

TDM

OAKURA

MAY 2016



2016 KAYAK FISHING CLASSIC

Another successful Kayak Fishing Classic saw some decent sized fish hauled in.

More on page 11



Leo Baas

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TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

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

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

Phone 0800 THE TOM
or click "contribute" at
www.thetom.co.nz

TOM dates to remember for June 2016 issue:

Copy & Ads - 14th May.

Distribution from 1st June.

EDITORIAL

The other day someone said to me that they don't gossip. It got me thinking about what gossip really is and whether sharing news such as someone having a baby is gossip or not.

An internet search revealed that the word gossip has its origins funnily enough in the birthing room where women would sit around regaling each other with the news of the family and village. The root of the word is god and sibb meaning god and kinsman or parent - godparent. The actual word gossip can be traced back to 1627 when it was first used. I find it amusing that the link is clearly to women and their style of sharing personal and domestic events - a way of social bonding and binding. We all know men love a good gossip as much as women!

R I Dunbar suggests gossip is a way of social grooming just like primates do in their social groups. Sharing gossip builds alliances between people and binds growing groups of people together. In this setting social norms and behaviours are recognised and those who don't comply are usually the butt of malicious gossip.

The dictionary defines gossip as the sharing of secrets of other people's private lives which are usually untrue. We often associate it with scandal, dirt and shocking details, frequently about celebrities and this seems to be the most accurate interpretation of gossip in today's world.

I think its true that most of us don't spread unkind and untrue information about others but we probably do tend to share other people's news for them. You often hear people say "I heard that somewhere" so you know others have been talking. Is it harmful and or healthy to talk about others behind their back? Maybe we should go back to Photo News publications which shared the socially important events of the day - engagements, coming out balls, weddings, babies, etc, via photographs! Texting and social media as a means of sharing news has certainly made it easy to update the world on private happenings whether they be your own or someone else's. It intrigues me that it is socially improper to share wedding photos on social media today and I'm not sure why when people share nearly every other event in their lives.

Next time you go to share someone else's news perhaps you will stop and think like me - is this gossip and is it my news to share and perhaps a good marker could be "would I like others knowing this about me?" And for those of you who frequently ask me to start a gossip column in the TOM, I'm already spreading the wonderfully good events that are happening in the village!

Kim



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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi everyone

Have you had your say yet on the Draft Annual Plan?

We're well into the public consultation period but there's still time for you to send in your comments before submissions close on 13 May.

One of the great consultation tools we have is *MyRates.npd.c.nz*. This is where you can select or deselect any of the three key proposals that we want feedback on and see how your choices affect the rates for your property.

The three proposals are:

Commissioning a detailed assessment of options to redevelop the Todd Energy Aquatic Centre (cost: \$100,000).

Providing an additional \$100,000 to develop new business and events in the Council's four main venues: TSB Bowl of Brooklands, TSB Showplace, TSB Stadium and Yarrow Stadium.

Introducing year-round free parking on Saturdays in New Plymouth's CBD (cost: about \$525,000).

To make it easy for you to make a submission, the MyRates website enables you to submit your selections to the Council for us to consider as during the Draft Annual Plan deliberations.

We also have the annual plan consultation document online at newplymouthnz.com/AnnualPlan, and an electronic submission form can be filled in from that page.

This document will determine the work that NPDC undertakes in 2016/17 and how we're going to pay for it, so we'd really like to hear your thoughts on it.

Be sure to have your say before submissions close on 13 May!

**www.thetom.co.nz
for more local news and
views.**



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MUSEUM LIBRARIES TOURIST INFORMATION

Oakura Library

Be awesome! Be a book nut!

- Dr. Seuss

Crackerjacks, our pre-school story time session will be held Thursday 19th May at 10am. Join us as we go nutty and sing silly songs.

We have Dawn French's new novel, *According to Yes*. "After a lifetime of saying no, what happens when everyone starts saying yes?" She tackles big issues but it is infused with humour.

The Road to Little Dribbling: more notes from a small island, is Bill Bryson's latest laugh-out-loud travel narrative. We have his other titles available for loan as well. I read his memoir, *The Life and Times of the Thunderbolt Kid* and honestly I've never read a book that made me laugh that hard!

George R.R. Martin, author of *Game of Thrones*, has written *A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms*. Fantasy fiction lovers will devour this compilation.

Ben Sanders, 27 year old New Zealand crime fiction writer, has released his latest novel, *American Blood*. It has been picked up by Warner Bros. Studios to be made into a major motion picture starring Bradley Cooper. We have all of Sanders' novels for loan.

We had a great turn out for C Grace Lewis' book launch. It was a family friendly event and a reminder of what a great community we live in.

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Small and Medium Businesses Welcome Tax Change

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of our communities.

With 97 per cent of all New Zealand enterprises employing 20 or fewer people, it is vital to continuously search out ways to reduce the financial and time burdens that small businesses face.

That's why the Government, for example, has cut ACC levies. It's why we introduced 90-day trials and a starting-out wage. It is why we fund the roll-out of faster broadband.

These and other measures help explain why small business confidence is in solid, positive territory in New Zealand.

But there is always more to do.

The Prime Minister recently announced that Budget 2016 will include a positive tax package aimed at making business easier for small and medium-sized business operators.

The package will make paying tax easier and more certain, will reduce the burden of interest and penalties and will assist smaller businesses to better tailor payments to their own circumstances.

Highlights include:

Provisional tax is being reformed with a new pay-as-you-go option to provide smaller businesses a way to pay tax as they earn income from 1 April 2018.

Use-of-money interest will be eliminated or reduced for the vast majority.

Contractors will be able to choose a withholding tax rate that suits their needs.

The ongoing 1 per cent monthly penalty will be scrapped from 1 April 2017 for new debt.

Building a more productive and competitive economy is a priority of the National-led Government. We want businesses to focus their energies on building their businesses, not navigating red tape.

