

TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

APRIL 2013

HE AIN'T HEAVY, HE'S MY TEAMMATE

A great turnout for Kaitake Rugby
Juniors this season.

More on page 6



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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
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**Do you have a story of local
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TOM dates to remember
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Copy and ads - 12th April
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E D I T O R I A L

Thank you so much to all the people who have shown their support for the TOM and its re-emergence – it's good to know I am part of a team.



One of the greatest things about the TOM is the preserving of life as it happens. Copies of the TOM are held in Puke Ariki and the National Library of New Zealand (Wellington) and also online on the TOM website. To me this is invaluable because we are only here on earth for such a short time and we have forgotten the art of storytelling whereby our past is passed on to future generations. In some small measure the small details of our lives as they are recorded in the TOM will be remembered, researched, laughed over, cried over, exclaimed over and appreciated one day when we maybe aren't here. So never think what you have to say isn't important!

As I write this our lovely summer has temporarily (I hope) disappeared as a light drizzle falls and clouds hang low. The drought has been the most talked about subject in conversations everywhere. The weather is considered one of the 'safe' topics of polite conversation but as the lack of rain tightens its grip on the country and province, it becomes less safe! People can't water their beloved gardens, farmers are losing income, rivers and lakes are drying up, the financial boffins in government are warning of a tightening in the economy and Australia keeps getting rain! It's hard to talk about without offending someone.

Best thing to happen this month: I went for a sail on the Spirit of New Zealand – it has only been into port here three times in its life. And rain!

Worst thing to happen this month: put my back out sneezing!

Kim

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Oakura Community Emergency Plan Committee

After two public meetings at the local Fire Station recently 'The Oakura Community Emergency Plan Committee' has begun the task of making our community a safer place to live and to formulate a plan that in the event of an emergency such as natural disaster will outline key personnel, their roles and the processes they will follow.

The Committee Members are:

Mike Pillette, *Chairperson*; Cathryn Buttimore, *Secretary*. Angela Harrison, Ray Priest, Jim Morwood, Paul Bishop, Helen Fleming, Doug Hislop, Antona Wagstaff, Jim Ward, Elaine Jamieson.

On 26 June 2012, the Council resolved to support the establishment of community emergency plans within the New Plymouth district and requested council officers to work with Civil Defence, emergency services and community groups as appropriate.

Currently, Civil Defence provides information through programmes and plans such as:

Get Ready Get Thru (for households).

What's the Plan Stan? (for schools).

Risk Management and Business Continuity Plans (at work).

A report produced in 2010 'Emergency Preparedness/Awareness Survey and Focus Group' which sets out the findings from a survey conducted by Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management, into public awareness of, and readiness for, civil emergencies, found that Taranaki residents appreciate it is very important to be prepared for a disaster, however, only 10% of the region confess to being fully prepared. Residents will rely more on their neighbours, friends and family to help them get through a disaster than on the emergency services, but many still expect other agencies will be available to give them assistance.

The meaning of civil defence, as defined in the CDEM Act 2002 (Section 4), is the application of knowledge, measures and practices that:

- i) are necessary or desirable for the safety of the public or property; and
- ii) are designed to guard against, prevent, reduce or overcome any hazard or harms or loss that may be associated with any emergency; and
- iii) includes, without limitation, the planning, organisation, co-ordination and implementation of those measures, knowledge and practices.

While Civil Defence is responsible for delivering emergency management functions, emergency readiness and community resilience is the responsibility of every individual and community within the region.

Community emergency plans encourage communities to plan how they can work together, before an emergency (by planning), during an emergency (by responding) and also consider ways they can cooperate with each other after the

event (through recovery). Working with neighbours can reduce stress and suffering, and ultimately save lives and property.

The planning process for creation of community emergency plans will produce:

- an understanding of roles in response and recovery.
- a strengthening of emergency management networks.
- improved community awareness and participation.

A simple and flexible community emergency plan developed and owned by the community.

The plan is an important step for us. We are very keen to get a plan in place because, as we all know, Oakura has had its share of emergencies over the last few years and while our local emergency Services have coped really well there is the potential for an event that could go beyond our local resources as they stand at the moment, and this is where the plan comes into play. Our first task is to explore what resources we have in our community and build a skill and equipment base to work with e.g. Skills such as medical, trade, pastoral care, catering, first responders etc. through to heavy equipment, generators, chainsaws, etc. we need you to enlighten us. Do you have a skill or equipment that would be useful in an event? Our second task is to look at various situations that may and will arise and how we can best deal with these scenarios, for example village evacuation or an event that isolates us from the rest of Taranaki. We want to empower our village with knowledge, preparation and unity. If you have a skill or equipment that you are willing to share in an event, then please contact the committee by email, oakuraCEP@gmail.com . OakuraCEP need your input.

Cathryn Buttimore



SOME DATES TO MARK IN YOUR DIARY:

Crackerjacks, preschool story time: Thursday 4th April 9:45am - 10:15am - no bookings required.

School holiday programme: Wednesday 1st May 10am-11am. We will be making "Kiss and 'stache photo props". Bookings essential.

We've received a multitude of new books. Catch up with the latest fiction from Ian Rankin, Quintin Jardine, Jojo Moyes and Zadie Smith. Best selling author Emma Donoghue author of *Room* has written a new book, *Astray*. We have both series by Nalini Singh and George Martin's *Game of Thrones* series. Plenty of good authors from across the ditch with Alison Booth, Kate Grenville and Rachael Treasure.

If you are stuck for a good read we can help. Just arrived! An assortment of beautiful gardening books: *Foliage*, *New Zealand Trees and Shrubs*, *Container Gardening Year-Round* and *Bromeliads*.

