

TOM

OAKURA

FEB 2014

OAKURA'S NEW YEAR'S DAY CARNIVAL

X Factor hot shot Tom Batchelor attracted
all ages - Emily Breeze and Jo Hill

More on page 11

TAKE ONE MOMENT

TOM OAKURA

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

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

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

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www.thetom.co.nz

EDITORIAL

I believe the spirit of community is well and truly alive and this Christmas proved it. The carols were a success, Darren Moeller and her Christmas Eve lolly scramble were a success, the beach carnival is alive and well – all good health checks for our community.



The TOM team is very excited to start 2014 in colour, it means all the great news of the village will be accompanied by colour photos – a very vibrant start to the year!

Thank you to the Andrea Leadbetter and the team at TGM for this service. Colour options have never been competitive before so it is wonderful that the printing industry has come up with an innovative way of printing colour cheaply – now maybe print won't die a slow painful death.

Over the summer holidays I enjoyed visiting the Surf exhibition at Puke Ariki. In a way it is almost an ode to Oakura with many locals and local surfing spots and crafts people featuring prominently. It is well worth a visit. We have our own little bit of surfing history in the cupboard – my husband has one of the original Jungle Tea tee shirts – it's about 40 years old – trust a man never to throw anything out!

Any feedback on the first colour issue would be much appreciated

Kim Ferens



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for March 2014 issue:
Copy and ads -14th Feb.
Distribution from
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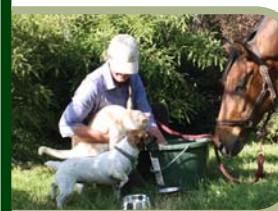
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Kaitake Community Board

The much anticipated glorious summer weather has been very slow to arrive this season and it is a rare fine, wind-free day today but as I write this there is talk of a tropical cyclone wending its way down from the south pacific to perhaps hammer us over the next few days. However I suspect the sun will come back as soon as the kids go back to school. This seems to be a time-honoured tradition over the years – as soon as the classrooms are full the weather comes right with a vengeance. Let's hope we do get some decent and long fine spells for the next couple of months so everyone can get out and about and enjoy our superb environment. The Community Board has been involved in some 'behind the scenes' issues during the holiday period. There are always some community matters that require attention and they don't disappear during the holidays. However I expect the pace will increase now that most folk are back at work and council begins its countdown to the production of its annual plan - a procedure that half the governing councillors will be working through for the very first time. Regarding local developments, a contract has been awarded to Presco Group Hawera to construct four concrete skate ramps at the new Okato Neighbourhood Park. Due to a funding shortfall an application has been made to the New Zealand Community Trust for the concrete skate bowl to complete the skate park. The Community Board is working closely with council to attract the extra sponsorship to ensure the skate park can be fully completed as soon as possible. The play equipment installed in the park prior to Christmas has attracted much enthusiastic use and positive feedback. A topographic survey has been undertaken at the Okato cemetery to update and establish boundary lines and fence realignment. At the same time all grave sites have been plotted and information on headstones copied for an historical record. The cemetery is to be extended and construction of the lengthening of the service road into the future extension area has started. The local residents' committee in Oakura organised a very successful New Year's Day Carnival, thus keeping the traditional carnival of well over 40 years going. Although the heavens opened with a torrential downpour around 3.30pm it didn't impact too heavily on the very rewarding family-oriented day. The committee has already indicated it plans to run the carnival again next year and with a much longer lead-in period plan to introduce further developments to build on this year's effort. A review is currently underway of the Oakura Structure Plan. The plan has been in existence since August 2006 so a review is timely. The twenty year plan describes how to implement

the vision of the New Plymouth Coastal Strategy at local Oakura level. It therefore identifies areas of land use, protection, parks and other infrastructure and community requirements over the next 20 years with respect to Oakura. The aim was to set a desired vision for the future and work towards plans and actions to move consistently toward that shared vision. It is important to remember that the plan describes a partnership between the council and the community and implementation is the responsibility of all partners. To that end the Community Board is in dialogue with council officers as the review unfolds to ensure the community side of the partnership is understood and addressed in the plan. The Structure Plan is available online in the documents section of the NPDC website.

Well that's it for this issue. The next meeting of the Community Board will be held at Hempton Hall, Okato at 7pm on Monday 10 February. Don't forget to regularly check the KCB Face Book page so you can keep up with current issues as they unfold.

Ka kite ano.

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

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Looking Good in 2014

Jonathan Young MP

The year is well underway and many of us are now back at work.

I'm looking forward to another busy year as the National-led Government focuses on the issues that matter to our community, and to all Kiwis – a stronger economy and more jobs, better frontline health and education services, a safer New Zealand, and rebuilding Christchurch.

We've all faced a few challenging years dealing with catastrophic events outside anyone's control – from a global financial crisis to devastating earthquakes in Canterbury.

