

TAKE ONE MOMENT

# TOM OAKURA

AUGUST 2013

## FINN'S FLIPPING FANTASTIC

Finn Robertson's passion for skateboarding.

*More on page 3*

PHOTOS BY BEN D'ATH



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TAKE ONE MOMENT

# TOM OAKURA

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

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

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**TOM dates to remember**  
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**Copy and ads - 16th August.**

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## E D I T O R I A L

It is very exciting times at the TOM – we have launched our new website with scope for the community to engage with each other more often. It is working really well with many in the community already accessing up to date information and also sharing information. Keep the contributions coming in! And the comments – feel free to leave your opinion so long as it is not slanderous, rude, swearing or demeaning!

There have been some strong feelings expressed about the ever rising dog registration fee. I spoke with Jim (chief dog control officer) at the council about the fairness or otherwise of the fee and the appointment of two more officers. The general opinion I was hearing was – what does a trouble free dog owner get for their money and why do they have to pay for out of control and trouble dogs?

The council quote in a press release that there were 226 animal attacks in 2012 – up 59% and that wandering dogs rose 64% from 871 to 1430. What the council can't tell you is the proportion of those dogs that are registered and unregistered! It would be simplistic to say all dogs that attack are unregistered and it is well known that the family pet is most likely to attack. I don't see these statistics as justification for increasing fees.

With regards to the two new officers who are on short term contracts – their positions are modelled on a successful campaign carried out in Hastings. The increase in registered dogs through their efforts will apparently pay their wages.

I think we could all agree we have a great team of dog control officers who are diligent and committed to keeping the public and public places safe from nuisance dogs – they come whenever called, seven days a week. They are actively trying to educate the public about best dog practices.

So to fees – for those of us who live in rural Oakura, the news is good according to Jim. The guidelines for categorising your dog as rural has usually been interpreted as landowners with more than a hectare can class their dog as rural – less than that then it is urban even if you live 10kms from town. Jim tells me if you clearly live in the country on less than a hectare and your dog is well behaved, neutered and micro-chipped then you can have your dog re-categorised as a rural dog. This drops the fee to about \$50 instead of \$100 so is well worth applying for. After all rural dogs are less trouble than their city counterparts!

*Kim*

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# Of Tricks and Flips and Broken Bones

Passion is the best motivator in the world and it's not hard to find passion in local teenager Finn Robertson (17 years). Finn is an absorbed and fanatical skateboarder who turns heads when out on his skateboard. His peers say he is one of the best. He has competed at regional level in the U16's and finished first in 2011. He then competed at Nationals in Auckland where he finished 23rd. In March this year



Finn executing some of his tricks.

PHOTOS BY BEN D'ATH



Finn competed again at the regional champs at East End and finished with U16 Best Trick, and a second placing in the Open Men's. Finn's best trick was a 'switch tre flip down a five'!

The goofy skater from Spotswood College is hoping to get to Nationals in Christchurch later in the year.

The love of skateboarding began when Finn and his family shifted to Oakura about 6 years ago. Finn says everyone in the village and at Oakura Primary School was into skateboarding so he just joined in and he hasn't stopped. In 2008 when the TOM asked Finn what he wanted to do when he left school he said he wanted to be a pro skater so his passion has endured. Russell Laird, regional judge says "Finn has undeniable talent on a skateboard but what makes him better is his humble way at which he goes about it all. That's a great mix of someone the next generation can admire and look up to." Finn says there are always new tricks to learn and he enjoys pushing himself. The buzz comes when you land your trick and you finally 'get it'. A trick to be mastered sometime soon is one of the hardest and is called a 'nollie laser flip back nose blunt'. Skateboarding is a self taught sport and one you get better at by lots of practice. Having limited fear helps I'm sure! Plus no fear about breaking your bones or gear!

Finn rates Shaun Malto from the US as his favourite skater.

Season's Cheapskates currently sponsor Finn and his favourite board is a 'Death Wish'. Finn says boards last between one and three weeks and shoes about a month so having sponsorship is important! The sport is definitely about being seen with the 'right' gear, the sport has a unique culture and language most of us struggle to grasp. But you can't deny the passion skateboarding arouses in its devotees.

Finn is taking each day as it comes but would like to work in the skateboarding industry if he can or alternatively gain a qualification in landscaping. In the meantime there are tricks to master and chicks to impress! And hopefully no more broken bones!

Keep the passion alive.

*By Kim Ferens*



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# Taking New Zealand forward

JONATHAN YOUNG MP

As an MP, one of the most important things to me is supporting families and households

National is doing that with our clear plan to take New Zealand forward by managing the Government's finances, so your taxes are spent wisely on the services you need.

