too that small factions have a voice but please don't try and make me believe they speak for everyone and that politicians are the most evil people in the country.

Speaking of TTPA, there seems to be a few ratbags in the village defacing private property and public spaces with graffiti and smashing letterboxes and generally making a nuisance of themselves - be warned the village is watching you, you have been identified and your behaviour is very upsetting to the peace and tranquility enjoyed by all.

Kim

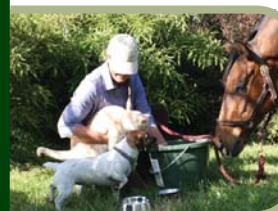


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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi everyone.

By the time you read this I hope we've had some rainfall to top up our water supplies and keep our gardens green.

Taranaki is unusually dry for this time of year – which has been great for holiday makers but rough for those who earn a living off the land (or who want to get a decent crop out of their vegetable patch).

Oakura is fortunate to have its water supply coming from an aquifer. The town's supply isn't affected by dry periods, but as an aquifer doesn't have a limitless amount of water it's good management for residents and businesses to be smart with their water use regardless.

If you'd like some tips on how to save water, check out our Water Usage and Saving Water webpage on our website at newplymouthnz.com.

Organic waste recovery

A report commissioned by all four councils in the region has found that about 85 per cent of organic waste in Taranaki is being beneficially reused – largely from the food and timber processing industries.

The region sends 25,000 tonnes of organic waste to the landfill annually – with 4,000 tonnes being kitchen or food waste and 2,300 tonnes being green waste from New Plymouth District households.

As part of the review of our Waste Management and Minimisation Plan, Council staff are investigating how to improve the recovery of organic material in the district – which will include establishing a new target for organic waste diversion from landfills and adopting an action plan to achieve it.

That action plan might include a kerbside collection for residential food waste.

The important thing is that we'll be consulting with the community so that everyone can have their say on the matter. Please keep an eye out for more information on this in coming months so that you can be involved in planning our management of organic waste.

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Puke Ariki
MUSEUM LIBRARIES TOURIST INFORMATION



**Oakura
Library**

Join us on Thursday 17th March at 10am for Crackerjacks, pre-school story time. It's a fun filled half hour of stories, singing and craft. No booking necessary.

These photos are from some of our recent library programmes.

Right: Jessica Field holding her Kōkako picture.

Below: Oliver Butler dressed as a pirate for our summer reading programme finale with pirate show Festus McBoyd.



For our kōkako programme we were raising awareness for the current conservation effort underway to bring back the endangered bird to our region. "Tamanui the Brave Kōkako of Taranaki", a beautiful picture book written by Puke Ariki librarians Linley Wellington and Rebecca Beyer is available in our library. "Decimated by the marauding armies of possums, rats, stoats, cats and goats that had invaded the Parininihi forest reserve,

the Taranaki kōkako population had been reduced to just one bird. That bird was Tamanui, and he carried the hopes of the future on his wings.

Rescued from certain death by the Department of Conservation, Tamanui was named by local iwi Ngāti



Tama, who also pledged that they would find a way rejuvenate the forest so that Tamanui and his whānau could return home safely. Tamanui was taken to a captive breeding programme at Pukaha/ Mt Bruce Wildlife Centre, where

he thrived, producing chicks with his new mate Mapara, while Ngāti Tama began working on a pest eradication project to make his home safe again.

Tamanui died in 2008, but his genes live on in his progeny, and the project to bring the kōkako back to Taranaki has gained momentum."

Happy reading,

Charlie and Vincenza

Kids' Health the Focus Heading into New School Year

We all know when kids are healthy and active they are better equipped to succeed at school.

That's why this Government is committed to giving our children the best possible start in life. Around 780,000 children under 13 are benefitting from free GP visits and prescriptions thanks to the \$90 million invested over three years in Budget 2014. Latest figures show the rates of children under 13 visiting their GP is 23 per cent higher when compared to the same quarter last year. So far 99 per cent of GPs around New Zealand are offering free GP visits for under 13s.

Results have been particularly good for Māori and Pacific children. There was a 25 per cent increase in the number of Māori, and a 21 per cent increase in the number of Pacific children being seen by their GP – a great result.

With more children starting school for the first time this year, we're already on track to exceed last year's B4 School Checks numbers. In 2014/15 the programme reached a record 92 per cent, that's over 58,000 pre-schoolers across the country – the highest rate since the programme began back in 2008. It's been particularly encouraging to see an increase for Māori and Pacific four-year-olds with 87 per cent of Māori children and 88 per cent of Pacific children getting their B4 School Check last year.

