

TOM

OAKURA

DEC/JAN
2015/2016



Tui saying
MERRY CHRISTMAS
to all our TOM readers.

Photo by Rosie Moyes from Photos For You



Leo Baas

Lifestyle & Rural Specialist



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TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM

OAKURA

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

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

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TOM dates to remember
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EDITORIAL

What a year it has been! At the beginning of the year I was excitedly anticipating my first trip to Europe and before I knew it I was off on the plane to the other side of the world and returning with a camera full of memories. Then I moved into a new decade, one of the sort that takes you down the slippery slope to old age! I do remind myself it is a great milestone to reach and if you can reach it in good shape then 'don't complain'! My beloved dog died this year and that left a huge hole in my life - Rosie was a constant companion who followed me from kitchen to lounge to office and took me out on walks, who greeted me each morning with such love and devotion that when she died I was nearly inconsolable. Now I have a new puppy called Tui who does the same - she is so excited to see me and be part of the family that I have to overlook her 'puppiness' - the nipping and biting, the scratching, the piddling and pooping on the carpet, getting under my feet, tripping me up, getting me out of bed before I want to, and the constant mess all over the carpet. She does love shoes as much I do, so she can't be all bad! The joy of a puppy apart from its cuteness is the enthusiasm for life, galloping around the house at full speed, chasing its tail, jumping, prancing and endless games of tug-o-war. I tell myself it will all be worth it when she is a big girl!

When I interviewed the Omata School leavers I asked them what their highlight at the school had been and they all gave wonderful answers. It made me stop and think about what the highlights of my 'TOM' year had been. Helping businesses succeed gives me a buzz but it has been a huge pleasure and privilege talking to locals about Butlers - there are so many stories to tell!

I thank everyone in the community and beyond who has helped make this year in print and online a memorable one and I look forward to bringing more of the same to the community in 2016. Special thanks go to Ron Stratford who always produces a fantastic looking magazine and he always makes me smile. The TGM Creative team including Andrea Leadbetter are the best support and back up people any business could want in their corner so thank you team. Happy holidays.

Kim



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Mayor Andrew Judd

Hi everyone

So, what do you have planned for Christmas and New Year?

After another busy year we're all just a few weeks away from a summer break and a bit of down-time with family and friends.

I expect Oakura will receive a lot of visitors as the wonderful Oakura Beach draws them in.

Whether you plan to holiday at home or take some time away, I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

REPRESENTATION REVIEW

Last month the Council heard submissions on the representation review and decided to keep the current system of three wards and four community boards.

The only change has come for people in the Kaitake area (which includes Oakura). Unless one of the submitters to the review lodges an appeal to the Local Government Commissioner by 11 December, the Kaitake Community Board will be able to appoint to it a Councillor from either the City or South-West wards after next year's local government election.

Currently only a South-West Ward Councillor can be appointed to the KCB; the change was made in acknowledgement of the Kaitake community straddling both the City and South-West wards.

We received 84 submissions on the representation review, so thank you to everyone who took the time to have their say.

RUBBISH AND RECYCLING KERBSIDE COLLECTION

The new kerbside collection has prompted a significant shift in residents' waste habits. For the first time, our amount of recycling is larger than our amount of waste!

Well done everyone for working with the new system so well and getting such a remarkable result. Our challenge is to keep it up and to continue to recycle as much material as possible from our homes.

As for the Christmas/New Year period, both Christmas Day and New Year's Day fall on Fridays – the same day as Oakura's kerbside collection. Please put your rubbish and recycling out as usual on those Fridays as the collection day won't change.

Merry Christmas everyone, and I wish you an enjoyable New Year.



CRACKERJACKS PRE-SCHOOL STORY TIME: Please note that we will not have a session for December 2015 or January 2016 but we will resume our sessions February 18th 2016 at 10am.

SUMMER READING PROGRAMME: Encouraging a love of books and reading is one of the best ways you can help develop your children's literacy skills. Our theme this year is: "Get carried away with books". It's easy and fun. Children are required for check-ins with our friendly librarians throughout the summer and will receive small incentives. Registrations are open from Monday 23rd November to Monday 14th December. Places are limited so be in quick! Sign up at Ōākura Library. The programme is free and suitable for ages 5-10. We also have a programme for teens.

CHRISTMAS HOURS: We will close at 1pm on Thursday 24th December 2015 and reopen on Tuesday 5th January 2016 at 9am. Our book drop will be open throughout the holidays.

Recent tragic events throughout the world can leave us feeling overwhelmingly sad and powerless. But we can make a difference everyday here in our own home, workplace, neighbourhood, community. If everybody did that we would be living in a more peaceful and harmonious world.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Charlie and Vincenza

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The EU covers a staggering NZ\$20 trillion worth of GDP and is home to many consumers with sophisticated tastes. Europeans like New Zealand's quality exports and if we can get better access to those markets, then we can sell more. This is just the first step and it could take some time, but it is significant progress towards a stronger trading relationship. This will build on the Korea FTA and the recently concluded TPP negotiations.

Creating new opportunities for our exports is crucial to growing jobs and incomes in New Zealand.




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Kaitake Community Board

The community has been enjoying better weather since last reporting. We must have been, lawnmowers are out in force, my beans are rampant and there's flowers on the tomato plants. The beach is beckoning again and besides the surfers other hardy souls can be seen braving the sea.

The NPOB surf club has been undergoing extensive renovations and I when bumped into committee chair Nicky Spicer recently she advised everything would be finished and the club ready to go this side of Christmas. The club provides a high quality and comprehensive life saving service at Taranaki's most popular beach so folks help them out and swim between the flags this summer so you are under the watchful gaze of the club members on patrol duties!

The Oakura Boardriders have recommenced their very popular Friday night get-togethers and their 'learn to surf' programme is well underway. Everyone is looking forward to the revamp of the skatepark in Shearer Reserve. I have seen the plans and must say they paint a very impressive picture. The part of the concept I really like is the way the proposed new footprint nestles into the park environment rather than overpowering it.

Al, Jan, Ross and the rest of the team at the Oakura Beach Holiday Park have got everything in order before the hordes of summer holiday makers arrive. The campground is a real picture.

There are other groups away from the beachfront just as busy. It seems to be harder by the day to find a park up in the village and that obviously augers well for the trade all our local businesses are doing. Ash has had the garage painted and Butlers has an imposing entertainment line-up over Christmas and New Year, five excellent gigs featuring well known and very popular kiwi bands. By the way happy 150th birthday Butlers Reef!

Staying on the 150th birthday theme, Claire White and her enthusiastic team are flat out preparing for the school's big jubilee event on the first weekend in March next year. This is a huge undertaking and the folk doing the 'hard yards' are to be congratulated.

Another local group working at a fast rate is the New Year's Day Carnival Committee. Richie, Sara and the others are

now getting to the sharp end of that organisational process to ensure New Year's Day is a memorable one for one and all. The Trust that the committee represents provides funding from the proceeds of the day to support initiatives from local clubs so do come down, enjoy the day and spend a dollar or two that can go to a worthy local cause.

There is one final group I must mention, due to the insert in this edition of TOM. That is the Oakura Focus Group - a number of passionate and committed folk have been working with the NPDC to consider the way ahead for the community as we expand. Oakura is already planned as a destination to accommodate significant growth and as there is a District Plan Review underway the group has come together to have input into that process as it relates to Oakura. Over the past 15 months the group has developed a consultation document to gather feedback from the community and we intend to make that available to you all over the next three months. So while those barbecue, pub or picnic conversations are taking place we want you to turn your attention to how you want our community to develop over the next 20 years or so, please do reflect on it, engage with one another and then tell us.

Well that's it! I believe we all should take a moment to reflect on what an excellent job many folk have done in our interests this year. The early childhood centres and schools, their staff, boards and volunteers deserve our thanks for another year of service to the younger members of our district. The various sporting organisations and their never-complaining volunteers have done us proud, the fire brigade continue their sterling work, the businesses in the CBD, the beach camp, the hall committee and others in the community have helped keep our wonderful lifestyle intact. On behalf of the community I acknowledge your immeasurable assistance for the benefit of everyone and thank you sincerely for it.

On behalf of Keith, Paul, Mike and our appointed councillor Richard I wish all TOM readers a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year and hope you can spend lots of quality family time and enjoy our great local environment over the coming summer months.

