

tom

TOM is a monthly publication delivered on the second Wednesday of the month to all homes and post-boxes from City limits to Dover Rd. For enquires please email oakuramessenger@xtra.co.nz or phone Tracey Lusk 752 7875. For all advertising enquiries please contact Milly Carr on 752 8003.

DECEMBER 2002

Cracker 'TOA' a real blast!

The kind of adventure most people want to experience is one where they know it is going to be hugely exhilarating, enormous fun, screamingly terrifying (a little) and reasonably physically challenging, but at the same time 100% safe! Some daredevils believe adventure and danger are one and the same thing, but not Taranaki Outdoor Adventures (TOA).

Taranaki Outdoor Adventures is a new home-based business headed by Belinda and Duoc Tran-Lawrence (known as Tran) and based in central Oakura. "Location is essential; Oakura is just so beautiful and everything is here!" enthuses Tran. TOA encapsulates three specific sectors: outdoor education and training for private providers, and students and staff of secondary schools, adventure tourism for New Zealanders and international action seekers, and corporate team development. Tran sees the corporate side of the business growing as companies become more aware of the whole health and well-being of their staff and the all important imperative of team trust, familiarity and growth.

Tran Lawrence is a qualified outdoor instructor in activities ranging from rock climbing to kayaking. With almost a decade of adventure training and experience under his well-secured belt, TOA is the ideal choice for all types of adventures for groups and individuals. "When you see our logo on any adventure activity, you can be assured it is a quality mark of safety and professionalism," says Tran.

When Tran and Belinda first decided to go solo they approached Venture Taranaki for guidance. "They

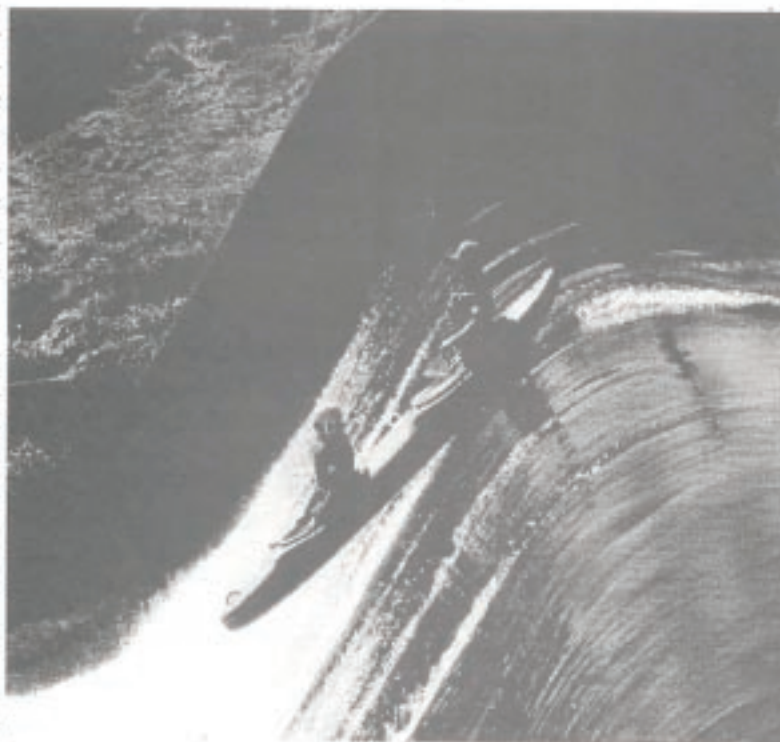
were absolutely amazing and offered such tremendous help, information, resources and contacts. We

couldn't have done so well without them and highly recommend anyone thinking of starting their own business to give them a call." Tran says it takes time to become established and known as a reputable business and that it requires high costs, especially in advertising. "Before we go international though, we want to develop a solid, local reputation. Walk before we run!" (Float before dam dropping!)

Tran is keen to point out that TOA will

customise an adventure for anyone according to likes, affordability, age and numbers but encourages people to book in advance for the best experience. "You can choose an adventure that is anything from the most adrenaline packed to the most sedate. Our twin passions are people and the outdoors and bringing them both together in a safe, fun and professional adventure is what it's all about for us."

by Hilary Bennett



**Taranaki Outdoor
Adventures.**



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www.toa.co.nz**

From Mayor Pete

It's not long now before we'll be able to kick back a bit and enjoy Christmas and New Year with our friends, relatives and neighbours. Of course between now and then there are a few hectic weeks as people finish off various tasks at work before their summer vacation, children finish school for the year and final preparations are made for Christmas Day.

But for me this is my favourite time of the year. I'm able to spend more time with my family, and enjoy our wonderful landscape and beaches at a much more relaxed pace. And of course I have more time to meet members of the public and have a natter about things of great importance – such as the form of the Black Caps and just how big the surf is along our coast.

This summer, as we always do, the Tennent family will be holidaying in Oakura – one of the best seaside towns in New Zealand! I love meeting the year-round residents and the seasonal vacationers, and of course the beach just can't be beaten!

And I'm certain that the Official Sunshine Capital of the North Island will turn on the sun again during January. Of course I hope everyone takes care to not get sunburnt over summer – the old Slip Slop Slap and Wrap routine – and that you drink safely and drive safely over the festive season, and beyond.

May your Christmas be a happy one, and your New Year an enjoyable time with the people you love.

Peter Tennent
Mayor

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News from the new area constable: Thomas McIntyre

That would be me. I am the new cop (Constable) in the area, based in Okato. A bit about myself: I am married with three boys aged six, three and two. I like keeping fit. I don't play any sport in particular and find that my three boys keep me busy anyway. I love the big outdoors and will give anything a try.

I have been in the police for six/seven years. I have spent all of this time in the Taranaki area. I have worked in New Plymouth for four years and Opunake for two and now I am here. Anyway, that is a little about me.

With Christmas and New Years upon us it is a good idea to get in touch with your neighbours and find out who they are. Let each other know when you'll be away and keep an eye on what is happening around the place. If you see anything suspicious, write it down and let me or the New Plymouth Police know. There have been a couple of burglaries in the Oakura township so be vigilant when it comes to locking your house when you are away and reporting out of the ordinary characters in the area.

New Years Eve at Oakura is set to be a big night for the teenagers of Taranaki. There will be a Teenage Rage Dance at Oakura until 1.0am on New Years day. A lot of planning has gone into it and we are hopeful that everything will go well. There will be a liquor ban on New Years eve at Oakura Beach. No alcohol will be tolerated. It is easier to leave it behind and have a good safe time at the beach, then you don't have to worry about court days and fines and what Mum and Dad will think!

There have been a couple of letter boxes damaged on Messenger Tce. If you know of or see anyone doing this please let us know.

On a happier note, have a great Christmas and a happier New Year!

Constable Thomas McIntyre

Jones & Sandford Joinery Ltd



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"... a strong suggestion of the human form or garment, but a figure cannot possibly exist within these forms. Rather, an evocative notion of presence and possibility. A binary tension exists with the forms, implying that which is not there - an enigmatic existence" Jane Collins 2002

Jane Collins

My meeting with Jane was a perfectly timed, peaceful moment in my "modern life". I sat for the first time in a long time, quietly, drinking tropical fruit tea and thinking deeply about life outside of cell phones, deadlines and meetings. Jane's etchings, and her presence, encouraged me to pause for a moment and think beyond what I could see and what I know. The simple outlines and colours of her work are enticingly comfortable and easy to enjoy but then inspire deep thought as you trace the lines and explore the textures. It is her intention that we might explore what is not there and not that which is there.

Jane is passionate about the way life experiences are portrayed, creating images not necessarily familiar to the natural eye. Her preferred medium of expression is intaglio print making although she also enjoys the play of colours with her acrylic work. In intaglio etching nitric acid is applied to a zinc metal plate causing the zinc to oxidise in certain parts and exposing an image. Combined with her love for textiles and texture, the shape and purpose of women and their clothes is often the beginning point of Jane's work, as seen in her recent whimsical exploration of shoes.

Ending our discussion, Jane said "Follow your heart. If you know you've got to do something don't worry what somebody else thinks. Just do it. It's not necessarily going to be easy but you've got to believe in yourself."

After initially enrolling to do a few classes at WITT, four and a half years later Jane has just graduated with a Degree in Fine Arts. Congratulations, Jane.

Jane Collins is currently exhibiting in Auckland at The Lane Gallery on Vulcan Lane and the Flagstaff Gallery in Devonport. You may also view her work throughout December and January at Café Wunderbar in Oakura and at Oakura Info Plus or visit her website cjane.co.nz. Private viewings by arrangement. Jane Collins 06 752 7610 email: artefact@xtra.co.nz



Michelle Powell

Omata School plant sale a huge success

We are delighted to tell you that the plant sale made in excess of \$4,000. A credit to all who helped - the planting team, the plant sellers, the sausage sizzlers, the cafe ladies, the money counters, the cake bakers etc etc. Raffle winners were:

Baby photos: Brian O'Keeffe and Kayla Green. **Seanson voucher:** Kayla Green **Lollies:** Steffan Groceries **1st Mrs Lucas, 2nd** rosie Steiner **3rd** June Xmas Play-group **Christmas Cake:** Margaret Hoffman **Gardener's Pack:** Andrea Hunt **Rimu Package:** Stephanie Niederberger **Desk:** Raewyn Cashin



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*We would like to thank everyone
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and wish everyone a fabulous
holiday break.*

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Omata School's Yr5 & 6 camp

Year 5 and 6 pupils from Omata Primary School will be off to Rotorua on the 2nd of December. On the first day we will be going to the Buried Village and its newly constructed museum, Blue Lake, Boyes Beach and Wai O Tapu thermal pools. At Boyes Beach we will take part in activities like kayaking, waka, abseiling, orienteering, low ropes and indoor climbing. The next day we will be off to Rainbow Springs, the Rainbow Farm Show, Skyline Skyrides and redwood Grove. At the Skyline Skyrides we will go on a lift on the gondolas and then a zoom around on the luge. On the 5th we are going to the Rotorua Museum, Owata School for a sports exchange, and Leisure World for hydro-sliding. The Rotorua museum will let us encounter what it would have been like in the Mt Tarawera eruption. Then on Friday 6th we will get on the bus and be on our way home!