Looking forward to seeing you,

Charlie and Vincenza

Kaitake Community Board

The glorious summer weather has been with us forever and at time of writing this column appears to be continuing unabated except for a few showers that will do little more than dampen down the dust. Everyone has been out and about enjoying himself or herself in our superb environment but I am sure we all feel for the farming community who are all struggling to deal with this prolonged dry spell experienced since late December. The drought brings into focus how we all depend on, and often take for granted, our water supply. While the mountain attracts considerable rainfall it runs off and into the ocean quickly. Oakura is lucky to have access to an aquifer but a hose ban has been in place in Okato as the town's water source, the Mangatete Stream, dropped to a very low level. Taranaki has 286 river and stream catchments that flow to the sea but only 10 lakes larger than 8ha. With this lack of storage reservoirs and with the escalating water use required by local industry it is obvious long-term solutions are required. At a personal level I believe we can all do our bit to conserve water whenever possible – and not just in times of drought – to ensure sustainability of this very precious resource.

The pedestrian count on the Oakura Beach walkway continues to increase. There were 3,783 counted during February, over 750 more folk than the same period last year. And remember the counter doesn't record all those who decide to walk by way of the beach. In regards walkways the KCB is trying to progress (yet again) an upgrade to the Stony River walkway in Okato.

Under the chairmanship of KCB member Mike Pillette a group of locals has convened to draft up a Community Emergency Response Plan for Oakura and surrounds. All disasters have the potential to cause disruption, damage property and take lives. If there is widespread damage to roads, telephone links, power, buildings and property a community may need to be self-reliant for some time. Therefore it is important that there is a plan in place and the processes embedded in it are widely known throughout the community. The group is working closely with Civil Defence, Council and the Fire Service to ensure the developed plan is not only robust, but addresses the more local needs rather than duplicating emergency services that other organisations can provide.

The consultation with Okato locals about the design of the proposed playground on the old primary school site is proceeding smoothly due to the efforts of KCB member Teresa Goodin. Many practical suggestions are being generated as the community searches for the best ideas to incorporate in the playground and skatepark. Teresa is also managing the process of local input into the design of the festive lighting to be erected in the shopping area of Okato. Engaging locals in the process through a unique design competition demonstrates yet again the benefits of public engagement in any activity where outcomes can affect community well-being.

For the past two years the board has been endeavouring to get some shelter provided for passengers waiting to for a bus outside the Oakura Hall. This is mainly for the benefit of the large number of students waiting to catch a bus to their respective secondary schools. During inclement weather there is no available shelter and many students end up spending the day in damp clothes. If you want to see



Two solutions for a bus shelter outside Oakura Hall - Above: behind the footpath; below: attached to the hall frontage.



an example of the frenetic activity outside the hall in the morning (although not on a wet day) you can view a short clip here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ey_4wgl67ZM During wet weather many students sit in their parent's car until their bus arrives and this causes much congestion due to the limited parking available plus promoting the dangerous practice of sprinting across the highway in the rain to get on the bus. This is very much a work in progress with an outcome yet to be found that council, the KBC and the community would be happy with. However after reviewing its priorities for public transport infrastructure council has put forward a proposal to fund a bus shelter and have it erected before the winter sets in this year. The shelter would be to their standard specification and big enough to house the majority of the student bus people as required. It would not impinge on the limited parking spaces available outside the hall as it would be on road reserve land immediately behind the existing footpath.

Alternatively a different structure attached to the front of the hall could do far more to enhance the Oakura streetscape. Designing a different solution would provide the opportunity to represent Oakura Hall to the street much better and (perhaps) allow the forecourt area to become a shared space for community events in the future. It is likely this solution would cost twice as much as the proposed bus shelter. Our investigations show there is no funding available in the current budget to achieve this and the way forward would be to make a submission for funding to be included in next year's budget and/or seek alternative funding from elsewhere - neither of which can be guaranteed. The funding already earmarked for the standard shelter could not be transposed to this scenario and it would also mean there would be no available shelter this year.

Consequently the KCB seeks your opinion on which option to pursue. That is:

- 1 Do nothing, don't erect a shelter at all.
- 2 Proceed with the council funded solution and erect a standard shelter that would be available this winter.
- 3 Proceed with the more detailed, integrated proposal and be prepared to wait until funding has been secured.
- 4 Investigate other options that the community may suggest.

If you care to respond you can email your solution choice or suggestions to Kylee Hutton of the council's roading team at: huttonk@npdc.govt.nz or contact her directly by phone on 759 6060.

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

Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Teresa Goodin and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson who is the Council representative on the KCB.



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TOM Sports



Kaitake Golf Club

Golfers are enjoying this long dry spell and getting out early for a round of golf before the sun gets too hot. Kaitake Golf Course is looking good considering the lack of rain and thanks must go to the green staff and volunteers.

Another summer of twilight golf has come to an end and we would like to thank all the volunteers who make it possible, in particular, Marie Benton and Mike Jans. The success of this popular event is largely due to their valuable contribution as well as Jacqui in the office and Cathy the caterer.

Are you considering taking up golf? The Weekend Women organised a 'Come and Try day' and plan a second day one weekend soon. The 'Bring a Birdie' day is another opportunity for new golfers to try their hand at golf. The next day will be on April 14th. This is a fun competition starting at 10.00am. Please call Mary Pettigrew on 7583447 if you want to find out more.

PENNANT RESULTS

Kaitake are featuring well in all divisions of the Taranaki pennants.

Kaitake #1 team are leading the Men's Pennants with two games to go. Kaitake #2 are second in their division also with two games to play.

The Weekend Women's pennants team started well with a win against Taranaki Junior Girls in the first round at Westown. The next game will be at Te Ngutu.