Ka kite ano.

Doug



Butlers Reef Hotel

To tell the story of Butlers Reef Hotel is to tell the story of Oakura itself - their history's are so closely linked.

Many locals are shy of being named or quoted - it seems that is how small villages tick - you don't rat on your own village apparently!

There are many many entertaining stories which aren't printed here - the tall tales, exploits and shenanigans, some embarrassing and shocking but hilariously funny.

Many locals who call and have called Butlers their local are no longer around - I personally pay tribute to Merv Moses (who died this year way too young), would pop into Butlers every Friday - not so much for a beer but to catch up with his mates. He wasn't a great socialiser but Butlers on Friday was his moment to reach out to the world.

Friday is an iconic night for many locals. Its not an opportunity to get drunk but more to (as one patron put it) talk "butterfat and bullshit". I speak of the "Cabinet Meeting" group or more impolitely the "Homo Club" where for years many of the local males gather for a natter, where age is no barrier, nor religion, vocation, politics or preference of beer. They set the world to rights with their deliberations then go off home satisfied they have done their bit for the world. It is a bone fide group with its own funds gathered by competitive means (dart throwing). These funds are used once a year to take the ladies out for dinner either at Butlers or some other establishment.

One old timer who has been going to Butlers for more than 60 years first started going to Butlers from his home in Omata with his dad on a Friday. If you came from the other side of Oakura River you weren't really considered a local! There wouldn't be many communities that could boast a local pub being in business for 150 years and one patron who has been coming for 60 years.

He remembers the hotel offering accomodation - rooms ran down each side of the passageway where the current back bar, toilets and kitchen are. Stock agents George Thrush and Stan Berry would stay in the hotel regularly.

In keeping with liquor laws the hotel would open at 9am and close at 6pm and this 6pm closing (country wide) is now infamously remembered as the 6 o'clock swill. There was no Sunday trading. Patrons would order up large just before 6pm then scull their drinks by 6.20pm which was the latest people could drink. Norton Moller remembers as a young man coming out to the Shearer tennis courts on a Saturday from New Plymouth to play tennis and at 5.45pm someone and often John Glasgow would go up to Butlers and order jugs of beer which were waiting for the tennis players when they arrived.

Following World War Two many of the local men returned to the village shell shocked and probably suffering post traumatic syndrome, they would gather at the hotel and find solace in each others shared war experiences. In the depression when jobs were hard to come by many of these locals would go to the wharf looking for work and if there was none, would return to the village and gather at Butlers at 9am.

Mention is made of a local man called Reece Gilbert who part owned a famous racehorse called 'The Filbert' with the reputation of being the unluckiest horse in the 1986 Cox Plate race where it ran third.

KNOWN FACTS

Built in the 1860's with the establishment of military control and called Oakura Hotel

Past and present owners: Tom McDonnell (possible descendent of Lt Thomas McDonnell, NZ Cross recipient); Jack Butler 1946.

Jack Butler sold the hotel to Dominion Breweries, then leased it back for seven years before selling the lease and all the hotel chattels to Evan and May Mita in 1979. Following that, Evan Jnr and Kay Mita took over the lease and they still own the lease today.

Managers have included Gavin and Linda Knudsen, an Ozzy publican and is currently run by the Crowded House Trust - Kymon Hill 2007.

Collections of note:

Copper wall hangings from Hong Kong.

Photograph collection of various countries.

Delft chinaware from Holland.

National costume dolls.

Butterflies.

Glassware.

Miniature swords.

New Zealand novelty liquor bottles.

German steins, one of which is more than one metre tall and holds 40 litres.

22 Toby jugs.

Bird aviaries, begonia displays and fish tanks.



Evan and May Mita.



The public bar in Jack Butler's time.

This old timer credits Evan Mita as being a great publican who was always in a good mood. He remembers Evan Junior as being more reserved and Gavin Knudsen as a bit of a stirrer who would wear the opposition's rugby jersey to provoke the locals. Many barmaids have come and gone over the year but this local remembers Audrey Evans, Joy Brown and more latterly Shona, Bless and Jason.

Jack Butler would often change breweries and over the years the brew changed from Taranaki to Western to Standard, these changes made the locals go crook as most are loyal to one brand!

Back in the day there was no such thing as drink driving, if you had had too many you just drove home slowly!

Norton refers to Butlers as the village community centre where everyone knows everyone and no one is a stranger. Norton believes the Mita's were unique in the way they welcomed everyone into the hotel, they had good standards and everyone felt safe there including the teenagers or young people of the village - it was a safe place to learn about life.

Another local who 'cut his teeth' at Butlers is Les 'Whiskey' Nairn. He remembers as an underage drinker being in the side garden created by Jack Butler (where the current mens toilet are), bringing in some of his own beers to drink in the garden and being asked to leave the premises, not for being underage but for not buying his beers on site!

May Mita, wife of the late Evan Mita Senior still lives in the village and she has her roots firmly in Oakura soil. Her father was Albert (Bess) Hau, son of Old Man Hau as he was known, and for which Hau Lane is named. Old Man Hau lived on the corner of Mace and Dixon St and May remembers her grandfather very affectionately. Evan Mita came to Oakura from the East Coast in 1949 and worked as a barman for Jack Butler. When May and Evan married they lived at the hotel both downstairs and upstairs. They had three sons and Evan Junior became a policeman before leaving the force to take over as publican at Butlers with his wife Kay.

Through both Mita eras the beer garden was the main attraction and May remembers spending many happy days serving drinks in the beer garden. Jack Butler had established the beer garden and given it a German name picked up on his travels - he called it the "Tiergarten". Butlers always welcomed women unlike many other hotels.

Tourists used to visit the pub to see the various collections of dolls, delft ware, steins, toby jugs and begonias. May remembers some German tourists being disbelieving when told the pub had a stein and toby jug collection.

Many names come to mind when asked about staff and May recalls Ivor Ellis doing the lawns, bar staff/maids Diane Shamrock, Belinda Ryan, Doreen and Ben Hana, Ted Normanton, Jamie Brown, Jeff Vickers and many university students over the summer. Glenys Farrant remembers one barmaid in particular - Gin Wigmore who recently won Best Female Solo Artist at the New Zealand Music Awards 2015. Gin worked at the pub and Glenys says she had a great personality but the kitchen staff dreaded her restaurant orders coming in. Glenys told her her talent was wasted in Oakura and this has proved true- she is now an international music star.

May says she used to enjoy getting away from Butlers after the summer rush and the family would holiday at



The beer garden.



The motel units and back garden.



A '60s view of Butlers on Oakura's Main St.

Castlepoint where they would fish and collect shellfish and relax. Life as a live in publican was all consuming. She says they never had any trouble at the pub, Evan was firm but fair. As is the case today, back then New Years Eve was the busiest night of the year and the following holiday season was busy with beachgoers.

In 1993 the hotel was given a revamp by Evan and Kay to bring the public bar up to date. Again in 1998 a revamp saw the addition of a new 'cafe' and changed the name from Butlers Reef Hotel to Butlers Bar and Cafe or the BBC as some thought it should be called. This name never stuck and the simple name "Butlers" seems to have summed it up over the years.

More recently the face of Butlers has been Tanya Farrant. Tanya's association with pub began as a babysitter for the

Mita Juniors as a 14 year old. Tanya began work in the restaurant as a 17 year old and the following year began work in the bar. At 20 Tanya went off to be an air hostess for Air New Zealand and during her time as a hostess, worked an occasional shift at the pub. In 2001 Tanya began permanent part time work at Butlers for the Knudsens. This has continued until the present day. Five years ago Tanya became the general manager.

During this time Tanya has worked with her sister-in-law Glenys Farrant who along with Knudsens began the Summer band scene. Butlers is known all over New Zealand for being a great band venue. The first band to play at Butlers as part of this 'big band' scene was *Salmonella Dub*. Many iconic New Zealand and international bands have followed since: *The Feelers*, *Tiki Taane*, *The Exponents*, *Dragon*, *Autozamm*, *Jimmy Barnes*, *Fat Freddy's Drop*, *I Am Giant*, *The Black Seeds*, *Shapeshifter*, *Kora*, *Ladi6*, *Katchafire*, *Supergroove*, *ElemenoP*, *Opshop*, *Trinity Roots*, *Xavier Rudd*, plus many more during the year; *LugaBoa*, *Black River Drive*, *Thomas Oliver*, *Big Daddy Wilson*, *Lionel Spiegel*.