Though the global environment remains uncertain, National has a steady hand on the wheel, providing strong and stable government, and sound economic management. It's paying dividends and we've headed into the New Year with strong economic growth of 3.5 per cent.

Business confidence is up – the highest since February 1999 with manufacturing confidence hitting a 15-year high. When businesses are confident they make decisions to invest another dollar and employ another person which means better prospects for New Zealand families.

The Government is working hard to get the flow of skills, particularly of our young people, into the workforce so they are ready and able to take up the many opportunities the future offers.

Consumer confidence is up. People are not getting carried away but they are spending a bit more because they feel more secure about their jobs and incomes.

The Government's books continue to improve with the latest economic update confirming a small surplus in the next year which we'll build on in the coming years so we can repay debt and buffer New Zealand from any future shocks. National's wide-ranging plan to build a more competitive and productive economy has New Zealand well-placed to take advantage of the many opportunities available over the next few years.

Our exports are growing as are our construction and service industries as they catch up on house building in Auckland and Christchurch, and that's spreading around the country. However, it is important to avoid Labour's mistakes in the mid-2000s, when large increases in government spending and a booming housing market drove up interest rates and the exchange rate, and eroded productivity.



Jonathan Young

MP FOR NEW PLYMOUTH

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We need to be persistent about a recipe that's working – sensible, moderate change, making our economy more competitive, keeping the Government's books under control, and gradually and sensibly building sustainable opportunities for New Zealand families to get ahead. That's a recipe for a pretty good year in 2014.

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Happy New Year everyone! We hope you've enjoyed some leisurely reading time.

It's been a busy summer here at Oakura Library. We had over 35 children participate in our "Summer Beach Read" programme. They were treated to Mark the magician and Isaac the storyteller.



Mark the magician.

Crackerjacks, our pre-school storytime starts up again Thursday March 20th at 10am here at the library. Open to all families, no registration required. It will continue on the third Thursday of every month at 10am. So mark your diaries!

Teen books are not just for kids! We have some great novels that would appeal to all ages.

If you liked *The Hunger Games* then why not try Neal Shusterman's *Unwind* trilogy, a dystopian series that sees teenagers trying to escape having themselves 'unwound' by the ruling government. For lovers of *The Game of Thrones* there is *The Seven Realms* series by Cinda Williams Chima, or *Fallen Kingdoms* by Morgan Rhodes.

Put your feet up and escape with Rae Carsons *Fire and Thorn Trilogy*, a fantasy series that sees its heroine fight to believe in herself and save her people. We also have some very thought provoking 'real' books to try – *The Weight of Water*, *45 Pounds*, *Butter* and *Zac & Mia* are a few good ones to start with.

If you don't like to read or have lost interest its because you just haven't found the right book. We will help you find that book!

Hope to see you soon,
Charlie and Vincenza

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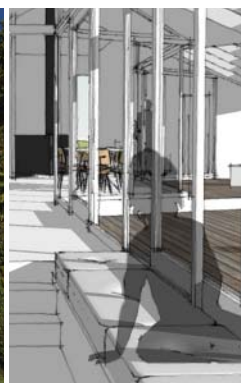
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The reality is, the path to sustainable living can be confusing or even sometimes overwhelming. What's the best way to start? How do I make the most of my budget and investment? How 'eco' is that product or service? Whichever path you're pondering, Greenbridge can help. From creating a productive urban garden, through to developing a small rural property, they make bridging the gap to sustainability easy.

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To be truly sustainable, one takes a long-term view to create a property for present and future generations. It's this approach that has helped Greenbridge to resonate with their clients, along with connecting client's properties with both the surrounding environment and the communities within which they live. Sourcing local services and materials where possible Greenbridge strives to move beyond sustainability to regenerative practices that embrace the beauty of our natural and built environments.

“We believe that the information, products and services required to live in surroundings that are healthy for you and the environment, should not only be readily accessible - but be so, without having to compromise on aesthetic preferences or be at an elevated cost”.

Greenbridge's in-house team of design professionals, provide key assessment, design and project management services. Additionally a full range of products and implementation services are available through partnered suppliers, allowing Greenbridge to effectively provide a single point of contact across both the urban and rural environments to cover: water, energy, landscaping and building needs from conception to completion.

“The true meaning of life is to plant trees, under whose shade you do not expect to sit” – Nelson Henderson.

