



# TDM

OAKURA

JUNE 2019

*Oakuura School is welcomed onto Oakura Marae with a powhiri*

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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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0800 843 866

027 4126117

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

## Coastal connections morning talk

### Coffee and Chat dates

The weekly Thursday morning coffee and chat at the Oakura Surf Club. It is always interesting to meet new people and share stories with members from the community. Please feel free to contact me for further details.

**Tracey Lusk, p 752 7875 / 027 636 8060**



## From the Editor



TOM welcomes a new columnist to this issue. Louise James shares her opinions with readers on issues that affect us all and she always gets to the kernel of the issue - see page 5.

I must say the issue Louise discusses - freedom camping - gets me hot under the collar on every level. I personally think the Council has lost the plot on

this one regardless of whether central government is giving out funding. We have facilities for camping and other seaside areas should be preserved for seaside activities that doesn't involve tourists free loading.

Isn't it great to have the warmer weather lingering longer this year though I don't suppose that situation helps deter free loaders!

Hope you are all keeping the flue and colds at bay - I sit here with a splitting headache and a dripping nose wishing to be well again!

*Kim*



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# Robbie a national winner

Congratulations to Robbie White of New Plymouth Boys' High School and formerly of Oakura School on winning the National Final of the Race Unity Speech Awards.

Year 11 student Robbie won with his eloquent and potent speech about how true leaders bring people together in unity.

The Speech Awards are a platform for senior high school students to express their ideas on how we can improve race relations in Aotearoa. The Hui featured a panel discussion between journalist Lynda Chanwai-Earle, lawyer Kingi Snelgar and communications specialist Mehpara Khan, small group discussions and in-depth workshops with artists and thinkers.

This was followed by the National Final of the Race Unity Speech Awards, featuring the top six speakers from among the 150 who made speeches this year from around the country.

Here is a excerpt of Robbie's speech:

"Up, down, out and within, the tui weaves the nest. The nest of 'he tangata', the nest of the people. Humans woven together, united, regardless of where they come from, their individual beliefs or the colour of their skin.

Without the feathers the bird (the Tui) cannot fly."

Well done Robbie, a fine display of eloquence and a well thought out script. You can listen to Robbie's speech on the Aotearoa Race Unity Facebook page.



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# MNZM for Fay

Local long time resident, former Kaitake Community Board member and acclaimed photographer Fay Looney recently became a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit at Government House. Fay was presented with her medal by Dame Patsy Reddy Governor General. The MNZM was received for services to art particularly photography.

TOM asked Fay to tell us a bit about herself and what it meant to receive this award.

## How long have you lived in Oakura?

I have spent 77 summers and Xmas's in Oakura. We camped for as long as summer lasted often into February and March, originally in Shearers paddock. I remember Mr Press the honey man who lived there. We moved onto campsite No 1 opposite Jans store for a couple of years then up to Mace Terrace. Before it was Mace Terrace it was a hay paddock where dad built the first bach in that area out of refrigeration cases. Subsequently we spent every summer and most weekends at the beach.

I married Harry in 1959 and moved to Koru Rd where I am lucky enough to still live albeit sadly without him now. Our family are two children, five grandchildren and two great grand children.

## How long have you been a photographer?

Since the mid 70's

## Why did you take up a camera?

I applied for a job selling school photography which turned into a career behind the lens.

## What do you enjoy about photography?

Everything, particularly the amazing places its taken me and the incredible people I have met through my lens.

## What gear do you use?

Nowdays a mirrorless camera.

## How many books/prints etc have you published?

I have been published six times with sales of over 60,000 New Zealand landscape books, plus self publishing 6000 copies of "Taranaki Be here be Surprised" in five different volumes.

## What is the best photograph you've ever taken?

The next one I would like to think! I have been rewarded a number of times for my works, they all mean something special.

## Most difficult?

Can't honestly think of one that I would call difficult. Maybe now I'm about to turn 80 - the next one!



## What does receiving a gong mean to you?

It means I'm incredibly honoured and humbled by the honour. Still very surprised.

## Will you ever stop being a photographer?

Not likely I see images everyday that I live in this wonderful landscape.



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# The Big Red Truck

Last month we talked about 4 of our crew taking on the Skytower Challenge, 51 floors wearing 25kg of firefighting gear. Our team are now back with many a tale of victory and ever increasing heroics (must have been the lack of oxygen in the tower). We are proud of each member that took part, it took a lot of training and nervous visits to the toilet leading up to the event but some great times were posted.