Jorja Green

Oakura CBD upgrade on hold

The meeting of the Kaitake Development Subcommittee was a boisterous one, and we understand that this demonstrates the passion that the people in this community have.

However, what is important is that we keep going forward towards achieving the best possible plans for upgrading our main street area. It is crucial to us that the community has an input – and many already have done during the consultation process to date.

Clearly some people would like more time to give us more feedback and the subcommittee is very happy to make sure that can happen.

Progress on our main street upgrade will now be on hold until February when the Kaitake Development subcommittee will meet again to make a decision on which development plan to go ahead with. In the meantime, plans of the options will be displayed in the Oakura Library and the Information Centre.

Further details of the feedback process for this meeting will follow in the February TOM. If anyone would like a copy of their own plans they can contact the Council on 7596060.

Pam Street

Kaitake Development Subcommittee Chair

The Kaitake Development Subcommittee was formed after a public meeting at the hall about this time last year. Interested people put their names forward to be part of the decision making for our CBD. So far there has been three meetings, and at the last meeting the council staff were hoping to get the first stage out for tender.

While this and the Community Board meetings are open to the public, they are bound by the Local Government Act and Council Standing Orders. **Public participation** is in the first ½ hour; participants may ask to speak in the public speaking time. The chairperson determines the order of speakers and the time available for each speaker. This session does not form part of the meeting and Committee members are unable to debate issues.

You can request a Deputation to appear before the committee and this should be lodged through the Secretariat at least ten clear days before the meeting. No more than four members of a deputation may address the meeting. There is a time limit of 5 mins per speaker.

The Kaitake Community Board

Sue Henchman Chairperson

Phil Hunt

Keith Plummer

Mike Anderson

Pam Street Appointed

**The next Kaitake Community Board meeting is on January 21st
9.00 am Oakura Fire Station**



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"Soundz-Like It" Dance/Rage New Years Eve Oakura Beach

Free Admission!

Preparations for this event are well under way. There has been overwhelming support for the dance, all we need now is a fine night! Two mobile caravans will be selling cans of drink, ice creams, hot chips etc. On site Audiohire will provide lighting effects and dancing music. A full complement of security people will oversee the safety of the crowd in the immediate vicinity of Shearer Reserve, and police will monitor all other areas. Shuttle buses will be running between New Plymouth and Oakura, departing Okato Bus Depot Queen Street New Plymouth 7pm onwards and returning to New Plymouth 12:30am onwards. Tickets for sale from Okato Bus Depot; however, one way return tickets will be for sale on the night at the info booth in front of the half court. Remember this is a liquor free zone, so come along and have a great night, dance your way into 2003, catch a bus back to New Plymouth afterwards so we can clear the area for the New Years Day Carnival the next day. This project gratefully acknowledges assistance from Te NPDC, 98.8ZM, TNL and T.O.M. Ongoing assistance from many other sources is acknowledged on the publicity flyer.

Chris Gruys

tom tees for sale

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Tuesday 31 December 2002

NEW YEARS EVE - Shearer Reserve (beside Skate Park)

8pm - 1am **Oakura Beach** 8pm - 1am

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- ♪ DJ and Sound System/Lighting Effects
- ♪ Non-stop Dance and Midnight Countdown
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- ♪ Bus tickets for sale 9 - 31 Dec from Okato Bus Lines Depot, 32 Queen St N.P., \$7 return, \$5 one-way, pre numbered, be in early!
- ♪ Buses depart N.P. Depot for Oakura at 7.30pm
- ♪ Buses return from Oakura 12.30am to 1.30am to Depot, N.P.
- ♪ One-way bus fares back to N.P. for sale at info stall on the night
- ♪ Police Presence

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House in the Oakura area wanted to rent or swap for house in Eastbourne, Wellington. Close to village, cafes and beach. Wanted for the first week in January 2003. Phone 752 7562 or 04 562 7005 or 027 2244 973.





At Kaitake kindergarten there is only a few more weeks of the year to go. We are busy with our end of year festivities. A teddy bears picnic has been held for the children and end of year trips are planned. The children's fancy dress parties are to be held on 17th December.

Last term we had an accountability review by the Education Review Office; we are very pleased and proud of the results. The full review is available for interested people to read on www.ero.govt.nz. There is also a copy at the kindergarten for you to read. Here is a brief summary of the review written by Diana Anderson Area Manager of Wanganui Education Review Office.

"Children receive high quality education at Kaitake Kindergarten in an environment that recognises and supports learning and development. Teachers are committed to encouraging and involving parents in children's learning. Good systems of communication ensure parents are kept well informed about their children's progress and kindergarten events. The centre is welcoming and parents willingly involve themselves in both curriculum and management.

The physical environment is carefully designed to maximise learning opportunities and stimulate children's learning. Assessment and planning systems have a positive impact on the quality of the programme. Through evaluation, teachers plan programmes that are responsive to the needs of children and developments in early childhood education. Children are familiar with routines and the associated expectations. They are confident learners.

The kindergarten staff promote cultural sensitivity and equity."

If you have a young child or are new to the community and are interested in your child attending the kindergarten please visit us and we will give you some more information.

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Councillor's comments

Once again the month has been busy and varied. I missed my first day at the Information Centre as an Environmental Hearing I was sitting on was reconvened. However I shall do my best to be there next month.

A meeting of interested people was held at Okato earlier in the month to talk about and start the planning for the main street upgrade. The Stoney River and Blue Rata was the theme they want to go with. One of their main concerns was traffic speed through the main area. We all seem to have the same problem.

At the Council this month I attended a Foreshore subcommittee meeting where we were given a presentation on Artificial reefs, with the suggestions that one could be positioned just off the walkway by the wind wand. A study is to be undertaken to look at this possibility. Of course nothing is set in concrete yet and I'm sure there will be some interesting debate on the issue.

The round of Annual Plan meetings has finished. The Oakura meeting was attended by 25 people. The Council now has the job of going through all of the ideas and working out what will be funded in the next financial year.

One of the big issues I face as a Councillor is the Waitara Lease land. A process has already begun, with us all getting a copy of the report, and attending a workshop presented by the writer of the report.

We have a new Constable, who will be based in Okato. Thomas McIntyre attended the Community Board meeting this week. It is great to have him around.

I will list the other meetings I have attended so you can get an idea of the variety of work I do. Many people say to me "don't you get sick of going to meetings", but no I don't as every meeting is different.

The meetings included; Workshop "where the bus stop should go", special Council meeting, Annual Plan meetings /Oakura and New Plymouth, Council meeting, Omata Church meeting, Police Forum Councillors annual planning meeting, Weld Rd camp meeting with land owners, Chris Grys, Dave Lee / New Year, Kaitake Community Board, Puke Ariki Sub Committee/site visit, Civil Defence meet Kaitake Development Committee, CBD upgrade, Environment Committee Funding Subcommittee/Social Services, Council Workshop, Community Services/Graffiti meeting.

This month I have fielded phone calls re grass mowing, trees, possum control, horses on the beach, and 1080 poison, to name a few.

I wish Chris Grys all the best with her New Year rave for the young people. If anyone would like to offer some help, please ring Chris. It wouldn't have to be all night, just an hour or two could be helpful. Even to help clean up so the area is ready for the beach carnival the next day.

Christmas is now not far away. I wish you all the best. Have a happy and safe festive season. I hope the wind goes away and we get some sunshine for the holidays.

Until January, Regards

Pam Street.

Book Review:

Wine Atlas of New Zealand

Michael Cooper; photography by John McDermott

(Hodder Moa Beckett \$125.00)

Whether you consider yourself to be a lively and punchy Savvy Young Plonk, a full-bodied and fruity Chardonnay Socialist, a ripe and plummy Merlot Imbiber, or even a Wannabe Samurai Warrior - there's something for every buff in this definitive book on New Zealand wine.

Several years' researching into every region and visiting all the vineyards by this country's foremost wine expert has resulted in an impressively produced, timely reference and must-have addition to every bookshelf and coffee table. Eloquently written with gorgeous photographs and crisply illustrated, this region-by-region guide to over 280 wine companies also contains: profiles of leading winemakers, accurate and detailed location maps, overviews of grape varieties, and geographical, climate and historical information.

Like a fine, vintage wine, this valuable book is the ultimate gift or acquisition and is guaranteed to provide pleasure on opening. Cheers!

Pip Barrett

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A Bite of History ..

New life for the Royal Oak Dairy Factory



The Royal Oak Dairy Factory on Allen Rd Omata was formed in 1918 and operated as a cheese and whey butter factory. When the milk in schools programme was introduced, Royal Oak received the contract to supply all the schools in and around New Plymouth, starting with Omata School.

By 1922, the number of suppliers to the factory had reached 45. However, by 1942 the number of suppliers had dropped to 11 and the company was finally liquidated on November 7, 1949.

