

# tom

May 2003

## the Oakura Messenger

### All quiet on the American front

Like all classic Hollywood movie endings, the sun sets on a grand adventure and the star retreats into a perfect sunset perhaps never to be seen again. According to many residents and business owners in Oakura, the star of *The Last Samurai* wasn't seen much anyway. A distant twinkle visible only through a very long lens. Examining the impact Tom Cruise has had on Oakura shows that much of the hype surrounding the village's most famous, albeit itinerant, resident was mostly unsubstantiated. He was seen at the fish and chip shop, as a Good Samaritan at the side of the road, on the beach and catching the surf. The reality of Tom Cruise is that he is a true workaholic and the little time off he had was spent with his family enjoying the privacy and beauty of Oakura during the long hot summer of 2003.

On the other hand, Hollywood has left a lasting imprint on the village and its residents, with the forging of firm friendships, a boost in summer profits and some significant investments in real estate. Oakura is a seasonal place with a static population that increases during the summer months. But it is a village poised to boom. The advent of *The Last Samurai* over the past six months did not alter the resident numbers greatly, but most certainly contributed to an air of excitement and a buzz of anticipation. Of significance was the groundswell of interest from many Taranaki people realising what a gem exists in Oakura!

Green Ginger Café owner Kerry Vosseler says it's a shame to see the movie people leave as she will be losing some nice friends. Janice Parkinson of Janice's Home Care Service employed five new staff to clean houses in Oakura occupied by the Samurai people. Janice says the impact on her business will be quite substantial. Although she still has her 'regulars', she will definitely need to down size.

A high proportion of local residents are keen to see their friends and former neighbours return to their homes and get back to normal again. Vertigo and Wave Haven Backpackers owner, Johnno, reckons the movie has helped put Taranaki on the map along with WOMAD, the Arts Festival and Santana and this has created a very positive image of the region, not just Oakura specifically. Alan Rawlinson of the Beach Camp and Store has already noticed a quieting down and says he will miss the addition of Americans to the Camp. "They have loved living here, to them it is so unpopulated and enjoyable. It has been such a lot of fun and many insist they will return one day".

John Sole of The Crafty Fox maintains it will take another summer to clearly compare the impact left on Oakura by Hollywood. "Although the movie has piqued the curiosity of many, this exceptional summer has seen a huge growth in tourism overall with more people discovering Oakura as a hidden treasure and putting Taranaki on the destination map of New Zealand," he says. John will miss the interesting visitors and tells of how much the Americans love the laid back lifestyle and friendliness and the unprying nature of New Zealanders. He also commented that as shoppers they would only buy items stamped with 'Made in New Zealand'

Continued on page 2

### This month



Piper,  
Lord of  
the rings  
Page 13



Oakura has a brand new  
post office ...

Page 7



Celebrating in style

Page 16



## From Mayor Pete

In my role as Mayor of New Plymouth District I'm lucky in that I get to hear from people throughout the area about how things are going for them. And the word I'm getting – and have been getting for a long time now – is that our community is buzzing with opportunities and progress. A lot of those comments are coming from coastal Taranaki: there is a palpable energy in towns such as Oakura, and it's great to see the go-forward attitude of coastal residents.

An example of the progress is the upgrade work going on at Oakura Beach. As you read this, the development of a new carpark next to Shearer Dr is underway. This will bring 19 new carparking spaces to one of the most popular beaches in Taranaki.

This is just the first step of a general upgrade that will see some landscaping work around Oakura Beach in the coming year.

On the social front, Taranaki is fast becoming recognised as the event capital of the country. Many of the initiatives hail from the coast. If you've got an idea you think we can help with, please let me know, because it's by working together that we can ensure the best place in the world can get even better!

*Peter Tennent*  
**MAYOR**

*Pleased to support The Oakura Messenger*

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Photos: front Cover

**Piper, Lord of the rings.** Piper, the dog is the ring bearer at the wedding. Full story of page 12.

**Oakura has a brand new post office.** Read the History Bite on page 16.

**Celebrating in style.** The Jubilee flags—one made by

**See more local colour on  
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Are you there?**

Continued from front page:

The girls at Oakura Fish Shop are old hands at talking to the media these days. They were keen to say when Hollywood leaves they will still be cooking the best fish and chips around. At Butlers Bar & Café they are philosophical as when winter comes it naturally quiets down and they are still the local pub offering great service and food. The last word is given to Aaron from the Four Square. "We will miss the accents and buzz of it all and the characters we have met but we are so lucky here as most of the village are characters anyway."

Hollywood has passed into a fading memory and the quiet of winter is upon us again, but wasn't it great while it lasted?

*Hilary Bennett*

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## Kaitake Community Board



First I would like to say bon voyage to our new-found friends who are nearly ready to pack up and move back to their homes or new movie sites overseas. It has been a privilege and a pleasure having you all here.

ANZAC Day saw another good turnout of residents and visitors at the Okato service. It is always good to see so many young people attending this service.

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Draft Annual Plan by forwarding submissions.

The programme now is:

Tuesday, 27 May 1pm - 7.30pm and Wednesday, 28 May 9am - 12 noon for council to hear submissions

Thursday, 29 May 1pm - 6pm for the council meeting to consider all submissions

Wednesday, 11 June 4.30pm for a special council meeting to consider the draft Annual Plan document for adoption.

**Sue Henchman**

**Chairperson**

**7527815**

*green ginger*

café

ph 752 1399

## WINNER

**Congratulations to Sandra Lewis. You have won a Champagne Breakfast for 2 at green ginger café**

Sandra wanted to win a champagne breakfast for two at the green ginger café because ...

**the World of Wearable Art Museum (WOW) in Nelson have just purchased my "Kiwi Bra" art piece for their collection.**

*We also received an entry from a Mr Thomas Cruise of Surrey Hill Road who wanted to win because he has just finished a movie and it's going to be an Oscar winner!*

**Good luck with that Mr Cruise**

**Due to a family bereavement  
there is no Councillor's  
Comment this month**



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# Hon. Harry Duynhoven MP for New Plymouth

## The week that was

With the long Easter break well and truly behind us, May is already shaping up to be a busy and productive month with a string of pre budget announcements.