Fergus “two steps” Robertson completed his climb in 12.27, Ross “the imposter” Bennett 16.03, Mark “The time lord” Town registered a time of 16.10 but we know that unofficially he was faster. The big winner on the day was Lizzie Beveridge who climbed her way to 1st place in her category age with a seriously quick 15.06, she was also 2nd woman overall in the donned category.

We would like to thank the community and friends that supported the team with donations, we were really proud to be able to raise \$4367.80 for Leukaemia and Blood Cancer New Zealand. With the whole event raising 1.3 million, it makes all the huffing and puffing worthwhile!

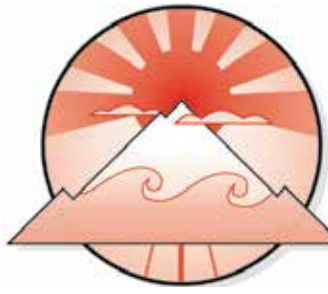
Stay safe! The crew from the big red truck.

*Pictured above right: A hot but happy team at the top of the Skytower.*

*Pictured right: Left to right: Fergus Robertson, Lizzie Beveridge, Ross Bennett, Mark Town, Sheldon Pritchard (broken legged mascot)*







# Oakura School

## Our Hands Are Up

Oh, the opportunities we, the senior children of Oakura School, have been presented with, starting with the recently held, brilliant Marae Day.

It may have been cold but it was a beautiful day and the walk down to our local marae was a great experience, as we got to walk with our junior buddies who had never been before. After putting our bags down, we gathered with the boys on the outside, as this is a customary tradition when being welcomed onto Okorotua Marae. Some students had been welcomed onto the marae before, so that they could learn how to do a powhiri (welcoming ceremony).

We got to hongi with the tangata whenua and sing some waiata as a school. Afterwards, we split into groups and participated in some traditional activities. We learnt a haka called 'Ka Mate', we sang waiata, a lovely song, Tuku Tuku Roimata E, as well as learning actions. We split into separate groups of boys and girls and went to either a poi lesson or rakau lesson. The girls went to the poi and learnt calls, a new song and how to swing a poi correctly. The boys went into the wharenuī for a session on rakau, which is a Māori stick game, during this period we paired off with our buddies and each got a pair of sticks (rolled magazines).

It was challenging, but we somehow managed to keep in time with the music, whilst keeping our buddies focused. Soon after, the hangi was lifted by some adult helpers and it was time for lunch. Sadly, we did get a little wet on the way back to school, but we think we can speak for all students when we say we had a really good time.

The very next day, our year 7 and 8 students went, as they do every Friday, to Technicraft at Devon Intermediate School.

Currently our students are going to Metal, Digital, Cooking and Wood Technologies. At the moment the pupils learning Metal are making candle holders, designing the shape themselves and learning how to use different tools and materials effectively and efficiently. Over in the Digital Technology room, the other group of year 8's have been learning with Mrs Brookes about computing and coding. Our first group of year 7's are in cooking technology and they are learning how to bake tasty cakes and have recently done a test during which they could make cakes or muffins of their choice. Last but certainly not least, the students in Wood



are creating wooden boxes. They will probably use these as pencil cases or stationery containers, but before they take them home they must design, build and paint a unique lid to protect and cover the contents of their boxes. By the end of the term we will see some great creations ready to be shared.

All in all this term has had a busy but satisfying beginning. The students are settled in, and we think if we asked anyone they would say that this is only the start. All hands are up to solve the next round of questions and problems. We are all ready to have an outstanding term.

*Catherine Rielly-Leadbetter (12) and Jaeden Rasmussen (12)*



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June

5 Y1-6 NZ Playhouse Show 'Tortoise and the Hare'

14 Y5/6 Interschool vs TPKMIR

21 Y5/6 Interschool vs Lepperton

July

5 Music Assembly 9am

Term 2 ends 3pm

22 Term 3 begins

### Home and School News

It is always exciting to meet up with all the new faces around school. We met some of the new families at the Information Evening sausage sizzle that the Home & School arranged and we are thankful for the support this received. Last term we said goodbye to Ann Shearer as the main driving force behind the Friday lunches. Ann was amazing to run these on a weekly basis for nearly 6 years and we thank her and wish her luck with her new job.

We are still looking for volunteers to help run the lunches, which at present are being organised by the R6 fundraising group. If you are interested or have suggestions for how to move forward in this area, have capacity to run one of the lunches, or just want more information please contact the school office or myself. This has been our main fundraiser, so will effect the funds we are able to contribute to the school.

