

# T&M

OAKURA

MAR 2017

*Americarna rolls through Oakura - a 10 year tradition,  
photo by Photos for you*

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# 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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## Elaine Rollins makes art accessible at Govett Brewster

Have you ever wondered why a diving board would be inside in the middle of a room? Or why scaffolding poles are set up when there's no building happening? Or where Len Lye came from and why is he revered?

Oakura residents Elaine Rollins, Ellie Field, and Rosie Moyes are in the team offering answers to these kind of questions about contemporary art at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery/Len Lye Centre.

Elaine, who moved to Taranaki from San Francisco, is part of the team stationed in the galleries, six days a week giving gallery goers 'ins' to the artworks. Staff have also recently started hosting free, weekly Exhibition Insights on Sundays, 2 – 3pm.

Elaine says the Govett-Brewster team encourages visitors to ask questions to help them engage with the artists' ideas and processes.

"At the gallery we believe art can challenge conventions and our beliefs in society. Contemporary art is a form of critical thinking and may well be challenging to its audiences. We're here to help people interpret the artworks and contemplate the artists' viewpoints," Elaine says.

Entry to the gallery is free, although donations are appreciated. Please note the gallery is closed on Tuesdays, except for WOMAD weekend and ANZAC Day. Earlier opening hours also for WOMAD.

## EDITORIAL



Yeah, the long awaited summer has arrived - let's all get out and enjoy.

Something I am not enjoying so much in this modern era is the rise in crowdfunding campaigns. In fact I'm heartily sick of them - it's true that you do not have to feel obligated to give to campaigns but as one blogger

puts it "crowdfunding is a depressingly common ritual in the face of tragedy." Giving money needn't be the only way to express grief, sympathy or empathy but it is as easy as clicking a button and voila you feel better - weird!

What needs to be addressed in my mind is the message we are sending our children. When my children went to school we parents worked long hours alongside our children to raise money for school trips, sports gear and resources. As parents we could have just donated the money but chose instead to teach our children the lesson that hard work will get you the funds. Any cause today can register a givealittle page and the funds roll in - no effort required. Think of all the lessons lost and human interactions forfeited.

In essence crowdfunding makes sense - everyone gives a little to spread the load but it's the emotional load - the guilt, the instant gratification, the port of first call in the face of death or disaster that alarms me. I wonder where it will end?

Kim

Details on talks, hands-on art making, opening hours, and cinema screenings are at the Govett-Brewster Shop and online [govettbrewster.com](http://govettbrewster.com).

**below Elaine on tour**



Puke Ariki and the District Libraries received over 200 entries over three age categories for our summer bookmark competition. Oakura's Luke Eagar won in his age category and his design has been made into a bookmark for our libraries to give away. Come in and check out all the colourful artwork.

Join us for Crackerjacks, pre-school story time the 16th March at 10am here at the library. It's a casual half hour of song, story and craft.

Did you know that as a member of the library you may download Overdrive or Borrowbox apps onto your smartphone or tablet and get e-books and audiobooks for FREE! The vast collections include recently released bestsellers as well as many other popular titles.

Audiobooks can be a useful tool for reluctant or dyslexic readers. For children who struggle with reading or aren't particularly interested they can often be the catalyst that sparks an interest in stories. They can enjoy listening to a story and still improve their vocabulary and comprehension level.

Our adult patrons love to listen to them while gardening, doing housework, during long car rides or leisurely walks. One recent favourite, "The Last Thing I Remember", is a gripping crime thriller by Deborah Bee.

Please come in and speak to us if you need any assistance.

A thought from a great philosopher, Winnie the Pooh: "Life is a journey to be experienced, not a problem to be solved."

Happy reading,

***Charlie and Vincenza***



**6yr old Luke Eagar and Vincenza next to his winning bookmark design(Surprise!) at the award ceremony at Discover It!**



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# National committed to the health and well-being of Kiwi kids

National believes New Zealanders deserve high-quality health services and delivering better services remains our top priority.

