



The Messenger is a monthly publication delivered the second Wednesday of the month to all homes and post-boxes from City limits to Dover Rd. For all enquires please email oakuramessenger@xtra.co.nz or ph Tracey Lusk 752 7875 or Cather-

AUGUST 2002

Beachfront set for much needed spruce up

A more stylish and contemporary beachfront will be the outcome of the planned \$80,000 upgrade and redevelopment of Tasman Parade. After draft plans had been circulated in the New Plymouth District Council's Annual Plan it was decided to allocate an extra \$20,000 to specifically address the need for dune-reshaping along the beach front.

The area to be upgraded is from Wairau Road along to the Beach Store, situated beside the Waimuku Stream. It is envisaged that work on both the beachfront upgrade and the dune reshaping will be done concurrently. There is no set date at this stage for commencement of the work.

Councillor Pam Street, Kaitake Ward member of the New Plymouth District Council, says, "After such a long time in the planning and consultation phase it's exciting to see the planned upgrade of Tasman Parade forging ahead and the much needed upgrade of the Oakura CBD due to start this Spring. It's all happening in Oakura!"

Cr Street says that despite a few objections to the plans from local residents, mostly centred on noise and lighting factors, there has been a general acceptance of the plans by the majority of residents. "I think the residents are looking forward to a more resort-style aspect to their beachfront," she says.

One of the main considerations with the dune-reshaping project is the tendency for the Waimuku Stream to divert on some of the big tides. "We need to be quite definite about how this reshaping will be done and there are a number of options we need to examine," says Cr Street. Two of the options may include whether to build a stone wall along the banks of the river or use sandbags instead.

Cr Street announced that a date has yet to be set for the next public meeting regarding the upgrade. "We will be concentrating on fine-tuning the draft plans at that meeting and anyone who is interested should come along and add their ideas." The plans can be viewed at the New Plymouth District Council or through Kaitake Community Board Chairman, Sue Henchman.

Do you know about these ?

They are water backflow preventers. The purpose of preventing backflow is to stop substances injurious to health from being drawn back into the drinking water supply.

Backflow may be caused by numerous specific conditions; but, basically the reverse pressure gradient may be due to either a loss of pressure in the main supply, or by the flow from a consumer's pressurised system through an unprotected cross-connection (their connection from the main doesn't have a backflow preventer). When this happens the water at the point of use will be siphoned back into the system; thus, potentially polluting or contaminating the remainder of the consumers system and it is possible that it could continue to backflow into the public distribution system. The Ministry of Health are planning to impose a requirement for all drinking

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From Mayor Pete

Hi folks!

Haven't we had some great news come out of the district lately? New businesses are setting up in the district. North & South Magazine writes a great feature about us. The council gets the highest credit rating in New Zealand from the international credit agency Standard and Poor's. A group of our students is part of the New Zealand team that wins the World Enterprise Olympics. We have the highest sunshine hours in the North Island. Our tourism arrivals are up. Puke Ariki is less than a year away from its opening. Yarrow Stadium is close to opening. Tom Cruise hits the district soon, as preparations continue for the filming of this blockbuster movie. The coastal walkway continues to attract accolades from around the country. There is a media focus on the region, like never before and heaps of other things are going on that make New Plymouth District and the Taranaki region great! On the local scene, our hunt for a new water supply for Oakura is going great guns! It looks like the area the council has targeted for drilling has more potential in its underground water sources (aquifers) than we had originally hoped. We're drilling right now to get to the aquifers, and then we'll do some testing to find out exactly what we've got on our hands and whether or not these sources will meet not only the current demand for water in Oakura, but also the predicted demand from population growth. I'm picking that the district and the region as a whole will increasingly attract people here to live and work, as our strengthening economy, employment opportunities and fantastic lifestyle grabs the attention of people around New Zealand.

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Readers Remarks

Many thanks to Councillor Pam Street for her work on behalf of the Kaitake Ward and her regular updates in the Oakura Messenger. It was good to see her comments in the July issue about protecting our environment reminding people not to wash their cars, lawnmowers or other items on or near stormwater drains as these get washed out onto the beach. People should find somewhere on their property to do these jobs, the lawn is ideal !

Driftwood on the beach is much scarcer since people have been taking it off the beach for garden decoration or fires. Driftwood and rocks on the beach provide a sand trap and erosion protection for dunes and the foreshores. The driftwood provides a habitat for insects and small reptiles, some of our native species. Please don't take away their "homes" and leave them on the beach to flourish. The driftwood also provides a habitat for nesting areas of penguins - not usually seen by the general public as they are nocturnal users of the beach.

And a reminder to all that according to New Plymouth District Council bylaws all vehicles (except for service vehicles) are not permitted on Oakura Beach - this includes dune buggies, motor bikes, four wheel drives and all others! They create pollution which is injurious to the reef ecosystem, as well as providing a real hazard for young children and small animals on the beach. The vehicles often can be seen driving right over mussel laden rocks, destroying the resource. So please, find a road or designated track somewhere else to have fun.

