



TDM

OAKURA

AUG '17

Taranaki born Ben Hurley brings his joke show to Oakura, New Plymouth and the regions in Earth Planet World - get tickets to the Taranaki Arts Festival now - see page 9 for Arts Festival details

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TOM OAKURA

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

Do you have a story of local interest that you'd like to share with the readers of TOM? Phone **0800 THE TOM** or visit thetom.co.nz

Co-ordinator/Features/Advertising/Lay up

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

Dates to remember for August 2017 issue. Copy & Ads - 21st August. Distribution from 1st September.

Oakura Community What's On

5 Elements Fitness: 5 Elements Fitness: Bootcamps and Kickboxing fitness classes: Weekdays 5-6 pm, Tataraimaka Hall. For more details contact Barney 027 7527 076, barney@5efitness.com or visit www.5efitness.com

Fitness Training/Touch: Thursday nights on back field at Oakura School 5.30 pm to 6.45ish. For all age groups - gold coin donation. Contact Lara Churchill - 0275922320

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

Indoor Bowls: Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Contact Marvin Clough ph 7527531.

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

Kaitake Athletics club: Meets at Corbett park at 5pm on a Tuesday evenings during term time To register - athletics nz website and search for Kaitake. Contact -Tash 0277755440.

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

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

Oakura Meditation Group: - Mondays 7.40am 37a Donnelly St, ph 0272037215, email kate@shineyoga.co.nz

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

Oakura Pony Club: Contact Marlies Butland Delfos ph 0274595962.

Oakura Pool Club: Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm at Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Sheree 027 3444 723.

Oakura Yoga: - Shine Yoga Studio, 37a Donnelly St, www.shineyoga.co.nz for days and times, ph 0272037215.

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.

Omata Yoga: Wednesday evenings 5.15 - 6.45pm and 6.45 - 8.15pm. Omata Community Hall \$15 per class casual rate, \$80 for 6 class sessions. Contact Annalisa Facer 027 444 8345

Oakura Tennis Club: Thursday 9.15-10.15am Cardio Tennis with Blitz Tennis at Linda Street courts, members and non-members welcome. Contact Club Secretary Jackie Mitchell 027 673 2900.

Probus Club: Meets once month at Kaitake Golf Club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Mike Vickers ph 7527881 or Gwen Jury ph 7527783.

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

St John's Church Omata: Morning worship 10.00am second Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School: Oakura Hall. Beginners' Ballet dance class Mondays 3.30pm- 4.15pm. Also classes for pre-schoolers to adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth with pre school ballet Weds 3pm. Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz

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

Phone **0800 THE TOM** for additions or changes to your listing.

From the Editor



In this country we seem to have an unhealthy obsession with the weather. I guess since we live on the backside of the world where calamities in Europe and the Middle East don't have much effect, we have to focus on something else!

The fact that we live on a small island and most of us live within cooee of a mountain or two and the sea means we experience weather blips on a regular basis.

Funnily enough mainstream media only seem to have recently realised this and make each weather blip into a major incident that sends everyone into a panic. For goodness sake we are in the middle of winter and we all expect the weather to be foul - a good day or two is a bonus and if you are lucky you head off to a sunny warm island or take your annual vacation to escape the wind, rain and cold.

I'm thoroughly over the incessant reporting of approaching bad weather. Farmers all consult weather forecasts as a regular part of their day so can easily move stock if needed. Surely if your house is built in low lying area, especially near rivers and cliffs you might take note of the weather. I can remember since early childhood, visiting friends in Shannon, where it floods regularly because of the topography of the area. Surely if its raining heavily you'd take note. We don't need dopey reporters standing out in the rain and wind telling us the weather is bad - we can see it and feel it!

Most would attribute this over zealous reporting a symptom of our blame culture - the media don't want to be blamed for not getting the message across that snow is coming or torrential rain but most of us have access to technology that helps us make our own decisions about our futures - should we move stock to higher ground, should we postpone a planned outing etc.

Or maybe this fascination with assumed major weather events is a desire to see the fulfilment of global warming - if the media can hype each weather event up then global warming is a happening thing! Or maybe I'm just a grumpy, sceptical, middle aged woman!