On May 1<sup>st</sup> Hon Steve Maharey announced a training-funding package and the launch of a campaign to promote the benefits of workplace learning to employers and workers. \$84.3m in additional funding will be invested in the Industry Training Fund to increase the number of workers participating in workplace learning in 2005 to 150,000 trainees.

The government recently introduced legislation establishing the Families Commission. The Families Commission will act as an advocate for the interests of families within the government and in the public arena. Four year funding of \$28.233m has been allocated in Budget 2003 for the Commission.

Last week also saw The Land Transport (Street and Illegal Drag Racing) Amendment Act come into force. This act, more widely known as the 'Boy Racer Act' seeks to place all street drag racing away from the roads used by the public. Police now have the power to impound a vehicle for 28 days where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a street racing offence has been committed.

Some local bodies are already taking the initiative of providing safe and supervised venues for activities that are not deemed safe on public roads. New Plymouth District Council has assisted in funding such activities.

*Hon Harry Duynhoven – MP for New Plymouth*



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## The Decorating Guru's Tip of the month

A double whopper thank you to Tom and The Samurai People for bringing colour into our lives and as you fade out of Oakura call again for a re-coat. Please don't forget that the sun lingers longer in Oakura.



**'The Decorating Guru'**  
**Barry Tyson**

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# Legally Speaking

## Health and Safety (and Stress) in Employment

Health and Safety in Employment obligations have recently become tighter with the passing of the 2002 Amendment Act. The new Act controversially includes stress as a Health and Safety issue.

The new Act adds to the government's wider labour market reforms and focus on injury prevention and the need for good faith co-operation.

To recap on Health and Safety law, the person in control of a place of work has the primary responsibility for health and safety. There may be more than one person in control, for example in a contractor and subcontractor situation. Additionally each employee has a certain responsibility not to cause others harm. The Health and Safety watchdog is OSH who publishes comprehensive codes and guidelines relating to particular industries and activities.

Stress is now included explicitly in the definition of "harm" so that the employer – and middle managers - will need to take all practicable steps to ensure that stress is not suffered by employees. Providing a couple of weeks stress leave is unlikely to be enough. Employers are advised to check they have sufficient procedures and policies for dealing with this issue.

Further changes in the law include the requirement for employers to have an Employee Participation Scheme, mandatory where there are over 30 employees. An Employee Participation Scheme is a scheme giving the employees a reasonable opportunity to participate in Health and Safety decisions and policies.

The Amendment enables private prosecutions to be taken against a person in breach of the Act, whereas previously this was the domain of OSH. It provides that a person cannot obtain insurance which indemnifies them against having to pay fines or infringement fees. A person can also not be indemnified by an employer, for example a foreman at a construction site cannot be indemnified by his employer for a fine.

The coverage of the Act is also wider, applying to more types of workers and industries. This is a good time to check that Employment Agreements, policies and procedures are up to scratch. If you would like more information please telephone me.

**Catherine Ongley**

**2 May 2003**



*This article discusses its topic in general terms only and should not be treated or relied upon as specific legal advice.*

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# tom 's Copper's Column

May has been a very good month for being outdoors. With Easter Weekend and Anzac Weekend over, I am pleased to let you all know that there were no major crashes! There was one very minor fender bender near the Kaitake Golf course, which is hardly worth mentioning.

The Shearer's Reserve Saga continues. Two more 11- to 12-year-olds have been dealt with for scratching their names on the Playground wall. If you have 10- to 14-year-old children who "hang out" at the park, could you please talk to them about respecting other people's property. In saying that, all the parents I have spoken with have been very supportive and keen for their children to learn from their mistakes.

A youth is also being dealt with for setting fire to the contents of a rubbish bin at the reserve. There have been a number of things happening in the township this month. On the weekend of the 3<sup>rd</sup>, a large number of letterboxes were vandalised on Wairau Road. If you see or hear someone smashing letterboxes, please ring the police. We will attend if we can. It is an ongoing problem in Oakura and it would be nice to catch some of those people who are responsible. Letterboxes are expensive!! On the weekend of the 15<sup>th</sup>, two houses were burgled. One on Jans Tce and the other on Messenger Tce. If you have any ideas who may have done it or have seen people acting suspiciously, please let me know. On the weekend of the 26<sup>th</sup>, a couple of cars were broken into. All of them had windows smashed and property taken. Cars were broken into at the end of Weld Road and in Oakura. Please don't leave valuables in your car overnight or hide them well if you do. On a happier note, the number of people wearing bike helmets is excellent. I have not seen one adult or child riding their bike without a helmet all month! The teenagers, however, have a wee way to go yet. I am getting pretty close to issuing those that have been warned a \$55 ticket. Mum and Dad won't be happy when it happens!

Have a great month as the nights get longer and the days get colder.

**Thomas McIntyre**  
Constable  
Okato/Oakura.



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## How safe is your locked car?

Over the long weekend some person/s broke into a locked car on McKellar St. The car was parked on the owner's property when the breakin occurred. A small amount of cash, a cheque book which was later found in the garden of the Motel and a pair of sunglasses were taken. The thieves entered by breaking the window. On the same night a breakin occurred on Weld Road. If you know of anything that might help the Police with these cases, please contact them.

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## tom 's dates for your diary

Issue:	Deadline:	Distribution:
June	28 May	11 June
July	25 June	9 July

Community groups and interested parties send your email details to oakuramessenger@xtra.co.nz, and we will send you a reminder of our copy deadlines 1-2 weeks prior.

## Letter to the editor

### Matekai Chainsaw Massacre?

Where have all our trees gone ?

Have you had a wander through our local reserve in Oakura lately. Over the last fortnight chainsaws and mulchers have echoed through the valley cutting down most of the magnificent (mostly native) trees, leaving this once "special haven", a not- so- special place any-more.