We are sticking to that plan and we are taking New Zealanders with us while at the same time our opponents have been focusing on themselves and other sideshows and saying 'no' to anything that creates jobs or growth.

Our plan is getting results for families, households, and businesses. It's about building a more competitive and productive economy to help create more jobs, raise incomes, and build opportunities here in New Zealand. It's about delivering better public services for families – such as schools, hospitals and keeping our communities safe and it's about rebuilding Christchurch so Canterbury families can get their lives back on track.

The economy is growing, jobs are being created, weekly wages are increasing, and interest rates are at record lows. Recent information released by Statistics New Zealand shows once again Taranaki's economy is buoyant. Although the statistics covered the 2007-2010 measurement of GDP, recent projects within the gas and oil industry will no doubt continue to maintain the economic growth of the region.

Other countries look at our successes with envy. At 2.4 per cent growth in the past year our economy is growing on a par with Australia, and faster than most developed countries.

More than 50,000 jobs have been created in the past two years and unemployment is 6.2 per cent, lower than most developed countries.

The manufacturing sector saw wage growth of 5.2 per cent. That is twice as fast as wage growth in the



## Jonathan Young

MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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economy as a whole. In fact, since the beginning of 2009, the average wage in the manufacturing sector has risen a total of 18.1 per cent.

National's responsible management has the country on track back to surplus in 2014/15, when we can start repaying debt, reducing New Zealand's vulnerability to overseas lenders, and building a buffer against future global shocks. National has taken other steps to keep costs down and encourage growth with:

RMA reforms, which are continuing, to reduce costs. With 170 fewer regulations, saving business and households about \$200 million

The reduction of ACC levies on wage and salary earners which is saving households \$340 million a year – or \$170 a year for someone on the average wage. Levies for businesses were reduced by 22% or \$247 million a year. This is a saving of \$1120 a year for the average small business (7 employees). And this year we've held levies stable.

National has cut all personal tax rates and we have cut business tax to 28%. Around three-quarters of earners now pay a top tax rate of no more than 17.5 per cent on their income.

Floating mortgage rates are now around half of what they were when Labour left office. This is a saving a family with a \$200,000 mortgage about \$10,000 a year of \$200 per week.

Our strong plan is helping build a brighter future for New Zealand families.



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Photo from our holiday programme. We read a chapter out of *ACB* with Honora Lee (NZ Post Children's Book Awards finalist) and each child designed and decorated a letter from the alphabet.

Phew! We had a busy month at Oakura Library!

Levity Beet, musician and storyteller extraordinaire, paid us a visit. It was delightful to see so many well-behaved pre-schoolers singing and clapping along to the music. Levity played several fanciful instruments many of which he created from recycled materials.

Vince Ford also paid us a visit. He shared his writing and travel experiences and gave the students great tips on creative writing. His super popular *2Much4U* series, *Chronicles of Stone* teen series, *Boyznbikes* and *A Handful of Blue* are staples for any children and young adult's reading list. He introduced his newest series about Scrap, a blonde working dog.

I am looking forward to the Taranaki International Arts Festival this month. You will definitely find me in the Library Lounge. What a great variety of authors. I can't wait to meet Charity Norman, I highly recommend *Freeing Grace* and *Second Chances*. Her latest novel *Son-In-Law* has just been released. Her books are available for loan here at the library. In addition, we have Nalini Singh's paranormal romance series, Laurent Binet's *HHhH*, Joe Bennett's *Double Happiness*, Rosemary McLeod's *With Bold Needle and Thread*, Davey Hughes *Untamed* and Graeme Lay's *The Secret Life of James Cook*.

"So many books, so little time."

Frank Zappa

Happy reading, *Charlie and Vincenza*



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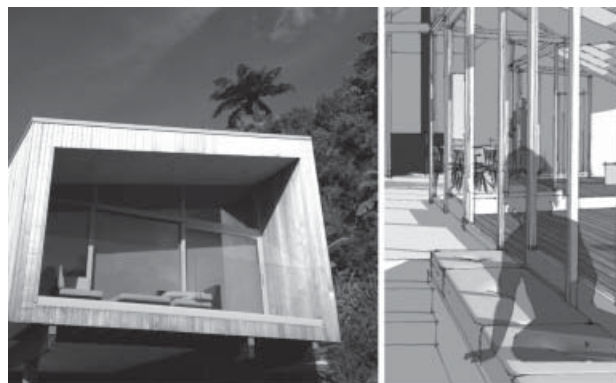


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# TOM Sports



## Kaitake Golf Club

Congratulations to Sally Kwon. She has done it again. Sally had her second hole-in-one at Kaitake recently, this time on the 9th hole. That is the ultimate achievement.

The Annual Subway Open Ambrose tournament attracted 18 teams of four. This popular tournament was won by the Rope Shed boys from Port Taranaki.