The Mid-week women are in second equal place in the Midweek Women's Pennants after two wins and one loss.

MEN'S RESULTS

John Haylock defended his title and won the Summer Cup again this year. Noel Belcher was runner-up.

WOMEN'S RESULTS

The Weekend Women's Top Dog winners were Lois Agnew and Andrea Jarrold. The Ladies Trophy is now being competed for.

BOOK SALE

Over \$800 was raised from the Book Sale at Butlers over Anniversary Weekend to go towards the computerised card system. Thank you to everyone who donated books or came to purchase. We are planning another sale during the winter so watch out for notice of this.

COMING UP

The main focus for the Match Committee is to resurrect a regular Sunday competition once the pennants have finished. Watch out for more information about this.

More information on Kaitake Golf Club can be found on the website www.kaitakegolf.co.nz.

Andrea Jarrold, Club President

Welcome To Kaitake Junior Rugby!

The junior numbers have grown at the club in recent years and I'm pleased to say it's looking like another fantastic turnout of local kids for the upcoming rugby season. Kaitake junior rugby caters for a wide range of ages beginning with rippa rugby for under 6-7 year olds and tackle for 8-11 year olds.

Not only do we have a prime location at Corbett park we also pride ourselves on a safe, fun and family friendly environment. All of our coaches have undertaken certified coaching and safety courses and are committed to the kids having fun and being safe. We offer food and a drink to the kids after every game which creates a great after match atmosphere and fantastic club spirit.

This year we are privileged to have had sponsorship which has enabled us to create Kaitake junior rugby registration packs!! These will be given to the first 60 children who register with the club. They include: a ball, drink bottle, mouth guard, t- shirt and other goodies! So be in quick on registration days!

UPCOMING EVENTS

We will be holding several sessions to help gear up for the season, this will give the kids a taste of rugby and also help parents understand what's ahead for the season. Wednesday April 3rd - 5.15pm. We will get into our teams, meet the coaches and have our first practice for the year to get ready for opening tournaments on April 6th. Saturday April 6th (time to be decided).

Meet early at Corbett Park for our Milo little champions breakfast, give out free registration packs and wish everyone well as they head off to their game for the year and opening tournaments. This year's season will run from April 6th to August 3rd with no rugby on the middle weekends of the school holidays (no rugby April 27th and July 19th).

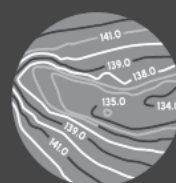
Cost of subscriptions for the year are outlined below - this covers jerseys, mouth guards, use of all equipment / facilities at the club, after matches, player of day awards etc.

- 1 player \$40
- 2 players (from the same family). \$60
- 3 players (from the same family). \$75

I would like to welcome back all existing families and say a big welcome to the new families joining our club this year. I look forward to another great season of junior rugby at Kaitake.

Finally a big thank you to our sponsors this year: Symons Group, HRV and AWE who have given us the opportunity to create registration packs for our players. This is something unique to Kaitake Rugby Club and I'm sure you will all agree will go down a treat with the kids! Any queries please contact - Lara Churchill

Lara.churchillread@gmail.com - 027 592 2320 / 752 1009.



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Hooking the Big Ones



TARANAKI KAYAK FISHING CLASSIC

March 2nd and 3rd saw the 7th kayak classic take place at Oakura Beach in Taranaki, and it turned out to be the best yet with 209 entries from all parts of NZ and even an entry from Melbourne.

The weather was good both days with just enough surf to make it interesting for some while paddling over the Tongaparutu River bar. Doing battle with the conditions is all part of the challenge of fishing in the Naki.

Once again some awesome snapper were weighed in with biggest going for 10.937 kg and lots over the magic 9kg mark.

This year we had Graeme and Sandy Sinclair and the Tradezone gone fishing team down to film the event. It was a pleasure having them and they proved very popular with the competitors and the large crowd gathered to watch the weigh in and fish auction. The show should go to air on TV3 in June.

This year 1.4tons of fish were weighed in over two days and the fish auction raised \$3450.00 for Coast Guard Taranaki and Legasea. It was a very happy Tim Taylor who received a nice cheque on behalf of Legasea, Tim also won the grand slam prize catching five of the eight species listed and took home a Go Pro camera for his efforts.

Prize giving saw a few hard luck stories of broken rods, upside down kayaks, and big snapper stories. Over \$30,000 worth of goodies were given out in cash and prizes, including a \$2000 Flight Centre voucher won by female angler Bianca Cous.

The Viking kayak ticket draw was won by Kevin Pilcher. Kevin also won a kayak at our first ever classic - lucky bugger.

A feature of this year's event was the number of tuna being weighed in. A couple of years ago every one was amazed when Steve Tapp weighed in the first ever tuna, now thanks to his articles in Fishing News, every second angler was weighing in a tuna, awesome.

The organisers would like to thank all the sponsors who helped make it a special event, with special thanks to Kirsty from Bite Tackle for all her help. Full results and photos can be found on our website - www.kayakfishingclassic.co.nz and on our Facebook page.

RESULTS

KINGFISH

Shannon
McMillan
8.260kg

SNAPPER

James Leslie
10.937kg

JOHN DORY

Andre
Greyvenstein
2.135kg

TREVALLY

Alan Blair
2.850kg

GURNARD

Fraser Carr
0.910kg

BLUE COD

Adrian Clarke
1.685kg

KAHAWAI

Peter Stevens
3.530kg

TUNA

Grant Montague
7.600kg



Above and below: a good haul for Jenny Willis including her first ever snapper.



Below: Graeme Sinclair and his team were a popular addition to the contest.