The B4 School Check includes hearing, eyesight, height, weight, and oral health assessments, as well as

comprehensive health and development questionnaires. Checks are provided free through a range of community health services.

On 1 July a new childhood obesity health target will come into force. Under the target, 95 per cent of children identified as obese in the B4 School Check will be referred to a health professional for assessment and family based nutrition, activity, and lifestyle interventions. The health target is one of 22 initiatives which form part of the Childhood Obesity Plan.

This National-led Government is committed to giving children the best start to life, and ensuring kids develop healthy habits early on to prevent poor health in adulthood. As the school year begins it's good to know our children's health needs are being better met than ever before.

JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH



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Kaitake Community Board

Isn't it ironic that just on the very day council announced water restrictions would be in place for all of the New Plymouth District down came the rain. While it will have been an inconvenience for those folk still holidaying in the community, I'm absolutely sure the local farmers who have really been struggling to deal with the prolonged dry spell will be delighted. I just hope there is enough in it for them.

The KCB has been quite busy over the past month promoting the community consultation document it put together with a focus group of local professionals. The project is attempting to find out how the community thinks Oakura should develop over the next 20 or 30 years. As part of that process a community engagement meeting was recently held in Oakura Hall. It was very well attended by over 40 local folk who provided some excellent feedback and ideas. If you haven't responded and still wish to do so the consultation document is available from the Four Square or the Oakura School office. Or you can always email your thoughts through to me (email address at the bottom of this column).

One of the overriding conversations at the meeting centred on the traffic woes we all experience on the main road. We all know that Highway 45 will never shift. It will always intersect our village. However serious thought needs to be put into a long-term plan to safely improve traffic and pedestrian flows in and around the village, emphasising the Corbett Park/Victoria Road entrances, Oakura Pa entrance, Highway 45 intersection with Hau Lane, Dixon Street and Butler Lane, and Highway 45 intersection with Wairau Road. Doing nothing is not an option. It was certainly ironic to come away from that meeting to learn there had been yet another accident at the Corbett Park entrance. As a result of that incident a number of locals contacted us and subsequently have made submissions to the New Zealand Transport Agency. The NZTA is responsible for the country's highway network while in the NPDC is responsible for the secondary roads in the community. I will be meeting shortly with the council's roading team and the senior safety engineer from NZTA to seek some assurances that something will be done. Doing nothing is no longer an option.

By the time you are reading this the Oakura School's 150th Jubilee celebrations will be ready to start. A very committed team, led by Claire White, has worked long and hard to get the event ready. We are very lucky to have such a group in our community and I do wish them every success for a memorable and well-attended function.

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

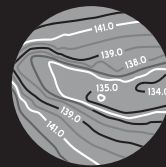
Doug Hislop (7527324, douglashislop@gmail.com) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead and Richard Jordan who is the Council representative on the KCB.

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The Cake Carriage -

CARRIAGE CAFE SERVES UP A CAKE FEST

Sharlene Walker from the Carriage Cafe is very excited to have Oakura's iconic cook working on board - Jo Cook - world famous in Oakura for her cakes and savouries!

It is hard to believe that the Carriage Cafe has been operating for five years, but it has, and now attracts visitors from all over the world.

Jo Cook is thrilled to be working at the Carriage Cafe and is relishing baking her extensive range of cakes, biscuits, tarts and savouries. If you have tried one of her Neenish tarts or carrot loaves you'll appreciate her talents.

The duo have many plans up their sleeve in the months ahead including making cakes to order. If you have a special occasion coming up and would like a delicious iced cake made then the Carriage Cafe is an option. Jo will decorate any cake in any design and take the hassle out of birthdays, celebrations and special occasions for you.

There are a couple of things you may not know about the Carriage Cafe - one is they serve organic locally roasted coffee - Inca Fe - I can recommend it - sweet and full bodied.

The other very important thing you may not know is that they are pretty much the only eatery/cafe open on a Monday anywhere from Opunake to New Plymouth.

Sharlene and Jo are presently exploring the possibility of developing a gluten free, low fat, low sugar menu and more healthy options in their new menu. Call in and discuss with them what you would like to see in the cabinet and on the menu - they'd love to hear from you.

The Carriage Cafe is kid friendly with lots of toys and space for children of all ages to play in. The gardens out the front have recently been revamped and all and all make the Carriage an attract place to eat delicious food and drink yum coffee.

by Kim Ferens



Below, left:
Neenish
tarts.

Top: Carrot
loaves.

Right: Rice
salad.



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The Three Mustangeers!