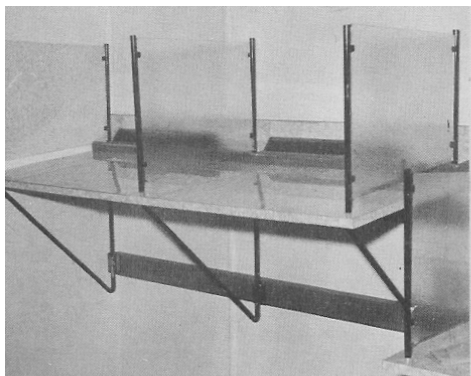
Let us know what you think. If no-one questions or complains they'll do it again.

#### Helen

Helen met with Chris Connolly of Parkscape in May. Chris told TOM, The Messenger, he had been working closely with the Kaitake Community Board and was looking forward to seeing the work that had been done in the area.

Read about Helen's meeting in the June issue of

*tom*



*Formica and glass are the theme of the private writing booths.*

## A Bite of History ..

*An excerpt from  
Photo News" August 1961.*

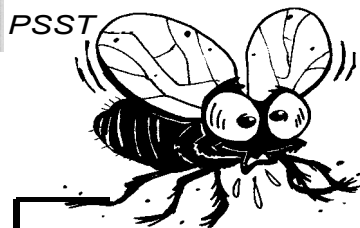
### Oakura gets a new post office

At long last, after many deputations to Wellington, Oakura has a brand new post office, with all the facilities of the larger offices. Not only has it a new office, the township also has a new postmistress.

We were privileged to attend the function in honour of the retiring postmistress, Mrs Mildred Head. From the kind words of the officials present, we felt that Oakura had about the best postmistress that any place could have. Since then, we have met her, and can agree with the sentiments. Not only was she a mine of information, but at all times a friend of the customer.



*Oakura's new postmistress, Miss Linley Petch, with the retiring post mistress, Mrs Mildred Head, and the first customer, Mrs Valmai Hill, at the wide and clean-looking counter.*



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**May is New Zealand Music Month**  
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## Oakura's audio origin

Growing up in Hamilton, Mike Dunn left school and worked as a draughtsman to earn money to pay for his dream of travelling the world. After seven years he returned to Auckland where his best friend who ran (and still does) the Sounds chain of music stores told him of a job in a record company. Festival Records (now FMR) employed Mike to sell CD's to retailers. Mike said "It was the ultimate job. I got to listen and talk about music 18 hours a day." Mike's passion for music generated great sales and eventually led to the job of National Sales manager for the company. It was during this exciting time that Mike met wife Lee. "She was the daughter of my parents' neighbours. It was all jacked up and we just fell into the trap." The couple regularly travelled to Oakura, visiting Kay McManus, Lee's mother. One day whilst walking on the beach Mike stopped and said "What I want is to have my own business here, right here at this beach". Sometime later Lee, who was then Charge Nurse at Auckland ICU, applied for the Nurse Managers' job at Taranaki Base Hospital. "They had to offer her the job!" Mike said, and they did.

Mike and Lee moved to Oakura with their children Isla and Miles. Life in coastal Taranaki was a stark contrast to his "gig after gig" Auckland lifestyle and it took Mike a while to adjust. Lee started work at the hospital leaving Mike to explore the possibilities for his new business at the beach. With his sales experience and music industry knowledge, Mike set up Audio Origin NZ and is now a music & licensing broker. His business represents four main New Zealand studios providing original soundtracks for film, television, radio and advertising. Audio Origin NZ represents a diverse catalogue of New Zealand music and a pool of talented and experienced artists who write original pieces for clients looking for a particular sound or lyrics but may be unable to find it in existing material.

Audio Origin NZ also currently represents around 300 musical pieces from a growing number of independent New Zealand artists. With Mike's sales experience at national level for a major record company, Mike said "My job is to push their music on their behalf into the online licensing agencies around the world". Obtaining clearance from a large publishing house can take a lot of time and money. Online licensing agencies have extensive libraries of pre-cleared music owned by independent artists, saving users time and money.

Always looking for new products & services Mike has taught himself online music streaming. With this technology Audio Origin NZ can build a captivating visual slide display combined with music, speech or advertising. The benefits to the advertiser include no dedicated server costs, with the ability to promote their stream via a simple link within a website, e-newsletter or email. Go to [www.oakuramessenger.com](http://www.oakuramessenger.com) to enjoy some great music and the TOM stream.

Mike said "There's a silly amount of New Zealand talent ...so I'm just shouting about it on their behalf".



For further information visit [www.audio-origin.com](http://www.audio-origin.com).  
 This website was developed in conjunction with web design professionals RCN design ([www.rcndesign.com](http://www.rcndesign.com))

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## **Dental House**

p.06 753 6298



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## **Stratford Mountain Club Annual Ski Swap**

The ski swap will be held on Friday 16 May 2003 at the New Plymouth Yacht Club, Ocean View Parade. Sellers can arrive at 6pm to set up your gear. There will be a door charge of \$5 or \$10 depending on the value of the goods to be sold.

Buyers 6:30pm. Go in the draw to win a free skiing/boarding on Egmont. A raffle for a season pass for the 2003 season will be drawn on the night. This is also your last chance to purchase your season passes, the cut-off date is 20 May 2003. Clean out those cupboards, dust off that gear and catch up on old mates. See you there.

*Chris Davies*

## Gardening with Rosemary Herb

# Jones & Sandford

### May Checklist

#### Vegetables:

Sow broad beans, peas and onions  
Plant garlic and shallots.  
Set garlic cloves 2-3cm deep and 10-12cm apart.  
Shallots 10cm apart with top half of bulb exposed.

#### Flowers:

Last opportunity to plant spring flowering bulbs.  
Dahlia tubers and gladioli corns should be lifted and stored in a cool dry place.  
Plant polyanthus, primula, nemesia, pansies, violas, stock and calendula for early spring flowering.

#### Fruit trees:

Begin pruning fruit trees once leaves have dropped.  
Protect pruning wounds with Bacseal Pruning Paint to protect the leaf scar and prevent disease.

#### Lawns:

Rake over and re-sow bare or thin areas of lawn with Easy Grass or Mow-it-less lawn seed.



