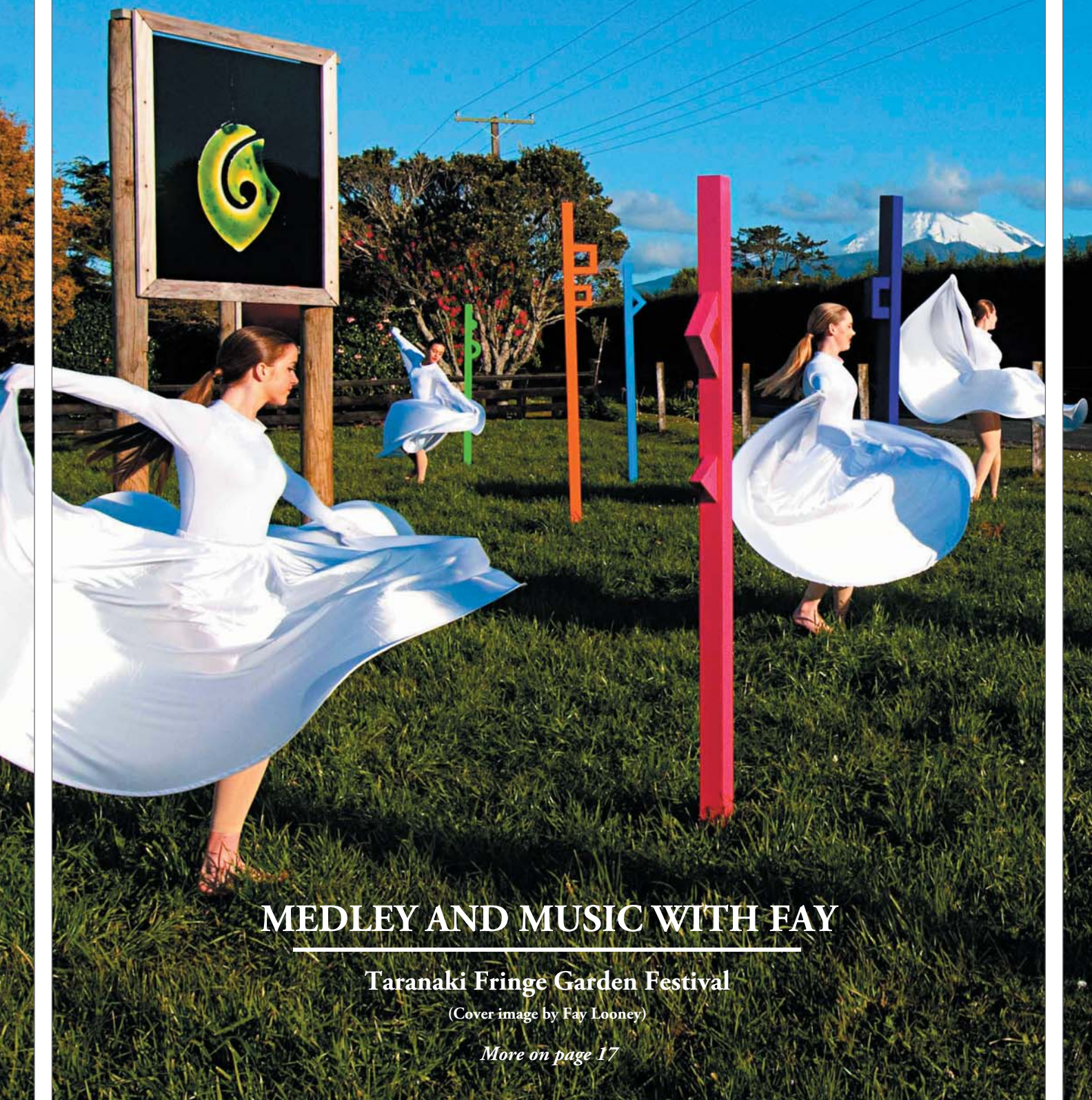


TOM

OAKURA

OCT 2015



MEDLEY AND MUSIC WITH FAY

Taranaki Fringe Garden Festival

(Cover image by Fay Looney)

More on page 17

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

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 November 2015 issue:

Copy & Ads -16th Oct.

Distribution from 4th Nov.

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EDITORIAL

The Syrian refugee saga has been playing out in our media, news and social but I wonder how much we all really know or understand about this problem. I feel we are being propagandised and people are letting their emotions run away with common sense.



Common sense tells me that New Zealand is a very long way away from Syria. Common sense tells me that we don't have a large enough population or economy to support a large influx of refugees. Germany for instance has 82 million people and their statistics show that the economy has benefited from foreigners and refugees by 22 billion euros with this only expected to rise as more refugees settle there. Many of the refugees are highly skilled and educated. Reports suggest that many refugees will return to Syria should the civil war end but I don't know if I see that happening anytime soon. At the beginning of May 2011 only 300 refugees had left Syria, by the end of 2013 three million had left and now 13.5 million have been displaced.

Many people have hooked into the emotive images of children dying on beaches (surely very sad) but I have a great deal of sympathy for the authorities and organisations trying to manage this huge influx of people. What would we do if the population of Australia fled their country and turned up on our shores? Where would we house them, how would we feed them, clothe them and provide essential services for them with our limited resources?

We live in such a beautiful place here in Oakura and New Zealand - beautiful scenery but also beautifully free - free to practise our own religions (or not), speak out with freedom, women are treated as equal and can express their opinions freely, children are nurtured and are free to be children. It is hard to imagine any different and that's why I think New Zealanders are so keen on helping refugees - we want to share our paradise with those who don't know this - it seems unfair that we can enjoy it while millions are fleeing what could be seen as the tyranny of President Bashar Al-Assad. I don't pretend to understand the machinations of Syria but as with all wars (in my opinion), take out the egos, take away the unequal distribution of power, take out the super powers and their interests and start a dialogue.

