

TOM

OAKURA

APR 2015

OKATO CELEBRATES 150 YEARS

A great day was had by all at the street parade
- in spite of the weather.

More photos on page 11

TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

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

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

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

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EDITORIAL

My eldest son showed me a photo of his vegetable patch that he has just established at his new flat in Auckland - a great selection of veggies to be able to pick in the near future. His grasp of which veggie suits which season probably needs a bit of honing but no doubt he will learn. I am impressed that he wants to grow his own vegetables - something I have done since he was a baby. My father still grows his own vegetables at 80 and enjoys nothing more than giving out his bounty to his family. I grew up with the biggest vegetable garden and if my memory serves me right, we never bought veggies, only fruit. I guess that fondness for growing veggies was passed down to me and now the next generation is taking over. I wonder if that happens more often if you are shown the way? My husband has never grown a veg or shown any interest and his love of food, cooking and eating is minimal. I wonder if it is a love of growing things or eating good things that is the motivator in gardening? A Herald DigiPoll in 2010 showed almost 60% of participants had taken up vegetable gardening in the previous 12 months (750 people). I doubt 60% of the overall population grow their own veggies but it would have increased in recent years I am sure. Many cities boast community gardens, farmers markets, growers markets and crop swap meets, all testament to people growing produce. A local Omata man Jodi Roebuck recently hosted a seed saving afternoon at his Seedkeeper biointensive farmlet. These things show a trend towards growing your own and let's hope the trend never reverses with many more generations getting pleasure out of mucking around in the soil.

Kim



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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi folks!

From 25 March we'll be asking for submissions on the Council's proposed Long-Term Plan 2015-2025.

You can read up on our proposals in the Consultation Document that will be delivered to all letterboxes tomorrow as an insert in the North Taranaki Midweek.

It's an easy read and covers some important issues, such as proposed changes to Council activities, key projects we'll be undertaking over the next 10 years and examples of how our proposals will impact on rates.

Please take the time to read through this and let us know your thoughts.

Right now, we're proposing an average increase to our total rates requirement of 3.5 to 3.9 per cent over the 10 years of the LTP, with the increase for year one (2015/16) being 6.8 per cent.

The higher figure for year one is mainly due to reduced income from the Perpetual Investment Fund, the continued upgrade of the New Plymouth Wastewater Treatment Plant and the improved recycling system that begins in October.

The impact for year one equates to an additional \$2.33 per week on the average residential rate.

Councillors and I will be coming to the Oakura Town Hall at 7pm on 1 April for a Community Conversation to discuss the proposed LTP with you. Please join us and help us establish the Council's path for the next 10 years.



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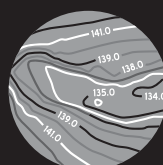
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Registered Professional Surveyor MNZIS

Kaitake Community Board

Hi everyone.

What a summer! The glorious weather has continued unabated except for a little drizzle that has done little more than dampen down the dust. It's great to see everyone out and about enjoying himself or herself in our superb environment. The Okato 150th celebrations were a great success as was WOMAD the following weekend. By the time you are reading this column we will be in the midst of Easter and daylight saving will have ended, so I do hope the weather has done us proud right through until then.

It was heartening to see New Zealand's east coast community making sensible emergency plans as Tropical Cyclone Pam headed their way. The fact is though that everyone had at least a week of ongoing dire warnings about what the likely outcome was forecasted to be and thus plenty of time to prepare. Civil emergencies rarely have such a long lead-in period (think about earthquakes and tsunamis). To that end we are indeed fortunate that Oakura has now completed a community emergency plan that is going through its final phase of being checked to see if it is compatible with Civil Defense strategies. When this process is complete it will be rolled out to the community. There are also plans to begin developing one for Okato.

An ongoing issue for us all is the increasing amount of traffic on Highway 45 and local side roads. Often the speed at which vehicles are being driven and the lack of attention (and courtesy) to other road users such as pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders causes much angst for local residents. We also have some quite dangerous traffic hotspots. Some examples are the Victoria Road entrance and exit point to the highway, the Corbett Park entrance, the exit to Dixon Street from the highway, The seaward end of AhuAhu Road, and the entrance to Hampton Road in Okato. In spite of the 50kph traffic restrictions through Oakura many vehicles still zoom through much faster than that and anecdotal evidence implies many of these are trucks. Consequently the KCB is in regular communication with the council roading team and Transit NZ, which is responsible for the nation's highways, but we do not have the power to do much more than bring the traffic issues to their attention.

During the past month the KCB has been working on its submission to the Long Term Plan, which will identify the issues that will need deliberation and action over the next 10 years in our area. We have already identified a number of issues that need addressing and we are seeking feedback from the community on any relevant issues. Please contact KCB members to let them know about your ideas or issues. Submissions to the Long Term Plan have opened and will close on 24 April. Hearings will be held and decisions made in June. Remember that individuals and other groups can make their own submissions to the Long Term Plan too.

Another consultation currently underway is a review of how people are elected to New Plymouth District Council. Councils are required to run a representation review at least every six years. Currently, New Plymouth District elects its councillors from three wards (New Plymouth - ten councillors, Waitara - two councillors, Inglewood - two councillors) and the mayor 'at large' (with every elector able to cast a vote for mayor). The New Plymouth District also

has four community boards (Clifton, Waitara, Inglewood and our own Kaitake).

The Council is seeking feedback from the public on what they identify as their communities of interest and this can be done online. This feedback will be used in the preparation of a proposed structure of representation that is intended to reflect these communities of interest as much as possible. The question of a Maori Ward is not being included in this phase of the project because of the public referendum about whether the ward will go ahead or not.

This review is extremely important for our local community where the general feeling is we have been left out on a representation limb with no voice around the decision-making table for the past decade or so. Therefore the KCB believes that as many people as possible should take the time to go online and fill in the survey on the council website. I believe the most important part of the exercise is to use the map app to indicate to the planners what you consider to be your specific community of interest.

