

## Golden moments of summer

Winter is almost upon us as we go to print for the first issue of the Fitzroy TOM. So what better time to reflect on some of Summers "Golden Moments" that involved two young Fitzroy locals in their chosen sport of Surf Life Saving.

It's enjoyable to be able to report on young people who are achieving success in their endeavors. With those involved in Surf Life Saving their success is not only beneficial to the individual and their club but ultimately the whole community. These are people who are lifeguards or future lifeguards keeping our beaches safe over summer.

I managed to catch up with siblings Katie and Michael Watts over Easter. Two days earlier Katie had celebrated her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday and was enjoying a short well deserved break from her regular training schedule.

The training with fellow Fitzroy Club mate Emma Crofskey was at its most intense in the two months leading up to the NZ Surf Life Saving IRB Championships. Although the pair have competed together for several years, they still have to fine tune what they do as a team. The aim is to try and decrease the chance of mistakes on competition day because at the level they are competing at, if you want to win there is quite simply no room for error.

The NZ Surf Life Saving IRB



Championship was held at Oakura in March this year and a record number of clubs and crews were competing from all over the country.

Taranaki crews were dominant over the entire championship that took place in challenging surf conditions. The Fitzroy girls were part of this dominance, when for the fourth consecutive year Katie and

*Local surf life saving champions, Katie and Michael Watts.*

Emma won the tube rescue. They also won the mass rescue and gained second placing in the single rescue. This ultimately saw them win the Foxton Shield for the top NZ Women's IRB crew. It's fair to say that at 21 Katie has

*(Continued on page 10)*



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## 'Local news for local people'

About us . . .

The TOM Group Ltd is a publishing company with TOM Oakura, TOM Okato and now TOM Fitzroy in its portfolio. TOM Oakura (began life as 'The Oakura Messenger') is the flagship of the company and has been in print since 2000. TOM Okato has been in print since 2007.

Tracey Lusk and Kim Ferens of The TOM Group are the new custodians of the Fitzroy Voice now known as TOM Fitzroy. TOM is a free to your letter box, monthly magazine style community news update. TOM Fitzroy will be available for \$2 over the counter at selected outlets. Featuring in the magazine will be all the good news we can bring you from your community.

TOM Fitzroy will incorporate and be distributed to the following areas:

Fitzroy, Strandon, Merrilands, Upper Merrilands/Mangorei, South Strandon (including Woolcombe Tce, Courtney St, Leach St, Coronation Ave and East Cumberland St), Glen Avon.

Today TOM stands for 'Take One Moment' and we invite



Kim Ferens and Tracey Lusk.

all residents and businesses in the area to 'Take One Moment' and enjoy reading about wonderful things happening in your community. We will:

- Profile local children, teenagers, adults and pets who have an interesting story to tell.
- Profile community members in an 'I Remember When . . .' column and a 'History Bite' column.
- Provide a monthly comment from the Mayor.
- Provide a monthly comment from MP Jonathan Young.
- Provide sports club updates, results and photos.
- Provide community group updates.
- Provide school updates and photos.
- Feature local businesses and their unique products and services.
- Feature events that have happened in the area.

Feel free to ring or email any of the team with story ideas big or small, with ideas of what you would like to see in TOM Fitzroy or to book advertising space.

On the TOM Fitzroy team is community member and writer Jackie Tomlinson who will be writing features, co-ordinating stories and will be out and about in your area.



Jackie Tomlinson

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TOM Fitzroy is a monthly publication delivered free to your letterbox in the Fitzroy, Merrilands, Highlands Park, Strandon and Glen Avon areas.

## THE TEAM

Co-coordinator/Accounts: **Tracey Lusk** 06 752 7875  
tracey@thetom.co.nz

Co-coordinator/Advertorials: **Kim Ferens** 06 751 1519  
kim@thetom.co.nz

Advertising: 0800 THE TOM

Feature writer: **Jackie Tomlinson** 06 758 5442  
jackie@thetom.co.nz

Sub-editor: **Mary Bowers**

Graphics: **Ron Stratford**  
origin@xtra.co.nz

The TOM Group Ltd, 25 Jans Terrace, Oakura.  
email **kim@thetom.co.nz**  
Phone **0800 THE TOM**  
www.thetom.co.nz

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



from **mayor pete**



NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL  
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### Hi folks!