A few facts to show the value of the dollar (or at least the pound) in the Royal Oak era.

- The factory buildings were sold to the New Plymouth City Dairy Ltd for £2725 in 1946.
- The sum of two shillings per pound of butterfat was paid to suppliers for the season to 30 June 1921.
- The company's manager was employed on a salary of £225.
- A factory assistant was paid £2-15-0 weekly with a bonus of five shillings a week if he stopped with the company for the complete season.

The factory building is currently undergoing a major rebuild to begin a new life as a private home.

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Roger Gordon

Raising awareness about stormwater

In the new year, blue metallic fish will be attached to the kerbs of Oakura to indicate that the adjacent sumps (or drains) are part of an NPDC stormwater system which drains to a natural waterway. The new metallic fish will replace the old system of marking stormwater sumps with a blue painted stencil. The existing stencils require quite a lot of ongoing maintenance to keep them visible and it is hoped that the new metallic fish will be a lot more visible and will require a lot less upkeep. Oakura will be the first area in the district to see the new fish.

The main reason for highlighting the stormwater sumps is to remind people that anything that enters the sump will eventually come out in a natural waterway somewhere downstream. This means that any rubbish and pollutants from litter or spills could end up on a beach or in a stream or river. As well as potentially polluting the environment downstream, any rubbish entering stormwater sumps could cause a blockage in the system, which could lead to flooding.

NPDC is responsible for maintenance of stormwater systems which are owned by (or have been taken over by) NPDC. All other systems (including natural waterways) are the responsibility of the property owner as the system passes through that property.

It is not possible to eliminate the risk of flooding altogether because there will always be events that exceed the system design criteria, and blockages and such can severely reduce the ability of the stormwater systems to cope. One of the most effective ways of minimising the likelihood of flooding in your property is to keep stormwater sumps clear, especially during rain when debris is likely to flow down the gutter.

For more information, contact Julie Kinloch, Manager Water & Wastes, New Plymouth District Council. Phone 759-6060; enquiries@npdc.govt.nz

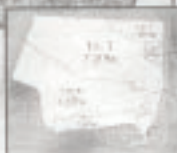


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5th January 2003 - 100 year anniversary of the shipwreck Gairloch

On 22nd August 1884, a twin screw steamer was launched on the Clyde River at Port Glasgow. She was named the Gairloch and was intended for the Waitara trade. She was fitted up at considerable cost for the carrying of stock. She left London for Auckland on the 2nd October. From Auckland she completed her maiden voyage and arrived at Waitara at 6 a.m. on Tuesday 10th February 1885, having taken nine and a half hours to travel between the ports of Manukau and Waitara. On her trial trip she reached a speed of 11 knots. Her keel and fore-rake measured 147 ft; Beam 23 ft; Depth of hold 9 ft; and she was fitted to carry 50 passengers.

On Monday 5th January 1903 the Gairloch left Kawhia and shaped a course to clear the Taranaki coast. The weather worsened on the way down and by nightfall it was very thick and stormy with rain falling in torrents. So impenetrable was the darkness, that the Gairloch nearly collided with her sister ship the Ngapuhi. The two ships avoided collision by careful seamanship. Off the Taranaki coast at about twenty to twelve, those on board felt the vessel strike something; this was the Ahu Ahu reef. Then she stuck fast on the Timaru Reef minutes later. Captain Austen sent up gun rockets which greatly alarmed the settlers and inhabitants of Oakura. One inhabitant of Oakura telephoned Dr Walker's house in New Plymouth and advised that a steamer had run ashore there, though no information as to the identity of the vessel could be given at that stage. The Misses Walker immediately went to the Police Station and gave the information.

In response to the signals of distress, the settlers hurried down to the beach but could give no assistance. The crew remained on board the steamer until daylight. In the meantime, they loaded the two lifeboats with provisions etc and when it was light enough, they launched the boats, pulled out to sea and saw the Sugar Loaves. The officers and crew totalled 21. They rowed the seven miles to the breakwater and landed in good spirits at 6 a.m. where they got food and accommodation at the Breakwater Hotel.

Daylight showed the Gairloch to be well up on the rocks on the Timaru Reef. In spite of her strengthened hull, the rocks tore the bottom out of her. She went ashore at high water and was within a quarter mile from dry land and could be reached quite easily at low water. She could be plainly seen from Oakura Township and could also be seen from the top of Paritutu.

Salvaged from the wreck were the the officers' and crews' effects, the ship's silver, linen, upholstery and spirits. The dredge returned to port in the evening. That night a heavy sea washed off the balance of the deck cargo.

The hull of the Gairloch was purchased through sale by Mr A. Bayly for 20 pounds. Mr Bayly was plagued by vandals and souvenir hunters. By mid April, nothing was visible of the steamer as all machinery had been removed from the hull and was stored at Mr Mills'. The seas broke up and flattened most of the hull.

Robert Hall



Oakura Fish Shop would like to thank all our customers for their support over the last year.



Angela, Garry and all the staff wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Our Hours are as follows:

Sat - Mon 4pm-8pm (later if busy)
Tues - Fri 4pm - 6pm (later if busy)
Phone 752 7614 for your orders.

We will be closed on Christmas Day
Boxing Day
New Years Eve

We can cater and deliver for large groups and parties locally (discount available for school and club groups)

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Having a party?? Don't drink and drive - Phone us, and we will deliver locally (min. purchase applies)

From a visitor's diary

WOW! There he was, reigning majestically over her region all clad in cool soft white. The coastline stretching around as far as the eye could see. Rivers meandering to greet the sea, waves lapping on black grains of sand, and the sky timeless blue reaching to the heavens. It was July the 27th, Matt my husband, Danielle our daughter, our pets Jet the dog and Olivia the cat were on our way to our new home. Matt works in the film industry as a set builder and we were relocating to Taranaki, Oakura to be exact, for the new blockbuster movie, 'The Last Samurai', which is to commence filming early in the New Year. For us the movie was a great opportunity to get out of Auckland and have a look around, explore some new terrain and meet some new people.

Finally we arrived at our destination, our new house stood intriguing, inviting, wrapped in the shadows of dusk. We unloaded our gear and went to find our friend's house where we could rest for the night in warmth and comfort. The new day dawned brilliant blue and cloudless, which I must say was a beautiful change to the quiet often-grey overcast muggy skies of Auckland. I was already impressed by this place set on the shores of the Tasman Sea nestled at the foot of Mount Taranaki.

We have now been living here for four months, and every day I am still impressed, not only by the scenery but by the people as well. The Oakura community is very special, everybody we have met is positive, friendly and into supporting their community. There are wonderful outdoors opportunities, whether it be just going for a walk or plunging into the pumping surf. The wider Taranaki area offers beautiful tramping with great huts, which we love to take advantage of when we get the opportunity, and Matt is a keen fly fisherman so the rivers and lakes surrounding the area are a bonus. All in all, we love this place, and are seriously considering settling down here. The only thing is, I don't think this place is going to be a secret for much longer; the cat is out of the bag!

**On the beach this summer will be
sea kayaks for hire.**

Can be used for surfing, fishing and guided trips out to Ahu Ahu road.
This is part of the initiative of
Taranaki Outdoor Adventures.

New graduate writes about life as a mature student

I've got to admit, when asked to write a short article about what it was like being a "mature student" I was appalled - me, "mature"? I'm only in my early thirties. O.K. mid-thirties.... Well, I was when I started!

Anyway. Back in 1999 I enrolled at the then Taranaki Polytechnic (now Western Institute of Technology, or WITT - luckily not Taranaki Institute of Technology), to do the full-time Bachelor of Nursing course. We started February 2000 with, I believe, 56 students in the class. Although friends told me I'd probably be the oldest in the class I was pleased to find I was somewhere in the mid-range, with a group in their mid-late 40s and only a handful of school-leavers. The first year was spent in the classroom, with only two weeks out on "clinicals". The second year we spent a term on clinical placement and the third year we only spent a term in class. I've got to say, I absolutely loved being a student, and nursing offered a wonderful mix of theory and practical education. The course content included anatomy and physiology, micro-biology, sociology, psychology, nutrition, communication, technology, pharmacology, health promotion, etc etc. The challenges were continuous, but very rewarding. I'm not sure if all "mature" students are the same, but I certainly gained a lot of satisfaction from working hard and getting good grades throughout the course.

It was the first time in my life that I drove in to town every day, worked very hard and at the end of the week instead of getting paid - I had to pay them. That's a very bizarre concept when you've been working for years!

My class, *class of 2000*, sat the Nursing Council state final exams a week ago, having already completed the actual degree. Several classmates have already started work as Registered Nurses locally, some have got positions in Australia and others elsewhere in New Zealand. I'm looking forward to having a holiday with my family this Summer, but I am also looking forward to working as a *real* Registered Nurse, a job in which there is always something new to learn, full of challenges..... and if I'm lucky I'll also get paid!

Diane Alder



Successes at Oakura School

SPORTSMARK AND FAIRPLAY AWARD

This term Oakura School was presented with a Sportsmark and a Fairplay Award by Jill Denoon from Sports Taranaki and Amy Mason a New Zealand Cricket representative.

To be eligible for these awards the school sports programme had to meet certain standards. These include such requirements as: providing kiwisport training for our staff; providing fun, positive and challenging sporting opportunities for all pupils; including young people with disabilities; offering a variety of sporting opportunities; teaching the value of teamwork; expecting fairplay from everyone; playing by a code of conduct. Oakura School was one of only 15 schools in Taranaki to receive a Sports-mark Award.