To find out more, and to provide comment on the proposals before they take effect, visit: www.makingtaxsimpler.ird.govt.nz Submissions are requested by 30 May.

As we focus on making sure it's easier to operate your business, we are continually working towards balancing Government accounts. Recently announced was a \$398 million surplus in year end to February. As long as we remain fiscally prudent we are on track to reduce net debt to around 20 per cent of GDP in 2020. Continuing a National led government will ensure we keep on track and keeping our country, our businesses and our communities heading in the right direction.

JONATHAN YOUNG MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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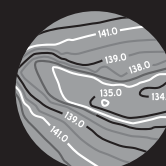
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Kaitake Community Board

As I write this column the warm autumn weather is still with us. It is quite unusual for it to have lasted so long, and no doubt all the local school kids (and their parents) are really enjoying the school holidays. The sea has been unusually warm. A Wellington fisherman landed three Mahimahi tropical fish from a school of at least 40 at the annual Kayak Classic fishing competition in Oakura recently. Mahimahi rarely travel as far south as Taranaki waters as they usually stick to the warmer northern areas of the North Island. A yellowfin tuna was also caught off Port Taranaki recently. Since 1999 when some were caught, and in years preceding it, yellowfin had been caught only a handful of times in Taranaki waters. Marlin catches have been the best for at least 10 years as well. These species are all oceanic pelagic fish living in tropical and temperate waters, only travelling south when the ocean temperatures are warm enough. A large leatherback turtle was also spotted off the Bayly Road boat ramp and there have been two instances of mangrove plantlets washing up on Oakura Beach.

Perhaps we should view these separate incidents in the far wider context of global climate change. 2015 was the hottest year on record, demolishing the record set only the year before in data stretching back to 1850. International weather experts are forecasting 2016 to set a new record, meaning the global record is set to be broken three years in a row. As the climate changes, summers (like this one) may be warmer, or cooler; we may experience more rain at certain times of year, and less at others; tropical storms may increase and they may travel much further south than before. It may well be that the public continues to treat any such events as 'one off' incidents but here is something much more obvious and unstoppable about sea-level rise. Core samples, tide gauge readings, and, most recently, satellite measurements tell us that over the past century, the Global Mean Sea Level (GMSL) has risen by 10 to 20 centimetres. However, the annual rate of rise over the past 20 years has been 3.2 millimetres a year, roughly twice the average speed of the preceding 80 years.

Will this have any bearing on us here in Oakura? Well, you better believe it. Even a modest increase will be noticed. All low lying beachfront areas are at risk right around New Zealand and it will not be any different here. Tasman Parade, Shearer Reserve, the Key Hole Reserve, the Holiday Camp, the properties at the western edge of Messenger Terrace, Corbett Park, Oakura Pa and Hall Terrace properties will be most effected. This isn't an attempt at scaremongering, just a case of pointing out the effect on us here.

Our first indication will be an increase in coastal erosion. We know that right across the NPDC there is a lot of coastal environment infrastructure such as water and wastewater reticulation, roads, open space and the coastal walkway. In addition to Council assets, there are also assets of importance to the district such as rail, state highways and the central business district itself, and the gas line along the North Taranaki coastline. All assets within the coastal hazard zone identified within the District Plan have the potential to be affected should forecast increases in

sea level rise eventuate. The Council needs to ensure that the existing policy of protecting only significant public assets, not considering the protection of private assets, is well communicated and is reflected in policy documents. And no doubt there needs to be a continuation of the operational and renewal expenditure to maintain the Council's foreshore protection assets already present.

The Council does have a Coastal Erosion Strategy. It is now over 20 years old. For Oakura Beach it states:

- i) No erosion protection measures be initiated as the Oakura Beach is at present stabilised;
- ii) Hard protection measures be avoided where possible along the beach;
- iii) Monitoring of the general area be undertaken.

Under the circumstances it is timely for review of the NPDC Coastal Erosion Strategy, which I understand is in the pipeline. It is also timely for the general public to be more aware of the effects of climate change at the local level.

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

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



**Oakura Beach in all it's autumnal glory.
Photo by Ian Scott.**

Organic Food Business Ooooby is Coming to Taranaki



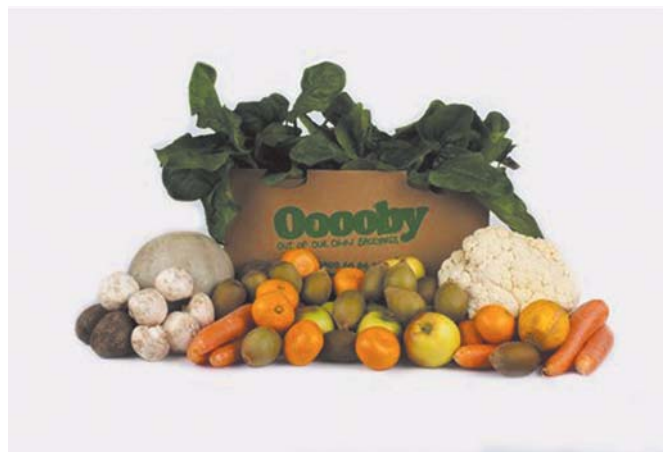
Ooooby stands for Out of Our Own Backyards, it's a local food movement where you can order a weekly box of organic/spray free produce from local growers delivered to your door. "Ooooby is on a mission to make local food convenient, affordable and fair, everywhere", says Ursula Bil-Teitink who is bringing Ooooby to the Taranaki region along with Emma Thorp.

"Today's global food systems have been steadily decreasing the cottage industry over the last 50 years, so we now need to work with local growers and producers to make more local food available within the Taranaki region again." says Ursula. The UN and the World Bank have been saying for the last few years: The Future of Food is local, small scale, intensive, diverse, decentralised, natural and using natural production methods.