Speaking of dialogue I am loving the upbeat column from Jonathan this month - I love it that he sees our place in such a positive light and I think that's what we should do too.

by Kim

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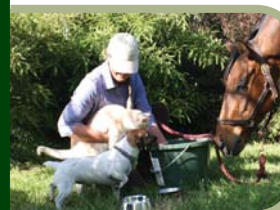
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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi everyone

If you listen very closely, you might hear the rumble of wheelie bins being readied for the new recycling and rubbish collection.

The new service starts on 1 October – about the date that this newspaper will be delivered to homes – and residents on the collection route will have a wheelie bin for general recyclables, a blue crate for glass recycling and red rubbish bags.

Oakura's collection day has changed to Fridays, so you'll be among the early users of the new system!

While the rubbish collection is weekly, the recyclables will be picked up fortnightly on alternate weeks – glass collection one week and recyclables the next.

You can check which recyclable week is which by looking at the calendar in the information pack that was delivered with your wheelie bin. Alternatively, you can go online to newplymouthnz.com, go to our Facebook page at [facebook.com/newplymouthdistrictcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/newplymouthdistrictcouncil), or download our recycling app (check our website for details).

I'm excited about the potential benefits of this new collection system. We have the opportunity to recycle a lot more waste from our homes, which will not only help the environment but also keep down our costs for sending household waste to the landfill.

How much we benefit will depend on how much material we recycle from our homes – so please check your information pack about what can be recycled and divert as much of it from your rubbish bag as possible!

Also, if you have neighbours who are elderly or have limited mobility, please check with them to see if they need help with their wheelie bins or glass crates. And if a full glass crate would be too heavy for you to lift, remember that the crate doesn't have to be full to be collected – just put the crate out on your collection day, even if it has only one glass bottle in it.

Mayor Andrew Judd

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I attended Rosie Belton's author visit as part of the Taranaki Art Festival. Her latest release *Wild Blackberries* is not only "her story but a social history of food in New Zealand". She is such a courageous lady. A decade ago she suffered a serious head injury which she documented in her book *Just a Bang on the Head*.

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr, winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction 2015, is a much talked about must read. Beautiful writing, a mesmerising read.

In addition some of our popular authors have published new books. They are Rosamund Lupton's *Quality of Silence*, Annie Barrow's *The Truth According to Us*, Lori Lansens' *Mountain Story*, Linwood Barclays' *Broken Promise* and Harlan Coben's *The Stranger*. For *Gone Girl* fans try *Good Girl* by Mary Kubica.

We have a large selection of beautiful picture books. Most recent favourites have been Julia Donaldson's *The Flying Bath*, Pat Hutchins' *Where, Oh Where is Rosie's Chick?* *Pig the Pug* series and Oliver Jeffers' crayon books are funny and delightful.

Our next Crackerjacks session will be held Thursday 15th October at 10am. Join us for a half hour of story time, song and craft.

Our meeting room is up and running. We got two thumbs up from one of our book groups. They found it quiet and comfortable.

Our "E-books for Everyone" session will be cancelled this month because it falls on Labour Day. But we are happy to assist you with digital queries anytime.

Happy reading,

Charlie and Vincenza

Thinking about Subdividing?

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Taking a Positive View

It doesn't seem like a day goes by when there isn't a discussion about what's happening in the economy – locally or globally.

There is a lot of volatility in financial markets around the world and there's no doubt the recent drop in international dairy prices will hurt our regions farmers' incomes and that in turn will have an effect on other businesses around Taranaki.

But if we take a step back, it's important to keep a few things in mind.

The first is that – as with all New Zealand's main exports – dairy prices are cyclical. They go up and they go down. Dairy prices will recover over time and the longer-term outlook for the industry is strong.

It's also important we don't talk our economy down, and keep things in perspective.

We have an economy that is far more productive, more efficient, and more globally connected than ever before. We have been out-performing the OECD in recent years and a period of more moderate growth is only to be expected as our economy adjusts to the dairy industry's income shock.

As Asian countries continue to grow and get wealthier they will want more high-quality, safe, and nutritious foods – like our dairy products.

The Government is helping to prepare New Zealand to take advantage of these opportunities, for example through negotiating much better access to markets in Asia and the Pacific through the TPP trade agreement.

Also, while dairy is down at the moment, prices for other exports are up. Beef prices for New Zealand farmers, for example, have risen to record highs.

Horticulture has had a very good year with total earnings topping \$7.5 billion for the first time. Kiwifruit in particular has bounced back strongly from PSA, now with over \$1 billion in exports.

Tourism is going great guns. Record numbers of tourists are coming to New Zealand, they're staying for longer, and spending more than ever before. Visitor spending reached over \$8 billion over the last year, which is up more than 20 per cent on the previous year.

Here in Taranaki, we're having a renewed focus on tourism with some exciting opportunities being developed that will make our region one of the more exciting places to visit in New Zealand.

So while dairy is a vitally important industry for Taranaki and New Zealand, we will get through the trough and there are still many more strings in the country's bow.

New Zealand has a flexible, responsive economy. This has allowed the Kiwi dollar to fall around 25 per cent against the US, compared to a year ago. This drop in the exchange rate helps offset the fall in dairy prices, and means all exporters get better returns for the goods and services they sell overseas.

Interest rate cuts will also be a shot in the arm for the economy.

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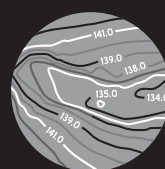


Economists are still forecasting growth of around 2 to 2.5 per cent a year, which is good, solid, and sustainable. This growth will build on the good economic performance New Zealand has experienced over the past few years.

Hundreds of thousands of new jobs have been created. Wages have been rising faster than inflation. Households are saving a bit more and paying down debt, which gives them a greater sense of security.

And New Zealanders are staying home or returning in significant numbers because opportunities are better here than elsewhere.

So we can be optimistic and confident about New Zealand's future.



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Kaitake Community Board

That spring feeling returns for me each year when I begin seeing the whitebaiters out in force again. It is soon followed by another, that public pronouncement to put our clocks forward an hour as daylight saving commences. After the wet winter this year I, like many others, look forward to the onset of those longer summer evenings, brought about by daylight saving, when everyone can get out and about to enjoy our superb environment. It's a pretty special place and we all want to keep it that way.