Way back in 2014 possibly earlier three locals were dreaming of owning the soon to be released first ever factory made right hand drive Ford Mustang. Ford were putting out a 50th anniversary Mustang in 2015 to celebrate the success of the quintessential American muscle car and this sixth generation version was going to be made to suit New Zealand and Australian drivers

(along with the British and other markets). The gossip round the traps for those interested was that you had to get into a Ford dealer quick smart and place a forward order to secure a vehicle.

Myself, Ian Scott and Graeme Churchill did just that and somehow managed to get at the head of the queue. Colours and other specifications had to be sorted out, deposits paid, extras added and then the long wait started with

dates of delivery promised then changed until 2015 had nearly expired. Over this time us three had bumped into each other on various occasions and ascertained that we had all ordered the same version and in the same colour so three "deep impact blue" V8 fastback GT's were coming to Oakura - so why?

Graeme Churchill's Mustang story begins in 1965 when he saw his first Mustang and wanted to own one from that day. It had been on his bucket list for a long time and not wanting to drive a left hand drive model, it has been a long wait. When Ford announced they were going to produce a right hand drive model Graeme thought "now is my chance!" After a brief discussion with wife Laurel it was all go. The Graeme Churchill name went down on the waiting list, the deposit was paid and the wait began. Graeme says the wait has been worth it as the Mustang has exceeded all his expectations and he feels he is "living the dream".

Ian Scott's Mustang story also begins in 1965 with a dream to own a right hand drive model. It was all thanks to the 60's movies with boy racers driving around in Mustang's living the "good life". Obviously Ian didn't buy a right hand drive Mustang in 1965 but he did meet Margaret and he did buy a Ford Falcon Futura - right hand drive and so began his love of the muscle car. When Margaret and Ian started their family the Futura wasn't a suitable "bassinet" carrier and the family moved on to Fairmonts.

Over the years Ian has owned many Ford's but has always hankered for that Mustang so when the rumours of a right hand drive model was first circulated on the net, Ian was into Energy City Ford to get more information and get on the "Mustang list". Ian was able to celebrate a very special birthday with the arrival of his Mustang and he has enjoyed driving it ever since. He says it has lived up to his expectations and beyond with perhaps the exception of not having anywhere handy to drive "real fast"!

My Mustang story begins with a humble Ford Cortina way back in the 80's - I learnt to drive in a Ford! I have no



particular allegiance to Ford or any make of car but it kind of tickles me that my first ride was a Ford. I was 19 before I had my first ride in a sports car and that was a Porsche 911 in the Adelaide Hills. I was definitely hooked on sports cars following that experience. I never ever thought I'd own a sports car of my own. Dave, my husband has a passion for Jaguar's and in recent years I have enjoyed regular outings in that particular marque. I learnt to drive on the quiet country roads of coastal Taranaki and there are many long straight rounds connecting one town to another between Stratford and Okato. I learnt to drive fast and regularly clocked 100 miles an hour and I loved it (the poor Cortina!) We didn't live in such a PC world back then and there certainly wasn't any fear on my part about going fast and when you think how unsafe cars were, probably a bit reckless but I'm glad of that freedom. Over the years I have never had another Ford to drive except my son's Festiva (doesn't count) and every Bathurst I would barrack for Holden (that might change now). So why a Mustang? I'm still not really sure except having read a few novels with heroine's riding off into the sunset in Mustang's caught my imagination and every time I saw a left hand model or converted model I would oggle it enviously. It seemed a match made in heaven when I was turning 50 and so was the Mustang - two peas in a pod! And I love it!

By Kim Ferens

SPORTS

Oakura Bowling Club

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The pairing of Wayne Robinson and Ray Haslip won the Club Pairs Championship in a close fought victory over last year champions, Adam Collins and Rex Phillips. Congratulations to both Wayne and Ray as it is their first Oakura Club Championship title.

Steve Muller took out the last remaining Club Championship defeating Adam Collins in the Junior Singles final. It was a tough and absorbing battle with both players treating the small crowd to a display of high quality draw bowling and shot selection. After a marathon 28 ends, Muller finally edged out Collins for a 21-18 victory.

All members of the community are welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club to watch the final 2 club competitions. The Collin's Trophy and the President's Trophy are scheduled to be played over February, March and April. Please contact the Club on 06 752 7639 for playing dates and details.

INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

A win ratio of 76% has secured Oakura a winning lead in the mid-week Avery Cup competition with 1 round remaining. Well done to all the contributing players with special mention to team selectors, Brian Wickham and Roy Phillips.

The Gilmour Cup and Saturday Shield competitions have been completed with Oakura finishing mid-table in both tournaments.