Ooooby Taranaki's main goal is to assist local food growers and artisan producers to build a more resilient food economy within the Taranaki region. Ooooby provides a route to market that is otherwise hard to reach for smaller scale suppliers due to the cost of logistics; Ooooby pays fair prices to the grower for their produce. "We hope to give our customers a variety of locally sourced organic produce. Ideally we would love all the produce to come from the Taranaki region but in the early stages we will go as far as we need to go within New Zealand until Taranaki is up and running with its own supply of fresh local organic produce" says Emma Thorp

The first weekly fresh fruit and vege boxes for Taranaki are going to be delivered on Wednesday 25th May and come in two sizes: the small fruit and vege box will suit smaller households of 2-3 people weekly and the larger fruit and vege box will suit larger families (3-5 people) for their weekly supply of fruit and vegetables. Prices start at \$38 and there is an option to swap a few items within the box. There will also be a fruit box available for businesses and people with their own vege gardens who might only need extra fruit. Customers will also be able to order extra groceries such as apple and feijoa juice and honey with more being added all the time from local artisan producers.

At this stage boxes will be delivered to your door in Oakura, Omata and New Plymouth." We are hoping to increase this initial delivery area as soon as we have more customers within those outer areas such as Bell Block, Waitara and Inglewood. We may be able to deliver your box to your work address or a friend that lives in town or we might be



able to arrange a pick-up location for you, just let us know what would be a convenient place for you (your childrens' school, a café or restaurant, community centre) and we will see if we can leave your boxes there to pick up on your way home. We currently already have two pick up locations in New Plymouth: Villa Bumblebee in Merrilands and Surrey Hill Rd Oakura. If you would like your location to be a pick up point, please get in touch with us" says Emma.

For Emma and Ursula building Ooooby in Taranaki is the beginning of a journey towards a truly sustainable regional food system. "And we can only do the best we can with support of growers and customers" says Ursula.

To find out more, to order boxes or to become an Ooooby grower, visit ooooby.org or contact Ursula on 0800 629 854.

For more information please contact:

Ursula Bil-Teitink – Ooooby Taranaki on 021 0314 578 or taranaki@ooooby.com



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Plentiful Broadband Options for Community

PrimoWireless, a local Taranaki Internet Service Provider (ISP) which has been servicing Taranaki's connectivity needs for 10 years has a plethora of options for lifestyle block owners, farmers and townies. PrimoWireless is hosting a Primo Chat, on Wednesday 18 May 2016 at 7.30pm in the Supper room of the Oakura Community Hall. This is an opportunity to ask the experts all the questions you have regarding Ultrafast fibre, wireless, the Rural Broadband Initiative, phone lines (copper vs VoIP), price, special deals, plans - redundancy options - UPS technology for power outages and business options. Kelly Ellis (customer relations co-ordinator) assures me everyone will come away with a greater understanding of the process and technology. Kelly goes on to say they are committed to helping local communities with their connectivity whether that be clubs, groups, businesses or individuals. This is evidenced through their support of Oakura Boardriders where they provide free internet for the club. A sausage sizzle late last year also provided funds for the Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade. Oakura School is one of two schools currently in the province who are part of the Primo Payout scheme with \$25 being donated to the school for every connection signed up. Recently they have also set up a free hot spot at the Four Square (FreePrimoWireless). With 10 years' experience behind them, PrimoWireless can easily be viewed as the premier local provider of connectivity in Taranaki. They were the first ISP to offer Ultrafast fibre in Taranaki, and the first in NZ to offer residential gigabit UFB (think of gigatown). They are members of the Telecommunications Dispute Resolution Scheme which gives consumers an assurance that they are following national standards. The business has won various industry awards including Westpac Business Awards. PrimoWireless now has a staff of 11 having grown from three and they have outgrown their Inglewood premises with a recent move to Molesworth St in New Plymouth. The brains behind all this tech is Matthew Harrison, who has gathered an extraordinary team of experts to help him bring the best internet options to local communities. Currently Matthew is in geek heaven, touring wireless

suppliers for new technologies and taking in Facebook and Twitter Corporate headquarters in California - no doubt he will come home with a head full of brilliant new ideas! PrimoWireless has a number of plans and options available and can help you cut through all the tech jargon to make the right internet decision for you. Most exciting of all is that they offer those of us who live outside the Ultrafast framework (rural folk) access to the 3G or 4G network or their own wireless network (via Kaitake or city towers). For those farmers gearing up for Gypsy Day on the 1st June, contact PrimoWireless ASAP to ensure a smooth transition with broadband from one property to another. Remember their service extends right round the mountain and they have cost effective solutions that are likely to save you money. In the meantime mark your diary to attend the Primo Chat on Wednesday 18 May. For existing customers of PrimoWireless - bring your mates along and get \$50 off your next bill*. Speaking of existing customers - did you know they now have unlimited home fibre plans, and for you rural folk you have free unlimited off peak broadband from 12 midnight - 6am? Not up then? Set your computer to do updates and downloads, etc, during this time and you won't ever go over your data cap! www.primowireless.co.nz and Kelly Ellis 06 927 3006 for more information.

Kim Ferens

*When your Mates sign up to PrimoWireless and get connected, we'll add a \$50 credit on both of your accounts. It's that easy - and there is no limit to the number of Mates you can refer.



**Kelly and Jason outside their
Molesworth St premises.**

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SPORTS



Kaitake Golf Club News

FROM THE FAIRWAY OFFICE

With Twilight now concluded, we are truly transitioning in to the winter months. Thank you to Alban Reid and all the volunteers who helped make it another successful series. The bartenders, the gatekeepers, BBQ chefs and of course the players as without any of you there can't be any kind of activity. Clubhouse – Many thanks to Ralph and Trevor who fitted some bird safety netting on the veranda facing the 18th green. With the successful funding application, a new roof has been earmarked. Work to commence in the coming months.