DEBATING

Our year 7 debating team recently won the Taranaki Year 7 Debating Competition. The final was against St Josephs School in Stratford, and the subject was 'experiments on animals should be banned'.

Members of the team (Tess Novak, Samantha Woods, Mathew Dickey and reserve Jack Smithers) took part in four debates throughout the competition, which started in June. Each debate requires many hours research and practise. The team has been very fortunate to have Don Harvey, who is a skilled debater and a member of our local community, working with them to develop their skills.



TENNIS

Joshua Walden and Paige Hareb recently represented the school at the Taranaki Primary School Tennis Competition. Both players performed extremely well, with Paige going on to win the overall girls' section of the competition.



GOLF

Earlier this term, eighteen pupils represented our school at the Taranaki Primary Schools Golf Competition held in Waitara. All pupils were excellent representatives of our school.


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The story of tom

The Oakura Messenger was not always the 28 page community paper you hold in your hands. The Messenger was conceived in October 2000, at a discussion over dinner. Tracey Lusk and Sue Pritt toyed with the idea of a newsletter that catered specifically for the Oakura community.

"It was to provide a medium for the locals. Because I felt like nobody else was covering Oakura. Oakura is a growth community," says Tracey.

"Unless you had children at the school you did not know what was going on. If you were new to Oakura there was no way you could get that information."

Tracey credits the Messenger's initial success to Sue's enthusiasm.

"If it wasn't for Sue it would never have started. She took the idea and ran with it. She came the next day and said 'Right, this is how we should do it.'"

Back in those days The Messenger consisted of four A4 pages. In order to cover the costs, The Messenger initially needed 12 advertisers. This was Tracey's job.

"I went, armed with a piece of paper, and said 'This is what we're going to do, and we want advertisers, and it will cost you x amount of dollars, are you keen?' And we got twelve advertisers just off a mock up.

"Thinking back now I think 'That's pretty amazing really'. We had great support for something that people didn't know anything about. I thought the idea sold itself."

At the time The Messenger didn't have an extensive labour force, with Sue and Tracey working in many different roles to get the paper published. The papers were delivered by Sue and Tracey and their children, who were paid in icecream, with the occasional help of a few locals including Kaitake ward Councillor Pam Street. It has not been revealed as to whether Pam was paid with ice creams or not.

At the end of March this year, Sue Pritt decided to leave The Messenger and Catherine Jones joined, bringing with her that all important member of the team, Desktop Publisher. Bringing more than just her computer skills and software, Catherine's arrival marked a period of growth for The Messenger.

Since April it has doubled its circulation from 500 to over 1000, to include Omata, and increased its publication size from 6 to 28 pages.

"Catherine and I share the same enthusiasm and passion for the direction of the Oakura messenger."

With added size came added work and new members had to be added to the team.

But Tracey and Catherine still insist the paper is a family affair with their respective one- year- olds taking a hand in the editing process.

David Cadman

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Omata Home & School Association farewells Pam Livingston

On Monday 25 November, Pam Livingston, Chairperson of the Omata Home & School Association was farewelled. Pam and James and their three children, Callum, William and Phoebe are off to Hawera to live. Promotion within Taranaki Farmers where James works has meant we are saying goodbye to a wonderful family in our community. James grew up in Omata and his parents still reside there today. Pam has been very active within the school, firstly running the playgroup on Thursdays and latterly chairing Home & School meetings and organising the Thursday bought lunch club for the children. Pam was also one of the main organisers of our very successful plant sales. Many hours were put in potting up plants over the year to sell. Both Pam and James were always helping out whenever they could. Mike Norris, Principal of Omata School thanked Pam for her major contribution to the school and said she would be greatly missed. We all, parents, children and teachers alike, will miss the Livingston family.



Left to Right: Sheryl Clyma, Mike Norris, Pam Livingston, Kim Benton, Deb Taylor, Di Carswell, Robyn Moses, Stephanie Niederberger, Andrea Hunt, Julianne Stolte, Kim Ferens and Nicola O'Keefe

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Thinking about working from home?

The November issue of the Oakura Messenger discussed the trend of people working from home.

But did you know there are planning, building and environmental health issues when it comes to businesses in residential areas? "Not all activities are appropriate in residential areas," says NPDC regulatory services manager Ron Kratz. "If you're thinking about working from home, it's important to remember that residential areas are where people live."

"While small-scale businesses can contribute to the character of a residential area, businesses that create noise and other 'nuisances' are generally not permitted where residents could be affected - and those nuisances can include things like traffic and noise levels."

The New Plymouth District Plan - which the council created in close consultation with the community - determines whether a particular activity is appropriate within a particular area.

It considers such things as: buildings, signs, traffic generation and parking, noise, hazardous substances, landscaping, outdoor storage, sale of liquor, light/glare and trees.

"The aim of the District Plan is to help make neighbourhoods healthy and nice places to live in, while enabling businesses to develop in the district," says Ron.

"If you're thinking of setting up a business at home, it would pay to ring the council on 759 6060 and check out what you need to do in regard to planning issues, building consents and environmental health."

"The council can help you work out what you need to do and what you don't need to do when it comes to setting up a home-based business, and we can guide you through any of the necessary processes."

Rachelle McBeth
*Education Officer
Regulatory Services
NPDC*

Points of view expressed in contributed articles
are not necessarily the views of
The Oakura Messenger.

Dental House 753 6298



Robert Wagstaff BDS
Elizabeth Priest BDS
Lyndie Foster Page BSc BDS Dip
CLIN Perio
270 Carrington Street, New Plymouth

Green Ginger Café

We know Kerry Vosseler, currently operating Posh Nosh Catering, produces great food. Now we can all indulge in her quality cooking every day at her new venture, Green Ginger Cafe.

After twenty years in the industry Kerry, with unbounded support from husband Mark, is transforming her present premises on the main street of Oakura into a relaxed, stylish café. Green Ginger Cafe with its team of talented, mostly local women is anticipated to open on about the 10-11th December. At this stage opening hours will be 9.30-4.00 during the week and 9.00-4.00 weekends, with the view to open a few nights a week after the school holidays. Evenings will offer more of a 'dining' experience, an innovative, accommodating menu and fine wines.

It is obvious when chatting to Kerry that she has an energetic spirited affinity with food and cooking. Making fresh exciting food, based on quality seasonal ingredients, available to everybody is what she's all about.

Being able to offer meals from a blackboard menu as well as a vast selection of mostly pre-prepared counter food with a minimum of fuss is an additional asset to the local restaurant scene. Fresh ideas will be developed each day, with Kerry producing an ever-changing selection of filled bagels and baguettes, interesting cakes, home-made pies, tasty salads and vegetarian offerings. There will be fresh juices, fruit smoothies, special milkshakes and real teas. Not to mention fabulous Karajoz brand coffees.

The present building space is being opened up with double bi-fold doors to make way for a handful of tables and bar stools inside, allowing seating to spill out the front on calm fine days. Inside there will be a beachy theme with polished concrete floors, paua shells and relaxing colours.

The space may be limited, but Kerry's enthusiasm and imagination are not. You are invited to come on in - be it salty and sandy footed from a spell at the beach, or wanting a brief respite from a busy day - you can have a sit down meal or take it away with you.

So if the doors are open and the pot plants out, come on in. You're sure to recognise a friendly face and be rewarded with great fare.

Green Ginger Cafe has also taken over the lease for the coffee caravan at the beach. The caravan will be operating seven days a week, mid-morning till dusk, offering coffee, cakes and a small selection of savoury food.

Green Ginger Cafe, Tel: 752 1399

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Omata

A name we call our community

What does the name *OMATA* mean?

There are many interpretations .

Benjamin Wells suggests that old tribes of Taranaki called the area *OMATA* meaning: near to the headland or cape.

Another record gives the meaning of *OMATA* as "O Thy Face". This is supposed to refer to a rock situated on the foreshore at the end of Beach Rd, which had a "face". Erosion has since worn away the face.

Translation by another source in Maori Place Names of New Zealand gives the meaning of *OMATA* as "O" – the place of, "MATA" – quartz. The place of quartz. There are records of the Kaitake Ring Plain being buried under lahars when the Kaitake Range was volcanically active. Hydrothermally altered or silicified andesites and diorites have been exposed on ridges and in the stream courses within the Ranges. Quartz is often associated with gold and the Kaitake Ranges were once mined for gold at the top of Weld Rd.



Omata Rock, situated on the foreshore at the end of Beach Rd, has now been worn down by erosion.

Today *OMATA* means to its residents a place of community spirit. A place to bask in the beauty of sea and mountain. A place to live in rural retreat, yet only minutes from city life. A place where different cultures and characters live together with each other, respecting the past and building for the future.

By Kim Ferens

Editor 150th Omata Jubilee Book

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The meaning of "Oakura"

as submitted by Miss M. M. Hautorokawawikomokomo
Sullivan

Told by ancestors descended from the Ngati Tairi Hapu Oakura Pa.

A cloak (named Hunokiko) was placed on the Oakura River Bank beside the Pa. The setting sun reflected on the cloak, causing a flash of red. The are became known as the place where the sun lingers.