At the same time, we're focused on delivering better results for New Zealanders and their families. That's why this Government has introduced initiatives committed to improving the health and well-being of Kiwi kids.

This year, 543 schools will take part in Fruit in Schools, which sees high quality seasonal fruit and vegetables delivered each week. Over 104,000 students will benefit from the Fruit in Schools programme which will also help teach them how to live a healthy and balanced lifestyle. Here in the New Plymouth electorate we have seven schools taking part in this programme which is fantastic.

Up to 24 different types of fruits and vegetables are on the menu throughout the country and more than 20 million servings of produce will be dished up over the year.

The Government invests about \$8 million into the Fruit in Schools programme each year. This is being supported by the extra \$568 million going into Health for 2016/17.

Fruit in Schools complements the Government's Childhood Obesity Plan. New Zealand is one of the first OECD countries to have a target and a comprehensive plan to tackle childhood obesity.

The Raising Healthy Kids target was introduced in 2016 and aims to ensure that through the B4 School Check, kids and their families are put in touch with primary healthcare professionals who can check for any clinical risk associated with obesity, encourage families to take action and monitor growth

The B4 School Check programme continues to perform well, reaching 92 per cent of all four-year olds for the second year in a row since 2014/15.

In the six months to the end of December 2016, 29,796 four-year-olds were screened, an increase on the 29,612 screened in the same period in 2015.

In 2015/16 uptake of the B4 School Check was also 93 per cent among those living in high deprivation areas.

All families are encouraged to participate in the free health check. B4 School Check providers are working with other services such as early childhood education, and focusing on hard to reach communities to encourage uptake.

Focusing on results, we are working towards specific, measurable targets to improve the lives of families, particularly the most vulnerable.

*Jonathan Young*

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# Kaitake Community Board

Well our summer weather (except for a few sunny blips) continues unabated. It has been an entirely forgettable season altogether. Regardless of the weather though your community board has had quite a large range of things that has required attention.

By the time you are reading this I am hopeful that the traffic slowing project at the beach end of AhuAhu Road will have been completed by Fulton Hogan. The number of vehicles and the speed they travel at has increased substantially over the past few years, making the road end particularly dangerous for pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders. We have also been chasing up the NZ Transport Agency to do something about the malfunctioning electronic sign in the dip by Oakura Hall. It has been out of action since mid November and the NZTA have told us they will be replacing it. NZTA also told us last year that they had major improvements planned for the Corbett Park-Victoria Road-eastern village entrance area this year. This project came about through the stirring efforts of Sarah Ashworth and others to do something about this particularly dangerous stretch of highway and we will continue to pester away until the project is undertaken.

We have just finished the community engagement exercise in Okato, gathering data to feed into the board's Community Plan. We had over 120 responses to our survey that set out to learn as much as possible about the direction Okato wants to develop over the next 30 years. The Community Plan is a new initiative by Council and the work we have done will enable Okato's vision to be clearly understood by the decision makers. It will provide the opportunity for its goals and objectives to be turned into comprehensive plans, programmes and services to be prioritised in the Council's long term plans and strategies.

We carried out this exercise in Oakura during 2015/16 and plan to do the same in Omata, commencing shortly. The work we have done here and in Okato began as a journey of inquiry but in both instances became an insightful study of both those communities. The success of this project to date is entirely due to the way we went about it. We worked hard at building trust in the project through involving representatives of all sections of the community and always strived to make decisions collaboratively to achieve that end goal. It is a far more rational way of working than the 'top down' approach pursued by Council over so many of the years post 1989 when the new Local Government Act came into force.

It was great to see the Oakura School kids out and about doing their annual street and beach clean-up recently. This is a longstanding and very popular tradition of Oakura School, beginning back in 1972. Applying the concept of 'Think Globally, Act Locally' it was a pleasure to behold this army of determined conservationists marching down the road

to the beach and eagerly hunting for every piece of rubbish they could find. The classes gradually worked their way towards Corbett Park where they deposit their bags of rubbish for the Council to collect. The project was followed by a barbecue lunch, a swim in the river, and some fun and games on the park. The day was rained upon at first but if anything that just added too the great experience of the day for all concerned.