New Members – A warm welcome to Dianne Meagher, Ian Ardern, Michael McGregor, Gaye Bolstad, Bruce Lawrence and chipper Stella Johns. We hope you have a long and enjoyable membership.

Remember that we have very competitive subscriptions and casual green fees. It is never too late to take up golf and join in the fun on the course. Ring the Club Secretary on 752 7665 for further info.

Wednesday Club – Every Wednesday \$5 entry for kaitake members, or \$10 if you are a visitor. Includes 2's and is run in Stableford format. Please join in the fun.

CHIPPERS

The Chippers have got off to a sound start for 2016. The perfect weather allowed for plenty of golfing. Patrick Moore of New Plymouth Golf Club, has provided two coaching sessions as part of Taranaki Golf Association's contribution in encouraging junior golf. These sessions were attended and enjoyed by 12 Chippers supported by their parents/grandparents.

Recently a 9 hole tournament for the Chippers was held to play for the Mattingley Trophy. Chippers play off a shortened 9-hole course that meets NZ Golf standards. The winner of this was D'Angelo Squatriti with Tori Lilley runner up. D'Angelo was a deserved winner of the cup with a score of 54. This included a birdie on the 8th hole. Well done! D'Angelo can be seen here receiving the cup from Domenico Squatriti, Convenor of the Juniors. Keeping it in the family.

The Chippers will continue with coaching and playing throughout the year on every second Sunday, weather permitting. If you want further information on Chippers membership fees or playing days, please phone the office or contact Dom. The club can provide golf clubs and balls so



"Shake my hand young man – what a great round"

all that is needed is casual clothes and soft shoes. Plus don't forget the water bottle, even in the winter.

PLAYERS ON TOUR

Every so often some of our members get out and about around the country, not just to play golf but it's a nice way of having some fun. Recently some mid-week ladies headed to Fielding for their annual 2 day Ladies Premier Challenge. They reported the golf was awful but the company and entertainment was great, hence they shall remain nameless! Talking about heading out of town – always remember that we have reciprocal rights at many clubs around NZ and also there are a few clubs who offer us reduced green fees. You will find the list of clubs inside the office on the notice board.

MIDWEEK LADIES

Results – Summer Cup Winner Joy Greenlees, R/Up Noreen Potts.

Team Event these four players qualified from Kaitake to play in the Taranaki Finals on 11th May. Well done and good luck to Nicole Mancer and Noreen Potts both midweek and Lois Agnew & Karen Avison from our w/end ladies.

Thomas Cup winner Julie Reid with Marleen Scott R/Up.

Tom Priest – Silver Winner Helen Beaurepaire and Debra Johnson R/Up.

Tom Priest – Bronze Winner Julie Reid and Trudy McEldowney R/Up.

Pennant Team fairing well near the top of the table with 5 points.

MIDWEEK 9 HOLE NEWS

A field of 24 ladies arrived for Opening Day and went straight into Stableford 1. But before heading out on the course, the Summer Cup results held everyone's attention. Taking home the cup this year with an eclectic score of 56 was Pat Wilcox with Susan Cottam close behind on 56.1. Third and 4th places also very tight with Thelma White on 57.3 and Ngaire Grundy on 57.4. After having almost

12 months of play just on Tuesdays, newcomer Lorraine Parthemore sits in there with 57.7 – Well done to all those who made for some great scores over summer.

Cooper Challenge saw Raewyn Bishop take the win over Heather O'Sullivan

Annual Pancake Tuesday or Shrove Tuesday as some may know it by, had plenty to smile about with Thelma White, Raewyn Bishop and Heather O'Sullivan of the 1st Division and Lorraine Parthemore, Jill Flavell and Susan Cottam of the 2nd Division taking home their winnings of none other than "pancakes". No surprise what they had for supper that night.

Newly introduced this year is a 9 Hole LGU competition. This has been in the pipeline for a little while now and we are pleased to see it finalised. Two of the eight rounds have been played with the players electing the secret squirrel approach until annual prize giving.

Something new from our own group - The O'Sullivan Plate. Conditions for this competition involve a Round Robin playing 1st Division matchplay with no strokes given.

Competition is tight and it is not always a given win for the most experienced golfer!

Pennants update –after 4 rounds, 4 x winners White team still have no points whilst Blue team are heading the field with 7 points. This feels like a change of the guards.

WEEKEND LADIES

Results – Jocelyn Garcia Trophy congrats to Carolyn O’Sullivan & Kim Woodward

Top Dog victors for 2016 Pauline Gray and Karen Avison

Pennants team placed well on the points table sitting in 2nd place with 2 wins and 1 loss

WEEKEND MENS

Summer Cup winners Chaz Wilcox and Greg Jans.

Pennants - of the 2 teams we now only have one in play to contest the shield.

PRESIDENTS CORNER APRIL 2016

Although I haven’t been out on the course as regularly as I would have liked, I do know that plenty of you have.

Congratulations to all the winners so far this year and a personal welcome to our new members.



INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

A win ratio of 80% has Oakura in first position in the Thursday Wanderers competition. With only one round to play, Oakura is looking good to add another trophy to their 2016 collection.

An Adam Collins lead team of Kelly Hill (New Plymouth) and Dot Andrews (Paritutu) won the Oakura mix triples tournament played on April 9th. A beautiful Oakura day greeted the bowlers and the tournament provided a great opportunity for a number of inexperienced bowlers to play alongside some of Oakura’s best.

Wayne Robinson, Ted Barrett and Colin Roberts finished second in the two day over 60’s triples tournament played at Inglewood in late March. It was an excellent result as a number of bowls finest statesmen participate in this very competitive event.

The highly coveted Collins Trophy competition is down to the final two teams. Allan Bridgeman and Rex Phillips will face off against Jim Priest and Roy Phillips in a winner takes all final as both duos finished with five wins from a possible six games. Well done to both teams and good bowling in the final.