To that end your community board set up a focus group of local stakeholders to draft up a consultation document to help the community consider and discuss different scenarios for Oakura in the future - that is the next 10 to 20 years. The focus group has met regularly over the past year or so and has had many interesting discussions between themselves, and with council staff, about general planning and development strategies for the management of our resources leading to the future. The group has considered a wide range of factors, such as environmental biodiversity and enhancement, growth and where it should be, a community hub and it's location, green spaces, trails, beach access, parking provisions etc. This year the initial group was expanded to include local professionals working in those and other fields. This brought a new dimension of expertise to the group and has added much value to the draft document's development. In fact the exchange of views by these participants has been quite uplifting. Shortly the group will hold another meeting to discuss and make any final changes to the consultation document and then it will be provided to our community as the catalyst for discussion, comment and hopefully teasing out other ideas.

After a period of reflection and input from the community the group will then begin the process of tying it into a broad informal scenario for Oakura going forward to be presented to council as the first step in it's far-reaching plan to develop local area blueprints across all the communities in the district.

The New Plymouth District is made up of many communities and neighbourhood centres and the council is mandated with strengthening and connecting those communities to ensure they are successful, safe and liveable environments for residents. The Council's role in supporting community, business and industry initiatives by providing high-quality public infrastructure and a pragmatic regulatory response will help each community achieve its desired goals. Our community is certainly leading the way in the 'bottom up' development of a local blueprint that will serve us well over the next decades.

The original members of the focus group were:

KCB - Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead, Doug Hislop

Fire Service - Matt Crabtree

Residential developer issues - Norton Moller

Taranaki Iwi/Ngati Tari hapu - Michael Ruakere and Tari Norris

Swimming Pool and Foreshore Precinct Projects - Sean Zieltjes

Foreshore Precinct Project - Paul Lobb

CBD issues - Jeff Salisbury

Oakura School BoT - Richie Shearer

Oakura Kindergarten - Milou Barrett

Others joining this year were:

Grant Aitken, Allen Juffermans, Glenn Bremner, Scott Grieve, John Haylock, John Ardern, and Stefan Kiss.

When the consultation document arrives at your place and you have digested its contents feel free to discuss it with any of the above folk. If need be the community board will host workshops and meetings to enable the widest possible input from our community.

Well that's it for this month. The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be at the Hempton Hall, Okato on Monday 9 November at 7pm.

Ka kite ano

Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead and Councillor Richard Jordan who is the Council representative on the KCB.

From the Big Red Truck

Hello to all Families

As we are coming into summer and daylight saving - a very timely reminder to have working smoke alarms installed in YOUR HOME.

The Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade, in the past three weeks has attended incidents where occupants have been alerted to either smoke or fire in their homes, due to having working smoke alarms, this allowed the occupants time to get out of the house, call the Fire Service, and limit the amount of damage to their properties.

The NZFS strongly recommends having a working smoke alarm in ALL sleeping areas, lounge and hallways to provide early warning of a fire event in your home.

We are currently recommending photoelectric smoke alarms with 10 year batteries.

As the adverts tell us fires are fast, you need to have the early warning (working smoke alarms) to protect your family.

You also require two means of escape from every room in you home and a designated meeting place for ALL family members to gather.

From 1st July 2015 - New Zealand has had 10 fire related deaths, with many more people injured. This is not good enough.

We all need to take responsibility for keeping our own families and loved ones safe. Don't wait until it is too late, you may not be here to tell the story.

If you require advice on smoke alarms please call the NZFS Taranaki Area office - 06 757 3860.

A reminder please - The Oakura Fire Brigade volunteers attend motor vehicle accidents. If you have to drive past a scene please take note of your speed (20 km/hour) and concentrate on your driving. We don't want people to have an accident through lack of attention.

The staff on traffic control are there to protect their fellow emergency service workers, please do your bit and follow the speed limit and any instructions, that way every gets home safely.

The Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade are actively recruiting for more members, especially those people who are available during the day.

If you would like more information please do not hesitate giving me a call,

(027 249 4735) more to follow on this next month.

Keep Fire Safe

*Matt Crabtree, Chief Fire Officer
Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade*

Connecting with the Inner You

As a child I was constantly looking for some connection. The most connected role model I had in my childhood was my lovely Granny who oozed love and kindness, and literally shone. I've realised recently that it was this hunt for connection that led me to my work as a remedial body therapist and energy worker, and to becoming a yoga teacher.

Simplified, I've discovered that the quality my Granny exuded was something that is quite easy to achieve. The realisation for me is that it's all here, in me; I don't need to search outside of myself. This has brought the peace, love and kindness, and the light I saw in my Granny. And the surprising thing is this connection brings healing; this is the innate force within us that is ever evolving towards purity. This is pure awareness.

I work with this force in my yoga practice, in my mindfulness classes, and in my healing work.

If you're thinking this sounds rather etheric, the reality is that when we connect with this calm place within ourselves, our bodies and our lives just work better. All stress related illnesses are drastically reduced, immunity is increased, lifelong patterns of anxiety and depression are lessened and often disappear and healing occurs physically, mentally, emotionally and ultimately spiritually.

And the thing is it's not difficult at all, it just needs practice. Just like getting and maintaining anything in life. You just need to learn the skills, and make the space and time to practice. Like anything, the more you practice the better you get.

This can be achieved with the classes I offer in yoga and meditation/mindfulness or a full treatment session with me.

YOGA CLASSES

When we do yoga our bodies get a great work out, but the reason we feel so good afterwards is because we have had to practice awareness. We have spent an hour or so in single-pointed awareness. Studies show that yoga excels at shifting our brains from stress responses and into relaxation responses. It is mindfulness in motion.

If you are looking for change either physically or emotionally, come and try a yoga class. You will improve strength and flexibility, and more importantly you will have reconnected your body mind and spirit – this is what the word yoga means – union. With this regular practice of connection will come healing, health and happiness.