Well that's it for this issue. This year will be another busy one for us. In a diverse and expanding community it is important to stay on top of all developments – they will certainly keep coming at us. Therefore we all need to stay on track and make sure 2017 is a memorable one for us all. Don't forget to check out the KCB's Face Book page so you can keep up with current issues as they unfold.

Ka kite ano. Doug Hislop (7527324, [douglashislop@gmail.com](mailto:douglashislop@gmail.com)) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead and Roy Weaver who is the council representative on the KCB.

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

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# SPORTS



## A New Era for Oakura Indoor Bowls

The Oakura Indoor Bowling Club is looking forward to an exciting and thriving 2017 season with a significant influx of new members from the village and the Tataraimaka Indoor Bowling Club. Tataraimaka closed their doors for the last time at the end of the 2016 season and Merv Hooker, the longest serving Tataraimaka bowling member said, "while it was sad to see the demise of the club, where he had many cherished memories, he and other members were looking forward to resuming old acquaintances and playing for Oakura".

The Oakura club was established in 1952 and for a small club have continually punched above their weight winning numerous Taranaki and New Zealand titles. The club is also keen to build up the community and social aspect of the club with incoming president, Marvin Clough, saying "the addition of the Tataraimaka bowlers will not only significantly strengthen the player base but also inject a fresh social buzz around the club". The club also has a great sense of tradition with three generations of the Jans family playing for the club. Coincidentally, Jack Jans won the inaugural pairs title in 1952 and

his grandson Greg Jans was a member of the winning pairs team in 2016.

The club also coaches the Oakura Primary School teams that participate in events across the province. Mike Vickers, the head coach, said "it's a great thrill to see the kids playing and enjoying the game in a safe, friendly and competitive environment". Indoor Bowling is a sport for all ages, genders and abilities. It costs very little to play and requires only a steady hand and good eyesight to match it with the best. The club offers free coaching to any new players and all playing equipment is supplied by the club. Basically all that is required to play the game is your attendance.

Club nights are played at the Oakura Hall on Mondays starting at 7.30pm. Opening night is March the 6th and the club welcomes all members of the community interested in this great sport to come along and enjoy not only the bowls but the hospitality of the club. For further information, please contact Marvin Clough on 06 7527531.

*The Underarm Bowler*

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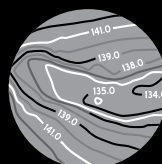


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# Oakura Tennis Club

Our Soffe cup team are currently sitting in third place with one game against Okiawa/Manaia to play. Our A3 Sumpter trophy team are currently leading their competition but still have a few rounds to play.

Midweek ladies section one are currently 5th out of eight and section five are 3rd out of seven teams.

Our juniors are all doing well in the Friday night grades.

Taranaki juniors played Manawatu with a strong showing from Oakura with Jack Mitchell, Lachie White, Beth Tverdich, Anna Oldfield, Taylor Mitchell, Sammy Lewis, Daniel Lewis and Robbie White. The 12s won on a countback but the 10's lost 10-2 although their were quite a few close games lost in tie breaks, the 14's had a close loss 7-5 and the 16's were defeated 10-2.

Cardio tennis and junior coaching is still going strong. We have some free cardio sessions for girls on a Thursday night from 6-7pm so drag a mate along or your mum and join in the fun.

Watch out for our family fun days starting up again on Sunday's.

This months feature team is the section five midweek ladies.

Section five midweek ladies were planning an impressive start for 2017 but unfortunately weather

**back - Roseanne and Anna, front Lee and Sarah - Midweek ladies, section five team**



saw the first game against Pihama rained off.