BOWLER OF THE MONTH

This month's award goes to Allan Bridgeman. Allan had an excellent year winning 3 out of the 4 club championships played this season. Allan won the Singles title and skipped both the Fours and Triples to victory. He will be the player to watch in both the upcoming Handicap Singles and Collins Trophy competitions.

CLUB NEWS

Congratulations to Adam Collins who has been selected in the Taranaki men's team to contest the Hexagonal Tournament played at Palmerston North. Adam's consistent performances at club level and inter-club matches will see him leading in a new look fours combination for this 2 day event. The Club wishes Adam and the Taranaki team a successful competition.

Special thanks go to Mike Vickers and Bruce Jackson for their great work in maintaining the surrounds of the club throughout the year. The surrounds are always presented in pristine condition and enhance the enjoyment of playing bowls at Oakura.

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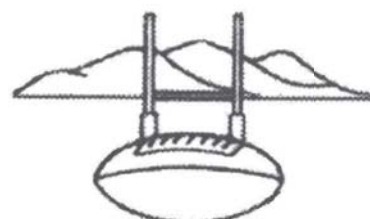


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**KAITAKE RUGBY
CLUB**

Kaitake Senior 3rd Rugby

We have a few potential players seriously interested in resurrecting a senior 3rd rugby team for this 2016 season. In order to submit a team, we need to gauge exactly how much interest there is, so if you are keen to turn out, please register with us by phoning Les Nairn (Whiskey) 06 752 7132 or text 021 751 385.

Or turn up for touch rugby at Corbett Park, Oakura, Thursdays at 6.30pm.

The touch rugby is open to all, so even if you're unable to turn out on Saturdays, you are most welcome to have a run around on Thursdays with us.

GETTING WET



Oakura Boardriders

What a summer and long may it continue. The warm water has seen all our local beaches packed with swimmers and the small swell days have let people enjoy the beach safely.

The club hosted the first of the Surfing Taranaki Microgroms contests. Very small waves greeted everyone but the decision was made to run and it turned out a great day for the young competitors with just enough swell for them to have a great day. The rest of the series coming up are at Fitzroy, Waitara, and Opunake over the next few months, keep an eye out for dates on our Facebook page.

The weekend of 13-14 of February saw the running of the Oakura Boardriders/Mike Christiansen Memorial Longboard contest; this was run at Ahu's then moved to Weld. Some great waves were had throughout the day and a lot of fun with some great surfing by the really young guys and the really old guys and a big turnout! Now I hope I have the names right but great to see Koah Shewry, Edward Poole and Owen Ellington competing. These are young kids who are following in the footsteps of some Oakura kids before them who are still there competing today, but these guys are in there mixing it up with the adults and having fun, living the life and getting a few waves - their parents should be proud!

End of the day there has to be a winner and once again Manu Schafer took the honours with Eli Smith in 2nd, Sam Bound in 3rd and Rick Christiansen in 4th. Sorry didn't get a list of sponsors but you know who you are and we sure appreciate your support - Mike would have been proud and especially to those that managed to go through to the small hours rocking away to Jonah Lake who played a gig at the club that night, nothing like a party to follow on.

For those who don't know, Mike Christiansen was really the man behind the club along with Paul Lobb. They had the initial dream and drove our formative years along with a small hardcore crew. Unfortunately Mike was taken from us far too early but loved his long boarding and the club so it is a fitting memorial and great day that always brings a lot of people out of the woodwork, long may it continue!

Club renovations are still a work in progress but we finally have the materials so completion is not far away. The next chapter of the club and the new skate park will be great for the community.

The second round of surfing lessons and coaching will run through March. This has been very popular and a great summer has been a real bonus, hopefully people have got a lot out of this program. It has become a monster that requires a lot of organising and running but the team has done really well so thanks to all involved, this program can only get better.

Remember all, club champs Taranaki Anniversary weekend, registration at the club Friday 11th of March.

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



Owen Ellington.



Edward Poole.



Manu Schafer.



Father and son, Brent and Conner Anderson.



Paul Lobb.

NPOB Junior Surf Club

It has been a fantastic season for Junior Surf this year with a large number of new families welcomed to the club for 2015-2016. It is always exciting to see so many nip nips, nippers, cadets and rookies on the beach every Sunday. The weather has been amazing and the dedicated team of volunteer coaches have done a great job keeping the sessions fun and varied. For our youngest members, learning about the beach environment in a safe and fun manner is paramount and the smiley faces of our young nip nips shows that this is being achieved.