Kim



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To bee or not to bee.... skills course on beekeeping

Fifteen Taranaki Beekeepers have just completed their 34 week programme in the New Zealand Certificate in Apiculture (Level 3) which they started in August 2016. The programme was delivered at the Taratahi Demonstration Farm, East Road, Stratford. However, course tutor and Oakura beekeeper Keith Plummer, says due to demand, Taratahi are planning to run the programme in North Taranaki. It will be suitable for those in and around Oakura and New Plymouth areas.

“Last years’ course was well received by the students and feedback was positive. If numbers allow we can run one in North Taranaki as well, which will save local students some travel”.

Keith developed an interest in bees from an ‘old timer’ bee keeper in Omata while running the Down To Earth shop in the early 1980’s. He has over 30 years’ experience keeping bees and runs hives on a small scale, supplying honey and bee nucs locally.

A key part of the apiculture course is a focus on the practical skills - students get a full 3 ‘super’ beehive as part of the course fee - which is assembled and built up through the season. The course has written assessments but these are balanced by ‘hands on’ workshops in the apiary to build skills and confidence around bees.

Modules include; how to construct and repair beehives, seasonal management of bees, swarm management and re-queening, identification and treatment of bee diseases, shifting beehives and honey extraction.

This programme is ideal for existing beekeepers wishing to get more in depth knowledge and a qualification; those wanting to take up beekeeping, or those looking at gaining employment in this growing industry.

The next intake for this programme starts on Saturday 2nd September 2017. Please contact the Taratahi office on 0800 TARATAHI if you wish to obtain an enrolment form, or visit our office at 343-345 Broadway, Stratford.



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Agricultural Training Centre



Keith Plummer winter feeding Taratahi bees, after a poor summer in 2016/17 left many hives short of winter stores.

Kaitake Community Board

We are particularly lucky to live in a very dog friendly place. It's a great environment for a family pet and there are some pretty special dogs living here, but there are some important responsibilities for owners. An issue often brought to the community board's attention is with those dog owners who take their dogs on the foreshore, the beach, through the campground or on other reserves but fail to clean up after their pet defecates on the ground. This is the same environment used by other walkers, beach users and campers.

At the moment Al and Jan and their Oakura Beach Park staff are tearing their hair out over the amount of dog poo being deposited throughout the camp and not cleaned up. They believe the problem would be mitigated if locals would always keep their dogs on a leash when going through the camp rather than just letting them roam free. I believe this is a local issue and requires a local solution, the last thing any of us want is a ban on dogs going through the camp or any unfavourable reports about the excellent service provided for visitors by Al, Jan and their team.

We have now finished our community engagement work in Omata, Oakura and Okato and are in the throes of processing all the issues and aspirations of each community into a final coherent document (the KCB Community Plan). This then can be considered by those with the technical expertise, and measured by the decision makers against other areas in the district when the important planning and decision making of the 2018/28 Long Term Plan takes place. What we have documented for our three communities to date will be challenged and will change over time, as it should. But without these reference documents Council has no way to navigate through time, other than by reactive behaviour when questions and challenges arise. The benefit of this approach is that it embeds the Council's strategic challenges into actual community outcomes and therefore

increases the likelihood of them being addressed and achieved. The KCB certainly needs to give a big shout out to all the folk that have helped and supported us through this four year journey. It has involved over 40 local people in focus groups, our public meetings that have attracted another 100 or so local folk, and we received written feedback from over 300 more. All age groups and tangata whenua participated too. Time will tell if our work is successful. The documents we have produced to date can be viewed on the NPDC website - here is the link. <http://www.newplymouthnz.com/Council/Council-Documents/Plans-and-Strategies/Community-Board-Plans>

There are always a number of irritations when dealing with corporate bodies, usually centred around the time it takes to get anything done, especially those issues that seem so easy to address. A case in point is the electronic warning sign in the dip between the Wairau Road intersection and Donnelly Street. The sign went on the blink on the night of 17 November last year (the night of the Kaikoura earthquake). Since alerting the NZ Transport Authority to the problem eight months ago I have regularly pinged off reminder emails to them to get it seen to - all to no avail. The single biggest road safety issue in New Zealand today is speed – drivers travelling too fast for the conditions. Locals are continually complaining about the speed of traffic through the village and this is one of the few traffic calming tools we have at our disposal.