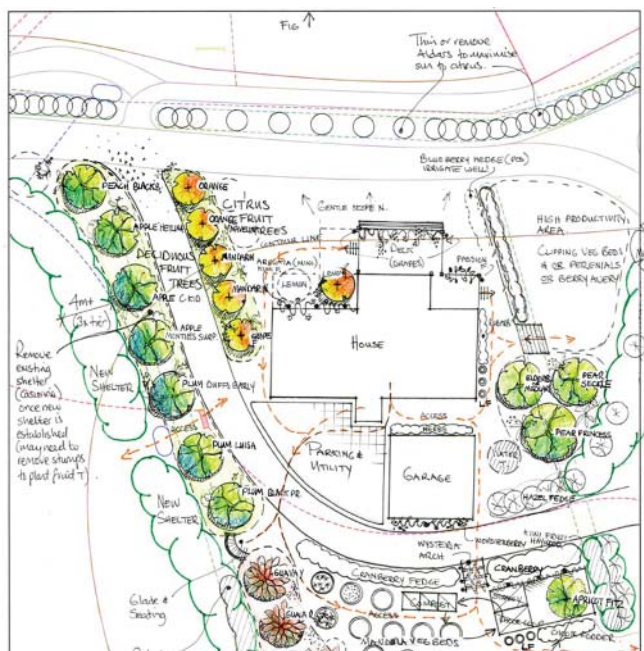
Upcoming Workshop

Greenbridge is running an exciting two-day workshop in February to take you through the theory and practice of developing a sustainable plan for your property. This workshop is amazing value, with three tutors on hand and participants coming away with a plan for their property at the end of the two days. See advert this page.

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Burritos and Ice Cream A Big Hit!

Holy Guacamole off to a Sizzling Start

Despite the dire summer weather (we wish we could have opened in November!) our first month of operation has been excellent. The local support has been very pleasing and it's fun to see families down on the grass, in the bean-bags, enjoying a drink whilst scoffing down a nutritious burrito!

We will be continuing to open all the way through until April (and beyond if the local patrons think it's worth it - let us know). We have adjusted our hours since we first opened; we will now open on Wednesday-Friday from 5-8pm (occasionally later on finer evenings). On Saturdays and Sundays we will open for lunch from 12-2.30pm then again in the evening from 5-8pm.

The feedback from people has been fantastic, it seems that most people agree it was well overdue for Oakura to have a place on the beach where they can congregate and eat and drink to their hearts content!

Find us on Facebook

Isaac Drought



Locals enjoying the sunshine and the burritos at Oakura Beach.



Mövenpick Ice Cream at Oakura Beach Sells Well!

What a great summer it has been, spending it at Oakura Beach selling Mövenpick ice cream to locals and visitors. After retiring from countless years working in health and education, starting a small business was the perfect challenge.

Mövenpick helped me get started by providing the freezer cart and sending their trainer from Wellington to teach me how to scoop ice cream the Mövenpick way. I have also learnt to drive with a trailer, work a winch and use a generator for power! The most popular flavours are kept in stock while occasionally adding a new one to try.



Elayne and another happy customer.

The best part of the job is the happy customers once they taste their ice cream. I love it when groups of people come up to the cart, families or friends, and all sit on the grass and have ice cream together. I especially love it when a child says, "This is the best ice cream I ever had" (which they often say). I love it when people I know stop by and chat while they have an ice cream.

The reception from local /Coastal people has been fantastic. They tell me:

"What a good idea."

"I'm so glad you're doing this."

"Will you be back next year?"

Yes, I will be back, hopefully at the same site (near the Boardriders' Club). While currently open every afternoon when the weather is fine, as summer draws to a close that will change to Friday/Saturday/Sunday afternoons only. Phone 027 9377 173 to see if I am open. Check the Facebook page for all updates: *Mövenpick ice cream at Oakura Beach*, or to book the cart for celebrations or other special events.

SPORTS

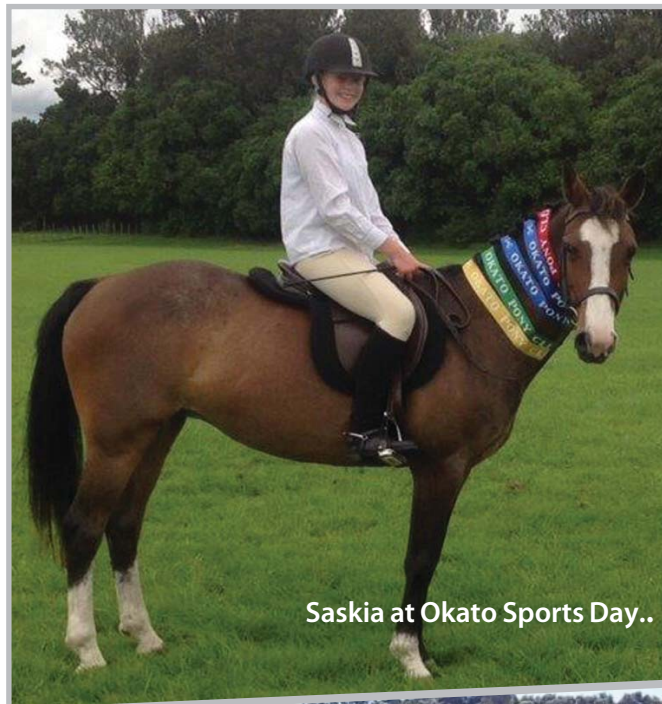
Oakura Pony Club

Oakura riders have been busy going to various pony events around the country.

The Christmas dress-ups with riders and horses was a highlight and thanks to all the dads who cooked the BBQ.