## Letter to the editor

### What's in a septic tank?

Sure we all know exactly what is IN a septic tank, but what's really in it for the people of Oakura?

Why do we have them?

Do you have one because everyone else has one?

Do you have one because you like the little mushroom type ornament you get for your front lawn?

Do you have one because no one has ever made enough noise to get the New Plymouth District Council to do something about it

Or do you have one because you think it's the best way to stop both residential and commercial growth in Oakura?

Whatever your reason, you've got one (hopefully), and this is set to continue ad infinitum unless one of three groups take some action...

The New Plymouth District Council

The Taranaki Regional Council

The residents and ratepayers of Oakura

The New Plymouth District council is yet again finalising submissions for the draft annual plan, and the Oakura sewerage issue just doesn't seem to rate. (cont)

## Business of the Month: Madgwick Graphics

Madgwick Graphics started in July 1977 with the goal of becoming a leading graphic design and copy/print centre. The business has grown rapidly since this time and is now able to offer a wide range of design and print solutions to Taranaki.

The range of services and products offered includes posters, signage, self-adhesive labels and vehicle graphics, digital services (scanning, CD burning, emailing) and screenprinting. As well as the design and service products, Madgwick Graphics also specialises in high volume colour and black & white copying, laminating and binding.

Continuing their commitment to invest in the latest technology available, Madgwicks investigated how to offer a more comprehensive service in wide format printing. This led to ordering the largest wide format printer in Taranaki, which can offer unsurpassed print quality, using 6-colour printing, on prints up to 1.3m in width and over 5m in length. The equipment is due to be installed in early May. The machine can print on a variety of materials such as vinyl, canvas, photographic paper and banner material, and the ability to contour cut means that businesses in Taranaki will have access to large scale graphic prints and signs with fast delivery. Since they also have wide format laminating and cutting equipment, Madgwicks will be able to deliver a complete design and print package.

Situated in the Office Products Depot on the corner of Liardet and Molesworth Streets, Madgwick Graphics is open from 8am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 9.30am to 12.30 pm on Saturdays.

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**Letter to the editor cont.** Do you want to have our waste treated at high tech facility designed for such .... or are you happy to continue to pump it into the ground beneath our feet? If so why?

Isn't it about time Oakura residents had another look into this issue and got some hearty debate going... what do you think, isn't it time to tackle this and bring the jewel in Taranaki's "Coastal Crown" into at least the 20th Century as far as effluent disposal goes?

Is the eerie silence on this issue because we shun growth, income and prosperity through the development of Oakura?... or is it that we choose to ignore the truth about the environment in which we and our families live and play?

I for one know my preference!

**Brent Procter, "Barnee"**

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## Kiwi Bra wows WOW

Local wearable artist Sandra Lewis has 'wowed' World of WearableArt (WOW) directors Heather Palmer and Susie Moncrieff with her "Kiwi Bra" art piece.

"Kiwi Bra" has been purchased by the Wearable Art Development Charitable Trust to be exhibited in the World of Wearable Art and Collectible Car Complex in Nelson. Garments purchased by the Trust may also be exhibited in the WOW minishows which travel throughout New Zealand. Approximately 25 garments are chosen each year to be included in this historic collection.

"WOW is all about taking art off the wall and using it to adorn the body - it is art in motion," says Creator/Director of WOW, Suzie Moncrieff. "The imagination is the only limit!" With this in mind, Sandra was inspired by the dangers kiwis have to face to survive and created "Kiwi bra". A range of materials were used, including two deep fryer chip baskets, approximately 200 kiwi beaks (plastic ones!), and three plastic eggs with kiwis emerging from them. This all culminated in a career highlight for Sandra with the piece being purchased for such a prestigious collection. "The 'Kiwi Bra' is a fun piece with a great story. Truly New Zealand", says WOW director Heather Palmer.



*"Kiwi Bra" on stage in the Montana World of WearableArt Awards 2002.*

**I went to someones house it looked like a sand castle. It had some bottles on the windows outside the bottles were different colours. We had dinner and pudding at their house. They had upstairs in their house. Upstairs there were a table. It had 4 chairs because they had 2 kids. They were big kids. They were friendly to me. My whole family came with me.**



**Molly Mason, Age 6, Oakura Primary School.**



**I was helping Mrs Hislop in Room 2 at Oakura School and heard Molly reading the story above. I knew immediately which house she was talking about! Have you seen it yet? Michelle Powell**

# New Plymouth Operatic Society

## What's happening?

The rehearsals of the NPOS production of Annie are coming along extremely well and it sounds as though everyone is having a lot of fun.

During the Easter break, Andrea Powley (formerly Croton), who played one of the Annies when the show was produced here in 1983, was in town. Andrea popped in to the rehearsals to meet our two 2003 Annies and give her support. Andrea had a great time reminiscing with the girls and sharing her experiences.

There will be plenty of time for reminiscing as a reunion of the original cast and crew has been scheduled for the opening weekend of the July production. If you were involved in the original show and have not been contacted about the reunion, contact the NPOS office ph. 758 4958 to hear more about this and to register your interest.

When Annie is over, the Operatic Society won't be sitting back to relax as they will be gearing up with rehearsals for "Brassed Off" which will be staged from 14<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Keep a space in your diary for this great show which will be produced in conjunction with New Plymouth City Brass. A feast of great musical and acting talent will be on stage yet again!!!

If you are interested in directing, managing or performing in Brassed Off, please contact the office to express your interest as soon as possible.

Lee Girvan

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# Health and Wellbeing

## With Sarsha Hood

Well I don't know about you, but I am certainly starting to feel a colder nip in the air, particularly in the morning and at night. Few of us manage to get through winter without falling prey to a cold, the flu, coughs, congestion or a sore throat. But by priming your body with the right combination of nutrients, herbs and diet, it is possible to activate your immune system and keep yourself healthy throughout the colder months. Here are a few handy tips to keep you and your family flu-free this winter.

