

TOM oakura

New Girl Guiding unit in Oakura



With five daughters between us and keen for them to join Girl Guiding, Robin Green and I looked into opening a Pippin and Brownie unit for the girls in our area. The response has been fantastic — at our registration meeting we had 26 girls sign up and now we have a growing waiting list!

Our first meeting was on 22 July and we have an exciting programme planned.

We are lucky to have Nicky Gaffney, a leader in training, joining our unit. Nicky is a doctor and we're looking forward to doing the First Aid badge and visiting the hospital in New Plymouth. We also have

plenty of craft activities and we'll be sewing drawstring ditty bags ready for our first sleepover or camp next term.

Robin and I really appreciate the help and training given to us by the leaders at the Rotokare Pippins and Brownies. We are going to keep in touch and organise some joint ventures, the first being a raid by the 'Pirate Pippins' with a treasure hunt very soon.

We are holding an Enrolment Ceremony and will invite parents and friends to watch as each girl is welcomed into the Pippin and Brownie circle. Pippins will put their named apple on a big laminated tree, and

Pretty in pink – Oakura's newest guides.

Brownies will twist and turn and with a bit of luck see an Elf in the mirror!

If you have ever thought of being a Guiding Leader, the training is fantastic and I'm thoroughly enjoying the new opportunities it has opened up for me. Thank you to our Pippin and Brownie parents for their support.

Catherine Cave

Oakura Brownie Leader

oakurabrownies@live.com

Ph. 06-752 7388

editorial FROM THE TOM ZONE

It was a pleasant surprise to get an email from the newly re-formed Girl Guides group in Oakura recently. Catherine Cave told me 26 girls had registered — a very good turn out. I think it is wonderful that there is such huge interest in a community activity like Girl Guides. Perhaps the perfect place for girls to re-establish a level of basic skills, morals and sense of belonging that have been missing in some families in recent years.



I hope you have all been out enjoying the bird life in Matekai Park — better than any zoo I say!

Speaking of birds, last year I was intrigued to note the re-emergence of Californian Quail in my garden after winter and wondered where they had been for the duration of the winter. Well the other day I saw 10 quail wandering down the road!! They don't disappear after all!!

Kim

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Copy and ads
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Distribution – 6
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TOM OAKURA is a free, monthly publication, delivered on the second Wednesday of the month to all homes from the city limits to Okato.

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During the school holidays we were lucky to host a visit from children's author, Sheila Forbes. She read one of her picture books, *Wellington Warthog*, and shared information and toys from Zimbabwe to an enthralled group of about 20 children. The children then drew some of the African animals. The event was a hit!

There are quite a few upcoming events on the library calendar this month. Below are some dates and events to look out for.

Library Week: 16–22 August

This is when we celebrate libraries and librarianship in New Zealand. Events are held throughout New Zealand. Find out more by visiting your local library or online at www.libraryweek.org.nz.

Winners of the New Zealand Post Book Awards (Adult): 28 August

The finalists were announced on 22 June and the winners will be posted online at www.booksellers.co.nz/awards/new-zealand-post-book-awards on 28 August. Oakura Library has many of the books nominated.

Fiction: As the Earth Turns Silver (Alison Wong), Limestone (Fiona Farrell), Living as a Moon (Owen Marshall).

Non-fiction: Aphrodite's Island: The European Discovery of Tahiti (Ann Salmond). Illustrated Non-fiction: Art at Te Papa (edited by William McAloon), Maori Architecture: From fale to wharenuī and beyond (Deidre Brown).

The Children's Book Festival: 31 August–4 September

Now into its third year, the festival features visits by fantastic authors and illustrators touring local schools and libraries throughout Taranaki. Those visiting this year include Ben Galbraith, Gabrielle Lord, Jill Marshall, Michelle Osment, Nikki Slade-Robinson, Craig Smith and more.... For further information and details visit your local library or online at www.tcbf.org.nz.

Come in and support your local library for a great read and other resources.

Happy reading,

Karen and Vincenza

Library Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday	12pm–6pm
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday	9am–1pm

Hi folks!

Our exciting new initiative to keep our communities safer and cleaner is going great guns!

We've had residents in every town of the district put up their hands to be part of 'Community Champions — Keeping our neighbourhood litter-free', but we can always do with more!

Health and safety briefings for volunteers have already been held around the district but you can still join this programme if you're interested. So what's it all about?

We're harnessing the passion and pride that we all have for our communities by having volunteers walk their neighbourhood on a regular basis and pick up any litter and report any graffiti, vandalism or fly-tipping to the Council.

You can choose to be the Community Champion of your block, or of a section of beach, park or walkway that means a lot to you. That area will be under your wing, and you will be helping to keep it looking great for everyone's benefit.

One of the great positives of this programme is that it encourages people to take ownership of their local areas. The Community Champions programme strengthens community pride and builds on how we look out for each other and our public spaces.

The leadership shown by our Community Champions helps make those selfish and lazy idiots who drop litter or break glass in this community clean up their own mess — or better still, not make the mess! This programme should result in less broken glass in our public areas, even less graffiti than there is now and a quicker response to problems such as vandalism.

We live in a fantastic part of New Zealand and the Community Champions programme will help improve our residential and lifestyle areas even more.

So, are you in?

If you are interested in adopting a local area and being its Community Champion, just phone or email the Council (ph. 06-759 6060 or enquiries@npdc.govt.nz), or register online at newplymouthnz.com.

And remember: If you have any issues that you'd like to discuss with me, you can contact me on 06-759 6060. I'd love to hear from you!

Peter Tennent

Mayor

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kaitake community board

Kia ora everyone,

There is a lot of stuff happening at the moment.

The start-up meeting was held recently with Interdrill Drilling and they will begin drilling the first of the four investigation boreholes at the water treatment plant in Okato shortly. The contract is programmed to take three months.

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) has recently launched 'Community Champions — Keeping our neighbourhood litter-free', where volunteers can walk their neighbourhood regularly to pick up litter and report graffiti, vandalism or fly-tipping to NPDC. Volunteers' health and safety briefings have been held at various centres in the district.

With the Dog Bylaw requiring review (under the Local Government Act 2002), the Council must also consider its Dog Control Policy. The Dog Control Act (1996) requires Council to give notice of the draft policy to every dog owner. The consultation process for the five bylaws being reviewed was delayed for one month to enable a significant cost saving by inserting the draft policy documents in with the registration letters, which were sent to all dog owners early this month.