Fitzroy’s’ invitational mixed fours competition was played in mid April with 32 teams contesting the two day event. The Oakura bowlers had a successful tournament with Wayne Robinson and Brian Wickham winning the “A” final while the team of Colin Roberts and Steve Muller team took out the “C” final.

Kevin Fleming and Steve Muller finished third in the Fitzroy/Stratford pairs (10 years and under competition) played over the weekend of the 16th and 17th of April. It was a good result with the duo winning four from four games on Sunday to promote them into third position.

CLUB NEWS

With the outdoor bowling season coming to a close in late May, our Oakura indoor bowling cousins would warmly welcome any bowlers or new members. For details contact Mike Vickers on 06 7527881 or call into the Oakura hall any Monday night to check out the indoors bowlers in action.

The Underarm Bowler

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A man in a black and yellow shirt is sitting in the driver's seat of a red tractor, smiling at the camera.

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Oakura Pony Club

And so the season ends. Another great summer in Oakura enjoyed by all our riders and friends of the pony club. Our little club is the only arena open to the public between here and Waitara and anyone can use it at any time by borrowing a key, located at the local petrol station for a small fee. This fee goes towards covering the cost of maintenance and upgrades to the facility and equipment so that the pony club can remain safe and enjoyable for all users. It is a valuable asset to our village as well as to the wider equestrian community, supporting and encouraging a sport that continues to enhance the lives of those who participate, along the way developing some pretty outstanding champions.



Isabella Hibble on Jiggy at Horse of the Year.



Maddie Hardie Boys on Winnie at the Premier Show in Hawera.



Holly and Ryan Robertson picking up the ribbons at the Inglewood Twilight Show.



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KAYAK FISHING CLUB

The 2016 Kayak Fishing Classic was another rip roaring success with 200 entrants from all over New Zealand (Kaitia and Dunedin) and from as far away as Melbourne, NSW. We raised \$1000 for the Rescue Helicopter Trust. Many families got involved and it was great to see so many children involved. It was also the first time we have had a Mahimahi weighed in as these fish are usually only found in the tropics. The weather was fantastic and while no records were broken for enormous snapper - there were some fine fish caught. Thanks to all the locals who came to watch the weigh in and donated to the Helicopter Trust and to all the volunteers who helped.

RESULTS

Juniors, 3rd Carisa Krutz, 2nd Billie Blair, 1st Tane Leatherby.

Ladies, 2nd Tanya Chapple, 1st Deidre Krutz.

Surfcasting, 3rd Garry Broadmore. 2nd Richard Mahood. 1st Steve McEwen,

Trevally, 3rd Charles Dinnis, 2nd Kerry Flowers, 1st, Mike Lafranchie.

John Dory, 3rd, Cam Twigley, 2nd Mat Gibson, 1st Andrew Varcoe.

Blue Cod, 3rd Luke Davies, 2nd Tony Campbell, 1st Sam Connelly.

King fish, Kerry Flowers ,

Tuna, 3rd Lynden Cox, 2nd Steve Tapp, 1st Paul Rountree.

Kahawai, 3rd Bam Blackie, 2nd Rob Parkes, 1st, Hayden Walker.

Gurnard, 3rd, Andy Rae, 2nd, Kevin Blair, 1st Tane Leatherby.

Snapper, 3rd, Dan Filli, 2nd, Ben Pollard, 1st Reagan Phipps, 10.405 kg.

The top five snapper were all over 9kg or 20b with 2 juniors in the top five.

The early bird winner of a heli tranz trip for two to Great Barrier Island and a Tasman Toyota supplied Hilux for the weekend was Steve Caithness from New Plymouth.

The main all in draw prize was won by Wills Candy from Okato.

All in all the event was a huge success.

HAPPINESS IS FISH- SHAPED



GETTING WET



Oakura Boardriders

A great month of surfing this month which means the wife's chores haven't attended to but who can turn away from the summer that just keeps on giving. The first week of the school holidays is upon us and the weather is looking fantastic and so are the waves with a water temperature that is still 20 deg C which is fantastic for this time of year. The Kayak Fishermen and Standup Paddlers amongst us have also been loving the calm conditions between swells with plenty of favourable water conditions for all.

Our club surf coaching and lessons are winding up until next summer. It's a great time to say thanks to all the coaches and behind the scenes organisers and sponsors who make this happen. It has been an outstanding success and very tiring for the coaches so some downtime will be appreciated no doubt but it has given a lot of people a great start to their surfing and I am sure there will be a few that have the bug that will continue their whole life!

The Oakura Skate Park upgrade was supposed to be underway but there appears to be some bureaucratic holdups which we hope will be resolved and this much needed facility can be done before next summer. Some people have put countless hours into this so hopefully we can see a timely and positive outcome in the near future.

The club Friday nights will slow down from the end of April and during winter the club will be open the last Friday night of the month for social catchups until next summer so mark that down on your calendar. It is also the club's 25th anniversary this year and we will be having a celebration to mark this. This will be announced over the coming months so keep an eye out for updates.

The photos below are courtesy of one of our sponsors dronetechnologies.co.nz showing the line up from the club champs and a fly by over Paige Hareb's house. This new technology is certainly changing the face of photography and gives another great perspective, thanks Ben for the photos.

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



Above and below: Ben Plummer's drone photography



IRB NATIONALS

IRB Nationals 2016 was held in Papamoa this year, with six crews from NPOB making the trip across the North Island to take on New Zealand's best crews.

For some it was their first Nationals but for a good few it was a return to the days of old. We were met with some gnarly conditions, reasonable sized swells, gusty winds and downpours saw plenty of spills, injured bodies and drowned motors.

The crews taking part this year were:

- Prems: Jared Coster and Sean Zieltjes;
- Prems: Daniel Charteris and Kim Danz;
- Senior: Gareth Goodin and Dex Newland;
- Senior: Trent Cutts and Keith Christmas;
- Senior: Rhys Clarke and Zac Cyril-Beaton;
- U21s: Talor Owen and Lachie Stevens.