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

The next meeting of the Kaitake Community Board will be at the NPOB surf club at 4.30pm on Monday, August 7. Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead, Graham Chard and Roy Weaver who is the Council representative on the KCB.



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To vote - your right and responsibility

As a kid growing up, I always loved the suspense of election night. My dad was an MP for 24 years in South Taranaki. Many still remember him, Venn Young. We used to go to the Hawera Club on election night and watch the TV as the votes started rolling in. Back then it was first-past the post and usually by the end of the night, we knew who was in and who was out, and who the Government for the next three years would be. With MMP, it can be more complicated.

In New Zealand, generally all permanent residents and citizens over 18 are eligible to vote. The main exceptions are when a person has been living overseas continuously for too long, has been detained in a psychiatric hospital, or since 2010, is currently a sentenced prisoner.

I was competing in a pub quiz a few weeks ago and the question was, "when did New Zealand give women the vote?" I got the answer wrong! However I was right in knowing that New Zealand was the first country in the world to give women the right to vote – and answer was in 1893.

Originally the Parliamentary term was set at five years by the New Zealand Constitution Act of 1852, but in 1875, the term was reduced to three years, largely with the view of making Governments more accountable to the electorate. It was agreed that voters must have the power to endorse or change a government at regular and frequent elections so that it remains responsible to them. At the same time, voters also want the Government to have adequate time to implement its policies without the continual preoccupation of an imminent election. That is why three years was struck in order to find the balance between voter sovereignty and effective government. Many feel three years is too short, while five years might be too long. I'm in favour of a four year electoral term, although I'm sure opposition parties want shorter rather than longer cycles.

So on 23 September this year, you get to choose. It's your democratic right, and also your democratic responsibility. This election, like the one past, has voting starting two weeks prior to the 23 September. The Electoral Commission is anticipating that 50% of the votes cast in this year's election, will be early votes before the 23rd. With people's busy lives often taking them away from their electorates on Election Day, early voting

means more people can vote, more easily. It's a good thing. National are seeking a fourth term to serve the people of New Zealand, in Government. It is an enormous privilege that has to be earned. I'm encouraging you to ensure you vote this election, and I'm particularly biased on who you should vote for, but that's up to you.

Our democracy is one of the best in the world, our economy is going very well. There are 22% more jobs being advertised in Taranaki this past June, than in June 2016. I hope we have earned the confidence of the majority of the people of New Zealand. The 23rd will tell all.

Authorised by Jonathan Young, Cnr Gill & Liardet St, New Plymouth

Dr Susan Oldfield
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JONATHAN YOUNG
MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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We've printed a "Winter Reads" brochure, a list of librarian recommended adult fiction and non-fiction books, e-books and e-audio books. Or you can visit our website, www.pukeariki.com and find the link on there.

We now have a modern colour photocopier!

Our library opening hours survey is now closed. Customer feedback asked that we keep the hours the same as they are. Thank you to all those who participated.

We have stocked a variety of new children's picture books "that explore emotions and feelings, and how to deal with them". Some are humorous: "My Big Shouting Day", "The Mood Hoover", and "Olive and the Bad Mood" and some more direct: "Smile Cry" and "Today I Feel.....An Alphabet of Feelings".

Adam Millen visited our library and read his story "Jack Feels Big". Jack dealt with the feelings of being overwhelmed, of persisting, of being frustrated, brave and lonely. His sequel will feature female character, Sophie!

"In three words I can sum up everything I've learned in life: it goes on" Robert Frost.

Happy reading,
Charlie and Vincenza



Taranaki Christkindl Christmas Market

27th August 4pm-8pm
Stony River Hotel Okato

Stony River Hotel is presenting our first traditional European Christkindl Christmas Market.

Together with 20 exhibitors from our region we have created an authentic European Christmas market atmosphere for the whole family.

Austrian chef Heimo Staudinger has prepared a smorgasbord of traditional Christmas market foods.

Enjoy a warming mulled wine or children's punch and wander through the lit-up stalls decorated traditionally.

This event is weather dependent, please check our Facebook event page for updates.

4:30pm Father Christmas will arrive with surprises.

5:30pm Visit children's book author Lesley Dowding in her tent for a Christmas story.