It is with regret we note the passing of two of our long-standing and valued members. Mary Grayling and Marinus Quintus were seen regularly on the course and will be sadly missed. Our condolences go to their families at this time.

### WEEKEND WOMEN'S RESULTS

Kaitake were to host the Weekend Pennants on 16th June. The day was wet and the round was postponed. Thanks to Gavin and Robbie for preparing the course and to Martin for offering his services at the bar. A new date of 11th August was agreed.

Raewyn Hawker was winner of our June LGU and Diane Jones won Patterson Trophy. Well done.

The Weekend Women's pennant team lost to Te Ngutu at Manukorihi and were unable to raise a team for the match against Westown at Patea so the chances are gone for the year.

Midweek Women - the Top Dog competition is in progress so no other results this month.

### NEWS FROM MIDWEEK 9 HOLERS

It has been quite some while since updating the club with anything interesting from the group of Midweek 9 holers.

TopDog Winners Jo West and Heather Honnor battled out the booty over Heather O'Sullivan and Chrissy Warden who had played beautifully to secure their place in the final.

New competition "Kaitake Super 9" instigated by Jo West - aims to follow the lines of Womens LGU but with a twist. Current monthly winners include Mary Grayling who won the inaugural day followed by Heather O'Sullivan winning the next two days. (Mary has since passed away)

Finally Pennants - Much interest has evolved with the success of the 9 hole team over the last couple of years who have reigned with shield. 2013 has two Kaitake teams who are contesting a healthy competition across the region. At present Kaitake White hold second place whilst Kaitake Blue are in 4th. With two more rounds to go it is anyone's guess.

### MEN'S RESULTS

The winners of the Top Dog Competition were Alan Crawford and Pat Bishop.

Ralph Ellicock won the 'All irons & Hybrids' day.

Hidden Partners winners were Stuart Skene and Frank Regan

Two-man Ambrose winners, Paul Clout and Grant Hildred.

### JUNIOR GOLF

Another fun golf day held during the school holidays attracted a number of budding golfers and some just wanting to give golf a go. It is always good to see so many interested.

On August 18th the Taranaki Junior Golf Association are holding a 36 hole trial to select teams for the Booth Shield Challenge. Posters and flyers will be in clubs with further details.

### FIREWOOD

With this latest spell of cold weather there has been a rush on firewood and all the dry wood has been sold. However there is plenty of rain wet wood if you want to start preparing for next winter. An average trailer load, (6 x4) is \$80 and can be delivered for \$20 extra. Please phone the Office at Kaitake Golf Club to order.

### SPONSORSHIP

Kaitake Golf Club appreciates the generous support Sponsorship brings to the club. Anyone who may be interested in becoming a Sponsor can contact Stuart Skene on 7510355 or Andrea Jarrold on 7514234.

More information on Kaitake Golf Club can be found on the website [www.kaitakegolf.co.nz](http://www.kaitakegolf.co.nz).

*Andrea Jarrold*

*Club President*

### GETTING WET



## Oakura Boardriders

Well since the last issue of the TOM winter has well and truly arrived. Our local mountain ski field has had some good days already and as we go to press a lot of our members have headed south for some epic skiing and better weather than the north island has had

As a few members are getting ready to escape to warmer climes the local surfing scene saw the running of the Taranaki champs in stormy conditions at Fitzroy once again. This contest had a far amount of luck attached to it with the conditions dictating some outcomes. Big congratulations to Ariana Shewry being



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# Surfcasters Fishing Report

The weather has all but stopped play for most anglers but never mind the whitebait season is not far away!

Our last club day was a success with Tony Hurring landing a 12kg snapper.

This year's prize winners all looking pleased with their silverware.



**Oakura angler Jim Morwood with a brace of far north snapper.**

Four anglers including myself have just returned from a trip to Oakura in the north and the fishing was awesome with lots of snapper up to 18lbs, and no spikey sharks.

Our AGM and prize giving has been held and well done to all the winners with Martin Rook from Okato the clubs top angler for the year.

We have winter events lined up and some club social nights - more details to follow.

*Garry Harrison.*

the youngest competitor in the women's division taking out 3rd place, I predict a big future for this young lady if she continues to compete like she is and our clubs next ASP competitor? Something to aim for Ariana!