Oakura Boardriders

For competitive surfers it's been a busy month with the culmination of the Surfing Taranaki Arabac Micro Groms series; The Hyundai long board contest held at Fitzroy; the last of the Billabong Grom series held at Piha and the Oakura Boardriders Club champs held over the Taranaki Anniversary weekend and the Taranaki Intermediate Age Surfing Contest.

I'm sorry I haven't got final results from the intermediate school surfing but I believe we had a few finalists from Oakura which is encouraging to hear and shows our surfing training with Gary from Tarawave is paying off for the kids.

Contest surfing in NZ is struggling at present, especially for the open and senior surfers with only the Nationals and the Raglan Pro available for our top surfers who wish to compete. The financial climate has proved extremely challenging for those wishing to run events and consequently this has seen an exodus of a lot of good surfers from the competitive scene which has lowered the standard of competition in NZ and gives a distorted view of the level of surfing in NZ. The same few surfers dominating events due to smaller numbers competing is something NZ surfing needs to address if our hope for a Kiwi world champion is ever to be realised.

According to some statistics and I'm sure this is true with a lot of sports, kids taking up surfing and sticking with it is at an all time low throughout NZ beaches that have traditionally been great breeding grounds for our future champions. The options for kids spare time is vast and the cost of traipsing around the country to surfing contests is huge for families that don't have a lot of spare money and the time or the inclination to get the kids into a great healthy sport like surfing. Taranaki is one of the leading provinces really providing a lot of backing for our young surfers with Surfing Taranaki and boardriders clubs putting on plenty of events for the kids which we hope will provide us with future champions down the track. Big thanks to all the volunteers that give their time to make this happen.

The real challenge for our young NZ surfers is to get over to Australia and test themselves against the best competition.

The club champs was once again a success. Saturday gave the juniors great waves on the beach and "The Back of Stent" gave some great surf for the seniors.

A special mention must go out to all our sponsors who support us and make this a yearly success.

Some tough competition and a not always cooperating ocean saw some upsets and a couple

CLUB CHAMPS RESULTS 2013

U10 Boys

1. Harry Clegg
2. Koah Shewry
3. Simon Bond
4. Wilson Clegg

U12 Boys

1. Hamish Goodhue
2. Hayden Benton
- 3= Nick Holt
- 3= Henri Lehrke

U14 Boys

1. Hamish Goodhue
2. Timi TeUa

U16 Boys

1. Jack Davies
2. Timi TeUa

U18 Mens

1. Toby Brankin
2. Ben King
3. Jack Davies
4. Farrell Robertson.

Legends

1. Ton Deken
2. Gary Bruckner
3. Brent Anderson
4. Paul Lobb

Grandmasters

- Mike Hareb
Brent Anderson
Stu McKinnon
Crawf.

Open Mens

1. Manu Schafer
2. Hamish Christophers
3. Gary Bruckner
4. Ton Deken.

U12 Girls

1. Ariana Shewry
2. Skyler Ellington
3. Moana TeUa

U16 Girls

1. Ariana Shewry
2. Skyler Ellington
3. Moana TeUa
4. Eva Davies
5. Isabel Goodhue

Open Women

1. Rachel Schafer
2. Ariana Shewry
3. Eva Davies.

U10 Body Board

1. Harry Clegg
2. Wilson Clegg
- 3= George Lehrke
- 3= Simond Bond

U12 Body Board

1. Heydon Benton
- 2= Hamish Goodhue
- 2= Jason Bond
4. Riley Day
5. Nick Holt



U10 boys.

of the youngest girl competitors - Ariana Shrewy and Eva Davies who showed great courage to contest the Women's Open only to be confronted by one of the biggest sets of the day. Both however lived to compete again and no doubt have learned a thing or two about overcoming fear - great effort girls. The weekend also saw the crowning of two new champs and the first time a family has taken out the Men's and Women's open - congratulations to Manu and Rachel Schafer.

The weekend of April the 27th & 28th which is the middle of the school holidays will see a visit by the North Wai Boardrider's from Christchurch. Thirty five of their members are coming to Oakura for a weekend of competition and socialising so members please mark it on your calendar and come and support your club, hopefully for a competitive win !

Great to see Paige Hareb getting through the early rounds of the Margaret River Pro, let's hope she can keep progressing.

Easter will see the Surfing Festival with all the various contests, hope everyone gets out and supports them and we have some positive Oakura news from our surfers next issue of the TOM.

Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders.

President Philli Butt 75 27050.

Secretary Paul Lobb 75 27556.



Open Men's winner, Manu Schafer.



U12 boys.

U16 girls.



All smiles from the Ladies' Open winners, Eva Davies, Rachel Schafer and Ariana Shrewy.

Expanding to Cater for SME's in the Competitive Climate

Oakura business woman, Andrea Leadbetter, who owns TGM Design has appointed a Marketing Executive and opened up a new office in Auckland as the agency grows their PR and Communications team to expand their scope of delivering creative branding solutions.

Following high demand from SME's (small, medium businesses) in the competitive climate to offer a wider range of services under one roof, creating a cost effective overall marketing campaign, Andrea has made the jump and employed Rebecca Maxim, also based in Oakura, to support local businesses and showcase the opportunities available for their business.

Andrea said: "The last three months have been a bit of a whirlwind. We've taken on Rebecca and set up a new office in Auckland. It's great to see that people are finally appreciating the power of branding. The current economic climate has, for us, opened doors to people who are being forced to look at their business from a different perspective, looking at cost effective tools for promotion. Our results focused approach means that clients can rely on us to deliver great things and to budget, and this is being valued at the moment."