You can access the map app here. <http://wards.npdccapps.co.nz/>

Well that's it for this month. The next board meeting is on Monday 13 April in the NPOB Surf Club at 4.30pm. All meetings are open to the public so come along if you wish. And don't forget to regularly check the KCB Face Book page for more current information.

Ka kite ano

Doug Hislop (752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer, Mike Pillette, Paul Coxhead, and Richard Jordan who is the council representative on the KCB.

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Regions Supporting a Growing Economy, More Jobs

Regional New Zealand led our country out of the global financial crisis and the latest statistics show economic growth continues across all regions – supporting more jobs, higher incomes, and further opportunities for New Zealanders.

Statistics New Zealand reports solid growth across the country in the year to March 2014, with particularly strong growth in the South Island.

The increase in economic growth, combined with 80,000 new jobs in the past year, paints a strong picture of a broad-based economic recovery. Strong sustainable economic growth is the only way to create more jobs and increase incomes.

From 2009–14, Taranaki's economy expanded 7.9 percent largely due to dairy farming which offset the current slow down in the oil and gas industry.

For New Zealand to build a more productive and competitive economy, we need all our regions to reach their potential. That's what the Government's Business Growth Agenda is all about. It focuses on the six key drivers businesses need to thrive – capital markets, infrastructure, skills, export markets, innovation, and natural resources.

That's why we're working across the country doing things like building Roads of National Significance and accelerating regional roading projects, putting in ultra-fast and rural broadband, and encouraging water storage and new irrigation projects. National cycle trails around the country are helping boost our tourism industry, and supporting local jobs.

We're supporting the development of skills with the likes of our Youth Guarantee programme, apprenticeships, and encouraging the study of science and technology subjects.

The regional growth report was not the only good economic news, confirming New Zealand is in good shape and getting better under National.

The Reserve Bank says the economy remains strong with the fall in petrol prices increasing households' buying power and lowering the cost of doing business. Employment and building activity are strong, while inflation and interest rates remain low. Net immigration remains high and the Government is supporting growth.

The Government's books for the seven months to January show a \$77 million surplus – for the first time since 2009. Though it is too early to say whether we will have a surplus for the full 2014/15 year, this result demonstrates the strides we've made in improving the Government's finances.

And in addition, leading credit rating agency Moody's has just reaffirmed New Zealand's top-of-the-line Aaa credit rating with a stable outlook, noting the strength of the economy and improving government finances. This is a further endorsement of National's responsible economic management.

Our programme is delivering results for New Zealand families. We will continue working hard over the next few years to build on the gains we have all achieved to date.

Jonathan Young

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This summer Puke Ariki and the community libraries ran a bookmark competition whereby all children's entries would be judged and the winner in each of the three age categories would have their artwork made up into the libraries' bookmarks for this year. Children created artwork about a theme they were passionate about. Local author Janet Hunt was one of the judges and presented the awards at prize giving.

Oakura was well represented. Charlotte Haskell won in the age 5-7 age division for her *I love the Festival of the Lights 'Lights'*. She won last year as well. 5 year old Xavier Leach was highly commended for his *I love Volcanoes* bookmark entry.

In the age 9-11 division the judges couldn't decide on just one highly commended so they awarded two. Both Heiani Green with her *I Love Honey Bees* and Ariana Shewry with her *I Love Surf, Sun and the Naki* won that accolade.

Congratulations to all the winners. We have all artwork on display plus you can pick up your free bookmark.

Augmented reality books are now available for loan. They are amazing children's books on their own but when viewed with an ipad, ipod, iphone or compatible android device you can "bring these books to life with amazing interactive animations".

Hear the dinosaur roar and move in *iDinosaur*. You can see our solar system in motion, fly a plane over the martian landscape or move a space vehicle around in *iSolar System*.

We also have *iStorm* and the picture book *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*.

We will be closed Good Friday 3rd April through Easter Monday 6th April. We will re-open Tuesday 7th April at 9am. We will also be closed Anzac Day Saturday 25th April and Monday 27th April.

Our holiday programme will be on Wednesday 15th April at 10am. We will be making an ANZAC wreath.

Charlie and Vincenza

**Contribute your views
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SPORTS

Oscar Robertson

-A PASSION FOR BASKETBALL

Oscar Robertson is a 14 years old NPBHS student who is keenly developing his passion for basketball.

Oscar was Head Boy at Oakura School in 2013 and last year finished his year 9 year with excellence.

Oscar's love of basketball started when playing at Oakura School with Kath te Ua as a coach.

So far Oscar has played in rep teams for New Plymouth u13 boys, New Plymouth u15 boys and Taranaki u15 boys. He is currently playing for Taranaki u17 (remember his is only 14!).



Oscar doing what he loves, shooting hoops.

30 boys from around New Zealand have been named in a development squad and Oscar is one of them. They are being developed in the hope of being in the u19 boys team when the Worlds come along in three years.

Unfortunately for Oscar this year, he just missed out on getting in the New Zealand u16 boys team – but they offered him the chance to go to Melbourne in June to compete against 81 Australian teams in the Nunawading Tournament as part of a development squad.

When I caught up with Oscar he had this to say about the sport “I love watching other people play, I love studying the game, I love training to get better, I love getting

to know different groups of people, I love sneakers, I love working for something, I love basketball!

My favourite players are Stephen Curry, Zach Lavine and LeBron James.

I would love to make a career out of basketball - maybe play for the Breakers one day.” Oscar would like to thank Dave Bublitz and Angelo Hill who have helped him develop his skills.

Pub Quiz Fundraiser on 22 April, 7pm at Butlers Reef if anyone wants to come along to support the players.

By Kim Ferens



Kaitake Golf Club News

Kaitake members and visitors have taken advantage of the warm summer weather and lengthy evenings to get out and play golf. Whether it is the club competitions or a social game the course has been busy most days. The Tuesday twilight competitions have been popular with good turnouts most weeks. With daylight saving drawing near to its end twilight golf has finished and we will have to wait until November for the next competition.

Kaitake Monthly Open days will continue on the last Wednesday of each month throughout the year. Tee off between 8.00 – 11.30am

New members are always welcome at Kaitake Golf Club and many have already taken advantage of the special ‘first time’ membership fee. We hope you enjoy the friendship of other members and challenges the course presents.