Efforts were made to present Butlers as a premier events venue for Christmas functions, 21st, weddings and parties. These continue today. The outdoor marquee area was such a success it was made permanent and a special marquee erected for the summer bands.

Tanya thinks the reason she has continued at Butlers all these years is the people and how friendly everyone has been - the patrons are her friends and everyone who comes in is friendly whether they be tourist, visitor or local. Tanya has been responsible for keeping Butlers alive and over the years has been actively working to keep the pub relevant to the community - a very fine job in difficult times what with changing drink drive laws and community expectations.

The pub hosts the Kayak Fishing Classic, quiz evenings, karaoke, weekend music sessions, community meetings, the local pool club. As mentioned earlier locals gather on a Friday evening for their weekly catch up and regulars have a Thursday handle club. The restaurant has provided a place to take friends and visitors for good "pub grub" over the years.

Another very familiar face is 'long term' Jason. He has been barman for seven years. He quips "this is the only place I fit in"! Perhaps therein lies the success of Butlers - "everyone fits in".

by Kim Ferens



Lots of great fun at the Butlers 150th celebrations.



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IED Lifting Centre Oakura Beach New Years Day Carnival



There is less than one month to go until New Years Day when the popular Oakura Beach Carnival is held at Oakura Beach.

For the second year running, local man, Paul Cunningham is sponsoring the Carnival through his companies Cunningham Construction and the IED Lifting Centre which has meant there is a stack of entertainment and activities planned for the day.

There will be two megaslides (with a new wristband entry which will mean you won't have to worry about queuing to buy tickets), orb balls, sumo suits, a mega maze, bouncy castles, CJ the clown and many more things to keep the kids entertained.

Adults can sit back and enjoy the live music, including local band *Blistered Fingers* and sample the food from the many food outlets. There will be a variety of retail stalls from clothing to jewellery and the chance to win some great prizes from our sponsors by buying raffle tickets for sale on the day.

Admission is free again though a gold coin donation is much appreciated to help support community groups.

Volunteers to help on the would be much appreciated so if you can help please contact the Oakura Beach Carnival Trust on nydcarnival@gmail.com

Starts 11am

Admission – free (gold coin donation)

Follow us on facebook [facebook.com/oakurabeachcarnival](https://www.facebook.com/oakurabeachcarnival)

A vibrant poster for the Oakura Beach New Year's Day Carnival. The poster features a central logo with the text "Oakura Beach New Year's Day Carnival" surrounded by festive icons like a sun, stars, and a clown. Above the logo, a yellow banner reads "11am Start" and another yellow banner on the right reads "Free Entry!". Below the logo, the text "Start Planning New Years Now!" is written in a bold, stylized font. At the bottom of the poster, there is a photograph of a crowd of people at the beach, with a Facebook logo and the text "Find us on facebook oakurabeachcarnival" in the bottom right corner.

SPORTS



Kaitake Golf Club News

Once again the Kaitake Mid-week women are to be congratulated on their splendid organisation of another successful 72 Hole Matchplay Tournament. There was a field of 112 (56 pairs) from 24 clubs, 9 clubs from out of the Taranaki district. Michael Hill Jeweller was the major sponsor.

The 2015 winners of the 72 Hole Tournament were

Kaitake Section - winners R.Robins and T.McEldowney, (Kaitake); runners up C.Forster and H.Bayne.

Pouakai Section - winners N.Mancer and D.Johnson (Kaitake); runners up D. Rummey and M.Robinson.

Taupae Section - winners K.Woodward and P.Gray (Kaitake); runners up D.Williams and P.Smith.

Oakura Section -winners M.Munroe and S.Newson (Fitzroy); runners up J.Claver and N.O'Connor.

New Plymouth Golf Club hosted the 2015 Womens Golf Champion of Champions and Rosebowl competition. Kaitake was represented by Sheryl Richardson, Shona Burgess, Diane Jones and Kath Vernon. Although they didn't win they played well in the gale force winds .Well done ladies.

MID WEEK 18 HOLE WOMEN

The winners of the Top-Dog flight was J.Koch and J.Reid with J.Ross and M.Barrett runners up. 27 hole nett winner was D.Johnson with N.Mancer runner up

WEEKEND WOMENS 18 HOLES

The Mens Trophy was won this year by Kim Woodward with Pauline Gray runner up.

MID WEEK 9 HOLE NEWS

The following accolade seems such a long time ago as we are often just gearing up for a result when the TOM deadline appears. Anyhow last month we were wishing Pat Wilcox all the best for her journey to Stratford to compete in the 9

Hole Champion of Champions. It didn't go quite to plan, however second place can also be celebrated heartily and that she did. Well done Pat on your performance.

Thursday victories go to Coraleen Le Breton for Bisque Par (3 up), Thelma White for a stunning 20 Stableford points, Melbourne Medley winners Thelma W and Susan Cottam and lastly Twisted Putting prizes to Jo W-W with 12 1/2 putts and Ann Rasmussen with 13.

Nearing the end now with some new names on the trophies soon to be presented at our annual awards luncheon. Well done to all winners and runners up, and also to those players who have achieved personal best rounds. It has been another fine year with plenty of hot competition in both divisions.

Until next year Merry Christmas from the 9 Hole Team.

TWILIGHT GOLF

Wondering how to spend the extra hours of summer? Come and join us at Kaitake on Tuesday evenings for 9 holes of Twilight golf. Tee off time is between 3.00 – 6.00pm and only costs \$5.00. Barbecue and bar facilities are available. Golfers and Non-golfers welcome.

SUMMER MEMBERSHIP

A special \$200 Summer Membership is available again from 1st November till the 28th February 2016. This allows you to play as many games as you like over that period. This is an opportunity for new golfers or casual golfers to get into their golf. A deal can be done if you wish to continue on and join as a full member. Talk to Jacqui in the office.

GREEN FEE GOLFERS

Casual green fee golfers are always welcome at Kaitake. Those playing 18 holes should ask at the office about the 'loyalty' card where you play 4 rounds and get the 5th one free.

CHIPPERS. (5 – 12 YEAR OLDS)

The special coaching session with Patrick Moore from New Plymouth Golf Club had to be postponed due to the weather but it will be rescheduled and advertised. The next Chippers Day will be Sunday 13th December at 10.30am. Phone the office for more information

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2015 AGM will be held at 7.00pm on Monday 7th December at the Kaitake Golf Club. All financial members are invited to attend.

Andrea Jarrold , President



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Enjoy the summer ahead and festive season to come!

Oakura Pony Club

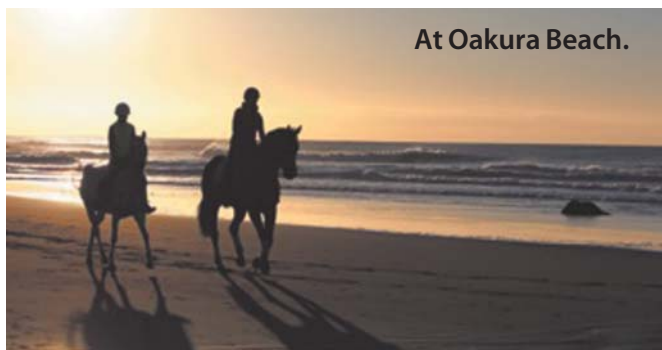
As the season kicks in our riders are busy traveling to and competing at the A&P shows throughout the lower North Island, representing their schools at the Taranaki Secondary Schools competitions and show jumping at various events outside of the province.

Some riders will be in training for the One Day Events which require their horses to be in peak fitness to compete in all three disciplines: dressage, show jumping and cross country.

As part of their training, riders will be making full use of our beaches, particularly during low tide, as long sandy stretches are great for building up fitness, muscle and strength. It also makes for an enjoyable change of scenery, as just like people, horses get bored with the routine of working every day.

The beach can be as exciting and exhilarating for a horse as it can for a young child. Waves and wind, unfamiliar sights and sounds can all combine to be a fun but occasionally scary environment. As horses are a flight animal, anything too frightening can cause a horse to lose all focus on their rider's instructions and suddenly bolt for home and safety, with their rider sometimes tossed and forgotten.