MINDFULNESS COURSE

I am running a four week course in mindfulness practices. During this course I will introduce a number of simple ways we can all bring about mindfulness in our lives. We will work together to create a regular practice that will bring peace, joy, health and balance.

When the course ends a regular monthly meeting will be set up so that we can practice together.

TREATMENT SESSIONS

And finally if you are looking for healing of chronic or acute physical, emotional or mental patterns, please give

Mindfulness Classes

Mindfulness is the new buzz word for meditation. An attention to mindfulness has been shown in many scientific studies to reduce stress and stress related illness (digestion problems, heart problems, fatigue, anxiety, depression, physical symptoms such as back problems and migraines). Apart from the physical, regular mindfulness practices bring about peace, joy, balance, an even approach to life's challenges and even spiritual connection.

In this 4 week programme we will learn different ways of creating a mindfulness practice

Starting Thursday 15th Oct - 7pm til 8.30pm
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me a call to come for a session in my treatment rooms, both here in wonderful Oakura or in central New Plymouth. I am qualified in Remedial Body Therapy, Sports Massage, Cranio Sacral Therapy, Reiki, EMF Energy Balancing and Belief Work.

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Pippi's PT is BACK in ACTION!!



Currently offering circuit training, core strength exercises and boxing routines out of the Kaitake Rugby Clubrooms, Corbett Park, EVERY weekday morning 9.30-10.30am, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5.30-6.30pm.

If I get enough interest I will look at starting up (in Term 4) crossfit training sessions for teenagers from 4.30-5.30pm Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, text me if your child's interested 022 104 1851

A year after being forced to put my training business on hold to deal with my own health challenge, Pippi'sPT is back. Committed in helping get the Omata, Oakura and Okato districts fit, healthy and strong! I have been running my training sessions for eight weeks now and it's great to see everyone working so hard and getting the most out of their workouts.

My sessions combine cardio exercises, circuit interval training and boxing routines, a total body workout – yeah! They run on a “casual” basis and cost \$10/session. Payment options available or “pay as you go”. So just rock up and join in, your first session is FREE. It's a fun way of getting fitter, healthier and stronger, and remember summer's on its way!!

For any more info text or ring me on 022 104 1851, email pippyspt@gmail.com or find me at Facebook: PippysPT.

Pippy Johnson (alias “PippysPT”)

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Zumba Fitness

Term 4 Classes



Zumba Fitness - 60 minutes of dance fitness, cardio and muscle conditioning, balance, no experience necessary, exercise in disguise!

Oakura Hall, Wednesday - 6.30pm : 7.30pm (first class 14 October).

Zumba Toning - Use lightweight toning sticks to tone all the target zones, including arms, abs and thighs. Perfect way to tone body naturally while having a blast!

*Oakura Hall, Thursday - 9.15am : 10.15am *new class* (first class 15 October).*

Pre-register for ONE class for the term and pay \$80

Pre-register for TWO classes for the term and pay \$120

Casuals welcome - \$10 per class

Contact Ange to enrol -

zumbawithangenp@gmail.com or 021 222 9683



SPORTS



Kaitake Golf Club News

September and spring is here but with it comes some fickle weather. It is a busy time for golfers with competitions coming to a climax with Club Championships being played.

A team of four representing both Kaitake men and women, will defend their title in the Taranaki Top Team event held this year at Kaitake Golf Club.

MID WEEK 18 HOLE WOMEN

While the Mid Week Women have had nine wet days over the winter when golf had to be cancelled, they have managed to complete a number of competitions from the programme.

The winner of the Grandmothers Trophy was K Brown with J Beggs runner-up.

Medalford was won by N Mancer with D Johnson runner-up.

M Barrett and N Mancer were joint winners of the Stableford competition.

Finally, the Putting trophy was won by T McEldowney with Y Hildred runner-up

WEEKEND WOMEN

This month we have had early rounds of Men's Trophy and Club Champs. The finals are being held on Saturday 26th September. Mary Pettigrew and Andrea Jarrold were the winners of the Monnie Hannan Trophy.

MID WEEK 9 HOLE NEWS

Last month we spoke about "Constance" - a beautiful rhodo about to make her gracefulness along the garden path on the 6th hole. Hopefully you have managed to see her crowning glory. On another note about Constance - Constance Robertshawe has called it a day and hung up her shoes, bag and accessories. We wish Con all the best and no doubt as a retiree she will be seated with her compatriots at our next function in November.

Results to hand - Super 9 round 5 winners - 1st Section Coraleen le Breton, 2nd Section Jenny Clarke.

Club Champs Update - heading into play the final will be: 1st Section - Heather O'Sullivan and Pat Wilcox.

2nd Section - Jenny Clarke and Susan Cottam.

All the best to the finalists mentioned.

KAITAKE 80 YEARS OF GOLF

In March Kaitake Golf Club celebrated 80 years of golf in the area. A large number of ex- members attended a luncheon at the club with a lot of stories and memories to relate. It seemed a pity if these were lost so Janice Farrant and Andrea Jarrold have undertaken to document as much of the history as they can find. If you have a Kaitake story to tell or some articles or memorabilia to share please contact Jacqui in the office.

Andrea Jarrold, President

Oakura Bowling Club Opening Day

A beautiful sunny Taranaki spring afternoon welcomed in the opening day and the beginning of the Oakura Bowling Club 2015/2106 programme. It was great to see a number of new members and the return of some "prodigal-sons" alongside the usual suspects, all enjoying the camaraderie around the club house. Heavy rain on the eve of the opening day considerably "softened" the green and unfortunately all play was postponed until the following week. However, all was not lost with the playing of two ceremonial bowls being the highlight on the green. Roy Phillips (club patron) delivered the jack with great accuracy while Allan Bridgeman (life member) rolled down the opening bowl of the season, finishing very near to the jack as always. A big thanks must go to Andy Shearer for organising the refreshments and also the committee team and the club members who assisted in preparing both the green and the surrounds for the day.