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The Club is running smoothly, although we haven't had as many fish weighed in as we would have hoped. We are all are looking forward to the summer time. The lack of fish is not due to members staying indoors. Members are going out and giving it a go, which is great to see. The recent Club days have been fizzers, due to the weather; however, the recent "Ali Krutz Memorial Trophy" between the N P Surfcasting Club & the Oakura Surfcasting Club saw the trophy stay with the locals. O S C member Larry Eaton caught a Kahawai, and was lucky enough to land it. There were a few other hook ups as well, with local member Doc Brown having incredible bad luck hooking up 4 Kahawai and losing them at his feet. Although the weather was again terrible, it was great to see the good turnout by both Clubs. We look forward to reporting on the "Big Labour Weekend 3 Day Fish Anywhere" next month. We still would love to have a few more Juniors and Ladies in to join our Club.

Tight Lines
Debbie Edgcombe
Secretary



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Gardening with Rosemary Herb

December / January Checklist

Vegetables

- * Keep plants well watered and mulched during the summer months. Water before wilting to minimise stress on plants.
- * Control caterpillar on cabbage, cauliflower and broccoli with Derris Dust or Target. Use Fungus Fighter for powdery Mildew on melons, pumpkin, cucumber and courgette.
- * Side dress vegetables with Gro Plus complete Garden fertiliser.

Flowers

- * Spray roses and other ornamentals with Super Shield to control major pests and diseases without harming bees. Give roses an extra boost with Gro Plus Rose Fertiliser and lightly prune to encourage more blooms. When spraying roses add Nitrosol Liquid.
- * Blood & Bone as a foliage feed approximately every two weeks to have continued flowering.
- * Control thrips, mealy bug, scale, aphids and caterpillars with Orthene.

Fruit Trees

- * After fruit set, apply fertiliser to trees to increase the size of fruit.

Lawns

- * Water regularly to maintain growth.
- * Raise mowing height to aid moisture conservation

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Oakura Junior Sports Club



During the year the children play a large number of sports, including Indoor Netball. It is a mixed team sport. The game consists of six players and is fast, as the net keeps the ball in play. Indoor Netball is played all four terms; two or three teams have been entered each term, a team has been in the final every term, and there have been two section wins and two runner up teams. This term we have three teams: Brazil, coached by Paul Coxhead, Australia coached by Mark Powell and South Africa, coached by Susanne Wearne. We were fortunate to have the support of Action Indoor Sport and held a 2-hour coaching session for our teams with one of their rep coaches. We have three girls umpiring: Rebecca Shannon, Jendi Coxhead and Christina Lemberg.

We had some very enthusiastic OJSC Members trialing for the Taranaki teams- all were prepared to 'give it a go'. By the end of the trials the Oakura Junior Sports Club had one player in the Under 15s, three in the Under 13s, and five in the under 11s. These Rep players went down to Palmerston North for a Tournament.

The children were nervously excited and very enthusiastic. The games were played in quarters- with mixed results from the Taranaki teams. Jendi Coxhead had the proud task of being Captain of the U13 team, which included Alison Powell and Hilary Temata; they had some hard fought games. Our lone U15 player Christina Lemberg played bravely with an ankle injury.

At the end of the day we had 5 Taranaki teams in the finals! The under 11s final was played between our two Taranaki teams. Out of 12 players on court, 5 were Oakura children! Ann Marie Dehar, Thais Farrant, Michelle Temata, Miaana Walden and Dominica Wearne. What a fantastic final- Our local children did us proud. They demonstrated great courage, enjoyment, outstanding sportsmanship and excellent behaviour, both on and off the court. The Parents' positive sideline support throughout the tournament made it a fantastic day!

Pauline Shannon

'Festive Fantasies'

(Flourishes As A Flamboyant Formula For Future Fun)

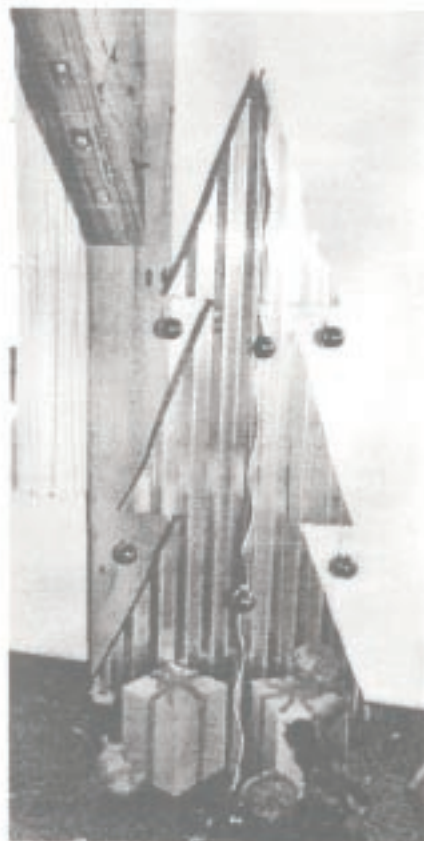
Take one brilliant idea, mix four talented and enthusiastic organisers, add four gorgeous design outlets with a brief to produce a contemporary Christmas theme, blend live music from a number of musicians, sprinkle with fine wine and food and generous parking and stage over a weekend and the result is 'Festive Fantasies', a weekend of exquisite and eclectic enjoyment, held recently at Ahu Ahu Villas.

Organisers Tracey Lusk, Catherine Jones, and David and Nuala Marshall are delighted at the tremendously positive response they have received. "It was really fun to put together," says David, owner of Ahu Ahu Villas. "Tracey and Catherine came to see Nuala and I with the idea of using the Villas as a venue for designers to individually decorate, we jumped at the chance and were able to sort out a weekend that we could hold it on. From there it grew into a more complete design experience," he says.

Tracey Lusk, co-owner of TOM, remembers the day she and Catherine were walking along the beach when the idea was hit upon. "Catherine suggested we should decorate the Villas. We already knew that in other parts of New Zealand a similar thing is done in private homes on an annual and much looked forward to basis. Our idea was to do it at one location and get people to stay longer by providing food, wine, coffee and shopping, along with some great live music". Tracey says their first vision was of a floral fantasy but as the interior designers introduced their amazing ideas and products, they let the professionals work their magic. "Many people didn't know what to expect, and now that they do, the whole ambience and expectation of the event means we have to do it again! It was a very successful recipe!" she laughs.

Catherine Jones, the other part owner of TOM, is in complete agreement. "The whole weekend was such a lot of fun, it was like a packaged deal for people allowing them to come and have a lengthy time enjoying themselves," she says. Catherine is quite inspired by the Ahu Ahu Villas site. "It was just begging for people to see it and because I'm one of those people who just love Christmas, I thought it could be a good warm up in anticipation of 25th December." Catherine says they would love to do something again but may change the theme next time. "Festive Fantasies added a whole new dimension to the Rhododendron Festival and everyone who came found something of interest and had a really enjoyable time".

Four New Plymouth interior design outlets participated in Festive Fantasies, *Bootee, etcetera, La Paz and Mezzanine* (formerly *A Touch of Craft*). Each was allocated a festive theme, their own Villa and given a set time to transform it



The Decorating Guru' Tip of the month

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into their individual styles.

Megan Walsh, owner of Bootee, would love to do it all again because the weekend was so enjoyable. "It was really good fun being involved and a great opportunity to add Bootee's unique style, colour and finish to the Villa," she says. "We have had lots of feedback from the hundreds of people who came through".

Dianne Brien, owner of etcetera, found the weekend to be a memorable and repeatable experience. "It was absolutely marvellous, there were so many people who came and enjoyed the whole experience of it. It was a real 'buzz'. For etcetera, having a Pasifika theme proved how exciting the future of design is in New Zealand; there is more edge and excitement now. Sourcing new product lines for the event, especially the *tapa* Studio Ceramics tableware, was great fun," she says.

Kaye MacKenzie-Johnson, owner of La Paz, was delighted to be a part of promoting such a wonderful amenity as the Villas. "The location, ambience and beauty of the place made it very special for the public to come to, and having the added bonus of each Villa decorated in a different style, served to showcase the breadth of individual talent we have in Taranaki," she says.

Lynne Johnson, co-owner of Mezzanine, says the weekend reflected how much effort people had put in. "It was a great idea and a superb opportunity to promote our new product lines that have recently changed from a more traditional style to a definite contemporary look," she says. Lynn, like the others, found the weekend to be huge fun and very pleasing with the feedback they have received and continue to receive. "I would definitely do it again and think it would be great to develop different themes in the future".

The proceeds from Festive Fantasies were donated to Te Rangimarie Hospice, La Leche League and the New Plymouth Parents Centre.

Hilary Bennett



Four Festive Fantasizers:
left to right: Nuala and Dave Marshall, Catherine Jones, Tracey Lusk

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS SERVICE

10AM
SUNDAY 22 DECEMBER
AT OAKURA HALL

ALL WELCOME

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Kaitake Community Board

At our last Community Board meeting the following items were received and adopted.

1. **Refuse Disposal Charges.** Refuse disposal charges at Inglewood and Okato landfill, Waitara and Tongaporutu to be increased.

2. **Weld Road Minimum Facilities Camping Area.** The camp will open from 2 January 2003 and close at the usual date.

3. **Erosion Oakura River.** Funding will be included in the 2003/04 Draft Annual Plan to finalise a design, obtain resource consent and undertake physical works to manage erosion in the Oakura River area.

4. **Dates of Meetings for 2003.**

Tuesday, 21 January 2003

Tuesday, 4 March 2003

Tuesday, 15 April 2003

Tuesday, 27 May 2003

Tuesday, 8 July 2003

Tuesday, 19 August 2003

Tuesday, 30 September 2003

Tuesday, 11 November 2003

All meetings to be held at 9.00am in the Community room, Oakura Fire Station.