It's worth keeping in mind that horses are usually only frightened of two things: things that move and things that don't. A wetsuit clad chap running towards them with a surfboard under his arm; a kite surfer suddenly rising from the waves or the beach; a loud throaty motorbike or a plastic bag rustling and blowing along the sand; a large exposed rock that looks suspiciously like a seal; all these things can easily upset even the most sedate of ponies or horses. The rider will be working hard to keep the horse reassured and calm, and usually this is enough. But occasionally a beach ride can just turn to custard.



Horses and dogs usually coexist happily and can be great companions. As many riders also own dogs their horses are well used to keeping an eye out for small animals getting under their feet. But an unleashed and unfamiliar dog happily yapping and nipping at a horse's feet or tail on a windy day could be too much distraction for any horse and the dog could easily be kicked, or the horse rear and the rider lose his or her seat. It's well worth calling a dog to heel and keeping it close until after the horse has passed as a 12kg dog is never going to come out better against the kick of an irritated 700kg horse!

Our next rally will be Tuesday Dec 8th, 5pm. We have plenty of space on our seating for spectators so come on down, bring the kids or grandkids to watch these keen equestrians at work.

Oakura Bowling Club

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The highly coveted Club Championship Fours competition is down to the final two teams. An Allan Bridgeman skipped four of Bruce Jackson, Kevin Gray and Roy Phillips will face an Adam Collins led team of Wayne Robinson, Andy Shearer and Kurt Smith. Good bowling to all in the final.

Inclement weather forced a rescheduling in the Club Singles Championship final that was to be contested on Sunday 15th November. Adam Collins is one of the finalists, recording a win in a high quality semi-final game over Jim Priest. The second finalist will be determined by the winner of the grandfather and grandson semi-final pairing of Alan Bridgeman and Chris Lane.

Sectional play has also started in the Club Junior Championship (under five years) with the winner to be decided by the end of December.

The Club Championship Pairs is scheduled to be played over December and January and be a hotly contested affair. The all important draw for the teams will take place on Friday 11th December.

INTERCLUB TOURNAMENTS

After six rounds Oakura are sitting top of the points table in both the mid-week's Avery and Gilmour Cups competitions. A win percentage of 75% and 80% respectively have Oakura well clear over their closest rivals. Congratulations to Brian Wickham and Roy Phillips, team selectors and key players of both the mid-week competitions. Keep up the great work.

Oakura is placed 3rd after four rounds in the Saturday Shield competition. With three home games scheduled over the remaining six rounds they are well positioned to advance up the points table.

BOWLER OF THE MONTH

This month's award goes to Kurt Smith. Kurt is a first year bowler and has not only played with great enthusiasm in all the Club Championships but also maintains a 100% record (playing lead) with four wins from four games in the Shield competition. Have we unearthed another future Taranaki representative!

The Underarm Bowler



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GETTING WET



Oakura Boardriders

Social Friday nights are in full swing so come on down for a catch up, it is always good to have a bit of a crowd. Surf lessons are underway too so Fridays are a busy night at the club.

Club champs were finally run over Labour weekend. The beach turned on a great day for the kids on the Monday with the senior divisions run on the Saturday and Sunday at the beach and finals at Ahu's, a great weekend and Prize giving as usual.

Special thanks to our sponsors whose prizes always add to the event and show their support to the club, thanks again. Some new winners along with some repeat winners this year. The all important 2nd wave proving the undoing of some, with only one good wave not being enough in the allotted time frame.

RESULTS OBC CHAMPS 2015

GIRLS U10

1. Ariana Schafer; 2. Kate Cleland; 3. Carys Reed.

BOYS U10

1. Owen Ellington; 2. Cullen Reed; 3. Joel Kirk;
4. Nate Florence; 5. Kalani Watts.

GIRLS U12

1. Wairoa Mataa; 2. Hinei Schafer;
3. Taylor Mitchell.

BOYS U12

1. Koah Shewry; 2. Louis Newton; 3. Owen Ellington;
4. George Newton.

GIRLS U14

1. Skyler Ellington; 2. Hinei Schafer; 3. Taylor Mitchell;
4. Melanie Bishop.

BOYS U14

1. Tom Butland; 2. Jack Mitchell; 3. Louis Newton;
4. Harry Clegg.

BOYS U16

1. Tom Butland; 2. Jack Mitchell; 3. Jason Bond;
4. Simon Bond.

U18 WOMEN

1. Ariana Shewry; 2. Skyler Ellington.

MASTERS

1. Manu Schafer; 2. Dwayne Mataa; 3. Luke Florence;
4. Andre Kirk.

GRANDMASTERS

1. Glen Johns; 2. Jason Coxhead; 3. John Newton.

LEGENDS

1. Stu McKinnon; 2. Chris Davies; 3. Brent Anderson;
4. Steve Butland.

OPEN WOMENS

1. Ariana Shewry; 2. Jackie Keenan; 3. Caitie Lennox;
4. Rachel Schafer.

OPEN MENS

1. Manu Schafer; 2. Dwayne Mataa; 3. Tom Butland;
4. Brian Clark.

The weekend of November 14th saw Oakura Boardriders host the Taranaki Interclub contest. With the help of Opunake Boardriders this was held at Arawhata Rd in some great contest surf. This is always a great day and a bit of team bonding and rivalry ensues followed by a good prizegiving at the clubrooms.

Teams must consist of four open surfers, one woman, one U16, one over 40, one longboard, and one kneeboard. So that is a total of nine heats with one surfer from each club in each heat. Points are given on the placings in each heat, highest totals at the end give the winning club.

Separate to this is the Tag Team event where all nine surfers have to surf, with one wave being counted. This is a fun event with a lot of team tactics. At the end all the wave scores are totalled giving the winning team.

Results were in the heats surf off, 1st NPSRC, 2nd Oakura, 3rd Waitara, 4th Christian Surfers, 5th Opunake.

Results of the Tag Team were 1st Oakura, 2nd NPSRC, 3rd Waitara, 4th Christian Surfers, 5th Opunake.

Overall and just two points separating 1st & 2nd was, 1st NPSRC, 2nd Oakura, 3rd Waitara, 4th Christian Surfers, 5th Opunake.

A great prizegiving and food spread was put on back at the Oakura Clubrooms with thanks to Steve and Jules Collier and Lee Newton for organising and cooking.

Roll on Summer and hope everyone has a great time at the beach, be safe.

*Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders,
President; Luke Florence, 027 493 0819
Secretary; Paul Lobb, 027 244 4297*



Owen Ellington, Louis Newton, George Newton, Koah Shewry.



Stu McKinnon, Brent Anderson and Steve Butland.



U14 boys.



U10 boys.



Dwayne Mataa, Manu Schafer, Brian Clark and Tom Butland.



"You doing it right Dad?"
Luke and Nate Florence.



Hinei Schafer,
Taylor Mitchell
and Wairoa
Mataa,.

NPOB Surf Lifesaving Club

The season has well and truly begun, both junior surf on Sunday mornings and senior trainings are well underway. Patrols have now started every Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 5pm and will run through to 14 March 2016. A huge thanks to all of our volunteer guards for continuing to provide the community with a safe beach environment.

No doubt everyone has noticed the clubhouse has been undergoing a significant upgrade over the winter months. The majority of the upgrade is due to be completed late December with a new entrance including a disabled access to be started in the New Year. The changing rooms and rescue centre should be ready even earlier.

Exciting news with the club announcing a partnership with Francois from High Tide who will be running a food service out of the kitchen on Friday evenings. The club will also have the bar open, so a great place to come down have a drink and a bite to eat while watching the famous west coast sunset!!

Here's a quick peak at some of the meals Francois will be offering....

- Gourmet burgers.
- Fresh Taranaki caught fish n chips.
- Homemade pizzas.
- Platters to share- seafood and cheeses n cured meat platters.
- Kids options - burgers, fish n chips, pizza.

The idea is to have simple options that will match the surf club's atmosphere, meals that are great to nibble on a Friday night but with prime ingredients that Francois loves to use which make a huge difference to taste.

This season the club is offering a social membership for \$20.00. This allows you to come in and use the bar and have a meal (even bring your friends along) while supporting a valuable service that the club provides keeping our beach safe. We will also be coming out to the community shortly to offer the exciting opportunity to make a legacy contribution to the Club that will help finalise the development and also ensure its long term viability.