SPECIAL OFFER

Building the playing membership base is an important and challenging issue for any sporting club. The Oakura Bowling Club is offering all first time bowlers a package deal with the offer of half priced membership fees for the initial year, club polo shirt, a set of pre-loved bowls and coaching sessions.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

September bowling action saw the resurrection of Vic-Sam tournament between Oakura and Okato bowling clubs held on the 20th of September and the start of the Oakura Club Championships Triples commenced on the weekend of the 26th and 27th. Also the Avery, Gilmour and Shield inter-club competitions kicked off in late September and early October, results next issue.

Steve Muller – Match Convenor (757 4399).

The flag welcomes visitors for Open Day





**Club
opening
day.**

Kaitake Athletics Club

Corbett Park, Oakura
Tuesday evenings 5-6pm

Age groups - 4-6yrs old (\$30) and 7-13yr old (\$50)

First night of the season Tuesday 27th October

Running Group is also planned with aim to train for local competitions and Colgate Games - details to follow

Online Registrations via
<http://www.athletics.org.nz/Club-Finder>

NUMBERS WILL BE LIMITED SO GET IN QUICK!

Keep up to date on our FB page
<https://www.facebook.com/Kaitake>
[Athletics-Club-550590165070766/timeline/](https://www.facebook.com/Kaitake)

We would love to hear from any parents/track or field enthusiasts who would like to get involved!

Any queries please contact Tash 0277755440.

EVERY DAY IS A GREAT DAY AT THE BOWLS CLUB



Special Offer for first year bowlers

Free set of pre-loved bowls

Coaching sessions

Oakura Bowling Club polo shirt

Half priced first year membership

Contact Steve Muller (match convenor) - 06 757 4399



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Alexandra - 027 27 27 538

Email - glen@eseltd.nz
Visit - www.eseltd.nz

GETTING WET



Oakura Boardriders

Summers on the way and it was great to get a bit of warm sun and good waves for a couple of days at least. If it's time for a new board get hold of BC (Brian Clark) and order a nice new custom board for summer or a custom SUP from Biggie at Sirocco. If you can't wait see Jono up at Vertigo for anything you may need, plenty of choices everywhere and supporting your local businesses helps the local community in these tough times.

I would like to welcome Luke Florence into the President's position for the coming year with some new committee members and some old, giving the club a great stable base for the future. There are some exciting projects coming up with the renovations to the downstairs area of the club rooms and the skate park over the summer. This will be a big asset for Oakura in the coming years.



Oakura Grom, Tom Butland, was featured in NZ Surfing Magazine following up a great tradition of past Oakura Surfers featuring as NZ's 'Rising Grom' for the latest issue, great work Tom.

Paige Hareb has just missed the cut for the WSL tour next year. Only six surfers from the qualifying series get the chance to join the top 10 surfers from the WSL tour. Paige had an up and down year and finished 9th on the qualifying series so back to training and hope for better results next year....

Boardriders Club Champs are to be held Labour weekend so start training, it will be run whatever the conditions so be ready.

The Club surf coaching will be starting with the advent of daylight saving and the club will once again be open Friday evenings so feel free to come on up and become part of Oakura's social surfing scene.

New Plymouth Surfriders Club are still running the 'Perfect Wave' series, we will have results and updates as they come to hand.

Oakura local Lachie Stevens won the Opunake Kneeboard contest last month and has been chosen to represent NZ at the ISA World Kneeboard titles in South Australia in October, great effort and not too bad for a clubbie.

Come on down Friday nights and enjoy the club once daylight saving starts!

Brent Anderson, OakuraBoardriders.

President: Luke Florence; 06 7527889

Secretary: Paul Lobb ;06 75 27556

Gary Bruckner, Surf Coaching, 021-119-6218

Tom Butland at Fitzroy.

NPOB Surf Club Open Day

Open day this year will be held on Sunday 15th of November at 3pm, all new and existing members are welcome – young and old, competitive and non-competitive, social and serious.

At this stage because of the renovations we are uncertain about whether the club will be ready for use so we will keep you posted about where it will be held. There may also be some changes to the first few junior surf Sundays, again dependant on when the clubrooms are ready.

This year there is an option to join the club as a social member, cost \$20. The membership allows you usage of club facilities ie bar and changing rooms, covers members volunteering for patrol but who do not use the club equipment and entitles you to SLSNZ courses.

Come along and join up and learn new skills while having fun at the beach. It's about developing tomorrow's lifeguards, making friends, being active and enjoying the beach in a safe environment.

NPOB December Junior Carnival.



Vaughan Garrett, club volunteer extraordinaire.



POLE DANCING?

Nigel Montgomery up the power pole, during the process of removing all the power lines along Messenger Terrace, Oakura, which have now been relocated underground.



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LET'S GO CYCLE SKILLS PROGRAMME

Last week all Year 5 and 6 students at Oakura School took part in the Let's Go cycle skills programme funded by the New Plymouth District Council. All students spent two days completing grade one and two of the programme. This involved learning the correct hand signals when out on their bikes on the road, along with how to look after their bikes and how to keep themselves safe.

The 'life saver' look (a look over the right shoulder before taking off on a bike or before moving out around a parked car) was really emphasised over the two days.

All students really enjoyed the two days out biking – all thanks to the wonderful instructors who were obviously passionate about keeping our children safe on the road. A thoroughly worthwhile experience for all involved. A big thank you to the awesome Let's Go team!!

Judy Zietljes



Amelia using the "life saver" look.



Holly demonstrates the stop signal before successfully coming to a halt on Hussey Street.

Cole successfully completes the loop around Donnelly Street.



Oakura School Cookbook

Aromas of culinary delights are coming from Oakura with the launch of The Oakura Kitchen – a new cookbook now on sale to help raise technology funding for Oakura School. Restaurant and cafe owners from the head chefs at Mantra and Stony River Hotel to the artisan cafe owners of High Tide and Holy Guacamole have revealed their favourite recipes in support of this fundraising effort. "We've also had an amazing outpouring of support from Oakura businesses, families and kids at our school to create this cookbook" said Friends of Oakura School President Emily Faragasso.