Contrary to popular belief, winter is actually a really good time for building immunity; one reason for this is that the digestion process is stronger in colder weather. People can actually digest food better in winter, thus nourishing their bodies more. In winter, the appetite generally increases as well. The down side to this is that people generally resort to junk food and heavy, hard-to-digest foods, thus weakening their immunity. It is important to understand that we are damaging our immunity; it is not a natural process. For this reason it is important that we eat immunity-boosting foods in winter. Avoid highly processed food; foods laced with preservatives tax the digestive system and clog the channels of circulation, creating a sluggish, compromised immune system. Eating fresh organic, easy-to-digest, pure and wholesome foods is best. Ingesting too much dairy-based food can also cause problems, as these can be mucus-forming.

When it comes to maintaining health, it makes a lot of sense to feed and stimulate your first line of defence (your immune system) so that it is performing at its best. Last month I talked about the role of vitamin C as an antioxidant; this month I will talk about its role in boosting immunity. Vitamin C is recognised as a key ingredient of healthy immunity. Unlike almost all other mammals, primates like us are unable to produce vitamin C. So, while other animals produce some 10-12 grams of vitamin C every day, we have to get as much as we can from our diet. Since a fresh orange contains only around 70 milligrams of vitamin C, it's easy to see why this is one nutrient often recommended in supplement form. The recommended daily intake is 60 milligrams a day, but research shows that 200 milligrams a day would be more accurate for optimum health, and up to 500mg for people fighting off flu-like symptoms.

Along with vitamin C, zinc is a leading food for immunity. Zinc has a direct antiviral action, helping to prevent viruses from replicating and entering cells. Zinc deficiency is relatively common in New Zealand, and people with inadequate zinc levels are known to have compromised immunity. There is no need to overdo it, but ensuring that you get 12mg of elemental zinc every day could be the best step you can take towards improved immunity. Foods high in zinc include almonds, oysters, wholegrain cereals, meat, and poultry, as well as pumpkin seeds and sunflower seeds.

But perhaps the best known of all immunostimulants is the herb echinacea, which helps to keep the immune system active and ready to deal with invading microbes. A growing body of clinical evidence supports the use of echinacea in the relief of colds and the flu. However, echinacea can lose its effectiveness with long-term usage; ideally you should take it as soon as you start to feel flu-like symptoms, and do not take it for longer than six to eight weeks at a time.

Louise Stevens



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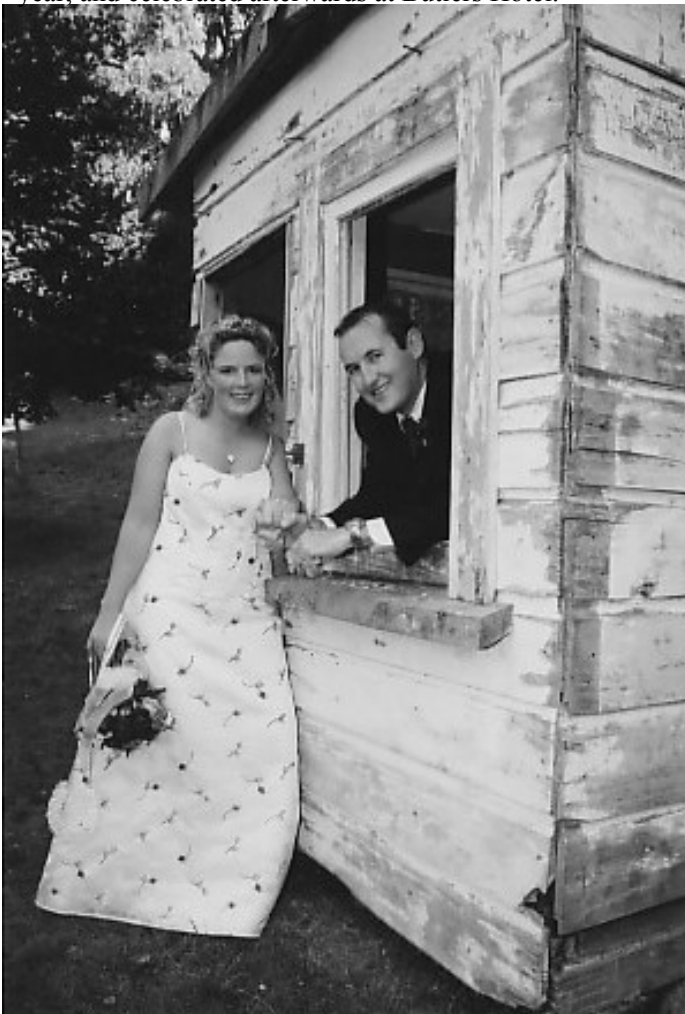
## Piper rings the changes for Room 2, Oakura School

Piper the dog was the ring bearer at the marriage ceremony for local teacher, Kim Fevre and her fiancée, Robert Ramsay.

Kim and Robert met through a friend 5 years ago and fell in love. They bought a house together after knowing each other for only three months and have been living in it and renovating it ever since.

"It was a very romantic proposal," said Kim. Robert organised a mystery trip and Kim followed the clues to end up in Christchurch in the Botanical Gardens. There she found another note. "I thought it would say 'Will you come to the rugby?' but it said 'Will you marry me?'"

The couple were married at Ngamamaku on 26<sup>th</sup> April this year, and celebrated afterwards at Butlers Hotel.



*Kim and Robert Ramsay on their wedding day*

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See more pictures of Kim and Robert while you listen to the New Zealand musician Joel Haines on [www.oakuramessenger.com](http://www.oakuramessenger.com)

Thank you to Joel Haines and Audio-Origin NZ for providing the music for the slide stream.

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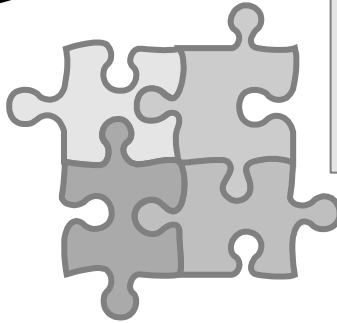
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# Joke

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Witches  
Witches who?  
Witches the way home ?