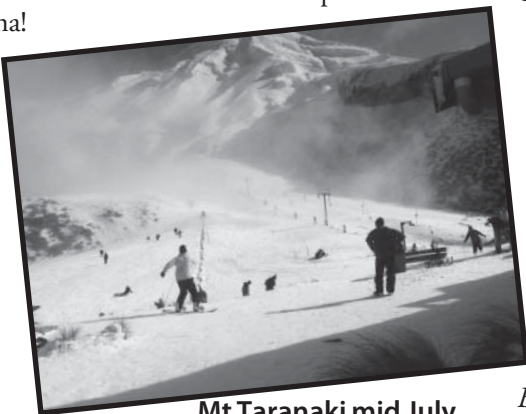
## TARANAKI CHAMPS RESULTS

### Men's Open

- 1 Jarred Hancox
- 2 Keoene Campbell
- 3 Eli Smith
- 4 Isaac Kettle

### Women's Open

- 1 Thandi Tipene
- 2 Millie Crewe
- 3 Ariana Shewry
- 4 Zhana Hutchinson.



**Mt Taranaki mid July.**  
PHOTO BY BRENT ANDERSON.

## COMING UP

Coming up we have the New Zealand Home Loan Taranaki Surf Series being run at Fitzroy with a prize pool of \$3000. The first one was run in good surf on Jul 13th and the next dates are Aug 10th, Sep 7th and Oct 5th with divisions being open men's, open women's, under 14, U16 & U18. This is great to keep those competitive fires burning through the winter months.

The Oakura Board riders AGM is due late August. This will be advertised in the paper, on our Facebook site and by email so keep an eye open and come along for a social night and the election of officers etc.

*Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders.*

*Pres, Philli Butt, 752 7050. Sec, Paul Lobb, 752 7556.*

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# Meet the Local . . .

**LIBRARIAN CHARLIE ROBERTSON**



## **WHERE DO YOU LIVE?**

I live in Oakura in a three bed house. We are in the process of extending it – my husband is trying to do as much of it himself as possible, but he is really busy so it may be a while until it's finished!

## **FAMILY?**

I am married to Fergs, his business is Coastal Antennas, and I have three lovely boys - Farrell, 16, who is very tall and works part time at the Four Square, Oscar, 13, he's a basketball freak and Jago, 8, who is a future All Black.

## **WHAT IS YOUR ASSOCIATION WITH OAKURA?**

We came to New Zealand in 2007, bought a bus and travelled around for three months looking for somewhere we would like to live. The perfect place would have to have wind and waves for my husband and boys to windsurf/surf. We went to lots of places but the only one that felt like home was Oakura. We still look at each other and can't believe how lucky we are to live in such a great place – even when it's raining.

## **WHAT IS YOUR JOB?**

I'm a Librarian at Oakura Library, working with Vincenza (who's a great boss).

## **WHAT DO YOU LOVE ABOUT YOUR JOB?**

I love being part of the local community, and it's also great being next to the school. The school bell rings for break and the children come running in to find some books. I love their enthusiasm.

## **WHAT DO YOU HATE ABOUT YOUR JOB?**

Being surrounded by books and not having the time to read them all.

## **FAVOURITE PAST TIME**

Golf – although I'm not that great at it (yet!) and reading.

## **TWO THINGS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST**

I would really like to do a photography course and learn how to use a proper camera and I would like to be good at golf.

*Next month we meet Matt Crabtree Fire Chief*

# 'Art on a Plate'

Kaitake Kindergarten is about to undertake its biggest fundraiser for the year. 'Art on a Plate' will take place at Okurukuru with a three course meal from renowned chef Sohnke Danger. Alongside the dinner an auction of impressive art from well known and emerging local artists will take place.

Overall we have approximately 20 artists who have kindly allowed 1-3 pieces of their work to be auctioned to benefit Kaitake Kindergarten. Just to give you a taste of what will be available to you on the night, here is a selection of some of the artists that will be featuring their art work for auction:

## **GRAHAM KIRK**

Graham Kirk was born in Hawera in 1948 and began creating his own comic strips at the age of nine. He is known for his monumental paintings which often incorporate a superhero or a well know personality into a New Zealand or UK landscape. Graham's work has been influenced by interesting juxtapositions from a repertoire of images from newspapers, books, television and his own photographs.

Graham never wanted to be a painter in the traditional sense, working from sketches or painting from life. He's always preferred the immediacy of the snapshot image, and there has always been something about the photographic 'truth' that appeals to him. Graham now lives high on the slopes of Mt Taranaki with his wife, Glenda West, who is also an artist.

## **PETER LAMBERT**

Peter Lambert is based in Taranaki and has worked as a full time painter and print-maker since 1982. He originally studied at Canterbury University, graduating with a BSC in pure Mathematics, and went on to work in TV as a presentation and programme director for five years. Peter has also travelled extensively through Europe, North America and the Pacific, drawing and painting on the way. More recently Peter has worked on a number of projects with young street/graffiti artists in New Zealand. Peter is often seen out and about with his sketch book capturing a quick line drawing of people or the local landscape of Taranaki. He has always drawn and enjoys the fluidity of lines and his love of the landscape of the region is captured in his silhouettes of the mountain in different lights.