Roseanne Donovan (aka Capt. Cat) has had the team out training with the ball machine practicing power shots and generally getting match fit for this current round. The team is looking tight and is optimistic that their commitment to the game will see them improve rank over the season. With power house Anna Cleland's (aka The Force) serve, Lee Newton's (aka Sherl) baseline shots, Sarah Ashworth's (aka Crouching Tiger) unpredictability at the net and the strong leadership from Roseanne this team is looking like one to watch. They may not have the skill factor required to take the cup but they certainly ooze entertainment factor. Welcome addition, Jaynie McSweeney (aka GI), will stand in for Ashworth early in the round providing the much needed fire power Crouching Tiger often lacks.

Sadly Monty Shearer passed away Monday 13th February. Monty was a keen sportsman and was pretty handy at tennis winning the Oakura club champ title in 1948.

For club hirage or tennis enquiries contact Jackie Keenan 7527013.

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# GETTING WET



## Oakura Boardriders

We have glimpses of summer and then it's back to wind and rain - it's been a frustrating summer for boardriders but great for kite surfers.

The club has been busy though with lessons when the weather permits, busy social Friday nights with a visit by Swedish musician Jonah Lake playing the night of the 17th February followed by the 'Mike Christiansen Memorial Oakura Boardriders Longboard contest' held in pumping waves at Weld Road.

A very tight final with Manu Schafer finishing in 1st,

Brian BC Clark in 2nd, Jason Coxhead in 3rd and Hamish Christophers in 4th, (pictured right). A great event enjoyed by all who entered and attended.

The next month has a couple of contest weekends, The Tinnies and Twinnies on March 4th with a live band at the Boardriders after and Taranaki Anniversary weekend is always our club champs so follow our Facebook page for updates and info.

Two of our Juniors, Tom Butland and Ariana Shewry both got 2nd places in their divisions at the last Billabong Grom Search at Mount Manganui and after two rounds of the Taranaki Micro Groms series some of the Oakura Kids have shown great form with a large contingent attending, (pictured below).

Points from each contest are amassed and series winners crowned at the end. There are two rounds to go so plenty of time for some movement to the top. Hopefully we get a late run of great weather to show we had a bit of a summer, the last week has had some great surf and a bit of sun so come down and get a coffee at Vertigo under the Club Rooms while you get a new board or that new wetsuit and remember Fridays are club nights, all welcome....

President: Luke Florence; 06 7527889

Secretary: Paul Lobb ; 06 75 27556

*Brent Anderson*







It has been a busy time at the surf club over the last month, hosting four carnivals within four weeks.

The first carnival was the Central Regional Junior Championships, clubs from Taranaki, Hawkes Bay and Wellington attending. We had a terrible freezing cold day with massive, messy surf with the kids from NPOB still managing to put in a huge effort coming out as top club, just beating Maranui Surf Club.

Our next carnival was our local junior carnival, with NPOB taking out first place again. The kids are on a roll. All great practice for Junior Nationals, Oceans' 17 at beginning of March at Mt Manganui.

We have also hosted the Senior Taranaki Champs, a super long day at the beach. It was great to see a few of the NPOB oldies (20 yrs +) coming down and giving it a crack.

With the last carnival being the North Island IRB Championships, another great day with unfortunately a flat beach.

We have also hosted the Taranaki IRB Champs, fantastic work NPOB. You all went hard in windy, cold, miserable and massive messy surf and came out top club! Awesome effort from all of you.

Well done to all competitors and thanks to Casey Stevens and Dean Spicer for all their hard work.

Our Juniors headed down to Opunake to compete in the Junior Taranaki Champs, narrowly missing out on top club by four points. The kids did really well, some great individual results, with six NPOB kids coming out in first place in their age group (6 out of 12 top finishers is pretty impressive). This was a good chance for our Ocean athletes (under 11 – under 14) to have a final hit out before they head off to the Mount to compete at the beginning of March.

Patrols are in full swing and will go through to Taranaki Anniversary weekend, please help our life-guards do their job by swimming between the flags. The last couple of days are beginning to look like summer, fingers crossed it sticks around, the water is certainly a lot warmer than what it has been.