Club Results

WEEKEND WOMEN

Weekend Ladies Pennant after not such a great start to the season had a great win over Stratford at Westown. Looking forward to continuing their good form next round at New Plymouth.

Top Dog competition was won by Lois Agnew and Janice Farrant - well done Ladies.

After Easter we are inviting anyone who is interested in golf to come and try it with us one Sunday.

Please contact Pauline Gray 753 4450 or Jacqui in the Office on 752 7665 if you are interested. The date will be finalised when we know the numbers.

9 HOLE NEWS

The 9 hole group is growing once again and this month we welcome Lorraine Parthmore and Susan Cottam with Margaret Mills making a return after a lengthy break from golf.

On the pennant front - after round 2 the white team are still to score whilst the blue team have 1 point.

Results from February - Pancake Tuesday Winners - 1st Section Coraleen le Breton, Kay Stachurski and Raewyn Bishop. 2nd Section Marie Shotter, Sandra Wilkes and Elizabeth Davies. All Irons/Hybrids winners Jean Keegan and Claire Chamberlain.

Nett winners Jo West and Claire Chamberlain.

Thursday Haggie - Par winners Kay Stachurski and once again Claire Chamberlain

MID WEEK 18 HOLE WOMEN

The Tom Priest Silver/Bronze 1 division was won by Shona Burgess with Deborah Johnson runner-up. Bronze 2 winner was Val Soffe with Marlene Scott runner-up. Val Soffe was also successful in winning the Thomas Cup with Deborah Johnson runner-up.

MENS DIVISION

Over the summer the men have been playing for the Summer Cup. This year it was won by Dan Keegan with

Derrick Jones runner up. Jono Heath won the Keenan Dick trophy with a 57 nett. Well done, 57 nett is a mighty score. The Presidents Trophy is the next competition to be played over the next few weeks.

The Men's pennant teams are doing well. They have two rounds to play before it is decided who goes forward into the finals.

JUNIOR GOLF

Eight juniors have joined the 'Chippers' and are enjoying regular coaching sessions with Elliott Gunn. Kaitake now has a Junior 9 hole course marked out for this group to play off.

Elliott takes the Chippers at 10.30am on alternate Sundays. Anyone aged between 5 – 15 years is welcome to come and give golf a try. Clubs and balls are available.

For more information phone Jacqui in the office on 752 7665.

Andrea Jarrold, President, Kaitake Golf Club

Kaitake Athletics Club

Athletes from the newly formed Kaitake Athletics Club competed at the TET Ingelwood Stadium and the recent Taranaki Childrens' Track and Field Champs.

It was a scorching hot day and our local kids did very well with a number of medals and placings. In the U10s section, Ed Shearer (9yr) came 2nd in both 200m and 60m and was placed 3rd in 100m, discus and long jump. Juraj Krajci (9yr) won his discus event and 3rd in 200m sprint. Komai Winikarei (8yr) came first in 200m Sprint, 2nd in shotput and long jump and 3rd in the discus, Ruby Shearer (8yr) came 2nd in 200m sprint and 3rd in the long jump, Daniel Lewis(8yr) came 3rd in the long jump and Kai Shearer(7yr) came 3rd in both the 200m and 100m sprints. Awesome job! Well done!

In the 10s and over Lucca Aylward (10yr) came 2nd in the 800m and 400m sprints and Sammy Lewis(10yr) won the high jump, 400m sprint and placed 2nd in the 200m sprint and 3rd in 100m and long jump. Fantastic effort!

Our first season is nearly over but we will start up again next summer - we meet at Corbett Park on a Tuesday evening at 5pm and cater for kids from 4-13yrs old. Please get in touch if you would like to get involved. Tash 027 775 5440.

By Tash Lewis



Left, Ed Shearer and right, Kai Shearer giving their all.



The relay runners - Komei Winikarei, Juraj Krajci, Daniel Lewis, Ed Shearer.



Sammy Lewis 1st, Lucca Aylward 3rd.



Well earned medals and ribbons.



GETTING WET

NPOB Junior Surf CLUB

It has been a very busy couple of months for NPOB Junior Surf. With such fantastic weather over the holiday period, we have been able to commit most of our Sunday trainings to water events and it has been amazing to see the confidence, ability and enjoyment increase in even our youngest members.

We started an exciting initiative this year with our young coach – Mitch Owen – taking a development group of budding surf lifesavers for extra sessions two or three times a week. The aim of this group is to develop them for Oceans which is the pinnacle of junior surf. A four day national competition held at Mt Maunganui, comprising of boarding, swimming, flags, sprinting and multiple team events and relays. This is an amazing event which the children never forget. The hard individual competition is made more fun by the team environment, supportive family nature of the event and the solid friendships formed amongst the competitors. The group of about 14 boys and girls, aged between 8 and 10 years, were put through their paces at both Oakura Beach and Ngamotu.. As you can see from the photo, they gained great experience in particularly the boarding and surf swimming disciplines. Hopefully some of these children will be patrolling our beaches in the future!!

We have had plenty of competition over the last couple of months. Taranaki Champs was held at Fitzroy this year. We came a close second overall to East End. This was an amazing result by our small team. There were some outstanding achievements within our club. The following competitors came home with multiple results:

Ethan Peacock U6 1st Boogie Board, Run Wade Run, Flags and Sprints.

Darcy O'Sullivan U6 1st Boogie Board, 2nd Run Wade Run, Flags, 3rd Sprints.

Hayley Te Whata U8 1st Boogie Board, Run Wade Run, Flags, Sprints.

Kingston MacArthur U9 1st Boogie Board, Flags 2nd Run Wade Run.

Ruby Shearer U9 1st Boogie Board, 2nd Sprint, 3rd Run Wade Run.

Maggie Robinson U9 2nd Flags, Run Wade Run, Boogie Board.

Hunter Robinson U10 1st Flags, Board, Run Wade Run, 3rd Sprint.

Jack Feaver U11 2nd Surf race, Board race, Diamond, 3rd Flags.