For more information on how to become a social member please contact Jaynie McSweeney on 027 374 3762 or email admin@npobsurfclub.co.nz

As with any volunteer organisation we rely heavily on sponsorship and funding from the community and businesses. We are incredibly fortunate to have great support and partnerships from many businesses and funding organisations.

Self Portrait of a Paua

A book that is part autobiographical, historical and resource has been produced by artist Margaret Scott. This book called Self Portrait of a Paua covers over 40 years of Scott's painting career. With stories of childhood memories, life in rural and coastal Taranaki and international travels, Scott captures these images with vivid colourful paintings. There are also workbook pages that demonstrate painting techniques which makes this a valuable resource for art students and emerging artists.

The idea for the book came about when Scott was teaching art at Opunake High School. She was often frustrated by the scarcity of books and resources available about New Zealand artists and their paintings. Students contact with original works of art was often limited as many did not have artworks in their homes, nor had they visited an art gallery. Because of this Scott started bringing her own paintings into class to demonstrate to her students the abundance of inspiration all around them and to show them painting techniques. Part of her success as a teacher was because her student enjoyed and related to the subject matter she provided them.

After she left secondary teaching she started developing her own workbooks to use as a teaching resource with her adult students. Her students were always encouraging her to publish these so she has used some of these pages in this book and created more together with the stories in the book.

Over the years Scott's style has evolved and developed and depending on her circumstances, so has her approach to painting. However although her style may have changed over the years she has always tried to stay focused on the culture –rich area where she lives. Her paintings reflect the environment where she lives, between the mountain and the sea in coastal Taranaki. The book captures these places in her beautiful paintings.

This is a unique and inspirational book that will look great on the coffee table for holiday reading and Christmas visitors. Books will be available at Crafty Fox and Art by the Sea studio in Oakura and at Paper Plus and Poppies in New Plymouth.

For any more details contact artbythesea@xtra.co.nz

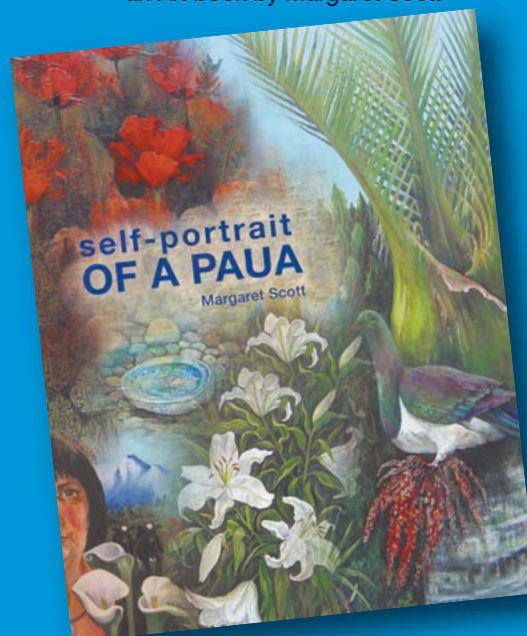


Margaret with her book.

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an Art book by Margaret Scott



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Five years on and even more Flexible

With the growth of Flexible Electrical and Alex as a Yoga teacher, Alex and his electrical team are able to bring you better service and bending over backwards to help in more ways than before.

Flexible Electrical is coming up to its 5th year of trading. In this time Alex's company and family has grown with the Oakura community. Living and working in the Oakura and coastal area, there is always plenty of interesting and diverse projects going on. Diversity seems to be the name of the game for Alex and his growing team. The last couple of years has been residential solar power and they are now moving into the commercial solar realm. But this diversity comes in all shapes and sizes, from the tiniest of homes new homes, to the rebirth of the iconic Oakura Scout Hall. The tiny home movement has been making traction throughout the world, with the philosophy being to make less of an environmental impact by building an ergonomical home, using sustainably sourced materials. This includes solar power to make homes as self sufficient as possible. Two dwellings dubbed "the tiny home" and "the matchbox" were constructed here in Oakura before being moved into the centre of New Plymouth.

Another project of interest is the old Scout Hall on Dixon street which has been beautifully revamped by local builder Gareth Shearman. Whilst retaining the character of the old hall, Gareth has turned the space into a warm and modern home for him and his family. The hall was essentially a complete rewire with switchboard metering and circuits throughout. Current projects include a designer home being built in Wairau Rd, along with Mike Van Prehn and the Navigation Homes team plus Ardern Peters Architects. They have also been working on a local doctor's dream home on a tricky section in the valley over looking the Oakura school. This is a state of the art home with integrated entertainment and data throughout, underfloor heating in the bathroom and ensuite, plus heat transfer systems to keep this beautiful home warm and comfortable. The fire and security systems will also keep this home safe and secure, whilst utilising the latest integrated mobile phone technology to activate alarms and other entertainment features. Alex and his team thoroughly enjoy working with the community, with no job being too big or small.

Alex's other passion which has become a bigger part of his life is creating a yoga community in the shape of "The Yoga Space". Being a yoga teacher for coming up to 10 years, teaching in various church halls and community spaces around the Oakura /Okato area. He decided it was time to bring the amazing teachers from the area and give them a custom made space that will offer a beautiful warm environment to teach classes to the wider community. With one of the teachers Peggy Preston still living and teaching in Oakura plus Shyam who is now living in Oakura, the flexibility is rippling through the community and beyond. For more information about Flexible Electrical you can contact flexibleelectrical@gmail.com, 027 524 4004, 06 757 2628 or info@theyogaspaces.co.nz

Alex and the team would like to wish all their clients a Merry Christmas and a big thank you for all the support over the last year.



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Raw Milk from Beach Road Milk Co

Ryan Gargan and Megan Turner have just opened Omata's first raw milk self dispensing vending machine and in keeping with a history of fine milk factories around the coast, have named their business in reference to these bastions of milk processing - The Beach Road Milk Co.

Six or seven decades ago milk factories dotted the landscape and today lie neglected, run down, have been pulled down or refurbished into another use so it is exciting for the Gargan's to be meeting demand for organic raw milk via a small milk factory.

Raw milk has made a comeback in recent years as consumers head towards food less processed or modified.

Ryan and Megan farm on a small family farm on Beach Rd which is in the hands of the third generation of Gargan's. Ryan and Megan are moving their farming practices more into what they see as a balanced and harmonious lifestyle. It is about downsizing instead of intensification - they want to share this passion for balance, harmony, simplicity and a great tasting and healthy product with others. Their farm is not certified organic but they farm along organic principles - organic fertilisers (seaweed, worm castings, farm effluent etc) for soil health, animal health intervention via homeopathy, no hormone products, inducing drugs and only antibiotics used as a last resort. The couple milk their herd once a day and have DNA tested their cows to isolate A2 cows for their raw milk distribution business.

A2 milk has risen in popularity in recent years with the discovery of a mutant gene that contains a beta casein protein and has one less peptide than A1 milk. The lactose in A2 milk is thought to pass through the gut more quickly than A1 milk hence making it more suitable for lactose intolerance disorders. Interestingly humans have been drinking milk for 10,000 years and probably for most of those years, the milk has not been pasteurised, homogenised or had calcium added to it or fat taken out.

Next year, new laws come into effect with rules on selling raw milk to keep the consumer as safe as possible. There are perceived risks in consuming raw milk and vulnerable people are not recommended to drink raw milk (infants, elderly, immune compromised).

The Beach Road Milk Co is a purpose built facility with A2 milk delivered daily from the dairy shed to the dispenser. A specific herd is milked first via stringent health practices - teats wiped with alcoholic wipes, machinery cleaned with hot water, gloves worn for milking. The milk is snap chilled from 30° to 3° within minutes and at anything below 4° change pathogens cannot grow to bacteria. This milk is kept separate from the main herd's milk and is stored at 3° for the day then what is left at the end of the day is discarded and all machinery cleaned. Hygiene and pathogenic testing is carried out every week.

The little factory is a high tech operation with chilled bottles for sale, a cash key system or cash slot machine for

purchasing the milk and a push button dispenser that fills your bottle for you.