First of all let me congratulate the team behind TOM Fitzroy on this new publication for eastern suburbs residents!

These are the folks behind the great community newspapers for Oakura and Okato, and they are able successors to Ron Mells who has served the eastern suburbs well over the years with The Voice newspaper. Sadly The Voice is no more, but I'm confident that TOM Fitzroy will provide a great range of news and information for local residents for many years to come.

So well done to the team for getting this newspaper up and running!

We've had a very busy time lately with consultation taking place on the Draft 2009-2019 Community Plan. Submissions have now closed, and I have a big 'thank you' for everyone who took the time to find out what was in the draft plan, who checked out our new web forum at [talknewplymouth.com](http://talknewplymouth.com), and who sent a submission in to the council.

It has been great to see so many people willing to get involved in local democracy and have their voice heard. Right now the Council managers are going through all of the submissions we have received and are writing reports on the issues raised.

On 3 to 5 June we will hold public hearings at the Civic Centre on the submissions, and everyone is more than welcome to attend and listen to what is being said. Then on Monday 8 June the Council will consider all of the submissions and the managers' reports, and make any final changes to the draft plan. The Community Plan itself will finally be adopted at the 29 June meeting of the Council.

These meetings are particularly important to our immediate future as what we decide for the 2009-2019 Community Plan will set our district's course for the next three years (and outline the following seven).

So feel free to come along to these meetings and hear for yourself the issues being debated and the decisions being made.

If you have any questions about the upcoming Community Plan hearings, or you'd like to raise any other issues that you think the Council can help with, give me a call on 759 6060. I'd love to hear from you!

*Peter Tennent*

Mayor

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## Jonathan Young MP

**There has been a lot of talk in the papers about violence on the streets of New Plymouth. This is something which affects every community in Taranaki and New Zealand and has been a major concern to all New Zealanders for some time.**

National has moved quickly to deliver on our election promises and confront violent crime.

In our first 100 days in government we passed new laws that make it harder for the wrong people to get bail, and provide tougher sentences for crimes against children.

We also introduced several new bills that we are driving through Parliament.

These pieces of legislation clamp down on gangs by doubling penalties for participation in a criminal gang, and make it easier for police to intercept gang communications. They allow police to issue on-the-spot protection orders for suspected victims of domestic violence.

They have put victims at the centre of the justice system by requiring offenders to pay into a Victim Compensation Fund. They enable police to collect DNA from people they arrest and "intend to charge", and to match their DNA against samples from unsolved crimes. And they would remove the right for the worst repeat violent offenders and the worst murderers to get parole. We have started training new police officers to boost the number of frontline police by 600 before the end of 2011. This includes 300 new police officers for South Auckland.

We have also introduced legislation that targets youth offenders. This gives the Youth Court the power to issue a new range of compulsory orders including parenting lessons, mentoring programmes, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation. It extends the jurisdiction of the Youth Court to include 12- and 13-year-olds accused of serious offences. And it creates tougher, more effective sentences, including a military-style activity camp programme that targets the most serious young offenders.

This programme will consist of up to three months residential training, using army-type facilities or training methods. It will provide clear boundaries, and reinforcement of self-discipline, personal responsibility, and community values. And it will include up to nine months of intensive support and mentoring to meet each young offender's individual needs.

It is a sad fact that all this legislation was necessary to pass; but it would be worse to do nothing about the rising tide of violence in New Zealand. We know that we can't just tackle violent crime with a prison van at the bottom of the cliff. That's why last month we hosted a Ministerial Meeting on the Drivers of Crime attended by 100 experts from around the country. We expect this will, over time, lead to a number of initiatives that result in less crime, safer communities, and fewer victims.

## Jonathan Young



MP for  
New Plymouth



**National**

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## Farmers Market at Tupare

A somewhat grey, cloudy Easter Saturday failed to dampen the enthusiasm of locals visiting Tupare for the Taranaki Farmers Market.

By 11:00am there were cars lining both sides of Mangorei Road either side of the Tupare entrance.

As we wandered down the picturesque driveway the sun decided to put in an appearance and the sounds of guitar and singing drifted up to welcome us to this Taranaki treasure.

The Tupare tennis court was the perfect setting for the Taranaki Farmers market which was bustling as we arrived. Trade was brisk at the various stalls selling fresh and organic produce. There were queues at many stalls such as the one offering free tasting of the scrumptious pesto and bread they were selling. Many people were relaxing with a coffee enjoying the singing and guitar playing of Dominique Blatti. Over the course of the morning the other musicians performing were Ross Townsend, Tony Baxter and Paul Goodsell.