Olly Spicer U12 Surf Race, Board Race, Diamond,.

Jack Cleland U12 2nd Surf Race, Diamond, 3rd Sprint.

Sam Dingle U13 1st Surf Race, Board, Diamond.

Congratulations to all these children and everyone else who competed fairly and to their potential – all your hard work has definitely paid off.

We had our inaugural Club Champs in February. We were greeted with perfect weather and some large surf conditions for the children. The day was a great success, with everyone



At Ngamotu Beach, learning the ropes of boarding and surf swimming with Mitch Owen.

competing in a fun and supportive environment. Lots of children really pushed themselves and took on some big waves both while swimming and boarding. I know that many of these children will be very proud of what they achieved. It was fantastic to see all the younger members of our club getting involved.

Coming up in the next issue of TOM will be a write-up from Oceans, our prize giving results and a summary from this years beach patrolling.

On that note, the red and yellow flags are finished for the season. NPOB Surf Club has enjoyed contributing to the community by patrolling our beautiful beach and would like to remind everyone to be safe near and in the water.

If anyone would like any further information regarding Junior Surf please contact Nova Robinson on 027 521 8200 or novarobinson@yahoo.com.au.



Oakura Boardriders

Considering all forecasting prior was for a windy cool summer, long may they be wrong! We have had fantastic surf with some not so frequent spots lighting up, plenty for everyone!

The club champs due to be held over Taranaki anniversary weekend had to be postponed due to the horrendous weather - a blight on an other wise great summer. They will be held late March so results next issue. The kids are frothing I know.

The club held its annual handicapped surfing day with a great turn out and lots of keen participants and helpers. This is always a much appreciated day and gives people who otherwise couldn't hit the surf a great experience. We would like to give special thanks to the Flight Centre who donated a special wheelchair to the club that can be taken on the beach and into the surf. It floats so it really helps getting those people into the water and onto a board.

There was a meeting held at the Oakura Hall on the development and upgrade of the skate park which was well attended by locals and plenty of positive discussion should lead to a great development when it gets the final OK from council. Stay tuned for further developments.

The club is continuing to thrive with the ongoing renovations, lots of new members and internet access sponsored by Primo Wireless letting us stream live World Surfing League footage and anything else our heart desires. Because of this we needed a new internet TV which was sponsored by Hareb Deken Motors, Zelam Ltd and Southcoast Construction, big thanks guys. Some fun nights coming up so get down to the club Friday evenings to socialise and enjoy the club atmosphere!

The Micro Groms is continuing on with the final contest to be held at Opunake in April. Many of the Oakura Groms have been doing well in this so stay tuned for series results next issue of the TOM.

The Secondary School and Intermediate champs were held at Fitzroy mid March and results for the Oakura Boardriders members were:

Under 16 Girls 1st Skyler Ellington, 3rd Eva Davies.

Boogie Boarding, 1st Reef Raumatihia - highest score of comp!

Intermediate school results for club:

Tom Butland 1st yr 8's.

Harry Clegg 2nd yr 7's, Aileen Machett 4th yr 7's.

Emma Dashorst 1st yr 8's, Waioara Mataa 2nd yr 8's.

Ariana Shewry 3rd yr 7's

Taranaki has been inundated with contests of late - the Opunake Classic held in horrendous conditions at the dump over anniversary weekend, the Growcott Memorial at Stent Road in great conditions and all this leading into the Easter Carnival culminating in the Womens WQS contest. This featuring our own Paige Hareb who is home and surfing all over the coast especially her beloved Rocky Point. Be sure to give her your support in her re-qualification campaign. Fitzroy will be the centre for the Easter Carnival, Easter Masters, Grom Comps, Pro Junior and Womens events. As well as getting down to the beach there will be internet and Sky TV pop up channel coverage hopefully so a feast of surfing to come . . .

Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders Club.

John Shewry, President, 027 252 9190.

Paul Lobb, Secretary, 027 244 4297.

**Huub
Dashorst - a
great helper
with Rueben.**



Sun, fun and many willing local helpers at the club's annual Handicapped Surfing Day.

Locals Shine at Taranaki Secondary School Surf Champs

Three Oakura girls placed in the Taranaki's best Secondary School Surf Competition. Skyler Ellington placed 1st in the U16s, Eva Davies placed 3rd in the U16s, and Moana TeUa placed 4th in the U14s.



Eva Davies.



Moana TeUa.



Skyler Ellington.



Lunch Menu

Vineyard Antipasto – \$40

Sautéed Garlic Prawns, Smoked Mushroom, Salmon Tartare,
Wakame Salad, Tomato Pesto, Marinated Olives, Free Range Pork Spring Roll,
Apple & Onion Chutney, Marinated Green Lip Mussels, Stuffed Peppadews,
Goats Cheese Soufflé, Red Capsicum Coulis

Breads with Sundried Tomato Pesto & Extra Virgin Olive Oil **\$12.5**

Smoked Eggplant & Haloumi Cannelloni atop Petite Ratatouille **\$18**

Goats Cheese Soufflé w Pea Mousse & Roasted Red Capsicum Coulis **\$18**

Seafood Chowder w Sourdough Bread **\$18**

Fresh Kia Ora King Salmon Tartare, Wakame Salad,
Honey Mustard, Croutons, Micro Greens **\$18**

Sautéed King Prawn Cutlets w Garlic, Onion, Lemon, Tomato & Crusty Bread **\$18**

Caesar Salad, Cos Lettuce, Cherry Tomato,
Croutons, Parmesan, Free Range Egg & Bacon **\$18**

Tender Strips of Beef Sautéed with Home Made Pasta in a creamy
Bacon & Mushroom Sauce **\$28**

Ricotta Gnocchi, Smoked Eggplant & Haloumi Cannelloni, Ratatouille & Spinach **\$28**

Seafood Risotto, Fresh Fish, Mussels, Prawns & Clams, Parmesan **\$28**

Homemade Free Range Egg Spaghetti w Garlic Prawns, Lemon, Tomato, Parmesan **\$28**

Free Range Pork Belly, Mashed Potato, Red Cabbage, Apple Chutney **\$35**

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Okato District 150th Celebration Parade

In March the Okato District celebrated its 150th anniversary. One event was a street parade and the town did it in style. A grand array of floats, cars, tractors, boats, tanks, motorcycles, bag pipers and vintage memorabilia paraded around the town through hundreds of people, rain and sunshine. Well done to everyone who helped make the weekend a great success.