A few of our riders attended an eventing course run by Okato Pony Club and this was awesome - thanks to Mathew Gralling and Ingrid Anderson, it was heaps of fun and learning.

Anthea.



Saskia at Okato Sports Day..



Riley and Coby – best dressed in the dress ups.



Kaitake Golf Club

Welcome to the first of the Kaitake Golfing News for 2014. There has been a lot of activity on the course over the last few weeks with members and holiday makers taking advantage of the Christmas/New Year break to get out and enjoy some summer golf. For this time of the year the course is in very good condition.

After a lot of hard work by many members, Kaitake Golf Club is happy to start the year off with a newly renovated office and a recently installed computerised card system. The larger office will accommodate a selection of golf accessories for sale.

Once again, the annual Beachcombers Tournament started the year off well with 129 members and visitors participating. If the success of this tournament is anything to go by, it is predicted 2014 will be a good year. The major winners were: 1ST Division – 1st Gross D. Baird, 1st Gross C. Farrant, 1st Stbf K. Bishop. 2nd Division – 1st Gross K. Dodunski, 1st Nett I. Colson, 1st Stbf M. Boardman. 3rd Division – 1st Gross D. Jones, 1st Nett S. Corlett, 1st Stbf B. Honeyfield. Ladies Division – 1st Gross A. Braithwaite, 1st Nett K. Vernon, 1st Stbf H. Beaupaire.

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Twilight golf on Tuesday evenings continues to attract many people to play 9 holes of golf during the week. 'Tee off' between 3.00 – 6.00pm with bar and barbecue available. The twilight competition is open to both golfers and non-golfers so come along and join in. Twilight golf will continue until later in March.

Kaitake Golf Course is a valuable community resource and we encourage you to make the most of it. Primarily the course provides the opportunity to take time out and play 9 or 18 holes of golf. This is an enjoyable way to get outside, exercise and have fun. Our special Summer Membership has attracted many more new members this year. If you haven't taken advantage of this already and would like to, this is an ideal opportunity to give golf a try. If you want to continue on the fee will be deducted from the cost of a full-time membership.

The 2014 Golf season has started for the men who are now playing the Men's Summer Cup.

Opening Days for the women are:

Midweek Women Tuesday 4th February,

Weekend Women Saturday 15th February.

More information on Kaitake Golf Club can be found on the website www.kaitakegolf.co.nz. or by talking to Jacqui in the Office, phone 752 7665.

Andrea Jarrold
Club President

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Oakura Boardriders

Unfortunately the summer has been average for the surfers among us with only a couple of bright spots and some cold water to add to the misery. It looks like there may be some improvement through February and March so we can only hope.

The East Coast has had some better weather and some waves with the Surfing New Zealand Nationals being held in Gisborne at Makarori's 'Red Bus' for the majority of the time. A disappearing swell meant a shift north of Tolaga Bay for the finals. Men's Open Champ this year is Billy Stairmand from Raglan and the Women's Champ is Grace Spiers of Whangamata. There was a smaller than usual field of regional competitors this year with cost and work commitments coming into play, it is a long week and too long for many. Taranaki had a small contingent heading across with congratulations to Bruce Collier backing up his National title from last year with a win in the over 55 division and the only other surfer to feature, Issac Kettle making a final and placing 4th in the U16 boys.

UPCOMING NATIONAL EVENTS,

February 2014

7 - 9, Billabong Pro, Whangamata - NZ Pro Series Event 2.

8 - 9 February, Billabong Grom Series presented by Oceanbridge, Event 2 - Whangamata (entries online early December).

ISA World Masters Surfing Championship, Panama (February or March TBC).

15 - 16, South Island Surf Grom Series, Event 3, Kaikoura, N/A, SISA Grom 4 Star.

NZ Longboard Tour Event 2 (dates and location to be confirmed).

28 Feb - 1 Mar - Go for Gold, Greymouth, SISA #2

March 2014

1 - 2 March, Billabong Grom Series pres by Oceanbridge, Event 3 - Piha Beach, Auckland** (entries online early December). TBC, Canterbury Champs (Men's), Christchurch, SISA #3a.

15 - 17, Rip Curl Pro presented by Jagermeister, Manu Bay, Raglan - NZ Pro Series Event 3. NZ Longboard Tour Event 3 (dates and location to be confirmed).

TBC, Canterbury Champs (Women's), Christchurch, SISA #3b.

Locally we have the Micro-Grom series at the halfway mark with two contests to go, the points from all rounds count towards a final placing. This has been well supported by sponsors and kids and a very successful entry level contest circuit getting kids into competitive surfing.

Surfing Taranaki organises a lot of coaching and judging courses throughout the year which are open to Taranaki club members so get involved — join a club!

Remember to visit the surfing exhibition at Puke Ariki, well worth a look at a small part of Taranaki history.

The Dillon Walsh Memorial Longboard contest will be run the weekend of the 1st Feb, results next issue.