It is brilliant to see the IRB team continuing to build in

numbers and results. There was a real presence on the beach from NPOB. Taranaki as a region was well represented and showed its strength in the field of IRBs.

Some notable performances from our crews over the weekend:

- Gaz and Dex pulled out an outstanding series of Assembly races and pulled through for a bronze medal; undoubtedly the highlight of the weekend.
- The NPOB A team fizzed through the Open final. There is a lot of pride and respect to be gained from a good result in the teams race.
- Talor and Sean showed true grit in continuing to race despite having well-tweaked ankles.
- It was fantastic to have Birdy back in the mix after recovering from her broken ankle. She did a top notch job captaining the patients and showing how to get it done.
- Zaco for throwing himself into the mix as a crewman for Rhys. Natural talent in the front of the boat.

From the perspective of a first time competitor at nationals it was brilliant to have such a wealth of knowledge and

experience in the crew. A real asset to the team was its cohesiveness and willingness to help each other out. It undoubtedly made a big difference knowing the whole unit was supporting the competitors in each race.

A FEW MENTIONS AND THANKS.

Mike Taunoa and KT for giving up their weekends to manage the unmanageable on the beach. Good luck for the trial mate! A big thanks to Kim for supplying his trailer and quad for use on the beach. Kim showed what a solid bloke he is, helping out the competition clean up at the end of the days of racing.

Jared Coster for tirelessly and thanklessly maintaining our equipment.

Finally to the patients for their efforts. Not an easy job by any stretch of the imagination and completed without any complaint.

To top off the weekend the team donned their op-shop threads and hit the local curry house for a debrief. An awesome weekend away and a good end to an outstanding season.

COMING UP

The next stop will be the 90 mile endurance race in Northland this September. The crews are beginning to be formulated. Plenty to focus on for the winter ahead and the 16/17 season. There are some plans being drawn up for a more structured off season training programme along with some cross training team events and fundraisers.

If anyone is interested in getting involved in IRBs get in touch!

Trent 0210541017.



Above: action from the IRB Nationals.

Left: the team in their op shop threads.

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CAMP WELLINGTON

"We will miss you year 7 and 8s!" shouted the juniors of Oakura School. On the 4th of April the 7 and 8s of Oakura School started their journey to Camp Wellington. Our bus safely arrived at Silverstream Retreat in Upper Hut City in the evening.

The food at Silverstream was very delicious and there was always plenty to fill us up. One night we had nachos, another night we had fish and chips and they provided great food for snacks and breakfasts. Some nights we had vegetables, for example broccoli, carrots and salads. The facilities at Silverstream were great, even the five minute showers.

Every day at camp we travelled into the city and learnt about local and national history. We went to parliament and luckily enough, one group got to watch a sitting with the politicians! We also visited Te Papa and the National War Museum where we learnt so much. One of the highlights was the Amazing Race which was organised by students of Thorndon School. In teams we raced around Wellington following clues and completing tasks in the city. One of the most interesting activities was the visit to Zealandia, the bird sanctuary where we patted a tuatara. For some of us this was the first time we'd even seen a tuatara.

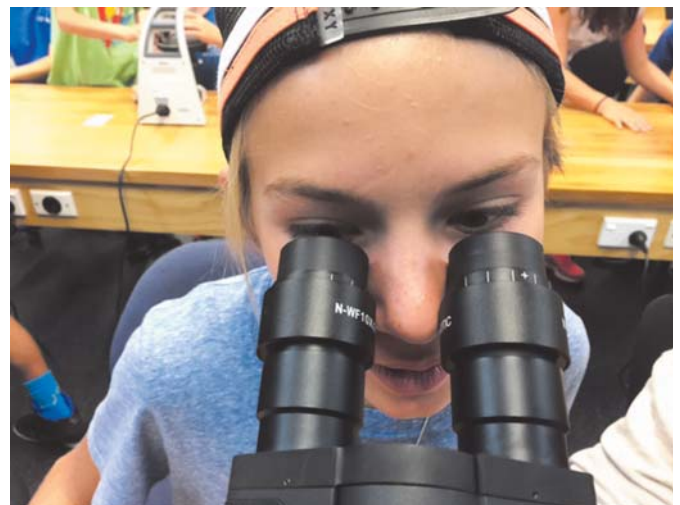
On the last night of Camp Wellington we had the Oakura Idol. Quinn Jackson and Ariana Shewry were hosts and three of our parents transformed themselves into fantastic judges. There were a lot of laughs, magic tricks and dances. In the end Abi Connelly won by playing guitar and singing Stitches. She did a fabulous job.

In conclusion we had a wonderful time with the activities, food and accommodation. We wish we could go there again, and maybe we will! We'd like to thank all the people that helped make our camp so great – our camp mums and dads, our teachers and the bus drivers.

Quinn Jackson, (12 years)



Wreath laying ceremony at Pukeahu.



Nani Viner at Victoria University.



Working to shine the pounamu at Te Papa.

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May

- 11 Y1/2 Movement Madness 1pm
- 12 Y3/4 Movement Madness 1pm
- 16 Puke Ariki Mobile Library 1:30pm

June

- 6 Queen's Birthday Holiday
- 10 Jump Rope Display 9am

WHAT'S ON TOP

A very busy term one kicked off with our Year 5-8 students participating in the biennial camp out at school. Students enjoyed all the fun activities and the Year 7 and 8 students cooked up a storm on their camp fires with many having Masterchef style entrees, mains and desserts.

The annual Omata Triathlon event was brilliant with a large number of spectators and enthusiastic athletes. The 'slide-in' to the finish line is always a highlight. Thanks so much to all the parents and extended whanau who came along to support students as they gave it their all.