We had the inaugural Central Region Junior Surf carnival, held at Oakura at the end of January, with a fantastic turnout and some outstanding individual and team results. We were very well represented on the medal podium, coming second to East End as the best overall club by only 4 points (144-140). I think the most impressive thing about the day however, was not all the medals, but the determination by all members to go outside their comfort zone and complete difficult races in what were very trying surf conditions. This was also the first time the kitchen was used in our new clubrooms. A few parents did a brilliant job making food for the children and parents on a very busy day. The comments from the clubbies regarding the varied and delicious menu on offer, and the amazing space in which to eat it, was super positive and something we will be hoping to repeat in the near future.

We had two families venture North to Orewa for the Northern Regions Carnival. For a club with only 4 members representing, they did a great job. Results were: Fenton MacArthur (U11 boys) 9th Board Race and Diamond Race (combo of swim and board).

Hunter Robinson (U11 boys) 3rd Diamond Race, 2nd Board Race, 4th Surf Race, Final 10 sprints and flags.

Maggie Robinson (U10 girls) 2nd Diamond Race and Board Race, Final Surf Race.

Kingston MacArthur (U10 boys) 5th Board Race, Final Diamond, Top 10 Flags.

We have several big events coming up. We have two twilight carnivals at Ngamotu on Thursday 18th and 25th February. This is for 10-14 year old kids and focuses on tube and board rescue as well as surf races. Taranaki Champs is on the 21st February at East End, this is for children aged 7 to 14 years. Some of our 10-14 year olds will be attending

Oceans at Mt Maunganui in March. This is a huge national carnival, where all the clubs throughout New Zealand compete over 4 days. This year we are sending a team of around 20 competitors. They have been training very hard over summer to achieve their best personal and team goals. You may have seen them in and out of the water in their pink vests on a regular basis. I would like to wish them all the best for this event. Hopefully we will have a write-up regarding all these events in the next TOM.

NPOB Junior Surf team would also like to thank the lifeguards who are making our beaches a safer place this summer, and hope that many of our young members will be keen to become lifeguards in the future. Enjoy the beach, the beautiful weather and stay safe in the water. Don't forget to keep a close eye on all children at the beach and if you aren't sure about the surf conditions ask a lifeguard or don't go in.

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The Taranaki Classical Guitar Summer School 2016

From 11th to 16th January 2016 the third Taranaki Classical Guitar Summer School (TCGSS) was held, with record registrations. Featuring some of the world's finest classical guitarists, this event brought together educators, students, professionals, amateurs, composers and luthiers, to New Plymouth for six days and nights of intense fun and rewarding learning.

How did it all start? Classical Guitar Summer Schools are very popular and numerous overseas, but sadly none had been organised or held in New Zealand for almost 20 years and so in 2011 it was time to redress the situation. One of the most important features would be a strong feeling of camaraderie amongst all participants.

I contacted a friend of mine, Kiwi born but Canberra based, John Couch and asked him if he would be interested in joining me on this project as Artistic Director. He said yes straight away, and the rest, as they say is history. His suggested we enlisted his wife, Wendy Dimond, to create, develop and take care of the website - and so she became our invaluable administrator. We are a 'not for profit' organisation and so the planning, administering, and running of the TCGSS is achieved entirely by volunteers (us!)

All three events, January 2012, 2014 and 2016, received glowing reviews; the following testimonial from one of our participants reflects very much the overall feedback we have been receiving after each event:

"Many thanks Dominique, how proud you must be of the event and the great spirit and wonderful concerts and the great friendliness and openness of your Kiwi friends especially towards us Aussies who came across.

John, Australia" (abridged)

This from one of our artists:

"Dear Dominique!

It was an absolute pleasure and privilege to be part of the 2016 Taranaki Classical Guitar Summer School - the perfect opportunity to meet, like-minded people and catch up with friends from previous New Zealand guitar summer school events. An absolute highlight was getting to know today's highly talented young players and witness their fine performances. The future of classical guitar in New Zealand looks very bright indeed.

Sincere greetings and best wishes to all my new friends!

I feel it might even have been a life-changing experience. Before the summer school I have had doubts about what I'm doing and trying to achieve as a musician. Now it seems there is a real purpose - things have a context while also being put into perspective. I hope that makes sense!

Thank you so much for helping to make the summer school possible and run so perfectly.

I hope you can now enjoy a well earned rest and relaxation!

All best wishes,

Bruce"

In 2016, our participants came once again from the four corners of NZ, east and south Australia, whilst our artist faculty hailed from NZ, Australia, UK and Greece. Our numbers peaked at 88. Typically the days' sessions will start at 09:30am and finish at 5:00pm. These sessions include a mixture of ensemble and orchestra work, workshops and masterclasses for the participants. The TCGSS caters for a wide range of abilities and is pitched towards beginner students from Trinity Guildhall grade 2 through to advanced tertiary level guitar playing. The school supports students of all ages - our age range has been from as young as 10 to over 80! In 2016, we welcomed a whole family from Australia, comprising of mum, dad, and their two boys aged 9 and 11.