25 Years for Scotty

On the 14th February Craig Scott was presented a Gold Star for giving 25 years to the NZ Fire Service and his community.

Scotty joined the Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade in 1989 and enjoyed riding in the back so he could be the first out the door to what ever type of incident the brigade were responding to. At the time most fire training was on the job and Scotty really enjoyed getting in the action including several big jobs such as the Warea Hall fire.

Scotty held several positions of responsibility as he progressed through the ranks including secretary, Deputy Chief and Chief Fire Officer.

Chief Scotty's exceptional leadership skills were tested when the tornados hit the village. The Brigade responded well and with good leadership and organisation this event was handled well.

Probably the thing Scotty will be remembered for within the brigade is his ability to organise a good social function. This ability has meant that many members have stayed in the brigade longer just for the social side.

So Scotty, your fun and enthusiasm will be missed around the station but the brigade thanks you for your 25 years service. The community also thanks Scotty for his dedication and diligence in helping our community when it was needed most.



Craig and Fiona - a very proud moment.



Scotty receiving his well deserved awards

Presenters on the day were:

On Behalf of the United Fire Brigades Association - Life member of the NZ fire Brigade Institute - Maurice Kelly.

On Behalf of the NZFS Commission / Region3 / Area 12 - (Acting) Assistant Area Commander - David Utumapu.

On Behalf of the Taranaki Provincial Fire Brigade Association - President Nathan Gillespie.

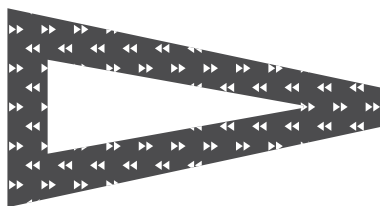
On Behalf of the Taranaki Gold star Association - President Bill Rumney.

On behalf of the Oakura Brigade - DCFO David Reilly and CFO Matt Crabtree.

Craig was presented with Life Membership of the Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade on the day after the Gold star ceremony had been completed and he now joins a small group of members with this honour.



New Plymouth to become NEW ZEALAND'S CREATIVE CAPITAL



Well known, local Taranaki business, TGM Design, is re-launching their brand this week in order to cater for the growth of the industry and services they offer.

Now called TGM Creative, which better reflects the broad range of services they offer from graphic design and brand development to e-newsletters, copywriting and online services, they are backing the recent stuff.co.nz article* and hope that they can help New Plymouth become New Zealand's creative capital.

TGM Creative Owner, Andrea Leadbetter said: *"TGM Creative has evolved throughout its 25 years in business just as the city has grown. Creativity is such an important part of the council's latest economic development strategy to make the city a 'vibrant' place to live and work so it's great to see that our goals are in line with the city we serve."*

TGM Creative works with local Taranaki businesses to improve the success of their brand and with such an extensive range of services, clients are enjoying having only one point of contact to achieve total brand management. Not only this, but TGM aims to make the process of re-branding as pain free as possible so has teamed up with local company, The Finance Lady, to provide finance (finance company criteria applies) for larger projects requiring bigger budgets.

Andrea said: *"Most businesses go to an individual designer to create their initial brand and end up engaging several different parties to create the overall brand package and website. We find clients prefer to deal with just one point of contact for all of these services, which is why TGM Creative was born. We have been working hard behind the scenes to develop these capabilities and our clients can now enjoy the benefits of all of these services under one roof."*

To help New Plymouth become NZ's creative capital, TGM Creative is offering free brand consultations to all businesses looking to re-brand throughout April.

*Stuff.co.nz article can be found here www.stuff.co.nz/entertainment/65414384/Could-New-Plymouth-become-NZs-creative-capital

For over 25 years TGM Creative has been providing effective solutions to a wide range of clients. With an award winning design team handpicked from all over the world for their expertise and creative edge, they know how your brand should look and function.

TIPS TO A SUCCESSFUL RE-BRAND:

Focus on the future

Try not to hold onto the past, research the current/future market and work out how you fit in to this. What are the goals of your business and how should you communicate with your target market?

Don't forget about your current customers

Your customers know you and are using you because they are happy with the services you offer so make sure you include them in your decision making. Showing that you care about their opinion is a key part of customer service so make sure you ask them what they want to see happen with your brand/services.

Choose the name carefully

Do you need to include part of your current name or can you start a fresh – what do customers know you as? If your legacy and identity is critical for recognition or a competitive edge, then a refreshment rather than complete change is preferential.

Make the most of this marketing opportunity

This is a great opportunity to share your business story with potential customers instead of just sell sell sell, so speak to the experts and develop a marketing plan. Use as many platforms as possible to get the story out there on and off line.

Develop a strategy

Re-branding isn't just about a new logo and some new collateral. In order for the process to re-position your business and drive forward, you may need to amend or change some of your organisation's processes or the way your staff interact with customers and do business.

TGM CREATIVE

TGM wants to be at the forefront of helping SMEs to build both an online and offline branded presence so if this is something you require, get in touch today.

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Thursday

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Friday

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The Yoga Space

The Yoga Space, a magical place unassumingly nestled down the end of the old arcade on Devon Street. If you ever thought yoga was just for free spirited hippy folk, think again.

Having attended beginners Sivananda Yoga a year ago, I decided that I knew the basics and hoped that yoga would be a good supplement to the daily runs I was going on and a great way to tone up.

Three weeks in, I know I made the right choice.

The bright yellow walls are the first thing I noticed as I walked into The Yoga Space for the first time with my water bottle, towel and yoga mat in hand.

I was kindly greeted by Kathleen who was to be the instructor for what would be my first ever hot yoga session.

After popping my gear in the cubby holes provided I made my way through to the Yoga Studio.