The bar will continue to open over the weekend throughout the season, a pizza and beer is pretty good way to spend a sunny evening! should hopefully get great

Thank you to everyone that contributed to making the Junior Surf Regional Champs a success, both on and off the competitive arena we can be very proud of the way our club was represented. Athletes from all the clubs competing in the surf arenas, showed huge courage and determination in very challenging conditions.

**below left, Dylan Dunlop-Barrett in action and below right, Vaughan Garrett doing what he does best - helps!**





## New Committee 2017

The Kaitake Golf Club welcomes the new Board for 2017. Election of Officers was held at a Special General Meeting on the 13th February with the new board consisting of: John Carthew (President), Karl Watson (Vice President), Chris Sole, Mary Pettigrew, Alan Crawford, Craig Waite. Jono Heath has been appointed Course Convenor and Geoff Andrews elected to the position of Club Captain.

Kaitake Golf Club remains a fantastic asset to our community and one of the first tasks will be to visit our sponsors to maintain their support. Should you wish to join our sponsorship team please contact Kaitake Golf Club as support is essential for maintenance and improvements to our course.

In line with new board members we would like to see new club members enjoying this great golf course. We cater for all age groups and abilities so don't be scared to come along and have a go. Greenfees for 9 holes is only \$15 and we can help you with lessons and equipment. To make it easier for visitors to pay green fees an Eftpos machine has been installed outside for debit entries only.

A new membership has been introduced to encourage those aged 19 to 35 years to become a member at an affordable price. Only \$10 per year of age! For example if you are 19 it will cost \$190 to become an intermediate age group full playing member. This entitles you to enter all competitions or just play golf at your leisure. Too good to miss? See Denise in the office and join now.

Special thanks is extended to resigning members (S. Skene, K. Cavey and K. Mancer) for their valuable contribution they have made to the club.

## Club Results

### Men's Division

Taranaki Handicap Pennants have started with two rounds completed. Kaitake 1 playing in the North section had an early loss to Tumahu 5 to 4 however they bounced back in the second round to overpower Fitzroy 6 ½ to 2 ½. Kaitake 2 are unbeaten in the Southern section trouncing Waitara 8 to 1 and subduing home team Patea 5 ½ to 3 ½.

The new format Kaitake League is well underway and members are jostling for top spots with an early strong showing by Clay Jordan, Ian Johnson, Jono Heath and Greg Dunlop. It will be interesting to see if they can maintain their current form throughout the summer. The Summer Cup is into the semi-finals and given the hot scoring so far, we can expect fireworks in the next round. March will be dominated by the Presidents Cup Trophy and further league rounds. Although summer has not

officially arrived yet we are blessed with the course being in fantastic condition and full credit to the course staff battling an extended spring growth cycle. Quote of the month . "A well hit golf shot is a feeling that goes up the shaft, right through your hands and into your heart."

*Ben Hogan*

### Women's Division

This year, for the first time, weekday and weekend 18 hole women are playing as One Club and have one competition programme. This allows women the flexibility of playing either during the week or at the weekend or both. This is an ideal opportunity to come and join a 'new look' group. New members are very welcome. Check with the office for more information.

The Saturday women have started the season with a bang. The 18 and 9 hole women always mark club opening day by playing Two Ball Best Ball for the Jocelyn Garcia trophy. This year was very significant when the winners were Donna Garcia and Pauline Gray.

The first round of the weekend interclub pennants has been played and Kaitake won against Inglewood, last year's champions. Well done team.

The Summer Cup was the competition for the Opening Day on for the women on Thursday. The winner was Joan Gerrard with Joy Greenlees runner up. Weekday pennants are about to start. Good luck everyone.

### 9 Hole Roundup

"Make Hay while the Sun Shines" – and 18 of the 26 nine hole members did exactly that through the December/January break. Winner of the Summer Cup Special was Chrissy Warden with Angela Hitchman in 2nd, Margaret Briscoe 3rd and Lorraine Parthemore in 4th Place.

Down to business already with Stableford 1, Vase 1 and Putting 1 all taking their place in the results book. Thursday Medley Fruiterers Coraleen Le Breton and Jo W-West.