A letter and a copy of the officer's report outlining the proposed transfer of Council-owned buildings to clubs have been sent to all affected clubs and organisations. The letter outlines the process of the report (which has been considered by elected members during the last meeting round), and informs them that Council will talk with clubs directly once it has made its decision. In our area the club in the spotlight is the Oakura Boardriders Club (OBC) and they will need to ensure they have their members' consensus on what strategy to employ.

For those residents connecting to the sewerage network it is very important that they ensure their plumber arranges a final visual inspection by Council prior to backfilling the trenches on their section. If this isn't done then the required paperwork cannot be completed.

You can now find out if you're eligible for a rebate on your rates. Council has organised a dedicated team to work with customers on their rates rebates applications during August. People can phone to make an appointment to see a rates rebates team member at the Civic Centre, or can just pop into the Civic Centre or a library and service centre in Bell Block, Waitara or Inglewood and see the next available person. The maximum rebate available through the nationwide scheme is \$570. People should check — they may be pleasantly surprised.

Work to construct an 8m long, 2m high gabion wall on the Wairau Stream alongside the Shearer Reserve has begun. Apparently an excellent methodology has been proposed by the contractor, which will significantly reduce the impact on the recently planted reserve. The playground area of the reserve is to have a better drainage system installed to handle excessive water runoff in times of high rainfall.

These works are a major undertaking and highlight the need for exemplary forward planning with the small number of streams in the village catchment that ultimately have to handle the stormwater runoff from existing and future residential development.

The Waimoku Stream continues to be in the radar of the news media. Recently the Dominion Post couldn't be bothered checking for the facts first before reporting that, "Taranaki's popular surfing and holiday destination Oakura Beach failed to meet recreational water safety guidelines every time it was tested." This is completely erroneous, the seawater monitoring data shows it never failed a reading last summer.

Oakura Beach, as a valued regional resource, has a stakeholders'

committee which meets to discuss beachfront issues. Members include: NPDC, Taranaki Regional Council (TRC), Taranaki District Health Board (TDHB), Kaitake Community Board (KCB), NPOB Surf Lifesaving, OBC and Oakura School. Through the oversight of this committee all issues are identified and promptly dealt with by relevant bodies, and it has implemented the following solutions to ensure that the freshwater of the Waimoku Stream does not impact on the coastal bathing water quality of Oakura Beach.

First, the implementation of a monitoring and reporting system on the direction and course of the small stream as it enters the beach area. The aim is to ensure the stream does not back up along the beach and that it flows directly out to sea. This is maintained through a process of dredging the beach from the mouth of the stream down to the sea. The outcomes of the dredging are that the water runs straight out to sea, the contaminants have an increased opportunity to become naturally dispersed, water depth is kept to levels under 10cm, and the stream does not meander along the beach and impact upon the safe recreational use of the beach area.

Second, the installation of information signs located where the stream enters the beach area to discourage the public from using the stream for recreational purposes.

Third, ensuring the daily location of the designated swimming zone as far away as is practically possible from the mouth of the stream. This is undertaken by the Surf Lifesaving Club and is dependent on various daily environmental and safety considerations including rip tides, currents, swells and tides.

All of these processes have been put in place due to the increasing health standards for recreational water set by central government. The required Health Department signs are posted. Readings are taken at regular intervals. As a result the public can decide whether they wish their kids to play in the ankle deep stream or not.

However it's useful to remember that Oakura Beach has been a recreational bathing site for locals and those from further afield for at least a century. The adjacent bird habitat, the only cause of poor readings in the Waimoku Stream, has been here considerably longer — and it sure isn't going anywhere! There must have been literally tens of thousands of kids over the years who have played in the stream and the adjacent lagoon when it formed. Personally I have never heard of any sickness attributed to the stream. In its voyage to the sea it actually typifies the water quality of literally hundreds of streams throughout the country, not tested due to their distance from any recreational bathing site.

On a more positive note, the beachfront is getting another set of recycling bins situated in the middle of the beach, there is to be another Blue Flag noticeboard opposite the camp store, the Tasman Parade footpath is to be replaced, the grassy strip on the seaward side of Tasman Parade is being repaired, a section of gabions is being put in behind the camp store to combat the undermining of its foundations, the kids' playground in Shearer Reserve is getting a stormwater upgrade, the Linda Street tennis courts are being refurbished, a major study is being undertaken by consultants to ascertain the necessary recreational facilities for the village's growing population, and security is to be contracted in during the summer to control the exponential growth of freedom campers on the coast, the trouble they cause and the rubbish they leave.

Life goes on.

Ka kite ano

Doug Hislop (06-752 7324) on behalf of Keith Plummer (06-752 7050), Mike Pillette (06-752 7059), Al Rawlinson (06-752 7178) and Deputy Mayor Alex Matheson (06-756 8080) who is the Council representative on the KCB.

Letter to the Editor

Taranaki Investment Management Limited (TIML) has again blown up in the media. The catalyst for this eruption centred on Tasman Farms delisting from the Unlisted Share Exchange. Reportedly, when Tasman Farms delist access to financial information will become opaque. TIML is apparently advancing \$12m to this problematic farming venture, arranged as a 50/50 loan/share offer.

This worrisome state of affairs confirms my earlier fears when I postulated that Tasman Farms was "rapidly escalating into a horror story".

The architects of TIML are the former, and some of the present, New Plymouth District Council councillors. At its inception these councillors mouthed platitudes of wisdom whilst congratulating themselves on the viability of the venture. Ratepayers pleaded for Powerco's retention but to no avail. You see, they had the votes and we lesser folks really did not comprehend the wondrous advantages that would flow from this investment.

At the time of TIML's investment Tasmania had acknowledged multifarious challenges for dairy farming. Was purchasing farms in New Zealand overlooked as a wiser investment? On the other hand, Powerco is apparently whistling along merrily with no risk of economic failure.

After this recent disclosure I challenged what's left of those astute councillors to comment but so far there is a deafening silence. At TIML's inception the councillors castigated the ratepayers for lacking business acumen and foresight. Apparently they thought forensic accountability was something running in the three-thirty at Ellerslie on Saturday.

Seriously, the councillor's silence is worrying. Perhaps it's because they can get you into trouble but they can't get you out.