## **ISAAC PETERSEN**

Born and bred on the coastal shores of New Plymouth, Isaac Petersen developed his passion for the surf and the sea from an early age. Isaac's art is an expression of his love for this exciting, wild but very beautiful corner of the world.

After excelling in art at school, he studied Graphic Design at Taranaki Polytech, graduating with a Bachelor of Visual Arts in 2003. It was while studying, he sold his first painting. As the demand for his "local landscapes" increased, Isaac started to paint fulltime and still lives by the sea in New Plymouth. He predominantly uses oil on canvas and his works have been taken as far away as Australia, America, England and Europe.

## **DOUGLAS REID**

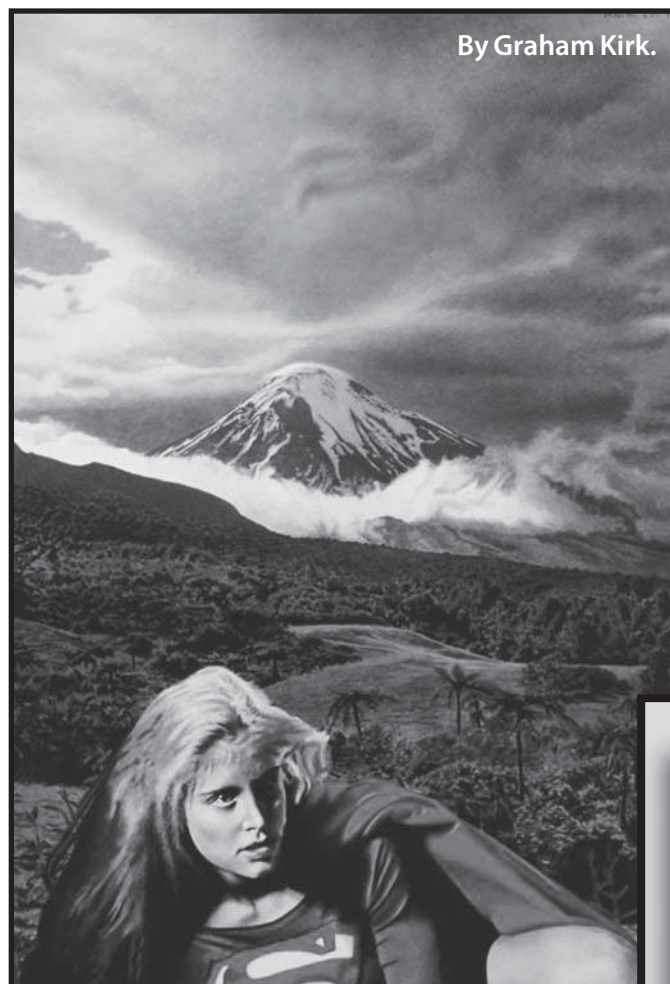
Jason Douglas Reid is a full-time, self-taught New Zealand artist living between the mountain and the ocean in



Taranaki. The majority of his paintings are landscapes which combines his enthusiasm for artistic endeavour with his love of the great outdoors. Regardless of the subject matter his aim is always to create works that are evocative, immersive and enjoyable.

#### ALBY CARTER

Alby Carter is an expressionist painter and woodblock printmaker of the Taranaki landscape. Born in Wellington in 1949, Alby moved to Hawera in 1982 and began painting full-time in 1986. Alby describes his work as



By Graham Kirk.



By Isaac Peterson.



By Peter Lambert.

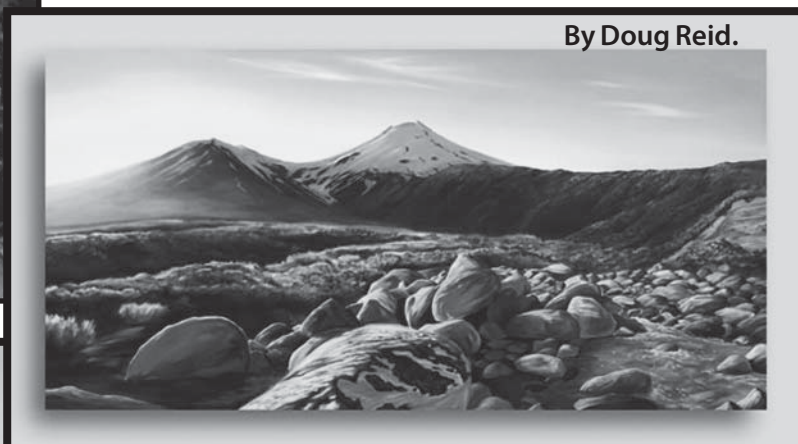
surrealist and abstract expressionist capturing the mood rather than the reality. Alby's work is heavily influenced by his surroundings of the sea, mountain, forest and farms, and he has exhibited works all over the world and throughout New Zealand.