If we all care for the beach, it is an asset that we will be able to enjoy and so will future generations of residents and visitors to Oakura.

Omata Church Story

I loved the photo of the Omata church. Wouldn't it be great if the hedge was trimmed to that height again to expose this awesome building.

Sue Henchman

Koru Pa story

Koru Pa is a strong hold of the Ngati Tairi hapu of the Oakura Pa and not Nga Mahanga-a-Tairi which is the area from Katikare River to Puniho and associated to Puniho Pa.

Magaret

Tompkins

Kaitake Community

Due to a lack of quorum there was no Community Board meeting. We had two members of the public in attendance. Their presentations pertained to:

1. Pamphlets- There is going to be a pamphlet produced on the Kaitake Ward. The community and community board want an input into this and there will be consultation before it is produced.
2. Oakura Beach New Years Eve- The board has been presented with an excellent idea to hold a gathering on New Years Eve for the 'wandering youth'. More to come on this topic.

Another item of interest is where we are at regarding Matekai Park. There have been 15 submissions for and against the proposal. A formal hearing is now required. This is planned to take place in late August.

Car seatbelt safety- A number of residents I have spoken to are concerned at the amount of ADULTS and children unrestrained in vehicles. Although the Community Board has no jurisdiction over such a thing I personally would like to remind everyone to 'belt up and stay alive'

Kwik - kerb



Hosts: Diane and Derrick Tully

Time flies. It is almost a year now since taking over the reigns at the Oakura Beach Motel. A period of settling in, learning, organising, planning and changing.

Credit must go to Walter and Marlis Zumbuhl for maintaining the property in excellent order during their 8 year tenure and we wish them a well deserved long and happy retirement. We hope to follow up on their good management by continually improving standards to keep abreast with the travelling public's expectations in the accommodation sector.

Painting and furnishings are currently on the agenda. Having just finished some interior painting during the inclement weather, our next focus will be the extensive gardens. Microwaves will be new additions to each unit before the summer season and soft furnishings and linen are a work in progress. Future plans include remodelling kitchens, new furniture, outside lighting etc.

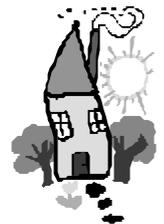
Our aim is to provide good quality, good value accommodation. The motel provides fully self contained accommodation in pleasant quiet surroundings and the province provides a great range of leisure activities. It is not surprising, therefore that guests expectations are exceeded and they often ask to extend their stay.

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Have you seen any sea bird wrecks ?

Coastal residents and beachcombers have been reporting large numbers of dead seabirds on the beaches for the last month throughout Taranaki. Taranaki members of the Ornithological Society of New Zealand assisted by the Department of Conservation spent several days gathering them up for identification and counting. Society members carry out regular beach patrols as much of our knowledge of sea bird distribution around New Zealand comes from the data which stranded birds provide. Many species are pelagic or ocean wanderers and are rarely seen near shore and very few experienced observers have the opportunity to spend much time at sea.

When large numbers of seabirds turn up on the beaches at one time it is known as a 'wreck' and the recent event was one of the most significant. Almost all the birds in this latest wreck were of the prion family and more than 2500 were found in Taranaki. Similar counts were made on other North Island beaches such as Muriwai and Waikato. Five species were represented with 80% being Antarctic Prions, usually uncommon with only 28 recorded locally since 1977. The causes remain a mystery but starvation may be a factor along with the unusual westerly weather at the time. The birds breed in the sub-Antarctic and Indian Ocean islands migrating west to feed. If the expected food such as plankton and krill is not there then they starve.

The best we can do is monitor these events and society members will continue patrolling our coastline recording seabird species whether in large numbers or just single birds.

Barry Hartley

Manna Healing Centre

(upper Wairau Rd)

God provided "manna" (not mana) each morning while the people of Israel wandered forty years in the desert. The word manna means: "what is it?" We see ourselves as part of God's provision for the community. Manna is Christian based: whose aim is to provide short-term residential care for those who are stressed out, tired out, or require time out to re-adjust some of their life expectations. Acceptance of people, hope in the present and the future, a safe environment, peace and tranquillity, and an awareness of Jesus Christ the Son of the living God is our focus.

Our guests are referred through government agencies (mental health, alcohol and drugs, ACC), doctors, churches and by word-of-mouth from former guests. We do not provide government accredited counselling: that is left to the professionals, but rather we become "a listening ear" where necessary for those wanting to deal with life issues.

Our basic philosophy is "what am I telling myself? Is it the truth? If it becomes apparent it is not, what can I do about it?" Answers are sought from scripture.

Manna receives oversight from an interdenominational trust.