*The farmers market in full swing at Tupare.*

Free ½ hourly tours of the Tupare homestead were on offer but much to my dismay had all been booked by the time we arrived. Happily I bumped into an acquaintance who had decided to forgo the tour so we were able to take their booking. That left us an hour to wander through the stunning gardens and market. There were people everywhere, young and old enjoying the great atmosphere in this idyllic setting. The gardeners cottage was full of curious people reading about the history of Tupare and enjoying a black and white home movie of the Matthews family.

Mike, our volunteer guide kept the house tour informal but informative and it was wonderful to take a glimpse back in time as well as getting the chance to see the superb craftsmanship that is a part of the Chapman Taylor legacy. Approximately 200 people were shown through the home this morning many first time visitors like myself.

In 2009 there are more opportunities to experience different events at Tupare. Later in May there is a garden photography workshop which I'm sure will interest many.

Perhaps the Taranaki Reginal Council could over the summer months consider running a regular, possibly larger Farmers

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Market with local musicians playing in different spots around the grounds. If Easter Saturday's market was any indication I'm sure it would prove popular.

Tupare . . . A true Taranaki treasure and one which we in the Fitzroy area are lucky enough to have on our very doorstep.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



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His mortgage was \$200,000 and the payments were \$310 per week

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I encouraged him to think about extending his mortgage to 30 years to bring the payments down to \$290 per week and then putting this extra \$20 into KiwiSaver.

He said to me **"What's the difference?"**

As far as cash-flow was concerned there was no difference and of course it was going to be another 5 years before he was Mortgage free.

By starting KiwiSaver and diverting this \$20 per week into it, there was a huge difference.

The reason for this is even though he was paying his mortgage off faster, he was really only saving an average of 7.5% on the \$20 per week of extra payments, and then only earning interest on his savings over a 5 year period after turning 60.

On the other hand, by putting \$20 every week into KiwiSaver, the Government matched this \$20 as well as his employer put in 2% which was also \$20 per week, so effectively he was earning 200% on his money.

We then sat down and worked it out

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## Golden moments of summer

*(Continued from front page)*

'captured' all the prizes in her chosen disciplines within her sport but this hasn't lessened her desire to keep competing in the future.

It does mean juggling her work and other commitments and over time some other interests and sports involvement have taken second place to Surf Club.

Talking with her it is soon apparent though that Surf Life Saving is more than just involvement with a sport but is more of a lifestyle.

In particular Katie is enthusiastic when describing some initiatives and fun activities that Fitzroy Surf Club runs to encourage and develop junior members.

One of these juniors is her younger brother Michael.

Michael at 12 has been involved with Surf Club for 5 years. His training schedule over summer is surf club activities; board race coaching from Ron Cole and just generally keeping busy with surfing, skateboarding and any other sport on offer! Winter sees him playing both Inline Hockey and Turf Hockey and he has been in teams that have won National Championships and Regional Championships in these sports.

However it was in February this year that he had the opportunity to excel at a Surf Life Saving individual event.

At the NZ Ocean Athletes Championship at Mt Maunganui Michael made the finals in the Swim and Diamond races. But it was the Board Race that was his strongest discipline. This race involves the competitor racing around an apex of buoys in the water and then running to the finish with their board. Competing against boys from all over NZ saw him place first and become The NZ under 12 Boys Board Race Champion.

At this point I asked Michael what it was he liked most about Surf Club and I expected him to say competing. But his answer was "Being able to use all the club equipment, like boards and to hang out with all the other people that belong to the club."

You could be forgiven for thinking that Surf Club is only for the elite athletes and the top swimmers, but when I asked Katie what she would say to anyone thinking of getting involved with Surf Club her reply was "Don't think it's all about being the best swimmer, there are 6 or 7 disciplines you can be involved in and while a certain standard of swimming is needed there are many other areas that people may find they are strong in."

If the great attitude and enthusiasm of both of these young people is any indication I'd certainly recommend that our readers check out our local Surf Clubs next season. Roll on summer!

*By Jackie Tomlinson*



## Fitzroy Golf Club

**If you can play golf at Fitzroy you can play golf anywhere!**

That is an old saying in this area, and it is true, because Fitzroy Golf Course's short length does not necessarily mean low scores.