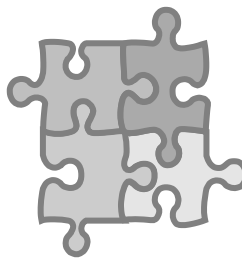
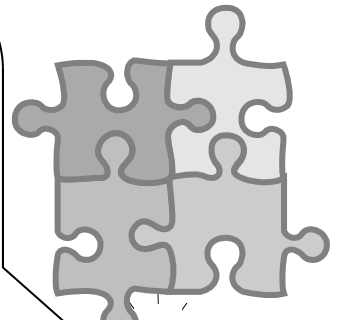
Absonous means out of tune  
Due to the absonous nature of the instrument it was hard to recognize the song

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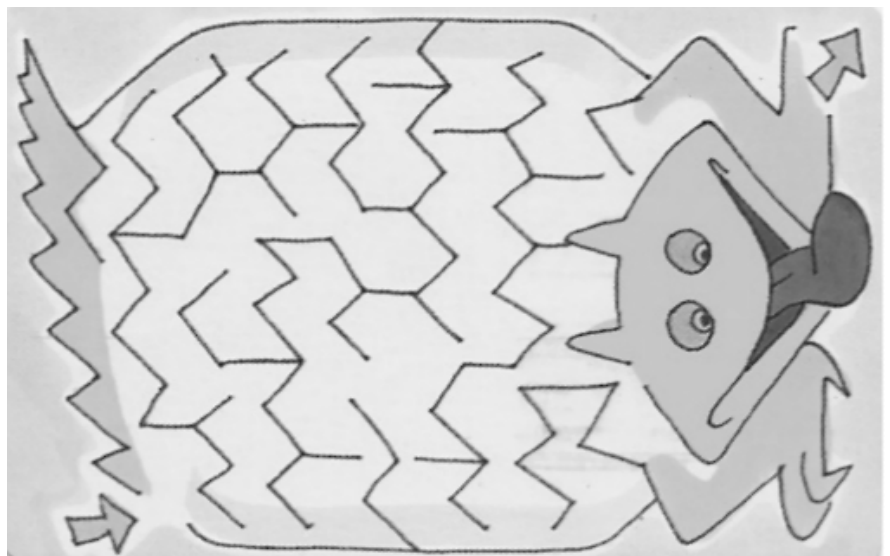
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## remember

send us your joke and you could get a cool TOM balloon and see your joke on this page. Find contact details on the back page.





Everyone is happy to be back at Kindergarten after the Easter break. Our Easter raffle was a great success with the lucky winners as follows - 1st prize Nicky Lumb, 2nd prize Angela Nicholson, 3rd prize Sarsha Hood. Thanks to all those who bought tickets and helped make this such a success; we raised over \$900 for our building alterations.



*The Easter raffle prizes*

A novel fundraiser coming up this term will be the "Big Brand Breakout" of recycled clothing. We are asking the coastal community to donate quality used children's clothing up to size 10. The collection point for this clothing is the kindergarten and the sale will be at the Oakura Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May from 10am to 2pm.

Last term many of the children made papier-maché puppets. This was a long-term project involving the children designing and making their own puppets with the help of teachers and parents. The children's perseverance and patience paid off when their initial blob of papier-maché was eventually transformed into a totally unique little puppet. We noticed how the finished puppet often seemed similar to the child's character!!!! The puppets encouraged quiet and shy children to talk and act out stories and perform in spontaneous puppet shows.

Children can be enrolled at Kindergarten from 2 years old ready to start after their 3rd birthday. Families are welcome to visit Kindergarten at any time.

**Robyn and Adrienne, ph 752 7016**

*Photo right: Natalie Reason, 7 years and Aaron Osment, 6 years with their still life paintings*

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## Art By The Sea Studio

The school holiday programme organised by Margaret Scott at her Art by the Sea Studio proved to be a very popular activity for primary school students. Instead of just the one Tuesday morning class on the 15<sup>th</sup> of April, another class was held on the following morning as well. Many who rang missed out, so more workshops are planned for later this year. As the workshop was a trial at this stage, Margaret was a bit dubious about taking on the range of ages in one class. The youngest, six-year-olds, were mixed with older children up to 12 years of age. However, this proved to be an advantage and encouraged the students to extend their abilities to keep up with the younger or older participants. It also meant family members could be together and this seems a necessary arrangement with so many students travelling out from New Plymouth for the workshop. There was obviously not a demand for workshops for secondary students and the planned event did not go ahead, because of lack of numbers. However, Margaret feels that most secondary schools have extremely good art programmes in place that cater for this age group.



*Catherine Zealand, 12 yrs*



In the future she plans to offer primary students other workshops that will cover a wider range of activities such as drawing, painting, mixed media and also painting on canvas.



# Omata School Celebrates in Style

During Easter, Omata School celebrated 150 years of education in the district. There was certainly much to celebrate. Oakura's Kevin Walden opened the sesqui celebrations with a moving powhiri. Many past and even present pupils, teachers and parents would not have experienced a powhiri. Omata School has never boasted large numbers of Maori on the roll but the area certainly has a rich cultural history.

Deputy Mayor Mr Lynn Bublitz was welcomed to Omata by past Principal Mr Mike Norris and carried out the unveiling of the commemorative sculpture. Mr Reece Rongonui had carved an amazing sculpture of a child holding a book and this now has pride of place at the school's entrance. The weather on the day was definitely unfriendly but no one noticed as old associations were rekindled and faraway friends returned to what they no doubt think of as typical Taranaki weather.

One highlight was the bus tour. This followed the old Omata bus route and toured around local landmarks. A planned 30 minute trip turned out to be an 80 minute historic journey that everyone thoroughly enjoyed. Mr Noel Krutz and Mr Len Jury acted as tour guides, pointing out things of interest.

Another highlight (for me anyway!) had to be All Black coach John Mitchell and ex All Black Kieran Crowley popping in for half an hour. They very obligingly signed autographs and mingled with pupils past and present.

The cabaret on Saturday night was a real blast. Old and young alike commented on how good the band "On Yer Bike" was. They played all the oldies' music as well as a modern selection till 1.30 am and the last people had to be pushed out the door.