'Art on a Plate' is now in its fifth year running and has been gaining strength every year. This year we would like to continue this trend.

For those who wish to have the opportunity to purchase some spectacular art and indulge in some fine food and have a good time you would need to keep Friday the 20th September free. Tickets for 'Art on a Plate' can be purchased from Kaitake Kindergarten and are selling now. As there are limited tickets - be in quick. Tickets cost \$55/ticket. Phone: 7527016. Funds raised will be put towards Kaitake Kindergarten building upgrades.

Artworks featured are not necessarily those for auction.

See you all there for a great night.



By Doug Reid.

# HEALTH & WELLBEING

## Have you experienced bladder or bowel weakness? You are NOT alone...

Nearly 600,000 people in New Zealand are affected, and yet many will not seek help. Perhaps it's because they're embarrassed, or maybe the companies advertising pads make it seem quite normal. Let me assure you it's not normal, it is common, but not normal. Unfortunately, many people have stopped exercising as they're concerned that they may 'leak' during a session. While this is a valid concern, it can be resolved, in most cases, with pelvic floor exercises.

Risk factors for developing a weak pelvic floor include:

- Pregnancy & childbirth;*
- Constipation or persistent straining;*
- Ageing;*
- Obesity;*
- Menopause / hormonal changes;*
- High impact sports;*
- Heavy lifting or very physical work;*
- Hyper mobile joints;*
- Genetic factors;*
- Pelvic surgery.*

Indicators that you may have pelvic floor problems:

- Accidentally leaking urine during exercise, playing sport, laughing, coughing or sneezing;*
- Needing to get to a toilet in a hurry or not making it there in time;*
- Constantly needing to go to the toilet;*
- Finding it difficult to empty your bladder or bowel;*
- Accidentally losing control of your bowel;*
- Accidentally passing wind;*
- A prolapse.*

**Can you jump on a trampoline without leaking?**

*It is NOT normal to leak urine, it is COMMON but not NORMAL – it can be improved!*



Don't stop exercising, for fear you'll leak, rather call Estelle, for a confidential chat on **752 1001 or 021 119 6465.**



In women, this may be felt as a bulge in the vagina or a feeling of heaviness, discomfort, pulling, dragging or dropping. In men, this may be felt as a bulge in the rectum or a feeling of needing to use their bowels but not actually needing to go.

*Pain in the pelvic area.*

*Painful sex.*

*Poor sensation or leaking during sex.*

The pelvic floor muscles support the bladder and bowel in men, and the bladder, bowel and uterus in women. They also help maintain bladder and bowel control and play an important role in sexual sensation and function.

Strengthening your pelvic floor muscles is not an option, it's a necessity. Speak to a fitness professional or women's health physiotherapist today, about prescribing you a pelvic floor safe exercise programme.



**Aches and Pains?  
Stressed and Tense?  
Injuries that just wont heal?  
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# Plainmotion takes to the Stage

A youth band set up in April this year features local youth Martin Leith (17 years). Martin attends New Plymouth Boys' High School and their group 'Plainmotion' came second in the recent regional Smokefree Rockquest school band competition. They also won the People's Choice award.

The band consists of Martin on guitar, Joel Robertson on guitar and backing vocals, Jake McComb on bass, Connor Rust on percussion and Ethan Taylor as lead vocalist.

The group play original music with the lyrics composed by Ethan and Connor and the entire band collaborates to write the music. Five songs have now been recorded.

The band has played at the West Coast School of Rock as a feature band and will also be playing at NPBHS during Arts Week in week four this term. They are hoping to play at the Festival of Lights in the summer.

The group's music can best be described as pop or alternative rock and Martin goes further to say it is their own unique blend of music – whatever way you listen to it, it is clear the boys enjoy themselves and have fun together.

Martin has been a keen musician for most of his life, beginning on violin at five then progressing to guitar.

In five bands at NPBHS, Martin would probably spend 15 hours plus each week playing or practicing. He currently has private tuition with Ross Halliday. Ross says "Martin's one of a number of very gifted students that I'm teaching at the moment. He's got a passionate dedication to improvement through numerous hours of practical study on guitar - this is the key to his considerable ability.

Recently progressing into the complex world of jazz, Martin's intuitive improvisation and vibrant touch is very rare for one of his age. He's a shining example to prospective guitarists that "hard work is the key to success."

Martin says jazz is one of his preferred music genres. He is inspired by other music too and musicians (bands) such as Evermore and New Empire are top of the list.

When not on guitar or performing in a band, Martin is following another passion – flying. He intends on going to Massey University when he finishes school to gain a Bachelor of Aviation then become a pilot.

Congratulations and we wish you every success with your music.