Vic Curtis
Oakura



G.S. Lindsay
(GRIMBO)
PAINTER PAPERHANGER

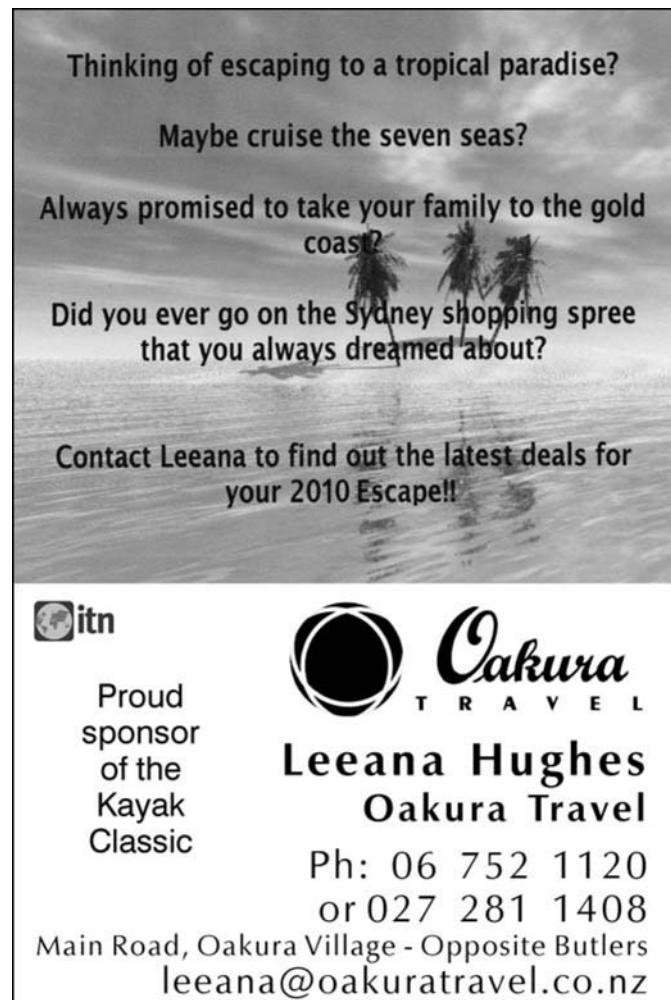
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Rebalancing our welfare system and focusing on work

Welfare has always been there to catch those who have fallen on hard times or are unable to work due to illness or disability. New Zealand introduced social welfare legislation as early as 1911, but it was the far reaching Social Security Act of 1938 that gave us the genesis of the welfare system we have today. While there have been modifications to entitlements, the National-led Government is committed to a benefit system that is fair to those who need help and is fair to the taxpayers supporting the system. Unfortunately for some, the welfare safety net has become a trap, locking them into a life of limited income and limited choices. That is why National is rebalancing the welfare system, focusing on work and providing more opportunities for young people. It's about giving a hand up and not a handout.

With the introduction of our Future Focus package there will be new part-time work obligations for people on the Domestic Purposes Benefit (DPB) with a youngest child over six, and for people on a Sickness Benefit who have been medically assessed as being able to work part-time. We are making changes to the Unemployment Benefit, and introducing further reassessments for Sickness Beneficiaries to get people back to work sooner.

However, Future Focus provides more support for those who need it. We are boosting childcare options for sole parents by expanding out-of-school support for children, and providing more training support for sole parents on the DPB. We have also legislated for benefit increases in line with inflation, providing certainty to beneficiaries.

Recently we extended our Community Max scheme. This provides six-month placements for 16 to 24 year olds on community or environmental projects. Participants are paid the minimum wage and are eligible for training.

Four out of five young people who've completed Community Max have remained off a benefit, with 43% of those currently in work or training and gaining real life skills. More importantly, disconnected young people are engaging with their communities. In turn, communities are encouraging young people to develop their potential. To date, of the 50 participants on Community Max in Taranaki 15 are still on the programme, 27 are in full-time work and nine are working with their case managers looking for employment opportunities.

We've invested an extra \$17.4 million in Community Max this year, giving a further 1500 young people experience and skills working in the community.

Our Job Ops scheme provides valuable work experience for young unemployed people by subsidising positions with an employer. So far, 67 young people have been employed in Taranaki under the scheme. Of those who finished their placement, 93% have stayed off the benefit. Many employers have been so impressed that they've taken young people on permanently.

Young people are also being given the skills and attitude they need to gain employment through Limited Service Volunteer (LSV), which is a six-week course held at Burnham, Trentham and Hobsonville Military Camps.

Last August the Government created 1250 new places (costing \$19.1 million) on an expanded LSV programme for 2010 and 2011 as part of the Youth Opportunities package.

This increases the current 720 places per year to 1970 places. Taranaki employers who take on these kids when they graduate are getting them when they have the attitude and enthusiasm to be a real asset to their business. They are offering them an opportunity to build more positive lives for themselves.

National is determined to rebalance our welfare system. Future Focus, Community Max and Job Ops are helping to provide the essential safety net individuals and families need; assisting people back to work, and creating real opportunities for young people. They're just some of the steps we're taking to secure a brighter future for all New Zealanders.

Jonathan Young MP



Jonathan Young
MP for
New Plymouth



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Well not genetic sisters, but "one of the same kind" sisters. Dale Ross of Trinity Lawns and Jayne Cullen of Bee Clean, have joined forces to make a formidable team!

Dale has owned/operated Trinity Lawns for two and a half years and Jayne started Bee Clean cleaning services about a year ago which also incorporates C-Thru Shower Doors - a specialist product that gets rid of water marks and seals shower doors to prevent build-up.

Together, we intend to conquer every aspect of home and garden maintenance:



Dale and Jayne.

Lawn mowing; weeding; spraying; pruning; fertilising; weedmatting; bark/pebbles; hedges; garden design; renovation and maintenance; house cleans - move in / move out; newly renovated tidy up; spring / one off cleans; rental / holiday homes cleans; weekly / fortnightly cleans and C-Thru Shower door cleaning - a MUST for anyone with a shower. Looks clean and stays clean.

We are excited to announce the introduction of our home maintenance / handy man services. Glen Venables has joined us to help us as well as doing the "hire-a-hubby" jobs: waterblasting; chainsaw work; minor paint work; moss and mould removal; fixing gates latches locks - anything needs fixing or replacing we will do it. To top it all off, we are here to assist anyone who is sick, elderly, incapacitated or going on holiday or away for work. We can chop your firewood: bring it in and even light the fire for you! Change the lightbulb, feed the animals, water the plants, walk the dog, clear the mailbox and watch over your property while you are away.

Give Dad the weekend off for Father's Day - let us mow the lawns: gift vouchers available.

"IF WE CAN WE WILL"

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Jayne
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752 1211
027 273 3847
ajazkcullen@hotmail.com

Omata Community Hall — A community asset

Omata residents are very fortunate to have a community hall right on their doorstep. The hall is available for all community members to use and enjoy for any occasion. It comfortably holds around 100 people seated, and has all the usual amenities, such as fully equipped kitchen, piano and toilets.