The reusable factory branded bottles can be purchased for \$3 each, or you can bring your own. Labelled coolie bags, which hold 2 bottles, can be purchased for \$12 and the milk is \$2.20 per litre. Cash keys (which you can preload with money at the machine) can be purchased for \$4. There is no eftpos facility.

Contact Megan or Ryan by phone 751 0125, or visit their website www.beachroadmilk.co.nz for more information.

by Kim Ferens

Ruby and Taj waiting excitedly for fresh milk.



Below: Ryan, Taj, Ruby and Megan outside their new shop in Beach Rd, Omata.



A Little Piece of History Disappears

McDonald Real Estate is still here and plans to stay for a very long time and will be occupying the new building soon to be erected on site.

The reason for pulling down the old building was it had asbestos in the cladding, the floor was rotten and the back part of the building was unstable. The company have had a few comments about losing a piece of Oakura heritage and why it couldn't be preserved – this wasn't possible. There was talk with a few groups about relocating the building but the cost of recladding and strengthening the frame was prohibitive.

The old building was built in the 1940's and was 42m². The new office will be 97m² and far more comfortable for clients and staff.

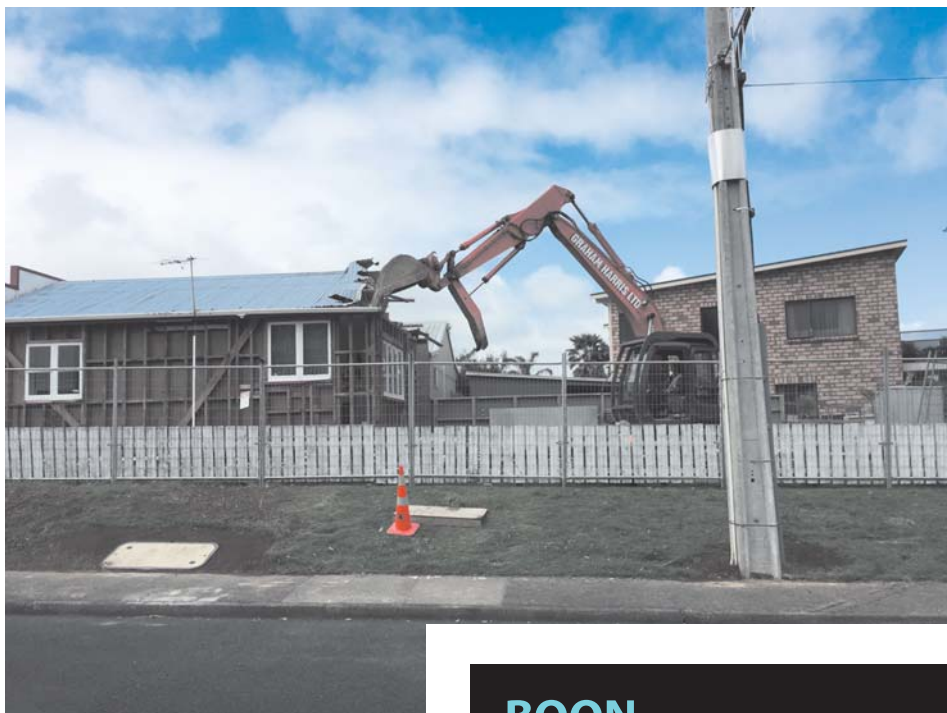
McDonald's will be utilising the back section with five carparks and a small deck for staff and clients.

The old building has had many uses including a bank and a doctor's surgery. McDonald Real Estate moved into the building in 2009, although they have had other offices in Oakura since 2000.

Daniel McDonald says the Oakura property market, including the property management division, continues to form an important part of McDonald Real Estate's business. A large number of our team live in the village, and we love the lifestyle here. As a family firm, we are immensely proud and thankful for the support we get from the Oakura, Omata and Okato communities, and we look forward to further developing these relationships from our new office.

The new building is expected to be completed in March 2016.

The building is owned by Daniel McDonald and partner Rebecca. The construction is being done by New Style Homes, with my brother Oliver being the foreman for the project, so there are some strong family ties to the site.



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Oakura School Leavers

What school are you going to next year?

What was the highlight of your time at Oakura School?

What do you aspire to be when you finish school?



ADAM BRIDGES

NPBHS

Adam's favourite time at Oakura School was Camp Wellington.

Adam plans to combine his love of building Lego models with his ambition of becoming a Lego model designer.



DANIEL WILLIAMSON

Spotswood College Daniel's week at TOPEC as the recipient of the Bryce Jourdain Scholarship was the highlight of his time at Oakura School.

Daniel's future plans include qualifications in graphic design and architecture.



EMMA DASHORST

Spotswood College.

The highlight of Emma's time at Oakura School was being with all the kind people of our school.

Emma's ultimate ambition is to attend Massey University to qualify as a veterinarian.



ETHAN BROWN

Spotswood College.

His favourite memory was Camp Wellington.

Ethan's ambition is to be a filmmaker. He plans to attend Auckland University of Technology to qualify as a filmmaker.



FLETCHER FERGUSON

NPBHS.

Fletcher's first day of school was the best memory of Oakura School.

Fletcher's long term goal is to become a professional sportsman and to eventually secure a position as a chief executive in the area of sport.



HOLLY KEMSLEY

Sacred Heart Girls' College.

Holly's highlight was the 2014 Equestrian Day

Holly's ambition is to be a race-horse trainer.



JACK MITCHELL

NPBHS.

Jack's favourite memory is Camp Wellington.

Jack's ambition is to represent New Zealand in hockey & play for the Black Sticks.



KATE ROBERTS

NPGHS.

Kate's highlight of her time at Oakura School was Camp Wellington.

Kate adores horses and after leaving school plans to gain experience in training former race horses for eventing.



MAX VALENTINE

Spotswood College.

The fun run in 2007 was the highlight of Max's time at Oakura School.

Max's ambition is to qualify as a computer technician.



MAYA JACKSON

NPGHS.

The highlight of Maya's time at Oakura School was the Young Leaders Conference.

Maya is planning to be a graphic designer.



MELANIE BISHOP

NPGHS.

Melanie's best moment at Oakura School was attending the Young Leaders Conference in Palmerston North.

Melanie aspires to be a movie director someday.



MICHAEL SPURDLE

NPBHS.

Camp Wellington has been the highlight for Michael.

Michael's long term ambition is to become a professional footballer.

**RILEY DAY**

NPBHS.

Riley's favourite teacher from Oakura School was Mr Rudman. Riley's favourite time at Oakura School was when he participated in interschool sports tournaments.

Riley wants to be a personal trainer.

**ZAC ALDAM**

NPBHS.

One of the highlights for Zac at Oakura School was being successful at swimming sports.

Zac plans to become a fabrication engineer.

**RUAN ROOD**

NPBHS.

The best time for Ruan at Oakura School was Camp Wellington.

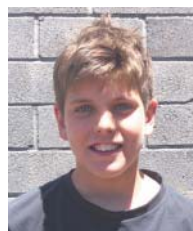
His future plans include studying architecture or 3D design at university.

Blake was unavailable for his photo.

BLAKE BODDINGTON

NPBHS.

The highlight of Blake's time at Oakura was competing in interschool sports tournaments. Blake's ambition is to train as a carpenter or builder when he's older.

**SIMON BOND**

NPBHS.

Simon's favourite memory was his first day at Oakura School.

When he completes secondary school he plans to qualify as a landscape gardener.

**MICHAEL GIBBON**

Spotswood College.

Michael's long term ambition is to attend university to complete a degree in Criminal Psychology.

**YULAN IMHASLY**

Spotswood College.

Camp Wellington was Yulan's favourite experience at Oakura School, and doing maths tests.

Yulan's ambition is to be a fashion designer and she plans to attend Design & Fashion School.

**GLORIA PRONK-JONES**

Gloria will be moving to Christchurch and going to Hagley Community College.

Her favourite memory of Oakura School was her first day here.

Gloria wants to be an architect in the future.

*SEASONS
GREETINGS
FROM US*



ANJIE & DONNA

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COMING EVENTS

December

- 15 Big Day Out.
- 16 Year 8 Morning Tea.
- 17 Prize giving 11am.
School finishes 12pm.

February

- 1-2 Stationery sales 8am-2pm.
- 3 School starts for students.
- 8 Waitangi Day holiday.
- 9 R6 Swimming at Aquatic Centre starts.
- 11 Information Evening 5:30-7:30.
- 12 Year 7/8 Literacy Quiz.
- 15-17 Year 5-8 Cycle Training.