*By Kim Ferens*



Plainmotion on stage with Martin at far right.

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## BP Technology Challenge

On Wednesday 19th of June, twelve year 7 and 8 students from Oakura School took part in the BP Technology challenge, held at the TSB Stadium. The teams were: year 7 – Eli Goodkind, Finn van Bergen, Phillippa Marshall, Anna Newton, Hamish Goodhue and George Clarke; year 8 – Mario Pronk-Jones, Mark Huitema, Jason Bond, Kara Wells, Rebecca Barron and Jay Evans.

The day involved schools from across Taranaki competing in a variety of technology challenges. Prior to the event, both teams had to create a marble playground using recycled materials which was judged on the day. Both teams did an excellent job and did very well in the competition, the year 7 team winning the marble challenge, and the year 8 team placing 3rd overall.

*By Tessa Keenan (aged 12) and Ellie Whitehead (aged 13)*



**Year 8 team - from left: Mark Huitema, Jason Bond, Jay Evans, Kara Wells, Mario Pronk-Jones at the BP Technology Challenge.**

## Indoor Bowls Tournament

On Thursday 4th July, 20 Oakura School students travelled to Okato to compete in the annual indoor bowls tournament. Each year members from the Oakura Bowling Club work with our year 7 and 8 students to teach them indoor bowls and they select five teams to compete in this tournament.



**The proud bowlers from Oakura School had an excellent time.**

Congratulations to Oakura team 5 (Kara Wells, Mark Huitema, Finn van Bergen and Matthew Whittaker) who won second place and Oakura team 4 (Hayden Benton, Jason Bond, Blair Walker and Kaia Mead) who came in third place. Also, congratulations to Juliet Squatriti who won \$10 for her team in the \$10 bowling challenge.

A big thank you to Zena, Rex, Rod, Mike and Val from the Oakura Indoor Bowling Club, who helped the teams prepare for the tournament and helped score on the day.

*By Tessa Keenan (aged 12)*

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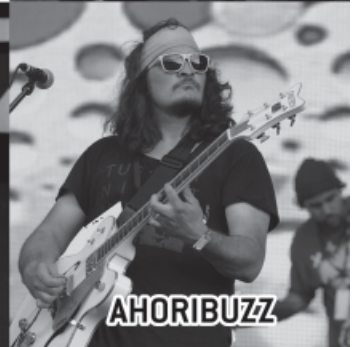




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## COMING EVENTS

### August

- 10 Book Sale (Sat) in hall
- 12 Show in hall 'Big Bad Wolf'
- 13 Y6 Gymnastics at CTS in Okato
- 14 3D Conferences -School Finishes at 12pm
- 15 3D Conferences -School Finishes at 12pm
- 16 Y4-8 NZ Symphony Orchestra Concert at TSB Showplace
- 17 R3 Lantern Parade (Sat)
- 25 ICON photography in hall
- 28 Y7/8 Arts Festival Show
- 30 Taranaki Chess finals at Oakura



### September

- 4 School Photos
- 6 Cross Country -Jnrs 11am, Snrs 1pm
- 9 postponement day for Cross Country
- 10 Y4,5,6 Interschool Cross Country 1pm
- 11 postponement day for Y4,5,6
- 12 Y7,8 Interschool Cross Country 1pm
- 13 postponement day for Y7,8

## BoT Update

Time waits for no one as we approach the start of another term and student numbers are at a high for our midyear roll return to the MOE. This can only be good for our school and community looking forward. Earlier last term, I was fortunate to travel to Palmerston North with our Year 8 students to the Young Leaders' Conference where we were treated to a day of motivational and inspiring speakers. It was a day of thought provoking topics which helps to ready our students for the future and the challenges that lie ahead.

Vicky Aylward and Viv Norris presented Senior and Junior English curriculum reports respectively, highlighting how the all writing programme has benefited all students not just the target groups and how professional development for one staff member, becomes knowledge for all staff and therefore for the greater good of all students. The Health/PE curriculum was discussed at our last board meeting with Stuart Bennett telling us of the trials being done on the benefits of Physical Education and how it aids in concentration and learning for children.

In recent weeks we have had Ministry of Education contractors at school doing moisture testing of buildings as part of the weather tightness/leaky buildings initiative to help keep our school in top shape for years to come. Great to see all our winter sports teams doing so well. A big thank you to all coaches and managers, we cannot do it without you.

*Hamish Logan*

## Sweets for the Elderly

Our year 2 and 3 class have just completed a topic that involved inviting their grandparents into the classroom and visiting the residents a Heatherlea Rest Home. The children made sweets as gifts and performed songs. This was an amazing unit and provided opportunities for interviews, discussions, poetry and stories.