On behalf of Pam Street, Philip Hunt, Mike Anderson, Keith Plummer and myself I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Susan Henchman, 752 7815

Oakura Boardriders Club

Kia ora

Well, summer is almost here and the water is slowly warming up. If any keen people out there would like to join the Oakura Boardrider Club, they can get in contact with either Steve Teague on 752 7721 or Chris Davies on 752 7613.

Some events that are coming up are...

Grommy Night for Kids aged from 10-15 on every second Friday 6th and 20th Dec, starts at 7pm. They can play pool at the table, half court basketball, and soon might have a surfing series if there's enough interest.

The club longboarding champs (club members only) meet at 9am at the Club house on Saturday Dec 14th. Also if booking for the Club please contact Peta Day on 752 7574.

Christmas Parade 2002

15 December - 2pm

All floats are welcome.

Last year we had 25, lets beat it!

Pirate's castle and lolly scramble at Butlers afterwards.

Sponsored and organised by Lions Club
Contact Norm Rail 752 7619

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Legally Speaking

CONTRACTS BY COMPUTER

On 10 October 2002 the Electronic Transactions Act was passed into law. It is expected to come into force during 2003. The Act is part of the drive to embrace the "knowledge age". It has been developed to address uncertainties faced by people wishing to deal with each other via the Internet or email.

Previously there may have been questions about the nature of dealings over the Internet. These uncertainties included whether an email or an Internet transaction could be held to be a document in writing, whether an email could be held to have been signed or authorised by the sender as well as issues about when and where emails are deemed to have been sent and received. The Act addresses these issues.

An email is deemed to have been sent once it leaves the computer system controlled by the sender. It is deemed to have been received when it enters the computer system nominated by the intended recipient. These rules will help to give guidance to parties on where and how contracts are formed. Once the Act is in force, just because a document is electronic will not disqualify it from being as binding and enforceable as a written document.

The Act approves of the storage of information in an electronic form as being sufficient whenever there is a requirement that information be in writing or be recorded in writing.

Section 22 of the Act says that an electronic signature is acceptable if the recipient consents to receiving an electronic signature and the signature adequately identifies the person signing and adequately approves of the information in the email. The Act says the signature is reliable as is appropriate given the purpose for which the signature is required. This means the more important the transaction the more reliable the signature needs to be. There are tests provided in the Act for assessing the reliability of a signature. These include whether the signature can be created only by the person sending the email and whether any alteration to the email after the point of signing is detectable as well as other similar issues.

Other parts of the Act also permit the storage of records in an electronic form where previously these were required to have been stored in written form. There are certain conditions that must be met including assurances that the integrity of the information can be guaranteed and that the information can be accessed easily at some later date.

What does all of this mean? It now means that for many businesses there is an opportunity to assess whether the storage of files and records and information can be more easily dealt with in an electronic form rather than by having to store paper records.

It means that deals which are struck over the Internet can be enforced with confidence and that people may legally be entitled to deal with each other by email. This is intended to promote the development of electronic commerce and provide certainty as to the legal effect of electronic dealings and information.

Paul Anderson

27 November 2002

This article discusses its topic in general terms only and should not be treated or relied upon as specific legal advice.

**Govett
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THE LAWYERS

St John's Anglican Church Omata to be renovated



St John's Church, Omata, was built in 1875 on the corner of the Main South Road and Waireka East Road in the middle of the Omata community by the returning settlers of the district following their earlier evacuation during the New Zealand wars. An earlier Anglican church was situated in Waireka Road West next to the Waireka cemetery, but this fell into disrepair after being abandoned during the wars and then not being attended to immediately following, as the re-establishing of farms and homes were the settler's first priority.

St John's Church, a "small, timber church built in 1875, was well constructed, has been well maintained and is generally in sound condition." (Alan Reed, Architect assigned by New Plymouth District Council to assess the church in 2001). St John's Church is a listed heritage building, NZHPT Reg #931, and currently has a category 2 heritage listing. St John's Church is currently in use as a regular place of worship with services held on the second and fourth Sundays each month and is part of the West New Plymouth Anglican Parish. The church is also used for weddings, baptisms and blessings by the parish and other Christian churches in the district. Mr Reed writes, "there is no reason with relatively simple ongoing maintenance the building couldn't last another 100 years." The maintenance recommended by Mr Reed includes repair and replacement of some flooring due to borer damage, other minor repairs, borer treatment for the whole building, and then a complete clean down and repaint inside and out. The estimated cost of this work is \$27,600.

The New Plymouth District Council Heritage Fund has made a grant of \$13,750 towards some of this work and the balance is being sought in cash or kind from the local community and other funding sources.

A public meeting recently demonstrated the support for the project and resulted in a number of offers of assistance, both practical and financial. It is hoped that further support will be forthcoming. A small group was established to further the project and this is convened by David and Jennifer Jennings of Omata. Any offers of assistance are welcomed and can be made to the Jennings or to the Anglican Parish of West New Plymouth.

Micheal Hughes

Hon. Harry Duynhoven MP for New Plymouth

Seasons Greetings and the best of wishes to all Oakura residents and visitors.

As this eventful year draws to a close, we can be pleased with local progress and an absolute boom in the building industry in our town and province.

Part of building a new home of course, is the installation of a telephone service, and my telephone ran red hot last week when Telecom indicated that their new connection fees were to be increased dramatically making the connection costs in Taranaki become in many cases prohibitive.

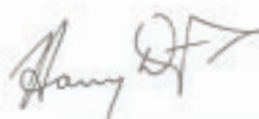
It was great to see that Telecom had a re-think, and the new connection price structure is certainly fair. Telecom is capping standard connections at a maximum of \$500 and extending its Budget Link programme, so no low-income customer will pay more than \$95.00 per connection wherever they live.

The revised charges are significantly fairer for people living in low population density areas than Telecom's original proposal and will go a long way to addressing the concerns expressed by rural people.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a bright and joyous Christmas, a happy new year and a safe holiday.

Best wishes

Hon. Harry Duynhoven
MP for
NEW PLYMOUTH



Hon. Harry Duynhoven
MP for NEW PLYMOUTH

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Mini Groovers keep on groovin'

The Mini Groovers have been very busy this term, we've expanded, we've partied, and we've fund raised. In fact we've had so much fun grooving lately that we've split in two!

Since the start of term 3 we have had a session in New Plymouth at the Fitzroy hall as well as our Oakura session. We made this move as Oakura was to enormous proportions and a lot of new groovers were travelling from New Plymouth. We regularly attract about 25 parents with about 35 - 40 groovers twice a week. We recently had workshop for new session leaders, a group from Awatuna Playcentre also came along as they are planning to set up their own group. Melissa Waite, Noeline Vickers and Julie Marsh have all taken leave of their senses and agreed to be our new session leaders - thanks very much you lovely ladies.

The Mini Groovers are at present raising funds so you might just see a raffle ticket seller out and about. Thanks to all the wonderful businesses who have donated goods to our gift basket. These include:

Scotts 4 Seasons * The National Bank * Dispensary First - Vian Pharmacy * Butlers Reef Bar and Café * Oakura 4 Square * Tasman Toyota *
New Plymouth New World * Heydon Priest *
Oakura Pharmacy * Fitzroy Village Bookshop*

We've got a fantastic Christmas Party Disco planned (yes babies can disco) for mid December. There will be a visit from Santa Claus, loads of fun and games and delicious morning tea.

Merry Christmas everyone from the Mini Groovers. Our session times are:

Oakura Tuesday 10am-10.45 followed by a cup of tea
New Plymouth Thursday 10am - 10.45

Cost is a gold coin donation

For more information ph **Linda McBreen 752 7922**

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JKA Coastal Karate News

International Training Gasshuku Labour Weekend 2002, Turangi

Six JKA Coastal Karate members, including one Instructor, travelled to Turangi for the annual International Training Seminar. Over 100 students of this traditional martial art received training and instruction from Sensei Nishimura (Melbourne) Sensei Roy (Sydney) and assistance from Sempei Kenjin (Japan). The theme for the training camp was "contrast" and this was demonstrated beautifully by Sensei Nishimura playing classical music (Beethoven) allowing students to interpret musical textures which related to karate techniques eg loud/soft, strong/weak... Sensei Jim (Instructor Taranaki), Sempais Jessica, Aroha, Ali, & Dom, along with coloured belt Vicky, represented JKA Coastal Dojos Oakura & Opunake. Much was learnt, muscles were tested, and rejuvenating hot pools were sampled at the completion of sessions. Trainings commenced with 5am rising, running barefoot to the dojo by 5.45am, with the group calling the Japanese numerals 1-10....quite a sight and certainly invoking a very memorable picture. As the weekend progressed students were able to test their endurance, learn from masters and apply their teachings into practice. These teachings were then brought back to Taranaki to share with the rest of the dojo. A great weekend!

*Proudly Sponsored by Butlers Bar and Café
(Oakura)*

★ Subscriptions are now available to The Oakura ★
★ Messenger for those who live out of the area but ★
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NPOB Surf Club

Our New Years carnival will be running again on 1st January 2003 starting at 11.30 and continuing through till approx 4.30 p.m. Our carnival is something of a Taranaki tradition, where, for over 30 years families have come to enjoy a day of entertainment at Oakura beach. The "Miss Taranaki Beach Resorts" competition is sponsored by local firm Heydon Priest. Entries are being taken for this at the moment. Ring Lois FINDERUP ph 7534648. local businesses have been wonderful by sponsoring prizes towards this competition and we thank you all very much for your support of the club.