### Sophie Fleming

Thanks Ann for our wonderful lunches!

### PCT Police Challenge

Last week, Omata School entered six teams in the PCT Police Obstacle Course held at the TSB Stadium.

The students enjoyed a wonderful day participating in a challenging course, focusing on teamwork and commitment. Well done to the team of Vaydim Noonan, Aliana Scholey, Charnee Julian and Cooper James who finished 3rd out of 53 teams.

A special congratulations to another of our teams, consisting of Sam Pattison, Boyd Timanus, Charlotte Butler and Melissa Berridge, who were identified as having exemplary team spirit and co-operation, and received the sportsmanship award.

### Karen Brisco Principal



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School Trustee Elections are coming up. Nomination forms have been sent in the mail (as per legislative requirement). Please contact the school if you would like a nomination form. You can nominate yourself or someone else. [admin@spotswoodcollege.school.nz](mailto:admin@spotswoodcollege.school.nz) 06 7512416

Please contact the school if you would like more information on the election and becoming a trustee.

## Students At The Centre Of Learning

### Sheila Winn

A huge congratulations to our Sheila Winn performers who won the regional event for their 15 minute rendition of Romeo and Juliet in true 1960s style. They are off to the Nationals in Wellington during the weekend of Queens Birthday. As part of their fundraising efforts they held an event at the 4th Wall Theatre performing their winning production.

## Expert Partnerships

Spotswood College Expert Partnerships is an online platform aimed at connecting our young people with corporate volunteers and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Technology and Mathematical) experts.

To connect, strengthen, and inspire the young people of our learning community we need expert voices in their space connecting them with a real-world context.

Expert partners get to choose from a range of voluntary options that can be tailored to suit your availability, while growing authentic partnerships and increased engagement and excitement into your industry.

NB: All volunteers are required to be police vetted.

## Community At The Heart Of Who We Are

### Community Connect Courses



### Chopper Appeal

Senior students recently canvassed the streets of New Plymouth collecting donations for the annual chopper rescue appeal.

Proudly connecting and strengthening our community.

### School Tool Boxes

School Tool Boxes are popping up around our region thanks to the collaboration of one of our Learning Advisory groups. The

intent is to collate surplus school supplies and share these resources with those most in need!

## School Hangi

Te Reo Maori students held a hangi fundraising effort to support their fellow students with Sheila Winn and their upcoming events. Preparing and cooking delicious hangi.

## RSA

Students and staff supporting our community RSA commemoration events - ANZAC Day Ceremony New Plymouth 2019.

Lest we forget

## PTA

Every year this dedicated group of parents and staff collaborate together on some great fundraising ventures to help ensure Spotswood College is well resourced. This teams effort is highly valued and we welcome new members to join this group on Wednesday May 15th 7.00pm in the school staffroom.

## Global Citizenship

### School Ball

The red carpet was rolled out as year 12 and 13 students attended a night in Paris at their annual school ball. This was a magical night for all that attended with our young men and women mesmerising the onlookers as they stepped out in suits, glam and glitter. A special thank you to the Ball Committee 2019.

## Students From Spain

Over the last couple of weeks Spotswood College has been hosting students from Spain. These young people have taken part in classes, co-curricular activities and social events. Such exchanges always bring great cultural enrichment to our learning community.

## PM Visits NP

Year 13 student and Youth MP for the Labour Party, Ethan Griffiths met with the PM Jacinda Ardern on climate change, future focused education, equity and excellence for our region.



*Nicola Ngarewa Principal*



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#### Club Championships

The pairing of Bruce Jackson and Andy Shearer won the fiercely contested and much coveted Collins Trophy. The competition was played over 3 days in a 2-4-2 format with the duo winning 6 from 7 games to claim back to back victories. Well done guys and thanks to all bowlers who participated in this great tournament.

#### Club News

The AGM for the Oakura Bowling and Social Club will take place at 1.30m on Sunday 23rd June. Club awards will follow the AGM along with prize giving, club acknowledgements and refreshments.

My highlights for the season would be the winning of Saturday interclub premier Trophy ensuring qualification to the Bill Smee Div 1 competition next year. Also retaining both the mid-week interclub Avery and Wanderers Cups was a fantastic effort with well-earned results. As club Captain it was promising and rewarding to see a number of Oakura bowlers participate and perform to a very high standard in the Bowls Taranaki Centre tournaments, interclub competitions and the Champion of Champions events.