Unpredictable lies affecting stance and line up can produce some challenges on otherwise easy looking holes. Then there is the wind – the prevailing westerly can make club selection crucial, and sometimes there is difficulty in even standing up.

How did the Club begin? Well, in 1932, the Fitzroy Golf Club was officially opened as a combined operation between the New Plymouth City Council and golf club members. The city council provided the land adjacent to the Fitzroy Beach camp site, and the club members did the work in forming the links. The Club quickly developed a special character with members only too keen to give their time and effort in the formative work, part of it in raw sand dunes and part farm property.

The course forms part of Peringa Park, a reserve administered by the New Plymouth District Council, and the Club leases some 32 hectares. The course is easy walking and its undulating nature teaches you to play shots with the ball above and below your feet, into elevated, sometimes terraced greens.

Fitzroy has always been strong in fostering Junior Golf. The Club is proud that it has been a feeding ground for promising youngsters who are taught the basics and course etiquette and then move on to longer courses. National representatives Grant Moorhead and Jonathon Cane and professionals Michael Cull and Arron Cole all began their golf at Fitzroy.

Generally regarded as a Municipal Course, Fitzroy is open to anyone who wishes to play a game of golf - green fees are only \$10.00 per round – and the Club provides a valuable service to the district in providing an amenity for sport which is user friendly for local and visitors and encouraging to young people. Over 5,000 outside players use the course each year, and a good number of these are visitors to the city.

*Barry Seebeck*

Secretary/Manager

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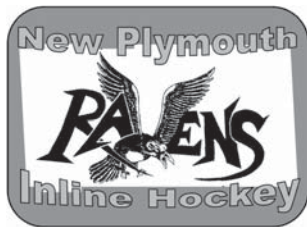
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## Ravens Inline Hockey Club

It's been a busy start to 2009 for the Ravens Inline Hockey Club. In Term 1 as well as running our popular School League games in which 34 teams from Taranaki Schools competed, we were also host to the New Zealand Inline Hockey Teams training camps.

These camps were in preparation for the 2009 Oceania Inline Hockey Championships held in Australia in April.

Seventeen members of the Ravens club were selected to play for New Zealand and we had representation across all age grades except Masters. There were also four NZ coaches selected from the club.

The games at Oceania's in most cases were very close and the club members who traveled to Perth should be proud of their performance.

New Zealand won Gold Medals in the Senior Women and Under 20 grades.

Our congratulations go to Senior Women players Anna Carrington, Rebecca Smith, Amy Sulzberger, their coach Willy Harvey, and Under 20 player, Cameron Waterhouse.

The Ravens Club would also like to extend our congratulations to Jaden Murphy-Pine, a Ravens member who is currently at University in Wellington and playing with the Renegades Club.

Jaden was awarded the 2009 Sports Taranaki Elite Athlete Scholarship.

This is the first time that an Inline Hockey Player has received this Scholarship and Jaden is a very worthy recipient.

In May the Central Region league games commenced with games in Hamilton. This season our club has 14 teams entered across all age grades from Under 10 yrs through to Senior Men. At the end of this league the top two teams from each age grade go on to compete at the NZ Inline Hockey National Championships representing their club. In 2009 the Ravens Club will be hosting this event at our East End Arena [Rink].

If you would like to find out more about Inline Hockey and the Ravens club which is the biggest Inline Hockey club in NZ please check out our website [www.ravensinline.co.nz](http://www.ravensinline.co.nz)

Suzanne Toa, Ravens Club Chairperson



*The 16/1's in their first Central League game against the Hamilton Devils.*

IMAGES BY KIM FERENS



*The 16/2's against Hamilton Devils.*

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# GETTING WET!



## New Plymouth Surf Rider's Club

Hi!

The NPSRC is happy to be part of the FITZROY TOM and share with you our activities each month, so let's start by introducing ourselves and what we have been up to recently.

The Club was formed in 1991 and has its clubrooms on Fitzroy Beach Reserve. Membership is open to anyone sharing the same objectives as the club, which briefly are: promotion and enjoyment of surfing, and protection of the oceanic environment.

We conduct a series of contests throughout the year including the Club Champs; the Port Taranaki Summer and Winter Series; the Honolua Festival of Longboarding each Labour Weekend and the Fisher and Paykel Easter Masters.