**Brianna Miller gives her gift of sweets to a resident at Heatherlea.**



**Kate Brooke sharing her learning with her grandparents, Pat and Mike Brooke.**

These are two thank you poems to the residents:

### When I was Young

Remember that time when a salty drip ran  
down your face  
and dissolved into your dry skin?  
Do you remember when you shared your  
special secrets around  
and when you just came to school and you  
were shy?  
I do remember that special things happened.  
Thank you

*by Ruby Glennie*

### Dear Residents

Feel happy and young  
Let memories spread  
Forget your age  
There's no time you can't be happy  
So feel happy and young forever

*by Charlotte Butler*



# Staff update

Half the year nearly passed and soon we will be farewelling Ann Wester who, along with Jemma Glasgow, has been inspiring our Year 7 and 8 students in Room 6. I would like to thank Ann for the wonderful teaching and support of our senior students. All the best for your overseas travels and we hope to see you back at Omata later on in the year. Jemma will continue in her support and release teacher role. We welcome Sarah Reeve as our new teacher aide at Omata. Sarah joins Karyn Humphries and Caroline Shorter who support our students with their learning. Great to have you on board Sarah.

Time has flown quickly since we farewelled our DP and Room 6 teacher, Pat Murphy, on his six month science fellowship. Pat has been keeping in touch and is looking forward to returning to school next term with a wealth of wonderful experiences to share.

Part of Pat's fellowship was to explicitly enhance the natural world science teaching at Omata and we look forward to developing an exciting rich topic in the future. For now though, we will let Pat settle back into the demands of teaching, which I imagine will be far from the demands of counting rare species and walking the coastal dunes and mountain ranges of Taranaki.

*Karen Brisco, Principal*

## Book Sale

The Year 7 and 8 class are fundraising for their camp to Wellington in November and are holding a BOOK SALE in the hall on **Saturday the 10th August**. Hopefully you can come along to purchase some winter reading and grab a coffee while you browse!



## New Plymouth Boys' High School

We are at the beginning of a new term and boys are taking advantage of the various opportunities the school offers. Our boys continue to excel in music and it is good to see the growing number of rock bands as well as concert bands. This month we congratulate our performing artists.

### 1. New Zealand Secondary Schools' (Taranaki Region) Chamber Music Competition:

Best chamber music group: 'Shaken Not Stirred' (including Adrian Robb, violin, and Alan Ansell, piano).

Highly commended: 'Telemann Trio' (including James Park, violin, and Thomas Lawley, flute). 'Take Four' (including James Buckland, Adrian Robb, and Richard Gottlieb, saxophones.)

Adjudicator's Award: NPBHS Brass Quartet (including Curt Evans, trombone, Isaac Roche, trombone, Sam Evans, trumpet, and Andrew Boot, trumpet.)

Best Performance of a NZ Composition: 'David's Dudes' (including Izzmel Raziff, violin.)

### 2. New Plymouth Operatic Society's production of "Hairspray":

Dancers: Hamish Phillips, Zane Coleman, and Whatu Ngati Tangirua.

Singer: Fergus Thomson.

Lighting crew: Sean Rhynd.

### 3. Rockquest Competition:

*Plainmotion*: 2nd Overall, People's Choice Award, Martin Leith, Jake McComb, Joel Robertson, Connor Rust, Ethan Taylor.

*Reach for Reason*: 3rd Overall, Craig Jacobs, Adam Bull, Conrad Watt, Cody Kivern.

*Choking Hazard*: Best song, Matt Glynn, Danyon Lythgow.

Well done boys.

*Michael McMenamin, Headmaster*

  
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## OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

### **Hurford - Omata - Oakura Rural Women**

Meet 2nd Wednesday each month at 1.00pm. New members welcome. Contact Jean Kurth 751 2274.

### **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**

Tuesday mornings 10.00am, Oakura Hall. Gold coin donation.

### **Ringcraft Moana jewellery classes**

Every Saturday 10-11:30am. RSVP information online - [www.nzpearl.co.nz](http://www.nzpearl.co.nz)

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

### **NP Toastmasters Club**

Meet every 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of the month, 5.30pm at Bellringer Pavillion. Everyone welcome.

### **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.

### **Playcentre**

Playcentre, Donnelly Street. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to noon. Visitors welcome by appointment. Ph Bridget on 06-752 7223.

### **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**

Pre-school dance class on Saturday morning from 9am to 9:30am. Beginners' ballet/dance class from 9:30am to 10:15am. Oakura Hall. Ph Val Deakin, or Jane Roseman on 06 752 7743.

### **Volkswagen Club**

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 hall 7.30 - 9.00pm. Running during the school terms - Tuesday nights. Some gear available - beginners welcome. Ten classes \$120 Casual \$14. M. 027 715 6188. P. 75 27 050. E. keithplummer@clear.net.nz

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