The international circuit is about to start again with the 'Hurley Australian Open of Surfing' at Manly followed by the 'Hunter Ports Woman's Classic' and then the first of the world tour contests the 'Quiksilver Pro' at Snapper Rocks. Paige Hareb will be contesting all of these contests and we wish her good luck for the start of her year.

Another Taranaki surfer is going to be testing the international scene by contesting the Australasian pro junior circuit. Sean Kettle has secured some sponsorship and is going to compete in as many contests as possible, we wish him good luck in what is a very competitive environment.

Brent Anderson, Oakura Boardriders.

President: John Shrewy, 7521190

Secretary: Paul Lobb 75 27556

Oakura Beach Carnival Trust would like to thank all those who attended the 2014 Oakura New Year's Day Carnival.

We would also like to thank the following:

Major Sponsors: Worley Parsons, Cleland's Construction, TGM Design, TSB Community Trust, Sign Project, The Daily News, Butlers Reef Hotel.

Media Partners: 100.4 Most FM, More FM.

Sponsors: Oakura Four Square, Stratford New World, Oakura Beach Holiday Park, Don Harvey, Ringcraft Moana, Taranaki Hardcore Surf shop, Mitre 10 Mega, The Black Harp, Joes Garage, Chaos Café, Spotswood Countdown, Dance 45, FBT, Functional Fitness, Harvey's World Travel,

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Supporters: Oakura Volunteer Fire Brigade, Beck Helicopters, Heydon Priest, NPOB Surf Club, Powertech Industrial, Taranaki Cancer Society, Razz Print,

QP Sport, NPDC, RMY Lawyers, Vaughan Garrett, Mayor Andrew Judd, Albie Martin and Clive Bishop.

We will be back better than ever next year!

Raffle winners: 1st 0086, K. Ngatai, 2nd 0155, M. Keepe, 3rd 0198, T. Corbett, 4th 0132 J. Goodreds.



Iconic vehicles.



The Oakura Beach Carnival

The Oakura Beach Carnival Trust crew have received so much positive feedback on the New Year's Day carnival. There were also many lessons learned, and all this will make next year's carnival even better.

While the final amount raised has not been worked out yet with some costs still coming in, we expect the total will be over \$10,000. These proceeds will be distributed to groups that make a positive contribution to the community, and used to seed next year's event.

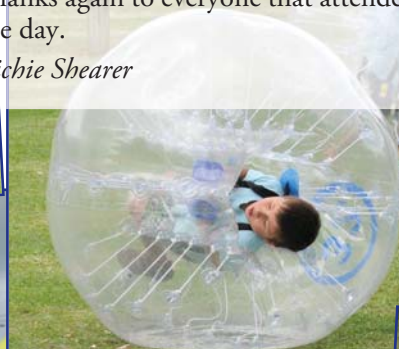
The children's area and food stalls were a big hit, although our chips and burger vendor didn't make it due to a technical issue.

We are extremely grateful to the sponsors, supporters and volunteers on the day. They make this event possible and successful. We need more volunteers, so that is a focus for next year's event!

It is great to be able to support some of the many clubs and groups in our community and we look forward to this part of the process now.

Thanks again to everyone that attended and helped us with the day.

Richie Shearer




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The Paddocks - Creative Name Challenge

Lifestyle property development, The Paddocks, has teamed up with Oakura School to launch a creative competition to find a name for their new subdivision in Upper Wairau Road. As well as donating \$500 to the school for their help, owner Mike McKie is asking Oakura School students to come up with some creative names, which reflect the area and what is special about it.

Principal Lynne Hepworth said: "We are excited to work with Mike on this project which encourages creativity, community cohesion and positivity in the village. Allowing the students to be part of the naming process of a street in Oakura really helps to connect them to their village and grow with it. The donation of \$500 is also going to be extremely helpful to implement new environmental projects in 2014."

The top ten names will be chosen by the school then posted onto The Paddocks Facebook page: facebook.com/thepaddocksoakuralifestyle, for people to vote for their favourite.

Mike said: "Our Facebook page is a great tool for the community to voice their opinions and discuss the development so we thought this would be a perfect place to showcase the top ten names and get feedback from the rest of the village. I think it's important to encourage the locals to get involved in important decisions that affect where they live and to encourage students to reflect on what is so special about Oakura."

The top ten names and number of 'likes' on Facebook will then be submitted to the New Plymouth District Council for a final decision to be made. To find out more about the competition or to speak to Mike regarding the development call 027446240 or email mike@thepaddocks.co.nz.



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The Paddocks development – awaiting street names.





THE PADDOCKS

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ultrafast gas and power services, kerbing, detention dams and road widening. All uniquely designed to give peace of mind to residents ensuring life within this beautiful seaside village is as tranquil as the environment it surrounds.