This year we will be running a Lip Synch competition with cash prizes for different age groups. Entry forms are available from Classic Hits, Brougham Street. We will have the playground running with rides etc plus the big dig and sand castle competition for the children. Our barbeque tent will be serving great food, especially our famous chicken burger. There will be helicopter and IRB rides and great singing entertainment on the stage. Come and have an enjoyable day on the beach. (Hope the weather improves).

We are still welcoming new members to the club, some who came along as a result of our last column in TOM. Just come along and join in: Youth 5 - 13 years 10a.m on Sunday mornings at the surf club, plus swim training on Monday and Wednesday nights 6.30 to 7.30 with Helen Barrett and Lisa Parks. Ring Lisa for any more information, on 7575247.

Juniors and seniors from 14 years up. Training started for this age group from Monday 25th November with sessions at 9a.m and again at 6p.m. A van is available for rides from N.P. twice a day Monday - Friday. Ring Sue at 7511816 for more info. Two upcoming Local competitions at the beach are a Youth carnival for cadets and rookies ages 10 - 13yrs at NPOB on Tuesday 28th at 6p.m. plus a juniors and seniors carnival on Saturday January 18th at 11a.m.

Come along to watch and see what surf club competition is all about.

Karen Wansbrough

Strictly Coffee

For serious coffee drinkers Strictly Coffee is the new brand of coffee now available in Oakura. It is a Dunedin based brand which boasts the most amazing smell and even better full, strong taste. This coffee has an extremely addictive taste, partly because its is always freshly roasted to perfection, but also because only the highest quality bean's are used.

Strictly Coffee is being brought to Oakura by Nicky Lumb. Nicky and her family recently moved to the area from Dunedin and found that apart from the cold, the thing she and her husband missed the most about home was their regular fix of Strictly Coffee. So, after having quite a few kilos sent up with various visitors from Dunedin, she is now able to take your order for bean's or ground coffee also.

Order's for 500g or 1 kilo bags can be placed by contacting Nicky on 7521323 or by emailing her at lumby@xtra.co.nz

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What's On this month @ Info+

- **Art on the Wall** features Jane Collins
- Thursday 12th December Councillor Pam Street will be available between 10am -12 noon

The summer sun brings many visitors to Oakura from out of town and overseas. We are looking forward to welcoming you all and to sharing our beautiful village. We are gathering a wealth of local knowledge and one of our volunteers will be happy to help you. Please call in and sign our visitors book. You will find us on the main street. Our opening hours are 10am to 4pm every day.

The centre is compiling a list of all local clubs and organisations. If you can help please call or email any useful information and we will include it in our directory.

For villagers and visitors to make the most of the centre, Info+ needs volunteers to assist three hours each week or so.

Thank you to the many volunteers who gave their time in November.

Hope to see you @ Info+

Oakura Info+

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Library news

Come to the library in Donnelly Street for your summer reading. We can provide stories serious or silly, funny or fantastic. Borrowing books is free. Bring identification and proof of where you're staying if you're a visitor, and we can give you a temporary card.

Christmas hours are Oakura Library Friday 20 & Monday 23 December 10.00am – 1.00pm [School holidays] 3 to 28 January 10:00 am – 1:00 pm Wednesdays 8, 15, 22, January 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Closed 24 December – 2 January The library has its usual summer reading programme over the school holiday time. The theme is 'Hook a Book' with rewards for young readers.

Bill

Cooking up a storm !



Pastry Cream - Crème Pâtissiere

- 2c milk
- 6 egg yolks
- 175g castor sugar
- 50g cornflour
- vanilla essence

Scald milk.

Beat yolks with sugar and cornflour until thick.

Pour in milk and whisk until smooth.

Return mixture to clean saucepan.

Stir continuously over moderate heat until thick, smooth and has just begun to boil.

Add vanilla.

Beat for a minute, strain if necessary.

Cool covered with gladwrap so skin doesn't form.

Pastry may be lightened by gently folding in firmly whipped cream.

Lemon Curd - Lemon Honey

- 2 large lemons
- 100g unsalted butter
- 175g sugar
- 3 eggs whisked

Finely grate, zest and juice lemons.

Stir butter, juice, zest and sugar over heat until sugar dissolves.

Take off heat, add eggs and stir.

Return to gentle heat, stirring constantly until thick.

Do not boil.

Lemon curd will last for weeks if poured and sealed immediately in sterilised jars and refrigerated after opening.

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Odette

"A Small Place of Beauty"

Plans for 2003 and beyond: by Oakura School leavers



Letitia Cook

I'm going to NPGHS next year. I chose this school because I felt it had the best options, and my sister goes there. I'm looking forward to meeting new people and the sporting opportunities. The best part of Oakura School was having a lot of close friends; everyone knows me there. My greatest achievements there were probably sports - basketball and netball. When I leave high school I want to be a lawyer.



Airini Mason

I'm going to Sacred Heart College next year. I chose it because it's a nice small school, a bit like Oakura. I'm looking forward to going there. The best part of Oakura School was that the teachers make sure you have a good education and are ready for high school. I have good friends here. My greatest achievements there were getting involved in all the sporting opportunities at school. I came first in the under 12 National Surfing Champs. When I leave high school I want to be a professional surfer.



Asti Priest

I'm going to NPGHS next year. I chose it because I didn't want to go to school with boys and I felt it is the best place with good opportunities. I'm looking forward to doing drama, art and photography. The best part of Oakura School is that everyone is very caring and nice here. There are more opportunities to go places because the school is smaller. My best achievement was meeting new people and getting involved in new sports. When I leave high school I want to study marine biology.



Jessie Muggerridge

I'm going to Spotswood College next year. I was impressed by the information evening and the people seemed friendly and it seemed a good learning environment. I'm looking forward to meeting new friends there. The best part of Oakura School was that I always had lots of friends - everyone is so nice here. My best achievement was getting a merit in the Maths Fair and going to the Taranaki Cross Countrys. When I leave high school I want to go to university and become a millionaire.



Skyler Jones

I'm going to NPBHS next year, because my big brother and other friends go there. I'm looking forward to learning literature and Japanese. The best part of Oakura School was the warm environment and it felt safe. My best achievement was that I learnt I was good at writing. When I leave high school I want to be an author.



Nathan Wood

I'm going to Spotswood College. I'm looking forward to doing languages and cooking classes. The best part of Oakura School was learning French, German and Chinese with Mr Priest, and the teachers here really care about you. When I leave high school I want to be a radio DJ.



Holly Eaton

I'm going to Spotswood College. I chose it because my Mum and Dad went there and it seems a really good school. I'm looking forward to trying out new sports and new subjects. The best part of Oakura School was that the teachers care about your education. My greatest achievement was becoming class councillor. When I leave high school I want to be a primary teacher.



Tim Honeyfield

I'm going to Spotswood College. I'm looking forward to the new opportunities in sports and new subjects there. The best part of Oakura School is that the teachers care about you. My greatest achievement here was making it into the Nationals for surfing. When I leave high school I want to be a boat builder, or a builder of some sort.



Dylan Hawkins

I'm going to NPBHS next year. My parents made the final decision, but I also have friends that are going there. I'm looking forward to high school and having a change. The best part of Oakura School was that it was small and we all got more attention from the teachers. My best achievement was rugby. When I leave school - I'm not sure yet.



Anita Crawford

I'm going to NPGHS next year, I chose it for its academic and sporting opportunities. The best part of Oakura School was that everyone is good friends, teachers are good - you get lots of one-on-one. My greatest achievement here was getting 3rd in the National Surfing Competition, taking part in primary school nationals. When I leave school I want to go to university and become a forensic scientist.



Grace Power

I'm going to NPGHS next year because there are no boys and I will meet lots of new people there. The best part of Oakura School was that I know everyone, I have a big group of friends, the teachers all know you and you're not just one of 1,000. It's fun here. My greatest achievements were being head girl, going to the Taranaki Cross Countrys, winning a speech competition in 2001 and taking part in the debating team. When I leave high school I want to go to university and travel around the world, maybe be an architect or a sports person.



Alison Powell

I'm going to NPGHS next year because heaps of people say it's a good school and I've always wanted to go there. I'm looking forward to a change of environment and new people. The best part of Oakura School was that most started from Room 1 so we all know each other really well. Teachers know you well and are approachable and talk with you. My greatest achievement here is knowing everyone and doing the cross country (everyone was so supportive it made it easy to be involved). When I leave high school I want to go to university, then travel around England and Ireland and meet family I haven't seen in years.



Simon Bennett

I'm going to NPBHS because it's disciplined and I know heaps of people there and going there. I'm looking forward to a change of environment and different subjects. The best part of Oakura School was that I enjoyed having the form 1 and 2 as a separate part of the school, and it was good how teachers all know you and your needs. My greatest achievement here was being head boy and part of the debating and NIE teams. When I leave high school I don't know, I would really like to travel to South Africa and Hawaii.



Cameron Stewart

I'm going to Spotswood college, because I went to the open days and thought it was better than the others. I'm looking forward to different classes, like graphics. The best part of Oakura School was that it is a real community school - everyone knows everyone and teachers know what you need. My best achievement here was being on the NIE team and a reserve for the year 8 debating team. When I leave high school I want to go to university, but haven't decided yet what I want to study, I'd also like to travel.



Rangii Sullivan

I'm going to Francis Douglas Memorial College because my aunty thought it would be the best. I'm looking forward to doing media studies there. The best part of Oakura School was that everyone knows you and it is easier to get head boy/head girl etc because it's smaller than other schools. My greatest achievement was being reserve for year 7 debating team 2001, and having a main part in this year's school production. When I leave high school I want to start a career in computers, and travel to Australia to see my uncle.