My first thought was phew it's hot . . . but not as hot as I feared.

Also I was pleasantly surprised that yoga isn't just for chicks after seeing two men in the class, and I must admit, one of them was flexier than I at almost three times my age!

Kathleen gave me a few "props" in the form of some blocks and a strap . . . starting to get a little nervous....maybe I don't know the basics.

Looking around after laying down on my mat, the whole space was very calming. Snail like, wooden lights hanging from the ceiling above provide soft lighting which gave the desired relaxing effect.

Small vases of fresh flowers scattered throughout the space bringing a little more brightness and nature into the room and during the class, whilst mid pose, trying to balance on one foot while shakily reaching for the sky I noticed the blackboard with an inspirational or spiritual quote which I now know changes daily. Something good to focus on . . . I have found that this is required when trying to balance on one foot.

Kathleen first took us through breathing exercises, which is meant to, and certainly did, bring us into the space, to remove all thoughts of the outside world and allow ourselves to feel every part of our bodies.

This yogic breathing is handy, you can do anywhere! Can't sleep? Do yogic breathing, stressed out? Do Yogic breathing, driving in your car? Do Yogic breathing.

Something so simple really does make a difference to your day.

The class worked every muscle in my body. My fear of falling over mid pose was unfounded as most people do it. That's why they call it

Ladies!

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"Practicing Yoga" we are all learning. (One of the many nuggets of wisdom and reassurance spoken throughout the session)

I am glad to have more recently learned that at times, my feeling of being on the verge of passing out (saved by Kathleen's intuitive instruction to stand tall and bring ourselves back into the space) is also not an uncommon feeling during hot yoga.

Nearing the end of the session, I was dripping with sweat and feeling marginally more flexible . . . this new found flexibility proven during the last sitting bend when I was able to grab the soles of my feet! Progress!

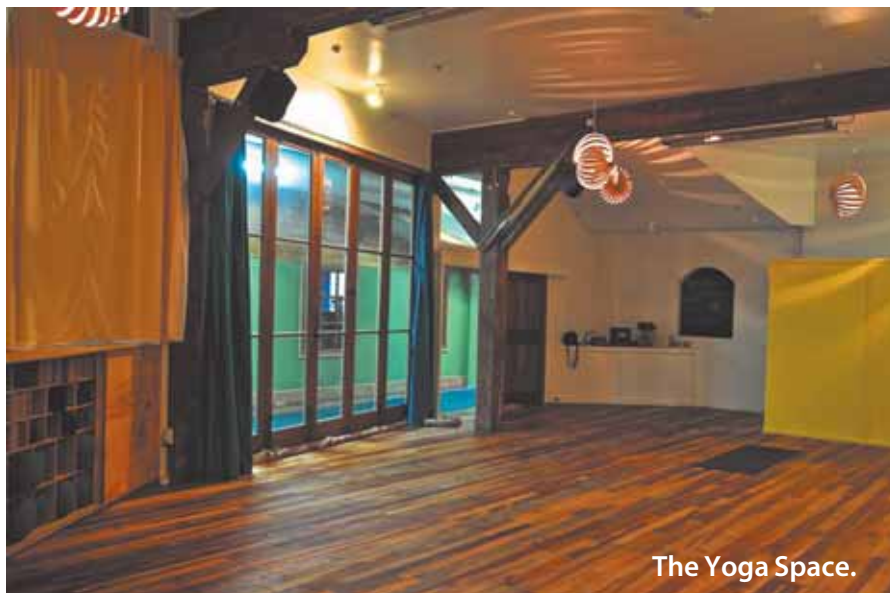
Feeling like I had certainly accomplished something, it was time for Savassana. Exactly what I felt like after sweating my booty off and working muscles I never knew existed.

Lying on my mat, Kathleen talked us through Savassana (possibly my favourite part of the class), encouraging us to let go, to relax every muscle and bone in our bodies while breathing deeply to some instrumental music. Hoping I hadn't fallen asleep during this time, I regained consciousness as instructed feeling totally relaxed and at peace with the world. As I seemingly floated back to my car, I decided that Yoga is definitely my thing.

For those who are a little apprehensive, I can almost guarantee you won't be the only first timer in a class, and there are plenty of easier options and alternative poses for beginners or people with injuries and ailments.

So why not give Yoga a go? You have nothing to lose and everything to gain!

By Brodie Woodward



The Yoga Space.



5 REASONS TO PRACTICE HOT YOGA

1. Hot Yoga gives all the benefits of a sauna - it elevates the heart rate which makes the body work harder, increasing blood flow, circulation, flexibility and muscle function.
2. Hot Yoga promotes a connection of mind, body and spirit - relieving stress and focusing the mind which develops better mental concentration.
3. Hot Yoga eliminates large amounts of toxins we acquire daily in the body - the high level of sweating which occurs during a class flushes the system so we can rehydrate with fresh clean water.
4. Hot Yoga enables your body to become more efficient at fighting infection - the raised temperature improves T-Cell function aiding your immune system.
5. Hot Yoga gives you 'THE GLOW' - your pores detoxify leaving you with improved skin texture and an obvious hot yoga glow.



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Spotswood College

In the last TOM Magazine there were some printing/layout errors which may have led to misunderstanding of our recently refined school value statements. Because of the importance of these statements and their intention to provide direction for our young people and a valued foundation for the ongoing improvement of our school they are reprinted in this month's TOM publication.

VALUES

Our values are articulated through concepts linked to the Māori word E TŪ which means to stand-up. We then use the E TŪ acronym to articulate our key values in the following way:-

We have defined our E TŪ values for both teachers and students in the following statements:-

TEACHER E TŪ VALUES

- **Education Mātauranga** We understand, respect and demonstrate the moral purpose we have as educators.
- **Taking Part Whai Wahi** We enthusiastically participate in our school-wide endeavour for continual improvement.
- **Unity Kotahitanga** We demonstrate unconditional positive regard for all members of our learning community.

STUDENT E TŪ VALUES

- **Education Mātauranga** We respect opportunities to learn and understand the importance of our learning.
- **Taking Part Whai Wahi** We get involved and participate positively in our learning and our school.
- **Unity Kotahitanga** We demonstrate consideration and respect for others.