To grab your piece of paradise contact Mike McKie on 027 444 6240 or email mike@thepaddocks.co.nz, he is also available onsite at 154 Upper Wairau Road. If you'd prefer to deal with a real estate agent contact Gina McKie at Urban Studio (06) 759 0028 or 027 318 2787. Take a stroll around the development and tell us what you think on our Facebook page, [thepaddocksoakuralifestyle](https://www.facebook.com/thepaddocksoakuralifestyle).

WWW.THEPADDOCKS.CO.NZ



Christmas Carols – Something to Sing About



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Consistency the Key to Success

Why are some people successful and others not as successful? This is something I've often wondered. Being in the health and fitness industry I see how many set goals, and some achieve and others seem to struggle, even though they so desperately want to be successful. Looking back over the past 18 months and recently reading a very interesting article it dawned on me – consistency. We all know what to do, even how to do it to be successful (whatever your definition is).

We all know we need to . . .

1. **Set goals.**
2. **Have an action plan.**
3. **Be disciplined and do it!!**

So why do some people achieve their goals all of the time?

Some achieve some of their goals some of the time and some achieve nothing ever. It is not the action so much as the consistency of the action.

People who achieve all, do all 100% of the time.

People who do most, most of the time, achieve most of their goals.

People who do some, some of the time, achieve some of their goals.

People who do nothing, achieve nothing.

If you have a goal, it has to be realistic – it has to be 'do-able'. If you're going to be consistent it needs to be something that you can do all of the time. Many look at models, sports personalities or someone else who has achieved great things and they want to be like them. Have you ever considered what they've sacrificed to achieve their goals? They certainly didn't aspire to their goals and then only put in some effort, some of the time. Rather they have put in 100% effort, all of the time. Before setting your goal, maybe consider how much time and how much effort you're prepared to put into it, and then base your goal on that. If you want to be fit, healthy and strong you'll need to consistently exercise and consistently eat healthily. You can't exercise once a fortnight and eat well only on Mondays. You need to determine how much time you can put aside for exercise per week and most importantly do it. You'll need to plan your meals and if healthy eating is not your normal pattern you'll need to stick to it. This will include planning your grocery list in advance and making sure all the ingredients are available.

From average to extraordinary means going from sometimes to always. Be consistent!

Estelle Williams



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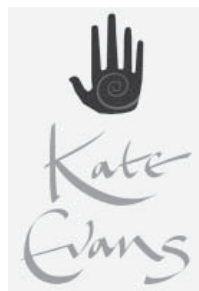
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OAKURA SCHOOL YEAR 8 AWARD ASSEMBLY 2013

WINTER CUPS



Debating - SHAELYN HATTLE.

The debating cup is based on speaking ability, team work, commitment to lunch time practices and personal homework.



Netball - POPPY MITCHELL.

This cup is awarded to a year 8 pupil who shows excellent skills, team work and sportsmanship.



Speech Cup - TESSA KEENAN.

This is awarded to the year 8 pupil who has won the school speech competition and has gone on to represent the school at inter-school speech competitions.



Rugby - OSCAR ROBERTSON.

This is awarded to a year 8 boy who throughout the interschool rugby competition has shown excellent skills, team spirit and commitment to practices.

SUMMER CUPS



Kara Wells.

Athletics - Girls: RACHEL PAGE AND KARA WELLS.

Boy: OSCAR ROBERTSON.

During athletics the senior students compete in heats.

The boy and girl who receive the most points are awarded the overall championship.



Rachel Page.

SPECIAL CUPS

Arts - KARA WELLS.

This award is given to the pupil who shows a great deal of talent in the visual arts and the performing arts.



Citizenship - RYLIE MATCHETT.

This award is for the pupil who relates well to their peers, teachers and members of the school community.



Music - TESSA KEENAN.

This person has been learning instruments for a number of years. He/she has achieved well in examinations this year and has performed confidently in front of the school during assembly.



Sports - POPPY MITCHELL.

This is awarded to a year 8 pupil who shines in the sporting field, representing Taranaki, North Island or New Zealand.

This student has been chosen for this award because of her selection into two Taranaki representative teams. She performs well in many sporting fields and is an all-round sports person.



Diligence - HAYDEN BENTON.

This is awarded to a student who produces quality work, has excellent work habits, completes work on time and takes great pride in their work. This student always uses personal initiative and has been extremely reliable and responsible in their leadership role this year.



Health, Safety and Environment - EMILY WAITE.

This award is based around road patrollers who always fill in, are responsible in their role and are extremely committed to the job of ensuring safety for other members of the school when crossing roads. This student has also taken an active role in promoting and looking after our school environment



Good Attitude Award - TASMIN VAN BERGEN.

This award goes to a student who always has a positive attitude towards their work and the way they face challenges. This student is a quiet achiever who can be relied upon to always do their best, is always supporting of others and often lends a helping hand.



Dux - GAVIN BISHOP.

This is awarded to a year 8 pupil who has the highest academic ability. All standardised test results are added up and averaged to find the highest scoring pupil. This student has scored high in our national standardised tests and achieved well in the ICAS tests this year. This student shows high academic ability across all areas.