The tutors focus on musical interpretation, pedagogy, technique, sight-reading and preparation for competitions and professional concerts. The school places a strong emphasis on ensemble playing, which is one of the best ways to improve musical skills such as keeping in rhythm,





playing without stopping, and listening to others while concentrating on a part. This provides a highly positive experience to the registrant's music making, together with the high level of talent and dedication of our tutors creating an inspirational atmosphere for all students.

Lunchtime and evening concerts are held every day by our world class artists. We also stage one students' concert mid-week - a favourite with everyone. All concerts are advertised to the public with limited amount of tickets available for these concerts. On the final day of the school, Saturday, a free public concert is staged featuring the tutors and all the students of the ensemble groups, each of about 16 to 18 players, and the



orchestra playing - an impressive 65+ guitarists on stage. In 2012 and 2014, this was held at the TSB Bank Festival of the Lights, however logistics proved too difficult and we have now opted to stage this string extravaganza at the 4th Wall Theatre, our preferred concert venue.

Although each event has been a great success and joy, I rate 2016 as the best so far... probably because more of my students registered this time round: six just from Oakura, and one other volunteered her time during the week. So rewarding.

I will conclude with this last testimonial:

"There are no words to describe my experience, I have made friends for life and being surrounded by like minded people was just magnificent. So can't wait for the next one!"

Thanks heaps for all your hard work, it was so worth it :-)

Kate"

But don't take our words for it, check us out on line www.taranakisummerschool.com and visit our FB page. Or better still, join us next time: TCGSS 2018 is well under plan and we'll be plucking on from the 15th to 20th January, 2018. If you don't play already, TCGSS is the best reason to start learning without further delay!

*Dominique Blatti, Classical Guitar Studio,
TCGSS Coordinator, NP Classical Guitar Society President
email: dominiqueblatti@gmail.com
web: guitartaranaki.com Ph. 752 740.*



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weekdays. These sessions can be designed for any age, any fitness level (e.g seated exercises) and can run for any length of time. A programme designed specifically for you!

COSTS :-

Adults \$10pp, Buggy Sessions \$10pp, Teenagers \$8pp (payment cards available for all sessions).

Personal Training costs : please contact me to discuss.

SO ... it's a New Year, set yourself a new fitness regime 'coz it's on your DOORSTEP!!

Bring a sweat towel, drink bottle and a smiley face ☺ and check it out. Your first session is FREE!!

For further information please ring me, Pippy, on 022 104 1851, or email me on pippyspt@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook; PippysPT

See you real soon ...



PUBLIC CLASSES

Public classes are open to ANYONE (men and women) of ANY fitness level, EVERY weekday morning from 9.15-10.15am and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.30-6.30pm. These run on a casual basis, just rock up and join in!

TEENAGERS CIRCUIT/BOX FIT

ALSO running teenagers' circuit/box fit sessions Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 4.15-5.15pm, but you must commit to a term and let me know your attendance please.

BUGGY CLASSES

NEW for 2016, “Buggy Classes”. Mum's, dad's and caregiver's come and exercise with your baby or toddler in a safe and fun environment at Corbett Park. If its wet we'll go inside the clubrooms. Core strength and cardio exercises performed with your buggy – great stuff!! A sociable, fun way to get those bodies back in shape. Let me know if you're interested and a time and day that suits you best.

PERSONAL TRAINING

For those who prefer to train on their own or with a couple of friends, I am available for “personal” training sessions at the clubrooms between the hours of 10.30am to 2.30pm



oakura schoolnews

WELCOME TO OAKURA SCHOOL, 2016

We have had a fantastic start to the year here at Oakura School. The sun has been shining, we have been enjoying lots of swimming and we are all ready for learning.

Our students have been lucky to have work done on their classrooms to upgrade them into modern learning environments. Rooms 9, 10 and 11 are now all connected and we have some great new learning spaces for group work, quiet work and teaching. The new colours are really different and our space is brighter and more interesting. We can't wait to see what Rooms 4, 5 and 6 will look like when they are finished.

We welcomed 27 new students to our school at the beginning of the year. It's great to see our school growing and the new members of our community being welcomed and included by our thoughtful and caring students.