The expansion has enabled the agency to offer Social Media Seminars, with Rebecca using her past experience in PR, to help businesses get noticed online without the need for huge marketing budgets.

One local organisation keen to make the most of the online opportunities available is Oakura School, who called on TGM Design to support their up-coming gala event on 14th April. Anne Clough, Chairperson of FOOS (Friends of Oakura School), also attended the first in the series of seminars last month and said: "I have just had the best experience working with Rebecca, Andrea and TGM. We've learnt so much about Taranaki publicity and promotion ideas from the TGM team, and especially our dealing directly with Rebecca."

Rebecca joins the TGM Design team in New Plymouth from the UK where she was an Account Manager. As Marketing Executive, Rebecca will be getting involved in client accounts offering a range of services including consultancy, media relations, event management, and copywriting and will be offering expert advice at her monthly Social Media Seminar. To register your interest call 0800 TGMDESIGN or email rebecca@tgmdesign.co.nz.

Rebecca said: "When I heard about this position I knew it was for me. The agency is really ambitious and the Social Media Seminar is a great chance for me to use my experience and knowledge to help business owners who are struggling



Above:
Andrea
Leadbetter.

as customers reduce their spending and businesses cut back on marketing spend."

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Alpaca Cria-tion— As You Like It!

For lifestyle block owners wanting to breed alpacas one of the distinct advantages is that the breeder has a measure of control over the timing of arrival of new cria. It may not suit to have all the arrivals at once: better perhaps to spread the resulting work load over a longer period of time. For some, winter births won't fit in with off-the-farm work schedules: better for the arrivals to be in November.

The reason this is possible is that female alpacas are "induced ovulators". The alpaca does not "come into season" as sheep and cattle and dogs do. Instead, ovarian activity occurs constantly and the female is receptive. Mating then induces ovulation and everything changes! If fertilisation follows and the embryo implants in the uterus the female's behaviour is transformed: instead of being receptive the hembra rejects any advances by a macho and will spit in his face if she can! (this is the basis of the spit-off test for pregnancy).

Mating involves "orgling" by the macho, loud and repetitive grunting and snorting, which may continue for 45 minutes until satisfaction is achieved. The sound is important: evidently deaf female alpacas do not ovulate following mating. This is one reason why artificial insemination is not yet achievable.

Adding eleven months from the date of mating will give the date of cria-tion, give or take a fortnight or so. So you can see by timing the penning of the macho with the hembra, you can organise alpaca breeding around your schedule, rather than the other way round.

At alpacasRstyle we want the cria to arrive in the



Alpaca cria (babies).

summer months when the weather is kinder to them. Seven cria have been born since January this year and they have yet to experience drenching rainfall! Colour of their fleeces ranges from white, light fawn, dark fawn, through to chocolate brown. It is a delight to see them pranking around the paddocks like wee gazelles in the beautiful evenings we have all enjoyed recently.

We are holding an Open Farm on National Alpaca Day, Sunday 5 May 2013, 10am - 4pm and the public are welcome to come and see our latest arrivals, their mothers and older alpacas. We are happy to discuss all aspects of farming alpacas and there are always animals for sale.

by Neil Watson



**Widest range of alpacas
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in Taranaki**

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**Pet wethers, pregnant females, 3 in 1 packages. Phone to make an appointment to choose
680 HURFORD ROAD, OMATA, NEW PLYMOUTH (021)45 00 88 OR (06) 751 2096**

Sam and Rachel slugging it out in the peacefulness of Corbett Park.



HEALTH &

Who is the Fittest of them all?

Local fitness proponent Estelle Williams from Functional Fitness (exclusive to Oakura) has been championing the cause of looking good, feeling good and sounding good.

Over the last year or so Estelle has been steadily building up her clientele and you will often see her groups out training at Corbett Park or the Surf Club. The small groups are designed to increase aerobic fitness, strength and endurance. Along the way the women involved have found a whole new group of friends as well - training can be a very social occasion!

The sessions are run to a strict programme of warm ups, high intensity exercises including boxing (one of the most popular aspects of the sessions), a warm down and stretches. Then a fruit snack! The sessions are not long (approx 45mins) and each individual can work to their own level and injury status.

If this sounds like you - you want to get fitter, get slimmer, make new friends and have fun then contact Estelle.



Sam, Jules and Sarah.

Dips anyone?



**Aches and Pains?
Stressed and Tense?
Injuries that just wont heal?
Body/energy out of balance?**

MAYBE I CAN HELP!

Call now for an appointment and we can discuss your needs and work from there.

I work in both Oakura and Central New Plymouth.
Day and evening appointments available.

Call Kate 027 203 7215 or 752 7251



WELLBEING



Wednesday morning class - Sam, Rachel, Anne, Rachel, Nienke and Christine.

**Did you FILL up
your **FAT** cells
over the summer
season?**

**Need to EMPTY
them out???**

Come along and join me at my home in Oakura, where I train some terrific ladies, helping them achieve their health & fitness goals.

Enjoy individual attention or join a small group class which will be loads of fun.

Remember "if NOTHING changes, NOTHING changes"



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Wellbeing Class

Would you like to improve your energy levels, reduce your stress levels, improve your skin health and maybe reduce a dress size or two, while learning simple and effective methods to achieving balanced health. Join with Paula in the Emerge Wellbeing class. This is a support network and each week during the class I will share information on how to improve your wellbeing, taking things 1 step at a time, while going back to the basics. Overall wellbeing can be achieved with meaningful intentions that are right for you.

You will have an opportunity to have your body weight, measurements & analysis taken if this is something that you want to work on and Paula will continue to keep records of your progress. There will be nourishing wellbeing foods to try and a new wellbeing topic each week, with invited guest to increase your knowledge and access to wellbeing.