BOT UPDATE

It was with regret that we accepted Alex Baker's resignation as of the end of this year as Alex takes up her full time role as mum. The Board, staff and community thank Alex for her contribution to the school and we wish Alex and her family the best in their future. We made two teaching appointments for 2016. We welcome back Jemma Glasgow who left six years ago to take maternity leave. Jemma has been back fixed term for Alex since the end of last year. We also welcome a new staff member Kelly Madden, to the teaching team. Great to have you both.

Karen Brisco, Principal

Omata School Leavers

What school are you going to next year?

What was your highlight at Omata School?

What do you want to do when you leave school?



KANAAN ANDREWS

Spotswood College.
My highlight was being in room 6 and all the things we do - the games I play with my friends and everything!
I want to be an agricultural contractor.



MAX BROOKE

NPBHS.
My highlights were going to to Vertical Horizons, camping at Omata School overnight and the Sevens rugby competition.
I want to be a Black Cap.



JEMMA TANNER

Spotswood College.
My highlight has been making a cartoon magazine.
I want to be an editor or journalist.



KOHANA CLOTHIER

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been my teacher Mr Murphy and the way he gets the best out of all the students and the other students.
I want to be a translator or do something involving Japan.



NED CRAWSHAW

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been being lead ambassador and the opportunities and special jobs from this, my friends and the leadership I went on.
I want to be an aircraft maintenance engineer.



ESMERALDA DALGLEISH

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been being part of the Marimba group and being a buddy ambassador with the younger children.
I want to be a teacher or doing something people oriented.



IDO DORON

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been learning how you want too and at the speed you want too - it is a very comfortable place to learn.
I want to be a child psychologist.



GRACE GLENNIE

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been being part of the Marimba group and playing at the Cloud.
I want to be a hair and makeup artist/fashion designer or an artist.



LOUIE HUBBARD

NPBHS.
My highlights have been the overnight camp at Omata School, cooking our own food with my friends.
I want to be a chiropractor.



MEGAN JONES

Spotswood College.
My highlights have been the Marimba festival/group and going in a small group to the city to play was fun.
I want to be a vet or work with animals.

**CHRISTOPHER LOGAN**

NPBHS.

My highlights have been the bush studies and doing this with my friends - I like not being cooped up inside - I like the field work.

I want to be a DOC ranger.

**ADAM MCKENZIE**

Spotswood College.

My highlights have been the seven aside rugby tournament - playing my favourite sport with my friends.

I want to possibly be a pilot - I like planes and helicopters.

**CARA MOFFITT**

Spotswood College.

My highlights have been the leadership course at Vertical Horizons, being lead ambassador and I have been able to showcase myself and show I can be trusted.

I want to do something in psychology or law.

**PREZLEY MURFITT**

FDMC.

My highlights have been hanging out with my friends in room 6 and making new friends.

I want to be a pilot or pro skateboarder.

**BAYS PRATT**

NPBHS.

My highlights have been the overnight camp at Omata School, playing on the skatepark and the learning is pretty good here as it hooks you in.

I want to be a chiropractor or physio therapist.

**KOBY RYAN**

FDMC.

My highlights have been going to Vertical Horizons camp in room 2.

I want to be an engineer or pro skateboarder.

**ELISHA WILLIAMS**

NPBHS.

My highlights have been meeting new people, the privilege of being a lead ambassador - it has made me feel responsible, special and important.

I want to do something in music.

**ISABELLA BOROSTYAN**

NPGHS.

My highlights have been all the friends I have made and the great learning environment with supportive teachers. Omata School is the best school I have been to including going to schools in Malaysia, China and Australia.

I want to be an actor or singer or in the theatre.

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Success for the Emerge Beauty & Wellbeing Team

We are absolutely thrilled with the success the team had at the recent Taranaki Business Excellence Awards Sponsored by the TSB Bank and run by the Taranaki Chamber of Commerce. We entered into three categories and received recognition in two awards. Such a moment of pride and didn't the girls look stunning!

Commended in The Service Industry Award, sponsored by Power Co. Highly Commended in The Employer of Choice Award, sponsored by the South Taranaki District Council.

I am exceptional proud of the team but we couldn't be in the service industry without the support of our wonderful clients and supporters, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support of Emerge Beauty & Wellbeing. It was an wonderful evening made even more special having





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our guest Forest Henry join us to celebrate what she had created and we have continued to grow. Emerge is a special little place and Forest had the insight to establish our gorgeous little day spa nestled in our beautiful village.

One of the judging panels had this to say: "Paula, your enthusiasm for your business, your staff, your products and services and the industry you work in is infectious. We are sure this level of passion and enthusiasm will produce tangible results in your business and we look forward to seeing this in the future."

Paula



We would like to wish all of our clients and TOM readers a very merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.
We are closed from Christmas Day until reopen on the 5th January.
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Daniel Goes Green for a Good Cause

Daniel is 13 year old local boy who goes to Oakura School. He's very into football and also this year has been involved in basketball, tennis, touch rugby and hand drumming as well as nearly every school activity available. He had the idea to dye his hair green to raise money for charity and decided to support Taranaki Kiwi Trust and World Vision by donating half the money to each. He got publicity through Facebook and email and has raised just over \$600 so far.

If you would like to contribute to Daniel's effort there are details below. Any donation, no matter how small, will be very much appreciated.

A big thanks to Oakura Hair Boutique who dyed his hair for free and made a donation. Here are bank details to make donations: Account number is 15-3943-0005417-30 or 030 on the end if 3 digits are needed, name Daniel Williamson.

Daniel is going to Spotswood College next year.





Spotswood College

We have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating student learning and success through our formal prizegivings over recent weeks.

The sports prizegiving was held on Thursday October 22nd. Mr Gayton and Mrs Skene did a wonderful job organising the evening that included keynote addresses from Tracey and Lionel Haldane – International Snowboarding Instructors and Adventurers.

Our Maori Student Graduation held the following week was an inspiring evening. We heard from each of the students about their plans for the future. Teachers and whanau spoke also, acknowledging the growth and development they had observed, over the years, in each of the individual graduands.

The Gateway Luncheon celebrated a busy year of learning 'on the job' for 90 of our students. The lunch was catered for by our Hospitality students with oversight from Mr Houghton and Mrs Roach. The event was an opportunity to acknowledge and thank the many employers who give so much to ensure the success of our Gateway programme in assisting students develop their career pathway. Xavi Clarkson won the Anne Wilson Entrepreneur of the Year Trophy not only for his hard work and dedication but for the success of his Horticultural business.

We farewelled our departing year 13 students at our annual senior prizegiving held in the recently refurbished school hall. Staff, parents, whanau and students were able to celebrate the success of many of the year 11-13 students in and across their subjects. The top academic award, the Dux of the school was achieved by Teia Wallace (2nd from left) and the runner up to the Dux, the Proxime Accessit was awarded to Siany O'Brien (3rd from left).

A large group of the departing year 13 will continue with their studies at university next year and the school wishes them all the best in their future endeavours. The school has many students who have gained scholarships that will support them in their university studies; above is a

selection of students who have confirmed scholarships at the Universities of their choice.

The scholarships were awarded by universities on application by the students who had to apply and be interviewed by a panel. Their awards are testament to their leadership and academic potential.

DUX 2015

Teia Wallace is the Spotswood College Dux for 2015. Teia has been a student of the school since 2011 and she has achieved NCEA Level One and Two, both with Excellence endorsement.

This year Teia studied Level Three English, Geography, History, Classical Studies, and Economics. At the Senior Prizegiving Ceremony, she was awarded first in Geography, History and Classical Studies. She was First Equal in Economics and First Equal in Senior Speech. Teia was also the recipient of the Helen J. Bacon Award for Excellence in Geography and History.

Teia has contributed to the wider school in her role as a member of Peer Support and the Secondary Schools' Mooting Competition. She has also been an active participant in TSSSA events and the 40 Hour Famine.

In 2016 Teia will read Law and undertake a BA Degree majoring in Philosophy, Economics and Politics at Otago University.



PROXIME ACCESSIT 2015

The Proxime Accessit to the Dux at Spotswood College for 2015 is Siany O'Brien. She has been a student of the school since 2011 and she has achieved NCEA Level One and Two, both with Excellence endorsement.