Winter sports are now underway and we have many students in teams for football, netball miniball and basketball. Our appreciation goes to Stuart Bennett who organises the teams and supports everyone through the season so well. Not an easy undertaking as you can imagine. I urge parents to pass on the message of 'fair play' to their children. We promote competitive play within a supportive atmosphere; where players, spectators and coaches encourage each other to do their very best on the court or field. We extend our thanks to all of our coaches and managers. You do an amazing job.

We welcome volunteers from the Rotary Reading scheme on Thursdays and we enjoyed having the Harold's truck in week one as we began Life Education. Our rich topic study this term is 'Astronomical'; an investigation into our solar system.

We are investigating the components of the solar system, how they effect each other, developing an appreciation of the distances between them, and looking at the Sun and the Moon and their physical effects on the Earth. Part of this learning involves understanding the nature of science and appreciating that science is a way of explaining the world and that science knowledge changes over time. Exciting stuff!

HOME AND SCHOOL NEWS

Great to see some new faces joining the Home and School. It is a great way to get involved with the school community and meet new people. We thank Michelle who has stepped down for her many years of involvement, most recently as secretary. Lunches are in full swing much to everyone's delight. A big thank you to Ann, Elsa, Toni and the huge team of bakers involved in providing the children their weekly treat.

We kicked off the year by donating \$200 to each class for indoor activities to keep the students entertained during the rainy days next term and \$800 to assist the new 'Quick 60' reading programme. These donations are a huge help as a boost over and above the funding the school receives

and could not be possible without the help of those who work to provide fundraising opportunities and of course those who buy the products, such as lunches. So thank you everyone.

Rachel Alford

LABELLED CLOTHING

Anyone who would like to order Omata Jackets or T-Shirts can pick up an order from the school office. We have adults and children's sizes in all items.



Prices:

- Children - Jacket \$60, T-Shirt \$28
- Adults - Jacket \$70, T-Shirt \$30

Karen Brisco, Principal

Oakura Playcentre

BELONGING TO OUR VILLAGE

What a beautiful summery start to 2016! Our Playcentre whanau have been enjoying plenty of outdoor play in this lovely weather, and the relative quiet and peace of the many indoor play stations.

Playcentre is an early childhood education service run co-operatively by member families. We aim to give our children high quality early childhood education with the active involvement of whanau. Parents can gain skills and qualifications, as well as confidence in their parenting.

Our tamariki are enjoying this term's theme of "belonging". Central to this has been fostering each child's sense of belonging to the Playcentre whanau. Two of the walls are now covered with photos of our tamariki, with descriptions of their interests, and learning stories attached. The children love to find themselves and their friends on the wall.

An extension of the belonging theme has been how we belong to the community around us. We had a wonderful visit from Ms Leadbetter and students from Oakura School's Gecko and Penguin Rooms recently. This was a very special visit for the younger children to have their big siblings, cousins and friends visit. "Isla loved playing alongside the big kids. She had lots of fun." Said Alex Baker, mother of 1 year old Isla Baker.

For many of the bigger children, it was a return to Playcentre, and their enjoyment was evident in the rush to the pirate ship on arrival, and the pure joy as they played and interacted. "I was blown away with how many of the visiting children had been to Playcentre", Oakura Playcentre President Kate Garner said. It was lovely to see Phoebe Bennett, Raffie Emans, Connie Matheson, Freddy Tarrant, Eric Spencer, Siena Bennett, Lusea Wallace, Josh La Franchie, Riley Perrie, Will Hackling, Rafferty O'Sullivan, Occy Tapara, Will McQuaig again. "I can't believe how well resourced the centre is!" said Ms Leadbetter. It was a fantastic session, with thanks to Hayley Bennett, Annette Syme, and Ms Leadbetter for organising. We often have coach Mike visit to run playball sessions,

which are a huge hit with the tamariki and the mums. For our most recent session, we invited some children from Sophia Preschool to join us. It was really lovely to see some of our tamariki who attend both centres enjoying the connection between us. We hope to further foster our relationships within the Oakura community in the future.

If you have a young family between the ages of 0-6 years, please come and check us out on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9am until midday. We would love to meet you and your family. You can visit a few times before making a commitment to joining us. Check out our Facebook page for information about upcoming events: Playcentre – Oakura, Taranaki.



The belonging wall at Playcentre.



Playball session with Sophia Preschool.

Healthy Homes with Alex

Alex Rodgers and his team at Flexible Electrical are well known for their services to the community. Bringing sustainable and energy efficiency with solar power plus taking care of your well being through yoga, Alex has now come across a product to help you create a healthier home.

Winter's coming which means cold, damp homes for many New Zealanders. So why do so many of us choose to live so far below what is considered comfortable in civilised society?

Our home is the most expensive thing we will ever buy, yet we are happy to let these homes become sick with damp, condensation, mould and mildew. In turn we become sick and so do our children. We develop coughs, colds, influenza and asthma. Year in year out we deal with these ailments and we allow our homes to succumb to the elements.

A quarter of a million homes in New Zealand are already benefitting from positive pressure ventilation (PPV). On a daily basis we produce many litres of moisture in our homes from cooking, doing laundry, showering and even breathing. This moisture embeds itself in our walls, carpets, curtains and furniture. Moisture in the home will promote mould, mildew and dust mites, the triggers for those winter illnesses and even asthma. Even when our homes are well insulated and warm, they still contain large amounts of unwanted moisture. A good quality PPV system can control this moisture ingress and in turn, help to prevent our homes and our families becoming sick. Asthma sufferers around NZ will testify to the benefits of a good PPV system.

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NCEA RESULTS

National Certificate of Educational Achievement results for 2015 have now been confirmed. Our results show continual improvement over the past five years of overall pass rates at each of the NCEA Levels One, Two and Three as well as significant improvement of results for our Maori students.

This continual improvement has been the result of sustained effort across a range of achievement targets that have included:

Developing our curriculum to include a diverse range of programmes to better meet the needs and interests of our students.