Felix Ferris

Head Pupil cups - KARA WELLS, OSCAR ROBERTSON, TESSA KEENAN, FELIX FERRIS.

G.S. Lindsay
(GRIMBO)
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COMING EVENTS

February

- 12 Information Evening .
- 13 Playgroup Starts 9-11am fortnightly on Thursdays in the hall.
- 20 Year 5-8 Camp Out at school.
- 26 Y5-6 Tough Kids Challenge.
- 28 Omata Triathlon.

March

- 4 Swimming Display Day.
- 10 Taranaki Anniversary.
- 18 Y5/6 Athletics at Okato.
- 20 Y7/8 Athletics at Okato.
- 26/27 3D Conferences
- School finishes 12pm.



BOT UPDATE

What a wonderful way to finish 2013 with our music assembly. The drums were beating, songs were sung and poetry was recited. A true example of learning progression by our students with community joining in at the end and showing us it is a real part of our school.

The support from parents, grandparents, ex students and wider community is our strength. The old adage, 'It takes a whole community to raise a child', is alive and well here at Omata, as we all do our bit and share our knowledge.

In term four I was fortunate enough to be part of the Year 7/8 camp to Wellington and am very proud to be able to write, that the behaviour and manner in which our children carried themselves over the course of the week was outstanding. This was a great example of the outdoor classroom at work.

I would like to acknowledge those families that are leaving us and thank them for their support and commitment to the school over the years. We wish you all well.

Hamish Logan

WHAT'S ON TOP

After some comprehensive community and self reviews last year, we remain strong in our commitment to our vision of having; 'A supportive environment challenging children to become responsible learners'. Since the introduction of the Omata Curriculum Delivery Document in 2009, we have seen the growth of our 'learning to learn' culture, and a whole school commitment to the 'Omata Way', as it is expressed in the document. This tangible development of a culture where everyone is taking responsibility for their actions and learning has us all 'singing from the same song sheet'. With our words and with our actions, we reflect the values and vision of Omata School and it is wonderful to see this reflected by our community also. As Ernest Rutherford said about New Zealand, "We don't have the money, so we have to think".

We may not have a big budget, but what we do have is great thinkers and I'll take that over money any day.

We are looking forward to a nice warm swimming season and our camp out for senior students.

Thank you to our four lead ambassadors in 2013 for a successful and productive year and for the care and leadership they have shown. Best wishes to all our 2013 leavers for a wonderful start to your high school years. Through the Student Council, which is lead by the ambassadors, and the Garden Club, students are taking responsibility and 'ownership' of their environment and the actions of their fellow students.

2013 PRIZEWINNERS

Congratulations to these year 8 students who received the school cups for 2013 -

Community Cup for Arts and Culture -

AMBER DONALD

Home and School Cup for Sporting Excellence -

MAISIE JONES and DAVID ROBINSON

Staff Cup for Responsibility - ANNABEL JONES

Principal's Cup for Leadership - SARAI SMITH

Board of Trustees' Cup for Academic Excellence -

XAVIER JOHNSON



Amber Donald, Sarai Smith, David Robinson, Xavier Johnson and Annabel Jones.

*Karen Brisco
Principal*



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Santa and his Elf Bring Some Magic to Oakura

Christmas Eve is a special night – the anticipation of Santa coming down the chimney while everyone is sleeping with a bag of gifts; family and friends gathering together with the joy of enjoying each other's company; the preparation of a feast, the excitement of giving and receiving gifts and the thankfulness of summer.

One local woman wanted Christmas Eve to have a little bit more joy so she saddled up two of her horses Blaze and Toby and armed with a bag of lollies, set off around the streets of Oakura dispensing goodwill and sugar highs.

Darryn Moeller grew up in Oakura and remembers a time of Santa parades and community togetherness and having returned to live in the village not so long ago after a long stint away, wanted to recreate some Christmas magic, which she did.

Darryn approached local businesses to donate wrapped lollies and from 5pm till dusk Darryn and fellow helper Pat Hardy trotted around the streets and through the beach camp throwing out little bundles of happiness. Driving alongside were fellow helpers Livinia Colman and Murray Ward. Left over lollies were donated to the New Year's Day carnival.

Darryn plans on donning her Santa suit again this Christmas establishing a new tradition in the village along with Carol's night.

By Kim Ferens



Santa, aka Darryn Moeller and elf, aka Pat Hardy.



Some happy locals with handfults of lollies.

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New Plymouth Boys' High School

We welcome back our boys for 2014 and I wish every boy every success with his endeavours this year. I would like to give the boys some advice on how to live this year and if you are reading this I invite you to share it with your teenage son.