Pennant opening matches on 13th February at New Plymouth were cancelled with Kaitake to host round 2 on 6th March. Still able to put up 2 teams so the contest continues. Go White, Go Blue.

### Chippers

Would you like to play golf with other children 5 – 12 years? Kaitake Golf Club has a Chippers group that meet every second Sunday between 10.00am – 12 noon for coaching and a few holes of golf.

Membership fee is \$40 for the year that also includes access to play on the course with an adult. The club have sets of clubs the children can borrow. Come as you are - casual dress shoes and a hat. The dates for Chippers during March are planned for Sunday 12th and Sunday 26th March.

Phone the office for more information  
Follow us on Facebook for more information or  
phone Denise in the office, Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Phone 7525667



## New teachers at Oakura School

It's a new year at Oakura School and we will be joined by three new and eager teachers, Jay Smith, Kylee Burgess and Janine Williamson. The students of Oakura School are excited to learn with them and get to know our new teachers for 2017. Here's a bit about them.

Janine Williamson is a very experienced teacher as she has been teaching for nine years at schools in New Zealand and London. Janine loves teaching art. In her free time she likes to go walking and tramping. She is enjoying Oakura School and likes how all the students give everything a go and are always helpful and friendly. We are sure that she will enjoy teaching the children in room 5.

Jay Smith is a New Zealander who has been teaching in England and New Zealand for 22 years and counting. He enjoys teaching the kids of room 9 and practicing different skills including drama and computing. Outside of school Jay likes to create music using computers. He loves the outdoor environments at Oakura School and plans to use them more often. The children of room 9 love having Mr Smith in their class and hope he loves being there.

Kylee Burgess thinks the children at Oakura School are fantastic! She loves how the teachers, children and families of Oakura School are so friendly and welcoming. Kylee is enjoying working with Miss Proffit and loves the philosophy of play based learning and discovery learning in the junior school. Kylee has taught in numerous schools in Taranaki and its wider district and Wellington. She spent time last year studying for a Post Graduate Diploma in Education after winning a study award in 2015. Kylee is passionate about transitioning children from Early Childhood to school and especially loves teaching reading, writing and art. Her hobbies are running, walking and yoga, as well as spending time with family, friends and her dog, Charlie.

We look forward to getting to know our three new staff members even more and welcome them to our school and community.

*Lily Stoddart (age 12), Amy Parr (age 12), Holly Stoddart (age 12) and Ella Coates (age 12)*



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## Coming Up

March

- 13 Taranaki Anniversary
- 14-17 AWE Y6 swimming programme
- 21 Year 5/6 Athletics at Okato
- 22 Year 7/8 Athletics at Okato
- 28 pp date for Y5/6 Athletics
- 29 pp date for Y7/8 Athletics  
Weetbix Tryathlon

April

- 4 Y6-8 inter-school swimming at Bell Block Pool
- 5-6 3D Conferences  
school finishes 12pm both days
- 13 ANZAC Commemoration 1pm  
Term 1 ends
- 14 Easter

## Lead Ambassadors

Congratulations to our 2017 Lead Ambassadors  
Eden Hill, Reef Pratt, Annie Jones, Joshua Borostyan.

## BoT Update

As 2017 is kicking off, we reflect on the end of last year which culminated in the vibrant and exciting production. Congratulations to our wonderful team of young actors, cast and crew for the production of 'Pictures at an Exhibition'. What a great way to finish the year showcasing the great depth of talent at Omata School. Students from year one right through to year eight showed great confidence and stage presence entertaining everyone from start to finish. The artworks that the classes created for the set were very impressive. It is great to see them now on display. Thanks so much to all the teachers who made this happen with special thanks to the talented team of Jan Aiello and Raeleen Luckin who brought the music alive. Well done everyone!

This year we have a seventh classroom operating in the library which has meant the library being relocated to

the 'Theatre', which is between rooms 2 and 3. When the BoT built the library back in 2007, they made sure that it would be big enough to turn into a classroom if one day that was needed, and that time is here. With decisions we make now, it is important that we make sure we allow for any flexibility that may be needed in the future.