The cookbook features a diversity of delicious recipes such as Old McDonald's Lamb Shanks, gong gong spare ribs, chunky peanut and pumpkin soup, French tarragon chicken, ginger beer and lemon drizzle delicious. Many are family favourites passed on through generations. "French Onion Soup Dutch Style, technocraft sweet pretzels and the kids choccie superfood truffles will be my kids favourites" said FOOS member Nienke Dashorst.

Professional photographer Rebecca Scott donated her time and talent to take photos of the food, Oakura School

children and Oakura. Along with locally-owned TGM Creative, they also designed the lay-out of the book.

"We're so grateful for the incredible community support that has gone in to creating The Oakura Kitchen," said Lynne Hepworth, the Principal of Oakura School. "The sale of the cookbook will help provide funding for our growing technology needs."

The Oakura Kitchen can be purchased for \$20 from The Crafty Fox, The Oakura Pharmacy and at the Oakura School. You can also send an email to foos@oakura.school.nz or text 027 232 2995 to reserve a copy. Be quick, only until supplies last!



150th Jubilee

CELEBRATE, REMINISCE, CONNECT



OAKURA SCHOOL 150TH JUBILEE 4TH -6TH MARCH 2016

Oakura School invites all past and present pupils, staff, friends and whanau to come together for a weekend of fun and celebration to commemorate 150 years of education at Oakura, Koru and Kirihaui Schools. Be a part of celebrating the past and the future as Oakura School continues to thrive at the heart of our vibrant community.

Join us to celebrate education in the Oakura district over the past 150 years.

REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN NOW!

Visit www.oakurajubilee.co.nz for a full event schedule or pick up a copy of our flyer from businesses in the village.

An exciting weekend of events for the whole family to enjoy.

JUBILEE MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE.

To keep up to date with 'Jubilee News' and share your memories and photos on our Facebook page – *Oakura 150th Jubilee*.

Oakura School 150th Jubilee Committee needs your support to be able to stage this significant event. Please contact Rose Bruce to discuss sponsorship options or visit our website for more details – Rose 027 220 8840.

For more information please contact:

Lynne Hepworth – Principal Oakura School 06 752 7719
Claire White – Chairperson Oakura School 150th Jubilee Committee 027 653 3466

STORIES OF THE PAST

With the Rugby World Cup upon us it is very appropriate to learn about early rugby matches in our community. Here is a report of a match held in the thriving community living up Koru Road. The settlers there milked a few cows by hand and felled trees for timber, firewood and posts. Milk was not separated but skimmed by hand and made into butter and taken by the farmer to New Plymouth to be sold. The area was heavily timbered and there were a couple of busy saw mills operating, hence the term 'Sawdusters' being applied to the Koru team. The local school opened in 1880 and a hall was built around the same time. This particular match was held in August, 1906 at on the Koru rugby field and the report below makes interesting reading.

"On Saturday a football match between Oakura and Koru was played at Koru, and resulted in another win for Koru. The game was most determinedly played from start to finish, although Oakura had the assistance of Tataraimaka and Omata. The latter place was represented by Glyne's, Seamark and McCullam. The Sawdusters proved equal to the occasion, and scored a well deserved win by six to nil.

The ladies turned out in great force to witness the game, and their barracking awoke the echoes and was fiercely answered back from the barrackers on the other side. The Sawdusters entertained the Oakura team at a smoke concert in the Koru Hall that evening. Mr Raill presided. Songs were sung by Messrs Hill, Bridley, Morris, Mace, Raill and Duggan. It was a pleasant social evening terminating at 12 o'clock. The next match between Okato and Koru will also be played at Koru."

The accompanying photo is from much later, the Oakura School rugby team lunchtime practice from 43 years ago. Can you recognise anyone?



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Catch us on Facebook – Okato Playgroup
or call/text 027 514 5555 for more information.



COMING UP

October

- 12 Term 4 begins.
- 15 Shake Up -Civil Defence earthquake drill.
- 26 Labour Day Holiday.

November

- 4 Year 1 and 2 Ball skills at Oakura.
- 5 Year 3 and 4 Ball skills at Oakura.
- 13 Jump Rope Display -a Heart Foundation fundraiser.



CROSS COUNTRY

Who would have thought this would be the first time we were not able to run the Inter-school cross country competitions? The wettest winter in 20 years was the problem. However with a revised course and many day changes, we were able to get our school cross country events through.

Thanks to Pat Murphy for setting up and running the events. Also a huge thanks to John and Lynda Matthews for generously allowing up to use their property, Waireka Estate, to run our events. The course is looking a picture and by next year's events, you will really notice how much development has gone on around the property. Many thanks to Chris Hayman, Waireka property manager, for his efforts in trying to accommodate us!

Congratulations everyone. These are the placings:

Girls

- 5 Years 1st Sophie Perrett; 2nd Samantha Perrett; 3rd Jenaya Collett.
- 6 years 1st Ella James; 2nd Danielle Tewhata; 3rd Emma Marchant.
- 7 years 1st Monica Joyce; 2nd Aliana Scholey; 3rd Alix Gibson.
- 8 years 1st Eva Niedermayr; 2nd Charnee Julian; 3rd Annabelle Joyce.
- 9 years 1st Libby Francis; 2nd Jorja Eldershaw; 3rd Charlotte Butler.
- 10 year 1st Asha Bertie-Perrett; 2nd Ruby Glennie; 3rd Shayne Ryan.

11 years 1st Annie Jones; 2nd Isabella Roebuck; 3rd Yazmin Andrews.

12 years 1st Awa Lewis; 2nd Grace Glennie; 3rd Kohana Clothier.