Tracking and monitoring individual student learning and achievement to ensure equitable outcomes for students.

Assisting each student to set themselves meaningful learning and achievement goals through our IDP (Individual Development Plan) conferences held with Whanau Teachers, Individual Students and their Parents.

Developing a robust course selection process to ensure students have a meaningful pathway to success.

Growing our Vocational and Trades Academy pathways.

Accelerating improvement in student Literacy and Numeracy skill through our professional learning programme – Kia Eke Panuku.

Demanding that as teachers at all levels, we think and reflect critically about our teaching, the curriculum we offer and our role as leaders of learning across the school.

Purposefully resourcing initiatives that will continue to grow support, interventions and outcomes for learners. Our Student Achievement Facilitator roles are an example of this resourcing to raise levels of student achievement.

Teaching students the skills and strategies of self-management through our ETŪ Programme to assist and encourage individuals to take ownership of their learning.

Using restorative practices to assist students to relate effectively with others and to collaborate to further develop a co-constructed future for our school.

END OF TERM I ACHIEVERS ASSEMBLY

On the last day of Term I we celebrated the achievement of students through a Prefect led assembly. As well as achieving Merit and Excellence Badges for NCEA Endorsements a great many students received acknowledgement for their participation and success in a wide range of academic, cultural, sporting and leadership accomplishments over the term.

Academic

Almost 40% of Year 12 & 13 students received either Merit or Excellence Endorsements for their 2015 NCEA results.

Cultural

Shiann Jolly won the Most Dramatic Performance Award at the Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival.

Grace Powell won the Crew Member of the Year Award at the Shakespeare Festival.

The Spotswood College Cast won the Five Minute Performance Award.

Sporting

Gage Peters gained 3rd place in the NZ Radio Car National Championship.

Aiden Zittersteijn gained 13th place in the National Under 18 Single Championship in Lawn Bowls.

Hikaru Han was the top Taranaki Junior Tennis Player and was selected as a member of both the Junior and Senior Taranaki Teams.

14 girls won places in the NZ Secondary Schools Beach Volleyball Division 2 Championship.

9 boys won places in the NZ Secondary Schools Beach Volleyball Division 1 Championship.

The Boys Team came 15th in the Division I Senior Boys National Volleyball Championship.

The Girls Team came 2nd in the Division 4 National Volleyball Championship.

Our Special Education students participated in the Special Olympics in Hawera.

Leadership

84 Year 13 students completed the Peer Support Training and have been working with Year 9 students during Term I.

7 students have been selected to participate in the Accelerator Programme.

Montana Bennett and Baylee O'Donnell-Martin attended the Soroptimist Function.

Amirah Osama is attending the Sir Peter Blake Youth Enviroleaders Forum in Nelson over the holidays.



Peer Support Leaders.



Montana Bennett & Baylee O'Donnell-Martin at the Soroptimists Function.

TRAVELLING GROUPS

Two groups of language students are travelling overseas during the Term One holidays. Mrs Fitzpatrick (HOD Languages) has taken a group of 16 Spanish Language Students to Spain and Mrs Smithers (Japanese Language Teacher) has taken 12 students to Japan including a visit to our Sister School – Hatsukaichi in Hiroshima. We look forward to hearing the stories and seeing the photographs from these wonderful expeditions.

TERM II DATES

7 May	School Ball
8 May	TSSSA Mountain Biking
13 May	TSSSA Golf
20 May	Orchestra Day
24 May	TSSSA Cross Country
25 May	TSSSA Indoor Bowls
26 May	All Day Kapa Haka
6 June	Queens Birthday
9 June	Junior Oratory Evening
14 June	Staff Only Day
16 June	Senior Oratory Evening
29 June	Report Evening
8 July	End of Term II

I am away on sabbatical during Term II. Mr Knapton and Mr Shaw will deputise for me during this time.

I look forward to communicating with you again in Term III.

Mark Bowden, Principal

Alice in Wonderland



Alice in Wonderland Performances on Friday, May 6 at 9:30 and 11 am, Saturday, May 7 at 1 and 3 pm and on Sunday, May 8 at 1 and 3 pm. (The ideal outing for Mother's Day!!) Adults at \$15 and children \$10 with family and group discounts available.

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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

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

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

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

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

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

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

Oakura Pony Club. Contact Robin King ph 751 0300.

Oakura Pool Club. Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm @ Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Chip 027 621 4999 or 752 1004.

Okato Squash. Club nights on Mondays from 7pm, everyone welcome, phone Darryl Gibson, Ph 06 752 4804.

Omata Playgroup. Meets every Thursday, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. Ring 751 2308 for next session date. All parents and pre-schoolers welcome.

OMG Oakura Meditation Group - meets on the first Thursday of the month at St James Hall 7pm, all welcome call Kate 0272037215.

Oakura Tennis Club
Monday 9am-2pm - Ladies Midweek Competition.
Tuesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching.
Wednesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching / Hot Shots Tennis.
6pm-7.30pm - Ladies practice night.
Thursday 5.30pm-7.30pm - A Grade players practice.
Friday 4pm-8pm - Junior Interclub competition.
Saturday 9am-4pm - Soffe Cup and A grade Competition.
Contact Club Secretary, Jackie Mitchell on 06 752 7013.

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

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

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

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

Taranaki Volkswagen Owners Club AGM Sunday 22 May 2016, Oakura Boardriders club rooms. Ph 06 752 1290.

Val Deakin Dance School. Oakura Hall. Saturday mornings. Pre-school dance classes 9:30 - 10 am. Beginners' Ballet dance class 10.00 - 10:45 am. Contact Val on 752 7743. Also classes for pre-schoolers to adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth.

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

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

Zumba Fitness. Each Wednesday during school terms - 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Oakura Hall - everyone welcome, \$5 entry. Ph Ange on 021 222 9683 for enquiries.

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