Hamish Logan - Chairman

## Year 7 and 8 Class report for 2016

Another year is over and the final curtain has been drawn on our school production. Theatrical productions are one of those few endeavours where everyone at Omata School, (all our students, all our staff, outside technical people and parent helpers) are working for a single purpose and the final success is completely dependent on team work. Last year's production was even more special as it was written in house, with student input, the script evolved during rehearsals. The context of the show gave teachers a chance to explore some of the art of the masters and the art works on stage were collaboratively created in the classrooms with all students claiming some part of the finished results as theirs. In Room 6, it gave us a chance to look at the inventive mind of Leonardo de Vinci and the creative mind of Heath Robinson. This inspired the wonderful sweeping machines that appeared on stage, designed and built by Lochi and Ben. The students all finish on a high, as they know they have been part of something bigger than the sum of parts. For our Room 6 students who are expected to take on the lead roles, the excitement and elation of the public performance is an experience never forgotten, while the boost to an individual student's confidence is immeasurable. It is also exciting to see individual students step up, sometimes way beyond expectations. All this helps to grow our students as confident, articulate learners who are still excited by learning and builds a readiness and maturity in their outlook that will enable them to make the most of the next steps in their educational futures. These qualities were very evident in our Omata graduates and we will be following their future progress with genuine interest.

Pat Murphy - Teacher

Ngà mihi na

Karen Brisco





# Omata School bush field day

On January 25 2017 the Taranaki Regional Council invited local Omata-Oakura landowners, to a biodiversity themed field day held at Omata School; to hear about local landowner experiences, bush and wetland options, and about Taranaki Region Council advice and support.

This was in support of the Taranaki Regional Council's plan to 'protect, enhance and promote' Key Native Ecosystems throughout the Taranaki region. The TRC is working with willing private landowners to identify and promote the protection of native biodiversity values. Each year the Council prepares new Biodiversity Plans for areas of ecological significance and targets assistance to landowners willing to actively manage their sites. The Council is happy to receive any enquires about biodiversity values and management and can undertake site assessments to provide landowners with information about the biodiversity values of their site. You can contact the Council on 0800 736 222.

2017 is the second year of Omata School's KNE

biodiversity plan. Last year we set up effective pest control with senior students managing and recording the trapping programme. This year it will be the many weed invaders that will be the major focus of the students' attention. While it is only a small pocket of coastal lowland rain forest it contains many mature pukatea and tawa trees. It also provides the school the many varied learning opportunities with a strong conservation focus. Having support from the Taranaki Regional Council has given all this a renewed impetus and being part of wider Taranaki programme make it very real for the students involved.

**Top photo: Toby Shanley (left) and Quin Amoore (right) talking to interested landowners down in the Omata School 'Bush Classroom'**

**Bottom left photo: Eden Hill, Reef Pratt, Annie Jones, Joshua Borostyan - lead ambassadors 2017**







# Spotswood College

Greetings to our Coastal, Oakura and Omata Communities

## Meet the Teachers Evening

It was wonderful to meet parents and whanau of our new students at our Meet the Teachers Evening (15 February). Our new students did a great job of introducing their parents to their teachers and our Prefects did a fabulous job on the BBQ and in hosting our new families. We were very pleased with the large number of families who attended – thank you all.

## Vertical Horizons Camp

Mrs Fitzpatrick and Ms Cooper took 60 Year 13 Peer Support students to a Leadership Training Camp at Vertical Horizons on the 9th and 10th February. The Senior students investigated leadership skills and strategies through their involvement in hands on practical problem solving tasks and challenges. The 'Dress-up Formal' dinner on Thursday night was a highlight as was the 6.00am run on Friday morning!

## Beach Volleyball

The beach volleyball event was held at Mount Maunganui, we sent up Senior boys David Jeffrey/ Jonah Naborisi, Senior girls Libby Houghton/ Hikaru Han, Junior boys Keegan Joe/ Meli Naborisi, Harry Younger/ Luke Cocker, Kobe Watson/ Neme Faga. Junior girls Megan Jones and Yulan Imshlay.