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As this will be the last column for 2018/2019 season, thanks to all members that have assisted in the day to day running, green and administration of the club over the past year. A big thanks goes to the 2 amigos of Rod Smith and Mike Vickers who work tirelessly and continually throughout the year in maintaining the surrounds and clubrooms in such a magnificent condition. Also, all those members who donated their times and expertise in the upgrading of the clubrooms over the past year, the club membership owes you all a great depth of gratitude. Without the support of volunteers, such as yourselves, the club would not be in the fantastic position it is today.

The club also congratulates Bruce and Deb Jackson on their retirement from the daily grind of "post and parcels" and also

wishes them all the best on their next great life adventure.

The club is a tremendous asset for the wider Oakura community and everyone is welcome to come on down and enjoy the hospitality of the club on Friday evenings from 4.30 to 7.30 throughout the winter months. Who knows, we may even entice you to take up this great game.

*The Underarm Bowler*



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Its that time of year when surfers start thinking about a trip to warmer climes but at the time of writing the weather has been very mild and the water relatively warm so can't complain. Some are starting to shift their gaze to the mountains and others surf trips to the tropics locked in.

Congratulations go to Oakura's Tom Butland for being named in the New Zealand Junior team to compete at the ISA World Juniors later in the year - venue still to be announced. Natasha Gouldsbury is the other Taranaki surfer in the team so it is great to see these young people getting to represent their country.

Another Oakura Boardriders member to have success lately was Skyler McFetridge winning the U14 Girls division at the Jesus Classic held at Fitzroy beach in early May. A great result and confidence booster. The club puts a lot into coaching the kids but without great parental support this doesn't happen so its great to see the kids achieving success and chasing their dreams.

Paige Hareb surfed well in the last contest in Indonesia as did Richardo Christie. These two being on the world stage has brought a lot of interest and support to surfing in New Zealand with more interest in the world tour coverage and rumour has it that the TAB is getting patronised with a couple of club members doing well backing the winner of the last contest...Margaret River next up....

The Club held the annual Longboard contest in memory of Mike Christiansen and he must have been looking down as a fantastic day, great surf, big turn out and a lot of fun was had by all. 32 surfers competed and there was a lot of humour but there always has to be a winner and very close across the board was Tom Butland taking the win on a count back.

Results

1st Tom Butland

2nd Rick Christiansen

3rd= Brent Anderson

3rd= Sam Bound

***Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders, President; Luke Florence, 027 493 0819, or John Shewry 027 252 9190 with any queris***

***Pictured top right Skylar McFetridge at Stent Rd and also middle photo and bottom right Nate Florence***



# 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

**Body Transformer:** 2 x ladies group sessions at 6pm every Tuesday & Thursday evening from my home studio in Koru Rd, Oakura. 2 x 1 hour sessions at Oakura Hall 6am on Monday & Wednesday. Boxfit class 6am Friday morning. ph Joe on 021 110 1215

**Dancing in the Dark:** 1st & 3rd Tuesdays till November. Contact Glenys Farrant 0277530120

**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 Ranges Conservation Trust:** Contact Pete Morgan - morgpt@xtra.co.nz or phone 027 3725 182

**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 8.10pm 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 Sunday School - St James church:** Every 2nd and 4th Sunday 10am. Contact stjamesoakura@gmail.com

**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.

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

**Okato and District Historical Society:** Houses a large collection of local family histories and photos in the Okato Community Trust Hall, Cumming Street, Okato. Open to public every Wednesday 10 am to mid day or by appointment. Phone Anne Bolton 7524499 or Meg Cardiff 7524566.

**Okato Lions Club:** continues to have activities in Oakura, as well as Okato. Meet on the first Wednesday each month, except January, at the Hempton Hall, Okato at 7.00pm, and we do appreciate enquiries from people seeking membership or assistance for funding, projects etc. Contact John Hislop Ph 06 7579696

**Okato Squash:** Club nights on Mondays from 6.30pm, everyone welcome. Contact okatosquash1@gmail.com for further information.

**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.

**Pickleball Oakura:** Come along and give Pickleball a go. Oakura Hall Thursday mornings 9.30am and Wednesday evenings 7.30pm. Contact Elayne Kessler at ekesslernz@hotmail.com or ph 0279377173

**Probus Club:** Meets once month at Oakura Bowling club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Brenda Ryan ph 7511633.

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

**St Patrick's Church:** Cummings St, Okato, weekly Saturday evening Vigil Mass 6.00 pm

**Val Deakin Dance School:** Oakura Hall. and the Dance Centre in New Plymouth Phone 7527743 or email val@valdeakindance.org.nz



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