The club caters for members of all ages and has a selection of club boards for members to use. As well our bar is open every Friday night where our motto is "Come as a guest and leave as a friend". For more information you can visit our web site at [www.npsurf.co.nz](http://www.npsurf.co.nz).

In 2008 we held the inaugural Honolua Longboard Festival which is a celebration of longboarding as it was in the 60's when surfing was a life-style. Coupled with the surfing we provided top-line bands on both Saturday and Sunday evenings at the club rooms.

In March we entered two teams in the inaugural Surfing Taranaki Club Champs competing with Oakura and Opunake and NPSRC "A" taking first place and NPSRC "B" third.

Easter is the time for our Masters to come together from all over the world to celebrate surfing. Masters must be aged 35 plus for men and 30 plus for women. Surfers compete in 5 year age divisions from the Cadets [35-39] to the Super Groms [65 plus] in the males and from the Gidgets [30-39] to the Divas [50 plus] in the women's.

Allen Pidwell



*Surfing Taranaki Inter-club champ winners (from left) J Hancox, J Grainger, M Mallalieu, K Campbell, K Rowson, A Sassia, C Tito.*



*Easter Masters Gidget winners Marie Farrell (Mt Mang) 1<sup>st</sup>, Lisa Pauwels (Wgtn) 3<sup>rd</sup>, Amaia Sassia (NP).*

ABOVE & BELOW, IMAGES BY DAISY DAY

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# East End Surf Life Saving Club

## IRB National Champs

At the end of March Oakura Beach was the venue for the IRB Nationals with teams competing from all over New Zealand. Local clubs and teams came out on top this year so we can be very proud of the results of all who put in the hard yards to compete and organise the event.

James Morwood of Oakura and his driver Andy Cronin won the premier IRB event. These nationals are the first year the pair has competed together. This event involves competing in four races and the two-man team won gold in the single rescue and the tube rescue, silver in the mass rescue and bronze in the assembly rescue. These results were enough to give them overall top points and first place.

For Andy Cronin it was his second Top Premier title and James' first title. Andy is a member of the East End Surf Club and James has joined East End from NPOB's especially to race with Andy. James says there is a long family tie with East End and NPOB's so it doesn't feel like he is defecting to the opposition.

Andy has been involved in surf life saving for more than 12 years, first becoming a patient (the prerequisite being a skinny bloke!), and has been driving IRBs from the age of 17. Andy gained his first lifeguard award way back in 1996 and has since



*James, left and Andy, right competing at Oakura.*

IMAGE COURTESY OF GARY TOSLAND

won 11 national titles. He says he is into IRB racing "for fun" and it is a licence just to go as fast as you can and get an adrenalin rush. IRB racing is about testing how good your skills, patience and strength are and no two waves are ever the same so you are continually testing yourself he says.

Andy has a full time job working as head coach and coaching co-ordinator for the East End Surf Club. This involves coaching all areas of the club, including paddle board, surf ski, and IRB teams. Andy also instructs the adult life-guard classes the club holds. Over the winter the club does a lot of fitness training to prepare the lifeguards for the coming season. Some of this coaching is carried out at the Bell Block Pool, and near the end of the year the coaching becomes full on. The club boasts over 200 members including juniors. In September Andy and James are hoping to compete again in the Ninety Mile Beach surf challenge where IRB's are raced from Scott's Point at the north of the beach to Ahipara at the south end of the beach with various adventures in between. It is a good precursor to Nationals and a great opportunity to fine tune techniques.

James has been involved in Surf Life Saving from nearly the moment he could walk so that makes his commitment 19

years. James got into IRBs the same way Andy did, by being the skinny guy and getting picked to be the patient. He then moved onto being the crew and at this stage James is still working on the art form of this demanding position. There is skill in reading the wave, where to place yourself in the boat, how you place yourself and having strength and guts.

James has got his drivers licence for the IRB but doesn't use it to compete.

For James IRB racing has got him hooked and he finds it an exciting sport to be part of and he is looking forward to competing again. James is a Fitter/Welder in his last year of apprenticeship at Fitzroy Engineering. There is no time for any other hobbies or interests in his busy schedule.

So while East End can display the silverware, NPOBs can also take pride in helping produce part of this talented team. James says all the rivalry goes out the door when competitions are over and everyone is all one big family.