The Spotswood students had high expectations with lots of the students spending the summer holidays training and travelling to National beach volleyball events throughout New Zealand. Hikaru Han and Libby Houghton the previous week before the Secondary school event had gained 3rd place at the New Zealand Under 19 age group beach volleyball Nationals. David Jeffrey and Keegan Joe had gained 2nd at the same event in the men's U19 division. So it was ideal preparation for the NZ secondary school Nationals.

The event was played in sunny and hot conditions with expectations high. The students played extremely well with Hikaru and Libby winning the senior division winning 8 games in a row beating a strong Westlake girls team in the final. Keegan Joe/ Meli Naborisi also competed strongly in the Junior boys Year 11 and below division winning also all 8 matches to take out the Junior Boys title. The unfortunate team was Jonah Naborisi/David Jeffrey who went through 6 games in a row undefeated but stumbled in the semi - final and bronze medal match to end up 4th in the senior boy's division.

Listed below results.

1st Place Senior Girls Hikaru Han & Libby Houghton. 1st Place Junior Boys Keegan Joe & Meli Naborisi. 4th Place Senior Boys Jonah Naborisi & David Jeffrey. 12th Place Junior Boys Harry Younger & Luke Cocker. 18th Place Junior Boys Neme Faga & Kobe Watson. 37th Place Junior Girls Yulan Imhasly & Megan Jones

\*\*when photo taken Yulan and Megan had left for home.



Above From left to right: Kobe Watson, Jonah Naborisi, Keegan Joe, Neme Faga, Meli Naborisi, David Jeffrey, Libby Houghton, Hikaru Han, Luck Cocker and Harry Younger. TIC Mr A Joe



From left to right: Kobe Watson, Neme Faga, Libby Houghton, Hikaru Han, Keegan Joe and Meli Naborisi.

## 2017 Goals


The Board of Trustees are currently refining our Strategic Plan to ensure that all stakeholders understand our vision and focus. The Board want a plan that is a user friendly document that will be the basis for meaningful consultation with our community during 2017.

The draft plan is based upon the two spheres of our work – Teaching and Learning, Relationships and Engagement.

If at any time you have any queries regarding our school please do not hesitate to contact me.

*Mark Bowden*  
*Principal*





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## OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

**5 Elements Fitness:** Bootcamps and Kickboxing fitness classes: Weekdays 5-6 pm, Tuesday/Thursday 6-7PM Tataraimaka Hall. For more details contact Barney 027 7527 076, [barney@5efitness.com](mailto:barney@5efitness.com) or visit [www.5efitness.com](http://www.5efitness.com)

**Fitness Training/Touch:** Thursday nights on back field at Oakura School 5.30 pm to 6.45ish. For all age groups - gold coin donation. Contact Lara Churchill - 0275922320

**Functional Crosstraining by Nakifit.** Saturdays 7.40am. Ph 021 297 5465 or [nakifit@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**Kaitake Athletics club:** Meets at Corbett park at 5pm on a Tuesday evenings during term time. To register - athletics.nz website and search for Kaitake Contact -Tash 0277755440 All welcome!

**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 Meditation Group** - Mondays 7.40am, 371 Donnelly St, ph 0272037215

**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.

**Oakura Yoga - Shine Yoga Studio,** 37a Donnelly St, [www.shineyoga.co.nz](http://www.shineyoga.co.nz) for days and times, ph 0272037215

**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**  
Thursday 9.15-10.15am Cardio Tennis with Blitz Tennis at Linda Street courts, members and non-members welcome. Contact Club Secretary Jackie Mitchell 027 673 2900.

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

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

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

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

**Val Deakin Dance School.** Oakura Hall. Monday afternoons, Pre-school dance classes 3:30 - 4pm. Beginners' Ballet dance class 4 - 4.45pm. 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. For more information phone 7527743 or email [val@valdeakindance.org.nz](mailto:val@valdeakindance.org.nz)

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

  
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