The Omata Community Hall has a long history. Old school records of 1897 tell of euchre parties and the community ball being held in the school's classroom, as no hall existed then. Using the classroom as a hall compromised the school, as records also tell of the school committee getting fed up with the vandalism caused by 'enthusiastic' partygoers, so the committee screwed the school desks to the floor so they could not be moved for dancing.

The Omata Public Hall Society was set up in June 1917. It was time for a hall so one was built on Mr Clemow's land, opposite the Omata Stockade on South Road. World War Two servicemen were welcomed home with a party in the hall. Twenty-first birthdays, weddings, euchre evenings, concerts, fancy dress balls, bridal showers, WDF, Farmers' Union meetings, polling, annual meetings of the Royal Oak Dairy Factory, table tennis and home guard training were just some of the events held in the Omata Hall.

A new community hall was built beside Omata School and was officially opened by the Mayor, Claire Stewart, in 1994. It cost \$105,000 and took two and a half years to construct. Donations were made by the Lotteries Commission, New Plymouth District Council and the community, and volunteer labour was also used. Since its construction the hall has been used on two separate occasions as a classroom because of increases in the school roll, and it is now a very important asset to the school and its students. The school uses the hall for various functions such as school productions, gala days, fundraising events, sports events, music displays and, of course, the weekly school assemblies.

If you would like to be involved in helping to keep the hall functioning then the hall committee needs you! Phone Bronnie at Omata School on 06-751 2308 for more details.

by Kim Ferens

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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Arthouse Cinema News

Thanks to generous sponsorship from Boon Goldsmith Bhaskar Brebner Team Architecture we are \$9000 closer to a heat pump and roofing insulation for Arthouse at The Mayfair. The total cost is estimated at \$15000 so we are very close to warming up our Arthouse!

For an annual cost of just \$100 you can become a Friend of Arthouse! As a Friend you will pay a discounted price of only \$12 for all normal sessions, receive annual complimentary tickets to a gala film premiere, and get first dibs on event tickets. All Friends' subscriptions go directly to the Heat Pump Fund. Contact Francois on the phone number or email listed below.

Wanaka Mountain Film Festival has allowed us to screen five outdoor, conservation, sea kayak to Greenland, caving and mountain films for SCHOOLS ONLY (gold coin entry) on the mornings of 16, 18 and 19 August. Over 90 minutes of adrenalin! Seats are limited so book now on 06-757 3650 or francois@arthousecinema.co.nz.

Kiwi Outdoors Wanaka Mountain Film Festival 2010 (August 21-29)

Nice week for ice! Nineteen films screened in 90-minute ice-cold chunks! \$10 a session for Adults, \$8 Senior/Student, \$5 Child or buy a Mountain Film Festival Pass for only \$25 for five sessions. Effectively 19 outdoor films with 18 different sessions to choose from. Tickets available now at Arthouse Cinema.

Into Perpetual Ice — Winner Best NZ Made. Adidas Sickline Kayaking Team.

For five international kayakers, this is a journey to the birthplace of their sport; an expedition to explore and paddle some white-water rivers in Greenland. Gives an insight into Greenland's culture while following these paddlers on their somewhat difficult mission. The obstacles faced make for an exciting trip, and eventually all the hard work pays off with rewards of white gold. *NZ, 2009, 21mins.*

Nature Propelled — Winner Best Mountain Culture & the Environment

Seth Warren embarks with his nature-powered fire truck named Baby, tracking the life

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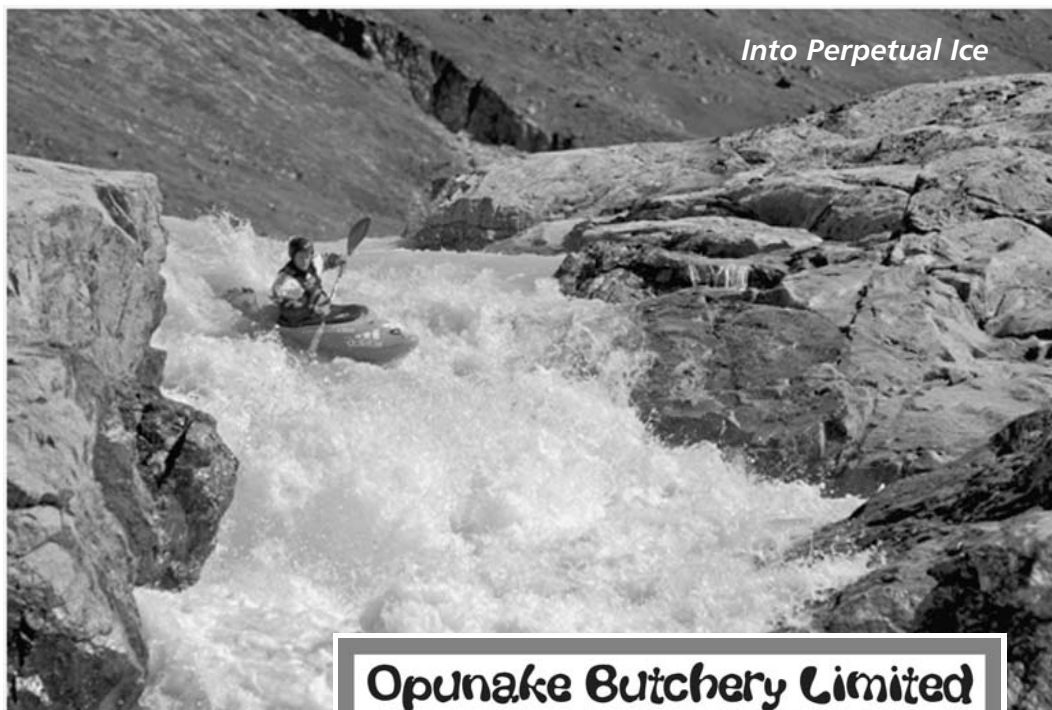
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cycle of water through the seasons. Featuring stunning and often daring footage, Nature Propelled demonstrates the connection between the elements, renewable energy, adventure sports, and practical ways that individuals can use these elements to power their lifestyles. Through its themes of adventure, education, and conservation, this petroleum-free fire truck motivates and inspires the next generation of environmental activists and stewards. *USA, 2010, 43mins.*

Waikaia — Life Blood — Just awesome Kiwi filmmaking!

A grassroots NZ adventure against the stunning and unusual backdrop of high country Southland. Three kayakers attempt a first descent of the East Waikaia River over an epic three days facing the hardest and most sustained rapids any of them have ever encountered. *NZ, 2010, 12mins.*

For a complete timetable see www.arthousecinema.co.nz.