Christmas comes early in Okato

I am excited to announce Taranaki's first traditional European Christkindl Christmas Market has been planned.

Stony River Hotel and Ringcraft Moana have been discussing the idea for some time, wanting to bring a traditional Christmas market to Taranaki. For all who would like to know how a white Christmas feels like in the northern hemisphere - the smell of cinnamon, pine trees, wandering through the lit-up stalls in the dark while warming your hands on a hot cup of mulled wine, Taranaki can experience it this year.

We have 20 stalls confirmed with Stony River Hotel and they all will fill up their beer garden/ backyard. Austrian Chef Heimo is planning a great variety of Christmas market foods while another team has been sourcing the decorations for all of the stalls with the great help of many local businesses - it's all go.

We are hoping it will become an annual event and that it will grow and we can extend it to its full capacity of 50 stalls (and the ice-ring I am hoping for) in the coming years!

There is plenty of parking available.

Because it is an outdoor event, it will be weather dependent and announced on our Facebook page before if it should not happen due to high winds.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/395777644151538/>

This event is for young and old and free!

Raffle tickets for a big Christmas basket are available and half will go to the Taranaki Retreat as donation.

Renate has already transformed the Stony hotel into an Austrian Christmas retreat.

Belinda Lubkohl-Young
Ringcraft Moana

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

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Asian Fusion Restaurant

Omata Yoga

Over a year ago I started Iyengar Yoga teacher training as I have been practising Iyengar Yoga for over a decade. The Iyengar method of yoga was brought to the west by B.K.S. Iyengar. It has a real focus on attention to detail and precision of body alignment in each asana or pose. "Props" such as block, straps, blankets, bolsters and chairs are used to help facilitate safe yoga practice for everyone including beginners, the elderly or those with health concerns, so everyone can benefit from the positive outcomes of yoga, being overall physical and mental wellbeing.

The teacher training I am undertaking is very extensive, with numerous levels of certification that take many years to accomplish - basically it is a life long learning commitment. I still have another year before I can take the exam for my first level!

In order to even qualify as a student I had to do at least two classes a week with a certified Iyengar teacher for a minimum of two years. Tria Peters with Taranaki Yoga is the only certified teacher that I am aware of in all of Taranaki and she is amazing! I have been going to her on and off for 10 years now so she suggested a few teacher trainers for certification. I chose Suzi Carson from 4 Winds Yoga in Ponsonby, Auckland.

Currently I have training pods and lots of anatomy and physiology papers to write. I have to learn to pronounce (in Sanskrit), teach and demonstrate just under 70 poses for my first exam. I will have two hours to correctly do all the poses. I will then have to teach a group of students, in front of a group

of senior teachers who will be assessing me. I have experience teaching teenagers right through to seniors, and I am now offering classes locally for neighbours.

Since I started my training I have been teaching yoga as well. I started by volunteering to help troubled youth in New Plymouth. I focused on making yoga fun and taught them meditation and relaxation to help cope with stress, depression and anger management issues. I will be continuing with this again in term three.

I am also teaching gentle yoga with seniors at Summerset Mountain Retirement Village, as well as two classes on a Monday evenings in Inglewood for all ages at the Rotary House AND NOW I am starting two classes on Wednesday evenings in the Community Hall at Omata.

Yoga Classes

Wednesday evenings

5.15 - 6.45pm AND 6.45 - 8.15pm

Starting Wednesday August 2nd 2017

Omata Community Hall

\$15 per class casual rate, \$80 for 6 class sessions

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Te Putahi Kura Pūhou o Taranaki

TARANAKI ARTS FESTIVAL 17 AUGUST - 3 SEPTEMBER 2017

www.artsfest.co.nz

Star-studded acts from around the globe are heading to town for the dazzling and enchanting Taranaki Arts Festival. We caught up with TAFT Chief Executive Suzanne Porter to get the inside scoop on the top shows.

The wait is almost over.

The curtain is ready to rise on the beloved Taranaki Arts Festival, which kicks off later this month.

The 2017 festival boasts a colourful line-up of 44 acts in 13 different venues, including comedian Ben Hurley in the Oakura Town Hall.

TAFT Chief Executive Suzanne Porter says the people of Taranaki are spoiled for choice this year.