Jared Naumann

I'm going to NPBHS because they have good sports teams and I liked the subjects on offer. I'm looking forward to going to a new school and

new subjects. The best part of Oakura School was that because it is so small you get more attention from teachers, and everyone knows everyone. My greatest achievement here was making it onto the Taranaki Development Team in soccer. When I leave high school I want to go to university and maybe study a trade like building.

Jendi Coxhead

I'm going to NPGHS, I chose it because it has good sports and subjects. I'm looking forward to meeting new friends and getting involved in the team-building camps at the beginning of the year. The best part of Oakura School was going out into the environment and doing studies like rock pools, rivers etc. I really enjoyed having a student teacher in our class. When I leave high school I want to be a sports person, teacher or interior designer.

Paige Hareb

I'm going to NPGHS. I chose the school because it had the facilities I wanted. I'm looking forward to meeting new people there. The best part of Oakura School I feel is the small class sizes, and you know everyone. My greatest achievement here is being involved in lots of sports - surfing, soccer and tennis in particular. When I leave high school I want to travel the world and get a good job, possibly as a physiotherapist.

Ben Parry

I'm going to NPGHS because my brothers have been there and it's a good school with heaps of opportunities. The best part of Oakura School for me has been the snowboarding and surfing opportunities and the small classes and attentive teachers. I have really enjoyed this year - all round. When I leave high school I want to get into hotel/motel management, travel the world and become a snowboard instructor.

Duchess Alder

I'm going to NPGHS because I thought it would be an adventure. I'm looking forward to drama classes, meeting new friends and getting to know some of my town friends better. The best things about Oakura School for me have been the small classes and everyone always feels welcome there. I like how you can be best friends with people who are in the year below you. My greatest achievements are getting through the classes, knowing all the teachers and having dance opportunities like the production. When I leave high school I want to be rich and famous, OR a primary school teacher, who teaches dancing after school.

Damon Braddock-Pajo

I'm going to NPGHS because it was the best one from the open days and has a good reputation with careers. I'm looking forward to aviation and graphic classes. The best part of being at Oakura School is the friendly environment and there's always someone to talk to. My greatest achievements have been getting a high score on the NSW tests and I did well in swimming competitions, and making lots of new friends after coming from Australia. When I leave high school I want to get into design/engineering/drafting - Dad does that and I like the look of it.

Kim Winks

I'm going to NPGHS because my big sister went there and because it has a good reputation. I'm looking forward to doing different subjects. Oakura School is a good all-round school, it's friendly and I learnt heaps. My greatest achievements there have been being in the debating team and getting 2nd in the finals 2001 and doing well in equestrian, eg I won the Taranaki Dressage Champs. When I leave high school I want to be a vet, or maybe an accountant.

Sammy Everest

I'm going to Spotswood College because it seemed a good option and had good subjects to take. I like art, graphics and design and am looking forward to doing these. The best part of Oakura School has been that it is small so you get to know everyone well and are close to your teachers. My best achievement here has been my involvement in sports teams and the production was fun. When I leave high school I want to be a vet.

Caro Beekman

I'm going to Spotswood College. I chose Spotswood because I feel it catered for all needs - not just sports but all different interests. I'm looking forward to having a change. The best part of Oakura School is that everyone is one big happy family - not just individuals but everyone. It's a neat little school. My best achievement has been becoming head girl, and being involved in the school production and all the wonderful friends I have made. When I leave high school I want to work with animals - maybe as a hobby, and work as an accountant.

Aurora Steen

I'm going to Spotswood College because it's a co-ed school and I want to study art. The best part of Oakura School was having all my friends there to form 1 and 2. My greatest achievement was winning the cross country time after time. When I leave high school I want to do art.

Sarah Shannon

I was going to go to NPGHS but have now decided on Spotswood. The best part of Oakura School is that we're all friends in rooms 9 and 10. I'm the most proud of having heaps of friends here. The best time I had was at Camp Eltham; I really loved the abseiling because I conquered my fear of heights. After Spotswood I would like to go to university and travel a bit.

Kalman Jury

I'm going to Spotswood College because it has the classes I want. I'm especially looking forward to woodwork, metalwork and making more friends. My achievements at Oakura School are with soccer and rugby. When I leave high school I want to get a job as a truck driver.

Nick Thomas

I'm going to Spotswood College because it's close. I'm looking forward to a change of school. The best part of Oakura School has been the small classes and you know everyone. My greatest achievement was coming first in hockey in the league a few times. When I leave high school.....

Hilary Temata

I'm going to NPGHS because my friends are going there and I like the options available, also my mum went there and it's become a tradition for girls in my family. The things I liked best at Oakura School was the artwork and one-on-one teaching and a highlight was having friends and learning lots about different cultures. My greatest accomplishment was getting selected in the Aotea under 15 years netball team. When I leave high school I want to be an ambassador or diplomat for New Zealand.

Yoga is a great way to release tension from the body and stress from the mind. By working through the yoga postures we help stretch, strengthen and tone the body. Yoga can help any injury and is a wonderful complement to any sport or training programme. I am a qualified masseuse, gym instructor, aerobic instructor and dance teacher and have a sound knowledge of the body and how it works. I have previously worked in Auckland teaching yoga and myself have been studying the practice now for seven years. Come and enjoy the experience of yoga and please bring a blanket.

Sarsha Hood



NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL

newplymouthnz.com

PROHIBITION OF THE CONSUMPTION OR POSSESSION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR

AT NEW PLYMOUTH CBD

That pursuant to section 709A of the Local Government Act 1974, the New Plymouth District Council hereby resolves to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic liquor within, the bringing of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers into, and the possession of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers within the New Plymouth City Central Business District public places and during the periods specified in the schedules hereunder and that the Assistant Chief Executive be instructed to give the necessary public notices prescribed in the said Section 709A and to advise the Police of the prohibition and that authority be given to execute authenticated copies of this resolution with the common seal of the Council.

Specified Public Places

All public places including streets, service lanes, lanes, footpaths, car parks and parks within the area bounded by the sea to the north, the eastern side of Dawson Street to the west, the southern side of Leach/Vivian Streets to the south, and the eastern side of Eliot Street to the east.

Specified Period

From 7.00pm Tuesday, 31 December 2002 to 7.00am Wednesday, 1 January 2003.

AT OAKURA BEACH, SHEARER RESERVE AND ADJOINING STREETS

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of the provisions of Section 709A of the Local Government Act 1974, the New Plymouth District Council has resolved to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic liquor within, the bringing of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers into, and the possession of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers within the public places and during the periods specified in the schedules hereunder.

Schedule

Specified Public Places

The public area bounded by the low water mark to the north, the Otupotu Stream to the west, a prolongation of the western boundary of Lot 20 DP 7538 to the east, and including Shearer Reserve being Lot 6 DP 7357 and Lot 33 DP 14330 and the public thoroughfares of Tasman Parade, Shearer Drive, Arden Place, Jans Terrace, Linda Street, Prudence Place, Russell Drive, Kaitake Place, Wairau Road from the sea to the northern side of Telford Terrace, Messenger Terrace from Wairau Road to the western side of McFarlane Street, Malinder Place, and Pitcairn Street northern section adjoining Messenger Terrace, the roadway through the Oakura Camp but excluding the Camp itself and excluding the premises of the New Plymouth Old Boys' Surf Life Saving Club.

Specified Period

From 2.00pm Tuesday, 31 December 2002 to 2.00am Wednesday, 1 January 2003.

AT URENUI DOMAIN BEACH CAMP

Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of the provisions of Section 709A of the Local Government Act 1974, the New Plymouth District Council has resolved to prohibit the consumption of alcoholic liquor within, the bringing of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers into, and the possession of alcoholic liquor or empty alcoholic liquor containers within the public places and during the periods specified in the schedules hereunder.

Specified Public Places

The public area of the Urenui Domain bounded by the low water mark to the north, the public areas of the Urenui Domain Camp bounded by the Urenui River to the west and south to a point adjacent to the boat wash facility situated on SO 10852, the eastern boundary of the Camping Ground from a point opposite the southern end of the boat wash facility to the foreshore excluding holiday cottages and temporary living places, but including all grassed areas not occupied by a temporary living place, and the perimeter roadway, SO 10852, SO 11707.

Specified Period

From 2.00pm Tuesday, 31 December 2002 to 2.00am Wednesday, 1 January 2003.

Vehicular traffic may be excluded from the areas specified EXCEPT THAT residents, campers, and their bona fide guests will be allowed use of their vehicles in the areas specified.

Section 709A of the Local Government Act 1974 confers on the Police the following powers within the specified public places. Any constable may, without warrant:

1. Arrest any person whom he finds committing an offence against this Section;
2. During the period of the prohibition or prohibitions, arrest any persons whom he has reasonable cause to suspect of having committed such an offence;
3. Search any parcel, package, bag, case, or other container in the possession of any person in, entering, or about to enter the specified public places in respect of which the prohibitions relating to liquor in respect of the New Year's Eve celebrations are in force for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not the parcel, package, bag, case, or container contains any liquor or any empty liquor containers;
4. Seize and remove any liquor and its container or any other liquor container that he has reasonable cause to believe would be evidence of the commission of an offence under Section 709A of the Local Government Act 1974.

The maximum penalty for an offence against this prohibition, on summary conviction, is a fine not exceeding \$500.00.

Dated at New Plymouth this 1st day of December 2002.

**New Plymouth - the North Island's official
SUNSHINE CAPITAL**