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Oakura Pony Club News

At the end of every Pony Club season we hold a family dinner and prizegiving. This year the Hintons very kindly offered their home and we all had an awesome time with fine food and conversation.

The following prizes were awarded:

The Ward Trophy, awarded for general helpfulness and the best Pony Club attitude: Paige Mackay.

The Cooks Cup, awarded for special achievements outside Taranaki: Jordan Giltrap (NZPCA 12 and under dressage rider, 3rd junior dressage champ). The Wickham Challenge Cup, awarded for improved horsemanship and achievements: Lauren Moorby (winning horse trials team and Champs 2010 team).

The Kaitake Challenge Cup, awarded for overall excellence in horsemanship: Catherine West (recent news — Catherine has been selected for the second year to the Dressage NZ young rider development training group).

The Quinns Cup, awarded for dedication to a goal: Tara Harvey (Champs reserve, 2010 dressage captain).

The Dickey Cup, awarded for excellence in pony showjumping outside New Plymouth: Jordan Giltrap.

New Plymouth Vets Most Enthusiastic Rider Cup: Maeghan King. Oakura Challenge Rosebowl, awarded for overall excellence: Anna Hinton (area trials, Dressage Champs, Timberlands, Cambridge SJ).

New Plymouth Vets Most Improved Junior Cup: Kate Logan. New Plymouth Vets Most Improved Intermediate Cup: Molly Lumb.

The Tack Shack Most Improved Senior Trophy: Bronte Alder. Ribbons were also awarded for best Pony Club attendance, as follows.

Junior: 1st Kate Logan, 2nd equal Bella Hibell and Paige Mackay, 4th Maddie Luttrell.

Intermediate: 1st Jordan Giltrap, 2nd Georgia Ferris, 3rd equal Molly Lumb and Jess Knudsen.

Senior: 1st Bronte Alder, 2nd Catherine West, 3rd equal Tara Harvey and Anna Hinton.



Kate Logan with her cup, trophy and ribbon - well done Kate!

Ribbons and cups were awarded for best Pony Club turn out (horse and rider), as follows.

Junior: 1st Kate Logan, 2nd Paige Mackay, 3rd Bella Hibell.

Intermediate: 1st Molly Lumb, 2nd Jordan Giltrap, 3rd Georgia Ferris.

Senior: 1st Catherine West.

And finally, ribbons were awarded for the overall results of the 2010 Oakura Pony Club Gymkhana, as follows.

Junior: Overall in the flat classes, 1st equal Isabella Hibell and Maeghan King; Overall in the jumping classes, Isabella Hibell.

Intermediate: Overall flat, Jordan Giltrap; Overall jumping, Jordan Giltrap. Senior: Overall flat, Tara Harvey; Overall jumping, Bronte Alder.

We will be holding a few winter rallies in July/August, the main focus of which will be horsemanship and horse management. The new season will start again in September, but we will be holding lessons for non-Pony Club members before then. If anyone is interested in lessons please contact either Denise Patterson or Paula Harvey on 06-752 7506 or 06-753 5335.

by Diane Alder

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Local eXposure:

Oakura's professional footballer

Paul Cunningham, Professional Footballer (soccer)

D.O.B.: 18 June 1986 (23 years old)

Hometown: Oakura

TOM's Rebecca Cowley spoke to Paul about his football career.

Paul Cunningham's passion for football began during lunch times at Oakura School. Spotted for his unique football talents, the New Zealand Football Academy selected Paul to play in the Under-16 Oceania Cup in Australia. That opportunity has sculpted Paul's career today — playing professional football in Singapore.

At 16, Paul headed to England to play for Middlesbrough Football Club. Returning to NZ at 17 and moving to Palmerston North, he attended Palmerston North Boys' High School. Just six months later, Paul's hard work on and off the pitch paid off, and he was selected for the New Zealand Secondary Schools Team to tour Europe. The six-week tour began in early 2004, competing against teams such as England, Ireland, Scotland, Belgium and Austria, just to name a few.

Immediately following the tour doors opened; the opportunity to attend university in the United States on a football scholarship was very real. Before Paul knew it, he was playing for West Virginia University and studying finance at the same time. After four very successful years at one of the best colleges in America, Paul graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Finance and an MBA (Master of Business Administration) and was ready for his next big challenge. Late in 2009, Paul signed a deal with Balestier Khalsa Football Club in Singapore, where Paul is currently living. "I'm really enjoying my time so far and am excited to see what might come of things here," says Paul.

Paul, those are some amazing achievements, accomplished at the highest level. What are some of your future ambitions? My ultimate goal is to play for my country on the world's biggest stage (the FIFA World Cup). I'm disappointed not to have been included in the World Cup squad over in South Africa but will use this as motivation to be there next time.

To travel the world at such a young age you must have some very close supporters?

I really owe a lot to my family, in particular my mum, Pat, and dad, Paul. Without them none of this would have been possible. Also the local sporting scene here in Taranaki — in particular, Steve McKean, from Sport Taranaki, who has gone way above and beyond to help me in achieving my goals.

Family, as well as a lot of my close friends, come and visit wherever I am playing around the world so that makes things easier.

What positions do you play?

Normally a central defender, but I am used in the midfield or on the left to utilise my natural left foot. Because of my height and strength in the air I am also an asset on set pieces and score a few goals going up for attacking corners, etc.

Tell us about teamwork at a professional level.

It's essential and is the difference between winning and losing. A team with great individual players does not automatically mean they will be a great team, as a lot of top coaches around the world have found out. It's about how players complement each other and work for each other.



When teamwork fails?

You can't always win and sometimes you do face a better team whom you can't overcome. With team sports a good team wins as a team and loses as a team. Obviously you need to address problems as soon as possible, but it is important not to point fingers or blame certain players. Even the best players make mistakes.

What does your usual week of training consist of?

One day off a week the day following a game (unless we play more than one game a week, in which case we would not have any days off and just do a recovery session after a game).

Pre-season training: One three-hour session per day at 7.30am or in the evening starting at 5.30pm (due to 40 degree temperature in Singapore).

Team training: I go to the gym and do strength work five days a week and do a little boxing to keep fit also. Personally 5–6 hours per day.

Is there a possibility for young footballers to learn skills from you when you are home?

Of course, I am always available to help upcoming players! When I am home next I would be more than happy to help out if I can be of use to local coaches.

The lifestyle in Singapore?

It is an extremely small country, population is around 5 million.

(continued on page 12)

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Paul (looking suspiciously like David Beckham) during an intense football match.