Our new teachers are Mr James Willson, Mrs Amanda O'Dowda and Mrs Anna Trinder. Mr Willson is teaching one of the Year 7 & 8 classes in Room 9 and is the new team leader. He has come to Oakura School from Matapu School. Mr Willson is an experienced Year 7 & 8 teacher and leader and he loves sport. Mrs O'Dowda has joined us from Frankley School in Room 5 as team leader of the Year 3 & 4 team. She is also an experienced teacher, especially with Year 3 & 4s. Mrs Trinder (who is an ex pupil of Oakura School) is teaching a Year 5 & 6 class in Room 8. We welcome all of our new teachers to our school and look forward to getting to know them better.



Mr James Wilson.



Mrs Amanda O'Dowda.



Mrs Anna Trinder.

We are looking forward to our annual summer events, such as our swimming sports, beach clean up and the junior triathlon. It's going to be an exciting term and year ahead here at Oakura School.

Natasha Jackson, Katelyn Haire (12) and Theo Keenan (12)

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COMING UP

March

- 14 Taranaki Anniversary.
- 15 Year 7/8 Athletics at Okato.
- 16 pp date for Y7/8 Athletics.
- 17 Year 5/6 Athletics at Okato.
- 18 pp date for Y5/6 Athletics.
- 21-24 AWE Y6 swimming programme.
- 25-29 Easter.
- 30 Weetbix Tryathlon.

April

- 5 Y6-8 inter-school swimming at Bell Block Pool
- 13-14 3D Conferences. School finishes 12 noon, both days.
- 15 Term 1 ends.

LEAD AMBASSADORS

Congratulations to our 2016 Lead Ambassadors: Rockco Lister; Tim Hobson; Awa Lewis; Isabella Roebuck.



Rockco Lister.




Awa Lewis.



Isabella Roebuck.



Tim Hobson.



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SWIMMING

During December and January the families who purchased keys took full advantage of the long hot summer to enjoy time at the pool. Our pool is in full action with daily swimming lessons. Our year 7 and 8 students also go to the Aquatic Centre twice a week for deep water and longer lengths swimming and life saving skills lessons. The school employs Julie Neilson two days a week during the swimming season to take swimming lessons alongside the teachers. This gives the children support with stroke development and supports the teachers with new ideas for teaching swimming. We are so fortunate to still have a school pool in use as many others in schools across the country have been dug out or out of action.

Karen Brisco, Principal



Spotswood College

The school year began positively with a powhiri very well supported by parents and whanau. The process of welcoming new students and staff to our school is an important one and is symbolic of the importance we place upon the development of strong and effective relationships.



Powhiri.

Our Year 13 students have been a significant part of assisting Year 9 students adjust to High School. On the first day the Year 13 Peer Supporters took the Year 9 students around the school showing them where each of their classrooms are and then facilitated team building activities to help students get to know one another. I am very grateful (and proud) of the effort made by our Senior students.



First Day Activities.

Year 9 Orientation Booklets have provided students with a good understanding of their new school and an overview of values and expectations, systems and procedures. Deputy Principals and Deans have worked hard to ensure a smooth start to the year.

2016 PLANNING

Interim 2015 NCEA results show that our trend of year on year improvement has continued and our Year 9 & 11 standardised testing from 2015 also show pleasing improvement. Results will be published in due course.

A key to our continual improvement has been the close tracking and monitoring of individual student achievement

and learning progress. For 2016 the Board of Trustees are funding a new role at each year level to further develop the tracking, monitoring and academic mentoring of students. Student Achievement Facilitators (SAFs) will work with students and teachers to improve outcomes for students even further.

SCHOOL SPORT

Sports teams are currently being organised with Cricket and Volleyball already underway.

Netball have held their trials and put in place coaches for each of the teams. There has been a considerable increase in the numbers of students playing netball this year.

It has been encouraging to see how many students are signing up for teams and for TSSSA events.

Key TSSSA events for this term include:

Yachting, Golf Croquet, Adventure Racing, Beach Volleyball, Surfing, Tennis, Swimming, Touch Rugby, Lawn Bowls, Rugby 7s, Surf Life Saving, Rogaine, Athletics, Triathlon, Orienteering, 3/3 Basketball.

Students need to check notices carefully to ensure they enter these events.

TERM 1 EVENTS

| | | | |
|--------------|----|---|-----------------------------------|
| March | 2 | - | Lawn Bowls. |
| | 6 | - | Rugby 7s. |
| | 8 | - | Surf Life Saving. |
| | 9 | - | PTA. |
| | 10 | - | Komiti Maori. |
| | 11 | - | ID Photos. |
| | 16 | - | Rogaine. |
| | 17 | - | Athletics. |
| | 21 | - | BOT. |
| | 22 | - | World Vision Leadership Training. |
| | 30 | - | Weetbix Triathlon. |
| April | 3 | - | Summer Tournament Week. |
| | 7 | - | Komiti Maori. |
| | 13 | - | PTA. |
| | 15 | - | End of Term I. |

We look forward to a great term. If you have any queries please contact me.