The E TŪ values are aligned to the five key competencies of the New Zealand Curriculum.

ETŪ	NZC - KEY COMPETENCIES
Education	† Thinking † Using language symbols and texts
Taking Part	† Managing Self † Participating and contributing
Unity	† Relating to others

SPECIAL EDUCATION –

Parents Consultative Group (PCG)

A Parents Consultative Group (PCG) has been established to enhance home/school partnerships to assist our school to become the fully inclusive school we desire it to be.

The PCG aims to include:

To provide a forum to enhance communication between families, teachers and the BOT.

To assist our school to include students with special needs in all applicable aspects of the school.

To foster understanding of our Special Education Students needs by sponsoring visiting speakers to attend meetings.

The PCG will develop an Action Plan and will meet two times each term.

CHAMPIONSHIP SWIMMING - CRAIGMYLE CUP

The championship swimming was concluded on Thursday afternoon with 25m Freestyle Finals and the inter-hapu relays. Leading into the day, after the heats and finals on February 19th, the competition was wide open.

Participation numbers were up from the previous 2-3 years and the points close and hard fought for.

Moturoa went on to retain the Craigmyle Cup for Championship Swimming that they won in 2014. They amassed 501 points over the competition. They were closely followed by a fast charging Paritutu on 467, an always competitive Motumahanga and a gritty Mikotahi effort.

The afternoon also saw the teachers swim a well deserved second place behind the schools squad swimmers in an 8 person freestyle relay.

If at any time you have any queries about our school or feedback regarding our students or our learning programmes, please contact us accordingly.

Mark Bowden, Principal



New Plymouth Boys' High School

We have had a wonderful Term 1 – the sunshine has certainly helped.

Congratulations to our 1stXI Cricket team who beat Wellington College, Wanganui Collegiate and drew with Auckland Grammar (had them 9 for 39 at the close of play). Taylor Williams is a superb bowler and made the NZ U17 Cricket team.

Sean Hone came second in the National Beach Volleyball U19 champs and his brother Aaron won the U15. The Hone boys are making their mark in Volleyball.

The following boys represented Taranaki at the National Touch Champs: U15 - Zane Firth, Reece Innes-Gray, Daniel Rona, Blair Murray, Sage Simeon-Smith. U17 – Emerson Gray, Taine Rona, Cruize Mason, Emmerson Potts-Broughton. Congratulations to Zane Firth making the NZ U15 team.

Tom Cole has starred in the Ironman (swim, board, ski paddle, run) winning the Open and U19 Championships. He also was in a team with Gregor Park which won K4 Kayak Championships.

Jack Dingle competed at Surf Lifesaving NZ's Central

Regional Champs on 10th January and won gold medals in the U16 Ironman, U16 Surf Race and U16 Board Race. He then competed at Waitangi Weekend in the Taranaki Surf Lifesaving Champs at Oakura and won golds in the U16 Ironman, U16 Run Swim Run and U16 Surf Race. Abe Larsen (Year 11) won gold in the U16 Board Race, silver in the U16 Ironman and silver in the Run Swim Run and Surf Race.

Jordan Gadsby excels at Open-water Swimming (ocean, lake). In New South Wales he came fourth (10km) and was also placed fourth in Lake Taupo (5km and 10km).

Campbell Stewart is a speedway driver coming second in the Rotorua event. Cale Douglas and Bradley Korff excel in Mini-stock Speedway. Matt Podjurski drives in the Formula First series (top speed 180km).

Caleb Smith and Josh Toa made the NZ U16 Inline Hockey team.

Angus White is training for the Australian Youth Athletics Champs in Sydney. He will compete in the 1500m and 3000m. He won the National U18 titles for 3000 and 1500m



Angus White - an exceptional track runner.

Jack Wenslick is points leader in his class of drag racing.

Jaelen Hikaka, NcTarvin and Nhzarell Ioane made the NZ Kenpo karate team to represent Kenpo 5.0 at the World Champs in Las Vegas in June.

Anton Bessling and Matt Giddy completed the round the Mountain Cycle event as part of the Parafed Teams

In TSSA Sailing Ben Crane came first in the Starling Fleet and George Clarke came second in the Optimist Fleet. NPBHS won the regatta.

Toby Burkett, Bradley Slater and Salesi Havea were chosen for the Chiefs U17 Rugby squad.

The Junior Boys and Senior Boys won the TSS Surf Lifesaving.

Jack Elliot won the Junior Boys TSS Triathlon and Scott Patterson won the senior.

Congratulations to our Athletics Champions – Mikee Foster (Junior), Michael Loft (Intermediate) and Nick Kjestrup (Senior).

Congratulations to Michael McLeod who was chosen to meet the Governor General on Waitangi Day.

Jacob Bond (Yr13) has been selected to represent NPBHS at the New Zealand Secondary Schools Symphony Orchestra (NZSSSO) playing his Double Bass.

Farewell and signing off for the last time.

Michael McMenamin

Forever Present Fundraiser Art Exhibition

- BRENDA CASH



Tataraimaka artist Brenda Cash of the Green Morris Studio has her fourth charity exhibition at RealTArt Gallery New Plymouth coming up. This years show, Forever Present, has been kindly supported by Craigs Investment Partners and will be Cash's biggest show with over 30 new works.

Real TArt, the TArt bit stands for Taranaki Art,

is a community gallery and is reliant on funding and the support of volunteers and local artists to operate. The gallery will benefit from the commission from works and the remainder will go to a charity that a coastal Taranaki mum is one of two people instrumental in setting up.

'Forever Present, a gift from Pema and Isla' was formed by Pema and Isla's mum's who like approximately 80 other kiwi families per year have been affected by sudden infant death. They put together care packages and information for families as well as providing information through a website. Money from the exhibition will allow them to continue to provide support to families at the very worst of times.