I have been told that it is roughly the same size as Lake Taupo. Very vibrant city with lots to do; by far the most westernised Asian country, which made the transition fairly easy for me! English is the working language, which most people use if they need to.

THE WORLD CUP. Was that the result you were looking for? I picked the Netherlands to be in the final before the tournament began. Obviously Spain are an absolutely amazing side and the individual talent they have in their squad is second to none, but they have always been under-achievers in the past and I expected another disappointing World Cup for them. You can never write off Brazil so they were up there with my favourites, as well as Germany, who got stronger and stronger as the World Cup progressed but were beaten by a better team in the end. I think Spain deserved it and were the best team in South Africa.

Your inspiration for the week?

Don't let setbacks slow you down or push you to give up, take them in your stride and use the setback as motivation to work even harder. Professional sport is full of sacrifices and you have to get your priorities straight and be honest with yourself to succeed.

As a child I used to love going down to my father's club, New Plymouth City, and watching them play every Saturday. On away trips I would always go and would dress up in their playing kit with boots on and everything (I really felt like part of the team). Also my brother, Sean, was someone I always looked up to as a player and he really helped me develop as a footballer.

Thanks again, Paul, for taking time out of your busy schedule to share your experiences with your distant community.

by Rebecca Cowley

Queensland Karate Champs, July 2010

In mid July the NZ Junior Karate team attended the Queensland Championships of the 'Traditional Shotokan Karate-Do Federation' held in Childers, Qld. Connor Anderson and Manu Akioka from the Oakura Coastal Dojo were part of the team, with Connor Anderson as team captain. The week was attended by over 150 competitors and students from Qld, NSW, and NZ.

Prior to the Championship's contest there was a week long training seminar led by Professor Shunsuke Takahasi, 8th Dan, the chief instructor from Japan.

Connor was competing in the 16-18 year old boys black belt division and Manu in the boys under 150cm black belt division.

The boys and the team had a successful week, Connor winning both the Kata (form display) and the Kumite (free sparring) in his division and now holds both the Qld titles to add to his NZ titles, he was also part of a team Kata contest with his team coming 3rd while Manu won the Kata title and placed 3rd in the Kumite in his division, another outstanding achievement.

The team was also successful in winning the "test match" which both boys were part of, this is the first time a NZ team has ever beaten an Australian team in a Karate test match. The test match is contested in Kumite (free sparring) and saw some spirited contests.

The Coastal Dojo's are in Omata, Oakura and Opunake anyone wanting more information can contact, Jim Hoskin on 7527337.



Manu, Takahasi and Connor.



Manu competing.



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Kaitake Golf Club News and Events

Greetings,

Another month has slipped by very quickly despite the cooler damper weather that we endure at this time of year. The Club events have been ticking over and we now find ourselves moving into Club Championship mode. The stroke and match play events will dominate our programmes for the next couple of months. These events are always keenly contested and playing numbers rise accordingly.

It is also a time of year when the course is in its most pristine condition, when the dry summer months are long behind us and the weed growth has been kept to a minimum with the aid of sprays and colder climates. The course is looking fantastic at present and, in fact, it has done so for quite some time this year. It's a credit to Dominic and his band of helpers.

A couple of events that took place in July were the matching of all the Club's pennant teams and the Subway Ambrose. Both of these events are new to the Club. Whilst the two men's pennant teams have played each other at the end of each season, it's the first time the ladies have joined them. This was played on a normal Club Saturday and the two men's teams played each other and the midweek ladies played the weekend ladies. The fours were mixed so that there was one ladies match paired with one men's match. It really was a sight to behold to turn up to the course and see all these mixed fours out on the course. It brought back memories of the old days when Sunday was a mixed day and the course was regularly filled. Both matches were keenly fought out with the number two men's team prevailing over number one, and the two ladies teams finishing in a draw. Well done to all who took part.

The Subway Ambrose is a new open tournament on our calendar. This, too, was a success with 24 teams of four taking part. The shotgun start was a key to the success, allowing everybody to finish at the same time so that the after-match social activities were enhanced! Congratulations to all the winners and a huge thank you to David Howse and Subway for very generous sponsorship. I'm sure this tournament will continue to grow in the future.

Another successful 'Come and Try Golf' day was held early in the month. In excess of 30 people turned up to learn a little about the game and the Club. The numbers of youngsters who are keen to give it a go is really inspiring. We are now planning on having a regular monthly junior coaching and tournament day for these young ones to gain more experience. One small note here, if your child is of primary school age and you are a member of the Club the child can play for free.

Look out for another 'Come and Try Golf' day in a couple of months.

Until next month, Happy Golfing.

Ross Benton



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GETTING WET!



Oakura Boardriders Club

Holidays... have to have them!! Some Oakura-ites have been lucky enough to get away for their winter break; I know a few have hit the ski fields, others have been to Europe, and a lot of the surfers have hit Indonesia as is normal for this time of year.

We are on the way back from Indonesia where there were many from the NZ surfing fraternity visiting and more than a few from Oakura and Taranaki. In the few weeks we were there we had a couple of massive swells, one touted as the biggest to have hit Gland (on the tip of Java) in the last few years. Tyler Anderson, our open club champ, was over there and said it was huge, with the need for a serious gun the only way to catch the biggest waves at the height of the swell, nevertheless he got some of the waves of his life and no injuries!! Back on Bali Ulu's and Padang were maxing as were the crowds but some impressive surfing was going on.

On another note, this would have to be the most crowded I have ever seen Bali and the prices are sneaking up to the point where it is not the cheap destination it once was. It has bounced back from the terrorist bombings of a few years ago and is more popular than ever. Forget surfing uncrowded waves, or getting from A to B quickly; the infrastructure is really struggling to keep up with development. The weather and waves, though, remain the same — fantastic!

Paige tells me she is spending a bit of quality downtime at home after a great boat trip to the Mentawi Islands before her next contest, the US Open of Surfing in California. This is definitely one of the biggest events of the year since it has skateparks and motocross ramps set up right on the beach — it's a whole little village on the beach, you can even get your teeth whitened right on the beach if you want... only in America! She then heads to another World Qualifying Series contest in the Azores Islands near Portugal, and then on to Spain for another. She is hoping to do well in all three so she doesn't have to do the mission to Brazil later on in the year.

After these contests she heads straight from Spain to Tahiti for some relaxation... well, relaxation in between surfing Teahupoo and doing an international Billabong lifestyle photo shoot! So we wish her all the best and hope the results come.

The Boardriders AGM will be held on August 25, with election of committee, etc. Come along and meet the team; your input is always most welcome.



Tyler Anderson at Gland.