The star-studded programme is made up of award-winning cabaret, comedy, theatre, dance, music, and even a mind-bending laser show.



VELVET

"We've managed to bring some star-studded acts to Taranaki, proving that just because we are in the provinces, doesn't mean we can't have the best of the best," Porter says.

While every show is bound to be a hit, Porter says there's some that are absolute must-sees.

"It's hard to narrow down a list of top picks, but I don't think you can go past the glamour of *VELVET*, the nostalgia of *Hudson & Halls*, the charm of *Dirt And Other Delicious Ingredients*, or the excitement of *Sirqus Alfon*."

Porter says the headlining show *VELVET* is filled with glitz and glamour and stars the Queen of Pop Marcia Hines.

"It has everything you are after; great music, sparkling costumes, excellent dancing, acrobatics and eye candy. It's pure entertainment at its finest."

While *VELVET* offers glamour, Porter says *Hudson and Halls Live!* is simmering with hilarity and nostalgia.



HUDSON & HALLS LIVE!

"Audiences just love this show.

"And how could you not? It is fun, it's flamboyant and it's a slice of New Zealand entertainment history. Hudson and Halls were known for their outrageous chemistry and camp comedy and this live show is no different. It's a hoot!"

For families with children, or grandchildren, Porter recommends the playful theatre and dance number *Dirt and Other Delicious Ingredients*.

"*Dirt* and *Sirqus Alfon* are two of the shows I am taking children to - *Dirt* because it's a charming wee show, and *Sirqus Alfon* because it's exciting and has lasers and the older kids will love that. I'll love that too," she says.

"In fact, there are a number of children's shows in this year's line-up that will genuinely appeal to adults too, so don't overlook those gems."

Porter says another highlight of the festival will be the new spiegel tent - the Staples Rodway Crystal Palace.

Located on the landing of Puke Ariki, the enchanting Crystal Palace is a travelling performance venue made up of 3000 pieces.

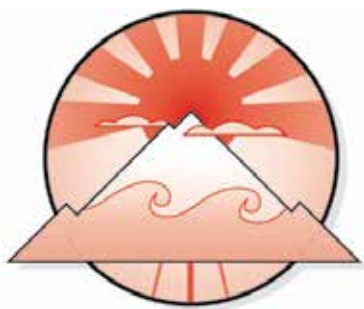
Based on the Belgium designed spiegel tents of the 19th century, the Crystal Palace is brushed with hints of Kiwiana culture.

"You won't want to miss seeing inside this beautiful venue, so come and enjoy one of the many fantastic shows," Porter says.



SIRQUS ALFON – I AM SOMEBODY

• The Taranaki Arts Festival runs from August 17 to 19. For more information or to book tickets visit www.artsfest.co.nz or any Ticketek outlet.



Oakura School

Year 5 & 6 Sport Successes

The year 5 & 6 team have been heavily involved in sport over term 2 and have been very successful.

Oakura School had a large team of sports players who were coached by Rod McQuaig - rugby, Jaynie McSweeney and Megan Holmes - netball, Michael Connelly and Stefan Kiss - football, and a basketball team organised by Megan Culver, and a chess team supervised by Karl Quinn in the annual winter sports interschool competition. The teams played against St Joseph's Catholic School, Frankley School, St John Bosco School and Coastal School.

All students played demonstrating our school values with displays of respect and excellent sportsmanship, perseverance, honesty and integrity. Our students are supportive and skilful sports players. Early in term three the rugby and football team will be playing in the semi-finals of the interschool. We wish the students all the best.

The other great success students in year 5 & 6 have had is in

the Rippa Rugby tournament. They won the Central School's competition, then the Taranaki Competition and are now going to be playing in a national tournament in Wellington next term. Mike Van Prehn has coached this team through to its high level of success.

Earlier in term 2 we also had a group of year 5 & 6 students compete in a surfing competition with tenacity and skill.

Puanga

Our students celebrated the coming of the Māori New Year by having an afternoon making kites and lanterns with their buddy classes. It was great to see these being flown and hung around our school, blowing in the winter breeze. These are traditional things to do as the winter comes. Students have learnt about the new year and constellation of Puanga, developing knowledge about the legend of these stars and what traditionally happens at Puanga, such as harvesting vegetables and going indoors for a period of learning and story telling.