St John's church at Omata was bulging with a crowd that was twice the capacity of the church for the Sunday commemorative service taken by Val Donald and Wendy Sander. They both did a wonderful job. Jim and Joan Bolger were squeezed in at the last moment. Bill Donald rang the church bell with great glee. Neal Hare, an ex pupil, spoke briefly of his memories of Omata. Afterwards at the school hall, a short closing ceremony was held and the jubilee cake was cut by Maurie Morris, Mocky Ryan and Johnathon Carswell. Mr Jim Bolger, past pupil, finished the formalities with an entertaining speech. Most people stayed on for lunch and seemed disinclined to leave, either choosing to watch the 1959 jubilee video on its umpteenth rerun or wandering down to the bush for a last look.

The Omata Home and School group provided an awesome array of food day after day and spent many many hours preparing, cooking, serving and cleaning. The jubilee committee worked tirelessly to ensure everyone had a great time. Present day children all helped paint the wonderful banner flags flying out the front of the school throughout the jubilee. Their cheerfulness attracted a lot of attention from passersby. The classic car display unfortunately was not fully appreciated because of the rain but, along with all the other memorabilia on display, helped blend the old with the new.

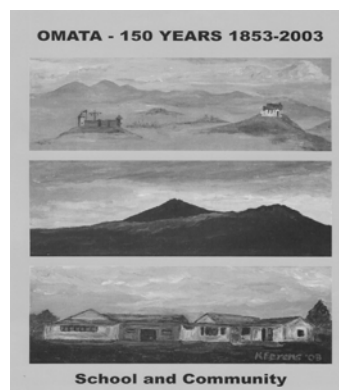
The jubilee was an uplifting experience for everyone and a real buzz for all those involved in the organisation. We hope Omata School goes on to celebrate many more jubilees as Taranaki's longest surviving and oldest provider of quality education. 200 years here we come!



*From one Mitchell to another. All Black coach John Mitchell signs an autograph for Omata School pupil Ben Mitchell*



*Len Jury dismounts after a tour on the old Omata bus route.*



## Omata 150 years 1853 - 2003, School and Community

This wonderful 65-paged glossy A4 book is available for purchase by contacting the Jubilee Secretary, Kim Ferens  
Ph/fax 751 1519. Price \$25.

*Kia Orana from The Alders !*



## Rarotonga Rambles

Before coming to Rarotonga, we gave serious consideration to bringing our beloved dog Charlie with us. We decided against it when we found out how difficult and expensive it was to bring him back into New Zealand, and because we had read about the wild dogs here.

The thought of wild dogs conjures up pictures of rabid canines, foaming at the mouth, with long sharp teeth and packs howling at night. In Rarotonga that picture couldn't be much further from the reality. The wild dogs here are mostly placid, friendly, even melancholy. They have learnt to fend for themselves by approaching you on the beach or at a cafe, staring up with mournful "please-give-me-your-crumbs" eyes. Some scavenge from rubbish bins, some even catch fish from the lagoons.

When you hire a scooter here (which is the main form of transport on the island) you are warned to beware of dogs that can suddenly run out onto the road. Although I haven't witnessed one yet, the legacy of dog versus scooter accidents is evident when you take a closer look at the dogs here. There is an epidemic proportion that have only three legs - and last week my 9-year-old pointed out a 2-legged dog! True! This bizarre condition piqued my curiosity when we arrived. How is it that in New Zealand if a dog gets hit by a car and needs a leg removed people will usually have it euthanased because the operation to remove the leg is so expensive. Yet here, where the average wage is only around \$300 per week there are so many 3-legged dogs? It didn't take me long to discover the Esther Honey Foundation Animal Clinic (EHF). The EHF rely heavily on donations of veterinary labour, medications and equipment. I suppose, in return for their "working holiday", young vets learn how to amputate legs from dogs?

I'm sure if our dog Charlie could, he'd thank us for not bringing him here and risking his life or limbs.

*Diane*

Pat McFetridge's

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### Kaitake Rangers



### Women's Soccer Team

A new beginning dawned on Sunday April 27 as the Kaitake Rangers women's soccer team had its first game of the season.

A group of women of varied soccer skills (and ages!) have joined together for fun and new challenges. With Jon Fletcher as coach, I can guarantee that our soccer skills will soon be moving onwards and upwards. Our aim is to have as much fun as possible while seeing improvements in every game.

Games are played every Sunday at 11 am; the Kaitake Rangers' home ground is Corbett Park Oakura. Our first game was against Waitara on their home ground. We lost 2-0 but, rather than being disheartening, this was encouraging as we had some great opportunities for good play, and for some of us it was our first game! It was fantastic fun and all of us are now keen to practise.

We would like to thank Oakura Pharmacy and Ego Synchro (Isla Griffith-Wilson) for their donations of a first aid kit and finances. Also Butlers Bar and Café for supplying after-match refreshments for home games and Oakura Four Square for providing a player of the day award. We are still on the lookout for a local business or company to become our main sponsor.

This team has some great players and has set a wonderful example for the beginners among us with a positive attitude and plenty of encouragement.

Our next home game is Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11 am, Corbett Park; we would love to see some local support.

Contact Leah and Jon Fletcher, ph 06 752 7322

*Jo Scott and Janis Neeson*

**Thank you to all the locals for their support at our first home game. It was great.**

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*Left to right, Merv Foster, Brent Anderson, Gordon, Grant Stewart*

### Surfing World Masters National Scholastic Comps

A very successful and enjoyable World Masters event the week prior to Easter and over Easter weekend saw two locals being placed amongst the finest of surfers. They were Ton Deken who was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 45-49yr age group and Lyndie Foster-Page who was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 35-39yr age group.

There has been much media coverage of the event and once again Taranaki is on the map. The Oakura Boardriders club helped a lot with organising the competition – and not to forget the surf board stacking. It is official that 146 surf boards were stacked on to a car sponsored by Hareb Deken Motors; the car was later given away as a spot prize on the Sunday night.

Controversy over the rights of competitors and non-competitors to the surf spots will continue to be debated for a couple of years. Presently there is no protocol and still a lot of issues to be resolved and considered.