*By Kim Ferens*



## Fitzroy Surf Life Saving Club

Another long season has just come to a close and the club celebrated this with its annual awards dinner. Congratulations to all members of the club who won prizes and was rewarded for their hard work this season. A big thank you goes to all members of our club who contributed in some way this season - in particular the great job done in patrolling our beaches. At the recent Surf Life Saving Awards evening Fitzroy took out the title of TOP PATROLLING CLUB! This is great to show the members of the public that not only are we great in competition but we are the best in the district in keeping our beaches safe!!

Congratulations also to Ron Cole who took out the title of SLST Lifeguard of the Year and to Helen Velvin for SLST Official of the Year.

At the recent BP IRB Nationals Championships held in Oakura we were not able to hold on to our national club title, however with a small team competing we still did well and were only slightly off the pace to take second place. Congratulations must go to our Women's Crew of Katie Watts and Emma Crofskey who took out the Foxeng trophy, for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, for being the Best Women's Crew in NZ!! Well done girls!

Although the season is officially over we still have plenty of winter training and social activities taking place, so if you're interested in becoming a lifeguard and helping keep our beach safe, then now is the time to get started. For further information contact Leigh Laurence our Club Co-ordinator on 06 758 6743 or [fitzroyslsc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:fitzroyslsc@xtra.co.nz).

Check out our website and read our monthly newsletter to see more about our great club

[www.fitzroysurfclub.org.nz](http://www.fitzroysurfclub.org.nz).

*Katie and Emma with the Foxeng Trophy, for the 4<sup>th</sup> year in a row, for Top Women's Crew!!*



# Ancient Hawaiian Replica Surfboards Surfing at Waiwhakaiho



*Brett Caller (left) and Sage Joske display their ancient Hawaiian replica boards. Left to right, they are Kiko'o, Hot Curl, then two Alaia boards.*

Two visiting Aussie surfers were spotted out in the surf at Waiwhakaiho with two Fitzroy locals late last month. Nothing unusual about that until on closer inspection you saw the boards that the Australians were riding. Sage Joske from Queensland's Gold Coast and Brett Caller from Byron Bay in NSW were riding two of their collection of wooden, finless ancient Hawaiian replica boards.

Sage and Brett were staying with local surfer Jason "Dada" Lellmann for a few days. They were in NZ with friend and fellow surfer/film maker Nathan Oldfield to shoot footage of them surfing the unique boards in various locations around NZ.

Sage first became interested in these ancient board designs through his father Paul Joske a surfboard maker. Paul has been making 'Valla' surf boards for many years at Valla in NSW and more recently Nambucca Heads. Sage says his father has always been interested in Hawaiian surfing history and he eventually made a trip to Hawaii to visit the Bishop Museum to see the ancient boards on display. On a subsequent trip his interest was fuelled further when he met Professor Tom Stone, a Hawaiian historian who crafts the boards based on what Hawaiians surfed in Pre European times.

On his return to Australia Paul started experimenting with the boards made from Paulownia wood which is a fast growing hardwood timber that is light weight and because of the speed it grows, a renewable resource. It was in 2005 that Sage and younger brother Heath started surfing the boards and before long Sage was also making them.

Brett got involved with these boards when he was he says "pretty keen to surf anything Sage or his father Paul has made, I have huge respect for their work"

When Sage and Brett were in Raglan they were getting their boards out and there were two Americans getting ready for a surf next to them who couldn't believe that the two Aussies had just pulled the same sort of boards that they had, out of their board bags. The Americans commented to Sage and Brett that they called the boards 'peacemakers' because they noticed that everywhere they surfed in the month they were in NZ that the boards seem to provoke a friendly curiosity rather than any

hostility, which can sometimes happen when you are a visitor surfing at new places. Brett and Sage agreed with this sentiment and found people really interested and friendly.

"It's a beautiful thing surfing these boards" says Brett. "You take a step back. Sage and I both come from a competitive, high performance background on modern short boards. You pretty much destroy the wave, making as many turns as you can. Whereas with these boards you don't even think about doing a turn - you are just going in a straight line. It's pretty amazing when you ride these boards, you see every part of the curl of the wave. Because you are actually sitting there trimming you see everything the whole way along, whereas on a short board I reckon I miss a lot, I just focus on the lip, fly around then whack into a turn, then focus on the lip again"

It's apparent after talking with them that using these boards puts a completely different focus on their surfing.