Amy Parr (age 12), Ella Coates (age 12), Holly Stoddart (age 12) and Lily Stoddart (age 12)

Brodie and Ryan making a lantern



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Greetings to our Coastal, Oakura and Omata Communities

From our school ball at the end of week 1 to our PTA winter gala in term 2 was a busy and exciting term; winter sport, field trips, vocational course and career experiences both within and outside school, Oratory and Mooting Competitions, student led community fundraising for World Vision, Rockquest Music Competition, Special Olympics, NCEA Seminars for students and parents, IDP meetings and Report Evenings - it has been all go. Special thanks to our hard working staff who planned, organised and led this huge array of learning experiences for our students.

We are pleased with the progress students are making toward their NCEA and JCEA qualifications. The partnership approach that we take with students and their families leads students to take high levels of responsibility for their learning and achievement, they know where they are at with their learning and what next steps they need to achieve their best.

PTA Winter Gala

We had a very successful gala thanks to a hard working committed group of PTA members, a willing and enthusiastic staff, a generous business community and our supportive local community who attended the gala and participated in the fun and spirit of the unity building event.

Significant funds were raised for the purchase of a quality mobile sound system that we can use for outside sport and cultural events.

Spotswood College students, staff, Parent Teacher Association, and Board of Trustees wish to thank our wider community for their wonderful support and contribution to our winter gala. We wish to acknowledge the generosity of businesses and organisations who helped our school.

Mooting Competition

Congratulations to the 2017 Spotswood College Mooting team who qualified for the semi-finals of the Waikato University, Faculty of Law Secondary Schools' Mooting Competition.

The event was held on Friday, 23 June at the Moot Court, Waikato University School of Law, Hamilton. Spotswood College was one of eight secondary schools to reach the semi-finals.

The 2017 Spotswood Mooting Team members are: Reihana Conaglen Year 13, Katie Pullen Year 12, Larissa Wilkinson Year 11

These students are to be commended on their hard work and perseverance in preparing a legal case for delivery in front of court judges.

A very special thanks also needs to go to AULD BREWER MAZENGARB & McEWEN whose Associate Philip McCarthy tirelessly mentored our team to reach their current success. Solicitor Sean Maskill also travelled to Hamilton for the semi-finals to offer support to our team. Each year Philip, Sean and their law firm have been instrumental in enabling our school to participate in this prestigious event.

Open Night – Thursday August 10 at 7.00 pm

We wish to invite Year 7 & 8 students and their families to attend our open night in our school hall on Thursday August 10 at 7.00 pm. The open night will be an opportunity for students and parents to find out about our school, to meet teachers, to have a tour of our school and to gain an overview of who we are as a school and what we can offer your child for 2018 and beyond. Should you have any queries regarding enrolments for 2018 please contact us through our school office, visit our website or come in and meet with us.

August

- 6 TSSSA 8 Ball
- 7 OPEN NIGHT - Early closure
- 8 Careers Expo - Open Day
- 9 Careers Expo - Schools
- 10 WhyOra Whanau Hui
- 11 TSSSA Gymnastics
- Putaiiao Science Expo Year 9 & 10
- 18 Putaiiao Science Expo Year 9 & 10
- 19 TSSSA Netball
- 20 TSSSA Cross Fit
- 25 BOT Meeting
- 25 Waikato Ski & Board Comp @ Turoa

September

- 1 Te Kahui Whetu - Staff Kapa Haka Performance
- Victoria Open Day - Wellington
- 4 EXAM WEEK and Senior Homeroom Completion
- NZSSSC Winter Tournament week
- 17 TSSSA Table Tennis
- 18 NISSSC Ski Comp @ Turoa 18-20
- 19 TSSA Rugby League
- 20 NISSSC Board Comp @ Tuora 25-27
- 21 TSSSA Junior Volleyball
- 29 END OF TERM 3

Thank you for your ongoing support of our students and our school.