The National Scholastic Competition was held at Raglan over Easter weekend. The Taranaki squad went and three

Oakura surfers were placed – Nat Day was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under-18 boys' event, Arini Mason was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under-16 cadet girls' event, and Simon Bennett was 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under-15 boys' bodyboarding event.



*Left to right, Biggie, Greg Page, Merv Foster, Tomas Dobson, Paul Lobb, Happy Priest*

# Kaitake Golf Club Moving Ahead

A tree removal programme has been carried out alongside the 6<sup>th</sup> fairway on the course, and a new tee has been built at the 8<sup>th</sup> hole. 300 native trees will soon be planted, including the 20 donated kauri trees which will be placed in a grove on the course.

Inside, the clubhouse is being refurbished. The interior is getting a new coat of paint, and new curtains and recovered chairs will add to the members' comfort while they are visiting the 19<sup>th</sup>.

The club has an effective advertising opportunity for businesses by way of seat sponsorship. The seats are located around the course and are in view all the time, so this is a worthwhile way of reminding your customers of your business. The club has attracted over 50 new members since last September. If you want to check out the new look clubhouse and join the club, there are plenty of options available.

## Kaitake Golf Club Results

### Summer Vase Competition

Silver winner	<b>Anne O'Donnell</b>
Runner up	<b>Val Kay</b>
Bronze winner	<b>Helen Whyte</b>
Runner up	<b>Pat Ellicock</b>

### Summer Eclectic

Winner	<b>Helen Whyte</b>
Runner up	<b>Rose Tanner</b>

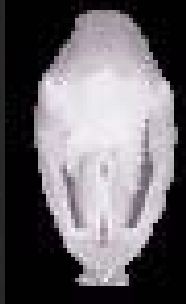
### Summer Cup Flight

<b>Jim Cooper</b>
<b>Lionel Kay</b>

### Presidents Trophy Flight

<b>Dennis Harvey</b>
<b>Roy Spence</b>

For all enquiries about the Kaitake Golf Club, contact Bill McArthur at phone 752 7665 or email [kaitake@golf.co.nz](mailto:kaitake@golf.co.nz)



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### A Bouquet for Hareb Deken Motors

Just recently my car went karpnut. I phoned the team at Hareb Deken Motors and after I'd explained my dilemma they said they could pick it up from my house and take it into their workshop – How about today? In about an hour? What can I say except I was impressed to receive such prompt efficient service. Then just days later another call to say it was all fixed and ready to roll.

Thanks guys, awesome service.

As told to Tracey by Bill.



With the weather getting a bit cooler now and people a bit more hesitant to go out, the fishing has slowed down quite considerably. However, Doc Brown caught another good one (snapper) a couple of weeks back – another one over 8lb.

The recent mini competition that was held down Komene Rd had a good turnout considering the weather conditions - bleak to say the least.

We recently went to Ohope in the Eastern Bay of Plenty on the annual Club trip. Although we didn't get much time for a great deal of surfcasting, we had a great time out off Thornton in the "Tinnies" and all reached the limit for snapper. Ali Watt caught the biggest fish of the day, and when we got back to shore we found that his partner Mellissa had also caught a good sized kahawai.

We won't mention what our president said when he found his partner on the beach with his new Mitchel reel in bits, trying to sort out a "bird's nest"!

The Club AGM and annual prize giving ceremony is coming up in June; we will keep you posted on the date.

Tight lines!

*Debbie E (secretary)*



**MIKE HAREB**  
Ph 7527697 a/h

**TON DEKEN**  
Ph 7527405 a/h

**JOHN KURTA**  
Ph 758 1872 a/h



Hareb Deken Motors 331 St Aubyn Street NP Ph/Fax: 759 9957 [www.harebdekenmotors.co.nz](http://www.harebdekenmotors.co.nz)

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June Issue copy deadline 28th May Distribution date 11th June

## Kaitake Netball

We've had a great start to the season with a successful pre-season tournament played on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> April. Kaitake Blue won 2 of 4 games, which we were very happy about, since it was the first day of the season. Kaitake Black also had a great day, winning 3 of 5 games. Although the bodies were a bit sore, there were no injuries and everyone enjoyed the day. This year both teams have entered 3rd grade. The first 3-4 games are grading days and it will depend on the results of these games and how well we play whether one or both teams will stay in 3rd grade for the remainder of the season. For that reason, the draw is out for the first 5 games of the season. We hope to see some of you supporting us down Waiwhakairo courts this year. Don't be shy husband and partners are welcome even if they are reading the Saturday paper on the sideline! *Tanya Farrant*

### Teams & Draw:

#### Kaitake Blue

Bob Fleming, Tanya Farrant, Vicki Eaton, Catherine Spindler, Vanessa Danger, Melissa Fleming, Claire Dobbin, Janet Farr, Kelly Miller, Karen Lovell, Joanne Hill and Coach Anna Cleland.

#### Draw:

26 April	vs Western Subs Icon	11.55am	court 2
3 May	vs Kaitake Black	2.25pm	court 2
10 May	vs Sacred Heart Snr C	11.55am	court 2
17 May	vs Sacred Heart 11A	2.25pm	court 2
24 May	vs Waitara High B	11.55am	court 2

#### Kaitake Black

Mischelle Hartley, Nicole Mancer, Karen Cooper, Glenda Hooper, Ann TeRuki, Tracy Day, Snoz Gibson, Lianna Hughes & Christine Berridge.

#### Draw:

26 April	vs Waitara High B	12.45pm	court 3
3 May	vs Kaitake Blue	2.25pm	court 2
10 May	vs NPGHS Snr A3	3.15pm	court 2
17 May	vs Sacred Heart Snr C	11.05am	court 2
24 May	vs Sacred Heart 10A	2.25pm	court 2

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ring Ross & Cathryn Buttimore 025 240 9481 / 752 7316



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*The team from Café Wunderbar  
would like to take this  
opportunity to thank all our  
loyal customers for their  
continued support*

*From May 15 please enjoy our  
FREE pizza delivery service  
between 5:00 and 6:30pm  
Wednesday—Sunday.*

**New Brunch Menu Out Now**

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