Boys

- 5 Years 1st Jai Meyer; 2nd Danny De Souza; 3rd Indy Gyde.
- 6 years 1st Oliver Treadway; 2nd Isaac Butler; 3rd Lucas Alford.
- 7 years 1st Luke Haldane; 2nd Mitchell Fraser; 3rd Riley Kidney.
- 8 years 1st Cooper James; 2nd Keelan LaMaster; 3rd Jack Campbell.
- 9 years 1st Oliver Roberts; 2nd Thomas Logan; 3rd Strandy Ripia.
- 10 year 1st Reef Pratt; 2nd William Perrett; 3rd Carl Neilson.
- 11 years 1st Jack Feaver; 2nd Jason Hart; 3rd Alex Roberts.
- 12 years 1st Max Brooke; 2nd Kaleb Hill; 3rd Rockco Lister.
- 13 years 1st Chris Logan; 2nd Louie Hubbard; 3rd Prezley Murfitt.

Karen Brisco, Principal

Awa Lewis.



Chris Logan.



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Spotswood College

METHANEX MATHS SPECTACULAR

The Taranaki Methanex Mathematics Spectacular was held on Thursday, August 27th at the Pukekura Raceway in New Plymouth. Spotswood College entered two teams in both the Year 9 and Year 10 Quiz Night competition. Spotswood won both of the competitions last year and entered this year with high expectations of retaining both trophies. The Year 10 team won the competition for the second year in a row. They managed to score 75 points holding off second placed Francis Douglas (69). The Spotswood Year 9 team had a strong showing on the night. They finished 5th in the competition. They will be looking forward to preparing for next year's competition in the attempt to win the Year 10 trophy for three straight years. The competition consists of a range of challenging mathematical questions covered in the New Zealand curriculum. The students have 30 minutes to answer 20 questions and are awarded points for correct answers.

Spotswood College was well represented in the exhibition portion of the Mathematics Spectacular. There are 6 prize winners in the various categories of the exhibitions.

Callum Astwood	2nd Place	Computer Generated 2D Artwork
Luke Cocker	2nd Place	3D Artwork
Keegan Joe	2nd Place	Statistical Project
Katie Pullen	2nd Place	Creative Writing
Erica Vogel	3rd Place	3D Artwork
Josh Gilmour	3rd Place	Individual Project
Kiara Farmer	Merit	Hand Drawn 2D Art
Pipa Clarkson	Merit	Hand Drawn 2D Art
Ryan Clough	Merit	Individual Project

SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

All junior Spotswood College students recently participated in a core class spelling bee, in their English class.

The top scorers moved through to the school spelling bee in July. From this, four students: Roan Upson and Andee Coles, Year 9, and Katie Pullen and Ashlan Stening, Year 10, were selected to take part in the Semi Finals of the New Zealand Spelling Bee Competition.

On August 20th students travelled with Mrs Tran-Lawrence to the Semi Finals in Hamilton. All students performed well and progressed through their rounds.

Roan Upson (1st) and Katie Pullen (3rd) have made it through to the Spelling Bee Final to be held in Wellington in October. We wish these students well for the competition and their training.

PATHWAY PLANNING

Students have been working with Whanau Teachers to select their courses for next year. Central to making best fit course selection is assisting young people to identify that they are on a pathway or journey of gaining skills, knowledge and attitudes that will lead them to further



Spelling Bee finalists:

Back Row: Roan Upson & Andee Coles.

Front Row: Katie Pullen and Ashlan Stening.

study or work. The courses they select must be aligned to their future plans, their abilities and their interests. While gaining credits toward a National Certificate of Educational Achievement is important, ensuring that the credits are in subjects that contribute to a students pathway, is crucial. Student learning must be relevant and meaningful for their future!

LINGOFEST

On 13 August 2015, 21 students of French and Spanish left for Wellington, for the first ever Lingofest, a foreign languages drama competition. Surprisingly, there was only one other high school represented, the rest being composed of the cutest primary school children speaking beautiful French and Spanish.

The Spanish contingent presented: *La muerte en los barrios*, a saucy soap with a murder by the pool while the French group presented *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* with a few twists. The students were wonderful and the performances were great. Spanish won the best performance, and Josie Hick, in the French play, was awarded best actor of the day. The event was a roaring success and we are looking forward to going back next year.

We are continuing to enrol students at all levels for 2016. If you wish to enrol your child or meet to discuss what our school can offer please contact me through the school office to make an appointment.

Mark Bowden, Principal



La muerte en los barrios.

Get Inspired by Sustainable Living

Come and share with us what sustainable living looks like and explore the upcoming Sustainable Backyards Taranaki that will be running alongside the Fringe and Powerco Garden Festivals in October/November (30st October – 9th November).

Sustainable Backyards Taranaki is brought to you by The Taranaki Environment Centre, which is located in the heart of New Plymouth providing locals and visitors to the region with advice and information about the environment, groups that support the environment and events and workshops that are regularly offered.

Twelve enthusiastic and passionate property owners in the region will be opening up their backyards to the public and inviting visitors to take a peek at how sustainable practices are implemented. The 'Backyards' will demonstrate a range of options of sustainable practices including renewable energy installations, harvesting water, vegetable gardening, food forests, animal rearing, riparian planting and composting.

Emma Thorp, Surrey Hill Road property owner opens up her lifestyle block surrounded by native trees and a stream. The property is in the very beginning stages of sustainable development. Utilising a Greenbridge design, Eco-land and Garden package the kaitiaki o te whenua (caretakers of the land) are treading lightly on this area of cultural significance. The land undulates providing multiple microclimates for future plantings. "We would eventually like to share the produce and the beauty of this special place", says Emma Thorp.

Observation is a great start to working out what is going to work best for you on your property. A focus on soil type, where the sun is at any point in the day, prevailing winds, underground waterways are all key areas to consider when mapping out where to place animals, shelter belts or the enviable food forests that provide food and shelter for birds, bees, us and other critters.

The Sustainable Backyards that are on this year's trail stretch from the valley of Uruti in North Taranaki to 530 metres above sea level at the start of the Pouakai Track, showcasing rural properties, lifestyle blocks and urban oasis all tailored to meet the needs of the owners and making best use of the land.