Keep your eyes open for all the grommet comps in the next few months. The Club is running a contest on the last Sunday of every month for under-18s. The NPSR Club is running the Port Taranaki winter series (see a committee member for more info), and the O&E Rampage series continues for under-16 boys and girls: August 28 in Mt Manganui, and September 11 in New Plymouth. Look for the posters around town and the Boardriders' noticeboard, or talk to a committee member if you need more info.

Brent Anderson



Connor Anderson at Chickens on Bali's East Coast.



Gland swell.



Portugese swell.

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Oakura Beach Holiday Park update

After seven years of managing the Oakura Holiday Park, Shelley Ludeke has left for Christchurch.

"There are so many good things about Oakura. I will miss my friends, the campers, and most of all, how friendly and helpful the locals are! Of course I will really miss Abbey, Al and Jan. One of my reasons for leaving is to start a new adventure and to be closer to my partner."

Shelley will be greatly missed by the community. We wish her well on her future endeavours.

Al and Jan are negotiating future lease agreements for the Holiday Park with the New Plymouth District Council. With the lease expiring in September 2010, Al and Jan are the first to begin the process of negotiating the new lease of the Development Concept with the Council.

The Holiday Park reception has been located downstairs now for some time with drinks, ice-creams, Internet access and essentials available there.

Taranaki Civil Construction have begun erosion prevention on the banks of the Waimoku Stream behind the Holiday Park building. Gabion baskets will be placed to support the bank.

by Rebecca Cowley



Jan, Shelley and Al.



The Waimoku banks are treated to a spruce-up. Weeds and some vegetation are removed to restore healthy growth. Gabion baskets will be placed to prevent erosion.



Man power: two diggers used for the job.



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Oakura School skips for charity

On July 2, the whole of Oakura School participated in a Jump Rope for Heart Skipathon. This was a fun way to get fit and to earn money for The Heart Foundation.

Jump Rope for Heart is a skipping programme run all over New Zealand and it works something like this: Each child is given a Jump Rope for Heart booklet in which they set a goal of how many skips they want to achieve before the Jump Off day. They then gather sponsorship money from friends and family, which goes to the Heart Foundation.



Skipathon in action.

Students had a sheet in the back of their topic book and almost every day we would count up our skips and record them into our books. As it came closer to the Jump Off day, classes started practising routines that they would demonstrate to their parents and the rest of the school.

On July 2 all the hard work finally paid off. The school and parents gathered on the new AstroTurf courts to watch each class perform their routine.

After the demonstration was a skipping tabloid run by our sports leaders. The school was divided into 20 groups which rotated around ten different activities, including skipping games and skills. What a great start to the holidays!

The Skipathon was a huge success, with students raising over \$2000 for the Heart Foundation.

Jessie Webster (12 years)

Another disco success for Oakura School

Wednesday, 30 June was certainly a night to remember for Oakura School students. The air was filled with excitement as cowboys, princesses, fairies—you name the lot!—arrived at the Oakura Hall with a few coins and, of course, some stunning dance moves! The occasion? Oakura School's annual disco, with this year's theme being Fancy Dress.



The music started and suddenly it was all go. The hall was filled with movement as kids jumped up and down, sang along to their favourite tunes or maybe even gave a little Michael Jackson impersonation!

The night was a huge success raising approximately \$910.00, which will go towards some new mini-laptops for the junior students. Thank you to FOOS (Friends of Oakura School) for organising the event; to Glenn Hooper from 2 Groove, who was the DJ for the night; and to the teachers for supervising (although their dancing left a bit to be desired!).

Another successful disco for Oakura School, and I'm sure it will not be the last.

Amy Benton (13 years)

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Oakura takes victory in bowling

On Thursday 1 July, 20 Year 7 and 8 students from Oakura School participated in the Interschool Bowling Competition held at the Hempton Hall, Okato. The participating schools were Omata, Coastal, Stratford Primary, Rahotu, Opunake, St Joseph's Opunake, and Oakura.

The 20 Oakura students were split into five teams of four, which were named with different colours and numbers and played a series of games. The first game of the day was singles, which means the skip (captain) of each team faces an opposing skip by themselves. The game has five ends/rounds.

The next game was triples and the three team members who didn't play in the first game, the leads, seconds and thirds, faced other schools with six ends/rounds. The third event was pairs, so the leads paired up with the skips, and the seconds paired up with the thirds. These new pairs faced other schools and had five ends/rounds.

To finish, there was an event where all four team members played together against another team, followed by a \$10 competition. Each team chose their best bowler and that bowler tried to get closest to the \$10 note. The champion was from Coastal, so they received \$10 to share with their team.

The team who won the most rounds and gained the most points won the trophy. The winning team this year was Oakura Team 4: Bailey Hales, Daniel Barron, Megan Vickers and Nick Wilson.

All the students who competed had a great time at the competition and had loads of fun learning how to bowl.

Our thanks go to the Oakura Bowling Club members who gave up their time to teach all our Year 7 and 8 students how to bowl, and for selecting and training our teams for this competition.

Molly Cattell (12 years)



Winning bowling team, left to right: Nick Wilson, Bailey Hales, Daniel Barron, Megan Vickers.

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Braising Meats

What Is Braising?

Braising is a cooking technique in which the main ingredient is browned in oil, then simmered in liquid on low heat in a covered pot. Braising is often used as a way to cook less expensive cuts of meat. The end result is tender and flavourful - It's one pot cooking at it's finest.

Fresha stocks a range of enamel and ceramic braisers, casserole dishes and tagines that are good for either the stove top or the oven and are ideal for braising.



9 Simple Steps to Great Braised Meat

- (1) Season the main ingredient with salt and pepper.
- (2) Heat a few tablespoons of oil and/or butter.
- (3) Sauté meat or vegetables on medium-high heat until the meat browns.
- (4) Deglaze by pouring broth, beef stock, wine or juice and scrape any pieces of meat that are stuck to the pan and stir.
- (5) Add cooking liquid (water, stock, wine, juice or some combination) to the half-way point of the main ingredient.
- (6) Cover and place the meat on the middle of a rack in an oven that has been preheated to 170 degrees Celsius.
- (7) Cook until completely tender. This can range from 1 hour to 6 hours, depending on what you are cooking.
- (8) Remove the pan from the oven and strain the meat and vegetables out of the liquid.
- (9) Remove the excess fat floating in the liquid, then reduce the sauce to desired thickness by cooking it down over low heat until it thickens. Or, make gravy by adding a mix of equal parts fat and flour (a roux).