Ivan and Helen Dunnett 752 7620

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Kaitake Rugby Netball Club

COURT SIDE 2002



Plagued with injuries we've suffered a draw and a loss on our last two outings. Sadly Tanya Farrant broke her wrist in our last game and will be out for the rest of the season and Vicki Eaton, having broken her nose in our Opening Tournament back in April, underwent corrective surgery last week which unfortunately meant having her nose re-broken meaning she too is out.

But hey, don't write us off just yet...we may be down, but we certainly are not out. We are still in first place and we intend staying there. We've got a united team and team spirit - although taking a blow, remains strong. Besides how could we face Tanya and Vicki if we let them down now!! (Not to mention the rest of our loyal supporters.)

No, we're ready to take on our last and probably hardest three games; Tukapa on the 3rd at 12.45pm, Sporty's on the 10th at 2.25pm and finally Raukaura (who are currently close behind us in second place) on the 17th at 11.05am. Mission accomplished, we'll be ready to take on the rest of Taranaki at the Taranaki Championship Weekend on 24 and 25 August. Bring it On!!!

Thanks to everyone who supported our 70's & 80's night down at the Rugby Club. It was a great night but thank God fashions have changed!!

Netball photo

It seems we have been around a lot longer than first thought. Pictured here is the team of 1955 - kindly supplied by Phyllis Wood who now lives in New Plymouth. The team was coached by Joyce Bell and played at Waiwakaiho as we do now. Phyllis says that getting to practice wasn't easy as she had to walk 3km down the metalled Croydon Road before being picked up by Mr Joyce (Joan's dad) and taken to the Oakura Hall. Getting back home in the dark helped with her match fitness though as she was so scarred, she ran all the way!! In those days it was 9 aside netball, with three players in each third. This changed a couple of years later to the present 7 aside. The team folded as players married and left the district - or stopped playing to have

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from 8.30pm



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From Photo News August 1972
Pat Ryan and Bryan Marsden are presented with travelling bags.

ON YER BIKE

playing at Butlers Bar & Cafe



SATURDAY 24 AUGUST

from 8.30pm



Weaving at Kaitake Kindergarten

In
2
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03, Kaitake Kindergarten will celebrate its tenth year as a quality, early childhood education centre for families from New Plymouth to Rahotu. Walking through the welcoming entrance garden it is immediately obvious that this kindergarten is a special place that families and teachers care about. Young children's active play is one of the most effective ways children learn. At Kaitake Kindergarten, a child's right to play is at the core of all of the programmes. The teachers, Robyn and Adrienne, have created an interesting environment, encouraging exploration, discovery and learning in all areas of the curriculum.

Last month, the Beachies group took the bus to town for an exciting workout with Gerry Keating at the YMCA's kindy gym. The children enjoyed a selection of equipment and exercises designed to develop motor-skills, co-ordination and confidence while having lots of fun. The Alpiners bus trip took them to the TSB Showplace to see Wellington-based Capital E perform their delightful production "The Farm at the End of the Road". The children were entertained by the talented cast, captivated by the enchanting puppets and clapped their hands to the original songs and music.

Kaitake Kindergarten is enrolling children now in both of the family groups. Children stay in one group with the same friends until they start school. Parents and caregivers are always welcome. There is further information available for anyone considering enrolling at Kaitake Kindergarten. Please call 7527016 or call in anytime.

Just a quick reminder about the annual Christmas Craft Fair, there are a few stalls still available, if you are interested call Janis Neeson 7527149. And lucky Victoria Braddock-Pajo won the Kaitake kindergarten raffle for 2 nights at The Boulton-Inn B&B in Taupo. Congratulations Victoria and thank you to Symons Transport for donating this prize.

Councillor's comments

Mike Norris from Omata school invited me to talk to his class on what it is like to be a councillor. The class were well prepared with LOTS of questions. Some of the children in the class had been to my swimming classes, so I knew a few of the faces

Our new walking bridge over the Whenuariki stream is being well used, but it is disappointing to see it being used by people on horses and motor bikes. It is designed to hold up to 27 people, NOT HORSES AND MOTOR BIKES. It has become a real mud hole because of this. The council is going to look at barricading the ends to put a stop to this. Please use your common sense, and if you suspect it may be some of your youth, please ask them not to do this. It was a struggle to get the funding in the first place, so lets not see it spoiled

This month some council staff came to a meeting with concerned residents over the Messenger Tce stormwater. We are awaiting a reply, and will then have another meeting

Councillors got to a site visit of the Yarrows stadium this month. It is twice as big as it used to be and will be fantastic on completion.

Along with Jimmy and Jackie Lim we have started a project to look for local sponsorship to build a new community notice board outside the Four Square. We would hope to get it built before the summer. If you are interested in being a sponsor please talk to the Lims or myself and Sue Henchman

Please call if you wish.

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