Success is not just a skill – it is an attitude, a desire, a passion. To become really good at something requires hours of dedicated practice.....whether it is hours in the gym, hours in front of a piano or hours of study. You have a talent and I want you to take your talent as far as you can. But even more important than using your talents to the full, is to become the best man you can be.....to be a good man. The strongest kauri tree in the forest is not the one protected from the storm or hidden from the sun. You need strength of character to overcome obstacles. Be courageous. Do not fear failure and dare to act.

Success does not come to you – you go to it and there is plenty of room at the top because very few people care to travel beyond the accepted road. Above all else be a man of integrity. Hold yourself responsible for a higher standard than anyone expects of you. My advice is to surround yourself with good people – people who are better than you.

Be a good man. Have strength to express emotions. Have fun without alcohol. Stick up for what you believe. Have the courage to be who you are. Follow through on what you promise. Be strong enough to know when to ask for help. These are the important things in life. Success is not about talent alone – it is about learning from your mistakes, learning from people who are better than you.

Finally what will you do for others? If you are a musician use your skills to lift others into a better state of mind; if you are a sportsman use your skills to entertain others, to be a hero, a role model and if you are an academic use your brain power to make a better world. You have been given a talent, and I challenge you to use your talent for the good of others.

M.J. McMenamin
Headmaster



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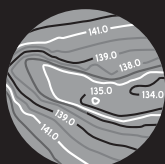


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TOM CLASSIFIEDS

ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Family of three re-locating to Oakura from Auckland seek rental accommodation from Feb 20th.

2-3 bedroom bach, flat, unit or house. Please contact Jennifer or John: (09) 445 1304 or 027 453 4562.

RAT HAT DIVING HELMET – HOPE TO FIND

In 2003 my parents had a Garage Sale in Oakura and sold a Deep Sea Diving Helmet (Rat Hat). I would like to find the purchaser or anyone who may know who the purchaser is.

The helmet would look similar to this photo:

If you have any info please send an email to: paul@btwcompany.co.nz





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OAKURA COMMUNITY - WHAT'S ON

Fitness Training. Small Group classes held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Corbett Park – Interval Training & BoxFit. Contact Estelle Williams of Functional Fitness ph 7521001.

Hurford - Omata - Oakura Rural Women. Meet 2nd Wednesday each month at 1.00pm. New members welcome. Contact Jean Kurth 751 2274.

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

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

Mini Groovers. Restarts Tuesday 11th February, 10.00am Oakura Hall. Gold coin donation. Weekly thereafter.

Mövenpick Ice Cream at Oakura Beach. Celebrating back-to-school for Oakura, Omata and Coastal Taranaki students, FREE sprinkle toppings on their single scoops throughout February.

Nakifit - Circuit Training Classes.

Body Shape Light Tuesdays 9.15am/6pm.
Body Trim & Core Thursdays 9.15am/Saturdays 8am.
Boxfit Thursdays 6pm.
\$50 for 5 Concessions/\$80 for 10 Concessions.
Bookings essential. Call Katrin 021 02255 885.

Ringcraft Moana jewellery classes. Every Saturday 10-11:30am. RSVP information online - www.nzpearl.co.nz

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

NP Toastmasters Club. Meets every 1st, 3rd and 5th Thursday of the month, 5.30pm at Bell-ringer Pavillion. Everyone welcome. Ph Faye 0274 250 354 or 751 0811.

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

PHONE 0800 THE TOM FOR CHANGES TO YOUR LISTING

Oakura Tennis Club

Monday 3pm-6pm: Juniors private coaching.
Tuesday 5.30-7pm - Club night.
Wednesday 3-6pm - Juniors private coaching/Hot Shots Tennis.
Thursday 9-12pm - Social Womens tennis for members and non members.
5.30-8pm - A Grade players practice.
Friday 4-8pm - Junior Interclub competition.
Saturday 9-4pm - Sofie Cup and A Grade Competition.
Contact Jackie Keenan Secretary 752 7013.

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.

Playcentre. Playcentre, Donnelly Street. Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9am to noon. Visitors welcome by appointment. Ph Bridget on 06-752 7223.

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

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

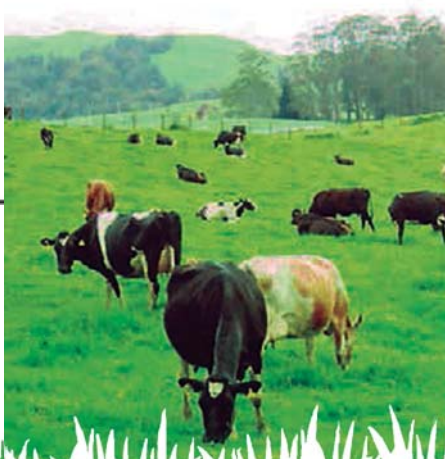
St John's, Omata. Morning worship 10.00am, 2nd Sunday of the month.

Val Deakin Dance School. Pre-school dance class on Saturday morning from 9am to 9:30am. Beginners' ballet/dance class from 9:30am to 10:15am. Oakura Hall. Ph Val Deakin, or Jane Roseman on 06 752 7743.

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



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