Mark Bowden, Principal





NEW PLYMOUTH BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL

TE KURA TAMATĀNE O NGĀMOTU



Roll Growth

The school year started with 50 more Year 9's than last year selecting New Plymouth Boys' High School as their choice for secondary education. This unexpected roll growth meant the establishment of another Year nine class to ensure the core classes in English, Maths, Science and Social Science were kept at manageable levels.

Our Vision



BE THE EXAMPLE is our simple school vision that covers all aspects of school life including, (but not limited to) academic achievement, effort, uniform and how we treat each other. Be The Example applies to not only the students, but staff and all those associated with the school. This is the standard to which we are all accountable. No one is beyond or above being the very best we can be.

Refreshed Image

The school, with the support of an Old Boy based in Auckland, has undergone considerable research into the school crest. Over the last 130 years, the school crest has evolved, changing from the original intention. The huia became a blackbird, the ponga became a cabbage tree and the mountain lost its shape. The refreshed crest accurately portrays who we were and what we are.

Later in the year a refreshed school uniform will be introduced, for the 2017 Year 9 students.



New Plymouth High School
Insignia - 1882



1911 - 2015



2016 (Refreshed)

Summer Sporting Success

Congratulations to the following teams on their success at competition level.



U15 Rugby 7s Team
Condors 2015 National Winners



1st XI Cricket Team
Super 8 Cricket Finalists 2016
Final yet to be played

A New Management Structure

A new level of middle management structure has been established within the school, to improve communication and accountability. Eight faculties have been established, enabling increased focus on academic performance.



Our Head of Faculties

Upcoming Events:

Swimming Sports - Friday, 19 February

Work Day - Friday, 11 March

Prospective Boarders Open Day - Monday, 4 April

IMPROVING THE FUTURE SINCE 1882



TOM CLASSIFIEDS

COMMUNITY CALL OUT –

OAKURA JUNIOR SCHOOL PLAY KITS

CAN YOU HELP? The junior school teachers are making up play kits. If anyone has any dress up clothes, Lego, cars and trucks, tea sets, puppets, dolls and clothes, plastic food, wooden blocks that they no longer need and are in good order, they would appreciate them for their new kits. Please drop at Oakura School.

MUSIC LESSONS

VIOLIN AND GUITAR. Experienced and qualified music teacher from Brazil. One-on-one and group lessons in New Plymouth, Oakura and Okato. Contact Wellington 027 361 9711 or wellington-violin87@hotmail.com

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We require an energetic person to assist a small team in the exciting creation and maintenance of a New Zealand native tree park, together with ground maintenance of some industrial properties.

Duties will be based around horticultural labouring, the use of horticultural equipment, and horticultural property maintenance, with some nursery work included. A passion for native plants would be beneficial, but not mandatory.

The successful applicant needs to be able to use spray equipment and power tools, be able to work unsupervised, have a full drivers licence and their own transport. The principle place of work will be located at Omata.

Applications should be addressed to:

Carolyn Treeby
Waireka Property Limited
PO Box 2222
New Plymouth 4374

Email: carolyntreeby@wairekproperty.co.nz

ORCHARDIST – PART TIME

We require the help of a person to assist in the care of a private orchard in a stunning location at Omata, New Plymouth.

The hours of work can be arranged to suit the right applicants other commitments.

We will supply appropriate, fit for purpose equipment and facilities. Competent horticultural staff are also available to provide assistance when needed.

Although preference would be given to persons with a knowledge and experience relating to orchard practice, training would be available to the right applicant.

Applications in the first instance to:

ORCHARDIST POSITION

Private Bag 2222

New Plymouth 4342

Telephone: 06 9273469

Mobile: 021 444558

Email: ljmatthews@xtra.co.nz

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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

Functional Crosstraining by Nakifit. Saturdays 7.40am.
Ph 021 297 5465 or nakifit@gmail.com

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

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

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

Oakura Bowling and Social Club. Bowling tournaments begin September through to April with both mid-week and weekend games. For information contact Steve Muller on 06 757 4399.

Oakura Playcentre. 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Kate Garner on 021-254 4769.

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

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

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

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


St John's, Omata. Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School. Oakura Hall. Saturday mornings. Pre-school dance classes 9:30 - 10 am. Beginners' Ballet dance class 10.00 - 10:45 am. Contact Val on 752 7743.

Also classes for pre-schoolers to adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth.

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

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



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