This is not just another "Weight Loss" class; this class will focus on what YOU need to achieve good health & Wellbeing

Time: Tuesdays 7pm – 8.30pm

Venue: Emerge Beauty & Wellbeing Store (1136b South Road, Oakura)

Cost: \$10per week (for 8 weeks) - Includes workbook

If you are interested in registering for this class please call the Wellbeing Store on 06 752 7690 or Day Spa 06 752 1374. Classes will commence when full so don't delay book your place today. Classes limited to 6 people.

Put an End to "YoYo"

Dieting ... Lose Weight and Keep it Off

A revolutionary weight loss program which aims to put an end to "yo yo" dieting for New Zealand women, has been launched by Curves New Plymouth. The programme, known as Curves Complete, aims to promote long term weight loss by boosting body metabolism, according to Gill Lambert from Curves New Plymouth.

"We want to end this pattern of women losing weight and then quickly gaining it back. Curves Complete is designed to help women lose weight and keep it off for the long term.

"There are many diet plans available which can help women lose weight but it's often at the expense of losing valuable muscle - which slows down metabolism and can contribute to a lifetime of 'yo-yo' dieting," Gill said.

Curves Complete takes a holistic approach, combining a scientifically proven 30 minute workout circuit at with one-on-one coaching and personalised meal plans.

"Most people who are serious about losing weight know that they won't get the results they want by just dieting. They also need to exercise and they need encouragement to stick to the plan. This is what Curves Complete can provide."

Gill said that many local women had achieved great weight loss results already, after trying Curves Complete. And the best thing is they are keeping the weight off, or even continuing to lose.

"We have one local lady lose 14 kilos in 12 weeks. She is over the moon and looking forward to keeping the weight off long term. Curves Complete has now become a lifestyle choice for her."

According to the Curves' Director of Exercise & Research, Katie Mitchell, Curves Complete is the culmination of years of research involving thousands of study participants.

"Ninety-five percent of dieters fail—or lose weight only to gain it all back—not because there's something wrong with them, but because there's something wrong with conventional diets. It takes a combination of three things: exercise, diet, and coaching, or motivation, to successfully lose weight as body fat rather than lean muscle and then keep it off."

"The beauty of Curves Complete is that it offers women a complete weight loss solution—exercise, meal plans, and coaching—in one convenient location and for about the same price as other weight loss companies charge for diet alone. This is an important step in the fight against the chronic obesity that plagues our society. Curves is proud to offer this revolutionary new weight loss programme and make it accessible and affordable for millions of women."

THE WHOLE SOLUTION THAT MAKES
**LOSING WEIGHT
EASY AS**

1 EXERCISE

The Curves 30 minute circuit gives you strength and cardio training.

2 MEAL PLAN

Tailored personal meal plan to fit your lifestyle.

3 COACHING

Your Curves Certified Coach helps you set goals and reach them.

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- ✓ Scientifically proven

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*Billed monthly, based on minimum 6 months. Total price over the 6 months is \$468.34. Valid at participating clubs only. Not valid with any other offer. Credit card/direct debit transaction fees may apply. © 2013 Curves International, Inc. Weight Loss programs take time and personal commitment to be effective and require professional advice on diet, exercise and lifestyle changes. Individual Results may vary.

Laura Jane Bowers
N.D., BSc(Hons) CompMed, Dip NZNFE, HVT, Bowen, Cert NFP

Registered Naturopath & Educator

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Investing in Our Future

After a long public discussion, one election, and two court cases, the Government's programme of offering New Zealanders a chance to buy shares in some of our biggest companies is underway.

This is an important policy, so it's worth going over some key points.

We all know that the Global Financial Crisis had a lot to do with debt – more debt than a lot of businesses, banks, and countries could handle. However we're doing better than many other countries, but even for New Zealand, over the next three years the Government's net debt will be about \$70 billion, up from \$10 billion four years ago. This debt growth can't continue.

But here's the problem. The growth in demand for public services is increasing. We need new assets including hospitals, 21st century schools, and irrigation projects, to name just a few.

OUR OPTIONS ARE:

We borrow that money overseas in volatile markets and add to our debt.

We cut billions of dollars from somewhere else to spend on hospitals and new schools.

We re-arrange our assets, just like households and businesses do, so we can release money from a partial sale of some of our big companies, and spend without borrowing.

Or, we do nothing about creating new assets.

The choice is obvious. The Government estimates that selling a minority stake in the energy companies would raise between \$5 billion and \$7 billion. That's just 3 per cent of all assets owned by taxpayers.

We'll only sell when market conditions are right, and we'll ensure that New Zealanders are front of the queue for shares. We're making it as easy as possible for Kiwis to register their interest, get access to information, and ultimately to apply for shares. We're confident that 85 to 90 per cent of the shares will be held by New Zealanders. This includes the 51 per cent stake the Government will keep to ensure it is the majority shareholder.

New Zealanders' savings have been increasing and they're telling us they want options other than housing and finance companies. We have around \$115 billion in bank deposits and more than two million Kiwis have amassed \$14 billion in their KiwiSaver funds.

Our share programme will also be good for the companies themselves. Greater transparency and oversight from public ownership will further focus the companies on ensuring their business is run effectively and efficiently. And they won't have to rely entirely on cash-strapped governments for new capital to grow.


This is a policy that makes sense and it's time to get on with it.

You can find out all you need to know about the share offers process at the Government Share Offers website: www.governmentshareoffers.govt.nz

PRE-PROSPECTUS DISCLAIMER

The Crown is considering offering shares to the public in one or more of the Mixed Ownership Model Companies. No money is currently being sought and no applications for shares will be accepted or money received until after an investment statement containing information about the relevant offer of shares is available.