These Australians' surfing experiences in Taranaki has all been good so far. They had a windy but fun session at Waiwhakaiho in 2-3 ft waves with only five surfers out. But they both agreed that the solid 5 ft waves they'd had with Dada at Stent Rd two days prior "had made the whole trip." They were hoping for more of the same as they head down our coast for the last few days of their holiday.

Just before we finished the interview Brett asked what TOM stood for and I explained it was originally The Oakura Messenger but now it's Take One Moment. That seemed oddly appropriate as this is certainly how these guys are approaching their surfing, taking time to enjoy the moment.

*By Jackie Tomlinson*

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## Fitzroy Lotto & Mags - Luck!

A young man was extremely happy to scratch his way to \$25,000.00 last month.

Winning on a \$2.00 instant kiwi, CASH TO BOOT!

Lucky for him he scratched his way to \$25,000.00 while riding the escalator, after purchasing his Lotto tickets and a couple of scratchies on a Saturday morning. He headed to Centre City for a spot of shopping and scratched his tickets whilst riding the escalator. Lucky lad can probably now spend a little more!! Obviously he was thrilled with his win and we were just as thrilled to give it away!!



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## New Plymouth Boys' High School

At New Plymouth Boys' High School we returned to school pleased with our 2008 academic success. We gained 14 Scholarships, which takes the number to 339. At NCEA we were well ahead of national averages. We had 67 boys who gained Super 8 Scholarships. Our focus this year is to have a pass rate of 80% for NCEA Level 1.

Our annual Work Day fundraiser was held in March and raised \$30,000 which is providing a new server for our website ([www.npbhs.school.nz](http://www.npbhs.school.nz)) and audiovisual material for our school hall.

Summer sports are now over and the boys had national success in Golf, Volleyball, Swimming, Athletics, Mountain Biking, Tennis and Karate.

Students have been going to camps and on field trips. The school is very pleased to see the large number of boys also involved in music tuition and the future success of our concert bands seems assured. Social events have also gone well with dances organised between Boys' High School and Girls' High School.

There is a good spirit about the school and I am looking forward to not only encouraging academic, sporting and cultural success but also the values necessary to create young men of character who show respect for others.

*Michael McMenamin, Headmaster*

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# Fitzroy School

## Fitzroy School Library

Fitzroy School's Library is an exciting and fun place to be. Mrs Murdoch the Librarian creates a new theme each term. This term the Learning Centre is alive with a Nursery Rhyme display. Last term we brought the beach into the Library with a sea theme. We even had sand and driftwood in the Library.

The children are enjoying their winter lunchtime activities in here as well as their weekly classroom visits. A busy term is planned with a book fair in week four which will assist us to raise money for new books.

We are having a story book dress up day near the end of the term when children and staff will dress as their favourite story book character for the day.

Next term's theme is yet to be revealed.

## Fitzroy School Children at the Independence Games

"On your marks! Get Set! Go!"

The supportive crowd of proud family and friends cheered loudly as the competitors wheeled, ran, jumped and threw on the Inglewood Athletics Track and swam at the Stratford Pool.

80 competitors came from far and wide to compete in the North Island Independence Games which are specifically for children with disabilities. Fitzroy School had 3 outstanding participants – Anton Besseling, Jeremy Adlam and Matthew Giddy. Anton was awarded the cup for 'Best All Round Performance,' and Matthew for 'Best Effort'. There was also a scout there from the ParaFed Games who is keeping an eagle eye on our boys.

Have we future Para Olympians at Fitzroy School?



*Lots of fun for the students in the library.*



*Anton Besseling, Jeremy Adlam and Matthew Giddy, participants in the Independence Games.*

## Fitzroy Kindergarten children learning to keep themselves safe

**At Fitzroy Kindergarten our children are learning about keeping themselves safe.**

The programme titled 'All About Me' is run in partnership with the NZ Police and The Ministry of Education. It gives children skills to help them keep safe from emotional, physical and sexual abuse and neglect.

Fitzroy Kindergarten and our families are working together involving children in fun activities which promote independence and self help skills. So far this year we have learnt about what makes us special, highlighting the things our children can do well, developing self esteem and confidence. We have learnt about parts of our bodies - identifying similarities and differences with others.