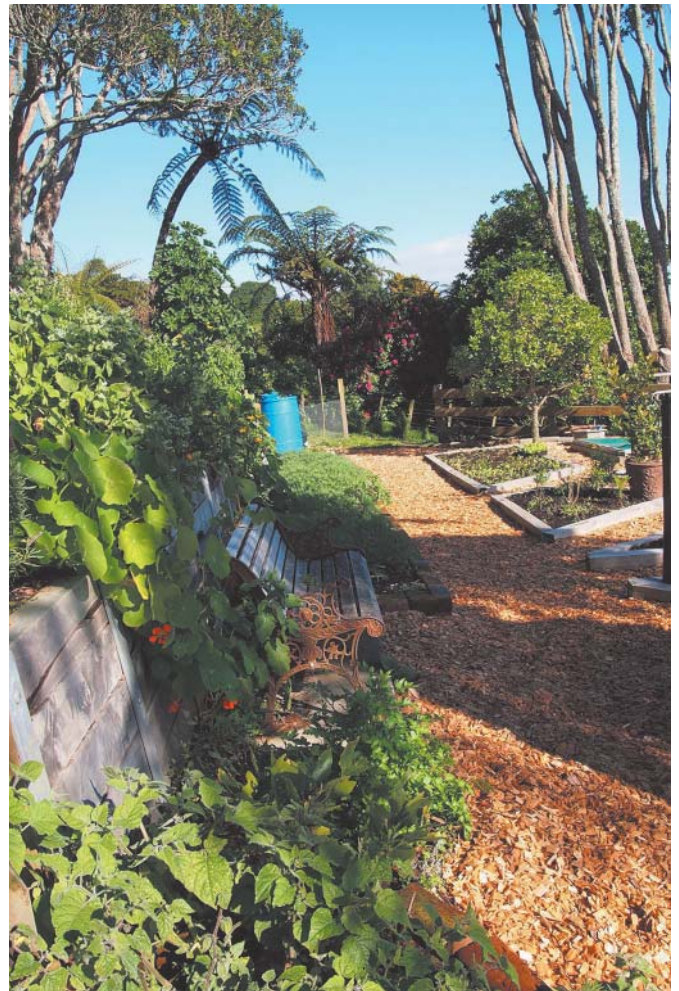
If you are thinking of how you can save money, save power, tread lighter, feed your families and possibly make a living from your backyard then join us on our Sustainable Backyards Taranaki. Follow us on Facebook Sustainable Backyards Taranaki (or sign up for our seasonal newsletter and monthly event calendar (hive@hivetaranaki.co.nz) which will give you inspiration, hope and some practical information to build future living skills.

For more information please contact:

Ursula Bil-Teitink – Taranaki Environment Centre Coordinator, 021 0314 578 or 06 769 6008



Above, guava and below, the vege patches.



Koru on Koru Gallery

Opening 26th October - 9th November, 9am - 6pm
or by appointment

KORU RD. OAKURA

This property is featuring Shannon Novak's Installation 'Medley' and 'Music is everything'.

'Medley' is a group of twelve vertical poles standing like twelve musical notes waiting to be played. They were originally displayed on Matiatia headland, Waiheke, and have now been reconfigured for 'Art Grazing', Fay Looneys' front paddock annual exhibition for the Taranaki Fringe

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Garden Festival (place of interest Garden 57), adjacent to Maureen Looneys' Historic Fringe Garden No.56.

Fay is also opening her new Gallery space 'Koru on Koru' which features Shannon Novak prints 'Two Left Feet Production'; Lester Earl, artist; Renate Verbrugge, stone sculptor; Jimi and Lisa Walsh, sculptor and glass artist, Fay Looney, photographer, acrylic art and other local Oakura artists. Phone 06 752 7807, or 021 410 030 to make an appointment or for more information.



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Growing Up Together at Oakura Playcentre

Playcentre graduate Sienna Bennett recently started at Oakura school, ending her family's eight year journey with Playcentre.

Sienna's favourite memories at Playcentre include jumping out of the big tree (on to crash mats), playing dress ups and families with friends, making oozing potions in the sandpit with all sorts of wondrous ingredients, sliding and running down the big hill, helping make delicious kai to eat with friends, and Coach Mike's famous play ball sessions.

Sienna's older sister Sula was eight months old when mum Maryanne Rossiter Bennett first took her along. Sula's favourite memory is "getting paint on people's faces" while face painting! She also loved manipulating the huge wooden digger in the sandpit, reading with mum in the Playcentre library, and going on Playcentre excursions into nature with her friends.

Maryanne quickly became involved and has held the roles of Treasurer, Social Convenor, and President over the years, providing leadership, smiles, wit, friendship and hands-on fun to many local families. Her abilities will be missed, but in true Maryanne style, her friendly face has been back frequently helping hand over the reins to our new President Kate Garner and on session.

Maryanne's fondest memories involve the quality time with her children, and the very social nature of Playcentre - "I have really great memories of the social times with my old Playcentre friends...progressive dinners on bikes, cooking demonstration dinners at AhuAhu Villas, fine food and frocks, birthdays in the sunshine."

"They are really strong bonds built with our whole families growing up together."

Playcentre is a unique nationwide organisation run by parents to provide quality early childhood education. Adults learn alongside the children and can gain qualifications that not only help them understand their child's development, but can also provide gateways to new careers. Playcentre caters for newborn to 6 year olds. Sessions run Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings 9am-12pm. Visitors and new families welcome!





Sienna in a tree.



Sienna sharing some fun with good friends.

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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

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.

Mini Groovers. Music and movement for preschoolers! Tuesdays 10am during school terms, now at St James' Hall (opp. Oakura Hall). Gold coin donation. Contact Sara Matheson on 021-294 6896.

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

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

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

Oakura Pony Club. Contact Robin King ph 751 0300.

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

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

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

Oakura Tennis Club

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

Pippi's PT and circuit training, every week day morning 9.30am-10.30am and Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5.30-6.30pm. More details call Pip 021 1041 851.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Phone 0800 THE TOM
to place your community listing



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