Good cuts of meat for braising available at Fresha include: Angus Beef Oxtail, Angus Beef Cheeks, Angus Beef Short Ribs, Angus Beef Osso Bucco, Angus Beef Brisket, Angus Beef Sirloin End, Hawkes Bay Lamb Shanks, Hawkes Bay Lamb Cassoulet Fillets, Hawkes Bay Lamb Necks.

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Coming Events

August

- 11 Playgroup 9-11am
- 11/12 3D Conferences
Early finish 12noon
- 17 Home and School meeting 7pm
- 18 Years 5-8 Interschool soccer and basketball tournament
Board of Trustees meeting 7pm
- 26 Playgroup 9-11am

September

- 3 Omata School Cross Country 1pm
- 6 PP Day
- 7 Years 4-6 Coastal Cross Country 1pm
- 8 PP Day
- 9 Years 7-8 Inter-school Cross Country 1pm
- 10 PP Day
Playgroup 9-11am
15/16 Years 5/6 camp at Vertical Horizon (Inglewood)
- 22 Taranaki Cross Country in Hawera
- 24 Omata Idol 9am

Oakura Marae Visit

June 24 turned out to be a window of clear, fine weather set in a week of heavy rain. We thank Oakura Marae for their warm welcome and hospitality and also Dave Hare and the Indigenous Services team for the amazing experience provided for our tamariki and their whanau. The hangi lunch was superb, we got to have a go at mau rakau, poi, haka and rock painting for Matariki. Just as a fine drizzle descended, the children left with their kete full of rich learning, kai and happy memories of an awesome day.



Kate Logan,
Sarai Smith,
Sally Pearl
Beckingsale
and Annabel
Jones eyeing
up their
hangi lunch.



Oakura



New Zealand Post

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Home and School News

It is with a big smile that I write this month. At our last Home and School (H&S) meeting we had the pleasure of giving each class \$250 to spend on wet day games and also \$2000 to the library for books and resources. That makes a total of \$3500 of new resources from funds made through H&S. It is fantastic to be able to keep putting money back into resources that all our children benefit from. We will also be putting some of the Pumpkin Festival profits towards the gardens to be built. These are still in the planning stages.

This term we have raised money through the Pumpkin Festival; supplying helpers at a Hereford sale to make cups of tea and coffee and cook sausages; Friday lunches; and the Omata Cafe after music assembly. Thank you to everyone who has contributed towards our fundraising efforts!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 17 August at 7pm in the staffroom. New members welcome.



Javani Boyce demonstrating his expertise at mau rakau.



Tayla Browning
in full
concentration
on her rock
painting.

**Get more active
this winter!**

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I. PETER LEWIS

OF OMATA, acknowledge that Nick Barrett of New Plymouth is a better bike rider than I thought but then so are the GIRLS!!

TRAVEL

LOCALLY run group trip to Vietnam in October this year. Fun, laughs and amazing new adventures. Contact Belinda 7527876 or belinda@toa.co.nz

WOODSPLITTER

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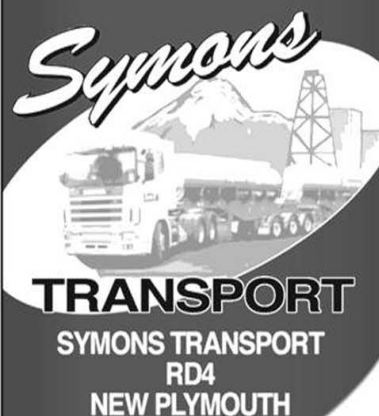
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MITRE 10 MEGA GARDENING

WE BUY MORE, YOU PAY LESS



GARDENING WITH ROSEMARY HERB Your August Checklist

Flower Garden:

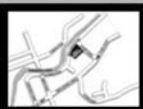
Plant new season's roses in rich, well-drained soil with plenty of compost. Complete rose pruning in time for spring growth. Plant new perennials. Lift and divide clumps of existing perennials. Plant trees and shrubs now to maximise spring growth.

Lawns:

Evenly apply lawn fertiliser to stimulate new growth. Moss can be a problem in poorly drained or shady areas of lawn. Rake the area thoroughly and apply a solution of Sulphate of Iron (10g per square metre) to kill moss.

Kitchen Garden:

Prepare the garden for spring planting. Add generous amounts of compost. Now is the time to add lime if necessary. Plant new citrus and deciduous fruit trees. Prune passionfruit vines and feijoas to encourage new growth and fruiting.



NEW PLYMOUTH

5 Vickers Road
Waiwakaiho
Telephone: 759 4399
Fax: 759 5233

OPENING HOURS

Monday—Friday: 7.00am—6.00pm
Saturday/Sunday & Public Holidays:
8.00am—6.00pm

**MITRE 10
MEGA**
Home Improvement Warehouse

St. AUBYN
veterinary clinic



ANIMALS IN THE FAMILY.

477 ST AUBYN ST, NEW PLYMOUTH
PHONE: 06 7513000 (24 HOURS)

OAKURA CLUBS & GROUPS

Bellydance

Every Thursday at Oakura Boardriders Club. 7.15 to 8.30pm.
Contact Rosalina at 027 739 1380.

Country and Western Club

Every 1st and 3rd Friday from 8.00pm. Contact Betty West,
89 Wairau Rd. Ph 752 7816.

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.

Oakura Pool Club

Meets every Wednesday evening 7pm @ Butlers Reef over winter. Ph Chip, 027 6214999 or 752 1004.

Okato Squash Club

Monday Club Night.

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.

Playcentre

Playcentre, Donelly Street.
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to noon.
Visitors welcome by appointment. Ring Jo on 752 7144.

Plunket Coffee Mornings

Held at attendees homes Wednesday 9.15am to 11.00am
(please arrive before 10am). Contact Tahnee Corr 027 829 1476, Fe Brown 027 228 9113 or Tessa Rodden 021 118 8406,
to find out where and/or to be added to the weekly notification list.

Senior Citizens

Meet Tuesdays in St James Church lounge for cards and bowls. All welcome. Phone 753 5705 for enquiries.

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.

Tai Chi

Evening classes starting 1st week Feb, Thurs 6.30pm, St James Church, Weds 10.30am. Ph Joanna Smith Holley 752 1016 for details.

Volkswagen Club

Events range from car rallies, the YMCA climbing wall, camping, BBQ get togethers and sharing good family times and knowledge.

Contact Brian Goodhue,
the El Presidente 752 1290, email podsnaill@xnet.co.nz

Yoga

No classes on Saturday and Keith Plummer is taking Tuesday night from 7:30 to 9pm (same time). At Oakura Hall, beginners are welcome. ph 752 7050.

For changes or new listngs phone 0800 THE TOM

Shane Herbert - Lawyer

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