Our children already have a huge amount of knowledge and understanding about keeping themselves safe. At present we are learning about where we belong in the community: our full names, our address and telephone number. Children love sharing stories about their own families and are learning about each others. We are also developing an understanding of how to cross the road safely, wear a seat belt in the car and how to confidently call for help from both family and the emergency services.

This fun, interactive programme is enhanced by the wonderful resources we have at the Kindergarten and could not be done without the outstanding support and involvement from our families.

*Teachers, Karen and Sue*





# Merrilands School



We have had a great start to Term 2 with three wonderful teachers joining our great team.

Miss Rachel Keegan is Room 3's new teacher, Mrs Sue Mahy is Room 1's teacher for the term and Mrs Sharon Wall is our new Reading Recovery Teacher.

## Community Consultation

Our school recently conducted a comprehensive survey with our community and we were very pleased with the response we received. The affirmation of what we do well and suggestions for further improvement will all help with our ongoing development. We thank our families for taking the time and effort to respond to the survey.



*Sue Mahy (left) and Rachel Keegan working with some of our enthusiastic learners.*

These are some quotes from parents about their community school:

"Welcoming friendly staff and good community support".

"Friendly comfortable environment with good facilities and enthusiastic staff".

"School staff are very supportive".

"Close to home and small class sizes".

## Ministry of Education Consultation on National Standards

Merrilands has been selected as one of forty two schools nationwide to host a parent consultation meeting on National Standards in reading, writing and mathematics, and reporting to parents on their children's achievement.

This meeting, led by Ministry officials, will take place in our school hall from **1:00 - 3:00pm on Monday 29 June**. It is essential that parents have their say on important education policies that effect their children's future, so don't miss this opportunity.

Graham Wilson

Principal

# Merrilands Kindergarten

## Te whare o nga Puawai

The recent Merrilands Kindergarten "Multi-Cultural Day" was a wonderful way to celebrate cultural diversity. Over the past first term the children have been busy cooking traditional dishes, reading books and posters, looking at flags, admiring the treasures from the cultural displays and talking about where their families come from. In April, children, families and teachers arrived dressed in a national costume specific to their culture. Two guest visitors came: Kam (India) cooked Indian bread and Ita (Indonesia) showed a variety of beautiful costumes and picture books. There were scrumptious ethnic dishes from Fiji, England, Morocco, France, India, Tuvalu, Indonesia, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

This term parents, caregivers, children and teachers are preparing to visit Owae Marae to further extend their knowledge of Maori culture. The children are learning their own waiata (song) which identifies them with Merrilands Kindergarten. Families will be invited to the Kindergarten for a parents' evening to support them in marae protocol.

Yvonne Gray and  
Lizzy Brouwers



*Kam (India) and daughters Kiera and Amiria.*



*Ita (Indonesia) and Thomas (NZ).*

Holly.



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## CLUBS & GROUPS

### Dancing with Derek

Come dancing with Derek is back!

Held at the R.S.A. Sunday 31 May 4pm-8pm.

50-60's ballroom dance music. Lots of prizes - \$25 meat raffles. The bar and bistro will be open.

Admission by ticket only available from the bar or by phoning Derek Coppin 751 0371.

### NP Roller Sports Club Family Skate Nights

A fun night the whole family can enjoy.

Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, June 13<sup>th</sup> 6.30 - 8.30 pm.

East End Skate Arena.

\$5 Admission includes skate hire.

No Eftpos available.

### New Plymouth Swords Club - Fencing

At New Plymouth Boys High Old Gymnasium, off Hobson St. Every Monday night of school term - Juniors 6-7pm - Seniors 7-9pm.

For more info contact: John Calcott, Ph 753 9186,  
[jcalcott@paradise.net.nz](mailto:jcalcott@paradise.net.nz)

### Taranaki Jazz Club

Meets every 3rd Sunday in The Club at Strandon 4pm - 7pm. This month's (17th) featured group is *The Primo 4tet* from Wellington..

### 360 Pilates

288 Courtney St, ph Sarah Collins for more info ph 759 7042.

### Taranaki Radio Control Car Club

*Off-road racing*, Club's dirt track by Lake Rotomanu, 2nd

Sunday of every month. Contact Greg Mawson, ph 753 7471.

*On-road racing*, contact Selwyn Duthie, ph 06-765-8108.

*Indoor racing*, contact Tracy van Beers, ph 751 1093.

**Please phone 0800 THE TOM with any changes to your listing.**