Cash's art is colourful and often whimsical. Caravans, cottages, and old cars often appear in a celebration of nostalgia and times past. Other abstract pieces combine many layers of mixed media to create depth. The show will have a wide range of works from cards to large canvases measuring over a metre wide. She draws inspiration from her local environment. The Green Morris Studio is next to an historic cottage sitting between the Tasman Sea and Kaitake Ranges. Her beloved lime green 1952 morri convertible is often the subject of her work as well as being the studios namesake. Children's book illustrations have also had a major influence after many years spent working as a Children's Librarian.

People usually respond in one of two ways to the charity shows. One is what a nice thing to do and the other is often surprise at giving away so much work. "To the first I say thank you and to the second I respond to with I don't feel I'm giving anything away rather I view it as making an investment in our community"

The Forever Present exhibition will be open from the 11th of April until the 10th of May at Real Tart Gallery (19 Egmont Street, New Plymouth). The Green Morris Studio will be open later in the year during the Taranaki Art Trail and the Oakura Art Trail. For more info email brendakcash@yahoo.com or check out the Facebook page *Green Morris Studio - Brenda Cash, Mixed Media Artist.*

COMING EVENTS

April

20 Term 2 begins.
Life Education this week.
Harold.

25 ANZAC DAY.

27 ANZAC Day holiday.

May

13 Year 1/2 Movement Madness with Oakura @ Omata.

14 Year 3/4 Movement Madness with Oakura @ Omata.



The Omata Triathlon.

All students participated in this gruelling swim, bike, run event. Well not too gruelling in fact; a fabulous, fun time was had by all.

ENROLMENTS / ZONE

If you know of anyone living in our zone that may not have enrolled their pre-schooler/infant yet then please remind them to come in to the office and pick up an enrolment pack. We are updating our pre school roll so that we can plan for the future and make sure we are ready for the numbers of students who will be attending over the next five years. It is never too soon to enrol.

Our zone extends from Koru Road in the west to Barrett Road/Karamea Street in the East and all in between.

Friday the 27th February was the annual Omata Triathlon.

TRIATHLON RECOUNT BY COOPER JAMES AGED 7

As we watched the juniors my nerves were building up! We were called by Mr Bennett. It was warm when I got in the pool but my nerves returned. It was intense. I was first out of the pool. Now on to the bikes. I ran to the transition area, put my helmet and shoes on. I got my bike, walked it out of the transition area and biked away. Two laps around the rugby field, passed eight people on the bike. My nerves were back again and I was shivering from the pool. I thought I'd never make it but I did. At the end I had an ice-block.

oakura school news

FREESTYLE SPEEDSTERS

The senior Oakura School swimming sports was held on Thursday 5th of March 2015 at Okato Pool. Year 4 to 8 students had a great morning with clear skies and sunny, hot weather to dry wet competitors.

There was a range of swimming races. There were widths and full lengths including freestyle, backstroke and breaststroke, diving for rings and the flutter board race. The house leaders shook banners, shouted chants and encouraged their teams. For every race entered, regardless

of placings, a person could earn points for their house; one point for participation, five points for third place, ten points for second and twenty points for first. The house with the most points was Matekai, second was Patuha, third was Wairau and fourth was Koru.

Some students made it into the inter school swimming sports and they will compete at Bell Block on Tuesday 24th March. Good luck to Caeley Hattle, Sophie Butler, Caden Rood, Hunter Robinson, Taylor Mitchell, Alyssa Lamb, Robbie White, Rhys Donovan, Yulan Imhasly, Kate Roberts, Ruan Rood, Fletcher Ferguson, Ella Coates, Francesca Carthew, Michael Spurdle, Blake Boddington and Eva Hilliam. Well done.

The Oakura junior and Year 3 swimming sports were also held with superb weather. Many parents enjoyed watching their child swim at the Oakura School pool. Being the children from Room P and G's first time doing swimming sports, they did very well and had lots of fun splashing around in the pool with Ms Butt and Mrs Cooper instructing them with tasks. Altogether, this looked like quite a fun day for the little ones.

House points were also collected at the Year 3 swimming sports on the afternoon of Thursday 5th March. Matekai has a lot of strong swimmers because they received the most house points again.

We feel lucky that we are able to swim in our own school pool and that the Board of Trustees fund Year 7/8 swimming lessons at the Aquatic Centre. It's great to be able to cool off, learn to swim and stay fit and healthy.

By Adam Bridges (12) and Michael Gibbon (12).



Angus Bowden.

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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

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. Music and movement for preschoolers! Tuesdays 10am during school terms, now at St James' Hall (opp. Oakura Hall). Gold coin donation. Contact Maryanne on 06-2811197.

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

Oakura Playcentre. 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Maryanne on 06-2811197.

Oakura Pony Club. Contact Robin King ph 751 0300.

Oakura Pool Club. Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm @ Butlers Reef over winter. Phone Chip 027 621 4999 or 752 1004.

Okato Squash. Club nights on Mondays from 7pm, everyone welcome, phone Darryl Gibson, Ph 06 752 4804.

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

Oakura Tennis Club
Monday 9am-2pm - Ladies Midweek Competition.
Tuesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching.
Wednesday 3pm-5pm - Junior Coaching / Hot Shots Tennis.
6pm-7.30pm - Ladies practice night.
Thursday 5.30pm-7.30pm - A Grade players practice.
Friday 4pm-8pm - Junior Interclub competition.
Saturday 9am-4pm - Sofie Cup and A grade Competition.
Contact Club Secretary, Jackie Mitchell on 06 752 7013.

Probus Club. Meets once month at Kaitake Golf Club rooms on the 3rd Friday of every month at 10am - 11.30am. Contact Barry Goble 752 7254, or Betty West 752 7816.

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

St John's, Omata. Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School. Pre-school dance classes are from 9:30 to 10 am and the Beginners' Ballet dance class from 10 am to 10:45 am.

Vigor Fitness. Tuesday and Thursdays 10am - Outdoor Pure Grit Training. Phone Anneka Carlson 021 404 642.

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@taranakiw.co.nz and Secretary: bryan@taranakiw.co.nz

Yoga Classes. Oakura Church Hall Monday and Thursday 9.15am. Everyone welcome. Contact Kate Evans 027 203 7215.

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