Jonathan Young, MP for New Plymouth



Jonathan Young


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Cycle Skills Training - Let's Go Programme

All of the students from years 5-8 at Oakura School were lucky enough to have some well-trained cycling instructors from Let's Go come to teach us some very important cycle safety skills. The course ran from the 25 Feb – 8 March, with years 5-6 having two in-school sessions and years 7-8 going out on the roads.

The training started with a safety check on the tennis/net-ball courts with a few exercises and then we got to go out on to the streets of Oakura to practice the skills we had learnt. The programme aimed to teach us some useful bike safety skills, to recap on the basics and to mainly keep us safe on our roads. The skills we learnt may even be useful for the upcoming Weet-Bix Tryathlon.

This is the second year that Oakura School has been involved in the Let's Go programme. The Let's Go programme



Taylah Hudson performs a safety check on her bike.

encourages the students of Oakura School to find alternative ways to get to school instead of coming by car. We recently had a special Let's Go assembly with Penelope the pukeko mascot and Liz Beck the Lets Go coordinator attending. Our students with the highest number of car free trips to school were acknowledged. Well done to our top students who received a special award for their achievement.

By Tessa Keenan, age 12

Oakura Four Square has the Roast



Jo pops into the Four Square for a croissant and coffee - thanks Heather and Laura!



Laura Knox, Ozone trained barista ready to serve your coffee.

Oakura Splash!

There was a lot of fierce competition at the annual Oakura School Swimming Sports at Okato pool on Wednesday 13th of March. It was a fabulous way to end this year's swimming programme. Year 1-6 pupils have been receiving swimming instruction in the school pool each day while the year 7-8 pupils have been going into the Aquatic Centre in town for two sessions each week.

This year's event was different in that the year 3 events were held at our school in the afternoon and years 4-8 travelled to the Okato pool. This ensured that we were only in the hot sun for three hours and the younger students could participate in more events than they would have been in if they were at the Okato pool.



Holly Stoddart and Hayley Meyburg competing in the year 4, one length body board paddle.

For year 7 and 8 competitive swimmers championship races were held, which went towards the swimming cups. Races were timed to ensure accurate results and three heats were held; 50m freestyle, 50m breast stroke and 50m back stroke.

On the day, everyone dressed up and got into the team spirit, cheering for their houses. The four houses at Oakura school are based on our local environment: Matekai-yellow, Patuha-green, Koru-red and Wairau-blue. We were all encouraged to dress in house colours and extra points were given for the best dressed house, the most well behaved, the best chant and the most supportive.

There were a wide variety of individual races including width, body board paddle, back stroke, breast stroke and freestyle. The morning finished with house relays. Matekai won the boys relay and Wairau won the girls relay.

Year 3 had their swimming display at 1:30pm back at the school pool. They also competed for house points in a number of races which included length races and events such as dolphin dives and diving for a ring. It was really well supported by parents and a great event.

Congratulations to the overall house winner, Wairau. Also, congratulations to everyone who participated, you all did amazingly well, we have such great swimmers at Oakura School! Thank you to all the parents that helped and came along to spectate!

By Ellie Whitehead, age 12

Students Helping to Save our Kiwis

On Sunday 10th March, Assistant Principal Ray Priest organised for keen volunteers to help the council with checking the stoat traps that had been placed in Lucy's Gully. The aim of the traps was to trap and kill quickly pests such as stoats, rats and ferrets which endanger our kiwi population. Earlier in the month, different volunteers carried the boxes up the 2 ½ hour track and marked them with pink tags around the nearest tree marking the number of the trap. Up the track from Lucy's Gully there are 26 traps made by students from Oakura under the guidance of the Kiwi Trust.

To start off with Kris Grabow showed approximately 15 volunteers how to deactivate and set the traps, how to change the bait, which was eggs, and told them what to do with any pests caught in the traps. She also told them to write down the trap number, anything caught and any different or unusual markings. We then made a roster to make sure they are checked regularly. In the traps we found a total of 2 stoats and 2 rats, around the middle section of the area the boxes were in.

After stopping at the top of the track we stopped for a snack and started the walk down. All the boxes were on the way up so the walk down was much faster. If anyone is interested in being a part in this please contact Ray Priest at Oakura School

By Sian Tran-Lawrence, age 12



Joseph McGee-Frampton, Dylan Wright and Emma Dashorst look on as Seton Clarke removes a stoat from a successful trap.

Gala event set to be biggest yet!

Enjoy Under Water Zorbing and have a ride on the magic carpet as part of your day out in Oakura...

With already over \$5,000 donated by local businesses, this year's Oakura School Gala on Sunday 14th April at 11am is set to be the biggest yet.

The gala, which is on from 11am – 2pm, is a great way to raise funds for development within the school community and this year is no exception.

"With the sponsorship and donations we are able to ensure the gala will be full of excitement for all ages thus drawing in new crowds and raising lots of money on the day," said Anne Clough, Chairperson Friends of Oakura School (FOOS).

The funds raised will go towards creating a new Outdoor Environmental Centre at Oakura School. The education centre will feature an outdoor classroom where students will experience pathways to foster connections with native trees, local birds and wildlife.

With Barney from Classic Hits as the MC and plenty of fine food, entertainment and opportunities to win great prizes, the Oakura School Gala offers a great day out on the coast for all the family.

Just some of the games to be enjoyed are under water zorbing, bouncy castles, magic carpet rides, quad bike rides, pony rides and lots more.

There will be food stalls including curry, candyfloss, café, cake stalls and other favourites. Adults can also enjoy raffles, auctions, and quick fires.