Nga Mibi Maioha

Mark Bowden Principal (featuring below)





August

- 1 BOT Meeting
- 11 Year 7/8 Chess Tournament
- 16-17 3D conferences

September

- 5 BOT Meeting
- 7 Year 1-4 Junior Cross Country
- 8 Year 5-8 Senior Cross Country
- 12 Coastal Cross Country Years 4-6
- 14 Full Primary Years 7-8 Cross Country

Whanau Lunch

On Friday the 30th June, Omata School held its whānau lunch. This was a chance for parents and family to share some kai with the children, to have a look at all the wonderful learning that is happening, and as a fundraiser for the Omata Orchard.

A huge number of whānau turned out and there was a wonderful lunchtime feel to the school. The children had been designing and making garden art prior to the day and these were put on sale. Many thanks to all the parents who helped out, with special mention going to Ann Shearer for organising all the pizzas. Many thanks.



Student Writing

A poem by Eden Hill (Year 8), all about the Tawa tree in the Omata bush that came down.

*Do you remember that Tawa,
It stood tall when the battle took place next door,
When the soldiers landed in Gallipoli,
When the first shot was fired,
Fast forward in time a bit,
When the track was yet to be cleared,
Where the kids would meet up,
Then it happened,
At first it didn't look like anything just like an extra bit of colour,
But it was sap sucking, deadly Lemon honey cap fungus,
The fungi ate away at the Tawa, like kids eating lollies,
It fought with all its might,
It only had a few years left to live,
8 Years later...*

CRACKKKKKK!!!!

*It fell, its roots gave way when a storm hit,
It laid lifeless at the bottom of the bush,
No swaying branches or leaves,
No tasseling sounds when the breeze blew,
Now it just sits there, all chopped up,
Unaware the kids remember it.*

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Marae Visit

On Wednesday the 21st June, Omata School spent the day at the Oakura Marae. The day started very early for some, with the hangi preparations getting underway at 5.30am. A huge thank-you to Wayne and Jake Berridge, who not only supplied the firewood, but who were also down at the marae getting the fire going and helping to lay the hangi. The children had a wonderful day and got to experience a pōwhiri, they learnt new waiata, completed art using kowhaiwhai patterns and learnt how to use the poi and perform the haka. Under the watchful eye of Dave Hare, the hangi was cooked to perfection, with not a complaint heard. Many thanks to the Oakura Marae, to Dave Hare and his team of tutors and to all the parents who supplied transport and supervision.



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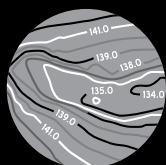
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Winter finally arrived with a force just to remind everyone we do have a winter. Traditionally a quiet time for surfing there has been plenty of great waves and settled weather for those that can fit some time in before dark on these short days.

Some great snow finally - we'll just have to wait and see how long it hangs around locally for but the school holidays had some good days unless you were stuck somewhere in between. I got caught in Auckland airport at the height of the bad weather and there were some pretty frustrated parents and some very tired kids! Flight cancellations are not a pleasant way to spend your time.

The New Plymouth Surfriders are running the super 8 series again this winter with the first contest being held in early July. Freezing conditions and small waves at Fitzroy but even so a good turn out with a few young surfers showing how keen they still are even in the middle of winter.

Results were Daniel Farr taking out the Open and U18 finals, Pip Ngaia the over 45s, Natasha Gouldsbury the women's and Jarrod Hancox taking out the over 28s. Stay tuned to facebook for event 2, coming soon.

Paige Hareb is presently in California awaiting her next event at Oceanside. Her last contest in Mexico didn't get her the result she was wanting so we are wishing her luck for her upcoming events. Paige has just spent a few weeks in Lakey Peak in Sumbawa, Indonesia. Some good training and warm weather setting her up for the next few months and you can read all about it here..

<http://www.surfersvillage.com/content/travel-stories-paige-harebs-learning-curve-lakey-peak-0>

Being that time of year when you either hit the snow or head overseas chasing some warmer weather if you are lucky enough has seen a lot of members already doing boat trips in Indonesia, the Maldives and Mexico to name a few hopefully we can extract some printable stories in the near future.

Remember 'The Oakura Boardriders' AGM will be held in August, all welcome, if you want to be involved step forward we are always welcoming of new members, both on the committee and to the club in general.

Brent Anderson, OakuraBoardriders.
President: Luke Florence; 06 7527889
Secretary: Paul Lobb ; 06 75 27556

left image Matt Peacock paddleboard foiling off Weld Road and below Brian Clarke in Indonesia



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