Siany's subjects for this year have been Level Three English, Drama, Spanish, Classical



Photo from left to right:

Luke Abbott (2015 Head Boy): University of Otago, Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship and Priscilla Sandys Wunsch Scholarship.

Teia Wallace (2015 Dux): University of Otago, Price Waterhouse Cooper Scholarship and Alumni Appeals Scholarship.

Siany O'Brien (2015 Proxime Accessit): University of Otago, Price Waterhouse Cooper Scholarship and Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship.

Fiona Nicoll: University of Otago, Maori and Pacifica Scholarship.

Matthew Reed: University of Otago, Priscilla Sandys Wunsch Scholarship and Alumni Appeals Scholarship.

Joanne Cummings: University of Otago, New Frontiers Scholarship and Dr George Thompson Award.

Mahana Nathan: University of Otago, Priscilla Sandys Wunsch Scholarship.

Jennifer Reidy: Canterbury University, College of Business and Law Scholarship and Canterbury University Brightstart Scholarship.

Jayden Monaghan: University of Auckland, Jubilee Scholarship.



Studies and Geography. Siany was awarded First Equal in Senior Speech at the Senior Prizegiving Ceremony, and also gained Merits in Classical Studies, Drama and Spanish along with Diligence for English.

Siany's contribution to the wider school has been substantial with her role as Academic Prefect and a member of Peer Support. Siany participated in the 2015 Secondary Schools' Mooting Competition and she was student director at the 2015 Sheilah Winn Shakespeare Festival. Siany also served on the Spotswood College Ball Committee this year.

In 2016 Siany will read Law and undertake a BA Degree majoring in Computer Science and Linguistics at Otago University.

HEAD BOY 2016

I am Michael Anderson and I am excited to be Spotswood College's Head Boy for 2016. For me, Spotswood College exemplifies a positive and enjoyable learning environment for students to thrive and succeed. At Spotswood we are inclusive, caring and learning is our focus. These principles, along with the Key Competencies are wrapped up in our school's value system ETŪ (Education, Taking Part, Unity). This system aids us not only for our learning at school, it prepares students with life skills to utilise in the 'real world.'



In 2016 I am planning to study Level Three English, Spanish, Physics, Calculus and Music. At the moment my plans for tertiary study are undecided but I am thinking about pursuing a career in Education and Teaching.

HEAD GIRL 2016

I am Montana Bennett, Spotswood College Head Girl for 2016. I am thrilled to be given this opportunity to be able to work more closely with the students and staff, in order to make positive changes within the school. The values of our school resonate with me because they apply to life during school and outside of it, particularly relating to our relationships with others and integrity.



In 2016 I plan to study Level Three English, Classical Studies, History, Drama and Calculus. In the future I would like to attend Victoria University to read Law.

TOP EQUAL IN NORTH ISLAND

Spotswood College's Equestrian Show Jumping team stole the limelight when they finished in first equal place with pre-championship favourites St. Peters School (Cambridge) at the North Island Secondary Schools Show Jumping Championships held at Cambridge, on Friday 23rd October.

29 teams representing 27 schools from throughout the North Island competed in this year's championship.

Spotswood College and St.Peters finished the day equal on 36 points with Pukekohe HS 3rd (29 points), St.Kentigerns College 4th (24points), a combined team from Taupo

Niui Tia, Te Kuiti and Morrinsville 5th (23 points), and NgaTawa School 6th (18 Points).

Best individual results for Spotswood were:-

Ring2:-

80cm-90cm Class 1 2nd Rebecca Spindler- Golden Sunset

80cm-90cm Class 2 1st Rebecca Spindler- Golden Sunset

Ring 1:-

1m- 1.05m Class 2 4th Maeghan King - Alexander Bay

Spotswood College won the Teams Jigsaw event.



From left to right: Jess Gibson, Rebecca Spindler, Maeghan King, Erin Barrett.



From left to right: Jess Gibson (Asterix II), Erin Barrett (Molly), Rebecca Spindler (Golden Sunset), Maeghan King (Alexander Bay).

We have enjoyed the opportunity to contribute to the TOM Magazine through-out 2015. As the local Secondary School we value being part of the coastal community. Thank you Kim and the team for the contribution you make in sharing our community news and views.

I wish all readers a Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday break. Spotswood College will be back in the saddle from January 18th 2016.

Mark Bowden, Principal

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Happy Summer Days Ahead for the 'Naki VW Club.

Spring has sprung and 'Naki roads are echoing to the delicate sound of Volkswagens Flat 4 Thunder.

As members of the Taranaki Volkswagen Owners Club look forward to the warmer months of the year, they are dusting off their pride and joys so they can use them as they were meant to be used...to have fun and put big smiles on peoples dials.

Most folk that they come across while partaking in various club activities, or just day to day trips to the shop, pass comments such as "we used to have one of those" or "we travelled around the UK in a 1970 VW micro bus".

A Volkswagen Kombi, Hippie Bus, Type 3 Variant, VW Thing, Old Beetle or a New Bug, whatever model it may be, most people have a fond memory of the good old Vee Dub.

The Taranaki Volkswagen Owners Club, TVWOC, will be celebrating its 20th year (in its current form) next year. The club was originally started in 1967-68 but sort of slipped away some years later. This is some

history that the club would be keen to find out about.

As some car clubs are experiencing diminishing membership numbers due to their make/model either not being manufactured anymore or an ageing membership, the VW car club scene worldwide is going from strength to strength with VW shows taking place most weekends in the summer months overseas.

New Zealand also has its fair share of shows with more events added every year. Bug Jam, Bulli, Run To the Sun, Coast to Coast, Dub Freeze just to name a few and of course the Volkswagen Nationals which has been going for 25 years this year.

An old man's cup of tea club it is not, although some of us are getting that way. We are a group of folk who have a passion for everything that Volkswagen, the peoples car, stands for. Fun, camping, glamping, roadies, fish and chip Fridays, family fun, and a bit of VW knowledge thrown into the mix for good measure.

If TVWOC sounds like a bit of you and you have an old VW, a new VW or even no VW, we would love to hear from you. A VW is an affordable way to get into the classic car scene.

Check out the TVWOC Web site www.taranakivw.co.nz or find us on Face Book.

Secretary: bryan@taranakivw.co.nz

President: kirk@taranakivw.co.nz



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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON
PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

Indoor Bowls. Mondays 7.30pm at Oakura Hall. Ring Mike Vickers 752 7881.

JKA Karate. Tuesdays at Oakura Hall 5.30-6.30pm. Thursdays at Oakura Hall 6.00-7.00pm. Contact Jim Hoskin 752 7337.

Mini Groovers. Music and movement for preschoolers! Tuesdays 10am during school terms, now at St James' Hall (opp. Oakura Hall). Gold coin donation. Contact Sara Matheson on 021-294 6896.

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

Oakura Bowling and Social Club. Bowling tournaments begin September through to April with both mid-week and weekend games. For information contact Steve Muller on 06 757 4399.

Oakura Playcentre. 14 Donnelly St, Oakura. Sessions run Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am-noon during school terms. Visitors welcome. Ph Kate Garner on 021-254 4769.

Oakura Pony Club. Contact Robin King ph 751 0300.

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

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

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

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

Pippi's PT and circuit training, every week day morning 9.30am-10.30am and Tuesday and Thursday evenings 5.30-6.30pm. More details call Pip 021 1041 851.

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

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

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

Val Deakin Dance School. Oakura Hall. Saturday mornings. Pre-school dance classes 9:30 - 10 am. Beginners' Ballet dance class 10.00 - 10:45 am. Contact Val on 752 7743.
 Also classes for pre-schoolers to adults in ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom (beginners to advanced) at the Dance Centre in New Plymouth.

Volkswagen Club. Regular events range from car rallies, the YMCA climbing wall, camping, BBQ get togethers and sharing good family times and knowledge. Contact President: kirk@taranakivw.co.nz and Secretary: bryan@taranakivw.co.nz

Yoga Classes. Oakura Church Hall, Wed at 9.15am, Fri at 6am, (call Kate to book your class), Fri at 9.15am. Everyone welcome. Contact Kate Evans 027 203 7215.

Phone 0800 THE TOM
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