School Gala Committee members are thrilled with the support and response from the community. "We have received huge support from local businesses and the community. Everyone is very enthusiastic about the new Outdoor Environmental Centre. It is such an asset for the school, the children and the whole community. So if you would like to support the development of the new Outdoor Environmental Centre, come and visit our Oakura School Gala", says Anne Clough, Chairperson Friends of Oakura School (FOOS).

For more information on the Oakura School Gala visit the Oakura School Facebook page www.facebook.com/Oakura-School/event.



A group of Oakura School mums making mosaics for the Gala Day, with help from award winning glass artist Richard Landers.



Under Water Zorbing will be an exciting feature at Oakura School Gala.



Mosaics for the Gala.



Friends of Oakura School (FOOS)
'LEARNING TO THINK, LEARNING TO CARE'

Oakura School Gala

Sunday 14 April 2013
11am - 2pm
Donnelly Street - Oakura

*Enjoy Under Water Zorbing, Games,
Sports, Food,
Crafts, Auctions, Quick Fire
and much more ...*

OAKURA
Fun for all the family!



COMING EVENTS

Term 1 Ends 19 April.
Term 2 Begins 6 May.



May

- 6 Life Education this week.
- 7 Movement Madness Y1/2 with Oakura School held at Omata.
Omata Community Hall Annual Meeting.
- 8 Movement Madness Y3/4 with Oakura School held at Omata.
- 9 Playgroup 9-11am.

June

- 11 Young Leaders Conference Palmerston North for Y8.
- 21 Show in hall 'And the Winner is . . .'
- 25 Y6 Gymnastics at Coastal Taranaki School.

OMATA HALL ANNUAL MEETING

The Omata Community and School Hall Society Inc will be holding their Annual Meeting on Tuesday the 7th of May at 2:30pm in the hall. If you have any inquiries please phone Chairman Lil Logan on 7515505



Lead ambassadors, left to right: Annabel Jones, Sarai Smith, Noah Dunn and Michaiah Williams.

LEAD AMBASSADORS

Congratulations to our 2013 Lead Ambassadors: Annabel Jones, Sarai Smith, Michaiah Williams and Noah Dunn

Regards,

Karen Brisco



New Plymouth Boys' High School

I am always amazed at the variety of things boys get involved in – and their passions. It is great to see teenage boys passionate about an activity and for an educationalist I hope by the time they leave school they not only know how to learn but have a life-long love of learning. We are so lucky today with access to knowledge through the internet. I often wonder what our system is doing when five year olds begin schooling so keen to learn and by 15 they are counting credits . . . but the youth of today will achieve great things. We are particularly proud of our athletes who did so well in the Taranaki and National Competitions. Keep an eye out for Angus White who is a top athlete and academic. Rhys Bishop broke the Taranaki record (held for 37 years) in the 800m. He ran the distance in 1.55. Javon McCullum stars in Surf Lifesaving as well as athletics - he is VERY fast (400m in 51secs). Talking of Surf Lifesaving, our stars from the Nationals are Ben Nelson, Mitchell Owen, Mitchell Griffiths. Other successful competitors were Isaac Hardie-Boys, Talor Owen and Lauchie Stevens.

Sebastian Eastment won the Regional Final for the RSA Cyril Bassett Speech competition. We wish Seb all the best in the National Finals. We won the WOMAD "Cook Off" with Isaac Griffin, Conor Grey, Kris Campbell and Tyler O'Leary also doing a cooking exhibition at WOMAD.

Overall I am delighted with how the school is going and it is a pleasure to see boys doing well in a myriad activities. The following boys were selected for the North Island Athletics team recently.

Juniors - Kodee Maxwell, Alex Sturmer, Drew Farnsworth, Braeden Brookes, Hamish Phillips, Jahmarl Weir

Intermediates - Javon McCallum, Nicholas Kjestrup, Angus White, Jordan Goodin, Harrison Meads, Sean Hone, Justin Bishop, Michael McDonald, Emmerson Potts-Broughton

Seniors - Jordan Young, Connor Hobbs, Rhys Bishop, Robert Boot, Dane Brookes, Reuben O'Neill, Michael Gellen, Jono Brownjohn

Michael McMenamin, Headmaster

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OAKURA CLUBS & GROUPS

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.

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

New Plymouth Toastmasters Club - Speechcraft Course.

Commencing Thursday 17th May, 5.30pm at the Cricket Pallion at Pukekura Park. All welcome. For more information please ph

Margaret 027 232 1899, Anne 758 6287 or Shirley 752 3698.

Building Confidence, Speaking Skills and Self Esteem.

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

Every 2nd Thursday, 9.00am at the Omata Community Hall. Ring 751 2308 for next session date. All parents and pre-schoolers welcome.

Oakura Tennis Club

Monday 9am-2pm

Tuesday 5.30-7pm

Wednesday 3-6pm

Thursday 5.30-7.30pm

Friday 9am-12noon

Friday 4.30-6pm

Saturday 10am-4pm

Sunday 3-5pm

Ladies' Midweek Competition

Club night

Juniors' private coaching

A-grade players' practice

Social Women's Tennis for members and non-members

Junior Competition

Soffe Cup and A-grade

Competition

Club Day — Adults and children welcome for a hit

Contact John Hardie Boys on 06-752 7592.

Playcentre

Playcentre, Donnelly Street.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to noon.

Visitors welcome by appointment. Ph Bridget on 06-752 7223.

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 a Saturday morning from 9am to 9:30am and a beginners' ballet/dance class from 9:30am to 10:15am. Oakura Hall. Contact 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: Huw Griffiths - huw@taranakivw.co.nz or Secretary: Julie Salisbury - julie@taranakivw.co.nz

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